

Hammonds Plains Historical Society

Web Site: www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca

Facebook: Hammonds Plains Historical Society

Strategic Plan Update

During the spring and summer of 2014, our society created a 5 year plan to map out plans for future projects. In May of this year, we concluded this plan, with an official statement of progress for each of the stated goals . Highlights of our achievements during the past 5 years include:

- Reached 50+ in paid up memberships
- Completed 40+ Oral History Interviews
- Produced 5 Pamphlets and 10 posters outlining local history
- Received funding for and purchased display boards
- Purchased portable scanner and LCD projector
- Obtained storage closet at Hammonds Plains Community Center
- Researched and created presentation on 10+ topics

A complete progress report on our 5 year plan can be found on our web site, for those looking for more detail.

A new 5 year plan is currently being worked on. We have decided that strategies in the new plan will target the following areas:

- General Meetings
- Review of society resources, focusing of technology needs
- Relationship with Hammonds Plains Community Center
- Educating others on the History of Hammonds Plains
- Creation of Permanent Historical Display(s) in community
- Write a new publication document
- Increasing membership
- Editing of Oral History Videos
- Fund Raising

The plan will be presented to members once it is completed (early 2020).



Upcoming Presentations

November 26th (Cornerstone Wesleyan Church) – What's In A Name? – A Hammonds Plains Perspective (A Study of Hammonds Plains Names).

January 27th (Cornerstone Wesleyan Church) – A Decade of Hope – Hammonds Plains of the 1960's

March 30th (Hammonds Plains Community Center) - History of Kemptown



What was left of Wright's Mill in Kemptown – 1960's

May 25th (Cornerstone Wesleyan Church)– Our 10th Anniversary Celebration – Exploring our Oral History Project

Becoming a HPHS Member:

You can become a member of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society by filling out a registration form and e-mailing it to Dave Haverstock

(haverstockdave@gmail.com) or mailing to 1541 Hammonds Plains Road, Hammonds Plains, Nova Scotia B4B 1P6. **Annual fee is \$10.** Renewals don't need new forms.

Registration forms are available during one of our general meetings or by copying from our web site.

Hammonds Plains Historical Society Board of Directors – 2018-19

- **Dave Haverstock – President**
- **Cathy Munroe – Vice President**
- **Wayne Shellnutt – Treasurer**
- **Sandra MacLeod - Secretary**
- **Gail Stronach**
- **Ann MacLean**
- **Ted Misztela**
- **Nancy Boland**

Old Photos of Hammonds Plains

If you have old photos of the community, we would love to be able to scan them into our resource file. Please let us know if you would be interested in sharing them with us. Originals will be given back to you. E-mail Cathy Munroe at cathy_munroe@hotmail.ca, if you can help us out.

We are looking for pictures from the 1960's

For our upcoming presentation on 'Life in Hammonds Plains During the 1960's', we are looking for pictures that we can use in the presentation. Let us know if you know where we can get some.



English Corner 1969 – Did you know that the corner was once a haven for Lupine Flowers?

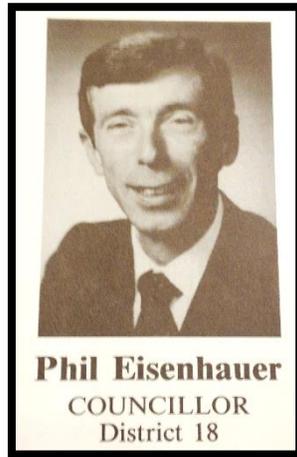
Hammonds Plains Historical Society presents 'Treasures of Neighbouring History Groups' in Bedford.



A Photo from August 27th when the Hammonds Plains Historical Society organized a display on Hammonds Plains History at Bedford's Scott Manor House.

Hammonds Plains Leaders of the Past

Phil Eisenhauer - 1944 - 1991



Several figures from our past had substantial impact on the growth of Hammonds Plains, despite only living relatively short lives. Phil Eisenhauer fits in that category, being only 47 years old when he passed away.

Phillip Melvin Eisenhauer was born in 1944, the son of Lawrence (better known as Melvin) & Ethel Eisenhauer. He was brought up in the house that stands to-day, at 2095 Hammonds Plains Road (beside Beacon Electric). It was this house that his grandparents had own and lived in, with well-known grandfather 'Sid' still living at the home for much of Phil's youth. Phil attended school to the end of grade 9 at the little Hammonds Plains School, just down the road from his place. He then went on to Halifax West and Sidney Stephen Schools to complete his high school education.

After high school, Phil had hoped to enter the Canadian Air Force, but failed to pass his medical due to a heart murmur and therefore was not eligible to join . Disappointed in not being able to pursue his military dream, he soon changed to forging a career in the business world. He joined WM Stairs & Morrow and then moved on to Maritime Tel & Tel, where he stayed until his death. He worked his way up to a district business manager within Maritime Tel & Tel, while embracing the emerging world of computers becoming somewhat of a computer whiz.

Phil married Anna Giles in 1969 and together they had a son, Sheldon. They bought one of the first homes in the new Subdivision of Highland Park in 1974. Anna would play a big role at his side, in his later role in politics.

Known as a dedicated worker, Phil had an easy going nature and loved to meet other people which allowed him to easily connect with colleagues and strangers alike. Well-liked by those who knew him, he made others feel at ease when talking to him.

From an early age, Phil had a love for Hammonds Plains. He had a desire to get involve with community affairs as a young man. At age 18, he joined the Hammonds Plains Fire Department. He eventually became a Fire Commissioner, being the treasurer of the commissioners for 5 years. He also had a deep interest in hockey and volunteered time as a referee for minor hockey.

In 1976, using his experience on the Fire Commissioners as a springboard, he was asked to consider entering the world of politics. He saw that it would be great to have representation from Hammonds Plains and decided to go for it. He soon announced that he would be seeking election for District 18 Counsellor in the October Halifax County elections. He was successful in the 1976 election and ended up serving 5 terms in total. He was a popular councillor within the district and became a huge advocate for the community. His greatest achievements for Hammonds Plains during his time as councillor was his leadership in getting a new fire hall built in Hammonds Plains, along with playing an important role in getting municipal water and sewer services to Uplands Park and in the construction of the St. Margaret's Arena. Phil took great pride in helping to form 'a Councillors singing group' – which played at various charity events, with Phil as lead singer.

At the end of his 5th term, he decided that he wanted to spend more time with his family so he did not reoffer in the 1991 Council election. Unfortunately, tragedy hit just two months after the October election of that year, when Phil went into cardiac arrest while at home and passed away. His funeral service was held on December 28th at the Fire Hall that he helped to create. The service was one of the largest funerals in Hammonds Plains history, with many politicians and community members attending. At the time of his passing, Warden of Halifax County, Laszlo Lichter reflected on Phil by saying: "He was one of those guys who come very rarely. Phil certainly was one of the best councillors I ever came across. He was a friend of everyone, I don't know how to describe him – I don't know anyone who had any hard feelings against Phil. He thought out clearly what he wanted to do. He spoke rarely, but when he did, he had his homework done – he knew what he was talking about"

Soon after Phil's death, the Fire Station was dedicated to his memory. In the early 2000's, a new Baseball field was built behind the Community Center and it was named the Phil Eisenhauer Memorial Field, in his honor. It is only the third public Hammonds Plains Landmark named in honor of an individual resident.

Phil was a community leader who left us too soon! The man of 'few words' is fondly remembered as someone who deeply cared about his community and did something about it.



Phil Eisenhauer Memorial Ball Field – Located behind Hammonds Plains Community Center