



The River Round Up

Volume 6

Number 3

March 2005

\$1.00

Edna & Gerry Casey



Edna & Gerry in their teenage years

On May 28th, 1940, in the city of Halifax, twins were born and one of those twins was named Gerald Thomas Casey. Gerry's family moved to Bedford where he attended St. Ignatius School. Following graduation he went to work for Allied Van Lines for five years. It was during this time that one of his friends, who had to work one weekend, asked him to drive a beautiful young lady to St. Peters and Gerry being a gentleman agreed to do so. Her name was Edna MacDonald.

Edna Mary was the middle child of Isabelle & Hughie Allan MacDonald of Crandall Road, Port Hastings. Her dad passed away when she was little leaving her mother a widow at age twenty-one with three young children. Her mother moved the family from the United Church community of Port Hastings to Troy, which was very much Roman Catholic and promptly converted the family to Catholicism. Their neighbor and mom's best friend was Mamie MacDonald who just recently celebrated her 106th birthday. Three years later her mother married Joe England and the family moved to St. Peters.

Edna relocated to Halifax as a teenager to become a CNA (Certified Nursing Assistant). She took her training at Camp Hill Hospital (DVA Program) and later worked at the Halifax Infirmary, VG and Children's Hospital. In October 1960 her life

changed forever when she accepted that ride to St. Peters from a handsome stranger called Gerry Casey.

They were married on October 14th, 1961 at St. Theresa's Church in Halifax. They have two sons; Wally now living in Westminster, Maryland and JJ-Gerald Joseph (GJ did not sound right) who lives in Fall River. They also have five grandchildren; Martin, Morgan, Robyn, Joey & Kate.

In 1967, Gerry became a barber and moved his family to St. Peters while also working at Archie Dan's Barber Shop at the Causeway Shopping Center. It was on one of his trips to work that he spotted a house for rent in RB. He rented their current house from Wilfred Boudreau until 1968 and then he purchased the neighboring house from Amiable Beranger. In 1973, Gerry attended Point Edward's Adult Vocational School to take a small engine course taught by Don McNeil (brother of Sharon Digout) while Edna went to work as a CNA at the Cape Breton Hospital in Sydney. The children remained with their grandparents and attended school in St. Peters. Gerry & Edna traveled to see them on their days off. It was difficult to leave the children behind and they must have been on her mind when a Dr. MacPhail asked Edna if she had any Actifed (sinus medication) and she thought he said active kids and replied "Yes I have two at home". Upon graduation, Gerry opened a small engine shop in St. Peters and one in his shed at home. In 1976, he began driving a school bus and in June of this year he will retire after twenty-eight years of transporting kids (headache tablets no longer will be required).

In 1976, Edna started to work at the Richmond Villa as a LPN (Licensed Practical Nurse), which was previously known as a CNA. Edna retired in December 2004; however she recalls many funny situations she got herself into during those years. Once a family brought in an elderly gentleman for admittance to the Villa. The daughter asked if they took care of the patient's teeth at night time. Edna, having listened to only part of the conversation, replied "Yes, we take them out at night, clean them

and reinsert them in the morning". The lady was quite alarmed and replied "but he has his own teeth".

In 1984, Edna and Gerry purchased the house they originally rented from Arnold Boudreau, the son of Wilfred, and decided to open up River Bourgeois's first Bed and Breakfast. They charged \$18 for a single and \$28 for a double. They were kept quite busy by tourists traveling mostly to Newfoundland by ferry. They totally enjoyed the business but they found it to be just too much with both of them working and closed the door after three years.

In 1994, after sons Wally and JJ moved out on their own, Gerry and Edna began fulfilling a lifetime dream of playing music. She attended St. Ann's musical collage to study the bagpipes and later took lessons from famous bagpipers, John Walsh of Judique and Stephen Cameron of St. Peters. She continues to learn from Pipe Major Michael Campbell. Gerry learned to play the fiddle from Gordon Cote and took piano lessons from Cornelia Boucher of Cleveland. Edna currently plays with the Cape Breton Pipes and Drums and travels around Nova Scotia to play for many events including Robbie Burn's Day, St. Andrew's Day, concerts, weddings and many other local functions. They play for Ceilidh's (kitchen parties) in their friend's homes all winter and also at the St. George's Channel Club dances.

Gerry & Edna plan on spending their retiring years enjoying their musical talents, their sons and their adorable grandchildren. The people of River Bourgeois wish both of you many happy notes.

Sharon Chilvers

Our Little Fundraisers



Hailey Martens and Emilie Poaps Playing Bingo.

The children in grades primary to four (including Hailey, daughter of Gibby & Lisa and Emilie, daughter of Robert & Ida Poaps) at the East Richmond Education Center of St. Peters had a busy but productive week raising funds for the Tsunami Relief. Everyone enthusiastically collected his or her pennies in excess of more than \$600. The children

also had a popcorn/book sale and made \$405. A bake sale netted \$165 and everyone enjoyed an ice cream sundae for another \$160. The parents donated more than \$430 in Canadian Tire money, the teachers purchased gifts and the children spent the afternoon playing bingo. The children paid \$1.00 each for their card and more than two hundred children gathered in the gymnasium for an afternoon of fun. A concert was delayed due to snowstorm and is rescheduled for the spring. In all the two hundred children raised a total of more than \$1500. Congratulations to all of the children.

Yukon Sourdough Rendezvous Queen Candidate 2005



My name is Patricia Estella Clements and I am a candidate for the Ms. Yukon Rendezvous 2005 Queen. I was born on March 5th, 1969 the eighth of nine children of Anne & Joe Sampson of River Bourgeois. Two days after I married Paul in 1995 we left for Whitehorse in the Yukon for our honeymoon. So far it's lasted almost ten years.

The total population of the Yukon is thirty thousand while twenty-five thousand live in Whitehorse. We are only two hours away from Skagway, Alaska and the ocean so it is handy when I get homesick for the water but in the meantime we enjoy the beauty of the mountains. Life in the Yukon is very different than Cape Breton. We have two seasons, winter and summer. Summers are short with up to twenty-one hours of sunlight, very dry and we suffer from many forest fires. Winter runs from September to April with as little as five hours of daylight with very cold temperatures. The coldest we have experienced is -65 with the wind factor and -52 without any wind.

Life in the Yukon has its benefits and has little or no crime. The children, Jordan and Robyn, enjoy skiing, cadets, skating in several indoor rinks, the indoor swimming pool (not recommended to build an outdoor one) and Robyn loves her dancing lessons. I am involved with the Whitehorse Patrol of the Canadian Rangers. Paul manages a parts store while

I manage a printing shop called Copy Copy Express Printing. They are my sponsor for the Rendezvous Queen which takes place at the end of February. We miss Cape Breton and try to visit every couple of years but we have come to enjoy our life here in the Yukon. *Patricia Clements*

(Eds. Note- We just heard that Patricia was crowned Runner up)

A Rare Find



Bernard feeding an Ivory Gull on the waterfront in Dartmouth. Thanks to Cindy Creighton of Nature NS for use of this picture.

“Bernard has done it again”, “Bernard continues to find them” and similar statements are used to describe Bernard (Mary B & Ernest Burke’s son) on the Rare Bird Alert and Nature Nova Scotia sites. We mentioned his ability to find rarities sometime ago and last month he found an Ivory Gull at Sullivan’s pond in Dartmouth. This bird is so rare that there have been visitors from various North American communities including those as far away as Arizona, and Texas who flew (no pun intended) into Halifax just to see it. He not only finds them but posts their pictures on his Website:

<http://bernieb.smugmug.com/gallery/>

Bernard lives in Dartmouth now but makes frequent trips home and if you go to Richard’s Pond you can often see him there with his scope and camera. So if you see an increase in traffic on that road it means he found another one.

River Bourgeois to Host Seniors Expo

The River Bourgeois Seniors 50+ Club will be hosting the first *Richmond County Seniors Expo* on June 4th and 5th. The festival will be a two-day event filled with lots of fun and games. Some of the planned events include, softball, darts, botchie ball, horseshoes, cribbage, 45 card games, bridge, bingo, a square dance and concert. A Mass will be held Sunday at the TLC and the two-day event will include two lunches and two dinners. You can come for the day as all of this will take place at the: TLC, Seniors 50+ Club, Bona ball field and park. The cost will be one fee of \$20.00 per person for the whole

weekend. Tickets will be on sale from April 1st until May 23rd or until sold out. A maximum of 300 tickets will be sold on a first come basis as it’s opened to the county to anyone over the age of 50.

For more information call Co-Chairladies, Sharon Chilvers at 535-2512 or Anne Sampson at 535-2803. Reserve early, we promise a great weekend.

CAP Site News

On February 9th, at our monthly meeting, we said goodbye and hello to members of our committee. Paul Zinck, Therese Digout & Sherry Baccardax have all left for personal reasons and will be missed. We welcomed Stanley McPhee, Marguerite MacDonald, Rocky Fillion, Tanya Burke and Joe MacPhee to the committee.

Joe will replace Sherry as chair and will be our representative on the Richmond Community Access Society as well. When any member leave, a vacuum is left in the day-to-day operation of our site but Sherry will be especially missed. She has been in charge of all the technical operations, grant applications, overseeing students, volunteers, etc. She will continue to work as a volunteer until June and then will leave for a well-deserved respite, which we hope will be temporary.

The site now has High Speed Internet Service; therefore we have a new email address: rbcap@stpeterscable.com Our phone number remains 535-3251. We apologize to all our online readers for the recent problem with our River Round Up Archives. We ran out of space and in doing so are unable to link it to the new web page! Lynn Boudreau is busy putting up our new site with a larger capacity. Even though it is still under construction, you can access our new web page at www.stpeterscable.com/~rbcap. Please bookmark and use as you did previously. All our Round Ups will be in PDF format. Please bear with us as the new site comes together. We really appreciate your patience!

Births

Digout/MacDonald: Alexandra Jessie (Alex), 8 lbs 6 oz., was born Feb. 8th to Wendy & Mark in her hometown of Antigonish. Congratulations to mom, dad, big sister Caitlyn and to grandparents; Sharon & George Digout and Sheila & Ian MacDonald.

Timmons/Sampson: Marc Allen Gerard, 8lbs 10 oz., was born Feb. 6th to Grant & Daunette of Crandall Road, Port Hastings. Congratulations to mom, dad, big brother Brant, grandparents Howard & Vivian Sampson and Wilson & Pearl Timmons and great grand pop, Gerard Touesnard.

Deaths

We wish to express our sincere condolences to the family & friends of the following:

Burke: Amelda (Melda) Jeanne, 78 years, passed away on Feb 1st. She is survived her husband Alex, daughter Claudette, son Mark, daughter in-law Claire and sisters Leda and Catherine.

Doary: Joseph (Everett) 65 years of Fort Colonge, Quebec passed away Feb. 5th. Everett is survived by wife Ruth, their children, brothers; Roddie, Arthur, & Raymond and sisters; Marie, Anna, Alice & Claire.

Fougere: Scott Gregory, 35 years, of Prince George, BC passed away Feb. 23rd. Scott was the son of Marie (Landry) & Conrad. Besides his parents, he is survived by wife Carolyn, daughter Jillian and brothers Kevin & Mark.

Fraser: Margaret Ellen, 67 years, of Point Aconi passed away Jan. 20th. Margaret was a sister to Catherine (Bernard) Landry.

Landry: Serena (Peters) Landry, 82 years, of St. Eustache, Que. on Feb. 5th. Serena was a sister-in-law to George J. Landry.

Sampson: Whitney, 88 years, passed away Feb. 4th. Whitney is survived by his daughters, Veronica & Theresa, brothers, Simon & Edward and sisters Katherine Ann, Susan, Josephine, Cecilia & Rita.

Thibeau: Louis Gerard, 80 years, of Hagersville, Ont. passed away Feb 16th. Louis is survived by sisters; Virginia, Gladys, Madeline, Estelle, & Veronica and brother-in-laws Leo & George Bourque.

Hockey: the old way!



Alexander, Melanie, Emilie and Mom (Ida) Poaps enjoying skating on the River.

Anniversaries

Congratulations to: Danny & Alice Sampson who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on February 3rd. They have four children; Darlene, Paula, Darrell & Michael, and five grandchildren.

Also to Joe & Margaret Bouchard who celebrated their sixty-second anniversary on February 9th. They have five children, Richard, Arthur, Mary, Anita & Emily, twelve grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Bits and Bites:

- **Seniors** meeting Mar. 1st at 1:30 pm.
- **CWL Merchandise Bingo** Mar. 6th 2pm at TLC.
- **CWL** meeting on Mar. 8th at 7pm.
- **Darts** every Sat. at Seniors Bldg 1pm.
- **Seniors Mini Bingo** Wed., Mar. 9th at 1:30.
- **CAP site** meeting Wed, Mar. 9th at 7pm.
- **RBCSS** meeting on Mar. 16th at 7pm.
- **45** card game at Seniors Sunday at 7pm.
- **Cribbage** game at Seniors Monday at 7pm.
- Get ready for adult **50's/60's dance** at TLC center on April 2nd. Watch for posters.
- Greg Buckley would like to **thank** each and every one of you who worked, donated & contributed in any way to his fundraiser. The funds will be used to modify his home to accommodate his disability. God Bless You!
- **Happy Birthday** Blaise Boyd, Rita Sampson, Gervase Landry, Theresa Landry, Bucky Sampson, Helen Konning, Jean Pottie, Maynard Boyd, Joseph Baccardax and a special birthday greetings to Sarah Digout on her 96th and belated special greetings to Genny Grimes who celebrated her 97th birthday on Jan. 21st.
- The **CAP Site hours** are Mon. 2-4 and 6-8, Tues & Wed. 8:30-4 and 6-8, Thurs. 2-4 and 6-8 and Friday 2-4 pm. On Weekends an appointment can be made by calling Ann (2376) or Sharon (3516).
- A reminder that anyone wishing to book the Tara Lynne Center should call Ann Clow at 535-2726. People requiring use of the Funeral Home should call Monica MacPhee at 535-2743 until further notice. Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 535- 2939 to open the church for any function such as wedding, baptisms or funerals.
- The Round Up is available at Bucky's Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Annual Subscriptions are available for \$15.00 delivered in RB, \$20. within Canada and \$25.00 internationally.

Published monthly by RB Technology & Training Centre in cooperation with RB Community Services Society. Eds: Sharon Digout and Sharon Chilvers. Thanks to Sherry Baccardax for technical help, Lynn Boudreau for putting us online and Therese Pottie for looking after our subscriptions (535-2740).