

Pioneer family has reunion

The Walker family, located for many years in the Norwich-Burgessville area, staged an unusual family reunion Sunday, July 18, at the Oxford Centre Hall. For the first time, representatives of the descendants of five different brothers came together.

Spence, Thomas, Charles, Joseph and Samuel Walker were born at Darley, Yorkshire, England, the sons of Thomas Walker, a prominent farmer of his day in that part of England.

In 1860 Spence and Thomas Walker came to Canada looking for land, preferably near one of the Ontario Quaker settlements of that day. Thomas and Spence finally located at Beaconsfield on the farm now owned by Paul and John Walker. In the spring of 1964, the first two brothers were joined by Charles and Joseph, who left the train at Eastwood and walked carrying their luggage to Beaconsfield to join their older brothers. Shortly afterwards Samuel joined his older brothers in Canada. Joseph later returned to England and in the 1880's went to Australia. Charles took over the farm originally selected by his older brothers and ultimately the other brothers all lived in Norwich village.

Charles and Thomas are buried in Quaker St. Cemetery, Spence and Samuel in the Norwich Cemetery. The children and grandchildren of Thomas, Charles and Spence all grew up in the Norwich and Burgessville area, where many of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren still live. The descendants of Samuel all live in the U.S.A. The descendants of Joseph, most living in the Australian State of Victoria, make up a large share of the total family numbers.

The special reason for the reunion was the visit to Canada of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Walker, who live near Melbourne,

Australia. Mr. Walker is a great grandson of Joseph. The descendants of Samuel were represented by Mr. and Mrs. William Pyle of Altona, Illinois. Mrs. Pyle is a granddaughter of Samuel.

The smorgasbord picnic dinner for over 100 present the discussions of the family history, the picture taking and the visiting were planned by Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Gill of Ingersoll and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Walker of Norwich.

Mrs. Mildred Walker of Norwich a daughter-in-law of Spence Walker along with two of her sons, Gren and Jack and their families, represented that branch. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Whitfield of London and members of their family represented the Thomas Walker branch. Grandchildren of Charles Walker who were present with children and grandchildren were Mrs. Cecil Gill, Mr. Gordon Walker, Mr. Harold Walker, Mrs. John Pettit, Mr. Ken Hill, Miss Dorothea Walker, Mr. John Walker, Mr. Paul Walker, Mr. Bruce Walker, Mrs. Philip Burtis and Mr. Wilfred Bishop.

WARBOYS - Hi! I'm Angle Marie, born on July 14, 1976, weighing 6 pounds. Proud parents, Brent and Barb. Special thanks to Dr. Hall and nurses at Woodstock General Hospital.

Workman reunion held at Burgessville

July 1976
BURGESSVILLE -- The annual Workman reunion was held recently at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Workman, RR 2, Burgessville, with 47 people attending. Following the dinner, games were held. The youngest family member in attendance was Bebbin Treaner, St. Catharines; the eldest, Thomas Workman of Woodstock. The committee for 1977 will be - president, Rodney Workman; treasurer, Robert Workman; sports, Marlene Bennt and Jeannie Stephenson.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Smith last week were Martin Vaquero, president of the Spanish Holstein Association, Madrid, and Gregorio Solis, Madrid, Spain.

Miss Carolyn Malcolm left on Friday for Scotland where she is taking a course to become a midwife.

Mrs. Isobel Pocrnic, London, spent Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Morley.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Buckrell have returned after spending two weeks at their cottage at Windemere.

Guests on Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Clifford were Mrs. Oliver Clifford, Otterville, Mrs. Charles Clifford, Tillsonburg, Mrs. Robert Geier, Washington, D.C., U.S.A.

Morrison Hoover and son, Larry, Waterloo, are spending a few days at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. D.M. Hoover.

Win showmanship at 4-H achievement days

Sept 1976
Chris Abbey of RR 8, Woodstock, took junior showmanship honors in the Burgessville 4-H Pork Project achievement day at Woodstock Fair. Barbara Taylor of RR 4, Woodstock, was second.

Joanne Claessens of RR 8, Woodstock showed the best barrow in the club, with Mark Van Den Boere of RR 1, Burgessville, second.

Jake Thomassen of Salford Swine Club took champion swine showman honors, with

Chris Abbey of Burgessville club second.

Stephanie Masters of RR 3, Woodstock, was grand champion showman in the Oxford 4-H Horse Club achievement day, with Chris Abbey taking reserve honors.

Yvonne Cowan of RR 1 Burgessville, was top senior showman, with Glenna Esseltine of RR 2, Burgessville, second. Barry Irwin of Mount Elgin topped junior showmen, with Chris Abbey second, and Stephanie Masters took peewee honors, with Greg Fullerton of RR 5, Woodstock, second.

Burgessville News

Sept 29/76
BURGESSVILLE (C) - Mrs. Sadie Fisher, Oakland is spending a few days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ross Palmer and Miss Marian Palmer.

Mrs. George McGill, Detroit, Mich., is visiting her sisters Mrs. Frank McDonnell and Mrs. Stafford Smith.

Mrs. Lois Pepper accompanied by Kerri Richards, Chatham were overnight guests of the former's parents Mr. and Mrs. Ross Palmer and Miss Marian Palmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Parkhill accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Jim Parkhill, Oshawa on a motor trip to visit relatives in Moosejaw and Eechy, Saskatchewan. They also called on friends in Thunder Bay, Eastford, Hearst and Gravenhurst.

Mrs. Stafford Smith and Mrs. Grant Smith have returned home after spending ten days at the home of the former's daughter Mrs. James Flett and Mr. Flett, Pt. Coquitlam, B.C., and with her granddaughter Mrs. Allan Lund, Mr. Lund and family, Surrey, B.C.

The Burgessville Gun Club held their meeting on Sunday

afternoon at the home of Murray Penny with a good attendance. Keith Geer was the top scoreman.

Miss Elizabeth Varley, Sydney, Australia is spending two weeks at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Merton Penny.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Merton Penny on Saturday afternoon were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Frost, California and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Dougherty, Norwich.

Obituaries

WAYNE M. VANRAVENSWAAY

Wayne Martin VanRaven-swaay aged nine years of RR 1 Burgessville passed away suddenly on Friday July 23rd, 1976, the result of an accident.

Born in Woodstock son of Mr. and Mrs. Everett VanRaven-swaay, he attended North Norwich School.

Surviving are his parents also Chris, Allen and Angie, all at home, grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. C.C. VanRavenswaay and Mrs. Elbert Veldjesgraaf all of Burgessville. Several aunts and uncles also survive.

Rested at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence until Tuesday noon July 27th and thence to the Netherlands Christian Reformed Congregation for service at 2 p.m. with Rev. A.M. den Boer officiating.

Interment was in Norwich Cemetery.

GERRIT JOHAN ROOD

1976
Gerrit Johan Rood of RR 1, Burgessville, passed away on Wednesday, July 28, 1976, at his residence, in his 56th year.

Born in Laren, Holland, he was a son of Mrs. Johan Rood and the late Mr. Rood. He came to Canada from the Netherlands in April 1959, settling in the Holbrook area, where he was a farmer. He was a member of Emmanuel Reformed Church, Woodstock, and vice-president of the consistory of the church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Grada E. Ruiterkamp; two daughters, Mrs. Norman (Herma) Jenner of Brantford and Mrs. Henry (Grace) Bruines of Woodstock; two sons, John Rood and William Rood, both at home; his mother, Mrs. Aaltje Rood, and three brothers, John Rood, Herman Rood and Johan Rood, all in Holland.

Rested at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence, Norwich, until noon Saturday, thence to the Emmanuel Reformed Church for service at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. C.J. Bons.

Pallbearers were Ike Rusticus, Herman Hoogkamp, Ron Dennis, Douglas Topham, Hendrik Bruines, John Beltink.

MRS. AGNES M. EMIGH

The funeral service for the late Mrs. Agnes Mabel Emigh of RR 3 Burgessville who passed away on Sunday July 18th in

Woodstock General Hospital was held on Wednesday July 21st at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence Norwich with Rev. William Henderson of Knox Presbyterian Church, Woodstock officiating.

The bearers were Robert Porchak, Jack Emigh, Ralph Smith, Ken Printer, Simon Bakker and Paul Belanger.

Interment was in Burgessville Baptist Cemetery.