



Tour being conducted at Old Stone Mill, Delta, Ont.

Thanksgiving At The Old Stone Mill In Delta

On October 10 members and employees of the Delta Mill Society hosted a day of special events to celebrate the end of a busy season. Hot cider (Anna Greenhorn's special recipe) warmed guests as they viewed the new exhibits in the Old Stone Mill. Three tables loaded with baked goods were also quickly cleared. Much thanks to Delta and area cooks for their kind donations of buns, bread, cakes, cookies and pies. Also, we would like to thank local gardeners for donations of harvest vegetables which also were sold.

Afternoon and morning strolls were conducted by Dr. Paul Fritz, local enthusiast and professor of history at McMaster University. Few people realized what an active centre this village was in the nineteenth century. Dr. Fritz produced some little known facts about local history. For example, many visitors were surprised to find out that Delta derived its name from a letter of the Greek alphabet. Also, he chatted at length about the Delta Pilot, a newspaper which was published in the early years of this century. One highlight of this informal walk included a visit to the stately Denaut Mansion, the 1849 home of the third millowner, Walter Denaut. It is easy to see that the millowner was the richest man in the village. He even had a butler and according to legend entertained guests such as John A. MacDonald.

At 1 pm, Mr. Denaut and his blushing bride, Caroline arrived to visit their old haunts in the mill. The year was 1860. Mr. Denaut (played by Susan

Noakes) wondered aloud to his guests about what action to take with his badly damaged waterwheel beneath the building. He urged local farmers to grow more wheat since he cleverly foresaw a great flour market in the United States once the Civil War started. The millowner speculated as well that he might shortly renovate the mill with a new turbine hall to handle increased business.

Mrs. Denaut (Sue Warren) gossiped to the crowd about the previous millowners and their wives. Caroline Denaut confided to her listeners that she did not mix too much with the locals due to their drinking habits and uncouth behavior. She preferred her visitors to leave calling cards. As well, Mrs. Denaut was much too occupied raising five children by her husband's first marriage to socialize with villagers. She particularly disliked the wife of two previous millowners, Amelia Jones McDonnell who spent much of her time on a sofa with migraine headaches. Mrs. Denaut had great admiration for her vigorous husband, thirty years her senior. On Sunday, a draw for a Thanksgiving turkey and wreath (donated by the Apron Factory) took place. Winner of the turkey was Jean Skelton, RR2 Gananoque and winner of the wreath was James Carswell of Charlottetown, PEI. Dr. Donald Mason of St. Catherines who was visiting the mill was asked to make the draw.

According to last count, nearly 400 guests passed through the mill on Thanksgiving Weekend.. Again, we would like to thank all of you who generously contributed to make this celebration a success.



Front Row: Robert Coon, Melissa Curtis, Abbey Wood, Jodi Ostrom
Back Row: Fire Prevention Officer, Ellen White, Chantelle Mills, Principal Mr. Hoogenrad.

Delta Fireman's Tabloid

This year, the Fire Prevention Division of the Delta Fire Department was very active and vitalic in its duties. Under the direction of Fire Prevention Officer William Morris, the division of five members conducted several worthwhile events.

To commence fire prevention week, the department participated in the annual Leeds and Grenville Fire Prevention Parade which was held in Mallorytown on Oct.3. The village was represented by a 1937 Ford LaFrance pumper and a 1952 Maxim pumper.

On Oct.6 the division was hard at work at Beverley Elementary School. Following a morning fire drill, the students were divided up into sections and instructed accordingly.

Grades 1-4 assembled in the gym where they viewed a fire prevention film entitled "Learn not to burn, wherever you are". Afterwards a discussion and hands-on demonstration of the departments fire line units was conducted.

Committee members Ron Morris, Edward LeBlanc and Allan Crisp explained the operating principles and permitted the children to try on and model several pieces of equipment.

In the meantime, William Morris and Mark Astbury conducted in class lectures to grades 5-8. With the assistance of overhead transparencies and two films entitled "Exit Drills in the Home" and "Fire-not in my house", the students realized how important fire prevention really is. The students concentrated on fire causes, fire suppression, composition of fire and fire prevention.

Once again this year, the department sponsored a fire prevention poster contest with 85 students participating. A first place prize of a smoke detector and a certificate were awarded to the following: Grade One-Melissa Curtis; Grade Two-Abbey Wood; Grade Three-Jodie Ostrom; Grade Four-Robert Coon; Grade Five-Ian Hashin; Grade Six-Ellen White; Grade Seven-Chantelle Mills; Grade Eight-Marcia Hickey. The posters were judged by the Officers of the Portland Fire

Department.

The department also supports the fire prevention division of the Leeds and Grenville Mutual Aid Association. The department financially contributed towards an advertisement published on the front cover of the Recorder and Times television guide dated Oct.2. A 50/50 draw was also held at the county level.

William Morris, along with other county fire prevention officers was permitted to record a fire prevention message for radio broadcasting. CFJR radio in Brockville broadcasted several fire prevention hints over the airways intermittantly during fire prevention week.

During the week of Nov.16-20, Fire Prevention Officer William Morris will be attending an Arson Investigation Seminar in Toronto. This is being sponsored by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office, the Association of Canadian Fire Marshals and Commissioners and the Insurance Crime prevention Bureau and thus, will deal mainly with motor vehicle fire investigation.

The thanksgiving bingo was conducted on Oct.9 with approx. 50 bingo players. 16 regular games were played along with four share the wealths. The winners of the turkeys were Iva Teeple, Lola Mattice, Ruth Evans and Ethel Watts of Athens. The Ladies Aux. 50/50 draw was won by Darin Tedford and the door prize was won by Heather Halladay.

We as citizens of Bastard and Burgess, are very fortunate to have such dedicated and aggressive firefighters. Whether they be Fire Prevention Officers, Investigators, Executives or Firemen, their main purpose is serving you. Please take time to recognize their efforts.

Delta Fire Department Executive.
Fire Chief-Paul Ostrom; Deputy Chief-Dennis Halladay; Chief Engineer-Victor Raison; Captain-William Carbino; Lieutenant-Steve Willard; Fire Prevention Officer-William Morris; Secretary-Treasurer-Millard Goodsell.