

Ex-con shares hopes with Rockwood Lions

Arthur Meunier, the 52 year old ex-convict who was released from U.S. prison in March 1977, was the guest speaker to 25 members of the Rockwood and District Lions Club on December 7.

He told of his childhood in Moncton, New Brunswick, where he had bones broken by his mother, and was thrown out of the house at age ten, after committing a petty crime. Having nowhere to go in the depression years, he continued to commit small crimes in order to be housed in jails, where he was warm, fed and felt comfortable. This pattern continued for 42 years.

Twice he threatened the life of the U.S. president. He states he did this because he knew he would be arrested and sentenced to more time in the prison environment he knew.

Mr. Meunier says that while in prison he became educated, that he found Jesus, and that he found restitution for all his crimes. He believes that the Lord gave him the strength to survive all the atrocities of his prison years so that he could found a Boys Town in Canada, modeled on the Boys

Town established by Father Flanagan in Omaha, Nebraska. He hopes to be visiting the U.S. Boys Town on the invitation of Monseigneur Huff, in the near future.

The Canadian Boys Town will be located on property Mr. Meunier has found outside Acton and will provide a home for "unloved, rejected, lonely and frightened boys". Mr. Meunier hopes to incorporate Boys Town within the province of Ontario and that it will eventually become co-educational.

At present he is on a national fund raising tour. He hopes to raise \$350 million within the next ten years. He states that funds from his biography being published by Prentice Hall, a book of poems being published by Clarke Irwin, and from a movie he will make, will be donated to Boys Town.

Mr. Meunier currently resides in an Acton apartment which he shares with Richard Erdmann, a 16 year old whom he met in Winnipeg and five or six other boys who he says have stopped drinking and using drugs since living with him. He also goes to court with young Acton boys who are in trouble with the

law. His monthly income is a total of \$238, a government disability pension.

Mr. Meunier's future plans include graduating from Osgoode Law school in the spring, being married in June to a lady to whom he was recently engaged and he has announced his candidacy for parliament, running on a platform of penal reform.

Mr. Meunier remarked that he hoped that the Rockwood Lions would spread the word of his intentions to found a Boys Town in Acton. This was his first speaking engagement to a service club, he said. Lion Fred Hawkins thanked Mr. Meunier for his speech, presented him with a Christmas cake and wished him luck in establishing his dream.



PICTURED ABOVE are brownies of the 2nd Rockwood Pack and Vivian Noble, the Lionette who accepted the girls' donations towards the Lionettes' Christmas Hampers. The hampers will be distributed to needy families in this area within the next two weeks.



THESE ARE the newly-enrolled members of the 1st Eramosa Guide Company, and Heather Cox (wearing the white uniform shirt), the first guide from this company to be awarded the All-Round Cord. The girls are: front row, left to right, Susan MacCormack, Kim Smeltzer, Jennie Oliver, back row, left to right, Jennie Oliver, Kimmie Galda, Heather Cox, and Lynn Oakes.

Rockwood Roundup

by Barbara Wynneck

The sweet voices of the 1st Rockwood Brownie Pack will be heard carolling in the north end of the village on December 14. Hot chocolate will warm the brownies' chilly feet at Brown Owl's after the singing. This will be the last meeting until the new year.

The best Christmas Light Display in Rockwood will be judged this Saturday, December 17. Are you ready?

The 1st Rockwood Scout Troop and 1st Rockwood Cub Pack will attend the 2 p.m. pantomime performance of Dick Whittington and His Cat at the O'Keefe Centre, Toronto on December 18.

The bus will leave Rockwood Centennial School at 12:15 p.m. and return there at approximately 6:30 p.m. Boys are reminded to dress in uniform.

This Sunday, December 18, at 7:30 p.m. the third annual Carol Sing will be held outside, at the creche of St. John's Anglican Church, Rockwood. All villagers and friends are invited to join in the carols, and then enjoy hot refreshments. This is the spirit of Christmas!

This Sunday December 18, there will be a Christmas potluck dinner at the Rockwood Presbyterian Church, following the morning service.

This Sunday, December 18, Rockwood United Church Sunday School will hold their Christmas Party at 12:15 p.m. in the Church Hall.

Awards for 1st Guides

The first Eramosa Guide company, under the direction of Captain Darlene Cox, held their third enrolment and badge presentation program on December 6, at the Eramosa Public School. Mrs. Petrie, the division commissioner, conducted the enrolling of Kim Galda, Susan MacCormack, Kathy Milson, Lynn Oakes and Kim

Smeltzer.

Kim Galda was also awarded her Brownie wings. Heather Cox was presented with her All-Round cord by Mrs. Petrie. Heather is an enthusiastic and helpful guide, who assists at the weekly Brownie meetings.

A program of songs, stories and a play was enjoyed by the attending families. The new guides prepared and served a lunch to the gathering. This was work towards their hostess and bakers badges.

Children and their families are invited to enjoy the potluck lunch.

The community wishes to express their sympathy to the family of the late Mrs. Margaret McNabb, who passed away on December 7, 1977, at the Guelph General Hospital.

Mrs. Lottie Fitzsimmons of Niagara Falls, Ontario, spent this past Sunday as a guest of her brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Max Milne.

Invitation extended for piano recital

An Invitation to Sunday Afternoon Music is being presented by the piano group of the Rockwood Centennial school on Sunday in the Rockwood Community Centre.

Participating students are David and Jeff Brown, Beth and Mike Haworth, Toth Hill, Jeffrey Renard and Hilary Springer. Guest performers will be students from "The Keyboard Studio" Otti Domonkos, Ann Olajos, Frank and Lara Pospisil, Judy Tancsa, Anna Tang, Bela Tibor, Florida Ventura and Maria Vitti.

Selected music for the program will be the piano compositions by Scarlatti, Daquin, Rameau, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Chopin, Debussy, Bartok, Veiner, Khachaturian, Szokolay and others.

The students are taught their music by teacher Mrs. Claire Scheller-Bookbinder. Born and educated in Hungary, she received her teacher's diploma from the Academy of Music, where she learned from the most respected music educators and artists headed by Zoltan Kodaly.

After teaching in various institutions in her homeland, Mrs. Bookbinder came to Canada in 1957 with her husband and together they founded the "Keyboard Studio" in Toronto. They are currently building a home in Rockwood, where she is a piano group teacher at Centennial school.

Centennial school

Snowy weather cancelled the band and choir's trip to Eden House and St. Joseph's Convalescent Hospital. The outing has been re-scheduled for Monday, December 19.

The oranges and grapefruit have arrived from sunny Florida—expect yours this week. The grade eight students will be struggling through the snow!

Christmas assembly times have been arranged. Parents, younger brothers and sisters, and interested villagers are invited to attend. The schedule is as follows:

Intermediate Assembly (Grades 7 and 8), Monday, Dec. 19, 9:05-9:50 a.m.

Kindergarten Assembly, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 9:05-9:50 a.m.

Primary and Junior Assembly, (Grades 1 to 6), Thursday, Dec. 22, 9:05-10:15 a.m.

The fourth line heading for Rockwood Centennial on Friday, or were you too busy shovelling the white stuff?

Rockwood and District Pages

Planning a wedding reception, anniversary party, afternoon meeting? Bookings are now being accepted for the rental of the new...

ROCKMOSA COMMUNITY CENTRE in Rockwood.

Call ROCKWOOD (519) 856-9000

To arrange a booking

New tweenies join pack

Eight Tweenies were enrolled into the first Eramosa Brownie Pack on December 6, Debbie Muller, Heather MacGillivray, Jeanne McIntosh, Melinda Hilliard, Robyn Prentice, Lynn Rowan, Kim Milson and Sheri MacCormack.

Brown Owl Grace Britney, conducted the ceremony and district commissioner, Mrs. Petrie welcomed the new Brownies. Shelagh Harding was awarded her Golden Bar at the meeting. Brownies working on their Golden Hand prepared tea and toast,

supervised by Tawny Owl Ann Robson and Hoot Owl, Heather Cox. This snack was served to the attending families.

As one of their Christmas good deeds, the Brownies will be carolling to the neighboring elderly on December 20. Eighteen girls enjoy their meetings held at the Eramosa School every Tuesday from 4:00-5:15 p.m. If you have a daughter who is interested in joining the first Eramosa pack, please call Brown Owl Grace Britney at 856-9075.



ENROLLED IN THE First Eramosa Brownie pack on December 6 were back row, left to right, Debbie Muller, Heather MacGillivray, Jeanne McIntosh, Melinda Hilliard; front row left to right Robyn Prentice, Lynn Rowan, Kim Milson and Sheri MacCormack.

John Deere Fire Fever Days are here.

Come on in, join the fun and catch the fever during our Fire Fever Days Open House

See the John Deere Snowmobiles, with all-new styling for 1978. The Spillfire, the newest member of the John Deere snowmobile family... a compact and frisky sportabout for the young and old alike. And the Cyclone... with room for two to ride comfortably, and a wide ski stance with a long wheelbase for superior stability. And the Liquifire... with lots of power and a competitive spirit for drivers who expect to be way out in front.

You'll also see the new line of Beautiful Bodyguards™, fashionable and comfortable clothing to keep every member of the family warm this winter... and much more.

It's truer than ever this year
OUT ON THE SNOW NOTHING RUNS LIKE A DEERE

Enter our Door Prize Draw

Test Drive A New Deere

THE SNOW IS HERE!

Where: **Country Mart Ltd.** 3 Miles West of Acton on Hwy. 7 853-3901

When: **Saturday, December 17th 'til 5:00 p.m.**

GUELPH Warehouse Furniture

"Grand Opening Specials"

3 ROOM GROUPINGS FROM \$499

• LIVING ROOM SUITE • KITCHEN SUITE • BEDROOM SUITE

- Sofa Bed
- Swivel Hi Back Chair
- Low Back Chair
- Ottoman
- Covered in durable Herculon
- All 4 pieces illustrated

ONLY \$288 Or \$2.75 Weekly

★ FREE SHOPPING BAG OF GIFTS WITH EVERY PURCHASE OVER \$200 ★

Open 'til 9 p.m. Monday to Friday • Saturday 'til 6 p.m.

38 BAKER ST. (Across from Baker Street Parking Lot) 836-7210