



# The River Round Up

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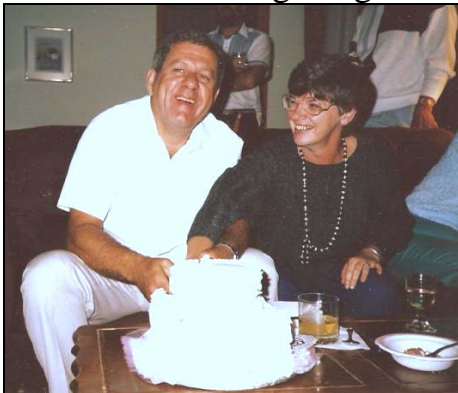
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## RRU celebrates 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The staff of the River Round Up is celebrating a milestone. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000 the first issue of the twice resurrected "River Round Up" went to print with a two page newspaper. In April 2001 we went to a four page paper. We have now published one hundred and twenty issues and this paper is dedicated to those who have spent countless hours writing stories and creating the paper. It also coincides with the River Round Up's big debut in the September issue of Saltscapes Magazine. That story was written last August and it took a year for it to go to print. None of us have seen the final story.

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## Sharon & George Digout



I remember being a kid and thinking my parents were cool. Cool is not a word *my* kids would use because, well, it's just not a cool word anymore. Do the kids say "sweet" now or is it...oh, never mind!

My name is Sheila and I am the oldest daughter of Sharon & George Digout. Since I am the oldest I will give myself license to talk about them by starting with me (my sisters, Carol and Wendy may take issue with this). I was born in Halifax in 1962 when my parents had been married a mere 12 months, Carol arrived in 1966 while dad was going to school in Toronto and Wendy was born in Halifax in 1970.

We have been blessed with two of the most interesting and awesome parents.

My first memories of my parents are of them coming home from work with their white lab coats. I remember this being "cool" and that they would have interesting stories to tell about their day at work. Our supper table was always full of lively discussion and ideas. It is not a surprise that all three of their children now work in hospitals. From about the age of seven, I remember thinking I wanted to work in the children's hospital and make a difference. I became a nurse and it is definitely their influence that got me interested in the medical field and hospitals.

Living in a house with a bacteriologist and a lab tech/researcher was not always a thrill, however, as dad would tell us of the latest "bugs" and at one point even had us look at our fingernails under the microscope to show us the germs. To this day neither my sisters nor I bite our nails! On weekends we would go to the lab and help with various tasks. We learned early the importance of research and how it is sometimes a painfully slow process. You would think that applying for grants would be the last thing mom would want to do in her retirement. But, the C@P Site called and off she went. Community service and sharing our talents and ourselves is what it's all about. This was also the case when the elementary school needed help with sex education in the early 70's...hence we had a pregnant mouse in our classroom complements of my mother. Did I say they were cool? Dad collected various insects over the years, Mom however, put a kybosh on dad's hobby when dad wanted to build an ant farm in the basement. Even she had her limits. Often they would go on various bird watching outings for the day. They would only show us the binoculars and bird books but we often found a picnic basket in the trunk of the car!!

Mom was forever "cutting and pasting" for the latest research and entry into a medical journal. This meant that we never actually used the dining room table. In the days before computers "cut and paste"

meant scissors and scotch tape. I suppose her post-retirement hobby of writing and editing the River Roundup made for an easy transition. Thank heavens for computers. I do not want to give the impression that Sharon and George Digout were geeks (although it is rumoured Sharon would not date George at first for this very reason!). Family and friends were central to our lives. There were many trips to Cape Breton and dad's parents (Victor & Mary Emma [Landry] Digout) lived with us for many winters while we were growing up. I remember running in and jumping on grandma and grandpa in the morning and they never complained.

There were numerous parties over the years that entertained us to no end. We would sneak for peeks and see everyone singing and having a great time. Invariably, someone would sneak in some food to our rooms, as we were banished for the evening. I remember a tall rubber plant that had a sorry end when a certain person landed on it while doing some crazy dance moves! There were also a few fights over the years: one over someone challenging dad on a Scrabble word! We never learned the cause of the one that prompted dad to yell down the street "Sharon...you forgot the kids!" (this was in front of all the neighbours and we all had a good laugh).

There was never a question that mom and dad would retire in Cape Breton and they were gone just weeks after their last day of work (when their first grandchild was 3 wks old, I might add). We joke that dad never takes his coat off when he visits us as he is so eager to get back home. I remember him saying shortly after retirement that he did not know how he fit work into his day. There has never been a lot of idle time for them as witnessed by anyone who knows them. Over the years I remember mom and dad playing badminton, having painting lessons, cooking lessons, bridge parties, many birding outings and involvement with our activities and church community. I have always heard "if you want something done you should ask the busiest person you know." It was definitely instilled in us that you get out of life what you give back. Lifelong learning and a spirit of community and service to others were held in high regard in our house. I once told my dad, "there is nothing left to invent" to which there was great laughter at my expense. Education was never discussed as an "if" in our house. It was a given "when you go to college/university..." We have heard stories over the years of dad going to St. FX and U. of Toronto. Mom (daughter of Jessie & John from Big Pond no less) was an early bloomer. After High School Graduation she was too young to go in training so worked for a year at Brookfield Dairy, then moved to Halifax at 17 and lived with the nuns while attending lab tech school. While working at the hospital as a student she met the handsome George

who tried to woo her. Apparently he had to work hard as she felt him to be a little too conscientious and dull. One fateful day she broke her leg and was laid up back home. That young man started writing letters ...and the rest is history.

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## Sharon & Glyn Chilvers



I was born on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 1949 the fourth of fourteen children to Charlotte (Landry) & Fred LeBlanc of the South Side. Dad was a fisherman and it wasn't always profitable so sometimes Santa Claus' goodie bag was pretty empty by the time he hit our house. We could never figure out why he always had to end his run at our house. When I was three he brought one doll for Helen, Emily and I to share. Mom had made three different outfits for the doll and so we rotated days in which we had a doll to play with. In 1968, I graduated from St. Peter's High and received a suitcase for a gift. I got the hint and so the next day I headed to search for a job in Halifax. After six years at the Motor Vehicle Branch I moved to Burnaby, BC and discovered the grass wasn't greener on the other side – I returned to Halifax a year later. Still not contented, I moved to Toronto in 1976 where I was employed by Weststeel Roscoe. I began attending college evenings and Saturdays to study accounting. After one week in my new-found career I discovered it was not what I wanted. Fortunately, I met a lovely man who thought I belonged in the planning department, as I loved to organize social events and fundraisers for local charities. Thus began my career in planning (and four more years of schooling). I transferred to Calgary six years later, where I remained for the following three years until the recession of 1984 closed the company. Broken hearted, I left Calgary and returned to Ontario (I was returning to NS but I ran out of gas). I worked for Boehringer Ingelheim in Burlington for three years before moving to Mississauga in 1987 and for the next thirteen years I work as a Master Planner/Supervisor with Rubbermaid. In May 1989, while standing in line at a smoky bingo hall in

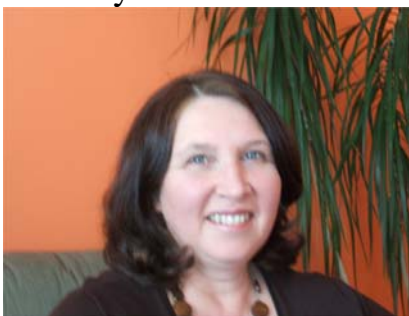
Mississauga, I met the love of my life, Glyn Chilvers. We were wed on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 1989.

Glyn Lawrence was born July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1940, the youngest of three children to Glyn & Irene (Lawrence) Chilvers in Toronto. At the tender age of sixteen, Glyn began his apprenticeship as an electrician and spent thirty-five years installing traffic lights and sensors at intersections in the city of Toronto. In 1997 he was forced to take early retirement as a result of cutbacks. In August of 1998 we decided to purchase Grandma's House Bed and Breakfast which we still operate twelve years later. We have enjoyed the more than forty-one hundred visitors (except for three we didn't like very much) to our home from all parts of the world. Glyn enjoys ice fishing, mushroom & blueberry picking and his beloved trout pond. He very much enjoyed working on the Cenotaph with buddies Donnie & Raymond.

Upon my return to RB I soon discovered that the B&B did not keep me busy enough. So at my first CWL and RB Seniors Club meetings, I became the secretary of both organizations. At my first meeting of the RBCSS, I became a member of the Board of Directors and later served as Vice-President, President and am still serving as Past President, Bingo Chairperson and Festival Co-chairperson ten years later. My most rewarding project has been the "Senior's Expo," working for five years along with my good friend Anne Sampson. I began working on the River Round Up in March 2001 when Sharon Digout asked me to do a story on our B&B. Next month she wanted another story and then another until it became a full time job. Over the last ten years, I have learned so much RB history which I would have never known without speaking to folks and it's even nicer to share it with you. Thanks to all of you for making the paper such a success. Someday I will most likely run out of things to write and call it quits, but for now I will continue to put my best foot forward.

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### Lynn Boudreau



Lynn Boudreau is a long time resident of River Bourgeois. She lives here with her husband Wayne, a native of RB. They have two children, Brandon and Alison, who both live in Edmonton, Alberta, and one

cat. Lynn loves taking trips to Alberta to visit her children as often as she can and enjoys traveling to different places to see new things. When she is not working she enjoys creating oil paintings and using computer technology in many forms, especially to create web pages and graphics.

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### Sherry & Peter Baccardax



I guess I have procrastinated long enough. Sharon Chilvers will be back on my case very shortly. I find writing a story about Pete & I very labour intensive. Creative writing was never my forte.

Pete tells everyone that we met at university. True enough! I was a medical secretary student at Mount Saint Vincent and he was an electrician on site. After graduation and Pete's trip to Europe with his dad, we moved to Toronto for a few years. After making our way east again, we were married in Murray Harbour North, PEI on July 6, 1985. I spend many years as a teenager in PEI as I was raised as an "air force brat", the second of three children to Eric & Sadie Weatherbie. Both mom & dad are originally from PEI and we lived there for ten years while dad was stationed at Summerside. Pete was raised here in the River, the baby of six children to Tobie & Cecelia Baccardax. He often speaks of running in the woods and playing in the waters of False Bay.

We bought Uncle Peter & Aunt Margaret's house here in the River on Friday, February 13, 1987. Our mobile home had been for sale since the fall with no luck. I remember being hesitant to buy till our place sold but Pete was confident it would sell and Mimi agreed to the loan. On the way home from signing the papers we got a call from our agent to say our place was sold if we could be out by the end of the weekend. Who believes in Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>? Not us!

Our only son, Joseph, was bound and determined to enter the world early. He arrived February 26, 1988 and things have never been the same since. He can keep things interesting!

Upon moving to Cape Breton, I worked at various dental offices both dental assisting and as a receptionist until my hearing deteriorated. Pete has



worked in many locations and currently works at NuStar Terminals. Over the years he has worked at various construction sites across Canada as both a maintenance and construction electrician.

We both try to volunteer around the community when time allows. Pete helps with the dock and I at the United Church in St. Peter's and the hall here in the River. These days you can't miss us when we are heading to False Bay for yet another sunny afternoon/evening of barbecuing and swimming with "The Ark" (the bright orange converted rescue boat). One of these days we hope to rescue another certain boat. No names mentioned, of course. Everything comes to those who wait!

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**Special thanks** to all those involved with the RRU including: Therese Pottie (her story appeared in the January 2009 issue) for taking care of subscriptions, George Digout for delivery the local RRU; April Sampson for proofreading; and Anne Louise Touesnard for photo restoration.

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## Weddings

**Stone/Sampson:** Congratulations to Christopher Charles, son of Charlie Stone & Shelia Felix, and Cheryl Elizabeth, daughter of Arthur & Rosalie Sampson, on their wedding on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Chris & Cheryl reside in Thibeaucville.

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## Deaths

**Boudreau:** Sister Marian Regis, 99, of New York, who passed away July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Our condolences to her sister Helen Campbell and many relatives in RB.

**Carroll:** Lloyd, 91, of Ottawa, passed away August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our condolences to his wife Bernadette, his children, and sister-in-law Valerie Boyd.

**Matthews:** Johnny, 74, of Grand Anse, passed away on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Our condolences to his brother Arthur and his family.

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## Bits and Bites:

- ... On a recent trip to RB I was the recipient of a Surprise Birthday Party. Unknown to me the plans had started months before. Many of the people were family, long time friends and new friends and relatives. It was great to see everyone. We had moved from RB over fifty years ago and many changes have taken place that makes it difficult to contact everyone. My goal is to thank all for the many gifts, cards and wishes. Thanks again. Donald Landry.
- ... Thanks to our summer students: Christine Pottie who worked on our RB Festival, Kelsey Sampson who was the Cap Site employee and Tyler St. Louis who worked in ground's keeping.
- ... Everyone is welcomed to drop by to the Richmond Villa on Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> to congratulate

Evelyn & Victor Burke who will be celebrating their 70<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>.

- ... Congratulations to Raymond & Mildred Burke who celebrated their 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary and to Claire & Wilfred Bouchard who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- ... Congratulations to Pauline Pitts who turned 98 on the 29<sup>th</sup>; to Mary Ann Robertson who celebrated her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 6<sup>th</sup>; & Raymond Burke who turned 90 on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Also Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on September 12<sup>th</sup> to Margaret Pottie from her family and friends.
- ... **RB Mariner 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Boat Poker Run** Sat. Sept 11<sup>th</sup>. Registration to begin at 10 am at RB Floating Docks. \$10.00 per hand-anyone can play. Barbeque & drinks available, prizes awarded. Anyone wishing to go on a boat--first come, first served if/where available.
- ... **45Card** game every Sun. 7:30 pm, Seniors Bldg.
- ... **Cribbage** every Monday 7 pm, Seniors Bldg.
- ... **Exercise Program:** at Seniors Bldg Mon., Wed., & Fri. 10-11 am. Walkabout on Tues, Thurs. & Sat. 9 am--Call Beatrix Howell 535-2508.
- ... **Seniors Mini Bingo** Wed., Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm.
- ... **Seniors meetings** Tues Sept 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm.
- ... **CAP Site meetings** Wed. Sept 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.
- ... **Knights of Columbus** meetings Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> 7 pm.
- ... **CWL meetings** Thurs. Sept 9<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm in vestry.
- ... **RBCSS meetings** Wed., Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> 7 pm.
- ... Thanks to our **RBCSS/CAP site summer students**. Tyler St. Louis took care of our grounds/baseball fields; Kelsey Sampson worked on CAP site projects; & Christine Pottie worked on the many events of the RBCSS Festival
- ... **RB CAP Site hours:** Mon to Thurs. 2-4, 6-8 and Fri. 2-4. The RB CAP Site web address is [http://ns4.seaside.ns.ca/~rbcap/roundup/roundup\\_archives.htm](http://ns4.seaside.ns.ca/~rbcap/roundup/roundup_archives.htm)
- ... Anyone wishing to book the TLC should call Mike Fougere at 535-3308. People requiring use of the Funeral Home call Marie & Conrad Fougere at 535-2621. Call Georgie or Harold Landry at 535-2939 to open the church for any special functions i.e. weddings, baptisms etc.
- ... The Round Up is available at Bucky's Garage, RB Post Office or East Coast Credit Union. Subscriptions are available for \$20.00 delivered in RB, \$30.00 within Canada and \$40.00 internationally per year.

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