



Ann Kelly



Mr. and Mrs. Mel Davidson

## Davidsons mark anniversary

A happy occasion was observed on Saturday, December 12, at Tara United Church hall, where members of the family of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Davidson honoured their parents on their 50th wedding anniversary, at a "Come and Go Tea", and open house. The room was decorated with golden streamers and wedding bells, with small tables set up, covered with appropriate table cloths and centred with golden shade baby mums in tiny vases.

The celebrants were united in marriage on December 12, 1931, by the late Rev. Harold Hackart, of Allenford United Church, at the home of the brides parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fenton, of Allenford. Bridal attendants were: groomsmen, Mr. Graham Chambers, of Allenford, and twin sisters, Reta and Greta, the later deceased.

Mrs. Davidson is the former Mona Fenton, and Mr. Davidson

is a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. James Davidson.

Following their marriage, the couple took up farming in Amabel Township, on the homestead of the Davidson family. They resided there and raised a family, retiring in the year 1972, when they moved to Tara, and took up residence in a newly-built home on Hamilton Street.

The couple have a family of four boys and one daughter: Gerald, of Owen Sound; Ross, of Tara; Betty (Mrs. Paul Fitter), of Kilsyth; Mervyn, of R.R. 5, Owen Sound; Wayne, who resides on the family homestead farm, R.R. 3, Allenford. There are 14 grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Davidson have been active members of Tara Sunset Club, Farm Forum, etc., with Mrs. Davidson an active member of the Women's Institute. The couple are members of Allenford and Tara United Churches.

Many congratulations gifts, cards, potted plants and messages, were received, including a family gift of a portrait book of their wedding picture and a plaque on the opposite side which reads:

50th Wedding Anniversary  
Melvin and Mona Davidson  
December 12th, 1931-1981

Two designs of a couple of wedding rings entwined and the hands together, set in a golden finish, made a lovely gift from the couple's family.

Greetings were also received from Lieut. Governor Ed. Schreyer, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, Premier of Ontario, William Davis, and Provincial Conservative, Dr. Gurbun.

Guests were present from the surrounding area, Allenford, Port Elgin, Walkerton, Owen Sound, Hamilton, Milton, London, Kilbride and Mississauga.

## Dancers earn \$1,612

PORT ELGIN — Students boogied for dollars at Saugeen District secondary school this weekend and raised \$1,612 for local organizations.

The danceathon started at 7 p.m. Friday with 27 couples on the floor but only 14 couples managed to flip, flop and fly the entire 24 hours.

The couples who raised the most money were Tammy Harron and Kevin Wepler, \$196.80; Patty Campbell and David Grassing, \$123.60; Donna Byers and Mike Wallace, \$102.96.

The money will be divided among the Port Elgin library fund, Meals on Wheels and the Saugeen Memorial Hospital.

Congratulations to Michael and Irene Harron of Calgary on the safe arrival of a son, Matthew Michael Douglas. A brother for Amanda. Aunt Laurie Harron is looking after Amanda and Michael.

-Our sympathy to the Willard Aiken family on the death of Marilyn's grandmother, Mrs. Clarence Warmington. I'm sure instead of a harp in Heaven Maggie would prefer a game of euchre for she certainly loved playing cards.

Some 500 guests joined Helen and Maurice Gowanlock in celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. It began with a come-and-go tea at their home, RR 1 Allenford, followed by a buffet supper on the lawn for about 250 guests. A dance at the Allenford community centre concluded festivities with guests present from as far away as the east and west coasts and points in the United States.

"We used to dance in the Elsinore store," recalled Mrs. Gowanlock and that's how the couple met.

Their first date was Feb. 13 and they went, by horse and cutter, to a dance in Park Head through a howling snowstorm. The fact that she lost her hat, and the horse nearly went off the road, wasn't a deterrent.

Mina Helen Smith, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frank Roswell Smith, and Maurice Gowanlock, son of George and Ruth Cunningham Gowanlock, spoke their marriage vows about five months later, on July 25.

They were depression years and one of their early homes was a little log house which they rented for \$20 monthly.

Mr. Gowanlock's mother died when he was an infant, and his father and wife, Margaret Colville, went west to live.

The newlyweds decided to make Manitoba their home, too, but soon returned to Ontario. At Sault Ste. Marie 500 miles from home they had \$7 and a minor car accident. Their last 25 cents went for gas in Meaford.

The couple still resides in the home where Mrs. Gowanlock was born. When she was stricken with cancer, in 1960, and given less than a 25 per cent chance of living the year out, the cattle were sold. At the time of his retirement Mr. Gowanlock was parks superintendent at Sauble Beach.

Mrs. Gowanlock was active in 4-H work for 15 years and would still be at it except that she ran out of girls. Former 4-H members from as far away as Newfoundland called to extend anniversary greetings.

She has been active in Women's Institute, is a former district president and currently secretary of Elsinore WI. She is secretary of St. Paul's Anglican Church senior ACW in Southampton, and secretary of Gateway Haven Auxiliary. She is convener of the annual women's institute hobby and craft fair in Southampton. She quilts, has an antique cruet collection, does gardening, and opens her home to friends, relatives and people in need.

Mr. Gowanlock is known for his cane work, is a former chairman of the Saugeen District high school board, is on the Elsinore community centre board and, according to his family, "is world's greatest granddad and father."

The family includes Maureen, Mrs. Craig of Palmerston; Frank of Sackville, Nova Scotia; LeRoy of Goderich; Annice, Mrs. John Blake of Toronto; Phyllis, Mrs. Wayne Stevens of Bridgen and Frances, Mrs. Ron Calhoun of Thamesford, a foster daughter. There are 25 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Mr. Gowanlock has one sister, Lexy, Mrs. Gowanlock has a sister, Mrs. Agnew Ard of Cleveland. A sister, Doris, Mrs. Will Hunt, and a brother, Roswell Smith are deceased.

Pouring tea at the event were Mrs. Edith Howey of Harrietsville, Mrs. Viola Smith of Southampton, Mrs. Agnes Ard and Miss Lexy Gowanlock of Port Elgin.

Messages of congratulations were received from the Governor-General's office by telephone, Joe Clark, Gary Gurbun with MPP Eddie Sargent in attendance.

Gary Harron paid tribute to the couple, on behalf of the community, and Ron Calhoun on behalf of the family. Highland dancing and special music were featured in the evening. Family members played and sang as the honored couple danced to The Waltz You Saved For Me. Mrs. Gowanlock's favorite song, How Great Thou Art was sung by her daughter, Phyllis.

"And everybody said it wouldn't last," laughed Mrs. Gowanlock.

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There will be an opportunity to meet, "The Kids on the Block" on Aug. 4 at 10 a.m. at the Flesherton library.

"The Kids on the Block" are Muppet-like puppets, not all of whom are blessed with handicap-free lives. One is blind, one has cerebral palsy, one is mentally handicapped, one is deaf and another has a learning disability.

The handicapped puppets talk to the other kids on the block about their disabilities. After the dialogue there will be a question period and a workshop to learn just what it is like to be handicapped.