

The Massie Messenger

A Biannual Newsletter

Issue N° 20 Spring 2017

Massie Hall Enters a New Era



Logo by Brent Martin

Massie Hall, our charming stone schoolhouse turned community centre, now has a logo and a strategy that will allow it to remain vibrant and solvent. Brent Martin, Laura and Glen's oldest son who works in Toronto, designed this simple, stylized logo that captures the essence of our hall. The logo will appear on all literature produced by the hall board and a big bright sign that will go up in front of the building this spring.

Plans for half a dozen Live at Massie Hall concerts, the popular fish fry, and

the steadily growing vintage car and motorcycle show and chrysanthemum sale are underway this year. Despite their popularity, these events alone cannot sustain the hall which requires \$5,000 per year for maintenance and fees. That doesn't include the cost of additional work that needs to be done such as the replacement of the old wiring and the renovation of the wash-rooms to make them accessible to everyone. For the latter, we are planning to apply to the Ontario Trillium Foundation and other foundations. But to keep the hall going on an annual basis

we need to find other sources of funds. For that, the hall board is approaching the community, asking anyone who cherishes the hall and their memories of fun times there to contribute even a small amount each year. Watch for notices that come to you by email or in the mail detailing the history of the building, announcing coming events or displaying photos and stories of previous events.

Remember that Massie Hall is also available for rental for birthdays, anniversaries, workshops, retirement

parties or any other event you can dream up for family, friends or co-workers. The building is equipped with a kitchen and washrooms, and, in the summer, an outdoor concert stage.

The hall directors hope that, as a member of the community, you share our enthusiasm for the new logo and direction Massie Hall is taking. Proud mom Laura Martin expresses the general feeling when she says of the logo her son created, "I just love it!"

photo by Ralph Bergman



In Memory: Dona Grace Norton



Dona Norton (née Patterson) who passed away in January in her 98th year was "an absolutely perfect lady", according to her friend Marg Taylor. She was president of the Massie Women's Institute for many years and a life-long member of the organization. Dona won the Agnes McPhail Award from the Women's Institute in 2008. Marg credited her with being "a great leader with good ideas."

Dona was born near Meyerthorpe, Alberta in 1919, where her parents went to homestead. Four of the five children were born there. However, their mother became ill in 1925 and they had to return to Ontario. Dona went to school in Dundalk and Markdale.

After working briefly for The Farmer's CO-OP, Bell Telephone and The Bank of Toronto in Markdale, she met and married Jack Norton. In 1943 they moved to Massie to raise their 4 children, a challenging job, especially in the days where there was no electricity or indoor plumbing. Not only did she cook, clean and perform all the housewifely chores,

but she also made most of the family's clothes.

Dona was involved in the community as a Sunday school teacher at Massie United Church. She was also a member of the United Church Women. When Jack passed away in 1969, she moved to Toronto to train as a Registered Nursing Assistant, and worked for 14 years at Toronto General Hospital. In 1984 she returned to Owen Sound to retire.

Blanche Martin says about Dona: "She was a wonderful person who wanted to help people. She was my best friend."

Dona leaves behind her loving children Bill, Jim, Stephen Howard and Mary (Dickson), who all live in Owen Sound, and their families, including 9 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. This special lady will be much missed.



Stephen, Bill, Dona, Jim and Mary

The 86 1/2 Club

Jean Perdue, who turned 89 in January, and her sister, Florence Smith, who is 93 years old, are proud members of the unofficial Massie 86½ Club! Both women still live in their homes, Jean in Owen Sound and Florence in Inglis Falls with her son. Congratulations to both hale and hearty ladies!

Florence and Jean both attended Massie School, played piano at Massie United Church services and “had a wonderful life in Massie,” says Jean. They lived with their parents Frank and Mattie Howey and brother Gilbert on the family farm on “the county road” (Grey Road 40 for the newbies to this hamlet) west of Perdue Road.

Florence married Jarvis Smith of Inglis Falls at Massie Church. Jean married “a Massie boy”, Bob Perdue, but not at the local church. Their favourite minister, Rev. L.S. Paisley, had been transferred to Thornbury so the young couple chose to be married at the manse there.

Long life and much happiness to Florence, Jean and Gilbert!



Jean Perdue, Florence Smith, and Gilbert Howie.

Beau Has a New Bud



Photo by Lisa Hunter



*Photo by
Rocky Neelands*

Hey, everybody! Have you met my new sidekick Remi? He's still young and therefore a bit of a nuisance, but with me as his guide, he'll soon shape up. I'm taking him around to all the neighbours, introducing him to all the cats (boy, are they happy to see him!) and showing him the compost piles and the places where suet or peanuts have dribbled out of the birdfeeders. He's constantly hungry – ever notice that about teenagers? And man, does he ever leave large stinky poops. They even have sunflower seeds in them.

You probably know that my long-time companion Bailey, the friendly Golden Retriever known throughout the community as one of the Massie speed bumps, left us last fall and went to dog heaven. I sure miss her. But life goes on and I'm happy to have a new friend in Remi (when he's not jumping all over).

Beau Neelands

Remi here: Thanks, Beau, for the intro! Massie's friggin' awesome! Just lovin' this place and the peeps! A shout-out to Massie's horses, dogs, cows, whatever, especially my new friends Magpie and Sprig! I just love running and jumping up on Beau and creeping Connie and Carl through their sliding door. Ciao for now.

Live at Massie Hall

Massie Hall has an ambitious slate of concerts scheduled for 2017 for our Live at Massie Hall series. Tickets can be purchased online at massiehall.com/events-4.html or by calling Ralph at 794-4109. You'll find more information about the performers as well as samples of their music on the website. Tickets are \$20 if purchased individually in advance, \$22 at the door. Or you can get a three-concert package for \$54. Gift certificates available. All concerts begin at 8 p.m. but doors open at 7:30 if you want to relax and converse with friends.

Fraser and Girard

Saturday, May 13, 2017 8:00

Highly regarded singer/songwriters Allan Fraser and Marianne Girard teamed up 2 years ago to create beautiful music! The New York Times said about Fraser's songs: "...with this range of feeling, dense imagery and unexpected depth, these words may well find a place in the oral tradition of poetry." Girard, a Canadian Folk Music Awards nominee, was dubbed a "Canadian Nightingale" by RTL Radio Belgium.

fraserandgirard.com



Steve Dickinson

Friday, May 26, 2017 8:00

Dickinson has "that one in a million voice", says Canadian music producer Rick Hutt. He's also a superb songwriter who has performed with Canada's iconic band The Guess Who, Chantal Kreviasuk, Nazareth, Jeff Healey and many others. Steve recently performed on a recent tribute album to Frankie Miller along with Willie Nelson, Elton John, Rod Stewart and others.

stevedickinson.ca



Christina Martin

Saturday, June 17, 2017

A rising pop-rock star whose musical journey has earned her a substantial following in Germany and mainland Europe as well as North America, Martin has won multiple awards on Canada's east coast where she grew up.

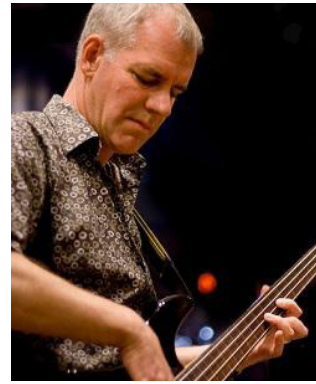
christinamartin.net



Paul Danard and Friends

Saturday, July 15, 2017 8:00

A local guitar and bass virtuoso, Danard is easily one of the best and most prominent jazz musicians in this area. His wide repertoire spans the bebop era right up to the emergence of hard bop jazz.



Rob Elder

Saturday, September 9, 2017 8:00

From smooth acoustic ballads to “jump out of your seats and dance” multi-layered, live-looping, Elder takes his audience on a vivid musical trip rooted in his unique perspective on life and love.

robelder.ca/music/



The Krueger Band

Saturday, September 23, 2017 8:00

“The Krueger Band is an adventure story. A musical box of chocolates left at your door for your consideration. Every song is different and there’s no map inside the lid.” Summerfolk 2016



Our Shotgun Wedding

Saturday, November 4, 2017 8:00 pm

The pop-folk duo of Dylan McMullin and Lauren Jewell have an infectious on-stage chemistry. Their songs about life, love, loss and discovery are set on the Bruce Peninsula and, like the landscape, “have a rugged, real, yet touching texture.”

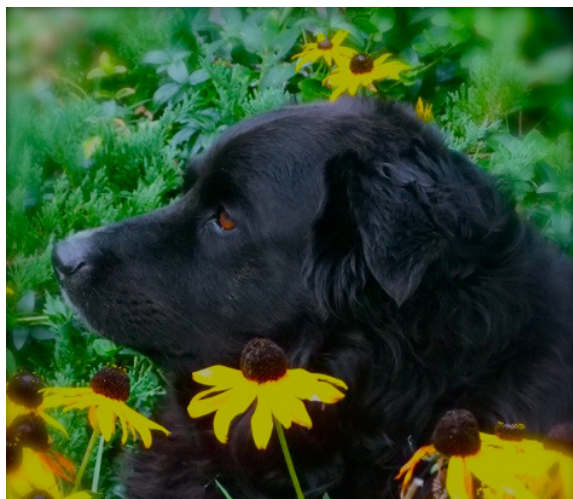
ourshotgunwedding.bandcamp.com



Massie's Companion Animals



Eddie Mair



Buddy Gardiner



Scooby Halden



Daisy Halden



Maxx Gardiner



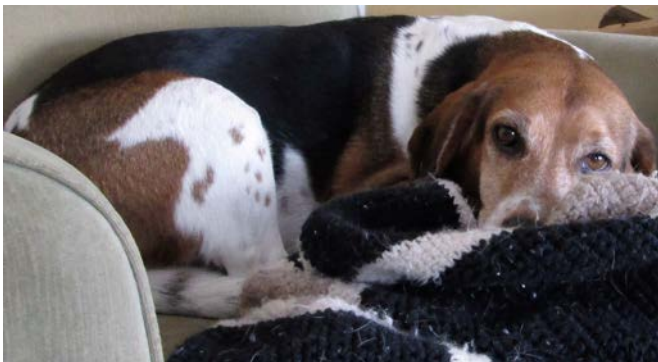
Lapka Perrone



Morgan Vanderham



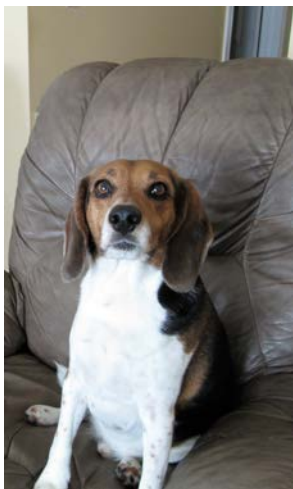
Diesel Vanderham



Rocky Thompson



Dot Van Wyck Martin



Rascal Thompson



Sparkle Bergman



Flike Van Wyck Martin



Photograph by Connie Miller

2017 Events

- Saturday, April 29 **Massie Church and Hall Clean-up 9:00 a.m. – 1 p.m.** All are welcome. Lunch provided.
- Saturday, May 13 **Massie Geranium Sale & Tea – 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.** Orders for geraniums: contact Pat Campbell 794-2397 or Marg Taylor 794-2085.
- Friday, May 19 **Shoreline Chorus 7:30 p.m.** Watch for concert details.
- Saturday, June 10 **Massie Rummage Sale in church basement.** Contact Wendy Neelands to rent a table, 794-2836.
- Saturday, July 15 **Lois Keeling's 90th Birthday** – Massie United Church basement. Begins at 2 p.m. All are welcome!
- Sunday, July 23 **Vintage Car and Motorcycle Show at Massie Hall grounds 1-4 p.m.** Contact Marilyn Bergman for details, 794-4109.
- Sunday, August 13 **Massie Hall Fish Fry with live entertainment on the outdoor stage 3-7 p.m.** Reservations required, call Marilyn at 794-4109. massiehall.com/fish-fry.html
- Saturday, September 9 **Marvellous Mums: Massie Hall's chrysanthemum sale 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.** Contact Marilyn at 794-4109 to reserve your order. massiehall.com/mums.html
- Sunday, September 24 **Massie United Church Anniversary Service 11 a.m.**
- Wednesday, October 4 **Massie Church Ham & Scalloped Potato Dinner**

LIVE AT MASSIE HALL CONCERTS – May, June, July, September, October - Refer to pages 4 and 5 for details.
massiehall.com

Editorial Board

Renee Fedun — Editor
Ralph Bergman — Art Director