



The River Round Up

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Valentine Queen and King



Pictured above are Margaret and Joe Bouchard who were crowned at the Valentine party at Richmond Villa. Margaret and Joe celebrated their 59th anniversary on February 9th. Congratulations and thanks for being such good sports. Photo by Paula Sampson

Margaret Morrison: War Bride

Margaret (Jones) Morrison was born in Widnes, Cheshire County, England, to Irish/Welsh parents. As a young lady she and a few friends motored to Liverpool to the ice rink for a night of skating and there she captured the eye of a young Canadian soldier named Herman Morrison from Grand Gully. Herman was quite smitten with young Margaret and courted her for the next two years. Ballroom dancing was a weekly ritual for this young couple and as they made plans to wed the war ended in England and Herman was dispatched back to Canada. Two years and hundreds of love letters later Margaret set sail for Canada on the ship Aquatania. This was not a luxury liner but a ship used to transport soldiers across the ocean and eighteen ladies shared a cabin. Seasickness was rampant throughout the ship, which made for a very long journey and as they approached pier twenty-one in Halifax it was pure elation.

Margaret recalls peering out of portholes as they docked and seeing Herman smoking a cigarette on the bench wearing a pair of red shoes. Having only seen him in his army duds she wondered if that was the kind of shoes they wore in Canada.



Margaret pictured in her grandmothers garden in England in 1946

After a heartfelt reunion they departed for her debut trip to Grand Gully stopping in Truro where Margaret had her first ever banana split. Being Anglican, Margaret was required to convert to Catholicism prior to being married. Father Robitaille gave her lessons and following her Baptism he invited her to lunch at the Glebe House.

Due to the lack of employment in the area Herman and Margaret moved to Toronto where they were married in 1947. They had three children, David in New Market, Anne in Burlington and Janet in Sampsonville and now have seven grandchildren. In 1974 Herman sold his Auto Body Business in Toronto and he, Margaret and daughter Janet moved to River Tillard. Sadly Herman passed away suddenly in 1994 after forty-seven years together. Margaret worked for the RCMP for ten years and joined the CWL, Senior's Group, Church Choir and is a lector at mass. Today Margaret loves to knit and watch old movies. River Bourgeois wishes you well Margaret! *Sharon Chilvers*

A Talented Southsider



Roderick taking a breather.

Roderick is the son of the late Joe P. and Clara Burke of the Southside. As a youngster Roderick would find solitude in sketching and being one of sixteen children it was probably the only solitude he ever had. Roderick recalls that he would always purchase the scribblers without lines so he could draw pictures, and as he got older his artistic talent was utilized for the photographs and caricatures used in the old River Roundups. Roderick's brother Richard did the first artistry for the River Roundup and when he relocated to Ontario it was Roderick's responsibility to continue the family tradition. Roderick still sketches replicas of the newspaper cartoons and daughter Marina has inherited her father's talents. She too has done sketches on several occasions for events in the community.

Roderick also constructs boats for a pastime including the infamous sailboat that he attempted to sail upside down. We all know that he can swim. Three of his creations can be seen along the shoreline by his home in the summer. Roderick also does model sailboats, dory's and several other types of ships. For those of you who attend the annual community festival in River Bourgeois you know Roderick's talents don't stop at sketching and building boats. Roderick has taken part in many events including modeling and acting and last year was the recipient of a new heart, mind you it came from George Digout so we're not sure that was such a good deal. Roderick was employed at the pulp mill for thirty years as a heavy equipment operator and retired in 1994. He now spends his days playing cribbage with his sweetheart of thirty-seven years Margaret. Roderick and Margaret have five children. Blair in Halifax, Angele in Ontario, Marina in British Columbia, Kara-Leigh at home and Ramona a naval officer on the HMS Preserver and they also have four granddaughters. Roderick may you never lose your creativity and good sportsmanship. *Sharon Chilvers*

RB Community Services Society

The regular monthly meeting of the Community Services Society was held on Wednesday, Feb. 20. The motion to ban smoking inside the Tara Lynne Community Center was tabled by a vote of 9-2. The general consensus of members was that the Nova Scotia government may be legislating this in the near future and that we should await the decision of the government. Holly Stone, representing the 4-H Club made a compelling speech in favor of a ban. Monica McPhee was nominated as the RBCSS volunteer during Volunteer week of April 21-27.

The Annual Meeting of the Society is scheduled for March 20 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Palliative Care Conference

The Strait Richmond Hospital has a very active palliative care program which purpose is to allow people to live until the end with dignity. Monica Stone is President elect and has worked with their program for the past four years. She recently attended the National Convention in Victoria as a local representative. Monica has sent us some of the highlights.

Guest speaker Susan Briedell emphasized allowing nature to take its course when one is dying by assuring the family that it is normal if he/she is unable to eat or drink anymore-whereby allowing the body to shut down gently. Dr Latimer, advised volunteers to offer commitment, compassion, be gentle and competent; finding the right kind of music for the terminally ill is very soothing and peaceful; touch the person, hold their hand-offer "the gifts of listening, your time, your silence, your presence and your love".

Being a palliative Care volunteer is not for everyone but if you would like to take part in this very important work call Nancy Cameron at 625-7211. Monica and Gerry Fougere are the only volunteers from the River area.

CWL News

The CWL held their annual meeting on Feb 9th at the Tara Lynne Center with about forty members present. A delicious dinner prepared by Emily and Peter LeBlanc was enjoyed by all. Fr. Sandy MacNeil, spiritual advisor, said Grace. Out-going president Marlaine Burke opened the meeting. After annual reports were read, the slate of officers for 2002 was introduced: President-Ann Clow; Secretary-Sharon Chilvers; Treasurer-Debbie Digout. Convenors are Mary Fougere, Monica

McPhee, Leona Campbell, Donna Martens, Joan Viscount, Lucille Boudreau, Maureen Cosman-Burke, Elaine Burke, Doreen Sampson, Sharon Digout, Eleanor Pederson and Therese Pottie.



Pictured are: Back row-Sharon Chilvers, Therese Pottie, Marlaine Burke. Front Row-Joan Viscount, Monica McPhee, Debbie Digout, Mary Fougere and Ann Clow. Photo by Debbie Landry.

New members Donna Martens, Kari-Leigh Burke and Laurie Landry were welcomed and bring the 2002 membership to 84. Certificates for their contribution to the CWL and community were given to Roderick Burke, George Digout, Sharon Digout and Cletus Touesnard. Lots of laughter, camaraderie and good food made for a fun afternoon.

Le Rondou

Glimpses from River Bourgeois:

Peter LeBlanc measuring and re-measuring the wide doors to his new large workshop and realizing to his dismay that the small shed he built inside is larger than the door. Great work Peter!!

John Burke (a Joe P) on his ATV wearing his famous Greek sailor hat.

Edward Touesnard heading for his farm by the fish hatchery wearing his infamous toque.

Jerry Burke smiling and waving at friends driving by. Skating at the lower end of the River.

Leo Fougere, Carl Grimes, Dave Gates, Eddie Landry, Ed Touesnard, Terry Boudreau, the two Bernard's and others plowing driveways.

Dogs-Glenda and David Sampson walking their Dalmatian; Marion Gerrior walking DJ (Dalmatian) and Charlie Digout (not Dalmatian); Joan and Roly Sparling being walked by their dog; Raymond Robertson walking his faithful dog and wearing his baby blue toque.

Waves you see in the River:

Leonard Burke-hands don't leave wheel and all fingers rise.

Gilbert Burke-Military salute with a bit of fanfare.

John MacPhee (Sac)-One finger (index).

Catherine Ann Boyd-Right hand up and quickly back on wheel (fastest wave in RB).

Peter Pottie-Gregarious wave with right hand that stays up long enough to be detected in rear view mirror. Alternative Wave: Left hand waving (fluttering) vigorously.

Abraham Burke-Large right hand rises slowly and then slowly returns to wheel-almost as if he has blessed you as you pass.

Bucky Sampson-no wave but head nods back in friendly gesture of recognition. *Anonymous*

Births

Burke/Mac Donald-Christian William, son of Lisette and Kenzie, was born February 10th in Antigonish and weighed 7 lbs. He is the grandson of Elaine Burke and Billy & Colleen MacDonald of Lower River. Congratulations to all especially brother Cameron and great-grandmother Margaret Richard.

Deaths

Our sincere sympathy to the family and friends of:

Casey-Patrick Arthur passed away Feb 23rd in Halifax. He was the brother of Gerry (Edna) of RB.

DeRoache-William George died at home Feb 22nd at the age of 91. He was the son of the late Joseph and Alexina DeRoache. He was predeceased by his wife Martha (Burke). He is survived by two sisters, neices and nephews and brother-in-law Dolore Burke.

MacNeil-Donald, son of Tom and the late Josie of Irish Vale passed away in Mississauga on Feb.14th. Donnie was the brother of Wanda (Conrad) Burke of River Tillard.

Morrison-Carl, son of the late Blanche and Patrick Morrison of Grand Gully passed away in Sarnia, Ontario at the age of 78. There are two surviving brothers of this family, Ralph in Ont. and Reg in Arizona. Sister in laws, Margaret (Herman)

Pate-Joseph Pate passed away in Beaconsfield, Quebec on Feb. 4. He was 83. He was the son of the late Martin & Saraphine Pate (formerly of Hawker) and an uncle to Donnie Pottie.

Richard-Apologies to the Richard family. Mildred's son, Frederick, was left out of the list of survivors.

History

The following is an anniversary announcement which appeared in either the old Sydney Post, Sydney Record or the Glace Bay Gazette. Unfortunately back then they did not bother to mention the wives name. Does anyone know who she was?

Nov.27 1928-One of the outstanding social events of the season at Glace Bay was the celebration of the golden Jubilee of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. John J. MacDougall, which took place at their residence, Brook St. Mr. and Mrs. MacDougall were married at River Bourgeois C.B. by the late Rev. Fr. Martell, Nov 27, 1878. 5 years after their marriage they moved to Glace Bay, then a small village. Mr. MacDougall was the first person to hold the office Chief of Police at Glace Bay.

These announcements are from a Cape Breton paper (perhaps the North Sydney Herald 1882) under marriages:

At River Bourgeois, the 9th by Rev. C.P Martell P.P.

Mr. Daniel Bourque to Miss Eugenie Landry

Mr. Henry Polley to Miss Charlotte Bourque

Mr. Marian Bourque to Miss Catherine Robinson

Mr. B. DeRange to Miss Margaret Bourque

Mr. F McPhee to Miss Charlotte Fougere

Mr. Desire Fougere to Miss Caroline Sampson.

The above items were sent to me by Sandra Ferguson of Sydney. Sandra is associated with the Beaton Institute.

The following poem was printed in the Feb 1981 bulletin, anyone know who wrote it?

How do I know my youth has been spent?

Cause my get up and go has got up and went

But in spite of all that I'm able to grin

When I think of the smelts in my bin

Old age is golden I've heard it said

But sometimes I wonder as I go to bed.

My ears in the drawer, my teeth in a cup

My eyes on the table until I wake up

The sleep dims my eyes, I say to myself

Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?

But I'm happy to say as I close my blue eyes

My friends are the same as in the days gone by

When I was young my slippers were red

I could kick my heels right over my head

When I grew older my slippers were blue

But I could still fish smelts the whole night through.

Now I'm old and my slippers are black

I walk to the shore and puff my way back

The reason I know my youth has been spent

My get and go has got up and went

But I really don't mind when I think with a grin

All the smelts and that I caught when my get up was in

I get up each morning, dust off my wits

Pick up the paper and read the obits

If my name is missing I know I'm not dead

So I eat some fried smelts and go back to bed

Thanks to Claire MacPhee for the bulletins

Bits and Bites

- Parent-tot program—Mondays 10-12. No fee and free snacks.
- Pre Teen (6-8:30 pm) and Teen Dance (9-12 pm) on March 2nd at Tara Lynne Center.
- Don't forget to plan to attend the St. Patrick's Day concert-Mar 17th at the TLC. Proceeds to World Youth Day Rally. Refreshments served. Eddie says it will be a fantastic one!
- Annual meeting of RB Community Services March 20th at 7 PM. Everyone welcome.
- Attention to war veteran's widows receiving benefits from the Dept. Of Veterans Affairs. We are trying to get the same amount of pay for the Canadian Veteran's widows, as their husband would be receiving if they survived their wives. If you wish to join contact Joyce Carter, 99 Carters Lane, St. Peters B0E 3B0 or phone 535-2308.
- If you want to sign up for any courses from Intro to Computers to Word, Excel, etc call Pamela Sampson at 535-2555. We now have a photocopier, color printers, fax, scanner and a digital camera for your use. Call 535-3251 between 2-4 pm, 6-9 pm, Mon-Thurs, Fri 2-4 and Sat from 1-4.
- Happy Birthday to Rita Sampson (Feb 6th), Gervase Landry (Feb 9th) and Helen Konning on Feb 22nd. Special Anniversary greetings to Margaret & Joe Bouchard on their 59th and Helen & Ed Pentecost who celebrate their 45th.
- Anyone wishing to book the TLC should call Jocelyn Stone (3257); needing a liquor license for a function call Eddie Pottie (2515) at least a month ahead or requiring use of Funeral Home call Adrian Touesnard (2373).
- You can e-mail us at rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca Our web site is <http://www3.ns.sympatico.ca/rbcap/>
- The Round Up is available at Howard's Grocery, First Richmond Credit Union or RB Post Office. Subscriptions are available for \$12.00 locally, \$15.00 within Canada and \$16.50 internationally per year from Therese Pottie at 535-2740 or PO Box 56, River Bourgeois NS B0E 2X0

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