

154th Pipe Band at McCrimmon Hall, 1915.  
(Building behind Pipe Band was the Hugh J. MacMaster blacksmith shop.)



*Glengarry  
Scenes: See  
Page 4*

## Dedicated to Preserving the History of Glengarry

### The Guest Speaker - Bob Abrames

Bob is one of the 'originals' who built Sunquest Vacations, one of North America's largest tour operators, into the giant it is today. He's an expert on leadership, aptitude assessment, service, sales and personal marketing. Bob has directed 7 successful businesses. He has authored 10 business books and 300 business articles. He has done business in 76 countries on 6 continents.

#### **Bob is the World's Foremost Voyageur!**

When Bob's not out energizing a meeting, he's traveling historic fur-trade routes in his birch bark canoe or living in his rustic cabin in the woods. Self-sufficient, resilient, thriving, surviving. He chops his wood, hauls his water, hunts. No TV. No neighbors. Off the grid. He lives today as his Voyageur grandfathers did for generations before him. Authentically, boldly, without compromise! Bob uses stories from his Voyageur heritage, expeditions and lifestyle to turn a business message into a business adventure. He's a true Voyageur - on stage, in business, at home!

### Next Meeting

- Date/Time: September 3, 8PM**
- Place: Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum  
19651 John St, Williamstown**
- Speaker: Bob Abrames**

#### **Voyageur 2009**

Bob has just completed his 2009 voyage, again tracing one of the routes of early fur traders and explorers. It was planned as a 40 day adventure traveling from Moosonee on James Bay to Fort Temiskaming. This fort was taken over by the North West Company after the fall of New France in 1760. By 1821 it had moved into the hands of the Hudson's Bay Company. Bob can take us there....

Glengarry Historical Society  
Box 416  
Alexandria, Ontario, K0C 1A0  
August 2009, Volume 39, No.5, ISSN 0229-6705

**Help Save a Tree**  
We encourage the use of electronic mail in order to help us control costs. Please submit your email address if you are comfortable with this format.



## The GHS Mission Statement

- ☀ To stimulate interest in local history among residents of the county by holding meetings with lectures, displays, papers and discussions.
- ☀ To discover and collect materials which will help to preserve and illustrate the history of the county.
- ☀ To provide for the preservation and display of such materials and for its accessibility, as far as may be feasible, to all who may wish to examine or study it.
- ☀ To promote the preservation and restoration of historical areas, buildings, monuments and markers in Glengarry County.

Please forward your suggestions on Newsletter and Website content to:  
 Box 416, Alexandria,  
 Ontario, K0C 1A0  
 or email to:  
[johnw@alcor.concordia.ca](mailto:johnw@alcor.concordia.ca)  
 or simply tell us at one of the regular meetings. Thanks, the *Newsletter Editors*

## D-Day 65th Anniversary

**The SDG Highlanders .....** This year marked the 65th anniversary of D-Day. The SD&G Highlanders played a significant part.

Mobilization came in June 1940, and the Regiment absorbed companies from the Princess of Wales' Own Regiment and the Brockville Rifles to form an overseas battalion that went to England in 1941 as part of the 9th (Highland) Brigade, 3rd Canadian Infantry Division.

The SD&G landed in Normandy on D Day and was the first regiment to enter Caen, reaching the centre of the city at 1300 hours, July 9, 1944. Fifty-five days later, 112 SD&G had been killed in action and 312 more wounded in the Falaise Gap. The Regiment fought across France via Rouen, Eu, Le Hamel and Boulogne, moved into Holland and took part in the amphibious landing across the Savojaards Plaat, and advanced to Knokke by way of Breskens. It moved next to Nijmegen to relieve the airborne troops, and helped

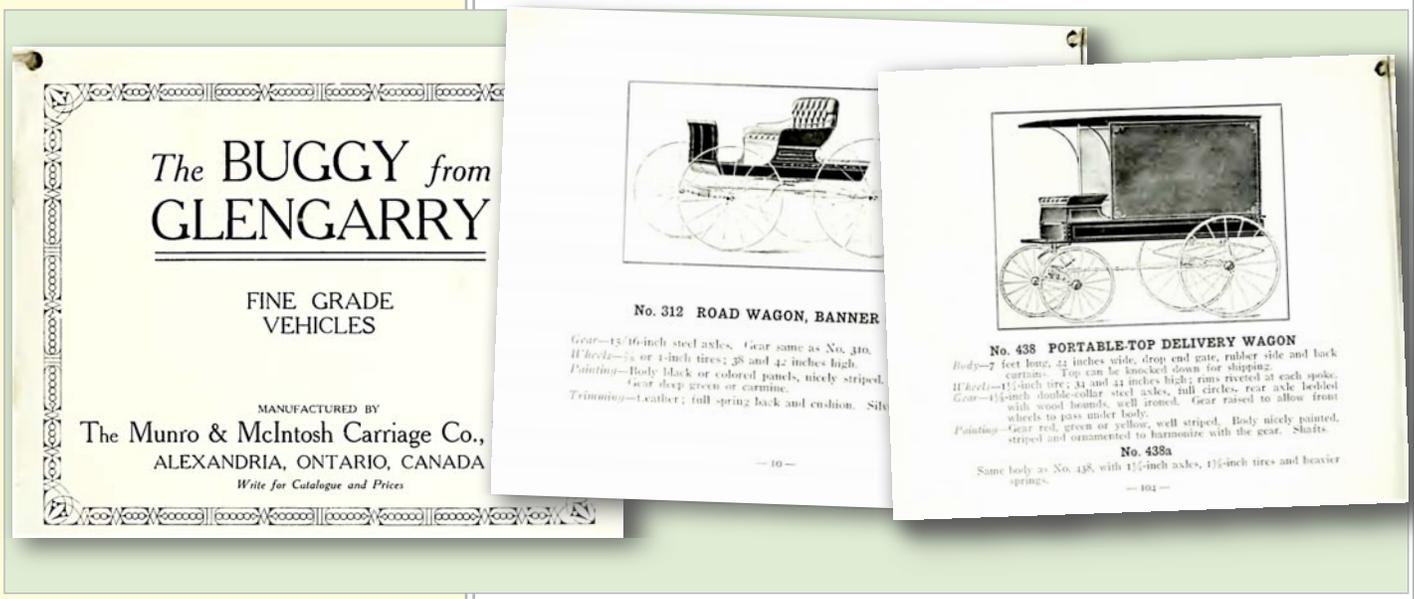


guard the bridge while the Rhine crossing was prepared. The Regiment then fought through the Hochwald and north to cross the Ems-River and take the city of Leer. At dawn on May 3,

1945, German marine-units launched an attack on two forward companies of the SD&G, occupying the village of Rorichum, near Oldersum, that was the final action during the war, VE Day found the SD&G near Emden.

It was said of the Regiment that it "never failed to take an objective; never lost a yard of ground; never lost a man taken prisoner in offensive action." Altogether 3,342 officers and men served overseas with the SD&G, of whom 278 were killed and 781 wounded; 74 decorations and 25 battle honours were awarded. A total of 3,418 officers and men served in the 2nd Battalion (Reserve); of them, 1,882 went on active service and 27 were killed. A third battalion raised in July 1945 served in the occupation of Germany and was disbanded in May 1946.

Source: Wikipedia®



## The Annual Picnic

**Despite the rain, the picnic at McCrimmon hall was well attended.**

Music featuring bagpipes, violins, and piano provided a spirited atmosphere.

After Linda Fraser's brief reminders of Pioneer Museum events and David Anderson pointing out that Maryanne Bethune and Anne Grierson from B.C. were in our company, Allan Macdonell introduced our host and speaker, Dr. Donaldson MacLeod.

To begin his entertaining and colorful discourse Mr. MacLeod outlined the area's history with reference to its inclusion in the L'Orignal Seignury granted to Francois Prevost in 1674. He went on to explain the delineation of the region into what became Lochiel, Lancaster and Caledonia townships and how the Ottawa and St Lawrence rivers were used as references of perpendicularity. Mr. MacLeod then focused on the McCrimmon Hall and its role facilitating the events and life of the community. Built by the Sons of Scotland in 1903 amidst significant fund raising efforts, the hall served as a center for picnics, parties, plays, concerts, wedding receptions, anniversaries, Sunday school, and especially dances. The significance and joy inherent in the McCrimmon hall were very aptly embodied in the lively communication by Donaldson MacLeod.

*Richard Bleile*

### **Become a Member**

*Membership in the Historical Society means you are an integral part in preserving local history. You are invited to each of the regular meetings, which usually feature an interesting guest speaker or presentation. You will receive the Newsletter (several per year), and advance notice of Historical Society events. Membership in the Glengarry Historical Society is \$15 (\$20,Family) annually. The Glengarry Historical Society is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society.*

## Annual Picnic Photo Album



The Piper



The Hall, showing the empty belfry, Fred Boyko and Hugh Grice



Jean McLenan, Eileen MacGillivray, Maddie McCrimmon and friends



Jack and Linda Fraser. Bill Gilsdorf and Grant Cameron are hiding in the background



Speaker Donaldson McLeod announces that the music will start

## Dates in Glengarry History

- 1860 - Loch Garry Post Office Opens
- 1901 - First attempt at street drainage in Alexandria
- 1910 - Alexandria Main Street surfaced with gravel
- 1929 - The Munro and McIntosh Company finally closes

## The Book Corner

### GLENGARRY SCHOOL DAYS

By: **Ralph Connor**

The 15 sketches that make up Glengarry School Days look back affectionately on childhood in Ontario at the time of Confederation. Yet behind Connor's delightful account of boyhood enthusiasms – and his clear desire for a more orderly and courageous world – lie glimpses of the moral rigidity that also characterized homesteading life in early Canada.

Wildly popular when first published in 1902, Glengarry School Days still captivates readers with its detailed portrait of children and their misadventures.

Available from: Random House  
ISBN: 9780771098895

### THE NOR'WESTERS, THE FIGHT FOR THE FUR TRADE

By: **Marjorie Wilkins Campbell**

For forty-two years, one group of brave men dominated the fur trade in Canada under the North West Company name. This is story of the company from its creation in 1779 to its union with the Hudson's Bay Company in 1821. An Governor-General's Literary Award winning book from 1954.

Available from: Amazon.ca  
and Fitzhenry & Whiteside

## Glengarry Scenes

(from Page 1)

1. **FROM LOCHINVAR to SKYE** –  
Madeleine McCrimmon and Donaldson MacLeod-1988

2. Archives of Ontario

Digital Image Number: I0012915.JPG  
Title: Glengarry cairn, S. Lancaster  
Date: ca. 1905  
Place: GLENGARRY (ONT. : COUNTY)  
Creator: Marsden Kemp  
Reference Code: C 130-1  
Item Reference Code:C 130-1-0-10-1

3. Archives of Ontario

Digital Image Number: I0002447.jpg  
Title: Post Office, Alexandria  
Date: [1910?]  
Place: Alexandria (Ont.)  
Creator: Duncan Donovan  
Reference Code: C 128-5  
Item Reference Code: C 128-5-2-1-16



**New Members**  
**Kenneth & Alma MacDonald**

## The History Prize

Avery Wheeler, who graduated in June from Tagwi Secondary School in Avonmore, Ontario, is the winner of the 2009 Glengarry Historical Society Prize for History.

The GHS Prize for History is a \$250 prize awarded annually to a graduating high school student who, in the opinion of teachers, has done well in history. It is awarded on a rotating basis to the five high schools accommodating students from Glengarry County, that is, Holy Trinity, Tagwi, Le Relais, Glengarry District and Char-Lan.

Ms Wheeler, who lives near Osnabruck Centre in neighbouring Stormont County, is continuing her studies this fall at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick.

"I'm taking environmental studies," she said. "But of course I'm taking history, too. I studied Canadian and world history at Tagwi, and it was something I always enjoyed."

In addition to the GHS Prize for History, Ms Wheeler won the geography prize at Tagwi. She was on the Ontario Honour Roll and the Tagwi Honour Roll, and was class valedictorian.

She was active in student council, played rugby and volleyball, was a peer helper, and was school PA announcer for two years.

*Dane Lanken*

## A Selection of Upcoming Events:

**BIFHSGO** - British Isles Family Histroy Society of Greater Ottawa - Sept 18-20, Special focus on Scotland, at Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, 613-234-2520

**Pioneer Museum** - Sept 12-13 10-5pm "Doors Open" & precursor to the Fall Festival Agricultural Demonstrations, antique tractors, crafts & refreshments. Sept 20 11-4pm Harvest Fall Festival. 613-527-5230

**The Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum** - "Doors Open" Weekend, Sept 5-6, including the 'Landmarks of Glengarry' photography display. Sept 26-27, Apples and Arts tour, 613-347-3547

## Some Summer Highlights:

**Driving Tour of Glengarry:**  
The Pioneer Museum again organized an informative driving tour of local historical sites, including Covenanter Church, Kinlock Well, and the "Big Beaver School".

**The Final Book Sale:** With some sadness, after the 30 years, the final book sale in support of the Pioneer Museum took place this July. It will be missed.

**George Sibley Documentary:**  
The excellent documentary 'Shadows of David Thompson' by filmmaker George Sibley was shown at the Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum. The event was well attended. A DVD of the film is on sale at the museum.

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