

COMMUNITY CORNERSTONES

Donna Coulter

Photographs and memories

BY DONNA DANIELLI  
THE COMPASS

Odds are that you've seen Donna Coulter in many different places throughout the Milton area, but may have trouble recognizing the face behind her ever present camera. Donna has been recording Milton's history photographically since Jim Bourgoin of Milton Photo taught her how to load and shoot a camera when she was in Grade 8. She can be found at almost every charity event, taking photos that she then passes on to the local newspapers.

Daughter of Frances and Allan Clements, Donna was born and raised in Milton and fondly remembers walking down an unpaved Main Street every day to school. She has seen Milton grow and recorded most of the changes on film. One of her current projects with Milton's Millennium Committee is seeking a way to make Donna's many albums from years gone by available for public viewing. She credits local historian Jim Dills for constantly encouraging her to become involved in as many local charities as she has. As well as being a past Campaign Chair for the United Way and a founding member of Milton Children and Youth Centre, Donna is a member of the Hospital Auxiliary Executive and for 30 years has been a member of the Order of the Eastern Star, a fraternity group known for its benevolent work. She does a lot of the publicity photos for the Hospital Auxiliary, the Hospital Foundation and the annual Golf for Cancer tournament. If a community non-profit group is having a fundraiser, you can almost always count on Donna Coulter to be there.

"I do it because it's a great hobby for me and I enjoy what I'm doing."

Many of Donna's photos have won contests, something which is particularly pleasing to her.

"You get the satisfaction not just for yourself," she comments, "but for the charity too."

A graduate of Milton's Robertson Business College as a Secretary in Bookkeeping, Donna worked with her father Allan Clements, her brother George and her sister Vi Dougherty at the family business, Clements Motors (now Hunt Plymouth), before marrying her husband and partner of 37 years, Norm Coulter. Married in October 1962 to the man who affectionately calls her "shutterbug," their first business venture together was North End City Service, a gas station and two bay garage. Donna did the bookkeeping at home when children Frances and Gary were young. In 1973 they had the grand opening of the business they still own, North End Datsun, which was renamed North End Nissan in 1982.

Donna is proud of the reputation that North End Nissan has in the community and that both of her children are knowledgeable in the field, having both graduated from Automotive Marketing Universities. For many consecutive years, North End Nissan has been awarded the IAPA Certificate of Perfect Performance, and won the Chamber of Commerce "Business of the Year" award in 1993. Donna is quick to point out that North End Nissan's success is a team effort.

"We've got good employees," she explains. "We try to work as a team. We've got a warm feeling here ... that's what holds a family business together."

Donna is no stranger to the Chamber of Commerce awards. As well as 1993's "Business of the Year" award, Donna has received the "Business Person of the Year" award, and is 1999's "Citizen of the Year."

As the featured speaker at Milton Community Resource Centre's Annual General Meeting, Donna spoke from the heart of her love for Milton and it's people.

"Milton is a special town," she explained. "It has special people in it. People here are loving and caring."

She's right - it's loving and caring people like Donna and Norm Coulter that make our community as special as it is.

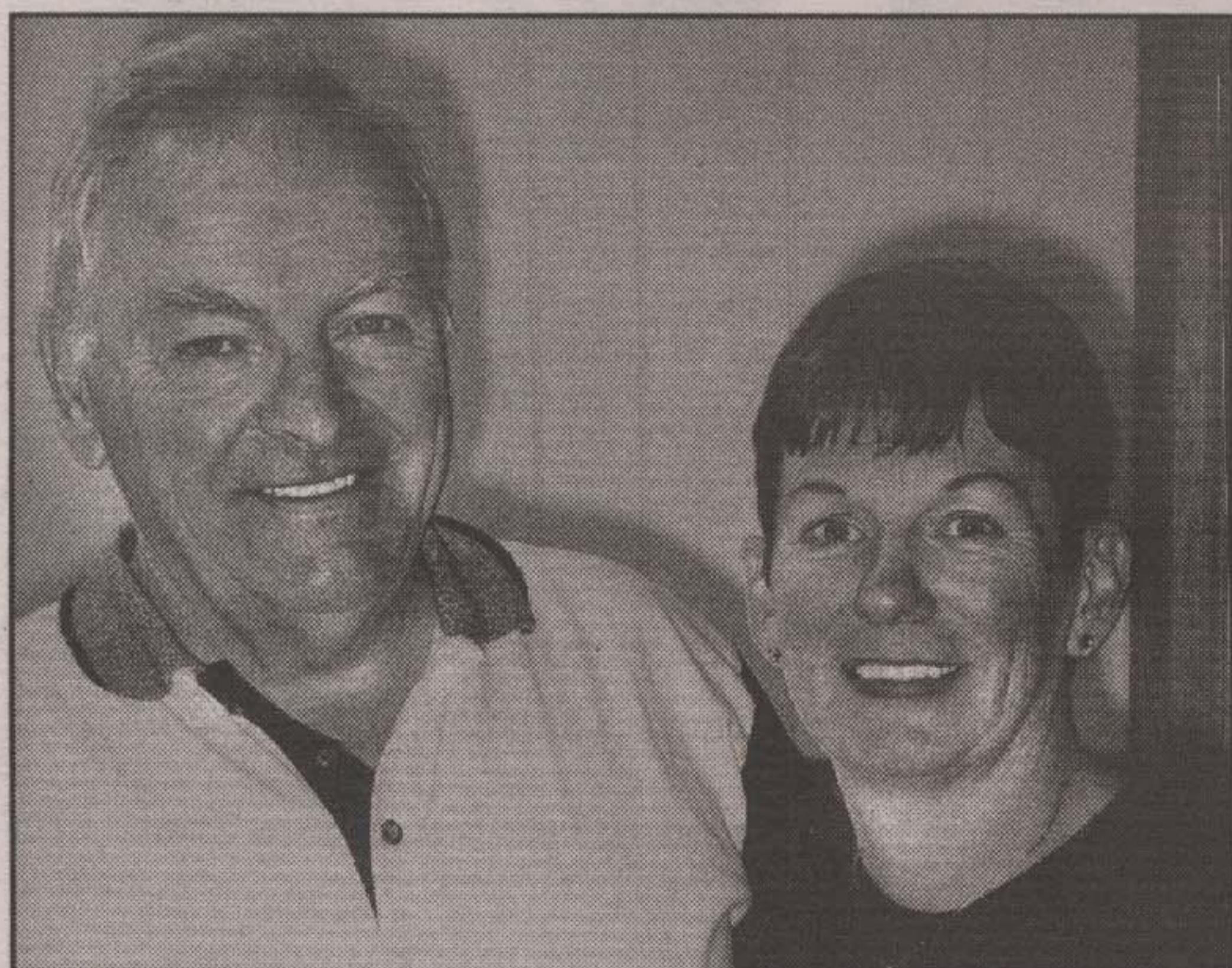


PHOTO BY DONNA DANIELLI

**IT'S A SNAP:** Taking photos around Milton and area comes easily to Donna Coulter, right, pictured with husband Norm. Donna professes a genuine love for the Town of Milton and its people.

Cindy Pearson Lunau's

Nassagaweya Times



**EUCHRE NIGHTS:** Two fun-filled evenings coming up. Friday, November 5, the Lions Club offers a Euchre Party with \$100 in prize money and a light lunch at the Lions Club Hall in Campbellville with an admission of \$5.00. Tuesday, November 9th, the Nasagaweya Historical Society sponsors Euchre Night at Nassagaweya Presbyterian Church with admission of \$2.50.

**BREEDERS CROWN:** This prestigious event comes to Mohawk Raceway on Friday, October 29th, with a post time of 7:15 p.m. Eight championship races will feature the finest harness horses from across North America competing for a combined estimated purse of \$4.5 million (US). Tickets for guaranteed seating in the Trackside Lounge & Patio are available at Mohawk, or call 1-888-675-RACE, ext. 4444. Free general public seating is available on a first come basis.

The Breeders Crown elimination races this past weekend proved exciting by any standards. Moni Maker, a six-year-old trotting mare, won Saturday's Trotting Classic, and became the richest Standardbred in history, pushing her career bankroll to \$4,175,503. In the same race, eight-year-old Glory's Comet, owned by George Peters of Erin finished fifth and became the richest Canadian-bred Standardbred, with \$1,899,315 in career earnings. Then Blissfull Hall, trained by Ben Wallace, won his race in 1:51.2, equalling his own Mohawk mark set in September. Blissfull Hall has now earned over \$1.14 million in a sparkling sophomore campaign, and becomes only the ninth horse to win Pacing's Triple Crown, comprising the Cane Pace, Little Brown Jug and Messenger Stakes.

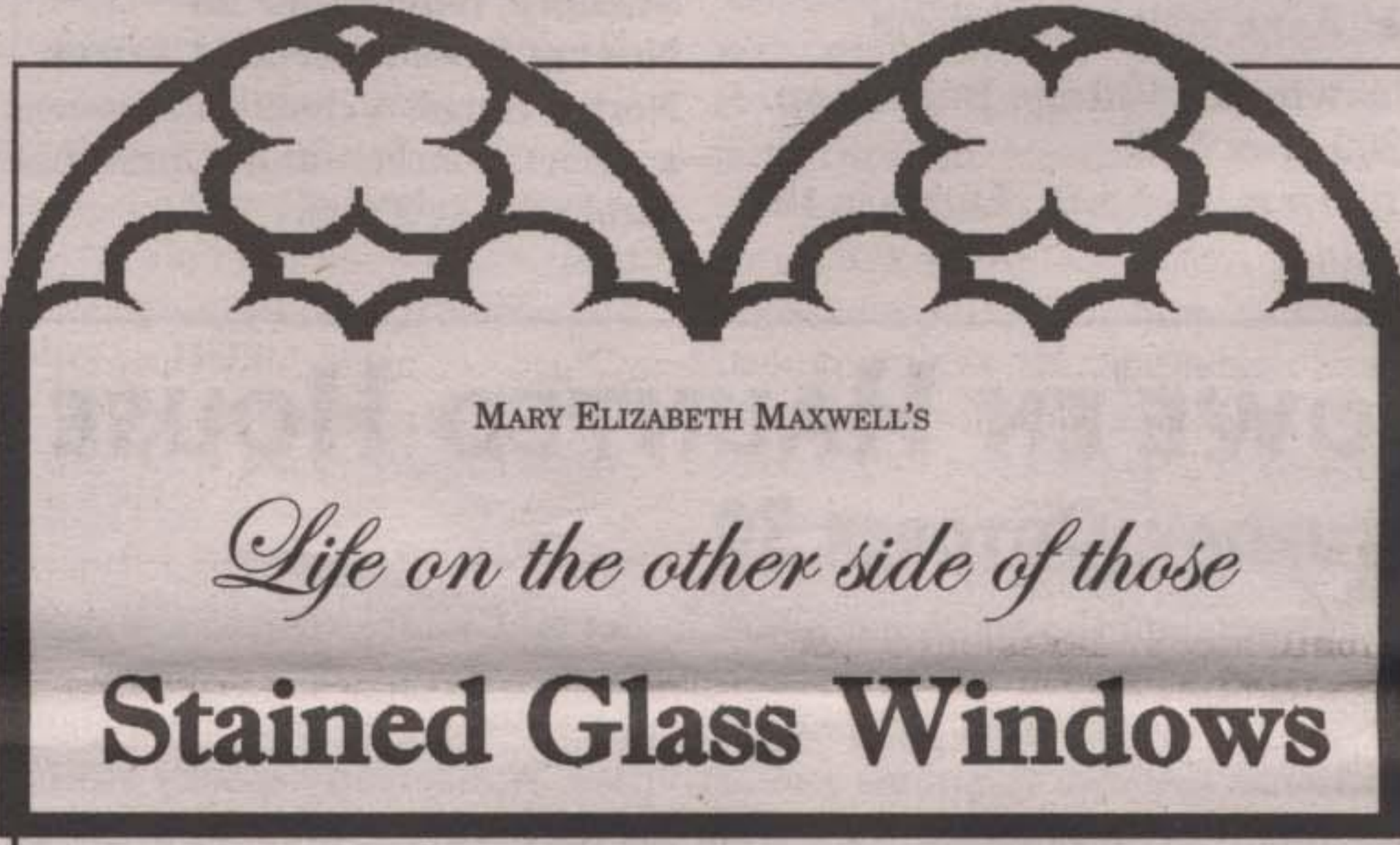
Mohawk's annual Fall Fair had to be cancelled this year, due to lack of space. The Fall Racing Meet continues daily through Thursday, December 23rd, excluding Wednesday & Sunday.

**ROTARY EXCHANGE:** Rotarians are seeking outstanding young business and professional people to visit Australia and Brazil as part of their District's Rotary Group Study Exchange program. Team members, between 25 and 40 years old, will visit their professional counterparts, observe their host's way of life and view the nation's economic, social and cultural characteristics over five weeks. More information from the web site at: [www.rotary.org/programs/gse/index.htm](http://www.rotary.org/programs/gse/index.htm) or contact Douglas Vincent, Assistant Governor at (519) 423-6264. Deadline for applications is October 31, 1999.

**50TH ANNIVERSARY:** Congratulations to Dirk & Willy Boomhower who celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary with friends and family at a wonderful Open House at the Campbellville Lions Hall. (Dirk, I'll save your quotes for another time!)

**BASEBALL BANQUET:** Brookville Minor Ball is holding a Community Dance on Saturday, October 30th at the Nassagaweya Community Hall in Brookville. Celebrate the last Halloween of the Millennium! For tickets and more information, call Dennis or Cheryl at 878-0063.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY:** Nassagaweya's observances will take place at the Cenotaph in Haltonville (15 Sideroad & Guelph line) beginning with a Parade along Amos Drive south of Blacklock Drive, at 1 p.m. on Sunday, October 31st.



*Of meetings and strange boxed lunches*

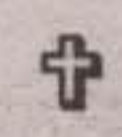
This meeting was the Deanery of Trafalgar. As a rule you could expect seven or eight clergy to appear, but perhaps because the meeting was in the new Rectory built by the parish of St. John's and St. Stephen's, a full complement turned up and we ended up with 14. I well remember my dad had given me a "threshing roast" for the occasion and pies were no problem, but with a sick child upstairs and a houseful of preachers, I felt like the old Earl of Essex, who in 1615 wrote in his *Daybooke* that, "Thou knowest, Lord, I shall be very busie this day and I may forget thee but do not thou forget me."

By 2:30 the men were beginning to drift home, some had already left when Mary Honey called me from her bed. I had one foot on the stairs when a stranger appeared at the front door. He was well dressed and smiling but one more preacher

or salesman I didn't need. I looked at his briefcase and said, "We have a vacuum cleaner, we have a set of encyclopedias and we have our own faith."

By now he was openly grinning from ear to ear, and he ventured to say, "I'm the new minister at Omagh Presbyterian Church and I've come to see Mr. Maxwell about the Ministerial Association in the district."

Well, we fed him too, there was plenty of everything left, and we had a good laugh - that just goes to show, you can entertain angels unaware!



About 60 years ago, my brother Bob, a priest in the diocese of Nova Scotia, was home for a visit. While he was there a classmate from Wycliffe College, the Rev. Ron Colebrook, Rector of Norval, Hornby and Stewarttown,

arranged an outing to Belfountain Park and I wanted to go with them, but they said, "This trip is just for preachers." But I did offer to pack a picnic lunch for them (they should have considered that suggestion very carefully under the circumstances!). The first sandwich in the box was made of black currant jam, which I knew they both enjoyed. The second one had a slice of good cheese, and the third one...? The previous winter we had lost an animal in the barn who had dined too well on hardware and Dad had kept the hide, tanned it, and hung it in the shed. Leather like that was handy to mend harness. It was hard to cut but I managed to get two small slices off the edges, scrubbed and dried the pieces, covered both sides with ketchup, stuck a lettuce leaf inside and put that sandwich halfway down in the package.

My brother had a specially hearty laugh and Ron told us later that after struggling with that tough "meat" they realized they had been "had," and their laughter shattered the peace of the park! They had been served the ultimate "bulloney" sandwich!



Referring to last month's column, the gremlins misconstrued "star boarder," an old expression of my grandfather's for someone usually a relative, who would come to a home for a three-day visit and stay for six months - today, he would just be called a freeloader.



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