

Glen Alda Seniors

by Doug Field

A friendly, active and open group.

I guess this is the beginning of a new era for the "Voice". I remember Liz Johnston asking me back in early January of 2013 to write a few words about the activities of the Glen Alda Seniors Club. This was mainly because, (I think), I was currently serving as Vice President of the Club at the time, and supposedly had the inside knowledge of what was happening. Well, a lot of writing has happened since then, and this Club has grown and developed into something the whole community should be proud of, I know I am. We in Glen Alda are a group who all get along, there is no apparent evidence of infighting, squabbles, backstabbing, nitpicking, or nastiness of any kind, and that folks is a good thing. As a Club we have on our own raised over \$25,000.00, and in conjunction with the Township through Gary Giraldi, raised roughly \$32,000.00 more. This money has all gone into making the Glen Alda Community Centre something to benefit all of us here in North Kawartha. The money raised was used for refreshing the furniture and appliances found inside the building, including the addition of outdoor features as well.

I took on the writing challenge much as Liz proposed I do, and over the intervening years my writing style, and certainly the length of my write ups have grown and developed into what you have been reading lately. I have enjoyed writing for this small Community Newsletter. When I started writing in the "Voice", it was the only source of written news about the "goings on" in this community that was available. That has changed. There is more competition out there now, which is not necessarily a bad thing, but on the other hand there is not nearly as much focus on local content in these other publications, which I believe is not so good a thing. This is a small community, and small communities need to work together to succeed, so we should all be on the same page, so to speak, and work together to make this a better place for all of us to live and play in.

The Voice will be taking a winter vacation this year, and as such this will be the last edition for the time being. I am looking forward to taking a break from writing as well, as this will be my Eighty First write up regarding the Glen Alda Seniors that I have penned since that fateful day when Liz propositioned me with the simple task of writing a few brief words each month for the "Voice". She also apparently awakened the latent scribe in me as this has also led to articles regarding my experiences as a Service Mechanic for a couple of National Rally Car teams over the years. But it didn't stop there either, as I have penned a number of helpful

service tips for the C.V.M.G. National Newsletter, and also written in the North American Royal Enfield Owners Club Newsletter. In addition, a very good long-time friend and I have been collaborating on writing stories of our youth regarding growing up during the Forties, Fifties, and let us admit it, the Sixties as well. We were raised in two vastly differing communities here in Ontario. One of these was very isolated, rural, and had no Hydro until the late Fifties, the other was much more urbanized, but still rural, that is, until it was absorbed by our Nation's Capital. It has always amazed us how similar we are in our outlooks, interests, and experiences despite the vastly different communities we lived in. Who knows, perhaps we will someday get around to compiling this collection of memories into something a publisher thinks is marketable.

The moral here; live your life with an open mind, accept the right of others to have opinions and interests that are different from yours, encourage a sense of adventure in your life, give as much as you can to making your home and community a better place to live, share ideas, and stop your groaning and griping about the actions of others, as the person you hurt the most can only be yourself and those you love.

Now on to business for the Glen Alda Seniors: September was not quite as I wrote it up last month. We ended up having a Bar B Q alright, but not at the Johnston residence as I reported, but at the Community Centre instead. Liz was not quite up to hosting that many people, so Barry and Sally, and Bev and I hosted the meeting and meal, with of course lots of help from all who attended. For the second meeting of this Club in September we were hosted by Colin and Laureen, who as always supplied us with a scrumptious meal using pork with her usual aplomb.

I do not have access (as of this writing) to the list of volunteers who have offered to prepare the meals for the month of October, but I know they will be well thought out, prepared, and presented to members for our usual delight.

Remember that we are an open, active, friendly group welcoming of newcomers. We are always open to making new friends feel at home at our gatherings. If you are interested in joining us, just give President Barry a call at 705-656-1850 and tell him of your interest.