

Trips offer something for everyone

ALL ABOARD! Join us for a memorable excursion to a variety of interesting and exciting destinations.

Day trips and overnight tours have been offered by the Senior Citizens' Recreation Centre since July 1988 and have proven to be quite popular for those people 55 years and older in our community. It is a great opportunity to tour new attractions and meet people with the same interests and similar life experiences.

Just recently, two gentlemen started talking to each other about their past work experiences and surprisingly discovered that they had worked for the same company years ago.

Here are some highlights of past bus trips: August 4 there was a trip to Niagara Falls and Niagara-On-The-Lake where we were given a guided historical tour of the area and an afternoon guided tour of Brights Winery. We indulged in the free samples of many varieties of wine and were able to purchase whatever we desired.

Our October 25 trip to the Tender Tootsies Factory Outlet proved to be very profitable as there was a "no limit" buying spree. One lady purchased four pairs of boots at \$20 per pair. Many of us had four to six pairs of shoes. Everyone came home tired but happy.

One of the prettiest trips was to Cullen Barns and Gardens on November 24. Everything was so festive for Christmas. The lights alone were worth the trip. Our last day trip in December was to the People's Church in Toronto to see "The Living Christmas Tree". A spectacular Christmas event to put everyone in a festive mood.

Those who have ventured to travel on the overnight tours have always had a marvelous time. The colours were out of this world when we travelled to the Catskill Mountains October 11-14. The Rochester trip December 11-13th featuring a live performance of Rosemary Clooney's White Christmas Show certainly put us in the spirit.

The general consensus seems to be that each trip is better than the last. The 1989 schedule promises to keep up to those standards with the following trips. January 19 took us to Hamilton

All Aboard

with MARION YOUNG

Place to enjoy the new Christmas Geritol Follies show.

On February 8 the big attraction was a Mystery Tour. Nobody knew where they were going until they got there. It was a pleasant surprise to visit the one of a kind Sunrise China and tour the lovely Scarborough Town Centre. Coming up soon is Maple Syrup Time on March 22. This trip will surely give you the feeling that spring is just around the corner. Rediscover the making of maple syrup and enjoy the delicious lunch of pancakes, sausages and fresh maple syrup. Other stops will include a very interesting Swan Observatory and Coyles Outlet store.

Our first 14 day trip is being offered for March 27 to April 9 called "The

Coast Is Calling". This trip features Myrtle Beach, Jekyll Island, Atlanta, the Blue Ridge Mountains and much more.

Upon request more information can be given about our April Dinner Theatre trip, the Niagara Blossom tour on May 11, the exciting Holland Tulip Festival in Holland, Michigan on May 16-19, and a trip down memory lane to see and experience the Port Stanley Old Fashion Train on June 13.

Limited space is available for all day trips and overnight tours so book early to avoid disappointment. The scenic cruisers used on our tours are of the latest design with climate control, reclining seats, washroom facilities, stereo music and much more.

Please call the Senior Citizens' Recreation centre at 875-1681 for more information about how to become involved with any of our day or overnight trips, and ask for Marion Young the trip co-ordinator.

Bank Beat



with ROSE HARRISON

Learn how to make more from your money

Everything changes around us. While it is not always easy to accept or adjust, some changes are definitely for the better. A case in point is my industry banking.

The changes older people have seen in this industry are truly revolutionary. The bank used to open at 10 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. It was a dreaded place where one went cap in hand to beg money to buy a house or a new tractor, a place where there was no competition in terms of interest rates or customer service.

Banks have now become retailers, which means longer hours and competition is very keen for new business; therefore interest rates on loans and deposits have become more attractive.

Sensitive to special needs of seniors our marketing people have refined and designed new services which better serve our older customers. Also Banks now are aware that as a rule seniors have more disposable income than younger groups from money that has been accumulated from a lifetime of savings or sale of property.

New types of accounts with variable interest rates have been introduced; G.I.C.'s, Term Deposits and R.I.F. are very attractive investment options because of the competition in the banking industry.

Gone are the old concepts of banking which meant one account for chequing, and one for savings paying interest twice a year. Today accounts pay daily interest rates every month, graduated interest rates which increase depending on the amount of deposit. As a matter of fact, the interest rates paid on some accounts are better than paid on some term investment products.

Banks are also starting to appoint special officers to deal with senior citizens and their business where the numbers warrant. In the case of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) Milton, I have been appointed to this position and my primary focus will be to review our senior accounts to ensure that they are using accounts or investments which best serve them.

The other great thing about my position is that the bank realized that standing at the counter discussing your business is somewhat inconvenient so I will have my own office to serve you. Or I will come to your home to give you more privacy.

If I can be of service to any of you to discuss investment products that are available at the bank please give me a call at my office -- 878-2321 -- or at my home in the evening 878-2185.

When one is on a fixed income every dollar becomes important. Perhaps you could be doing better for yourself. A change might be needed.

Some people adjust to change and others find it difficult. Professional help might make it easier.

Should you have any questions we would be pleased to answer them in the May publication. Just drop them off at The Champion -- your query would, of course, be confidential.



Photo by ERNA NOWAK

This beautiful greenhouse at Niagara Falls is just one of the many attractions visited by those who take advantage of the bus trips offered through the Senior Citizens' Recreation Centre. Among the participants in last year's Niagara Falls trip were from left Betty Munroe, Marion Young (trip co-ordinator), Rae Banks and Jackie Hall.

Oral history reveals town's colourful past

By KEN LAMB

With the first issue of this type of publication Seniors are starting a tradition. The Milton Historical Society is right at home taking part because we, too, are in the tradition business.

The New Year's Day Levee in our community is a good example. Our Society beginning in the early 1980s, worked closely with the Town in reviving of reception, which dates from the earliest years of this country.

With the move to the present Town Hall a few years ago the event has been growing in popularity. This past New Year's Day about 200 people met Mayor Gordon Krantz and many of the Councillors while touring the Town Hall building and the recently-opened Hugh Foster Hall next door.

Incidentally, if you have not visited Hugh Foster Hall, there's a treat waiting for you. Architect Carlo Venton, who did such a wonderful job in the Town Hall restoration, has performed magic again.

Another feature -- at least to us in the Historical Society -- is a wall plaque displaying a copy of a letter that Hugh Foster wrote to Halton County in 1853. It offered the County four acres as a site for its buildings -- the area today occupied by town hall, Foster Hall and Victoria Park.

That letter came to light a few months ago. Its discovery probably gave Alex Cooke the biggest satisfaction he had had from hundreds of hours of research on behalf of our Society and the Halton

Region Museum. He came across the original of the one-page, hand-written letter while sifting through what he thought were routine documents sent to the museum by Halton Region headquarters.

I don't suppose Hugh Foster could have dreamed that his business-like note would become a highly prized item seven generations later. In any event, finding of the letter is encouraging for us in the Historical Society because we're just starting a new project. And we hope it will be useful to future historians.

It's called "Oral History" -- preserving tradition through people's voices rather than the written word. We've held a seminar to give our members some idea of how it is done and we've bought the equipment. By the time this is in print, we will probably have recorded a few Miltonians for posterity.

Some of our future subjects will have been prominent in the life of this town. Others will have been equally important, although perhaps never in the public eye.

Do you have any suggestions for interviews? We would welcome your help. And if you would like to take a hand in the interviewing, please get in touch with us.

We see the "Oral History" project as an important research tool. It will complement the extraordinary job being done in traditional research by Jim Dills, Alex Cooke and Jack Charlton. Their work played a big part in the

naming of Hugh Foster Hall. In the months ahead several publications will appear founded on their research.

Our Society holds its meetings the third Thursday of the month (except summer) in Hugh Foster Hall at 7:45 p.m. come along -- we'd love to see you.

Milton has had a colourful past. And the more research we do the more colourful it seems to get.

Today we are almost certainly on the eve of another period of rapid expansion. It looks like an exciting time and lots of fun for history buffs.

Ken Lamb is the president of the Milton Historical Society and can be reached by calling 878-6391.

Philosobits

I believe there is no lovelier way to thank God for our sight than by giving those who are blind a helping hand.

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Thankfulness is not what "you" have to be thankful for, but whether others are thanking God you are here.

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Gratitude is the memory the heart never forgets.

...

Life is our never-ending search for why we are really living.