

In this issue:

New Heritage	Plaque
for Hammond	

Photos 3 from Hammond

2

CHC Members 4

PORT HAMMOND JUNCTION

John and William Hammond started farming in the Maple Ridge area around 1863. About 1865 William preempted two lots on the Fraser River.

Emmeline (Emma) Jane Mohun owned properties adjacent to his land. Her husband Edward Mohun was a Dominion Land Surveyor.

After Confederation, Edward Mohun and William Hammond, both civil engineers, worked on the CPR survey for the promised transcontinental railway.

When in 1882 Andrew Onderdonk signed the contract to build the section between Port Moody and Savona, the planned railway curved through William Hammond's riverside property.

Emma Mohun and the Hammond brothers sent a "Plan of the Town of Port Hammond Junction" to Victoria, subdividing a large section of their properties.

They were the founders of Hammond, a terminus for CPR freight and passengers on ships to and from Victoria and New Westminster and the main commercial area of Maple Ridge for many years.

Text on the Community Heritage Commission plaque unveiled at Hammond Park on Saturday, 14 June 2008.

COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION

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Lisa Zosiak, Staff Liaison

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Helmi Braches

Craig Speirs

Lisa Zosiak

Published by

Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission

> 11995 Haney Place Maple Ridge, BC V2X 6A9

604.467.7341 tel 604.467.7329 fax plan_enq@mapleridge.org www.mapleridge.org

NEW HERITAGE PLAQUE FOR HAMMOND

On 14 June 2008 at one o'clock the Heritage Commission hosted the unveiling of the new heritage plaque at Hammond Park, right in the heart of Hammond.

The weather couldn't have been better on this sunny Saturday afternoon when members of the Heritage Commission, the Maple Ridge Mayor and several council members, as well as numerous Hammond residents collected in the park for the unveiling.

Jim Connor, Heritage Commission Chair and eloquent Master of Ceremonies, welcomed the guests, introduced the Commission members, and talked briefly about historic Hammond. Commission member Sheila Nickols then described the plaque program. Next, long-time Hammond residents Roy Hytainen and Dale Lambright entertained the audience with memories of ball games in the very park that was the scene of the current celebration. Roy earned a round of laughter when he confessed that people grew up in Hammond and started their careers there, but when they made enough money would move to Haney.

Mayor Gordy Robson then addressed the crowd and, assisted by Councillors Ken Stewart and Ernie Daykin, unveiled the plaque.

The last item on the agenda was the sumptuous spread of refreshments, which were enjoyed in the shade of the large tent generously sponsored by Envision Financial. Guests mingled and continued to exchange stories and memories of the past.

As an unexpected "dessert" Commission members were invited to visit a home that originally belonged to Dr. Broe, one of the first resident physicians in Maple Ridge. The house, which was for sale at the time, still has a number of interesting original elements, and it is to be hoped that its new owners will take good care of it.

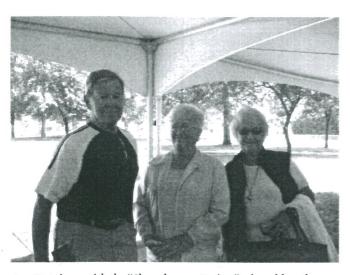
—Helmi Braches



Jim Connor addressing the audience.



Mayor Gordy Robson and Councillors Ken Stewart and Ernie Daykin unveiling the plaque.



Roy Hytainen with the "Shaughnessy Twins," who told us that they were delivered by Dr. Garnet Morse and are the first twins born in Hammond.



Long-time Hammond residents Roy Hytainen and Dale Lambright speaking to the guests.



Lisa Zosiak (Maple Ridge Planner and CHC Liaison), Fred Braches, and Hammond residents Bill and Joyce O'Laughlin.

Hammond Park 14 June 2008

The weather couldn't have been better on that sunny Saturday afternoon ...

MEET NEW COMMISSIONERS



Jacqueline Mulcahy

Raised in North Vancouver, Jacqueline and her family have lived in Maple Ridge since 1989.

She is an interior designer and is currently enrolled in the Master's of Urban Studies Program at Simon Fraser University.

Jacqueline has a degree in History and Geography. As the newest member of Maple Ridge Heritage Commission, Jacqueline is looking forward to contributing to community life.



Jan de Zeeuw

Jan came to Maple Ridge on 23 November 1973.

He is a founding member of the Whonnock Community Association and is president of the Whonnock Foundation.

Over the years he has served on various municipal committees including the Parks and Recreation Commission, the Advisory Planning Committee, and Communities in Bloom.

Jan wrote a column for the Maple Ridge Times, "Open to Debate," and later one for the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows News under the title "The Village Idiot," because, he says, one fool can ask more questions than seven wise persons can answer.



The Maple Ridge Community Heritage Commission is presenting a talk by

LESLIE GILBERT

Vice President of the Heritage Society of BC and Manager of Community Planning for the City of Port Moody:

The Benefits of Conserving the Heritage Home

Date and Time: Tuesday, 23 September 2008, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Location: St. Andrew's Heritage Hall, 22289 – 116th Avenue, Maple Ridge
Refreshments served.
Admission by donation.