

We're havin' a party!

I always enjoy a good party.

I didn't think I had a reputation for being a party animal, but the local residents of my hometown (or is that 'home village') of Limehouse, asked me to sit on a committee organizing a party.

It seems Limehouse is 150 years old.

(And for those sarcastic people out there—I was NOT around when it was first founded.)

Having resided in the suburbs of the quaint little village all my life, I was delighted to be asked to take part. So, woo hoo! We're havin' a party!

Saturday, August 25, things will be happening in Limehouse, as we kick off events at 10 a.m.

Visitors will be treated to tractor-drawn wagon rides around the village, leaving from the Memorial Hall at the Fifth Line and 22 Sideroad, (in the hub of the metropolis) to the Presbyterian Church out to the east, and back, then a tour down the Fifth Line, to visit the ball park, as well as the old original stone school (where yours truly attended school for Grades 1 to 6, before moving to the 'new' school, built in 1961.)

Limehouse Memorial Hall will be the centre of activity, with displays from the Women's Institute, a display of quilting, Bruce Trail Association, a visual Power Point display, compliments of former resident and current historian John McDonald, and a speech by Jean Somerville, great granddaughter of the original postmaster, John Newton, complete with a few historical props as well.

Local historian Mark Rowe will be taking groups on a walking tour (at 1 p.m. and again at 4 p.m.) and there will be lots of food, fun and reminiscing throughout the day with old friends who make the trek back to the old village.

And the best part? It's free! (Except for the food— geez, did ya think we were gonna feed ya fer nothin'?)

The program runs 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., with the evening activities featuring a coffee house, with Limehouse resident Bob Gee inviting a number of his folkie friends to drop by and perform some 'wooden' music at the hall that night.

Ted Brown



Sunday morning, there will be a 9:30 a.m. church service at Limehouse Presbyterian Church, with refreshments and fellowship to follow.

It's been fun working with this committee, sitting alongside Limehouse regulars like myself—the Brooks boys (Bill and Joe), Bill (a.k.a. Billy) Sanford and Glenda Benton— we let her sit on the committee, even though she's only been in Limehouse area since 1957, but her hubby Bert is an original, with his parents operating the Limehouse General Store for decades.

In addition to us 'originals,' we have a host of enthusiastic locals who more recently began calling Limehouse home, taking pride in the hall, the grounds around it, and most importantly, the little village's grand history as a one-time industrial centre, until an early 1900s fire wiped out many of the original buildings and businesses.

Limehouse has always held a special place in my heart, and I'm excited to see old school chums who have moved away decades ago, and will be swinging by for a visit. I'm looking forward to hearing the old stories told and retold, each one getting better with each telling.

And I'm excited to be able to say the Browns have been there in some capacity, all those 150 years and then some, a little ways down the road.

So if you feel like dropping by to see the Limehouse folks for a bit— this is your invite.

See y'all there!

(Ted Brown can be reached at tbrown@independentfreepress.com)

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