

Good times remembered at Cedar Beach

By BRUCE STAPLEY
Stouffville's John and Gladys Badger can remember the good times enjoyed at Cedar Beach, Musselman's Lake.

The dance pavilion, recently closed due to changing times, offered fun and frolic to patrons of all ages, over a period of 59 years.

John and Gladys, soon to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary, attended dances there on a regular basis since their marriage.

Even until recently, they would visit their favorite 'night spot' at least two or three times a month.

John, a spry 78, recalls dancing on the hall's cement floor before the roof was installed.

"I was born and raised just north of Musselman's Lake," he states. George Davies bought the farm from Russell Gray and built the hall.

He remembers another dance hall on the south side of the Lake, but once the new one was built, it attracted most of the patrons.

"It cost a dollar a couple to get in back then," recalls John. "Dances were held Wednesdays

as well as Saturdays, for the cottagers."

But John remembers attending only one night a week: "That's all we could afford."

The dances would end after Labor Day, he says, because almost all the people living there would return to their permanent homes.

"They would end the dances at midnight. There was no dancing on Sundays back then."

On holiday weekends, John recalls a second dance commencing Sunday night after the clock struck twelve.

"It would go on until about three

in the morning," he says.

"It was always well operated," he recalls. "George Davies ran a good dance. They never had a liquor license, so there was no drinking and people always behaved."

Favorites were round dances, fox-trots and waltzes, he remembers.

In recent years, he says there was square dancing, Paul Jones and some jitterbugging.

John and Gladys moved to Claremont 34 years ago. During their 19 years there, they rarely attended the Saturday night

dances at Cedar Beach.

But they made up for lost time since moving back to Stouffville. They're sad to see the old hall close.

"There were always live bands, and it was good swinging music," John says. "We met and made a lot of good friends, both from the Stouffville area, and from places as far away as Alliston."

He particularly recalls the dances New Year's Eve. "There was always a big crowd."

He acknowledges the fact crowds have diminished in recent years. The old-time flavor of the

hall failed to appeal to today's young people. But such was not always the case.

"When it started 59 years ago, Stouffville's teens would attend by the carloads," John says. "It was handy for folks particularly in the summertime."

"All the regulars would sit at one table," Gladys remembers.

"But everything has to come to an end," she sighs. "We know some of our friends are really going to miss it."

John recalls driving to the hall in his 1925 Ford coupe, and later his 1928 roadster.

"People were there to dance," he smiles. "They might sit the odd one out, but, for the most part, everyone danced."

While John and Gladys can recall a small addition here and a cosmetic change there, for the most part the hall stayed pretty much the same.

Even though their favorite 'night spot' is closed, John and Gladys can still enjoy thinking back to 'the good old days' when Saturday nights came alive on the dance floor at Cedar Beach.

"We're going to miss it too," Gladys admits.

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TENDER
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Tenders are being called to provide Grounds Maintenance Service on lands throughout the North Pickering Land Assembly, Squires Beach and surrounding areas for a period of one (1) year - June 15th, 1988 to June 14, 1989.

Tender documents may be obtained from: Ministry of Government Services, Public Tenders Office, Room M1-43A, Macdonald Block, (900 Bay Street) Queen's Park, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1N3. Telephone (416) 965-1152.

A \$5,000.00 Bid Bond is required.

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Please quote Tender Number 033.

The lowest or any tender will not necessarily be accepted.

ADVERTISING CORRECTIONS

Eaton's Summer Sale Insert appearing in the Markham Economist and Sun, Wednesday, May 11, 1988.

Due to supplier delivery problems, the following item will not be available:

Page 35 - Item "F/G" Vinyl Tablecloths. Not available in size 60" x 84" (152x213cm) OVAL.

Incidentally, the error listed above has appeared in our advertising. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or confusion to our customers.

EATON'S
We are Canada's department store.

ADVERTISING CORRECTIONS

Eaton's Summer Sale Insert appearing in the Markham Economist and Sun, Wednesday, May 11, 1988.

Due to supplier delivery problems, the following item will not be available:

Page 53 - Item "G" Boy's "Competition" 10-speed racer WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE.

Page B2 - Text - Made sheet sets item(s) B/C have been incorrectly described. Item "B" should read "Confetti". Item "C" should read "Coventry".

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