

Senior Month focus on Mary Walsma

This week is the turn of another Board Member. Mary Walsma is in her second year as President of the Acton Seniors Recreation Centre after being Vice President for two years.

Mary was born in the Brampton Hospital. She was the only child of older parents and lived all her younger years on a farm in Snelgrove. She attended SS11 Chinguacousy, a one room school for the first year. Then an addition was added for the junior grades one to four.

She attended grade eight at Herb Campbell P.S. (in a small hamlet called Campbell's Cross) when her previous school was closed. She remembers walking to school, no buses.

Her father had a working farm and raised Guernsey Cattle. He sold the cream. Mary used to help feed the baby calves and teach them to walk on a lead, and drink from a pail.

Her parents sold the farm when she was 16 years old and moved to Brampton. She then attended Central Peel Secondary School, followed by one year at Sheridan College.

Her first job was as a receptionist for Gummed Papers in Brampton. She worked for 18 months for the Peel County Assessment office. It was later taken over by the Provincial Government, and she worked there for a total of 31 years.

Most ladies who live on farms belong to the Woman's Institute and Mary's mother Wilma was no exception. She was a member for many years. Mary helped serve teas in many occasions.

June is Seniors' Month

Celebrating Our Seniors

The New Tanner is proud to feature seniors each week this month



She also helped serve meals at the International Plowing match in Calvedon in 1962

In July 1966 Mary helped her uncle Herb (who lived on Mississauga Road) because he had broken his ankle. This was where she met her future husband Hank Walsma. She used to help her uncle with farm work and the horses during the summer holidays.

They married in August 1969, and have both been very involved with volunteer work involving farming.

When they were first married they lived in

Georgetown for seven years, and had a 1/2 acre, and kept ponies.

In September 1976 they purchased the farm at Churchill, north of Acton, and Mary became very involved with the Churchill Community Church. She belongs in the choir, taught Sunday school; and has been treasurer for 21 years for the Churchill Ladies group. She helps with



the funeral lunches and for the past ten years has been involved with the yearly Lenten Lunches. For the past nine years she has served on the board of managers as secretary and has been ministerial representa-

tive for just over one year.

Mary is still a member of the Acton Fall Fair, and helps set up and announce horse shows and since 2003, the very popular lawn and garden tractor pulls. She says it's

a family affair as Hank and their son John is also involved.

She has been on the Fall Fair Board of Directors for four, three year terms

Mary joined the Centre to be involved with our choir. She is at present President, and has helped on the travel desk for the past six years.

Mary can usually be found at the Seniors Centre on Friday afternoons calling "Bingo"

I asked her if she still helps on the farm and she said she is the "Go for Girl" picking up parts for tractors, and feed for the cattle etc;

On their farm they have four Percheron Horses which are used to pull wagons and sleighs in the winter. They also raise beef cattle. She used to feed and clean the barns, but now there is additional help and she is glad of the extra hand.

They have two daughters and one son. Lisa and her husband Mark live in Orangeville with their three children Scott, Alex and Steven. Terri-Anne and husband Chuck have two children, Thomas and Sabrina, and they live in Arthur, and their son John still lives at home and helps around the farm.

Mary enjoys babysitting the grandchildren in her "spare time."

Mary is another very busy lady who has found time to help in many various fields.

Stag & Doe

Paul Dale & Amy Black

Saturday, June 26, 2010
7:30pm - 1am
Acton Legion, Wright Ave.

YOU'RE INVITED TO COME & SEE...

LIVING INSIDE OUT

In an Upside Down World!

SUNDAY, JUNE 27 - 7:00 P.M.
Acton Baptist Church - 80 Mill St. E.

A Musical by Celeste & David T. Clydesdale

Presented by **J-FORCE YOUTH CHOIR**

THANK YOU!

The Acton Horticultural Society would like to thank and acknowledge all donors and sponsors of their Annual Plant Sale this past May 22nd.

- Arbour Garden Centre
- Arnold's Greenhouses
- Canadian Tire • DiGirolamo's Greenhouses
- Evergreen Acres Nursery • Gro-Bark • Jon Hurst
- Lost Horizons Plant Nursery • McDonald's
- Plant Paradise Country Gardens
- Real Canadian Superstore Georgetown
- Sheridan Nurseries • Sobeyes • The Flower Shed
- Tim Hortons Acton • Town of Halton Hills
- Tuitman's Garden Centre • Tyler Transport
- Van Wissen Nurseries & Garden Centre
- Young's Pharmacy