

BRUCE MINES AND AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Tuesday, June 2, 2009 – UNION PUBLIC LIBRARY – 8:00 A.M.

WEBSITE: www.brucemineschamber.com

Email: brucemineschamber@sympatico.ca

Present:

Brian Torrance – Torrance Custom Interiors
Merin Smith - Special Projects Co-Ordinator
Cheryl O’Hara – Royal Canadian Legion
Pat Peterson – Bruce Bay Cottages & Lighthouse
Jean Hershey – Rydal Bank Historical Society & the Library
Martin Odber – Computer Technician
Rick Klazinga - Algoma Kitchen & Bath
Larry Peterson – Peterson & Peterson Law Firm
Jeff Morehouse – Bruce Mines Insurance

Regrets – Elaine Switzman
- Bill Gunn
- Marla McPhee

Guests: none

Call to Order: Brian Torrance called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Past Minutes : Motion: Larry Peterson + Jean Hershey - that the minutes of May 5, 2009 – be adopted as presented – carried

Treasurer’s Report: - Motion: Larry Peterson + Cheryl O’Hara – that the Treasurers report be adopted as presented.

Insurance: – Larry Peterson reported that
Motion Larry Peterson + Jean Hershey that we pay the insurance premium - carried

French Fryer: - Larry Peterson reported that Bill Gunn has the French fry project well underway for the Classic Car Show on June13, 2009. The frame or shed has been rebuilt + contacted all volunteers and the schedule is all organized.

Chamber Website:

Pat Peterson reported on the following:

Web Site:

- Ongoing addition of new members
- Search Engine Optimization- Alison has completed reciprocal links to Wikipedia , and AKTA, and with Algoma Trails

- Algoma Trails- would like us to come back on board and be a sponsor again . Pat has contacted them and we are awaiting the cost [information](#).
- Google Analytics on the BM COC web site has shown that we have had visitors from Canada, United Kingdom, USA, Ireland, India, Indonesia, Belgium, Poland. The main pages that have been searched are the Directory, Tourism, Chamber of Commerce, and Calendar of Events. Anyone wishing to review all the Google Analytic Statistics can email Pat Peterson or Alison Cragg for this information.
- Have to look into the Chamber email situation and delegate someone to respond to emails. Might have to get a new email address

Web Marketing Committee:

Pat Peterson reported that:

- Martin Odber has corrected the streets for the Town of Bruce Mines on the Google maps and is still in the process of trying to add French Island Road
- Martin Odber has on his own put up an information forum for Bruce Mines plus questionnaire for people to interact with <http://www.bruceminespoll.com/>
- Marla has met with Lorelee about the photo contest – read her report

Chamber Computer & Email

Bill Gunn has the Chamber laptop which has been programmed to receive Chamber emails. Apparently the Chamber is receiving 26 emails but no one appears to responding to these emails. There may be programming problems with the emails.

Martin Odber recommended that the Chamber switch to a “G-Mail” account.

Web Maps :- Martin Odber the mapping system did not show French Island and McKay Island.

Pat Peterson reported that Martin created an opinion site soliciting public opinions on various local issues.

Jean Hershey questioned whether township roads be updated on the website.

Local Business Website;

Martin Odber offered to help local businesses build their own website to offer more information. The more businesses that have websites would increase Bruce Mines exposure.

Local News Website:

Martin Odber noted that there is a need for a local online source for news, community events, links to local sites. Martin has created a new website containing local news and opinion poll called www.bruceminespoll.com Martin would like to receive news and reports from all organizations in the area to publish on the website

Chamber Photo Contest:

Pat Peterson reported that she and Lorelee Gordon, Librarian, are working on a photo contest for purposes of obtaining photos worthy of displaying on the website

Membership: - no report

Chamber Brochure: - no report

Four & Friends Art Show & Sale: Brian Torrance reported the July 10, 11, 12, 2009. Zachery Lefebvre is the CASS student artist for 2009.

Rydal Bank Historical Society: -Jean Hershey reported that:

The Rydal Bank Historical Society celebrated the twentieth year since its formation at its Annual Meeting held at the Rydal Bank Hall on Sunday, May 31.

The election of the Society Executive took place at the meeting. President for 2009 is Randy Burns, Vice President Cheryl O'Hara, Secretary Jean Hershey and Treasurer Margaret Tulonen. Directors include John Keast, Bernie Matheson, Debbie Burns and Amanda Burns and Trustees for the Rydal Bank Church are Mary-Lou Belisle, Marla Discher and Bill Inch.

Poplar Dale Remembered was the Historical Topic at the Annual Meeting of the Rydal Bank Historical Society. Members of the Society were entertained and informed by the presentation made by Norma Bernardi assisted by Marvin Foster, Arlene Connell and Joan Foster. The group discussed the many pitfalls and joys involved in preparing a history, particularly of a community that has changed so dramatically over the years. They also gave a demonstration of using the spiral binding system for book publications.

The Annual Church Service held in conjunction with the meeting became a family affair as Mr. Goodfellow who conducted the service, arranged for his Granddaughter Donja Jean Trivers to provide the Special Music for the service, and Donja Jean was accompanied by her Grandmother Sylvia Goodfellow on the organ and joined in song by her mother Ann Trivers. These talented musicians presented uplifting music for the evening.

Library : Jean Hershey reported on the following;

Red Cross Babysitting Course

Children ages 10-14

Saturday, June 20th, 9:30 - 4:30 - \$45/person

pre-registration and payment required by June 12th.

Participants need to bring a doll or teddy bear, pen & notepad and a lunch.

This is a service to the community, not a fundraiser. All \$ go to the Red Cross.

The Library is accepting donations of books and gently used household goods for our annual Book/ Yard Sale on Saturday, July 4th, 9am to 1pm, rain or shine.

Tables can be rented by the public for \$10 to sell their own goods or if anyone is holding a garage sale of their own that day, we will put their address on our map which will be distributed at the Book/ Yard Sale.

Flower Photo Contest

We are offering this contest again this year.
\$2 fee/ photo, enter as many times as you want
Deadline is August 28th.

We are also partnering with the Chamber on another Photo Contest to obtain photos for both the Chamber and library websites.

Town Master Plan: - no report – last month Rhea McAdam reported that funding applications went out last week to 2 particular funding programs – announcements are to be on June 1st. This is to advance the Master Plan

Algoma Kinnewabi Tourist Association: Pat Peterson reported that AKTA will be shipping out 100 brochures to the Chamber for distribution

Trade Fair: Brian Torrance reported he met with Elaine Switzman and Tracy Brick about the format of the next trade fair.

Bruce Mines and District Historical Society Larry Peterson reported that President Ron Smith has been meeting with Mayor Darren Foster concerning the future of the museum. Ron is drafting up memorial cards for bequests given to the Historical Society.

Lions Club: - no report

Royal Canadian Legion: Canada Day – Cheryl O’Hara reported that events are being organized and there is a need for many volunteers

Snow Glyders

Larry Peterson reported that Bruce McNeely picked up a cheque for \$800.00 toward the sign.

Community IN Action

Brian Torrance – June 29, 2009 meeting involving both Brian and Merin Smith has been scheduled.

Coming Events:

June 13, 2009

Cruisin Car Show

On Saturday June 13, 2009 at the waterfront and gazebo the annual Classic Cruisin Car Show will take place and the Chamber will have its French Fry Unit on hand selling its world famous French fries.

June 21, 2009

Fibre Fest 2009 on Sunday June 21st, from 10:00 am to 4:00pm, here in our heritage barn. There will be demonstrations of shearing and skirting the alpacas and their fibre, as well as spinning and weaving, felting and needlefelting, visits with the alpacas and more. Lunch available on site. Also, many alpaca items available for purchase. For more information Contact:

Denise and Robert Martel
Meadowview Alpaca Farm
RR#1, 908 Carter Side Rd.
Bruce Mines ON P0R 1C0
www.meadowviewalpaca.com
rd.martel@xplornet.com
(705) 785-3389

Great Northern Opry

July 24 – 26, 2009

July 24 – 26th - Dave Paterson is the contact person. A weekend event will be in Bruce Mines. Expect 400 – 500 people – R.V. will be coming in. The event and the parking will be at the Arena. Other visitors can use the trailer park. Christie Campers will do all the registrations. There will be 3 locations for ticket sales in Bruce Mines. There will be a meal package to be purchased at the time of registration.

Friday – Blue Grass;

Sat.- Country Music - Beef BBQ

Sunday – Gospel

There will be a different band every hour.

Friday night and Saturday night dances.

Official Announcement is noted below:

The Northern Ontario Country Music Association presents The Great Northern Opry Country Music Weekend in Bruce Mines from Friday, July 24 to Sunday, July 26.

Friday night is dedicated to Blue Grass music, featuring two one-hour shows by the well-known band *Loose Change*. *Ray Franks and Friends* will play from 5 to 6 p.m. and *Fox Creek* will entertain from 7 to 8 p.m. *The Down Yonder Band* from Manitoulin Island will play for the dance from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Square dance caller will be Ellis McDonald.

On Saturday, July 25, country music enthusiasts will enjoy continuous entertainment from 10 a.m. One-hour concerts will take place throughout the day, including Mike Case's *Soo Country Rockers* at 10 a.m.; *Bobby T & The Rodeo Band* at 11 a.m.; *John McClenaghan & Company* at noon; *The Down Yonder Band* at 1 p.m.; *Rock'n Ronnie Hawdon and & Friends* at 2 p.m.; *Ray Franks & Friends* at 3 p.m.; *Don Discher & The Sundowners* at 4 p.m.; *Roy Brockelbank & The Knights* at 5 p.m.; *Eddie Renaud and Easy Country* at 6 p.m. and *Nick Porco and Friends* at 7

p.m. *Fred Kent and the Northernaires* will play at 8 p.m. Saturday's dance crowd will enjoy *Anne Dupuis and First Line* from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Square dance caller will be Ellis McDonald.

Many of these bands feature Great Northern Opry inductees including Mike Case, Larry Cote, Nick Porco, Rene Cote, Don Discher, Evelyn Ray and Wayne Richards, Ray Mador, John McClenaghan, Addie Metivier, Gord Lapierre, Leo Secord, Loreen and Jack Knight, Hardy Peltier, Ken Findlay and Roy Brocklebank, Eddie Renaud and Burton Beatty.

Special guests include Bob Wagner, Ray Franks, Tyler Marshall, Bill Pateman, Kt Antler, Loretta Pilon, Terry Gallant, Bob Taillefer, Ken Marshall with The Sylvan Valley Trio, and Jeff McNiece, Q104. Jake, the Country Critter and Cousin Jethro would never miss a party either!

Since many people travel throughout the summer, the Bruce Mines Agricultural Society welcomes any number of RVs, trailers or campers onsite. All units must be self contained to stay on the grounds as there are no services for connection. Pre-registration is recommended if you want to be close to the action so call Lynne at Christie's RV at 777-2200, fax to 777-2367 or e-mail lynne@christiesRV.com. She can complete your registration and supply you with a meal package ticket. She accepts VISA, Mastercard and American Express for your convenience. The town's campground is within walking distance, offering washroom facilities with showers, electricity and fire pits and for \$18 per night. Septic pump out service is available onsite for a modest fee. To book a campsite for this weekend, please call Jamie at the Town office during business hours at 785-3493.

Sponsors for this weekend include The Station Mall, Christie's RV, Molson Breweries, and Sault This Week.

New Business:

Monthly Community Nights :

Martin Odber offer his thoughts on having special events either on a weekly or monthly basis. Perhaps a weekly dance like the days in the past.

Bay View Mansion Vacation Resort

Robert & Jean Headrick are converting the Bay View into an upscale venue for special events and vacationers. The Headricks are developing a new website for the promotion of this addition to the Town.

Next Meeting: Tuesday July 7, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. at the Library.

Adjournment: at 8:57 a.m.

