

An Indian name-giving ceremony

by Gordon Ladouceur

On January 6, Bill Monague and myself had the opportunity to attend the Christian Island Name Giving Ceremony and dinner. The atmosphere was full of excitement and friendliness showing the unity of the Native people. There was entertainment for both the children and the adults. The children had the opportunity to view Star Trek 1 and it was followed by a film of a recent Pow-Wow held on the Rama Reserve.

At the expiry of the films we were invited to a buffet style dinner. There were many traditional foods as well as different salads and other foods prepared by the Homemaker's Committee. However prior to the meal Nicholas King said the opening prayer in our Native Objibwa tongue.

At the conclusion of the meal Rodney Monague (Master of Ceremony) gave his opening remarks on the history and the importance of the Name Giving Ceremony. It is so relevant to the Elders that the Indian Tradition lives on and with such respect the participation and seriousness of the native children made the festivities joyful for all concerned parties.

The potential and talents of the residents of the Christian Island Indian Reserve were shown in the musical aspects represented by Gerald Monague, Wilmer McCue and Sal King with the playing of guitars and singing. The light entertainment

was followed by a brief apology by Dale Measures representing the United Church.

The highlight of the event arrived with Amos King, Harriet King, Remi Sylvester, Gerald Monague and Samuel Jamison giving to the children their Indian names which will be their representation to Native people of the community by the reminder of such a name as Sun Child or Spirit Follower. The elders that were available for this ceremony were assisted by the parents for the selection of our future Braves and Princess' Indian names.

Prior to the closing, the councillors (Henry Jackson, Joyce Solomon and Gerald Monague) of

the Beausoleil Band made speeches in regards to the purpose as well as the success of this ceremony and hoped that it will continue in the successful fashion that it has been over the years.

In the closing of the Ceremony Bev McCue (Chief of Christian Island) made submissions into past and present festivities. McCue thanked all who attended and recommended that the Great Spirit watch over each and every one of us.

I would like to close by stating that plenty of hard work by Bruce Butler made this festivity happen. His welcoming of us made us proud to be Indian. Between Bruce Butler and Ron King constantly going

to the homes of the Homemaker's Committee, the abundance of food would not have been available. Other support groups that allowed the dinner to be successful were the "Recreation Committee, Firemen, Youth Group, United Church, Bayshore Variety and Video, Cedar Point General Store, Christian Island Marina and Bailey King. However the people of Christian Island made the rest of the event happen and I do hope that the Great Spirit will follow each and every step that our moccasin's will have to travel and that the Indian Tradition lives on.

Till next January 6; Meegwatch!



Roasting weiners over an open fire

Friday night's snowfall didn't deter Susan Reynolds, eight, her brother Michael, 11, his friend Mike Crowe, 12, themselves at the Wye Marsh Wildlife and Libbi Reynolds, roast hot dogs over a fire before they head out on the trails.

Penetang Library Log

Time to curl up with a book

by Peggy Stewart

Now that the Holiday Season is over and along with it the hubbub of shopping and parties, why not curl up with a good book? January is the perfect time to read that new best seller or one of the favourite classics that you never seemed to find the time to read.

Speaking of classics, maybe a good volume to start on would be something written by Canadian, Margaret Laurence. Ms. Laurence

passed away last week at her home in Lakefield, Ontario after battling cancer for some years. She was a writer of international acclaim and we are proud of her and will miss her.

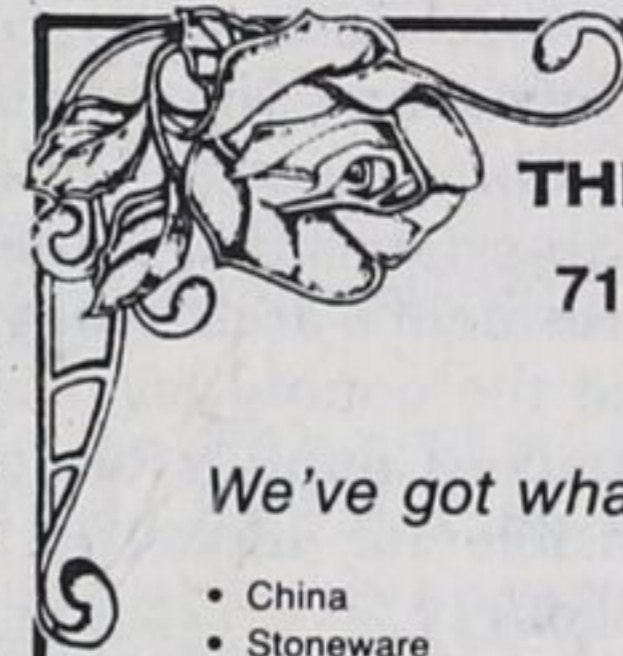
The following is a list of the collection of Margaret Laurence works that we have on our shelves. Fiction: A Bird in the House, The Diviners, The Fire-Dwellers, A Jest of God, The Stone Angel, This Side Jordan and The Tomorrow-Tamer and other stories. Non-

fiction: The Prophet's Camel Bell and Heart of a Stranger. Juvenile: The Christmas Birthday Story, The Olden Days Coat and Six Darn Cows.

The Large Print Pool Rotation will take place on Monday, January 26. We will receive a set of 75 new large print books that we can circulate for a 3 month period. This is made possible through OLS-Trent, a public library support system funded by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

LaLeche league

Mothers who wish to breastfeed their babies will find encouragement and information at the Midland-Penetang LaLeche League. The next meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 14 at 7:45 p.m. at the Parkview School Library in Midland. For more information call 533-3818.



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