

R.A. News Year End Report By Paul Wylie

1980 was one of the most progressive and challenging years for the Russell Recreation Association, and myself.

The co-operation of the various volunteer organizations and individuals in this community is most appreciated and certainly is responsible for many of the projects, programs and events.

Achievements included the 1980 Winter Carnival which was a big success. Miss Dominion of Canada was represented at the crowning of our Miss Russell Winter Carnival and at many of the Carnival events. The Carnival Committee and the many event co-chairmen did an excellent job.

With the assistance of the Russell Lions Club and a federal government grant to support the 1980 Kinn-aid Day Camp program we were able to employ three local, responsible teenagers who provided an excellent program for the children in our community.

The Russell Old Time Music Makers held their Old Time music Jamboree in conjunction with three other clubs. The event was well-received and, as a result, the 1981 jamboree is in the planning stages.

We cannot forget the superior job done by the Russell Pool Committee. The task involving replacing the filter and pump was carried out extremely well and the pool opened on time. The committee made a fine selection of pool staff who under the responsible and mature guidance of Michel Ruest, provided top-notch teaching and lifeguarding.

We were extremely pleased with their first-place showing at the Eastern Ontario championships summer program swim meet.

Such programs as the summer ball hockey, morning-break exercise program, quilting, dancercise, creative dancing and judo have been successful. I want to

improve and add more programs of community interest in 1981.

A special thanks goes out to the 1980 Russell Fair Committee for an excellent program. The midway received many comments of approval.

The Annual Beef Bar B-Q was just super this year under the capable supervision of Mrs. Diane Davies.

For the first time, we put out the Fall and Winter Program Brochure, which provided everyone an opportunity to realize the programs offered and community information. The brochure has met a need in the community and was made possible by 11 local businesses who provided advertising to pay for the printing.

I thank the playground committee which made additions to the playground area at the pool despite difficulties getting volunteer help to assist Mrs. Rose Marie McKinnon.

Most of the boards were replaced at the arena which received a complete printing job and Coca-Cola Canada Ltd. donated a new score clock. The wire mesh at both ends was replaced and new angle iron supports installed to reduce the damage.

Special programs for children included the annual Halloween Party and Christmas Party. Mrs. Donna Nordenstrom provided countless hours of work making these events possible.

The new Fund-Raising Committee, or perhaps the 'Fun Raising Committee' sponsored Nostalgia Night, a raging success with the hall just buzzing with enthusiasm and down-right fun. To Mrs. Angela Burgess and her committee we all say thank you.

I cannot and should not forget the excellent kitchen alterations and renovations made possible by the Russell R.A. Ladies' Auxiliary and a generous donation from the Old Times Hockey Association.

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Marvelville Ringette

The Marvelville Ladies Ringette team is finding out that defending last year's League Championship is tougher than winning it in the

first place. Last season they breezed through the season undefeated. This season everyone is out to beat them. However, they are holding their own and recently defeated their toughest opposition, Beacon Hill, 2-1.

Following this game they played a 2-2 tie with Blackburn Hamlet. Teams from Beacon Hill, Orleans, Blackburn Hamlet and Marvelville make up the "A" Division of The Gloucester and Area Ladies Ringette Association. Marvelville plays at least once a week and home games are scheduled Sunday nights at 9.00 p.m. at the Dr. F. Kinnaird Community Centre. The team is made up of ladies from Marvelville, Metcalfe, Kenmore, Russell, Marionville and Casselman consisting of ladies 25 years and over.

Seniors wrap up '80

The Russell Senior Citizens wrapped up the year 1980 with a Christmas Dinner, where a turnout of 88 was entertained by guest speaker, Jack Lester Cross.

When he retired, Mr. Cross was Assistant Clerk of the Privy Council of Canada. On the memorable date of Friday, Oct. 16, 1970, it was one of his duties to drive to Government House, accompanied by an armed guard. He was admitted by an R.C.M.P. officer and minutes later the Governor-General signed the Order-in-Council bringing the War Measures Act into force.

In all, Mr. Cross served under five Governor-Generals and five Prime Ministers. He's proudest of his work in compiling "The Guide to Canadian Ministries since Confederation". The handbook, published by the Public Archives, is in great demand by historians and university libraries because of

the unique information it contains. A hearty vote of thanks was given Mr. Cross for his interesting and informative address.

A collection for the "Terry Fox Cancer Fund" was taken at the Dinner. The treasurer, Mrs. Harold Gamble, presented a total of \$500 to Mrs. Eileen Hamelin, treasurer of the Canadian Cancer Society. The evening was brought to an enjoyable close with a singsong of Christmas carols, accompanied by Mrs. Jack Twinname at the piano.

This year the bus trips were quite popular. A tour of the Wakefield area was made during the colouring of the leaves. The senior citizens also thoroughly enjoyed bus trips to Caldwell stores, the Morrisburg shopping centre, and to various theatres, including the National Arts Centre in Ottawa.



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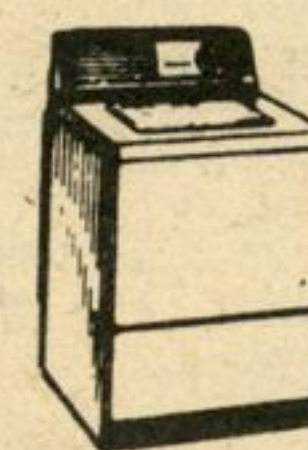
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