



Scrapbook

By Suzanne Schroeter

Celebrating the past

It's no wonder the residents of Osgoode Township are interested in history and genealogy — a large percentage of their ancestors immigrated to the area from the central highlands of Scotland.

Such interest led a group of citizens to obtain a new horizons grant in 1972 to begin researching the early settlers in the township. The following year, the group had received permission from the township to use the two room school in Vernon and the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum was founded.

In no time at all, local residents discovered there was a home waiting for family mementos and area heirlooms. Donations flooded into the museum, including an autograph quilt begun in 1922

with 169 names quilted on it, shown to me recently by Mrs. Jenny Dow.

Of interest to Russell residents will be an umbrella rack and a ribbon display case donated by Morgan Warner from his general store, now Tyo's Red and White. The museum also contains the original wooden mailboxes from the Marvelville Post Office.

The 20 or so active members of the society are kept busy year-round with monthly meetings presided over by Mrs. Arlowa Ferguson and with the publication of "Pioneer Families of Osgoode Township", an interesting series of booklets, each one outlining the history of 10 Osgoode Township families.

Miss Elizabeth Stuart has a great deal to do with the compilation and publication of

these booklets, which are typed by Mrs. Leila Twiname.

A visit to the museum is well worth the trip for local residents wishing to trace family trees or for those simply interested in the social history of a past time. To aid in research, the society has the complete census for the years 1851 to 1861, plus many other historical files and documents.

As this issue of the Castor Review goes to press the historical society is celebrating the 151st anniversary of Osgoode Township with its second annual Pioneer Days gala weekend.

From the extensive collection of artifacts in the gallery and from the enthusiasm of the members, it's evident that the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum is going to keep getting better.



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