

**Article for the
Dunnville District Heritage Association
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The second annual Port Maitland History Day was held on Saturday August 17th at the former S. S. # 3 Sherbrooke school at Stromness. A very good turn out was realized, with many former Sherbrooke students returning to meet old friends. Two registration tables were set up; one for S. S. # 3, the other for S. S. # 5 at Highbanks. Former students were asked to register and indicate if they were interested in having a school reunion. All former Sherbrooke students were asked to wear name tags and most did. This made it much easier for older and slightly changed friends to recognize each other. Unfortunately some choose not to wear tags and I myself missed out on meeting a few former fellow students as I did not recognize them. I was only to find out they were there after I read the guest book or had conversations with other who told me that so and so was here. As the display was held at Stromness, there was a much better turnout from that school then from Highbanks. Still there was a good response from both and a clear indication that a reunion was wanted.

This seemed to be the year of the school theme as the Dunnville District Heritage Association, Mary Crown nee Zipay, myself, and of course the registrations tables all had school as their theme. I was pleased to see R.C.A.F # 6 Dunnville Inc. attend and had many good comments about them. I met one fellow who was very taken back (pleasantly) by their display and felt that it was his first experience where the Dunnville boys were being properly remembered for what they did during the war. We know that this group and earlier ones have promoted the Dunnville boys but to this gentleman it was his first exposé to this. That demonstrates to me that what may seem old hat to some of us could be very significant to others. I could name each participant here but I think I will leave that to my Chronicle article in September. Here I would rather go over the guest book and registrations forms, for a few names. At the risk of missing many names here are but a few who caught my attention. Robert Emerick of Port Colborne formerly of Inman Road School. Mary Middler nee Scott and a teacher at Stromness. Violet Crumb nee Ross the oldest living female student from Stromness, and Carroll Kenney, the oldest former male student from Stromness. B. R. Emmons, a grandchild of Mr. Tom Emmons, a teacher at Stromness as well as at Inman Road. I was particularly pleased to see Pearl Rittenhouse nee Dickhout who I have recently had many conversations with regarding the Baptist and the Methodist churches in Sherbooke. I will finish off with Shirley Pyle nee Harrison, a former teacher at S. S. # 5 and well known to most of you as former councilor and newspaper writer for the Regional News. Shirley and June Browning nee Sharpe manned the S. S. # 5 registration table while my sister Margo and her husband Dave Calvert, Noreen Mater nee Livingstone, Ruth Marr nee Ross, and Shirley Gilmour nee Hall cared for the S. S. # 3 table.

I returned home exhausted; wondering why I put myself through this; wondering if I will do it again next year; wondering if I can find just the right place to hold it if I do; wondering if others will participate again; but most of all thankful to those who chipped in, in whatever way they did and hoping that they will climb aboard once more if asked!

Bill Warnick