

PICTOU COUNTY ROOTS SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

August 2026 Volume I Issue VI

UPCOMING DATES

Aug 12 – PCRS monthly meeting 2pm

Aug 13-16 Festival of the Tartans, Weeks Field

Aug 22 - Heritage Fair at the Library

Aug 29 Matthew Moat's talk 'A Genealogical Journey along the Sherbrooke Road'



This Photo was shared with a Roots Member and we are looking to identify anyone to connect the photo with its family.

The Sons of Pictou County

(A Biographical Series of Pictonians living abroad, written by school children of the rural sections,)

The Eastern Chronicle Thursday, March 31, 1949

ALEXANDER MEIKLE *(Catherine Rhyno. Grade X. Meiklefield School)*

Alexander Meikle was born on June 2nd, 1883 at Meiklefield and is the son of David J. Meikle and Ellen MacPherson.

From 1889 to 1900 he attended Meiklefield school. During the next three years he taught school, one year on Cape Breton Island, one year in Meiklefield, and one year as principal of Thorburn.

In the fall of 1904 Mr. Meikle entered Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana. He was graduated from this college with a Batchelor of Arts degree. In the spring 1908 he entered Union Theological Seminary, New York City, from which he was graduated in 1911 with the Batchelor of Divinity degree. In 1909 he entered Columbia University, New York City, and was graduated in 1911 with the Master of Arts degree.

In the fall of 1911 Reverend Alexander Meikle was called to the Congregational Church at Weatherford, Oklahoma. While there he married Edith C. Smith. In the spring of 1913 he was called to the First Congregational Church, Columbus, Ohio. While service this church he joined the Masonic Lodge, of which he is



still a member in good standing. In the spring of 1920 he was called to serve Kinsman Congregational Church of Cleveland, Ohio. In 1925 he was called as Assistant Superintendent of the Ohio conference of Congregational Churches, where he went from church to church in the State of Ohio, giving advice, making surveys, and solving church problems, as well as supplying pulpits.

Rev. Alexander Meikle's success in this last field led to his call to his present work as Superintendent of the Congregational Association of Detroit, where he has served since 1927. His work here includes supplying the pulpits, advising churches, and organizing new churches. His wife Edith, died in the spring of 1943. In August 1945, he married Mrs. Beatrice Helm.

Rev. Mr. Meikle modestly calls these details of his life, "The events in the life of an ordinary minister of the gospel." His life is, however, not ordinary; it is one of great accomplishment.

Dr. G. R. MURRAY (*Mary Behn, Grade IX, Age 15, Kenzieville School.*)

In reviewing the graduates of Kenzieville School one who stands out is Dr. Robert Murray. Dr. Murray was born in Barneys River on August 12, 1895, the son of Angus and Mary Ann Murray. When we first decided to gather data on former graduates of this school a letter was sent to Dr. Murray which he promptly answered. His present address is Binghampton, New York.

Dr. Murray wrote us that he attended Kenzieville School in the early 1900's, "when not engaged in fishing in Barneys River or wondering in the woods with his father." After his father's death he went to New England where he attended Mount Herman School, and then Syracuse University. He took time out to fight in the First World War, and then returned to Syracuse in 1919. He received a Bachelor Science degree in 1920 and a Doctor of Medicine degree in 1924. He accepted a Commission from the United States Navy that year, and spent a year and a half at the Naval Hospital in Portsmouth, Virginia. He resigned his Commission in 1926, and went to Binghampton, New York. There he engaged in general practice until 1935. Since that time he has limited his practice to Obstetrics.

Dr. Murray is a member of the Broome County Medical Society, the Binghampton Academy of Medicine, the Charles S. Wilson Memorial Hospital, American Medical Association, Binghampton City Club, and Binghampton Country Club. He is also Consulting Obstetrician of Ideal Hospital.

Dr. Murray's family consists of his wife – a lovely lady – and his son Robert, age 18, at present attending Yale University. Dr. Murray tells us that in visiting his home vicinity in 1947, his wife would have been lost in Kilty's lake "but the Grace of God and strong arms of her husband," and he adds, "with slight assistance from her brother Bill, who will be glad to exaggerate his role in the rescue."

From this report you can see why we are proud to claim Dr. Robert Murray. We are glad that his career has been successful and we hope he may have continued happiness and success. This busy doctor who took time off to answer patiently our questions is held in highest regard by us pupils. He is an example we shall try to follow. We, the present pupils of Kenzieville School, should, like him, aim high, and hope and work for the best.

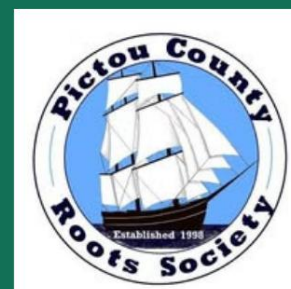
A
Genealogical
Journey along the
Sherbrooke Road
with
Matthew H Fraser Moat
Saturday, August 29th

ALL WELCOME

presentation at
New Glasgow
Library
Community Room
2pm

Temporary Library
Location:
610 East River Rd

Questions can be
submitted in advance to
bmk2024@gmail.com



On the photo hunt:

Do you have a picture of any of these Pictou County Doctors?

Calling all Photo Detectives: **Dr. Allan Marble**, a well-known Nova Scotian biomedical engineer, medical historian, and genealogist is looking for some help finding photographs.

If a reader can help him source a photo for any of the medical mortals listed below, Dr. Marble will be eternally grateful. The photo-shy doctors are:

Dr. John Bell, of New Glasgow (1876 -1941)

Dr. Barry Calkin, of Stellarton (1865 – 1958)

Dr. Thomas R. Fraser, of Pictou (1809-1882)

Dr. William Fraser, of New Glasgow (1841- 1890)

Dr. Sylvanus Keith, of New Glasgow (1860-1919)

Dr. Emmeline MacLean (known after her marriage as Dr. Helen MacLean Thomsom, practiced in Lloyd, New York), of West River (1867-1951)

Dr. Charles Miller, of New Glasgow (1844-1920)

Dr. William Mitchell, of New Glasgow (1835-1896)

Dr. Charles J. Miller, of New Glasgow (1844-1920)

Dr. William Mitchell, of New Glasgow (1835-1896)

Dr. Charles Munro, of West River (1837-1908)

Dr. Hugh Munro, of Stellarton (1860-1910)

Dr. Hugh Ross, of Stellarton (1867-1938)

Dr. Marble, author of numerous books including *Surgeons, Smallpox, and the Poor* (published in 1993); *Deaths, Burials, and Probate of Nova Scotians, 1800-1850* (published in 1999); and *The Archibald Family of Nova Scotia* (published in 2008) is currently working on a biographical dictionary of Nova Scotia Doctors who practiced prior to 1900. His goal is to include a photo alongside as many doctors as he can. However, he is having trouble finding images for a select number of Pictou County physicians.

If you have a photography of any of the doctors listed above (or an idea where a photograph may be found), please contact Pictou County Roots Society board member Jason Crowtz at 902-324-9293 or jcrowtz@gmail.com. He will pass the photo along to Dr. Marble, or put you in contact with him.

CONTACT US

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In Person: 610 East River Road, New Glasgow, NS

Mail: Pictou County Roots Society
c/o Pictou Antigonish Regional Library
Box 276, New Glasgow, NS
B2H 5E3

Hours: 10am-4pm - Tuesday to Friday or by
appointment.

Message Board: <https://pcrsns.proboards.com/>

Heritage Room Updates



Heritage Room:

The display for August, "Glass Makers of Nova Scotia," will feature books about glass makers, products, and businesses.

Library Events:

Heritage Alive: A Living History Fair is coming up on **August 22nd** from 11am to 2pm. Everyone is welcome to come visit the fair and check out the displays – there will be a prize given out during the event and barbequed hot dogs for sale (proceeds going to the library).

Festival of the Tartans on August 15th will have an afternoon of heritage talks from 1:30pm to 4:00pm featuring:

1:30pm Susan Parker, "Finding Scots: Intro to Genealogy"

2:00pm Veronica MacIsaac, "History of Tartan"

2:30pm John Ashton, "Scottish Regiments to Pictou County"

3:15pm James and Rebecca Lees,
"Clothing the Eighteenth Century Tar Maker"

Genealogy Updates:

July saw a few more baptism requests from Americans, along with requests for information on the Leslie family of Pictou, the Youngs of Millsville, and MacKays of Pictou. There were also visitors from Texas looking for the McEwan family of Merigomish (Owen, Patrick, and Margaret), who came as Loyalists.