

PHOTO BY BOB OWEN

A toast with the piper: Masons Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother Allan J. Petrisor raises his glass with the piper prior to the gala celebrating 150 years of freemasonry in Colborne.

Masons and guests celebrate 150 years

By Bob Owen lowen@xplornet.com

The Rotary Hall in Colborne was jammed with people from across the province June 20 as the Colborne Masonic Lodge Number 91 celebrated 150 years in the community.

The gala dinner brought in virtually every member of the provincial governing body, most of the Colborne Lodge members and representatives from many lodges. Of special note was the attendance of 58-year club member Fred Peebles who currently lives in St. Mary's, ON.

Grand Master Most Worshipful Brother Allan J. Petrisor spoke of the benefits of freemasonry. In a world where many choose to serve their personal needs, there is a place for people who wish to do good, he said, stating Freemasons benefit mentally, morally and financially from membership. They strive for brotherly love, belief and truth and their debates bring discipline and personal growth he said. By advancing through the offices,

they develop leadership skills and hey gain financially through their affiliation with other members, he noted. Lasting friendships are made with like-minded men.

A comment attributed to Colborne Lodge member Dr. Doug Galt summed up much of what the grand master said: "We take good men and make them better."

In 1962, the Colborne Lodge boasted 164 members. Since then, numbers have dwindled but lodge members are confident the group is growing.

Worshipful Master, Worthy Brother Jeff Hoskin agreed, citing two new members in 2007 and another six in 2008 as the lodge strives to have 50 members in its 150th year.

The lodge has been taking a more active role in the community, participating in the annual Remembrance Day march to the cenotaph, the Trash and Treasures Yard Sale, and providing breakfast at Apple Blossom Tyme. Next year, the members plan to offer a bursary at East Northumberland Secondary School in Brighton.

Show off your garden: enter the horti contest

Do you have a beautiful garden? Here's your chance to get recognition for all that planting and weeding. Enter the Colborne and District Horticultural Society's (CDHS's) garden contest. Properties will be judged during the week of July 7-11 by longstanding members of the club.

There will be six categories for residential, commercial and farm properties with frontages less than and greater than 100 feet.

To enter send your name, address and phone number before July 2 to: CDHS, P.O. Box 916, Colborne, ON K0K 1SO.

Everyone is eligible except executive members of the horticultural society.

Three long-standing members of the Colborne & District Horticultural Society will judge the properties during the week of July 7-11.

Everyone encouraged to participate except the CDHS executive members.

Bale art contest now open

Rural Ramble offers \$1,500 in prizes

It's that time of year. Think needle and hay. No, this isn't about searching for the aforementioned needle in that pile of dried grasses. This is about perhaps using that needle to create a work of art from that animal fodder. Get out your thinking caps, graph paper, coloured pencils, paint (both the real thing and the computer program) and dust off your creativity.

Gather your friends, your hay and your designs and show your bale art for the annual Northumberland Rural Ramble bale art contest. Results must be parked on your property by July 15.

Anything goes as long as it's G-rated. Anything can be your inspiration. Art books can be viewed at the local library, images can be Googled on the Internet and Mother Nature can be consulted. Previous years entries can be viewed on our web site at www.ruralramblefarmtour.com.

More than one bale or round of hay can be used. It's recommend more than one person be used in the creation of this work of art. It is also suggested a barbecue, food and non-alcoholic beverages be supplied. It has been found that creativity increases relative to the amount of the above. However, there is a point at which there can be too much of a good thing and the design can suffer from too many suggestions. We leave the precise quantities of the mix up to the artists involved.

Your creation must be registered with Rural Ramble Co-ordinator Marion McComb by July 15: 1-877-462-3276 or info@ruralramblefarmtour.com.

Contest organizers need your phone number and directions to your site. A point system is used for judging the bale art exhibits, based on general appearance (attractive, neat, tidy, inviting), creativity (artistic details, work and effort involved), agricultural relatedness and originality, visibility (making best use of area available), signage (see below for how to get one), timeliness (entry complete and submitted by deadline date of July 15) – for a total of 100 possible points.

Prizes of \$500, \$300, \$200 \$100 and eight \$50 Honourable Mentions will be awarded for a total of \$1,500 in prize money.

Go to www.ruralramblefarmtour.com for full details about the contest and what the Rural Ramble is all about and help to get those creative juices flowing!

Results for garden tour raffle

May 28, Cramahe Township CAO Christie A, Alexander pulled the winning tickets for the Spring Flowers and Heritage Homes Tour raffle at the Colborne Municipal office.

The winners are: Hoselton Studios, loon family sculpture - Jim Williams, Cramahe; St. John's Books gardening book and gardener's soap - Joan Kelly, Warkworth; Rhonda's Antiques and Art, framed print -

Judy Harris, Cobourg;

Garden House Perennials gift certificate and Watson's Naturals table centre-piece - Jane Spencer, Castleton; Kokimo Candles six inch candle and table quilt by Lenna Broatch - Joyce Murray, Castleton; Boutique at the Spa gift certificate - Liliane Denis, Frankford; Garden Obelisk by Bill Pothaar - Lorraine Coombs, Castleton.