

JANUARY 2023 / 2022-23 Edition 3

Hammonds Plains Historical Society Newsletter

Web Site: www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca

Facebook: Hammonds Plains Historical Society

What's Going on! - 2023 Update

Welcome to 2023! The Historical Society is looking forward to the coming year with new found energy and an increase sense of optimism as we move forward with a number of exciting ventures.

First of all, we were really pleased with the response to our November hybrid meeting. We had excellent participation with over 30 folks tuning in either in person or online. Based on that meeting, we feel confident that 2023 will be the year that we get back to pre covid routines. We have decided that our January meeting will be another hybrid meeting,

Our January general meeting will be held on **January 30th (7pm)** at the Cornerstone Wesleyan Church, located at 1215 Hammonds Plains Road and online via Zoom. The presentation for the evening will be **'Elbow Grease and Road Side Gigs - A Generational Look at the Evolution of Commerce in Hammonds Plains'**.

As our last meeting, we do encourage folks who will be attending in person to consider wearing a mask and maintain social distancing, as recommended by Public Health.

Secondly, we have been encouraged by the feedback from our Facebook page, as we continue to post weekly photos of Hammonds Plains from days gone by. If you haven't done so, connect to our Facebook page and check out some of the pictures. Memories and comments are welcome.

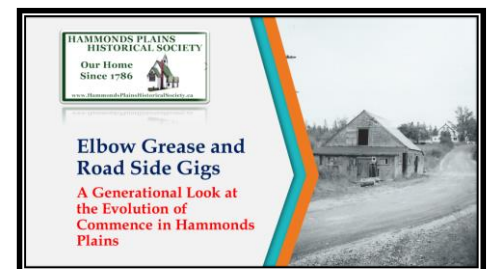
Finally, 2023 promises to be an exciting year for us, as we pursue our goal of erecting an interpretative historical panel in Hammonds Plains which will highlight the history of the community, so that visitors can learn about the origins of the village, along with the significance that the forestry trade was to the area for so many decades. Stayed tuned for announcements as we move forward with this project.

Please check out our announcement of the March General Meeting on page 4.



January 30th - 7pm

**Elbow Grease and Road Side
Gigs - A Generational Look at
the Evolution of Commerce in
Hammonds Plains**



Join us on January 30th for **'Elbow Grease and Road Side Gigs - A Generational Look at the Evolution of Commerce in Hammonds Plains'**. The presentation will look at the type of businesses that were prominent in each of the eight generations since Hammonds Plains was established.

Would you be surprised to learn that the most common occupation listed fro Hammonds Plains on the 1851 census was that of farmer?



Typical of what commerce looked in Hammonds Plains for much of 20th century. Photo of Eisenhower Mill – at site of present day Hatfield Farms.

News from the Past

How to Become a HPHS Member:

You can become a member of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society by filling out a registration form and e-mailing it to haverstockdave@gmail.com or mailing to 1541 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia B4B 1P6. Annual fee is \$10.

If you have been a member in the past, no need to fill out a new registration form. Registration forms are available by copying from our web site for new members only.

An e-transfer can be sent to the above e-mail address as payment for membership fees.

Donations will also be graciously accepted.



One of the few inside photos of the old Forrester's Community Hall that we have in our collection. This photo from the 1950's shows an unknown person among the wooden chairs and tables on the first floor of the hall. It is anticipated that maybe this was taken either before or after a community card social as the tables seem to be set up for an event such as the weekly 45 card games that were so popular during the 1900's.

From the Halifax Mail Star – January 15, 1947

HAMMONDS PLAINS – ENTERTAIN WAR BRIDES

The January meeting of the Admiral Provo Wallis Chapter, I.O.D.E. was held at the home of Mrs. Kenneth Thomson, who was named Convener of the Nomination Committee and will be assisted by Mrs. Edward Melvin and Mrs. Earl Haverstock.

Reports of the officers and conveners were read and the business of the meeting discussed with regard to raising money for the Endowment Fund and War Memorial. Mrs. Harvey Smith, Convener of Child and Family Welfare reported that seven boxes were sent to the aged and sick of this community for Christmas, each box contained fruit juices, oranges, grapes, grape fruit, nuts, candy etc. A bouquet of flowers was sent to a very sick lady of our community. Mrs. Harold Wright, the secretary, reported that she mailed Christmas to the 'shut in' folk of the district. A letter was read from the secretary of the Canadian Legion at Bedford, thanking our Chapter for its co-operation and assistance in the selling of Poppies.

After the meeting adjourned, the officers and members held a social evening in honor of our two British war brides, Mrs. Douglas Eisenhower and Mrs. Granville Romans, who are going to make their homes in this community. Mrs. Douglas Eisenhower is already a valued member of our Order. A delicious lunch was served after which, our Regent, Mrs. Charles Harris, presented to each bride a silver compact. Mrs. Harris also presented to Mrs. Romans a very small gold locket for her little daughter Jean, who was born in Britain.

The chapter is having the usual sewing party on Wednesday January 15th at the home of Mrs. Clifford Eisenhower.

On Jan. 18th, there will be a Card Social at the A. O. F. Hall.

Silvia, the 13-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Haverstock who had the misfortune to fall off a toboggan while out coasting a few days ago, is resting comfortably at her home here. Silvia cut her knee quite badly which required several stitches. She will be confined to the house for three or four weeks.

The Hammonds Plains Historical Society – Where is all Began

Editor's Note - The Hammonds Plains Historical Society was born in May 2010. It started with a small group of 5, consisting of Christina Parker, Heather Kelly, Joyce Evans, Dave Haverstock and Cathy Munroe. This group would go on to be the first Board of Directors, with Christina being the first President. At the time, to publicize the formation of the society, a series of media interviews were conducted. The following is a piece done by the Bedford-Sackville Community Herald, published on September 20, 2010.



Hammonds Plains Heritage on Group's Agenda

New historical society knew it had to get going when talk turned to torching old church

By Ian Fairclough – Staff Reporter

Christina Parker was trying to drum up support to deal with traffic issues on the Hammonds Plains Road when talk in one house turned to the need to preserve the community's history.

The fight to make the road safer is continuing, but the chance conversation has led to the formation of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society.

"In particular, people were concerned with St. Nicholas Anglican," Parker said. "We said we really don't want to see that go, so that kind of spurred us, and we said, "Well, instead of talking about it, let's do it."

She said a core group of directors has been working behind the scenes since May and it is now ready for a public for a public meeting to get members of the community involved.

The church was of immediate concern because it hadn't been used for six or seven years but was costing the parish money for maintainance and heat.

One possibility was letting the local fire department use it for live fire training.

Lickily, the late 1880's rea building has been rented to a local Ethiopian group as a place of worship, so efforts can be concerned for now on getting the group up and running, Parker said.

"It's a good timing for us, because we can step aside for the time being while we 're still getting established and starting to fund raise, " she said.

One of the first things the group would like to do is talk to older and former residents to get an oral history of the community, Parker said. The long term goal is to complete that information into a book.

The group would eventually like to have a building where the stories could be displayed in audio or video form and house a genealogy center.

They also want to make sure sure some of the community's historic buildings are not lost.

"We don't want to see them them go. We want to perserve them," Parker said.

The inaugural general meeting of the society is scheduled for Sept. 30th at 7pm at the Cornerstone Wesleyan Church.

Editor's Note - From it's humble beginnings 13 years ago, The Hammonds Plains Historical Society is proud of it accomplishments since that time. Interesting to note that the old church located along the Hammonds Plains may indeed be successful in achieving heritage designation in 2023. This would be the first building in Hammonds Plains to receive this status. More information to come as we follow the steps that is currently being undertaken by HRM to reach this goal.

Coming March 2023:

Our March General Meeting and Presentation will take palce on March 27th. At the meeting we will be unveiling a new online layered Historical Map of Hammonds Plains, along with the showing of the film 'Shooks', a Nova Scotia Film Board video set in the 1950's. Some of the film was shot in Hammonds Plains and it is great video to show how the forest industry once was the prominent industry in the community.

Book March 27th in your schedule now and don't miss some gems from our past!