

Bruce Bulletin

Bruce County
Genealogical Society
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Upcoming Meetings and Other Events

Date: Monday, January 8, 2018 @ 1 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Bring and Brag

Date: Monday, February 12, 2018 @ 1 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: Snow date if January meeting cancelled

Date: Monday, March 12, 2018 @ 1 pm
Place: Bruce County Museum and Cultural Centre
Topic: TBA

Highlights of Previous Meetings

August: Author's Night. The three authors presenting were Jerrold Beech, George Calder and Tamara Paisley. Jerrold Beech opened by performing his stories while Ken Thornburn of Northern Flyer Design, Tara read three stories from Beech's book, Oh Com'on Take it Like a Man, More Tales from Lonefeather. George Calder spoke about researching his book The William Kennedy Story written in 2015-. His second book A Fine Speculation of a Probable Harbour covers the details involved in building a harbour of refuge in Southampton. Tamara Paisley and her husband owned, renovated and operated the Ivy Tea Room in one of Paisley's older main street homes for seven and a half years. She wrote Tea Room Tales Tidbits, which includes some of her favourite recipes from the tea room menu, ghost stories and tea leaf reading tips. Judy MacKinnon announced that the Ontario Genealogical Society has just received a Trillium grant to continue digitizing Women's Institute Tweedsmuir History Books.

Query

I am researching the Taylor Family, many of whom lived in Tara (c.1850s-1900), specifically these names: Malcolm Taylor born c.1812 from Argyleshire Scotland, his sons James, Alex, Archie (father of Cyclone Taylor); James Taylor was a doctor in Tara, died 1896 interred in Hillcrest Cem, Arran Township; James was married to Eliza Cryderman; their children - Anna Linda (b.1860-1943), Ella M (b.1861-1931), Albert Edward (1864-), Walter James Taylor (1865-1925), Sylvia Eliza (1868-1871). Albert Edward Taylor born 1864. He studied law by articling (for five years) in William Avery Bishop Sr's (father of flying ace Billy Bishop) law firm in Owen Sound. Albert was my great-grandfather, and eventually was a judge in Sarnia. If anyone has any information please contact me: patmacd@me.com
Thank You.

Contents

	Page
Upcoming Meetings and Events/ Highlights of Previous Meetings.	1/2
Pioneer Days.	2/5
Pioneer Mrs. T. Kelly Passes.	5
Bruce County Strays.....	6/7
News from the Bruce County Archives.....	7/8
BCGS Information.....	8

The following article was submitted by Ken Kelly

WOULD LIKE TO START PIONEER DAYS ONCE MORE

*Mary McPhee Kelly Born in Saugeen Township,
Near Port Elgin, In 1856*

NEW SETTLERS MOVED DOWN RIVER ON RAFTS

*Pennsylvania Dutch Taught Early Settlers to
Make Maple Syrup*

K. T. Connolly

"Why, do you know, I'd just love to start pioneering on a homestead right this minute!"

I gasped.

The snowy-haired Scotch-Canadian gentlewoman had passed her three score and ten birthday, but the ruddy, jolly face and the generous frame of her, fairly radiated vitality.

"Homesteading in the Seventies!" What a splendid headline for an immigration advertisement!

Mary McPhee Kelly was born in Saugeen Township, in the north riding of Bruce County, about three miles from Port Elgin, in 1856.

"My people are Highland Scotch," burred the musical voice, "and they paid such high rents over there they thought it was a great thing to get a bit of land of their own in Canada, no matter how hard they had to work for it—and, indeed, I don't think work ever hurt anyone."

"Saugeen" is an Indian word, is it not?"

"Yes. Both the river and township have the same name. My mother and father came down the Saugeen River with the early settlers on rafts. The new folks all came that way from Durham, Walkerton and Hanover. It was the only way to get there. Up in Bruce, you know

we have no railway until I was a grown-up young woman. I remember well the first train I ever saw, wasn't so long before I was married, either."

MANY MITTENS

The knitting needles clicked as the thumb of a gray mitten was finished off for a young grandchild.

"You knit a lot, Mrs. Kelly?"

"Well, you see, I've 21 grandchildren—one of them got married this year—so I try to get 20 pairs of mittens a year knitted at least. It is a good pastime. I told my son," twinkling, "if he didn't get me yarn to knit, Satan would find other work for me to do—and I don't want his wages.

"We moved to Bruce Township when I was three years old," went on the pleasant voice. "There was a little clearing in the bush—about five acres—it was chopped but not logged up. The girls and boys in the families all worked together in those days. The men would chop down 10 or 15 acres and cut the timber into 10 or 12-foot lengths. When dry weather came they set it on fire and burnt the brush, and that left the logs. All the neighbors would bring their ox teams and make the logs into big piles. Then the women and children would pick up the small stuff. They made fence rails from the elm and basswood, but they burned the maples.

"Can't you imagine the lumber those maple trees would have made? I paid three dollars last week for one board for a pantry shelf I wanted put up.

NO SALE FOR MAPLE

"There was no sale for maple wood then, though," continued Mrs. Kelly. "There was nothing but wood for sale and nobody wanted to buy it, for everybody

had lots of it. . . . The other Sunday I was telling my grandchildren I never remembered getting money from my father in my life, and they opened their eyes wide and said: "How awful!" But I told them it was no hardship, for what use would money have been to us children? We were eight miles from town, the road was through the bush—only a blazed trail in fact—and we didn't know it." Reminiscently, "Do you know I was 30 years old before I ever tasted an orange?"

"Do you remember how it tasted, Mrs. Kelly?"

"I should say I do. I thought it was the sweetest bit of nectar ever made. It was on the first of July, and my husband had gone 'walking,' and brought it home to me for a treat. Of course, we'd never heard of ice cream."

"Where did you get your groceries?"

"Many a time I've walked with mother when she took her butter to Port Elgin, eight miles away, and helped her carry them home. We always had cows and hens, you know, but there were no orchards at first. They weren't planted yet. We'd carry back the groceries, and dried apples were always on the list. They were cheap and nourishing."

"That would be in summer?"

"Oh, yes, of course. In the winter, when there were no boats, the well-to-do farmers would take their teams of horses and drive their dressed hogs to Guelph. Then they'd bring back groceries and other goods for the storekeepers in Port Elgin. I don't know how long it took them, but it was quite a few days, I know."

TAUGHT BY DUTCH

"Did you make maple syrup in the early days, Mrs. Kelly?"

"Oh, yes. The Pennsylvania Dutch had taught us how to do that. I've heard

my father say that was one inducement held out to emigrants in the old country to come to Canada where a wood from which sap flowed grew. The transportation companies were right on the job then the same as they are now. They know the people were paying such high rents to the landed proprietors, their highest ideal was to own a bit of land themselves—even in a wilderness."

"Were the women in the old country anxious to come, do you think?"

"In those days women did what their husbands thought was best, and after they got here they helped the men realize their ideals by the most rigid economy. They gave them real companionship, too. I was just thinking how different the women had it nowadays. Not long ago I was away for a bit of a visit near Toronto, and it seemed to me housekeeping and the preparation of meals took very little of the young married women's time compared with what they used to. They would be out all afternoon, shopping or at the theatre, or at a tea or a bridge, and come dashing in at 6 o'clock to prepare the evening meal. "Bacon", dryly, "thrown into a fryer makes an appetizing odor through the house, with very little exertion."

Of course, I mustn't forget there is electricity now; we only had candles then."

"Did you always use candles, Mrs. Kelly?"

"Till I was grown up."

"Where did we get them? Why we made them. We raised our own cattle and we made the candles from the beef fat or else from mutton tallow. We had moulds for making them. I've made lots of candles even after I was married. We thought they were safer for a lantern than coal oil. I remember well the first lamp I ever saw. Mother took away a basket of butter and came home with a pretty little bedroom lamp. My father thought it was

quite a wonderful thing. He was always interested in anything new for the house.”



Parents: Annie McGillvary and Donald McPhee

“Was he handy at making things?”

“He was, indeed. He was a regular jack of all trades, and although that is handy in some ways, it doesn’t pay top well for a farmer. I remember he made the first churn that was in our neighborhood. It was made out of beautiful white pine. Before he had the lid quite finished, though, a neighbor came to borrow it. He told her it didn’t have any lid, but she said she didn’t mind.” Drolly, “Those were the days of real neighbours.”

“Yes, I should say so.”

“He put wooden hoops on it from gads he got in the woods. He also made a dish for my mother to put the cream in. He could mend shoes pretty well, too, and the neighbors would bring their shoes to be mended and their barrels to be re-hopped, and, of course, money was never mentioned; it was all between friends as it were. It was a neighbourly act accepted in the same spirit in which it was given.”

“Did you have many brothers and sisters? I suppose they would help with the farm work?”

“I had just one brother, and he was so fond of carpentry that my father hadn’t

much help in the fields except from the girls. I had four sisters.”

“Did you ever work out in the fields, Mrs. Kelly?”

“I never cradled, but that’s about the only thing I haven’t done. I’ve raked and harrowed and built loads as much as lots of men. Sometimes when we got through harvesting my brother would take the cradle and he and I would go to some neighbour who was behind with his work and I’d rake and bind all day. I’d get 50 cents. The girls worked out the same as the boys. The first summer after I was married, Theophilus—



Theophilus Kelly and
Mary McPhee Kelly

“Wh
o did you say?”

“Theophilus. That was my husband’s name. It’s a good name too, for it is found twice in the New Testaments. Well, we would go cradling at 5 o’clock in the morning. I’d get up, drive the cows up, milk, skim the last night’s milk and warm it for the calves, then get breakfast and call him in. After breakfast we’d both rake and bind till it was time to get dinner. Then while I was getting dinner he would stook it. Let me see—that’s 51 years ago. I was 21 when I was married.”

"How were prices 50 years ago, Mrs. Kelly?"

"Well, we raised lambs for years for \$2.50 apiece, and we thought it was all right. The best cow we ever had we got \$20 for. That was before the railroad came, of course. I think it was in '72 it came in."

"You look as healthy and rosy as a young girl, Mrs. Kelly. You must have a marvelous constitution."

One couldn't help feeling the energy fairly pulsating in the generous frame.

"Well, as far as I know I'm just as well as when I was 14. Both my mother and father lived till they were 85, and I had one uncle on my father's side who lived to be 102."

The era of the pioneer woman has passed, but her spirit still remains. From cradles to mowing machines, from tallow dips to electricity, from oxen to airplanes—and through it all an indomitable courage, a happy philosophy and a serene contentment. For Mrs. Mary Kelly, "the labour of constant work was and is a labour of love for which posterity is laid under an inestimable obligation."



Sanctuary Park, Port Elgin, Ontario

Mrs. T. Kelly Passes Away in 96th Year

There passes away on Friday, March 16, after a brief illness, the last member of one of Saugeen's pioneer families in the person of Mrs. Theo. Kelly, in her 96th year.

Born Mary McPhee, April 2, 1855, on con. 6 Saugeen, she was the daughter of Annie McGillivray and Donald McPhee who a short time previously had arrived in Canada from Tobermory, in the Island of Mull, Scotland.

At the age of two years she moved with her family to con. 12 Bruce, receiving her education in S. S. No. 13.

At the time of her marriage to Theophilus Kelly, on December 28, 1876, she returned to Saugeen where she lived the reminder of her days.

To this union were born 12 children, six of whom survive to mourn the passing of a wonderful mother . . . also 20 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren. Her husband pre-deceased her in 1906.

She had a deeply devout Christian character, and took a very active part in all phases of church work as long as her health permitted. No appeal for food, clothing or the work of her hands was ever turned from her door.

She gave unsparingly to every call and her many deeds of neighbourly and Christian kindness will live long in the hearts of a wide circle of friends. For years she was a member of the Presbyterian Church and later of the St. Andrews United Church of Canada and a lifetime member of the W.M.S.

The funeral was held from the Davey Funeral Home in Port Elgin to Sanctuary Park Chapel on Monday, March 19th, 1951.

BRUCE COUNTY STRAYS - 1941/42

Victoria Daily Colonist, Victoria, BC

Compiled by: Leona Taylor

November 24, 1940, 8 - died recently at Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario, Thomas Pye, brother of Miss Mary Pye and brother-in-law of WL Elliott, both of whom reside in Victoria this winter.

December 3, 1940, 6 - died accidentally December 1, near his Beverly Hills, California home, Alan S Butchart, younger brother of RP Butchart, and father of Alan Butchart, of Victoria. Also leaves wife, 2 other sons, and a daughter, all in US. [Bruce County, Ontario]

February 6, 1941, 3 - died suddenly on the Uplands golf course, Oak Bay, BC, Marshall R Pearce, 71, of Oak Bay. Born in Oxford County, Ontario, he came here 30 years ago from Chesley, Bruce County, Ontario. He was a jeweller and operated a shop on Government Street for many years. Leaves widow, Janet, 2 daughters. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

March 18, 1941, 13 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Angus Galbraith, 72, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, he taught there before coming to Victoria 49 years ago. He began teaching in 1892 at Cadboro Bay, on the present site of the Uplands golf course. There were only 40 pupils to be found between Cadboro Bay and Oak Bay junction. After serving there he taught in North Saanich, then North Ward School. He left teaching for business, and was later invited by then premier, HC Brewster, to joining the BC Finance Department... He leaves widow, daughter, son. Colwood

April 13, 1941, 3 - died April 11 at Victoria, BC, Flora Jane Clark, 78, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident of BC 32 years. Leaves husband, William Franklin Clark, 3 daughters, son, 3 brothers [McNeill], sister. Colwood

May 9, 1941, 6 - died May 7 at Victoria, BC, Duncan McIntyre, 76, born in Tiverton, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 2 years. Leaves widow, 5 sons, 3 daughters. Colwood

June 13, 1941, 5 - died June 11 at Victoria, BC, Russell Edgar Brown, 61, born at Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario. Leaves daughter, Mrs ME Park, brother, Harold.

June 22, 1941, 5 - Found drowned recently at Bowker Creek, Oak Bay, BC, Miss Florence Bell, born in Glamis, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here one year. Remains forwarded to Kincardine, Ontario.

July 8, 1941, 3 - died July 5 at Victoria, BC, Mrs Mae Florence Stewart, 66, born in Kincardine, Bruce County, Ontario. Widow of Angus J Stewart, she leaves son, sister, Miss Hurley [at Goderich, Ontario]. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

July 16, 1941, 3 - died suddenly yesterday at Victoria, BC, George Ernest Mason, 70, born in Allenford, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 13 years, and for many years at Vancouver. Leaves widow, 3 sons, 2 daughters, siblings. He was a member of Loyal Orange Assn.

August 28, 1941, 5 - died yesterday at Victoria, BC, Miss Annie Elizabeth Coffey, 56, born at Tara, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 30 years. Leaves 4 brothers: Thomas, Bert, Edward, Fred; and 5 sisters... Pallbearers: AG Lewis, Major AE Christie, Cecil Lewis, Gordon Murray. Family plot, R 097/098 E M.

August 29, 1941, 3 - funeral of Mrs Ellen Matthews, who died August 27 at Victoria, BC, to be at Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC. She was born in Bruce County, Ontario, resided here 40 years. She leaves husband, Ambrose F Matthews, 2 sons, 2 daughters, 3 sisters [Miss Ethel Craig, Wiarton].

November 28, 1941, 3 - died November 26 at Victoria, BC, Captain Albert William

Busselle, 69, born at Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario he came here 16 years ago from Calgary, Alberta. A veteran of the Great War. Leaves widow, Mabel, 5 daughters. Cremate

February 10, 1942, 13 - died February 8 at Victoria, BC, Mrs Esther Campbell, 63, born at Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 3 years. Leaves widower, Dr Peter McGregor Campbell, daughter, 4 brothers [Scott]. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

April 1, 1942, 11 - photo, RP Butchart, celebrates 85th birthday [Bruce County, Ontario]

Died May 21, 1942 at Victoria, BC, Agnes Eaket, 78, born in Mildmay, Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 28 years, and for many years resident of Boissevain, Manitoba. Widow of Charles Eaket she leaves to mourn 2 daughters: Mrs H C Martin and Mrs J Russell Robinson; 3 sons, William D, John B and James A. Buried at Boissevain.

Died July 17, 1942 at Victoria, BC, Florence M Bowman, 71, born in Paisley, Bruce County, Ontario. Beloved wife of Charles B, she also leaves son, Capt A F P Bowman, overseas, daughter, and a sister in Paisley. Royal Oak Burial Park, Saanich, BC

Died April 27, 1943 at Victoria, BC, James King, 79, born in Bruce County, Ontario, resident here 32 years. Leaves widow, 2 sons, 4 daughters.

News from the Bruce County Archives

Ann-Marie Collins, Archivist

Sue Schlorff, Archival Assistant

Deb Sturdevant, Archival Assistant



Krug Photo Inventory on collections.brucemuseum.ca

Bruce and Howard Krug of Chesley, Ontario were avid historians, and they enjoyed travelling across Bruce and Grey counties and surrounding areas. Everywhere they went, from about 1923 to 2002, they recorded what they saw, likely knowing that their photographs would demonstrate the changes and developments in the area over the years. In 2014, the Bruce Krug estate donated their photograph collection of over 22,000 negatives. Thankfully, Bruce Krug wrote on each negative envelope a short description of each image within the envelope. With the help of Archives Volunteers, we have created an inventory of these images.

The inventory is now available to view in the Museum's [Online Collections](https://collections.brucemuseum.ca).

To find the inventory:

- a) In the Keyword Search Box type "negative photographs."
- b) Click on the title "Krug series 4, file 7 – Negative photographs"
- c) In the "Finding Aid and Transcription Links" section, part way down the page, you will see links to the inventory: one is sorted chronologically, in the order in which the Krugs took the photographs; the other is sorted by place.
- d) The other link in that section will lead you to view the photographs that have been scanned and placed online – about 30 sets of negatives, with at least 700 images. (These will also appear in the results list when you search "negative photographs" in the keyword search box).

To date, about 700 images have been scanned, dating from 1960 to 1980. They include images of log buildings, churches, schools, lighthouses, other historic buildings, auctions, people, Chesley Fall Fair, baseball, scenes along the Bruce Trail, and more!

Online Collections Tips

If you are looking for a particular person, try using the [Term Search page](#) (in the top menu bar). In the "People" section, you will find an alphabetical list of all the people associated with records currently online. Click on the person to see a list of items known to contain that person's name or information about the person.

New Additions to Research Room Military Shelves

We have recently added the following military-themed books to the Research Room shelves:

- a) "My Brother Graham" by M. Jean (Shouldice) Kelly "A tribute to one of the WWII Spitfire pilots;"
- b) "Tara Boys Off to War: Ernie and Dunc McDougald in World War One" by Jane Beer and Susan Bolan;
- c) "Nobody Ever Wins a War: The World War 1 Diaries of Ella Mae Bongard, R.N." edited by Eric Scott;
- d) "Loyalist Spy" by Mary Beacock Fryer; and
- e) "Lest We Forget: 161st Battalion of Huron."

Bruce County Archives Hours

Summer hours are in effect until the end of October 2017. The Research Room is open Monday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please check brucemuseum.ca for holiday hours and call ahead if you are planning to view items stored in the archival storage area. The Bruce County Archives is part of the Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre, 33 Victoria Street, Southampton, Ontario, 519-797-2080, ext. 129.

Excerpt from a letter submitted by a grateful patron of the Research Room:

"...I came to the Archives hoping to learn something about my grandparents. I not only learned more than I could ever have expected, I learned about their parents and grandparents back to the arrival in

Bruce County of my Great Great Grandfather. I was overwhelmed. In the short time I spent with you (Sue Schlorff) and Helen (Wuerth) I learned more about my ancestors than I had ever known, and a hundred fold what I expected to learn when I set out on my drive to North Bruce....I want both of them to know how helpful they were, and the value I received from the effort and resources that go into the Archives..."

Bruce County Genealogical Society-2017

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Newsletter

The newsletter is published quarterly: February, May, August, November. Articles of interest may be submitted for inclusion and should give credit to the original source.

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