

Committees of council are chosen from local volunteers, council members

by Barb Wynneck
Eramosa is one of the few Ontario areas, still operating under a township organization. Active and responsible community participation is what makes the system work. Jan. 2 is the date Eramosa Council has set aside to appoint township residents to the various paid and volunteer municipal committee positions.

Township Clerk Lloyd Hindley requests that those current committee members who wish re-appointment, or citizens interested in submitting their names for committee seats, should contact the township office before Dec. 29.

The following is a brief outline of each committee of council.

Municipal Planning Board does the spade work and makes recommendations to council regarding zoning bylaws, the official plan, subdivision proposals and amendments.

Six members are each appointed for a three year term. Two appointees retire each year. The Reeve is an ex-officio board member. Liaison members from both Rockwood Village and the Committee of Adjustment sit at the meetings which are held at least once a month. Members are paid \$25 per meeting, with the chairman receiving a \$30 fee.

The committee of Adjustment's purpose is to deal with land severances and minor variances, in conformity with zoning bylaws and the official plan. It is helpful, but not necessary if the appointee has had past Planning Board or council experience.

Each member is appointed for a three year term. One member retires annually. Members can be reappointed for an additional term. The Board meets at least once a month and members receive \$40 per meeting.

The Guelph and Suburban Planning Board has two Eramosa representatives—one from council, the other from the Eramosa Planning Board.

This Board deals with problems in any of the municipalities of Erin Village, Erin Township, Guelph City, Guelph Township, Pushtinch Township and Eramosa

Township. The Recreation Committee comprised of two council representatives and seven community volunteers, advises council of township recreational needs. It makes recommendations for the administration of the municipal recreational budget. Minor baseball, soccer, tennis, night classes, Pioneer Day and the development of park facilities are some of the areas dealt with by the committee. Meetings are held once a month.

The Community Centre Board meets once a month to tend to the operation and maintenance of Rockmosa Community Centre.

Two council members, Harry Bonner or his designate, and three volunteers sit on the Board. Mr. Bonner donated the land for the centre in 1973. He or his designate is assured of a permanent board seat for ten years.

The Local Architectural Conservancy Advisory Committee (LACAC) has one council member and seven members from the community at large. Its purpose is to advise council of any township buildings or properties which have historical or architectural importance.

In Eramosa, this group is known as the Heritage Committee. It works through the Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation which provides information seminars.

The bulk of the volunteer time is spent on research, gathering historical background and justifying architectural features of buildings the committee feels should "be designated" by council.

The committee has no power—council can choose to support or not to support the sites recommended for designation. If council approves the designation of a property, it is then advertised and objections are heard. The purpose "is to open up discussion" says chairman Betty-Lou Clarke.

It has been three years since the committee came into existence in Eramosa Township. Two harvest suppers, featuring slide shows of local architecture have been held to help people recognize and appreciate

what is architecturally and historically important in their community.

In the future, this committee hopes to compose a publication outlining the importance of certain Eramosa buildings. The committee is

interested in drawing residents' attention so that they may preserve what's worthy of preservation, says a LACAC member.

Establishment of a Local Historical Society is another of the groups' goals—one has

never existed in Eramosa. The Committee has been researching the historical and architectural importance of five township locations—Speyside United Church, St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church Oustic, Eden Mills

Inn, Strange-Price property and St. John's Anglican Church, Rockwood. New members are welcome to enlarge the number on this particular committee.

The Library Board has one council representative, a representative from the Wellington County Board of Education and three community volunteer members. It is their responsibility to supervise the general operation of the community library—acting within the parameters

of the federal and provincial statutes. Provincial and township grants provide the budget funds. The Board meets monthly.

The Rockwood Medical Centre Board, with one council and one Rockwood Board of Trustee representative, is responsible for the building's maintenance. The township owned facility rents space to the doctor and dentist. The rent is adjusted to cover maintenance and caretaker costs.

Free Press

Rockwood and district

The Acton Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 28, 1978 9

Trustees delegate duties

by Barb Wynneck
Rockwood Village board of trustees sorted out the responsibilities of each member at their December 18 Inaugural Meeting.

Rick Lewis was elected 1979 board chairman. He will also be the trustee responsible for roads, as well as the Rockwood Liaison member on the Eramosa Township Planning Board.

Jan Osbourne is the trustee at large, responsible for matters relating to the town hall, office and village property.

Past chairman Tony Reid, will take up duties as trustee in charge of hydro matters. The board of trustees will meet on either the third or the fourth Tuesday of each month. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 23, 7:30 p.m. in the village office.

Mr. Lewis begins his first term, elected to the trustee board. Tony Reid was acclaimed to this, his second term in the trustee seat. Jan Osbourne, acclaimed to office will serve her first term as trustee.



Mr. and Mrs. Joe Benham of Everton celebrated both Christmas and their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Dec. 23. The Benhams are 43 year residents of the local hamlet.

Christmas marks Golden Anniversary

by Barb Wynneck
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Benham of Everton celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary on Christmas Day, but the partying with family and friends honoring the occasion was enjoyed before December 25.

Dr. MacGivary performed the quiet wedding ceremony at Knox Presbyterian Manse, Guelph, 50 years ago. Joe then travelled home with his Guelph bride Lenore, to the Benham family farm on the Eramosa-Erin townline. It was the minister's suggestion to have the Christmas Day wedding according to Mrs. Benham.

The Benhams spent the next seven years on the farm, then moved their young family to their present residence.

There have been many changes in the hamlet of Everton since Lenore pastured her prize winning sheep in the yard—no worries of traffic disturbing her market lambs!

Until ten years ago, the Benhams' Southdown sheep took all the ribbons at the Walkerton Fair. Lenore raised the woolly animals and Joe did the trimming. "We quit showing when we were at the top," says Joe, but he still is actively involved, helping his friends with their flocks.

Joe is semi-retired at his carpentry trade. Restoration of the Everton Horlop Mill four years ago, was done under his supervision. He now tends the mill and will open it for visitors to view, upon request. In fact Joe's carpentry skills were employed in all three of his cousin's Horlop Mills at Everton, Rockwood and Belwood.

The Benham family now numbers 33 with three daughters, Barbara Bye, Burlington; Muriel Morrell, Guelph; Willa Adie, Fergus. Their only son Joseph passed away at 19 years of age. There are 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The senior Benhams' knack with four footed woolies has been passed down to the next generation—their grandchildren have been in the winner's circle with their sheep, too.

Joe's sister Mrs. Emma Bartlett, Burlington and Lenore's brother Donald Van

Norman, Orangeville, and sisters Willa Sinclair, Guelph, and Mary McGurn, Guelph, were among those who sent wishes and gifts honoring the couple.

At a family celebration in Ferguson's Restaurant the children presented their parents with a set of Victorian Rose China. These dishes replace the original set which graced the Benham dining table from the beginning of their married life, 50 years ago—not one of the original pieces remains, Lenore remarked. Lenore will cook and serve lamb on the beautiful china "for anyone who will eat it."

"The best neighbors in the world,"—their Everton friends, entertained the couple at the Humes' home in the hamlet.

When asked, "Does it seem like half a century you two have been together?" they replied "Not really" smiled the happy, healthy couple.

Rock-A-Long W.I. has meeting

Mrs. A. McDuffe was hostess for the December meeting of the Rock-a-long Women's Institute. Her home was beautifully decorated and a real Christmassy atmosphere prevailed, with the snow outside and the warmth and cheer inside.

The meeting took the form of a pot luck supper. After the institute grace was sung everyone enjoyed the delectable dishes that were brought. There were 18 members present. The president Mrs. G. Mitchell read a poem "I Remember Christmas".

The roll call was "Show and Tell a Homemade Christmas Decoration". There were some ingenious articles and lots of clever inexpensive ideas. The eucras will start again on Jan. 18 then on Feb. 1 and 15 (weather permitting).

There was then an exchange of gifts and Mrs. L. Dyer and Miss N. Bayne showed two films "The Nut Cracker Suite" and "The Little Fir Tree". Prior to that some Christmas carols were sung.

Mrs. A. McPhedran thanked the hostess for

having the meeting there and spoke for everyone when she said how much she had enjoyed the evening.

"God Save the Queen" was sung, the meeting came to a close. It was a very happy evening.

Waiting for information

Lack of information prevented the Halton Region Finance and Administration Committee from passing a regional staff recommendation concerning employees' benefits under Work-

men's Compensation. Committee member Roly Bird, Mayor of Burlington, said he wasn't satisfied with the report and wanted more information. The committee agreed.



The Rockwood Village Board of Trustees elected Rick Lewis as 1979 Chairman, at their December inaugural meeting. Pictured above (left to right) are Mr. Lewis, Village Secretary Martin Adema, Trustee Jan Osbourne and past trustee board chairman Tony Reid.

Cubs and families at O'Keefe Centre show

Rockwood Cubs and their families recently enjoyed a Pantomime performance at O'Keefe Centre, Toronto.

Cub Master Vic Johnson organized the trip, which was financed by the parent

committee. The November grocery tape drive netted over \$180. This money will be added to the camping equipment fund. The Cubs are grateful for the donations and hope that residents will keep saving those Zehrs and Dominion tapes for the spring drive!



Youngsters at Rockwood Centennial school entertained parents and friends last week in the school's annual Christmas concert. Some did skits, but this group of children chose to sing carols.

University expands program

The university of Guelph's doors will open wider for anyone seeking a post-secondary education with plans to introduce a new General Studies program. The program will start in the spring semester which begins in May, 1979.

Students who are at least 21 years old and who have been in the work force for at least two years may enrol in the general Studies program without being admitted to any specific degree program. After completion of some courses, the student may apply for admission to a degree program. Some may choose to take a number of university courses for general interest without ever seeking a degree.

If a general studies student later registers in a degree program, credits for the courses already taken in general studies will be counted towards the degree.

With the introduction of the general studies program, the admission tests for mature students will be discontinued.

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