

Coming home to the country

Having been raised in a small village in England, the pleasures and values of small community living have been deeply ingrained. Recently moving to Shedden has, in a sense, brought me home.

At the tender age of 16, I moved to Toronto and although I grew to love that great city, I always found a peaceful, serene feeling whenever my travels led me to the countryside. After many enjoyable years in the big smoke, my next stop was St. Thomas, and once again, although there was much offered, deep down, it never really felt like home.

Now at the end of each work day, I leave the bright lights of London far behind and rest my weary bones in a place from my childhood.

Other than the Rosy Rhubarb festival in June and Shedden Fair in August, Shedden is a relatively quiet country village with a sunny disposition that welcomes all that travel through.

Centered around the 'Red and White' grocery store, the community thrives on stable family values and a willingness to volunteer time and talents to help neighbors.

Having one's roots in such a tranquil setting helps push aside the stresses and complications that city dwelling can create. The early morning air seems fresher, crisper and cleaner in the lungs. A walk with

the dogs through country paths brings back childhood memories or romps through farmers' fields and a closeness to mother earth. The days are filled with purposeful events, unhurried, and always carried out with a warm smile, a nod of the head, and the use of a person's first name. Home cooked meals have that hearty, country baked satisfaction that a day of fresh air and hard work deserve.

As evening falls, an owl's hooting and a deep darkness, lit only by a far off star, lead the body to a more restful night's sleep.

There is something soothing and basic to our nature that makes living in a small country community seem like it was our creator's intended purpose.

This is a community that cares about the quality of life being delivered to its members and the future generation. It's a community where families can rely on one another to better the quality of services and programs and lend a hand without expectations of gratitude. It's a welcoming place where those that share the same values, congregate, and unwrap a piece of life that is savored and cherished.

I have come full circle in my life and once again feel a stability and sense of belonging.

In the short time I have lived here, I have come to appreciate Shedden and all those who make it a special place, even home.



**NIGEL
HOTTON**

Shedden dealt progress's blow

Michael Troughton's column, *A crippling blow to the rural lifestyle* (March 8), examines extremely well the effects of municipal restructuring on rural residents.

The following shows cost savings to Southwold Township by eliminating the police force of Shedden. It will save the taxpayers exactly \$750 (three village trustees' honorariums at \$250 each — less than a cup of coffee a day for a year).

The additional tax levy added to regular township taxes for Shedden remains to pay for such things as snow plowing, street signs, street lights, some road and street maintenance, sidewalk maintenance or construction and vandalism, but now controlled by the township.

The bottom line for Shedden taxpayers is they will save \$750, but lose control over the spending of their taxes for the village. Now their taxes will go into the township's general revenues and any improvements for the village will be at the behest of township council.

Is this progress or what? I don't need the aggravation.

R. C. LOWE
Village trustee
Shedden

Shedden W. I.
Tweedsmuir History
Dora McArthur -
Curator
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opinioneditorial

Buckwheat herb at base of welcome

We don't know how Shedden does it, but Shedden always does it right.

While many weekend events at Elgin suffered from poor weather and a full schedule of special ventures vying for attention, the tiny, rural west Elgin community of Shedden was chalk full of activities, events and people.

People everywhere.

A four-person wide, block-long line-up waited patiently to gain entrance into the United Church for a casserole dinner. Cars were parked three deep as shoppers took advantage of a village-wide yard sale. There was a teen dance, BBQ, bake contest, raffle, celebrity rhubarb eating contest, rides, games, antique car and tractor show, music, walking tours, and the Bethany United Church anniversary service.

It was Shedden's annual Rosy Rhubarb Days festival last weekend, arguably the largest rhubarb fest in Canada, and businesses, residents and surrounding rural residents and farmers participated in the only way Shedden knows how to participate: throttle to the ground, full speed ahead and everybody onboard.

What is the key to their success? One-hundred per cent participation. Everybody buys a ticket and rides the train. As hosts, there isn't another village of its size that bids all such a warm welcome. It's "hi neighbor" from one end of the village to the other.

Shedden's Rosy Rhubarb Days — in honor of that sometimes maligned perennial herb, a member of the buckwheat family — could serve as a model of all that's good about community festivals: whole-hearted involvement.

S. Mc.

SCHOOL FAIRS

School Fairs are a thing of the past, but school exhibits are still very much a part of Shedden Fair.

Filed in the Tweedsmuir History is a copy of a Rural School Fair list for Elgin County 1939. Southwold Township School Fair was held in Shedden at the Shedden Fair Grounds which was then situated at the end of Francis Street on the West Side of the Street and next to the Railroad.

In the early 1930's Payne's Mills was the site of the Fair, and it was an eventful day that remains in one's memory. In the Spring, packets of seeds arrived at the school and the pupils made the choice of one packet of seeds for a flower and vegetable. These were to be planted in the family garden, tended during the growing season and the results shown at the fair. We went in the morning to place our exhibits and at noon we were served lunch by the Payne's Mill Women's Institute (I presume). This was in the old Hall which has long since disappeared because it sat beside # 3 Highway, with little distance separating them. I remember the lunch as consisting of a salad plate decorated with parsley, and I venture to say that very few children now would even think of eating it but in our generation you ate what was set before you and most kids would eat anything.

After lunch was a program consisting of music & probably speaking contests. I remember vividly standing on that high platform at the front of the hall and singing a solo, unaccompanied, entitled "The Old Black Crow" Duncan Turner, Beth Vicary's father was the judge and I know I didn't win anything and I don't remember what the judge's remarks were. The only practice I had was picking out the tune on the piano at school and then singing it to myself while walking home from school.

After the Fair moved to Shedden Fair Grounds, our entire school prepared Choral numbers such as "Do ya ken John Peel at the break of Day" etc. We stood on a wagon to perform these miracles. We also demonstrated a game. I forget what it was called, but a bright bandana was placed on a piece of wood in the centre and two sides of players were in a line some distance from the target. I think we must have had number, and when your number was called, you ran to the centre to retrieve the bandana and run back to your place. - Maybe it was called Run, Sheep Run. My number was called and at that time I was one of the

"Little Kids" and my opponent happened to be one of the "Big Boys". Away I went and even with my short legs I got the Target and I can remember the onlookers laughing.

I don't remember when the School Fairs became a thing of the past and were amalgamated with the local fairs, but I know when I go the the Fair now I don't have to sing!!!!

Dora McArthur,
Curator
Tweedsmuir History
Shedden W.I.

14. **FLOWERS**—When exhibiting flowers for competition select specimens of good form, with foliage free from blemish caused by insects or disease. The stem should be long and stiff, with large clean foliage. Select the exact number of blooms called for in each class. Colours should be of a harmonious nature. Supports or use of string is not permitted, and flowers must be exhibited in pint or quart sealers and not in fancy vases.
15. **LIVE STOCK**—Select animals of good type. Have them well groomed and trained.
16. **POULTRY**—Select good type, large-sized birds with plenty of constitution and vigour.

1939 Special Prizes

Through their interest and generosity the T. Eaton Co., Limited, are offering the following prizes, in the competitive classes, at each Rural School Fair, in the Province of Ontario, 1939:—

To the high boy a book entitled, "Birds of Canada," by P. A. Taverner.

To the high girl a book entitled, "The Arts," by Hendrick Willem Van Loon.

The certificates of honour will be discontinued.

Dates of Fall Fairs in Elgin County, 1939

September 19th and 20th.....	Springfield
September 20th.....	Shedden
September 25th, 26th and 27th.....	Aylmer
September 28th.....	Belmont
September 28th and 29th.....	Wallacetown
October 2nd and 3rd.....	Rodney

Public School Inspectors for Elgin County

Mr. J. C. Smith, St. Thomas

All Elgin County with the exception of South Dorchester.

Mr. D. G. Smith, London

For South Dorchester.

Programme for the Day

Under the Direction of the Ontario Department of Agriculture

9:00—10:00 a.m.—Placing of exhibits. Teachers register with Secretary.
 10:00 a.m.—Judging of Competitive Classes commences promptly.
 11:00 a.m.—Judging of Poultry—Judge's reasons. Poultry Culling Demonstrations by Poultry Judge.
 12:00 noon—Lunch.

12:45 p.m.—Judging of Live Stock and Showmanship Classes.

1:30—1:45 p.m.—Reasons by judges on placing of competitive classe.

1:45—1:50 p.m.—Address—"Revised School Fair Policy"—Agricultural Representative.

Under the Direction of the Ontario Department of Education

9:00—11:00 a.m.—Arranging of Non-Competitive School Exhibits.
 10:30 a.m.—Demonstration of School Games and Sports.
 12:00 noon—Lunch.

1:50—1:55 p.m.—Address, "The New School Fair Policy In Relation to the New Curriculum"—Public School Inspector.

2:00—3:00 p.m.—Opening Exercises (Strathcona, parade and group singing).

3:00—3:30 p.m.—Inspection of School Exhibits under direction of the teachers.

3:30—4:00 p.m.—Exhibits open to the general public.

4:00 p.m.—Exhibits may be removed.

RURAL SCHOOL FAIR PRIZE LIST

for

Elgin County

1939

Conducted under the management of the Elgin County Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and the Ontario Department of Education, with the co-operation of the Public School Inspectors, Teachers, and the Local School Boards



PLACES AND DATES

of School Fairs in Elgin County, in 1939

Township	Place	Date
Southwold—Shedden	Fair Grounds.....	Thursday, September 7th
Bayham—Stratfordville	Township Hall.....	Friday, September 8th
South Dorchester—Lyons	Township Hall.....	Monday, September 11th
Malahide—Aylmer	Fair Grounds.....	Thursday, September 14th
Yarmouth—Yarmouth	Centre.....	Friday, September 15th
Aldborough—Rodney	Fair Grounds.....	Monday, September 18th
Dunwich—Dutton	Skating Rink.....	Friday, September 22nd

HON. P. M. DEWAN
Minister of Agriculture

HON. L. J. SIMPSON
Minister of Education

F. S. THOMAS
Agricultural Representative

J. C. SMITH

Inspector of Public Schools

B. W. SMITH
Assistant Representative

D. G. SMITH

Inspector Public Schools

MILDRED CHEESMAN
Secretary

Shedden
Tweedsmuir History
Dora McArthur - Curator
April, 1997

1939 Prize List

Competitive Classes

SECTIONS A TO F (Inclusive)

Under the Supervision of the Ontario Department of Agriculture

SECTION A—CORN, ROOTS AND VEGETABLES

(To be from Seed supplied by the Department of Agriculture in 1939 and pupils may make entry in ONLY ONE of the classes listed in Section A.)

(Collection of products from any but the home farm or grounds is contrary to the Regulations of the Fair.)

Class

1. Field Corn, Golden Glow—6 ears.
2. Sweet Corn, Golden Bantam—6 ears.
3. Mangels, Giant White Sugar—3 roots.
4. Onions, Yellow Globe Danvers—5 onions.
5. Parsnips, Hollow Crown—3 parsnips.
6. Turnips, Perfect Model—3 turnips.
7. Beets, Detroit Dark Red—6 beets.
8. Carrots, Chantenay—6 carrots.
9. Soy Beans, O.A.C., 211—1 quart.

Prizes—1st 40c; 2nd 35c; 3rd 30c; 4th 25c; 5th 20c; 6th 15c.

SECTION B—GRAIN AND POTATOES

(To be from Home Farm, and pupils may exhibit in as many classes in Section B as they wish. It is strongly recommended, however, that pupils emphasize quality rather than number of exhibits.)

(Collection of products from any but the home farm or grounds is contrary to the Regulations of the Fair.)

10. Oats, any white variety.
11. Quart Barley, any variety.
12. Quart Winter Wheat, any variety.
13. Sheaf Oats, any variety, not less than 2 inches in diameter at upper band.
14. Sheaf Barley, any variety, not less than 2 inches at upper band.
15. Sheaf Winter Wheat, any variety, not less than 2 inches at upper band.
16. Potatoes, Dooley—6 tubers.
17. Potatoes, Irish Cobblers—6 tubers.

Prizes—1st 40c; 2nd 35c; 3rd 30c; 4th 25c; 5th 20c; 6th 15c.

SECTION C—APPLES

(To be from home farm and pupils may make entry in only one of the classes listed in Section C.)

(Collection of products from any but the home farm is contrary to the Regulations of the Fair.)

18. Northern Spy—5 apples.
19. McIntosh—5 apples.
20. Snow—5 apples.
21. Rhode Island Greening—5 apples.

Prizes—1st 40c; 2nd 35c; 3rd 30c; 4th 25c; 5th 20c; 6th 15c.

SECTION D—FLOWERS

(Except where otherwise specified, exhibits must be from Seed supplied by the Department of Agriculture, in 1939, and pupils may make an entry in only one of the classes listed in Section D.)

(Collection of products from any but the home farm or grounds and exhibiting same is contrary to the Regulations of the Fair.)

22. Asters—6 blooms.
23. Zinnias—6 blooms.
24. Cosmos—10 blooms.
25. African Marigolds—8 blooms.
26. Verbena—12 heads.
27. French Marigolds—8 blooms.
28. Coreopsis—12 blooms.
29. Petunia—10 stems.
30. Gaillardia—6 blooms.
31. Scabiosa—6 stems.
32. Dahlia—to be from Home Garden—4 blooms.
33. Gladioli—to be from Home Garden—6 spikes.

NOTE.—All flowers must be shown in PINT or QUART sealers and not in fancy vases. Exhibits with any other than the proper number of blooms or stems will be disqualified.

Prizes—1st 40c; 2nd 35c; 3rd 30c; 4th 25c; 5th 20c; 6th 15c.

SECTION E—LIVE STOCK

(All live stock must have been born on or after January 1st, 1939. Calves should be halter broken and must be exhibited by the pupil. Lambs should be shown without rope or halter. All live stock must be on the grounds by 12.00 noon.)

(Collection of animals from any but the home farm and exhibiting same is contrary to the Regulations of the Fair.)

34. Calf—Beef type, grade or purebred steer or heifer, or purebred bull.
35. Calf—Dairy type, heifer, grade or purebred.
36. Lamb—Ewe or wether, for market preferably about 90 lbs.; must be docked.
37. Lamb—Ewe, breeding type; must be docked.
(Separate Lamb required for each class)

Prizes—1st \$1.00; 2nd 75c; 3rd 60c; 4th 50c; 5th 40c; 6th 35c.

38. Showmanship of Calf—Prizes will be awarded to the exhibitor showing the most skill in the ring and having the best trained, groomed and fitted calf. All preparation or training for the Fair must be done by the exhibitor.

Prizes—1st 40c; 2nd 35c; 3rd 30c.

SECTION F—POULTRY

(Birds from home farm to be exhibited, and all birds exhibited must have been born in 1939. Pupils will be allowed to exhibit a Pullet and Cockerel from only one of the following two breeds, and entries must be held by exhibitor during judging.)

39. Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerel—bred-to-lay strain.
40. Barred Plymouth Rock Pullet—bred-to-lay strain.
41. White Leghorn Cockerel.
42. White Leghorn Pullet.

Prizes—1st 50c; 2nd 45c; 3rd 40c; 4th 35c; 5th 30c; 6th 25c.

Non-Competitive Classes

SECTIONS G TO K (Inclusive)

Under the supervision of the Ontario Department of Education

J. C. SMITH

D. G. SMITH

Public School Inspectors

Shedden W. I.
Tweedsmuir History
Curator, Dora McArthur
April 1997

READ YOUR PRIZE LIST

SECTION G—SCHOOL EXHIBITS

It is expected that each rural school, or room, in the case of graded schools, will arrange a school exhibit to cover at least one of the following subjects:

Health, English, Social Studies, Natural Science, Art, Crafts, Home Economics and Agriculture.

These exhibits will be arranged by the teacher and pupils and are intended to be a display, demonstration, or an achievement of school work.

These exhibits will not be judged. A tour of exhibits will be arranged during the afternoon. It is suggested that a teacher or a senior pupil be in charge of each exhibit and give a short explanation.

Where a tent is used, the minimum display space for the school exhibit will be five feet in length. More space will be available in halls where there is greater table space. A collapsible background should be used for each table in order that the exhibits may be attractively displayed. The number of the school section and the name of the township should be printed at the top of the background.

Backgrounds are now available at the Agricultural Office in St. Thomas, and the price is forty cents (40c). It is necessary to call for these before school closes in June.

The teacher and three or four of the senior pupils should be responsible for setting up the school exhibit, during the period from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., which should be artistically arranged on the background and on the table space.

Opening Exercises—2:00 p.m.

SECTION H—PARADE

Each school should line up behind the school banner and march in order of School Section numbers once or twice around the parade ground, and come to a halt in line facing the audience. No uniforms or fancy dresses will be required for the parade. At this point the flag salute should be given, followed by "The National Anthem" and "The Maple Leaf Forever". Teachers are requested to train their schools in singing these selections in order that all the schools may sing together.

SECTION I—STRATHOONA EXERCISES

Schools will take up an extended formation for the strathoona Exercises to be done in unison. Teachers are requested to instruct their pupils in the following exercises: Feet astride placing, page 39; Foot placing forward, page 40; Lunging outward, page 41; Arm stretching sideways, page 46; Arm stretching upward, arm stretching forward, page 47; Heel raising and knee full bending, page 50; Trunk bending downward to grasp one ankle, page 60; Syllabus of Physical Training for Schools.

SECTION J—GROUP SINGING

Following the Physical exercises and school yells, if desired, the schools will close up in mass formation for school choruses under the direction of a music supervisor. Teachers are requested to have their schools practice "Golden Slumbers", page 80, and "The Bugle Horn", page 81, New Canadian Song Series, in order that the schools may sing together.

SECTION K—GROUP GAMES

Teachers are requested to select one game and practise in order that a demonstration of modern school games may be given.

Rules and Regulations

Read the Prize List carefully.

No booth will be allowed on the grounds without the permission of the management.

No entry fee will be charged, and admission is free to all.

- Any person found guilty of wilfully breaking the rules of the Fair will forfeit all prize money won in all classes.
- Competition is open to all school children in public school and also those who have passed their entrance in 1939.
- Anyone not understanding how prizes are awarded is urgently requested to inquire of the Manager or Judge before exhibits are removed.
- Only one entry is to be made in any one class and a pupil may enter only one class in any Section other than Section B—Grain and Potatoes; Section E—Live Stock; and Section F—Poultry.
- The Summary of Awards will be mailed to the School Teacher, by the Department of Agriculture, as soon as possible, after the Fair, and the Secretary-Treasurer of the local School Board will pay the prize money to the pupils or teacher.
- Except where otherwise specified, exhibits must be the product of seed supplied to the schools by the Department of Agriculture in 1939, and must be from the Home Farm. The collection of products from any but the home farm or grounds, and exhibiting of the same is contrary to the Regulations.

Hints to Exhibitors

- Teachers, Pupils and Parents should read the Prize List very carefully and see that you know what is called for in each Class. Be on time and have your exhibits ready so that we may follow out our program.
- CORN**—Select proper number of ears. See that they are uniform in size and length, rows of kernels straight, and well filled at tip and butt. Remove husks.
- MANGELS**—Select required number of good size and all of the same shape and free from damage. Do not exhibit coarse, rough roots. Trim off tops.
- TURNIPS**—Select required number of smooth, medium sized roots for table use. Trim off tops and roots.
- BEETS**—Select required number of smooth, medium sized roots for table use. Trim off tops and roots.
- CARROTS**—Should be of uniform size and shape, free from sunburn. Not too large, but true to type of variety. Cut off tops.
- ONIONS**—Select good sized onions with thin necks. Do not peel.
- PARSNIPS**—Uniform in size, smooth, straight. Cut off tops.
- SOY BEANS**—Shell out about one quart of beans from the most mature plants and select one pint of the most uniform mature beans.
- GRAIN**—Take a gallon of threshed grain, and spread out on a table and look over carefully. Pick out all broken, green or diseased kernels, chaff, straw, or any dirt or weed seeds.
- SHEAVES**—Select from crop a larger amount of heads than is really called for. The stalks should be the longest, best filled and brightest. Strip off dead leaves and tie tightly in a neat sheaf, having heads and butts even. Do not cut sheaf short, but leave full length of straw.
- POTATOES**—Do not scrub or wash. Select proper number. See that they are of the same size and shape; of medium size and free from scab, bruises, or diseases of any kind.
- APPLES**—Select the correct number of uniformly sized apples, well coloured for the variety, free from bruises, scab, worm holes, etc. Leave stems on and polish.

Shedden W. I.
Tweedsmuir History
Dora McArthur - Curator
April 1997

**SHEDDEN'S
ROSY RHUBARB DAYS
JUNE 11, 12, 13, 1993**

ABOUT RHUBARB:

There probably isn't a garden in Canada that doesn't have a patch of rhubarb tucked away somewhere in a corner.

Rhubarb grows especially well in Canada's climate. It never fails to burst out of the ground every year with it's prolific long, red stalks and great poisonous leaves.

Rhubarb used to be called "pie plant". It retains its' freshness in the freezer more successfully than any other fruit. After it is baked it tastes exactly as it does when taken from the garden. Don't thaw it before baking, though!

Pink or Red rhubarb is supposed to taste bitter.

When baking fresh rhubarb scald with boiling water and let stand 15 minutes. This will reduce the acid taste.



"HI"
I'M ROSY
AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD
TO SEEING YOU
REAL SOON

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur, Curator
April, 1994

FOOD SERVICES

**BALL PARK -COMMUNITY CENTRE BOOTH
(DURING TOURNAMENT HOURS ONLY)**

**FAIR GROUNDS - TEXAS STAR CAFE BAR-B-QUE
(10:00 AM - 6:00 PM - SATURDAY)
(10:00 AM - 4:00 PM - SUNDAY)**

**OLD SCHOOL TEA ROOM - OPEN 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
HOT BUFFET : 5-7PM **

**BETHANY UNITED CHURCH - "CASSEROLE LUNCHEON"
SATURDAY ONLY 11:30 AM - 2:00 PM**

**THANKS FOR
YOUR SUPPORT**



ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

AGENDA

FRIDAY JUNE 11:

6:30 PM - SLO-PITCH TOURNAMENT (COMMUNITY PARK)

7:00 PM - HORSE & BUGGY RIDES
SPONSORED BY: "ONCE A TREE"

7:30 PM - OPENING CERIMONIES (OLD SCHOOL TEA ROOM)
Master of Ceremonies : JIM SWAN (CFPL-TV)
GUS LUNN AND FRIENDS COUNTRY BAND
WALT MILL MORRIS DANCERS
MAGIC OF JEREMY LOCKE

8:00 PM - TEEN DANCE (COUNTRY CLUB) AGES: 12 - 15 YEARS
ADMISSION: 1 LOONEY
** MUSIC SERVICES by KEN PARISH

NOTE: MOST BUSINESSES OPEN UNTIL 9:00 PM



SATURDAY JUNE 12:

8:00 AM - COMMUNITY YARD SALES

8:00 AM - SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT (COMMUNITY CENTRE)

8:00 AM - YOUTH SOCCER TOURNAMENT (SOCCER FIELDS)
AGES 12 & UNDER / AGES 8 & UNDER

9:00AM - TETHERED HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES (FAIR GROUNDS)
COURTESY OF: "YELLOW PAGES BY TELE-DIRECT"

9:00 AM - RHUBARB BAKING CONTEST (FIRE HALL)
PIES: sponsored by "PALMER'S RED & WHITE STORE"
MUFFINS: sponsored by "PALMER'S RED & WHITE STORE"



SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur, Curator
April, 1994

MUFFINS: sponsored by OLD SCHOOL TEA ROOM
SPECIAL DESSERTS: sponsored by "DOWN HOME DELI"

- 11:30 AM- REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE AT SHEDDEN COUNTRY CLUB
SPONSORED BY FINGAL OPTIMISTS
- 1:00 PM - RHUBARB BAKE GOODS AUCTION (FIRE HALL)
- 4:00 PM - LARGEST & LONGEST RHUBARB STALK CONTEST
SPONSORED AND HOSTED BY "VILLAGE PANTRY BOUTIQUE"
- 9:00 PM - COMMUNITY DANCE (COUNTRY CLUB)
MUSIC BY : "RAMBLIN' FEVER"
ADMISSION: \$8.00 EACH / \$15.00 PER COUPLE



SUNDAY JUNE 13:

*****GENERAL ADMISSION TO ALL EVENTS AT FAIR GROUNDS & COMMUNITY CENTRE ...\$5.00 PER PERSON / UNDER 12 YEARS FREE*****

- 8:00 AM - BREAKFAST (I.O.O.F. HALL)
- 9:00 AM - SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT (COMMUNITY PARK)
- 9:00 AM - "TETHERED" HOT AIR BALLOON RIDES (FAIR GROUNDS)
COURTESY OF "YELLOW PAGES by TELE-DIRECT"
- 11:00 AM- BETHANY UNITED CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SERVICE
- 11:00 AM- ANTIQUE CAR SHOW (SOCCER FIELD)
- 1:00 PM - MINI TRACTOR PULL (RACE TRACK)
- 3:00 PM - BEEF & PORK BAR-B-QUE (COUNTRY CLUB)
ADULTS: \$8.00 EACH
5 - 10 YEARS OLD: \$3.00 EACH



Under way

Rosy Rhubarb (alias Gary Carr) throws a ball to home plate to officially start the Rosy Rhubarb Days baseball tournament at the Shedden diamonds Friday evening. Twelve teams from Elgin County and London will play in the event, part of the village's first annual rhubarb festival activities. Dressed in the color for which she got her name and carrying a lovely, pink parasol, the official mascot says she may not be the prettiest Rosy through the years, but she's the first.

— (Staff photo
by Lynn Billard)

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur, Curator
April, 1994

Shedden Rosy Rhubarb Days great success

The first annual Rosy Rhubarb Days event was a huge success as many, many people flocked to Shedden under sunny skies on the weekend to get in on all the excitement.

To begin the schedule of events, Rosy Rhubarb herself was on hand to throw the first pitch at the ball diamond to start the Slo Pitch tournament on Friday evening.

Jim Swan (CFPL-TV) was master of ceremonies for the official opening held on the lawn of the Old School-House Tea Room when a program included Gus Lunn and Friends Country Band, Malt Mill Morris Dancers and Magic by Jeremy Locke. Horse and buggy rides were also available and a Teen Dance got underway at the Country Club.

On Saturday morning, bright and early, more than 25 families joined in the community yard sales, and the slo pitch tournament got underway as well as a soccer tournament for ages 12 and under, and 8 and under. Hot air balloon rides were also available at the fairgrounds.

Baking Contest

The Rhubarb Baking Contest began at 9 a.m. with 61 delicious looking entries arriving at the fire hall. Palmer's Red & White store sponsored the pies, the Old School-House Tea Room, muffins, and Down Home Deli, special desserts, all made with rhubarb, of course.

Winners were:

Double Crust Rhubarb Pie - Aileen Pyatt, first; Margie Carroll, second.

Muffins - Mary Brown, first;

Marg Silverthorn, second.

Rhubarb dessert - Sara Pennings, first; Tammy Matthews, second.

The baked goods were auctioned off at 1 p.m. with bids ranging all the way from \$5.00 to \$140 raising a total of about \$1200.

Stalk Contest

Village Pantry Boutique hosted and sponsored the Largest and Longest Rhubarb Stalk Contest which brought 25 entries.

Justin Drewitt of St. Thomas was the winner having a 39" stalk.

As visitors wandered in and out of the various business establishments, rhubarb was everywhere, as one could purchase muffins, a whole pie or a piece of pie, ice cream and a refreshment.

Saturday was brought to a close with a sold-out dance held at the Country Club with music provided by Ramblin Fever.

Sunday

Sunday's events got underway with breakfast in the I.O.O.F. Hall at 8 a.m. and the Bethany United Church Anniversary service at 11 a.m. An antique car show and a mini tractor pull were found at the fairgrounds in the afternoon as well as balloon rides once again. The beef and pork barbecue was also a sell-out.

All in all, it was a great weekend, which started with a small group of interested citizens getting together last fall to discuss promoting their small community. The money raised from the event will be used to improve recreational facilities.



SHEDDEN ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

1994



AND THE WINNER IS – Matthew Drewitt, St. Thomas, is pictured with his trophy and his entry, the largest and longest stalk of Rhubarb at Rosy Rhubarb Days. Also pictured are Rosy (Gary Carr) and Denise Riley who assisted in the contest, sponsored by Village Pantry Boutique.

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur - Curator
April 1995



SHEDDEN ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

1994



HOW MUCH AM I BID – The top three winners in each of the classes in the Rhubarb Baking contest raised a nice sum through an auction on Friday evening of Rosy Rhubarb Days in Shedden. Pictured from the left, are Jim McIntyre, committee member; John Smith, chairperson of the committee, Allan Brown, auctioneer, and Jim Swan (CFPL-TV), master of ceremonies of the program, showing some of his auctioneering skills here. Earlier in the program he borrowed a violin and joined the Country Cousins for a tune.



ENJOYABLE RIDES – Bob Lampman of Aylmer was seen all weekend taking visitors to Rosy Rhubarb Days for a tour of Shedden via the horse and buggy.

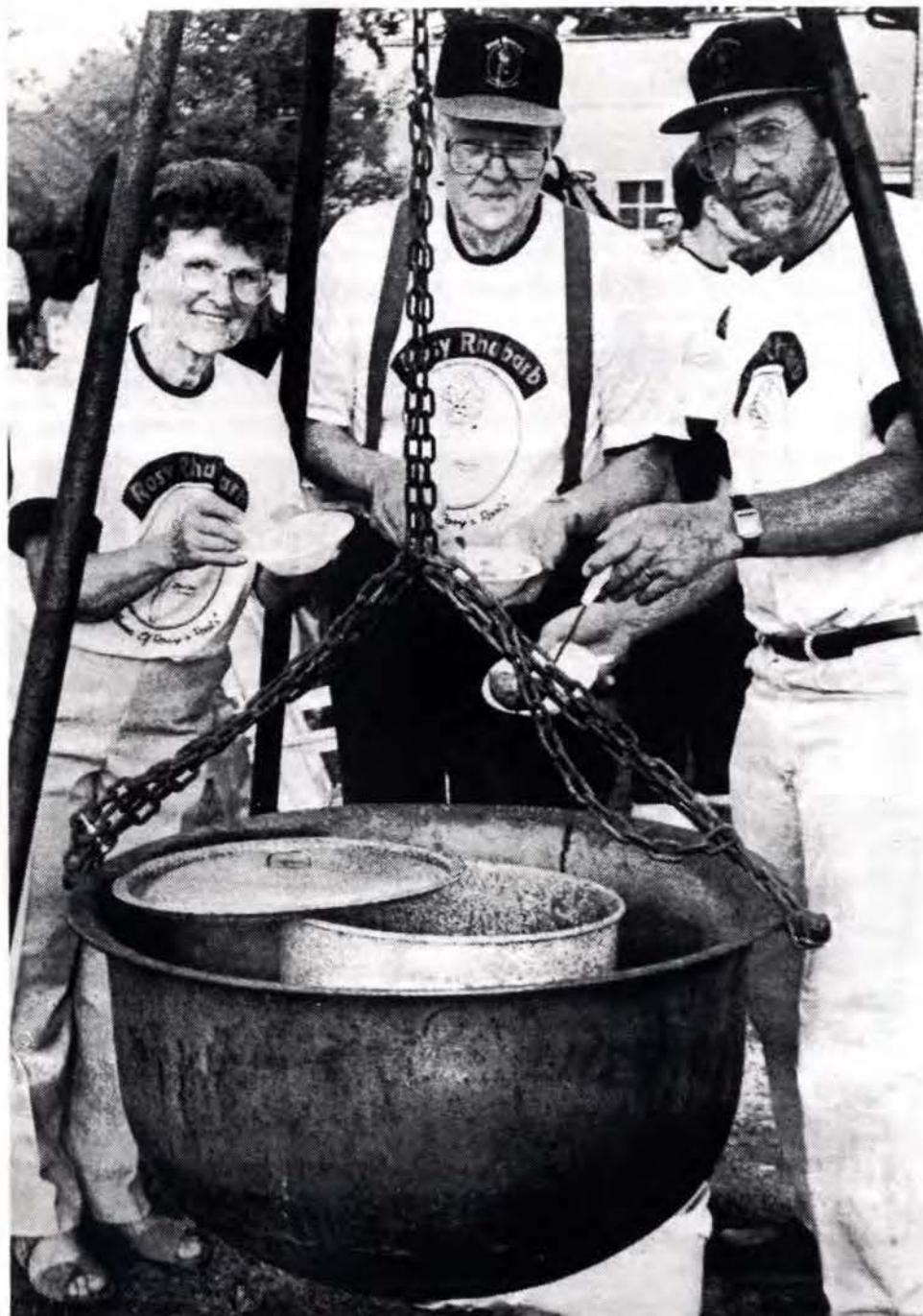
SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur
April 1995



SHEDDEN ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

1994

DUTTON ADVANCE--WEDNESDAY--JUNE 15--1994--PAGE 7



YUMMY RHUBARB SAUCE – Just one of the tantalizing desserts available in Shedden on the weekend. Rhubarb Sauce was heated in this huge pot in front of the Old School House Tea Room and poured over ice cream. Serving this dish were, from the left, Jean Palmer, Ralph Palmer and Keith Orchard, Rosy Rhubarb Committee members.

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur - Curator Apr.1995

(continued from page 1)

which included solo instrumental and vocal parts by the students. Ventriloquist Earl Litchfield entertained as well.

Horse and buggy rides were available and William's Klowns for Kids, Dutton, were on hand to paint faces.

Food Auction

Thirty-seven entries were made in the Rhubarb baking contest with three separate categories - pies, muffins and special desserts, sponsored by Palmers Bros. Red & White Store, Old School House Tea Room and Down Home Deli, respectively. The top three winning entries of each section were auctioned off by Allan Brown, auctioneer, at the close of the opening ceremonies, raising a total sum of \$331 for the committee. Bids ranged from \$20 to \$51 per item.

Winners were:

Pies - Margie Carroll, first; Alana Bogart, second; Sara Pennings, third.

Muffins - Beth Peternel, first; Tammy Matthews, second; Mary Brown, third.

Dessert - Aileen Pyatt, first; Marg Silverthorn, second; Jean McCallum, third.

The remaining entries were sold at a bake table.

Saturday morning got off to a good start with breakfast being served at the I.O.O.F. Hall and community yard sales sprung up throughout the hamlet. A flea market and craft tables were found as well. The Slo-Pitch tournament continued and a Youth Soccer tournament for ages 12 and under, and 8 and under, got underway.

A luncheon was served at Bethany United Church and food and refreshments were available, not to mention, rhubarb baking, jams, etc.

Stalk Contest

Village Pantry Boutique hosted and sponsored the Largest and Longest Rhubarb Stalk contest which brought 16 entries.

Matthew Drewitt of St. Thomas was the winner having a 40-1/2" stalk. His brother Justin (winner last year with 39" stalk) came in second with 40", followed by Tyler Orchard and Jody Pennings with 39-3/4" (a tie).

A dance rounded out Saturday's events to the music of The Traditions, held at the Country Club.

Sunday

Events got underway at 8 a.m. on Sunday with breakfast in the I.O.O.F. Hall and Bethany United Church anniversary service at 11 a.m. An antique car show was found at the fairgrounds. The Out-of-the-Field Tractor Pull got underway at 1 p.m. with a good number of entries and spectators. As well, Fingal met Shedden in Senior A Fastball with a double header.

The Beef and Pork B.B.Q. was also very successful.

All in all, it was a great weekend. It all started two years ago when a small group of interested citizens got together to discuss promoting their small community. The money raised from this event, which is expected to far surpass last year's \$5,000, will be used to improve recreational facilities.

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Dora McArthur - Curator
April 1995

Shedden holds successful Rosy Rhubarb Days

The second annual Rosy Rhubarb Days was another big success as a large number of people attended the event held in Shedden on the weekend. Sunny skies and warm temperatures greeted the many visitors Friday through Sunday with just a slight delay on Saturday afternoon when a thunderstorm quickly passed over the hamlet.

Rosy Rhubarb (alias Gary Carr) began the full schedule of events by throwing the first pitch to get the Slo Pitch tournament underway on Friday evening. This event ran through Saturday.

Opening Ceremonies

Prior to the official opening ceremonies, the Country Cousins provided some toe tapping music. Jim Swan (CFPL-TV) was master of ceremonies for the program held on the lawn of the Old School House Tea Room where a good crowd gathered on Friday evening.

Committee chairperson John Smith and Rosy Rhubarb spoke briefly, welcoming everyone. Greetings were expressed by M.P. Gar Knutson, M.P.P. Peter North, Warden Vane Chute and Southwold Reeve Hugh Lyle. Also introduced were 'Mayor' Ken Firby (94) and Harry Killins (in hospital).

Tiffany Conroy, Village Town Crier, who announced various events during the weekend, was introduced.

The Grade 8 Band from Southwold Public School, under the leadership of teacher Patti Letovsky, entertained with several jazz numbers

(continues)

ROSIE RHUBARB

YOU ARE MY ROSIE, MY ROSIE RHUBARB

SOME THINK YOU'RE SOUR

BUT I THINK YOU'RE SWEET.

JUST ADD SOME SWEETNER OR SOME SUGAR

AND THEN YOU'RE SWEET ENOUGH TO EAT.

THE OTHER NIGHT DEAR, AS I LAY SLEEPING,

I DREAMT I ATE YOU IN A PIE.

YOU WERE SO GOOD AND REALLY YUMMY,

AND I JUST HEAVED A GREAT BIG SIGH!

I LIKE YOU FRESH AND EVEN FROZEN,

IN A CAKE OR RHUBARB SAUCE,

AND WHEN I SHARE YOU WITH SOMEONE ELSE DEAR

IT MAKES ME VERY, VERY CROSS.

YOU CAN USE ME IN COOKIES OR EVEN MUFFINS
OR FRUIT LOAF TOO, WHATEVER YOU WISH.

AND WHEN I'M GROWING IN THE GARDEN

MANURE WILL PRODUCE A HEALTHY PATCH.

SHEDDEN W. I.
Dora McArthur - Curator
Apr. 1996



SHEDDEN ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

FRIDAY, JUNE 7th

BAKING CONTEST

Baking to be brought to the Fire Hall
between 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Judging at 3 p.m.
All entries become the property of the
Rosy Rhubarb Committee.

THREE CLASSES

- 2 CRUST PIE - Palmer Bros. Red & White
 - MUFFINS - Old School Tea Room
 - SPECIAL DESSERT - Down Home Deli
- Prizes (each class) 1st - \$25, 2nd - \$15, 3rd - \$10
Prize winning entries will be auctioned off at the
Opening Ceremonies and the remainder sold at a
Bake Table.

All Proceeds go to the Rosy Rhubarb Committee

p.m. - Opening Ceremonies

Master of ceremonies - **JIM SWAN** (BBS London TV)
Toe Tapping music with the Country Cousins
(Ray Schram & Gus Lunn) and friends (local talent
Charlie Farquharson - impersonator
Model T car rides, Local dignitaries
Auction of Afghan donated by Lydia Killins
Auction of prize winning baking

p.m. - TEEN DANCE at the Country Club

Music by the local group Black Lane
Admission \$1, for ages 12-15 years

SATURDAY, JUNE 8th

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. **Shedden Library Book Sale**
8:00 - a.m. - noon **Breakfast** (I.O.O.F. Hall)
8 a.m. - ? **Slo-pitch Tournament** (Community Grounds)

Soccer tournament at the Fair Grounds
(8 yrs. and under and 12 yrs. and under)

Yard Sales all over town, Vendors on Tea Room lawn
Village Walk-a-bouts, guides available at Shedden W.I. Info. booth
Skypix (a large balloon) will be taking pictures of village, people,
places around the town on Saturday and Sunday
sponsored by Carr's Shell, West Lorne, London, St. Thomas

RHUBARB EATING CONTEST
BILL'S KLOWNS FACE PAINTING

- Other booths selling Ice Cream & Rhubarb Sauce
- Rhubarb Cookbooks available in all the stores

- Food booths, vendors, rides, games at the Community Grounds
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Casserole Luncheon**, Bethany United Church
4:00 p.m. **Largest and Longest Rhubarb Stalk Contest**

Sponsored by Village Pantry Boutique
Largest Leaf of Rhubarb Contest
Sponsored by Dr. D. A. Monteith

Please leave stalks at the Village Pantry Friday or Saturday by 4 p.m.

9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. - **Dance at the Shedden Country Club**

Music by Country Classics with Joan Spalding
Tickets \$10 each, lunch served

*Dance tickets from committee members or
call Down Home Deli 764-2565*

11:00 p.m.

Draw for quilt and 3 cushions
proceeds to Rosy Rhubarb Committee

SUNDAY, JUNE 9th

8:00 a.m. - noon

Breakfast (I.O.O.F. Hall)

Skypix (a large balloon) will be taking pictures of
village, people, places will be around the town

10:00 a.m.

Antique Car and Tractor Show

11:00 a.m.

Bethany United Church Anniv. Service
Rev. Arlyce Schiebout

At the Fairgrounds/Community Grounds
Admission is a donation to Rosy Rhubarb Committee
(so please be generous)

Food booths, vendors, rides, games

1:00 p.m.

Bantam Fast Ball Game - Dutton vs. West Lorne

1:30 p.m.

Bill Sherry's Big Band Concert, St. Thomas

Clark Show Dogs from Blenheim will entertain during
intermission and after the concert

3:30 p.m.

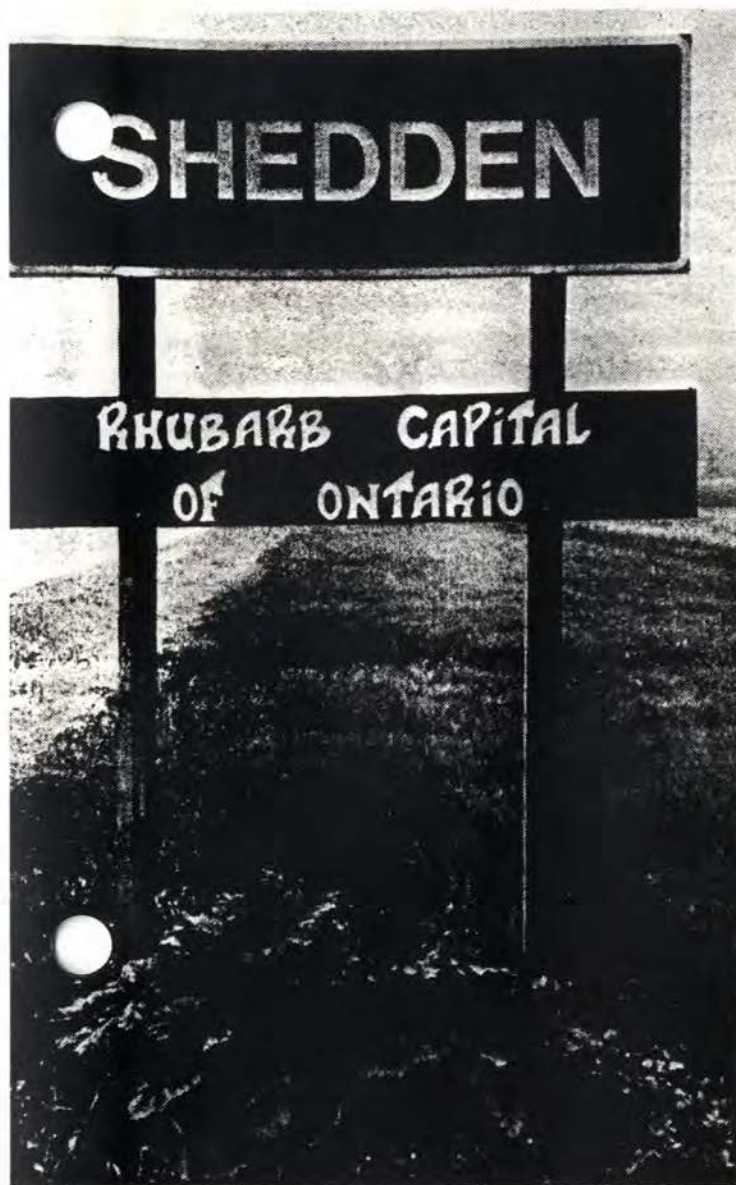
Beef & Pork Barbecue at the Country Club

Sponsored by the Shedden Fair Board

Tickets - Adults \$8, children 5-10 \$3

*Romantic Weekend at Benmiller Inn will be drawn at the barbecue.
For tickets contact Keith or Sandy Orchard.*

Many Thanks to all who helped with our week-end



ROSY RHUBARB DAYS



SHEDDEN COMMUNITY YARD SALE

SAT., JUNE 8 8 a.m. - ?

SUN., JUNE 9 9 a.m. - ?

LOTS OF OTHER EVENTS PLANNED
FOR THE WEEKEND

AT LEAST 25 to 30 FAMILIES
PARTICIPATING



NEW IN SHEDDEN

*Shop With Money
Made at the
Closet Exchange*

Buy and Sell
Quality Fashion
and
Accessories

764-2388



NATIVE
CRAFTS

Rosy Rhubarb says
'Loads of fun for Everyone'
during Shedden's
Rosy Rhubarb Days

BRING IN THIS AD FOR \$1.00 OFF
ANY SIZE PIZZA DURING
ROSY RHUBARB DAYS

**SHEDDEN VARIETY AND
PIZZA - 764-2721**

\$

\$

1996

The Village Pantry Boutique



Antiques, Gifts & Crafts
Shedden, Ont. - 764-2777

Dealer for Old Village Paint
Anne of Green Gables Collectables
Fabric, Craft Panels, Notions

**ROSY RHUBARB DAYS "SPECIALS"
THROUGHOUT THE STORE**

Sat., June 8th, 9-5 p.m. - Sun., June 9th, 10-5 p.m.

Bring your Rhubarb stalks to the Pantry to Enter the Contest
Friday or Saturday before 4 o'clock - Phone 764-2777

DOWN HOME DELI & BAKERY

142 Talbot Road
Hwy. #3
SHEDDEN
764-2565



Let your Guests Feast on the
HOMEMADE FLAVOUR
only we can provide!

**CATERERS FOR ALL
OCCASIONS
FOR ALL PEOPLE**

Large selection of Fresh Meats, Cheeses, Desserts
Rhubarb Jam, Jelly, Muffins, Loaves, Ice Cream
Desserts from our own Kitchen.

**RHUBARB CUSTARD &
DOUBLE CRUST Pies** **\$5.99**

(from prize winning recipe)

*Stop In And See Us
During Rosy Rhubarb Days*

Sponsors of the "Special Desserts" Category
in the Rhubarb Baking Contest



R.R. 3
SHEDDEN
764-2040
764-2183

*SEE US WHILE IN
SHEDDEN FOR*



*ROSY
RHUBARB
DAYS*