



Newsletter February & March 2016



SPRING BREAK AT HANEY HOUSE

Join us at Haney House Museum (11612 224th Street) on **SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH** from 11am to 3pm for our March Break event. "Snow White and the Seven

Dwarfs" is our theme, and there will be fortune telling, a scavenger hunt throughout the house, and various crafts, along with a photo booth.

Cookies and juice will be served, and our winter tour will be on display at the museum.

Admission is \$5. Please contact mrmeventplanner@gmail.com for further details

LOCAL VOICES

The Local Voices program is running again for the spring at 7pm on the first Thursday of the month. Each month, three local residents tell the story of their lives and what brought them to Maple Ridge.

It is quite fascinating as most peoples' lives are more complex than the part we see. The programs are held at the Fraser Room of the Maple Ridge Library and are co-sponsored by the library, the Family History Group of the Maple Ridge Historical Society, and the Community Heritage Commission.



The next program is **MARCH 3** and includes museum director Val Patenaude *Times* editor Roxanne Hooper, and civil rights activist Bev Mill.

ST PATRICK'S DAY POT LUCK SUPPER & AGM

At 6:30pm, **THURSDAY, MARCH 17**, we will gather at St. Andrew's Heritage Church Hall for our annual general meeting and pot luck supper. We will have our slide show with some new additions and a special display on the Edge family from the Family History Group.

Guests are welcome. It's a good chance to visit with long time members and meet new ones.

Drinks will be provided but participants should bring plates and cutlery and one dish – either sweet or savory – for the pot luck.

HERITAGE TEA

This year's annual Heritage Tea will be taking place **SATURDAY, APRIL 2ND** from 1 to 4pm at the Ridge Meadows Senior Centre (12150 224th Street). We are looking for volunteers to help out with baking donations.

If you would like to bring baking please contact Allison at 604-463-5311 or e-mail mrmcurator@gmail.com with the treat you are bringing, and the quantity. Having this information helps so we don't overbuy for the event!



DIDN'T THIS USED TO BE HANEY?

If you find yourself still wondering at the relationship between “Maple Ridge” and all the other local names like Haney, Webster’s Corners, and Whonnock, museum director Val Patenaude will be giving a talk on the subject for the Langley Heritage Society at 7pm on MARCH 22. The location is the Milner Chapel , 6716 216th Street, Langley.



Hammond Post Office on Maple Crescent in about 1938 when A. L. Lazenby was postmaster.



DARS DIORAMA CHANGES

If you have not seen the Dewdney Alouette Railway Society diorama on the lower level of the museum building recently, you are in for a treat. Many new buildings have been added to Port Haney, including a final version of Haney House. There is a paddlewheeler just coming in to the dock and there is more lighting on buildings and vehicles. New details abound. Museum staff can show the diorama during any open hours but DARS holds an open house on the last Sunday of the month where you can meet the people responsible for this work of art.



Downtown Haney – The intersection of Lougheed Highway and 224th Street looking west in 1955-60.

HERITAGE MONTH AND NEW DISPLAYS!

The Maple Ridge Museum uses February as a time to change over many of its displays, in celebration of Heritage Month, and also as a chance to showcase additional displays in the library. This year's library theme will be Travel through Time: focusing on transportation and travel though railway, roads and waterways.

At the museum will be a display on Women in Wartime, highlighting the medical services, with a spotlight on Helen Mussalem using artifacts from the Mussalem estate, which were donated to the museum last year. Helen was raised in Haney and was a nurse during the Second World War.

Many women who had trained as nurses prior to the Second World War were able to contribute to the war effort by joining the nursing service. Each branch of the military had its own medical service, and nurses were vital parts of each. Over 4000 nurses enlisted, with the majority joining the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps (RCAMC). The nurses who enlisted were known as "Nursing Sisters" and were commissioned officers, which lent them authority.



Most worked overseas both in Britain and continental Europe, and many medical units followed the fronts as they moved into Europe through Italy and France. While nurses did not work on the front lines, the medical

hospitals were often very close to the fighting, and there was a certain amount of danger attributed to being a part of the medical corps. This did not deter nurses from enlisting, as military nursing offered a good salary, benefits, status, and opportunity to travel.

Helen Mussalem began her career in nursing as a staff member of Vancouver General Hospital, where she then joined the No. 19 Royal Army



Helen Mussalem in 1969.

Medical Corps after being told by her supervisor she would be missing out if she did not enlist. After being trained in New Brunswick, Helen became a lieutenant when she first arrived in England in 1944. Initially her job was to train medics in basic first aid, but she was keen to do more hands-on work, which led her to take on a role as a surgical nurse on the front.

After the war she went to McGill University to earn her Bachelor's degree using what were known as "veteran's points": credits that could be used towards buying land or education. After McGill, she studied at the University of Washington earning her Masters, and then gaining her Doctorate at Columbia University.

Helen was the first Canadian to receive a doctorate in nursing. She later advocated for better training and working conditions for all nurses, all over the world, leading to a revolution in nursing education and training. Helen received the Order of Canada for her nursing work in 1969, and was promoted to Champion in 1992.

This exhibit will be on display in the temporary gallery at Maple Ridge Museum starting in February. *aw*

HAMMOND MILL IMAGES

In 1981, professional photographer and videographer Bert Bush was hired to do a documentary of Hammond Mill just after a lot of new equipment was installed. Bert passed away this past year and the people dealing with his estate came across the set of slides and donated them.

As well-lit pictures of industrial interiors are rare, we were thrilled to get these for the collection. Once the slides were scanned, we asked Len Pettit from the Community Heritage Commission, who had worked at the mill for many years, to do the captions. The use of correct terminology allows us to match these images to an earlier set shot by George Fournier in 1925. No doubt a set taken today would show differences as dramatic.

Right: Equipment used to move cut lumber along conveyor belts.



During 1992, the Ruskin Hall Society celebrated the 70th anniversary year of their hall and held a fund-raiser called "Walk for the Floor".

The *Times* newspaper had several good photos taken and now we can share them with the community.

Photo of Ruskin Hall from the Maple Ridge Pitt Meadows *TIMES* collection.

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to "talk trains" and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

Info: Dick Sutcliffe at 604-467-4301 or E-Mail: ras1@uniserve.com

