



The River Round Up

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Florence & Edward



Flo & Edward on their wedding day.

Edward Joseph was born December 1st, 1917 the fifth of eleven children to David and Agnes Sampson. Florence (Sweet) Adeline was born on April 9th, 1922 the last of seven children to John J. (The Diver) Sampson and Josephine (Beranger), all in the Church Point area of River Bourgeois. In 1929 at age seven, Flo lost her mother to cancer. Her father John tended the children until he became ill himself. While she was still a teenager, their home caught fire and all was lost. Flo recalls the neighbours carrying her bedridden father from the burning house on his mattress to safety at Minnie Sampson's.

Following school, Edward went to work on the construction of the Cabot Trail on North Mountain. In 1942, he ventured out to Halifax where he would spend the next forty-two years working for Reardon Paint and Glass (now known as Pittsburgh Paints). Flo also went to Halifax and worked in the Dockyard office until the end of the war. When her job was eliminated after the war, Flo packed her bags and moved to Toronto where she took a practical nurse course at Ryerson. She spent the next four years working at the Queen Street Mental Hospital. In the

meantime, Edward was suffering from writer's cramps and burning the phone lines to his true love in Toronto so in 1949 Flo returned to Nova Scotia and on November 10th of that year they were married at St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Halifax. Seven children soon followed: David who lives in RB; Paul in Toronto; Louise and Linda in Halifax; John in Milton, Ont.; Joan in Georgetown, Ont. and Peter in PEI. Now the family has expanded to include fourteen grandchildren.

While living in Halifax, Flo spent most of her time as a homemaker but also worked part time at the Halifax Infirmary. She was a member of St. Michael's CWL for 25 years and was actively involved in the annual fall fair held at the church each year. Many years ago, she was "recruited" by Father MacLean to teach grade 4 religion at one of the local schools. After she moved back to the River, she continued to teach religion at the River Bourgeois Consolidated School. While living in Halifax, Edward spent his leisure time gardening, working at church functions and could often be found at the Forum when a good wrestling match came to town.

In 1984, their son David decided to build a home for his family on the Church Point and along with his Uncle James's help, built one large enough so his parents could live upstairs. Since their return to the River, Edward has passed his days away by doing stained glass, woodworking and gardening, while Flo dabbled in quilt making, knitting and cooking up a storm. These days due to Edward's failing health they don't wander too far. Flo enjoys her computer games, surfing the Internet and makes great fudge. Edward is a Toronto Blue Jay fan and does not miss a televised game. They enjoy the many visits from their family and are looking forward to their yearly visit from Flo's sister, Louise, from Massachusetts. We wish you all the health and happiness you both deserve. *Sharon Chilvers*

Graduations



Top-**Shauna Digout** (Debbie & David) and **Brenda Burke** (Mary & Bernard) who both graduated from St FX with a BA Degrees and Majors in Sociology.

Middle left-**Jackie Digout** (Mary & Louis) who received her Business Administration Degree from "X" and on the right is **Becky Boudreau** (Margie & Terry) who graduated from Dalhousie University with her BSC in Nursing.

Bottom left is **Danielle Sampson** (Glenda & David) who graduated from Mount Saint Vincent University with her Business Administration. Congratulations to all!

Congratulations also to Tracy McPhee (Bottom right on her admission into the Nova Scotia Bar. Tracy graduated from Dalhousie University with a Commerce and Law Degree and was admitted to the Ontario Bar in 1998. She is now employed with Stewart McKelvey Stirling Scales in Halifax. She is the daughter of Lorraine & Norman McPhee of Hawker and the granddaughter of May McPhee.

We wish to thank Jackie Digout, David Digout and George Bourque for information and pictures. If we missed graduates, please let us know so we can print them next month.

Youth Report

On May 15th, Richmond Academy held their third annual Scholastic Awards. Many students from River Bourgeois were recognized for their academic achievements at this ceremony. There are three categories at the Scholastic Awards: Grade nine student **Ashley Stone** (Sharon & Ricky) received a Merit Award for having an average between 75-79%. Distinction Award, which is an average of 80-89%, was awarded to **Joseph Baccardax** (Sherry & Peter) & **Alisha Burke** (Maureen & Neil) grade 9; **Joel Burke** (Maureen & Neil) grade 10; **Daphne LeBlanc** (Janet & Gerald) and **Edward McNamara** (Yvonne & George) grade 11; **Mark Digout** (Mary & Louis), **Michelle Sampson** (Glenda & David), **Heidi Stone** (Sharon & Ricky), and **Katie Touesnard** (Janice & Albert) Grade 12. The following received a High Distinction award for having an average between 90-100%, and they included from grade 9 **Sally Burke** (Linda & Basil), grade 10 **Lauren Pottie** (Dawn & Glenn), and from grade 12 **TJ Burke** (Theresa & Larry). Congratulations to everyone who earned these awards and keep up the great work! *Michelle Sampson*

First Communion



Front Row-Fr. Zbigniew, Donna Marie DeWolfe (Maria & Wayne), Julia Burke (Linda & Basil), Bethany King (Bonita & Kevin).

Back row-Mark Kendall (Maxine & Vincent), Dylan Abbott (Wendy & Michael), Colton Burke (Theresa & Larry), Brandon LaFantasie (Paula) and Pamela Sampson (teacher). The children received the Sacrament of First Communion on April 26th in a beautiful service at St. John the Baptist Church.

Confirmation

On April 30th, nine of our youth received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Fr. Duncan MacIssac. A reception organized by the CWL was held at the TLC following the church service.



Photo courtesy of Mary Fougere.

Left-right: Sally Burke (Linda & Basil), Fr. Zbigniew, Rebecca Landry (Debbie & Michael), Alisha Burke (Maureen & Neil), Ashley Stone (Sharon & Ricky), Fr. Duncan MacIssac, Robert Fougere (Debbie & Donnie), Randy Touesnard (Denise & Melvin), James Kendall (Maxine & Vincent), Mathew Touesnard (Denise & Melvin) and Joel Burke (Maureen & Neil).

Wear Your Life Jacket

Donna Foshner, daughter of the late Lena Sampson Gordon of Church Point has asked if we would pass a very important message to all boaters in the local area. Donna and her husband, Earl, took early retirement, built a cottage and looked forward to really enjoying life. Their favourite recreation was sailing. After spending 32 years of boating they thought they knew all there was to know about safety.

Just about one year ago they went sailing in Barrachois Harbour on one of these days that are ideal. Earl was taking down the jib because they were going to tack when he was hit by the sail which knocked him over. He was not a strong swimmer; he tried to get back to the boat while Donna tried to manoeuvre it near him to no avail. She finally turned to grab for one of the 10 life jackets stored in the boat and called for help but when she turned around he was no longer in sight. Search & Rescue and the local fisherman came very quickly but were unable to revive him.

She is sharing this painful memory with us to ask everyone who gets in their boat to remember that life jackets do not help if you don't wear them. Be Careful!

RB Volunteers

Congratulations to all the River Bourgeois Volunteers who were honored by Richmond County at a dinner on April 27th. Representatives of the various organizations were: **Peter LeBlanc**-R.C. Legion Branch 47; **Debbie Landry**-Richmond Co.

4H Club; **Sharon Stone**-RB 4 H Club; **Sharon Digout** RBCSS; **Maureen Cosman-Burke**-St. John the Baptist CWL; **Mary Cosman**-RB 50+ Club; and **Cletus Wedge**-St. Peters & Area Lion's Club.

RB Technology & Training Centre

We received federal sustainability funding to update four of our computers and we have purchased two additional new computers. We now have Windows XP Professional with up to date software and Internet access on 6 machines. In addition we have a DVD player, 3 CD burners, FrontPage, Mavis Beacon Typing, Encarta Encyclopaedia and Scrabble.

Our used books are very popular and we would like to thank all who have donated or purchased them. We feel this is a wonderful addition to our community and have received very favourable comments.

The Mother's Day Basket won by Angela Burke raised \$408 which was topped off to \$500. as a donation to RBCSS.

We have received funding for at least one student who will provide coverage for the site for the summer and work on the 25th Annual Festival.

Our Email is rbcap@ns.sympatico.ca, our phone number is 535-3251, and our website URL is www3.ns.sympatico.ca/rbcap.

The Lighthouse

In our last issue we reported that we had raised over \$5,000. One month later we are very happy to report that we have \$13,000+. This has been accomplished by a very generous donation of \$5090 by Nova Scotia Power Inc. (a match to our sum raised at that time); \$500+ raised at our last pub night; \$300+ ticket sales from a beautiful painting of the old lighthouse by Susan Pottie, which was won by Gerard Touesnard; local donations and a very successful fundraiser in Dartmouth organized by our own Garvie Samson. Approx. 150 RB natives and wannabees raised \$2200. Thank you to all our donors and to our local musicians Ed Pottie, Henry Martell, Wayne Bona and Lighthouse Committee chair, Carl Grimes who travelled up to help out. We hear Donnie Potties little brother Wayne was great on the drums.

At the May RBCSS meeting the Committee unanimously moved that construction could begin immediately. The contract of \$21,800 (includes taxes) was awarded to the lowest bidder Gerald LeBlanc (Charlotte's little boy) of the South Side who will start constructing as soon as the ground is dry enough.

Another pub night will be held at the TLC on June 21st. Remember the door proceeds goes to the reconstruction but RBCSS benefits from the bar sales. Please keep the momentum going and support the fundraisers. Monica McPhee will gladly give you a receipt for your donation which can be given to her or dropped off at the East Coast Credit Union.

Births

Burke/Sampson: Xavier Lewis was born April 30th to Kim and Louis. Born on sister Jasmine's 2nd birthday he is also welcomed by brother Zachary. Proud grandparents are Gary & Emma Burke and Margaret Sampson. Congratulations to all including, Great Grandmother Obeline Burke.

Pottie/Bona: Ethan Avery was born on May 17th weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. to Courtenay and Darren. Very excited grandparents are Leslie & Pene Pottie and Brian & Cathy Bona.

Strangis/McPhee: Dante Antoine Terrance was born on May 8th to Juanita and Gerard. Congratulations to Mom, Dad and happy Grandparents, Monica & Stanley of RB and Lillian Strangis of Sydney.

Deaths

Burke: Anthony D., son of the late Amable and Ida Mae (Landry) died on May 9th. Our condolences to wife, Shirley, daughters; Ann, Claire, Judy, Colleen, Darlene; sons: Peter, Ronald, Gerald, Gary, Garvey and Calvin.;sympathy goes out also to sisters: Monica, Helen, Angeline and Lorraine and brothers: Peter, Gilbert, Abraham and Patrick, 28 grandchildren and 38 great grandchildren.

Burke: Augustine Joseph "Gussie", 56, son of Amelda and Alex passed away on May 22nd at the Strait Richmond Hospital. Our sympathy to his wife Claire (Gatto), daughter Lynn, son Tony, his parents, brother Mark and sister Claudette and his extended family and friends.

Delorey: Gerald Paul, 65, died May 29th in Sackville. Our deepest sympathy to his wife of 40 years Marie (Bowser) and to his children: Jerome, Nadine and Rhonda and their families.

Bits & Bites:

- The St. John the Baptist CWL are **celebrating their 50th anniversary** on June 15th. Church service at 4 pm followed by dinner at the TLC. The committee is hoping for a big turnout.
- Thank you to the YDC for the great job they and their helpers of all ages did in cleaning up the roadside. The committee members wish to thank the community for their generous donations.

They raised \$650. which will be used for the purchase of a projector for the hall.

- Thank you to all the people who helped out on the **Migratory Bird Count** on May 10th. 26 people from the county took part and despite the rain, wind and cold they counted 73 species.
- The next meeting of the 25th **Annual Festival Committee** is June 2nd. Chairman Eddie Pottie would like all members to make a special effort to get there as the time is getting near.
- On June the 7th there will be a **general cleaning and maintenance day at the Parish Cemetery** starting between 8-9 am. Plenty of volunteers with shovels, rakes hoes, wheelbarrows and 4 wheelers with trailers are needed. Lunch will be served at the rectory at noon.
- On June 7th the **Richmond Co. 4-H show** will be held at Camp Rankin from 9-12. All are invited to view the projects.
- **RBCSS meeting** on June 18th at 7pm.
- **June 21 Pub Night** at the TLC. Bar opens at 8:30 pm. ID's necessary. Proceeds to the lighthouse reconstruction.
- Watch for posters advertising the **Canada Day celebrations** organized by the YDC at the TLC.
- Congratulations to **Fr. Hughie A MacDonald** who is celebrating his 60th anniversary as a priest on June 3 rd. Fr. Hughie lives at the RK MacDonald residence in Antigonish and follows the RB news via the Round Up.
- Happy Birthday to Conrad Fougere, Catherine Boudreau, Mary Pettigrew, Ellen Stone, Gerarda Pettipas Angela Burke, Josephine Morrison, Daphne LeBlanc, Peter Baccardax, Helen Poirier, and Stella Doutaz. Very special greetings to Charlotte LeBlanc who celebrated her 80th and Frances Digout who celebrated her 90th.
- **A reminder** that if you wish to book the Tara Lynne Centre call Bob Park at 535-3274. If you are having a function which requires a liquor license, you now have to apply for it yourself. If you need help ask Bob or call Eddie Pottie at - 535-2515 at least a month in advance. People requiring use of Funeral Home should call Leona & Gerald Campbell at 535.2927.
- **The Round Up** is available at the Bucky's convenience store, RB Post Office or The East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$12.00 locally, \$18.50 within Canada and \$20.00 internationally per year.

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