



# THE COBALT LODGE

Newsletter of the Cobalt Historical Society



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P.O. Box 309  
Cobalt, ON P0J 1C0

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## Cobalt Public School Grade V-VI, 1946-1947



Left to Right: **Front Row:** Duncan Sopha; Clayson Brydges; Bill Tressider; Carl Heitola; Guy Wilson; Garth Burton; Edwin Tappenden; Sidney Popham; Eric David; Guy Beeson; Ronald Hurlburt. **Middle Row:** Basil Smith; Vince Conroy; Beverley Richards; Dorothy Black; Shirley Côté; Irene Adshead; Valerie Herbert; Sally Smith; Audrey Bishop; John Dean; Don Stewart. **Back Row:** Louise Corville; Sonja Salzberg; Thelma Salzberg; Jeanette Pollard; Vivian Hylands; Inez Conroy; Judy Jane Hylands; Leona Larabie; Ella Joy; Muriel Piché; Maryellen Leith. Teacher was Miss Mamie Reeves.

Photo supplied by Florence Dean from the Estate of the late John Dean. Students identified by Laura Baxter and Vivian Hylands with notes from John Dean.

# Cobalt goes "Country" at the '95 Miners Festival

Leave your hobnail boots and flannel shirts at home this year. Bring instead a cowboy hat and a pair of cowboy boots if you want to fit in with this year's theme of Miners Go Country.

The annual Miners Festival rides into Cobalt August 3 - 7 and promises to be even better than last year's successful weekend that ran with the theme of Vaudeville Returns.

The festival has been a tradition in the town for almost 25 years. Held over a long weekend, it has become the event around which many people plan their summer vacations.

"Most of the (people) that are coming back to Cobalt and the Miners Festival come mainly to visit their friends or family," said Pat Anderson.

As secretary of the Cobalt Miners Festival Committee, she finds the mining competitions are one factor that really makes the event a special standout among all the festivals that take place every year. In the competitions, miners can take part in exhibitions of mining techniques that showcase traditional methods. The miners "really seem to enjoy that," she said.

The events begin Thursday, August 3 and a new feature will be a teen karaoke contest at the Miner's Tavern. The entry fee is five dollars, and \$500 in prizes will be available. The tavern will run a "dry bar" for the night. A casino night is tentatively in the works for that Thursday, to be held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 44, if final arrangements can be made in time.

Another added feature is a 3 on 3 basketball and/or rollerblade hockey tournament to be held on Friday August 4. This event will take place at the Miner's Market or school, sponsored by Silver Blades.

## ALL WEEKEND

Events that will run all weekend include this year's slo-pitch tournament at Lion's Park which will have men's, mixed and old timers categories. There will be a beer garden at the park. Also running all weekend will be a midway from Friday to Monday at the Lion's Park, and sieving for silver at the Mining Museum. The play "Open Cut" begins a weekend run at the Classic Theatre Thursday night.

Friday's events include sidewalk art, and a spaghetti dinner at the community centre sponsored by the literacy council. Opening ceremonies will be held that night, as well as a Miner's Stope pub at the Miner's Tavern. This will be a special pub, also scheduled for Saturday, that will cater to senior citizens. Many older residents and visitors can use this occasion, said Ms. Anderson, to get reacquainted with old friends and catch up on the news. At the arena the doors open at 8 p.m. for the fireman's dance. The band has yet to be announced at press time.

The Mining Museum will hold an open house all-day Saturday, and early risers can take advantage of a pancake breakfast. Beginning at 10 a.m. athletes can take part in the five kilometre Moshier Run around Cobalt Lake starting from the Mining Museum. A luncheon will be held at the Golden Age Club, and mining competitions begin in the afternoon at the arena. Contestants must register before noon for the diamond drilling, hand and machine mucking events.

In and around the arena that day will be log sawing, nail driving, and new this year, a celebrity challenge

obstacle course. From 8 to 9 p.m. you can learn the latest steps in line dancing at the arena before the big Miner's Festival Committee/Lion's Dance that runs from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Back by popular demand this year is the very talented Garth Brooks tribute band from the Toronto area, No Fences. Opening act The Whitfields takes the stage at 9 p.m. Admission is \$10 at the door.

Sunday includes a Poker Walk which will take in historical and geological attractions. In the afternoon around 2 p.m. an open air concert in the town square park featuring The Whitfields will get everyone line dancing and square dancing in the streets. Food and refreshments will be available.

Sunday evening features a children's talent show at the arena from 6 to 8 p.m., followed by an adult talent show. A break will be taken to allow everyone to take in the fireworks at around 9:30 p.m. and the show will continue after the fireworks display. Prizes will be offered for the talent show, and the production company that worked on the No Fences concert will provide professional sound for the talent competition.

Monday is Kiddies Day starting with a parade at 10 a.m. and traveling from the Silver Grill to the arena. Judging of the costumes and bicycles will be part of the parade. Games and races for 25 cents will be featured at the arena. That evening a Dance-A-Thon for teens will be sponsored by the Recreation Board at the Community Hall.

All cowboys and cowgirls are invited to saddle up for the weekend as the Miners Festival goes Country for 1995.

# PoeARTry North



Reception held at the Classic Theatre Cobalt Thursday Sept 3, 2015 in the evening had Master of Ceremonies Laura Landers announce the winners of the 2015 PoeARTry North competition. She outlined the history of the contest:

“When plans for organizing Northern Ontario’s first and largest poetry/arts festival in 2008, Tyna Silver president of the Temiskaming Palette & Brush Club said she knew several

poets who were also artists. So under her coordination for two years displayed submitted paintings and poems were displayed under the title *Poetic Visions*. Then it was decided to have a competition/award ceremony during the Spring Pulse Poetry Festival to reward the best paintings and poems. Each year we saw the increased artistic strength of the paintings and noticed how the poetry was evolving with its own distinct visual light. The artists were colouring their words as well. Its success spread and several artists outside the local art club wished to participate.

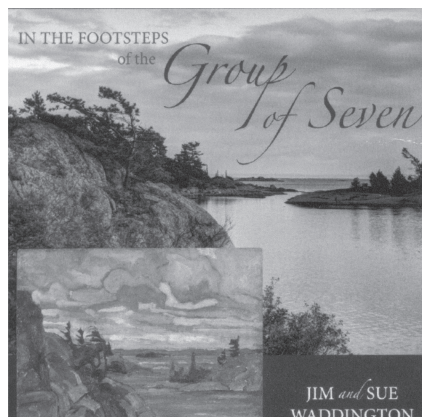
“So in 2013 we decided to open it to all Northern Ontario Art Association members and non-members. Entries came from Sault Ste. Marie to South Porcupine. Six NOAA clubs sent entries along with several independent artists.”

First place was awarded to Christine Johnston of North Bay; Second Place—Sue Gamble of Kenogami; Third Place—Katerina Fretwell of Parry Sound; First Honourable —Beth Jackson of North Bay; Second Honourable Mention—Iris Shields of Temiskaming Shores; Third Honourable Mention —Vanessa Herbert from Coleman township; People’s Choice Award—Beth Jackson of North Bay.

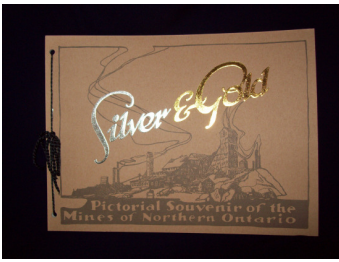
## The Presidents’ Suites Guest Speaker Series

Following the PoeARTry North award presentations was a talk by Jim and Sue Waddington as part of the Presidents’ Suites Guest Speaker Series, on our area’s artistic heritage in relation to Group of Seven artists Frank Carmichael and A.Y. Jackson. They have written a recent book on the locations used by the Group of Seven which includes Cobalt. The book juxtaposes photographs of the locations as found by the Waddingtons with photographs of the final paintings. A second lecture was given at the City of Temiskaming Shores City Hall on Friday evening. They spent Thursday to Sunday touring Cobalt while looking at Franklin Carmichael sketches of Cobalt and copies of other painters’ works in an effort to place the sites. The Cobalt Historical Society is helping them to place the locations.

The book is currently out of print but public libraries may have a copy

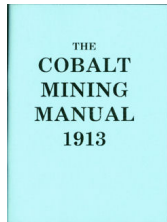


# Local History Publications

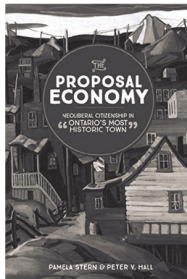


*Silver & Gold* is a pictorial souvenir of the mines of Northern Ontario. Originally published by the Cobalt *Daily Nugget* in 1916, then reproduced by *Highway Book Shop* in 2003 with the cooperation of the Cobalt Historical Society and FedNor.

ISBN: 0-88954-429-8 This book is reproduced in its original format, then punched and tied with cord, as it was in 1916. Available \$10 from Cobalt Historical Society, Cobalt Mining Museum and White Mountain Publications, all of Cobalt.

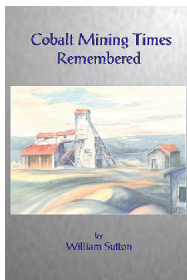


*The Cobalt (Ontario) Mining Manual 1913* is reprinted by the CHS from the original published by Straker Brothers, Ltd. of London England. This pocket-sized manual contains the map of the 1913 Cobalt mining area, the production figures for the mines, and much more. ISBN: 978-1894747-46-2 Available \$5 from the Cobalt Mining Museum, Cobalt.

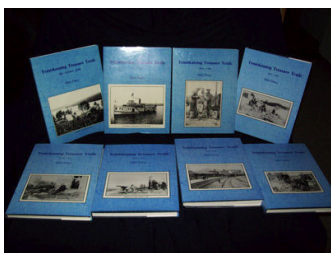


*The Proposal Economy: Neoliberal Citizenship in "Ontario's Most Historic Town"* by Pamela Stern and Peter V. Hall, UBC Press, The University of British Columbia, 2029 West Mall, Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1Z2 ISBN: 978-0774828222

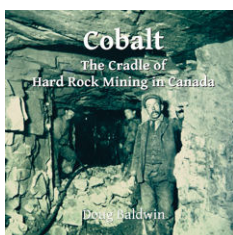
The authors spent time in Cobalt over several summers. In this volume they "argue that the residents of Cobalt have become entrenched in a 'proposal economy' a system that empowers them to imagine, engage, and propose but not to count on the state to provide certain services".



*Cobalt Mining Times Remembered* by William 'Bill' Sutton. With the exception of three years spent in western Canada (1944-1947) he has lived in Temiskaming his whole life. He started working at the Harrison-Hibbert mine pictured on the front of this book in 1949, and continued working in the Cobalt mining camp until his retirement in 1993. Available at Cobalt Mining Museum, and White Mountain Publications online and in the store. ISBN: 9781894747561 224 pages; 51 photographs and illustrations; \$22.95



*Temiskaming Treasure Trails* by Peter Fancy, Published by the now-closed Highway Book Shop, this 8 volume set covers the history of the area from Temagami to Kirkland Lake from the 1880s to 1945. 1,770 pages of history containing 843 photos and illustrations. Available online and at the store through White Mountain Publications, 50 Silver Street, Cobalt. [www.wmpub.ca](http://www.wmpub.ca)



*Cobalt - The Cradle of Hard Rock Mining in Canada* by Doug Baldwin upcoming publication by White Mountain Publications, Cobalt. This book captures in part the history in pictures and quotations from that time when silver mining made many rich, very quickly. It also, in part, captures the price Cobalt has paid for our knowledge. ISBN: 978-1-927541-45-6 \$24.95