
PRITCHARD NEWS

Spring 2008

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Free

2007 Pritchard Reunion

The 2007 reunion didn't have the most promising start, as dark grey clouds and heavy rain made it look like it would be a rather soggy affair. However, just in time, the clouds broke and we had a very pleasant reunion along the banks of the Rideau River at Kevin and Joanne Easey's.

Thanks to our hosts, Kevin and Joanne for all the work they did to make the reunion successful.

Turn out was good, with more than 60 people in attendance, which is an improvement from the previous year. Visitors came from as far away as Kingston (Brian and Gail Pritchard, Bruce and Gayle Pritchard, Russell Pritchard), Pickering (Courtney and Rob Tyo), Burlington (Mark, Bev, Matt, AJ and Grant Taylor), Thunder Bay (Bruce and Agnes Pritchard), and even California (John and Lizlott Pritchard).

The oldest family member in attendance was Russell Pritchard at 90 years old, while the youngest was Mya (8 months) the daughter of Sherry and Kyle Pritchard-Johnson.

As always there were games for the young folks, including water volleyball. This years edition of the traditional egg toss competition (aka hardest egg competition) was won by Keegan Dillabaugh and Kale Loftus in a tightly contested contest.

At the business meeting a new President was elected, David Pritchard of Ottawa. In a moving acceptance speech that had listeners almost in tears David exclaimed (paraphrased) "I guess I can do that, I don't really have much choice, do I?" We also wish to extend our thanks to Victor Dillabaugh for several years of service in this demanding position.

Also at the business meeting family members in attendance agreed to spend some of the excess cash in the treasury to follow up on a lead regarding the life of James and Judith Pritchard

in Northern Ireland that was provided by James Kenney. As a result we have hired a professional genealogist to do some work for the family (see article on back of newsletter). Special thanks to Lee McDonald and her father Howard Andrews for a \$100 donation toward this research and to all people who have contributed to the kitty over the years!

Cemetery Cleanup

2008

As always we will be having a cleanup of the family cemetery on **Saturday, May 24th** – the Saturday following the May long weekend. . If you need directions please contact Sondra Dillabaugh at (613) 821-2721 or Craig Dillabaugh (819) 827-8215.

2007

Thank you to those who came out and helped out with last years clean-up. Attendees included Victor, Dawn, Sondra and Derlin Dillabaugh, Ruggles Pritchard, Cheryl, Ethan, Keenan, and Barbara Layer. A special thanks to Barbara who provided a snack (as she usually does) to the work party.

2008 Reunion

The 2008 Reunion will be held at the home of Derlin and Sondra Dillabaugh at 1333 Stagecoach Rd., Greely, ON, starting at noon on:

Sunday, July 13th, 2008

Please bring yourself, lawn chairs if possible, and some favourite dish to show off your culinary skills to the rest of the family (there will be some facilities available for reheating food). There is limited parking available at the Dillabaugh home in the lane way (you may want to avoid it if you don't want to be the last one to leave), but there is plenty of room to park along Stagecoach Rd. (but please be careful as it can be a bit busy!)

DIRECTIONS TO 2008 REUNION

1. Follow Albion Rd south past Rideau Carleton Raceway and Slots (Casino).
2. Turn right at end of Albion Rd. onto Mitch Owens Rd.
3. Go to first set of lights which is Stagecoach Rd., turn left (south) onto Stagecoach.
4. Dillabaugh home is on left (East) hand side of Stagecoach Rd. exactly 1.7 kms from Mitch Owens Rd.

(If you are coming from the south, take the 416 to Bankfield and head East on Bankfield to Manotick. You can pick up Mitch Owens in Manotick and head east to Stagecoach (which is just past Emerald Links golf course)

UPDATE ON RESEARCH INTO THE HISTORY OF JAMES AND JUDITH PRITCHARD

In last years newsletter we reported lead by James Kenny regarding the families roots in Northern Ireland, namely that James and Judith lived as tenants on the estate of the Madden Family in the parish of Currin, townland Briscarnagh, Northern Ireland. It was suggested that the family look into hiring a professional genealogist to study the Madden Estate papers, that had been deposited at the Public Records Office in Belfast, to see if they could unearth any information about James and Judith's life in Ireland and perhaps some hints as to why they came to Canada. At the 2007 reunion we voted and agreed to take some money from the family treasury to hire someone to perform this research. To this end, we have recently obtained the services of a professional genealogist who will be studying the records to see if anything can be found. There is of course no guarantee that any information will turn up, but we hope to be able to report on the progress of this research at the 2008 reunion.

FAMILY NEWS

The following is a (far, far from complete) listing of family births (and other additions) and deaths that have come to our attention. If anyone wishes to have a birth or death included in the newsletter please contact us (see below for contact information).

Births

Parker James Harrison – March, 12th, 2007 a chosen son for Alana and Kevin Harrison and grandson to Jack and Lee McDonald of Candle Lake Saskatchewan.

Madex Christopher Easey – July 30th, 2007 son of Matthew and Heidi Easey and grandson to Robin and Glennis Easey.

Vaughn Laughlan Dillabaugh – February, 22nd, 2008 son of Craig and Kristie Dillabaugh and grandson to Derlin and Sondra Dillabaugh

Deaths

Penelope Atwood Pritchard wife of Dr. Ian Pritchard passed away August, 11th, 2007 in North Carolina.

Contact Info: You may contact Craig Dillabaugh (819) 827-8215 or by email at cdillaba@connect.carleton.ca or Sondra Dillabaugh (613) 821-2721, if you have any information for the newsletter.