

the painted box

by Wendy Thomson

At least once a week I get the urge to plunge into a bit (a very little bit) of spring cleaning, —like cleaning out one drawer, or clearing off one desk.

I did this week's bit this morning, emptying out a shelf of books in the den, vacuuming everything and trying to put it all back in some sort of order.

Back in behind, I found a dusty looking box, in which were Christmas decorations I had forgotten all about, —my Jaw-breaking, Teeth-cracking Cookies!

Four years ago, when I still tried to make a great spread of Christmas goodies, I cut a fabulous-sounding recipe out of a magazine and set to work making gingerbread men, stars, and all kinds of other fancy shaped-cookies.

plastic bristles had melted away! Not wanting to waste anything, I mixed the mess up well, brushed and decorated the cookies, let them dry, and packed them away.

One of these years, I'll get son Jim to drill a hole through the top of each one, and string a ribbon through, to hang on the Christmas tree. With that touch of plastic in the glaze, they should last for years!

I tried the following recipe out on company a few months ago, and it went over quite well.

Sour Cream Honey Cake.
 1/2 cup margarine
 1 cup brown sugar
 4 egg yolks
 1 cup liquid honey
 3 cups flour
 1 1/2 tsp. baking soda
 1 tsp. baking powder
 1/2 tsp. salt
 1 1/2 tsp. cinnamon
 1 cup sour cream
 1 cup chopped walnuts or raisins
 4 egg whites, stiffly beaten.
 Cream margarine and sugar well. Add egg yolks and beat light. Continue beating while adding honey.
 Sift dry ingredients. Add to creamed mixture alternately with sour cream. Stir in nuts or raisins, fold in stiffly beaten egg whites.
 Spoon into a greased 12 cup tube pan (angel food cake pan). Bake for 40 minutes at 325 degrees. Lower heat to 300 degrees and bake another 20 minutes or until done. Dust with icing sugar.

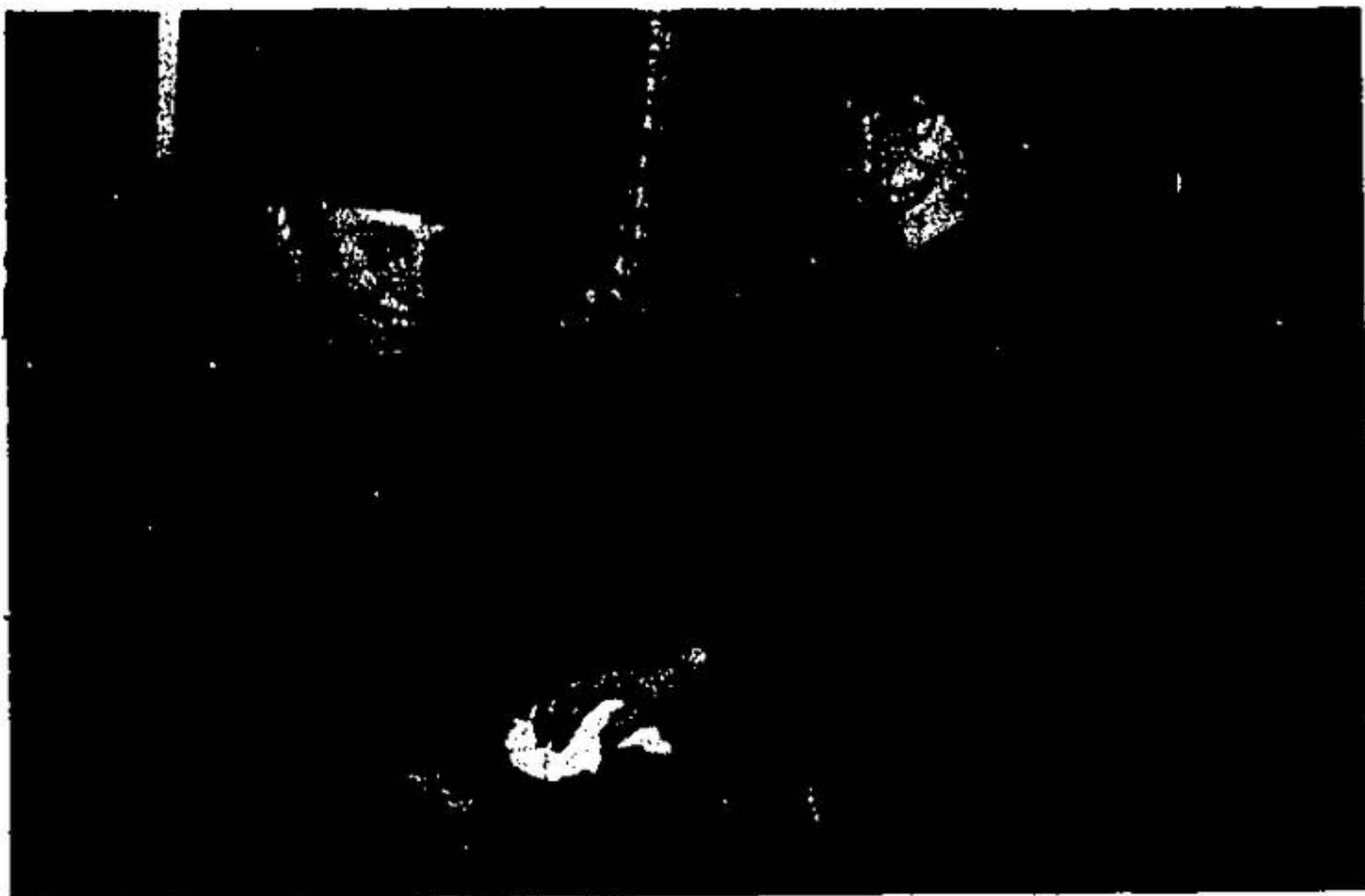
And then we tried them. They mixed up well, baked beautifully—and then we tried them. Beth gnawed away for awhile, yumming all the time, then she'll eat anything that's lying around the kitchen. A visiting youngster bit into one and handed it back.

A visiting dog sat and smiled (really!) until he got a scrap, then laid it down on the floor, gave me a dirty look, and walked off.

Gord tried dunking a star in his tea after he couldn't bite into it on first try, but it just sank. He gave it to the hound who didn't even try to bite it—just swallowed it whole!

It was about then I began to realize something was wrong somewhere. That was maddening, after all the goodies that went into it—honey, slivered almonds, candied orange peel, chopped ginger, and so on.

Glare glaze
 I suppose I sort of compounded the mistake by putting the glaze on. According to the directions, the cookies should be finished by brushing with a hot corn syrup glaze and sprinkling with decorations. I forgot the glaze was simmering on the stove with the pastry brush still in it. By the time I thought about it, half the



BIRD BATHERS Steve Buchanan and Jeff Townsley performed their good deeds for the day Saturday, as they cleaned the feathers of Fairy Lake's waterfowl. The birds became coated with oil, which police later discovered

spilled out of a 20 gallon can near Wallace St. and flowed downstream to the lake. Water pollution officials are investigating the incident.

(D. Gibbons photo)

Free Press Family Page

New officers chosen by Knox Ladies' Aid

Knox Ladies' Aid met Tuesday afternoon, January 30, in the Mary Ellen Anderson room. The president opened the meeting with a poem entitled "Out of This World." The hymn "Come Let Us

Sing of a Wonderful Love, was followed by two minutes silence in memory of two members who have passed away since the last meeting. The president led in prayer.

The roll call was answered with a superstition. The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting and the treasurer gave her monthly report and the report for the year 1972.

Elected Officers
 At the close of the business session, Mrs. Matthews took the chair for the election of officers for 1973. Mrs. Masters gave the report of the nominating committee.

Elected officers are President Mrs. McIntyre; vice president Mrs. Mann; secretary Mrs. Morrison; treasurer Mrs. Dennis; assistant treasurer Mrs.

Matthews. Pianist - Mrs. Moran, assistant pianist - Mrs. Mann, reporter - Mrs. Masters, Manse Committee - Mrs. McCutcheon, Mrs. MacPherson, Miss Ruby Clark, Supply Convener - Mrs. Robinson; Kitchen Committee Mrs. J. Van Fleet, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Scriven, Mrs. Dodds, Mrs. Masters; Advisory committee - Mrs. MacPherson, Mrs. McCutcheon, Mrs. McLeod.

Church's beginning
 After the election, the devotions were taken by Mrs. Moran, and Miss Ruby Clark read a report of the beginning of the Presbyterian Church in Acton about 1845.

Lunch was served and everyone enjoyed a social half-hour.

First posting



R.G. BITTORF

Ontario Provincial police Constable R.G. Bittorf has recently graduated from the Ontario Provincial Police College, Toronto, after successful completion of the Recruit Orientation Course.

Upon graduation Const. Bittorf was posted to the Thunder Bay Detachment, No. 16 District Thunder Bay.

He is the son of Henry and Helen Bittorf, Main St. N. and attended Acton high school.

Free Press Personals

Visiting with Mrs. J. Frank during the week were Mrs. B. Brown, Fort Elgin; J. Galbraith and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Alphon, Tara.

Sister of Colin MacColl of Acton, Mary Robinson passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph, Sunday. Sympathy is extended to her family. The funeral will be this afternoon (Wednesday).

Mrs. Hugh Patterson and daughter Nancy enjoyed a holiday in Florida. They drove down with Mrs. Patterson's mother who is staying longer in the south.

The Rev. John Ball took the services at St. Alban's Sunday while the rector was preaching at St. Margaret's church, New Toronto. St. Margaret's is the home parish of Mrs. Dawson and her family.

When Acton minor hockey teams were in Ridgetown for exhibition games Murray and Doris Scoyne held a reception for visiting officials and parents and Ridgetown minor hockey coaches, managers and their wives. The Scoynes are formerly of Acton. Between games Molly Allsop of Rockwood, whose son Bob plays on the A-B novice team favored fans in the Ridgetown arena with musical selections on a new organ which was a recent gift to the Ridgetown Recreation Commission. The weekend in Ridgetown marked Minor Hockey Week.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Middleton are home again after being in Winnipeg since Christmas-time. They found the weather there pleasantly sunny and dry.

Acton friends were pleased to learn Brian and Linda Sproston of Toronto are now the proud parents of a new baby, Tiffany Susan. She was born last week. Brian Sproston grew up here, and he and his wife, visit friends often.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Huxley, Peggy and Jimmy, had a two-week winter holiday in Florida. They closed the restaurant while they were away, opening again last Thursday.

The Y's Men's dance Saturday night was successful beyond expectations with a near overflow crowd jammed into the music centre. The Marx played and the event was very enjoyable. Billed as the Snowmobile Stomp, the dance was intended to be part of the snowmobile rally weekend. Mild weather caused cancellation postponement of everything but the dance.

Mr. John Mowat visited on the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Rick Currie in Windsor.

John Root, M.P.P. for Wellington-Dufferin, and Chairman of the Environmental Hearing Board, was leaving for a hearing in Somerville on Monday morning, January 29 when he had the misfortune to slip and fall striking his right shoulder, and suffered considerable pain. He got as far as Lindsay, and went into the hospital for an emergency check-up, and his X-ray found that he had broken a bone in his right shoulder. He has been advised that he will have to curtail his activities for some weeks until he recovers from this unfortunate accident.

Daughters of Knox continue study

Mrs. Tom Watson, the president, led in the call to worship, to open the February meeting of the Daughters of Knox held in the Miss Ellen Anderson Room. Living For Jesus and the mottoes were repeated in unison. The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. E. A. Hansen and the roll call was answered by ten members. During the business, there was a discussion on projects and future study books.

Study book
 Mrs. William Spielvogel and her group conducted the study book period and worship service. Mrs. Jack Pink read the scripture taken from Philipians. The hymn "The Church's One Foundation" was sung. Mrs. Tom Watson closed the meeting with prayer. Lunch was served and a social time was spent.

Lady directors elect officers

The lady directors of the Acton Agricultural Society met at the home of Mrs. Wm. Thomson on Thursday evening, Feb 1, with 14 members present. The roll call, my winter project, brought varied answers. The minutes of the last meeting and the 1972 annual meeting were read approved and the financial statement given.

One day clinic for physicians

Doctor Sidney B. Effer, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the McMaster University Medical Centre, will be presiding over a one day clinic at Milton District Hospital on February 21.

This clinic is being arranged and sponsored by the Toronto-based Ontario Medical Foundation as part of its on-going program of continuing medical education aimed at providing equality of educational opportunity for all physicians practicing in Ontario.

The Milton district hospital is one of over 80 Class "c" hospitals (those general hospitals having fewer than 100 beds) in the province that are eligible for the foundation's continuing medical education program in the areas of Anesthesiology, Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, Obstetrics, and Surgery.



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1972 was completed, Mrs. McDonald took the chair for the election of officers for 1973. Mrs. Latham gave the report of the nominating committee and the slate of officers was accepted as read.

New officers
 President Mrs. E. Archibald; 1st vice Mrs. E. Smith; 2nd vice Mrs. J. McEnery; secretary-treasurer Mrs. C. Aitken.
 Mrs. J. McEnery and Mrs. C. Aitken were appointed delegates to the convention in Toronto.

New methods
 Mrs. Smith gave a very interesting and informative talk on some of the new methods of education, and answered any questions.

Lunch was served by the committee in charge and everyone enjoyed a social half-hour.

Shoppers at IGA are missing cheery Mabel Heatley at the check-out counter these days. She is a patient at Guelph General Hospital.

There has been no regular morning church service at Churchill Community church for the past two Sundays. icy roads and then a special evening service caused the two successive cancellations. Rev. and Mrs. Walter Fosbury took the opportunity to meet other friends by attending church services at the Presbyterian and United churches in town. He was minister of the United church when their children were youngsters.

Three charges
 Three charges of having liquor in other than a residence were laid by Acton police during the past week.

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Wants park named after Anne MacArthur

Members of Nassagaweya Council voted Monday to ask Halton Region Conservation Authority to rename the Campbellville Conservation area "Anne MacArthur Park", on the suggestion of a ratepayer.

William A. Johnson, R. R. 2, Rockwood, suggested the village pond and parksite should bear the township reeve's name, especially now that Mrs. MacArthur has been named Warden of Halton for 1973.

"This year looks like the last year for Nassagaweya and Halton County as we know it," Johnson noted in his letter. Johnson also suggested a suitably inscribed plaque be placed at the site.

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