

# e-Book – Part 3

## ELMVALE DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

*...BEGINNINGS OF THE CLUB*  
AND

*... LIONS as a BUILDER of SPORT*  
*Springwater Sports Heritage Hall of Fame*  
*Nomination*

Time for  
Some  
Lions



**ELMVALE**  
**DISTRICT**  
**LIONS CLUB**

# Three e-Books

## e-Book -- Part 1

### Background and Context 1946 -1949

*Pre the Arena Build Pre the Lions Club*

This book outlines-

- the need and desire to build a rink
- the preparations and debate
- the official vote and the defeat of that vote

## e-Book -- Part 2

### Time for Some Lions 1949 - 1952

*The Rink Build- A Lance Look*

This book outlines-

- the actual month by month details of the Building process
- three years through *The Lance* clippings

## e-Book -- Part 3

### Elmvale District Lions Club 1949 – onward

*Origin of Lions*

This book outlines-

- the Lions Chartered and early years- major project
- Lions as a Builder of Sport in Elmvale and District

***This is e-Book -- Part 3***

***Let us Begin***

# CONTEXT

- The Elmvale District Lions Club was chartered in May 1949.

However

- The time frame from 1946 to 1949 is important to review in order to get an understanding of this period's circumstance and background.

...What was going on in this Pre Lions period?

...What were the needs? What were the wants?

...What was being built at that time and how?

...What was the debate?

...What was the defeat?

- See e-Book Part1 to learn more about...

*Background and Context*

1946 -1949

*Pre the Arena Build*

*Pre the Lions Club*

Newspaper

Articles and Clippings taken From

"The Elmvale Lance"

# THE ELMVALE LANCE

VOL. LV

ELMVALE, COUNTY OF SIMCOE, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, MARCH 18th, 1948

No. 12

## Many to Vote for New Building

April  
10 1948

BUT

## Majority Vote Against Community Centre Here



The result of the poll taken in Flos Township on Saturday showed that the majority who voted were not in favor of a \$40,000 community centre being established in the agricultural park here and 20-year debentures being issued to pay for same.

Following is the result of the vote by polls:

Poll No.		"Yes"	"No"
1	McClung's	2	11
2	Rowley's	17	14
3	Phelpston	5	59
4	Elmvale	110	26
5	Vigo	0	47
6	Olffen's	18	32
7	Langman	14	34
8	Edenvale	0	25

Yes 166

No 247

Time for Leadership  
Time for Optimism  
Time for Some Luck

## Time for Some Lions

Which came first the chicken or the egg?  
Another Philosophical question

*Could it be that the Elmvale and District Lions Club in its inaugural year just happened to enthusiastically undertake the Construction of the Community Rink as its first and Charter Project.*

*We can do this!! We can build this!!*

Or

*Was the formation of the Elmvale and District Lions Club a thoughtful, carefully crafted answer to a perennial problem- how to tackle the construction of a much needed Community Rink?*

We Can't get in Their Heads---  
Probably a Touch of Each





# THE ELMVALE LANCE

Authorized as second class mail, P.O. Dept. Ottawa

ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA

THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, 1950

No. 16, VOL. LVII

## Hope to Form Club After Dinner Meet of Lions

(By Phil Brownhill)

A delegation of 12 members of the Midland Lions Club were visit-

(Continued on Page 5)

Jan 6  
1949

### HOPE TO FORM ELMVALE LIONS CLUB

(Continued from Page 1)

ors here Wednesday night at the Palace Hotel, when an excellent dinner was served to approximately 40 people.

Their visit was to explain to all interested persons, the functions of a Lions Club, and judging by the large attendance, we may expect to see a local club formed in the very near future. The Club would operate for the benefit of Elmvale and all surrounding dis-

tricts.

It was explained that the chief purpose of a Lion's Club is to provide entertainment and special medical care for children and not necessarily underprivileged children. All children in the area are included regardless of their parents' circumstances.

We sincerely trust that the project will meet with everyone's support and any person wishing to take an active part is requested to contact Mr. Jack Campbell or Mr. Cecil Townes.

# Elmvale Lions Club Organizes Mr. F. G. Roberts is First President

4 11

A number of interested citizens have organized a Lions Club for Elmvale. The following officers were elected this week at a joint meeting with Midland Lions Club.

President—Frank G. Roberts.

1st Vice-Pres.—Phil Brownhill.

Sec'y.—C. M. French.

Treas.—Ernest Flotron.

Directors—Wm. Jones, Wm. Bell.

A dinner will be held here Friday evening, Jan. 28th, when the district organizer and others will be present to explain lionism. Tickets may be secured from any of the above executive members.

## New Executive Elected at Lions Meeting

11

Elmvale Lions held their dinner meeting in the Palace Hotel dining room on Thursday evening, Feb. 10th. Twenty-nine members and friends enjoyed the social time together.

Following the dinner, President Frank Roberts asked that the vacancies on the Lions Executive be filled. The following were added.

1st Vice-Pres.: Fred Morrissey.

2nd Vice-Pres.: Reg. Bertram.

Lion Tamer: Bill Jones.

Tail Twister: Sid Jackson.

Directors: Pat Mayhew, William Hill.

Dinner meetings will be held on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Plans were discussed for the holding of Charter Night in the Parish Hall, on March 16. Anyone wishing to join the Lions Club before that date may do so for a fee of five dollars. Monthly dues, starting March 1st, were set at one dollar monthly.

The next dinner meeting will be held in the Palace Hotel dining room on Thursday, Feb. 24th.

Jan  
20  
1949

Jan  
27  
1949



ELMVALE DISTRICT

LIONS CLUB





March 16 1949



First  
Charter  
Night



# THE ELMVALE DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

## Officers and Directors

President	Frank Roberts
First Vice-President	Phil Brownhill
Second Vice-President	Fred Morrissey
Third Vice-President	Reg. Bertram
Secretary	Cec. French
Treasurer	Ernie Flotron
Lion Tamer	Jerry Chapple
Tail Twister	Syd Jackson
Director	Bill Bell
Director	Bill Jones
Director	Pat Mayhew
Director	Bill Hill

## Charter Members

C. Baker	E. Flotron	H. Pitchie
J. Beardsall	C. French	A. E. Ritchie
W. Bell	A. Greenlaw	F. Roberts
R. Bertram	F. Griffiths	C. Robillard
H. Brokenshire	W. Hill	A. S. Tipping
P. Brownhill	S. Jackson	M. Trace
H. Burnett	W. Jones	A. Simpson
J. Campbell	L. Manning	W. Shaw
H. Chapple	O. Mayhew	A. M. Strath
R. Columbus	W. McFadden	T. Smith
C. Crowe	F. Morrissey	F. Toole
H. Curie	K. McAuley	C. Townes
M. Davie	L. Pearson	F. Webster
J. Dyer	F. Persch	W. VanZant
G. Elrick		

43 members

# CHARTER NIGHT

## Elmvale District



## Lions Club

Wednesday Evening, March 16, 1949  
at 7:30 p.m.

PARISH HALL, ELMVALE

Sponsor: Midland Lions Club

# M E N U

TOMATO JUICE

ROLLS

ROAST PORK

GREEN PEAS — — — CORN

PICKLES — — — RELISHES

ASSORTED HOMEMADE PIES

COFFEE — TEA — MILK

## APPRECIATION

The Elmvale District Lions wish to record their grateful appreciation to the Lions Club of Midland for their kind assistance in the organization of a Lions Club in Elmvale. We also wish to express thanks to District Governor, Stan Darling, District Secretary, Bruce Malcolm, and Deputy District Governor, Walter Coutts, for their help and advice.

To all other Lions in attendance on this occasion, we extend our hearty welcome.

# P R O G R A M M E

Call to order	-	-	Gordon Boyd
O Canada	-	-	Everyone
Invocation	-	-	Jerry Chapple
Club Singing	-	-	Everyone

## BANQUET

Toast—His Majesty the King  
Dessert and Coffee

Introductory Remarks	-	-	Chairman Boyd
Introduction of Distinguished Guests and Visiting Delegations	-	-	District Secretary, Bruce Malcolm
Municipal Welcome	-	-	Inspecting trustee, Bill Bell
Introduction of Deputy District Governor	-	-	Chairman Boyd
Alka Seltzer Radio Programme	-	-	Walter Coutts
Introduction of District Governor	-	-	Stan Darling
Stan Darling	-	-	Walter Coutts

## ADDRESS AND PRESENTATION OF CHARTER

Acceptance of Charter	-	-	Frank Roberts
Presentation of Club Equipment	-	-	Bruce Malcolm
Club Presidents	-	-	Frank Roberts
Exposition of Appreciation	-	-	Phil Brownhill
Prize Draws	-	-	

## CHAIRMAN, CHARTER NIGHT COMMITTEE

## THE MAPLE LEAF FOREVER

## DANCING

Clarence Crowe and his Orchestra



# THE ELMVALE DISTRICT LIONS CLUB



## Officers and Directors

President	Frank Roberts
First Vice-President	Phil Brownhill
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C. Baker	E. Flotron	H. Pitchie
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R. Bertram	F. Griffis	C. Robillard
H. Brokenshire	W. Hill	S. Tipping
P. Brownhill	S. Jackson	M. Trace
H. Burnett	W. Jones	A. Simpson
J. Campbell	L. Manning	W. Shaw
H. Chapple	O. Mayhew	M. Strath
R. Columbus	W. McFadden	T. Smith
C. Crowe	F. Morrissey	F. Toole
H. Curle	K. McAuley	C. Townes
M. Davie	L. Pearson	F. Webster
J. Dyer	F. Perschl	W. VanZant
G. Elrick		

# THE ELMVALE LANCE

Authorized as second class mail, P.O. Dept. Ottawa

ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA

THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, 1950

No. 16, VOL. LVII

The Vote was Lost on Apr. 10 1948  
The Lions Club was formed March 1949  
Period of Despair- A Rink will Never be Built

***But These New Lions Would Make Sure  
That Elmvale would still have Skating***

Lions Club took over the Rink in Winter 49/50  
Skating was free

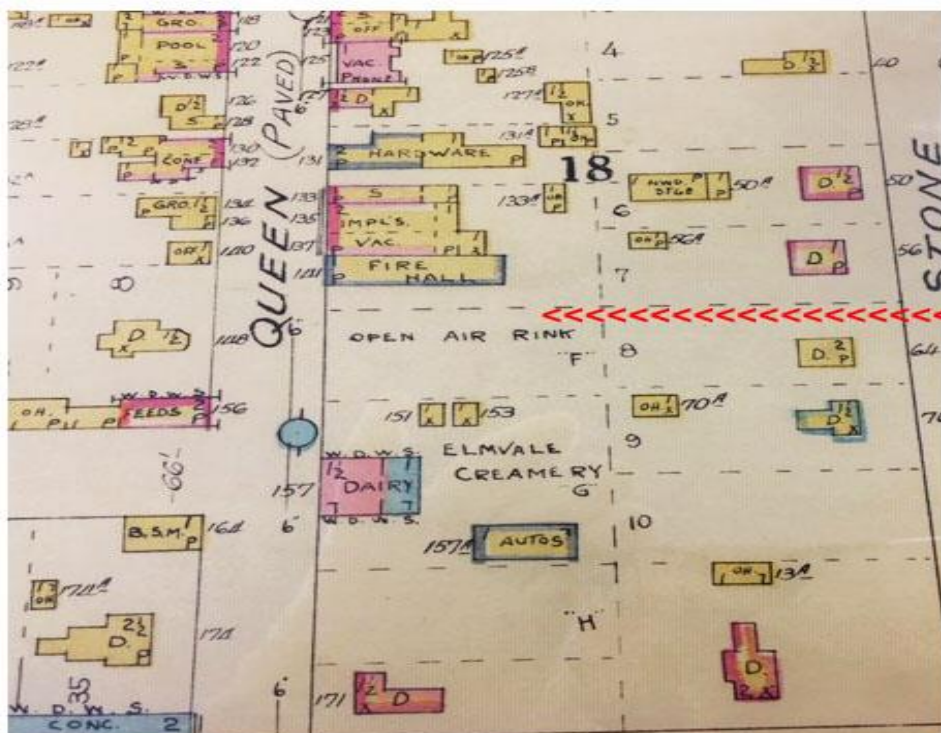
They hired C Townes to run the rink

Young boys were paid to help with clearing and  
flooding

Rules were posted and ice was supervised

Schedule for boys girls hockey and open skating  
was set up

**Fire Map created 1939**



**Winter  
Rink  
Area**

**1940s**



# THE ELMVALE LANCE

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ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA

THURSDAY, APRIL 20th, 1950

No. 16, VOL. LVII

## ***Lions Projects and Activities in their First Year March 1949 to December 1949***

Much of year devoted to getting organized;

Committees were set up

Weekly Bingo

Variety Night held in Parish Hall

Winter Carnival in Midland Arena

Summer Carnival at Wasaga Beach

Taking over managing and maintaining  
the Outdoor Rink

Weekly updates in *The Lance* called "Lions Corner"

Lions initiated and supervised **Teen Town** on  
Saturday Nights

## ***Then Came a Huge Project***

The Really Big Project! The long awaited project  
The project that had been planned and wanted and  
needed. The project that was brought before the  
Town and Township for a vote and Failed just two  
years ago.

## ***Lions will Build a Covered Rink***

See **e-Book Part 2**  
to view the three year detailed  
timelines of the "Rink Build"  
1950 to 1952

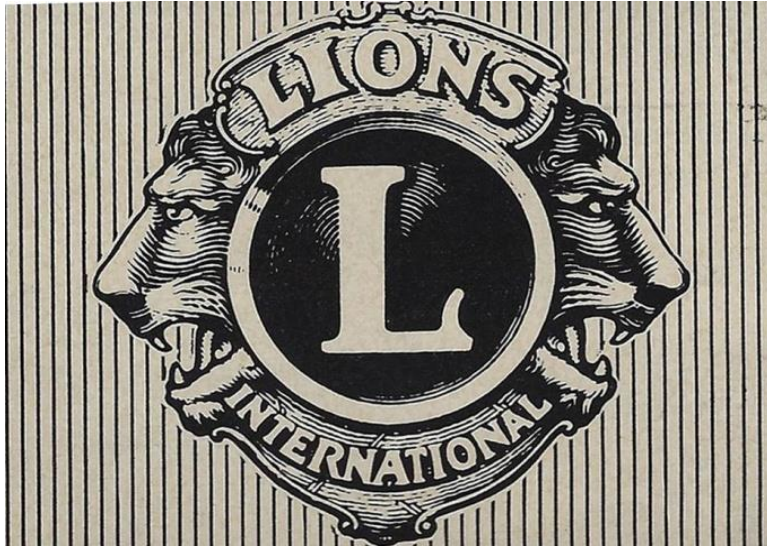
## *Sometimes You Need to Find Another Way*

If Debenture, as a method of payment, was not to be an option----- perhaps there were other methods to consider

- ❖ Wasaga Country Club was being completely redone at a considerable expense. Those owners choose to sell Shares. Members became shareholders
- ❖ The Elmvale Bd. of Trade's Community Hall project was finally gaining speed and will choose to continue their ongoing fund raising but also decide to sell Bonds.
- ❖ Another Wasaga project, a church hall, was just completed by volunteer labour with materials donated at cost.

**Erected by Volunteer Labor and  
Donated Lumber Wasaga Building  
To be Opened with Contata Dec. 20**

# The “Rink” Build



**Time for Some  
Lions**

*Could these Lions  
Snatch Victory from the  
Jaws of Defeat....*



## *Timeline Begins*

### **1950**

**Jan 19,1950-** Motion passed by Agricultural Society deeding to Flos Township a portion of land

**March 9, 1950-** Logs cut on Con # 7 are donated to Lions for use in building

**Mar 11,1950-** Plans being drawn for approval of Government. Copeland family offers timbers from barn-Planing Mill dresses them

**Mar 23,1950** Con #7 logs transferred to Copeland's Mill and are transformed into lumber.

**April 14,1950** Lions Club president Frank Roberts formally announces the aim of

**“4 Walls and a Roof by Fall”**

**April 20,1950** Full page outline in *The Lance*.

**Rink Campaign Starts Next Week**  
Canvassing campaign will begin.....



## Rink Campaign Starts Next Week

### To Start Rink Wall Footings At Park Site

At a rink committee meeting held last Tuesday evening, it was decided to commence excavations at the fair grounds just as soon as the frost was out of the ground. At the present time, there are still four to five inches in the ground.

The advertising chairman was instructed to proceed with his campaign at the earliest possible moment.

Final plans of the arena were approved and the finishing touches are being applied now.

Ross Bertram was the unanimous choice of the committee to oversee the construction. He has had extensive experience over a period of years in rink erection, and is well qualified for this particular job. He will supply power tools and hoisting equipment. We stress at this time that only four walls and the roof will be erected this year, the frills can come later.

The site for the Arena lies just inside the main gates of the fair grounds.

### Lions Club Open Letter Reveals Interesting Facts on Proposed Rink

We list some of the details that are most likely to interest you:

**SITE—**  
The Agricultural Fair grounds in Elmvalle. Land deeded to Flos Township and Arena to be managed by a board composed of:—Two members of Flos Township Council, two members of the Elmvalle Village Council, two members of the Elmvalle District Lions Club and representatives from any other organization concerned in its erection. The deed from the Agricultural Society specifies that the building will always be available for the Fall Fairs. In addition this building will be available for other functions that will require a covered area.

#### TYPE OF BUILDING—

The walls are to be of cement block, with a wood truss roof and metal clad.

#### COST—

This size and type of building, erected by a contractor, would no doubt, come close to \$50,000. However, no contractor is going to erect this building. We, with your help, and the services of a few craftsmen, under competent supervision, are going to build it. With donated materials, all materials other than donated materials are being provided at cost, and voluntary labour, the cost of this building can be decreased by a large amount. Also, at this time, it is planned to erect only four walls and the roof. The rest can come at some future date.

We would like to make it clear at this time, that all money collected on this drive, go directly into the Arena Committee's hands for the sole purpose of erection of this Community Memorial Arena.

All official receipts may be used for income tax exemptions.

The government grant of \$5,000 will be available on the expenditure of \$15,000, in cash and labour.

We ask that you give serious consideration to this project.

This needs your dollars, won't you help?

### Strong Com'tees Will See Rink Thro' to Finish

In order that the general public may better follow the procedure being used by the Lions Club, a list of the various committees, their chairman and members, are listed below:—

**Finance:** Fred Morrissey, chairman; Cecil Baker, Thos. Smith, Ernie Flotron, Howard Heacock.

**Materials:** Charlie Shaw, chairman; Hugh Burnett, Howard Ritchie, Ernie Brown, Fred Beacock.

**Township Canvassing:** Milt Trace, chairman; Clarence Crowe, Bill McFadden, Martin Strath, Dan Sexton, George Elrick.

**Elmvalle Canvassing:** Bill Hill, chairman; Cecil Townes.

**Wasaga Beach Canvassing:** Charlie Procter, chairman; Milt Davie, Herb Brokenshire, Fred Perschl.

**Voluntary Labour:** Reg Bertram, chairman; Alvin Greenlaw, Len Argue, Alvin Simpson, Joe Dyer, Ken McQuarrie.

**Advertising and Publicity:** Jerry Chapple, chairman; Pat Mayhew, Elgin Ritchie.

By this list it is very apparent that every member of the Lions Club has a job to do. Some of them have two or three. Each chairman has been selected for his particular ability and knowledge.

The Arena Committee itself consists of Fred Morrissey, chairman; Milt Trace, Reg Bertram, Charlie Shaw and Jerry Chapple.

Thus each member of the main committee controls a sub-committee. There should be a minimum of over-lapping and with this set-up each man has his own

### Aim for 4 Walls And Roof by Fall ---Lions President

There is a great need for an arena in this Community. It has been mooted several times but for one reason or another has not been carried through to a conclusion. It seems to me to be unfair to our children that they must travel many miles from Elmvalle to participate in organized hockey games due to the lack of covered ice in our village. The Lions Club of Elmvalle are solidly behind this project. It is a big project, but still we are determined that with the assistance of all the Community we can do it and have four walls and a roof by this fall.—F. G. ROBERTS.

April  
1950

### Please Lend a Kind Ear to Canvassers

Dear Friend:

This letter is to acquaint you with the fact, that, in the near future, you will be approached by a member of the Elmvalle District Lions Club. We ask that you treat him kindly and listen to what he has to say. Not many of us are endowed with the necessary qualifications that go to make a good canvasser, and so we ask you also to remember that a man willing to do a job he dislikes, merely because he thinks it to be of very real service to his community, must have something worthy of your attention.

## “The Build” --- Stories Already Written-

The Building of the Arena has been well documented. At the time, Jerry Chapple, a charter Lion member, became the ‘Lion Liaison’. Together with the area newspaper- “*The Lance*”- and its editor, Alex McAuley, Jerry attempted to....

- keep the community informed re the progress of the construction
- explain the difficulties (and there were many)
- solicit over and over again the support of the community
- thank and give credit for all donations by way of “The “Lance List” which outlined \$ amounts, labour or equipment
- appeal to minds and hearts of the community

And –yes---at times to beg and plead for just a few more pennies and hands and bulldozers and trucks...

His biweekly updates in *The Lance* usually started off with-- (“*Well, here we are again..*”)

Jerry wrote a full summary entitled “**The Build**” which was published in *The Lance* in later years. George Allen reprinted this story in his **Chapters** book on Sports. (George’s masterful book can also be viewed in its entirety on the SSH website) Recently, Frank Archer wrote a summary of the Arena build for the SSH website using Jerry’s work as a starting point and extending the “Arena Story “ to include later years.

Finally, *e book Part 2* outlined detailed timelines of events from the perspective of the **Elmvale District Lions Club** as outlined in *The Elmvale Lance using archived photos and clippings*.



# Who was Jerry H Chapple?

## J.H.C. or just J.C.

Jerry Chapple was an Charter member of the Elmvale District Lions Club. Jerry had an artistic bent. He worked at the Elmvale Planing Mill as part of the design team who did the planning for building projects that the Mill undertook.

The co-owner of that Business was Frank Roberts, the first President of the Elmvale Lions Club.;

There were numerous committees that were set up as part of the working of the New Lions Club. Jerry took a position on two of them. The Advertising and the Arena Committees. Both positions put him in charge of being the liaison between the Lions and the Community. Often committees were changed from year to year as a new president took over. However, Jerry and his fellow members on the Arena Committee remained in place throughout the three years it took to complete the Arena Project.

I give you this background just to be aware that Jerry's Lance reports covered numerous years and the community became used to and looked forward to his updates..



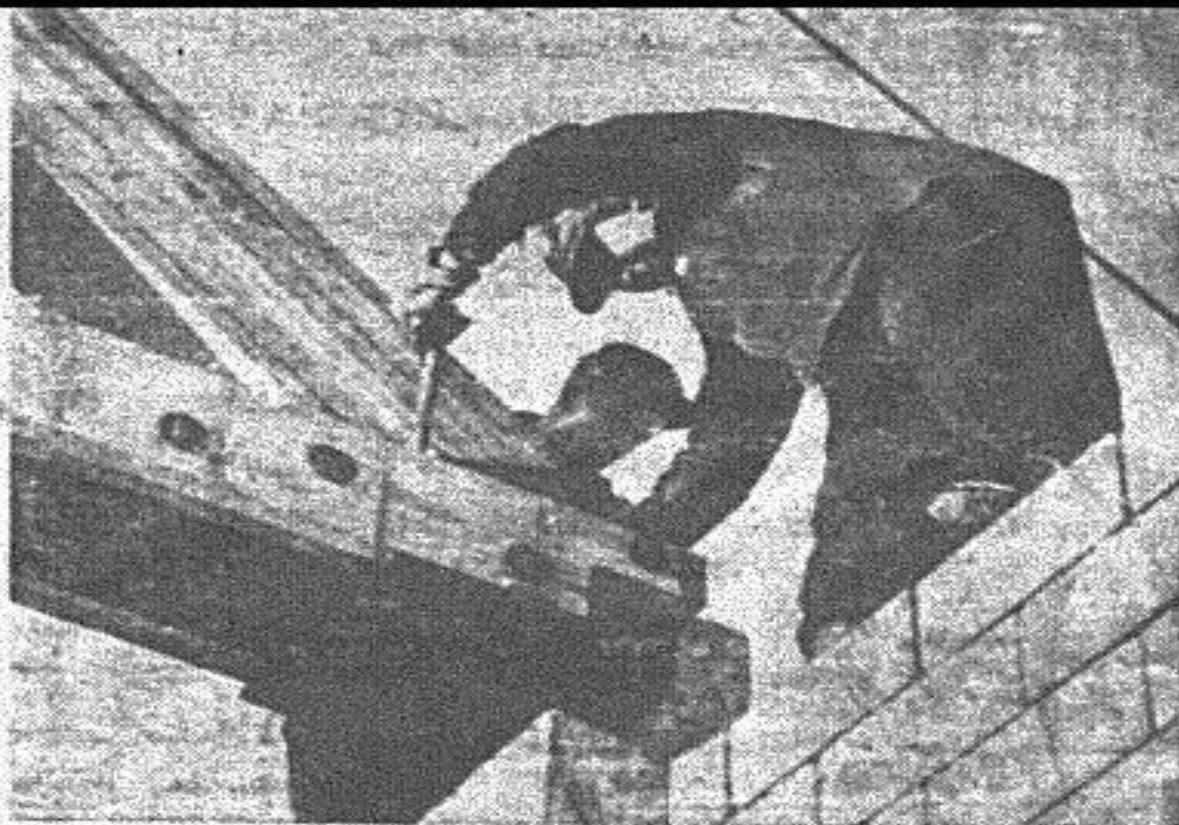
# THE ELMVALE LANCE

Authorized as second class mail, P.O. Dept. Ottawa

ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA THURSDAY FEBRUARY 7, 1952

5c per copy No. 6 Vol. LVIII

## Rush Big Effort to Finish Arena Roof



AS EACH EIGHT-TON TRUSS swings into place it drops squarely onto a metal face plate on a concrete supporting pillar. Here two of the volunteer helpers, Earl Parnell and Stan Ritchie are seen securing a truss at one end, after it had been dropped into place. (Engraving courtesy The Barrie Examiner.)

To Ross Bertram, the designer of the Arena roof for his exactitude, and by that we mean, that for the third time, a truss settled neatly down on two sets of bolt holes, 110 feet apart. Doesn't sound like very much, does it, but a quarter of an inch, one way or the other, would have been catastrophe.

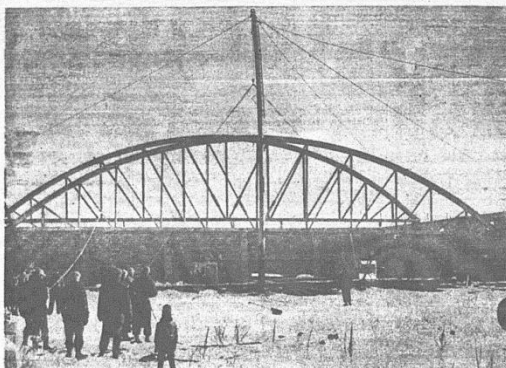


# Lions Arena Committee- Three Years In Charge

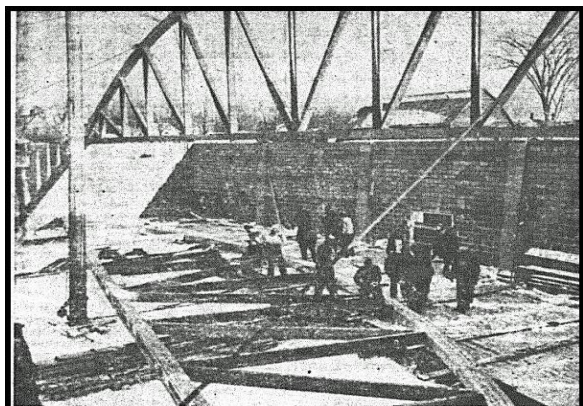


WHEN ELMVALE AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB decided to take a lead, start from scratch and build a fine new community arena of which their people would be proud, a committee was appointed to supervise the job. They are still functioning, two years later, as the arena rapidly takes shape. Also aiding greatly is President of the Lions Club, Milt Trace, shown above left. He and the committee watch as another truss is secured at each end. Others are from left: Fred Morrissey, the chairman of finance; Howard Ritchie, Jerry Chapple, publicity and advertising, and Reg Bertram, volunteer labor. (Engraving through courtesy of The Barrie Examiner.)

Second Elmvale Arena Truss Nears Top of Wall



THE SECOND GIANT 110 TRUSS nears the top of walls of the Community Memorial Arena as a powerful winch out of sight at the picture slowly but carefully pulls it to the top. Crews of volunteer labor guide the big span by carefully placed ropes. Supervisor



A GANG OF VOLUNTEER WORKERS is seen preparing a completed truss for swinging into position. Each of the nine trusses is built on the above platform within the arena walls. They are built of BC fir and bolted together. Nine of these trusses are needed to support the roof of the new Community Memorial Arena. (Engraving courtesy of The Barrie Examiner.)



**Resolution?** Howabout that New Years resolution reading: "I will donate to the Community Memorial Arena to honour those who did not come back, and to bring countless hours of pleasure to the children of the community." Surely, there is a resolution worth keeping.

## THE ELMVALE LANCE

Authorized as second class mail, P.O. Dept. Ottawa ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1952 5c per copy No. 6 Vol. LVIII

### Rush Big Effort to Finish Arena Roof

**Carpenters Work on Roof Trusses  
Rink Committee Seek Assistance  
In Cash to Meet Feb. 14 Payment**

# Let's Put That Roof On!

(By J. C.)

DAY, MAY 29, 1952

5c per copy No. 22

## Help Wanted Monday at Rink For "Bee" as Rot Threatens

(By J. C.)

## THE ELMVALE LANCE

Authorized as second class mail, P.O. Dept. Ottawa ELMVALE, ONTARIO, CANADA THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1952 5c per copy No. 38 Vol. LVIII

# WELCOME TO THE FAIR

"The Lions only sparked the venture, so as you come into this building to-day and admire it, you can do it with a touch of pride because you have no doubt helped either by volunteer labour or financially."

**New Arena Opened  
On Wednesday**

Sept 18/52  
Opening  
Comments

"Several arenas have been built recently by the debenture method and when finished a large debt hangs over them, but this building is practically free of debt at present. Due to the volunteer labour, the money went mostly for material. There is still considerable to be done and we hope to do it by the same method."

## CONGRATULATIONS!

### A Salute To Elmvale Lions Club

On accomplishing the Herculean task of erecting the roof of the new  
**ELMVALE COMMUNITY MEMORIAL ARENA**

with perfect co-ordination. A salute also to those who gave of their time and skill in good weather and bad, to build and raise the huge trusses. We know that you and your children will have countless hours of enjoyment in the future which will make all your efforts worthwhile. Any donations you would care to give will be gratefully accepted and acknowledged by the Lions Club.

With that Background and in  
that Context  
The Elmvale District Lions Club  
BUILT

For whatever the reason its inception may have been, The Elmvale District Lions Club was chartered on May 1949 and the building of a Rink was announced as a major project by the Spring of 1950.

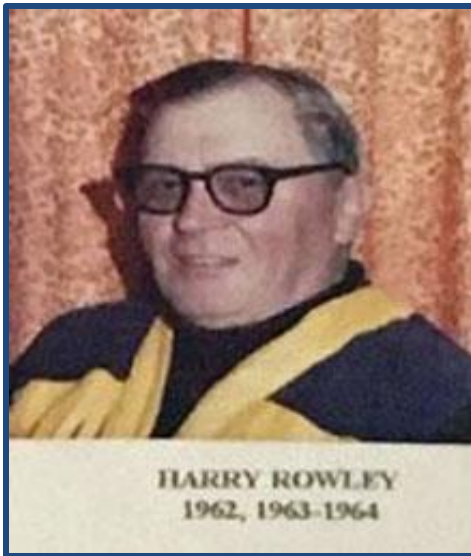
And thus began a Building odyssey; a journey whose conclusion really never concluded. It was never a huge “one-off” project- *“get in- done”- “hand it off.”*

This building became a commitment of the Elmvale and District Lions; part of its ‘being’ until it could be handed over to a higher authority some 45 year later; to Springwater Township.

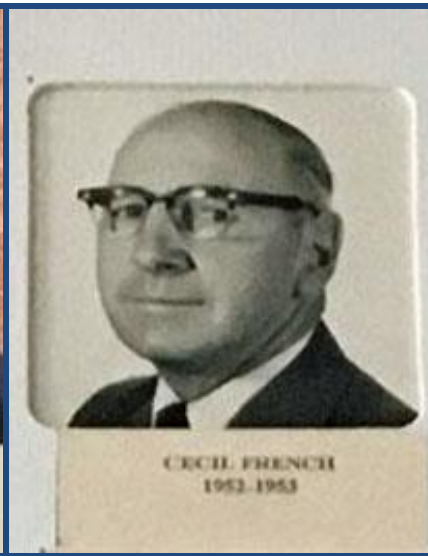
The Arena was never just a building. Indeed, it became a “Committee of the Lions Club”. It became the centre of Sports in Elmvale and District. It fostered and spawned other sports in which the youth of the District participated and enjoyed and grew.

The word District is so important. In varying degrees over varying times, the Elmvale Community Arena served Wasaga Beach, Hillsdale, Wyevale, Anten Mills, Phelpston. .... Its caretakers expanded beyond the Lions including the Agricultural Society, Flos Township, the Village, Minor Hockey and more...





HARRY ROWLEY  
1962, 1963-1964



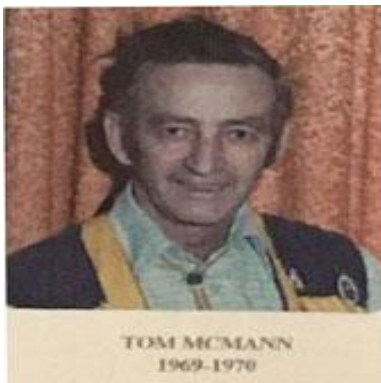
CECIL FRENCH  
1952-1953



PERCY FRANKCOM  
1956-1957

## *Some Early Lions were Builders of Sports in their Own Right*

Reg Bertram- Doug Hill- Tom McMann- Arena Managers; 50s 60s 70s Lions Members



TOM MCMANN  
1969-1970



REG BERTRAM  
1954-1955



**Lion Cecil Townes**  
G Allen referred to him as "The father of minor Sports in Elmvale"(40s,50s)

***LIONS not only built the Arena but effectively managed it for many years.***

*This responsibility was shared with more and more stakeholders as time went on.*



JOE DYER  
1950-1951

**Lion Joe Dyer**  
Second Lion President and an Agriculture Society Executive. Close relationship between the 2 groups was essential

**Lion Alex Currie-**  
Perennial supporter of Sports from the "Build" to his passing.



ALEX CURRIE  
1968-1969



The Elmvale & District Lions  
Club has Demonstrated a  
Significant Long-Term  
Contribution to the Growth  
and Fostering of Sports in  
Elmvale and District

## **A True Builder of Sports in Elmvale and District**

### **Roles:**

**Leadership and Longevity**  
Officials, Sponsors, Trainers,  
Executives, Volunteers,  
Donors, Labourers, Owners,  
Planners, Canvassers,  
Start up Supporters, Facility  
Builders

### **Modus Operandi**

- Sometimes as a one time initiative or donor-
- Sometimes as an ongoing supporter over years-
- Sometimes “short-term” as a building is built or a project completed
- At times- a multi decade long involvement-  
1949 (Inception) to 1993 (Township  
Amalgamation) as Springwater  
Almost 50 years as being the main “go-to”  
Builder of Sports  
in Elmvale and District



# Official Opening Remarks

## High Praise re Results and Method

Mr. Biggs congratulated the community heartily on the fine spirit that must exist to co-operate in building a fine arena and is a splendid means of passing this spirit on to future generations.

"You will be the envy of much larger communities I am sure," Mr. Biggs predicted.

Envy of  
much larger  
communities

"Several arenas have been built recently by the debenture method and when finished a large debt hangs over them, but this building is practically free of debt at present. Due to the volunteer labour, the money went mostly for material. There is still considerable to be done and we hope to do it by the same method."

Practically  
Debt Free

More To  
Do



Reeve Earl Elliott referred to the Lions Club as the “unsung heroes of our community”

Full of tributes for the Lions

Ken Knox noted that the Lions Club was a “credit to the community”

Referring to the Arena

Reeve Knox added that

“just about everything in here was something that the Lions had a hand in”

At Elmvale arena

## New room officially opened

The new upstairs room and kitchen at the Elmvale arena was officially handed over to the arena commission on Tuesday evening, October 8.

The keys to the kitchen were handed over to Flos township reeve Earl Elliott by Elmvale and District Lions Club member Howard Ritchie who was the chairman of the Lions committee which looked after renovating the room and kitchen.

Then reeve Elliott turned around and handed over the keys to Percy Frankcom, chairman of the arena commission.

The ribbon to officially open the new kitchen facilities was cut by Mrs. Howard Ritchie who cut the ribbon on behalf of all the women who have over the years prepared meals on less than adequate facilities in the arena. She was helped in cutting the ribbon by reeve Elliott and Elmvale reeve Ken Knox.

In a brief address to the more than 60 persons who attended the official opening ceremony, reeve Elliott said that the Lions Club did a “wonderful job” renovating the upstairs room and kitchen. He referred to the Lions Club as the “unsung heroes of our community”.

Elmvale reeve Ken Knox, in a brief speech, said that it is a “credit to the village” to have a Lions Club like the Elmvale and District Lions Club.

Referring to the arena, reeve Knox said that “just about everything in here” was something that the “Lions have had a hand in”.

Mr. Ritchie pointed out to those who attended the opening ceremony that the community owed a particular debt of thanks to two persons who were instrumental in the renovation project. These two are John L. Coe who drew up the plans for the renovation and Bill Trace who was the contractor for the job.

Lions Club president Gene Minnings, in his

opening remarks at the opening ceremony, said that it was very fitting that the new room and kitchen be opened on October 8 because this is World Community Day for Lions International. On this day, all Lions Club are to try to do something for their communities.

The Lions Club also received a letter from Premier William Davis noting this special World Community Day.

Before the official opening ceremony took place, the Elmvale and District baton corps, which the Lions Club supports, gave a per-

formance. This performance included two routines by the whole corps, a special performance by the senior members, a Highland dance by Lisa Robertson, and a ballet dance by Sheila Harpell.

The baton corps performed under the leadership of lead majorette Nancy Trace.

After the official ribbon cutting and handing over of the keys, refreshments were served to those who attended the event.

Then, those who were interested sat down to an enjoyable evening of card playing.



Cutting ribbon

Mrs. Howard Ritchie, centre, flanked by Flos township reeve Earl Elliott, left, and Elmvalereeve Ken Knox, right, cuts the ribbon at the doorway to the new kitchen in the upstairs room at the Elmvale arena to officially

open the new facility which was provided by the Elmvale and District Lions Club. The new facility was officially opened and handed over to the arena commission at a special ceremony on Tuesday, October 8.



# LIONS: Builders Supporters Donors...



## Elmvale Lions Horseshoe Club



The Elmvale Lions Horseshoe Club had their final day on September 15th, 2018 after a great summer. The members enjoyed a day of horseshoes and dinner. The champions for the day were Paul Hatch and Ken Branch (picture one) and the runner up team was Mike Daniels and Jamie McLean (picture two). After totalling the points for the season first place was Dave Fralick. Ringers and six-packs was John Northy. The club will start again in May, new members are welcome.

## Lion's Donate \$5000 to Ballpark

The Elmvale Ballpark Committee wants to thank the Elmvale Lions Club for a generous donation of \$5000 to be used towards the rebuilding of the booth (proper name is the 'Facility Services Building') behind home plate at



the Elmvale Fair Grounds. In the above picture, Tom McGinnis and Lions President Al Brinklow look at the blueprint of the proposed plan which the Lion's have donated \$5000 to. The previous booth was built around 1970. Over the years, the water lying around the foundation had frozen, breaking the cement blocks and part of the floor had settled. The new structure measuring 24 by 44 feet will have wheelchair accessible washrooms on the south side of the building, a pitched roof (to keep the adventurous off the previous flat roof) and a pavilion measuring 24 x 36 on the north side beside the canteen. Water from around the foundation and from the roof will be diverted in to a dry well and any overflow will be drained away through the ground tiles located some place near the building.

ELMVALE DISTRICT

LIONS CLUB





So often the Lions Club was a  
co-supporter  
of Many Sporting Initiatives in  
Elmvale and District

One of the greatest accomplishments of Percy Frankcom, an Inducted Builder in the Springwater Hall of Fame, was the installation of lights at the ball park. In George Allen's Chapter's Book on Sports, George added this addendum to the story---an insight that was applicable in other projects. *"\* Percy was also responsible for helping Shirley Furlong get figure skating started in Elmvale and used his position with the Lions Club to help get financing for the new venture."* The Ballpark Lights were yet another example of using Club organizational capabilities to assist with the attainment of goals.

**1972 – A Sports Turning Point – Lighting the Park**



Many teams over the years were Proud  
to Wear the Lions Emblem on their  
Uniforms





ELMVALE DISTRICT

LIONS CLUB





# A Figure Skating Club is Born – 1964

## A Game for the Handicapped – Sledge Hockey

## 1972 – A Sports Turning Point – Lighting the Park

The Star Group, Wed. Nov. 16, 1994 — page

### Local news



#### **Lions introduce Lottery 500**

The Elmvalle and District Lions Club has undertaken another ambitious project in order to raise funds for the Elmvalle Community Arena. This time, they've launched the "Lions Lottery 500" which offers a weekly prize of \$500. The first two tickets were sold last week to two local businessmen who each handed over \$55 for a chance to win. In the photo above from left to right are: Lions fund-raising chairman Ron Desjardins, Rick Webster of Elmvalle Do-It Center who bought ticket #1, Craig Beacock of Beacock's Auto Service who bought ticket #2, Lions fund-raising co-chairman Mike Stone, and Paul Armer, manager of the Toronto Dominion Bank where draws will be held Friday afternoons. The early bird draw is Dec. 23. Regular draws begin Feb. 3, 1995.



#### **Cash for padding**

Elmvalle goalies benefitted from the helped outfit a player for the trials of the Elmvalle Lion's goalie fund. The Lions net.

1985-86





## Lions Completes its Pledge of \$25,000 toward Arena Reconstruction

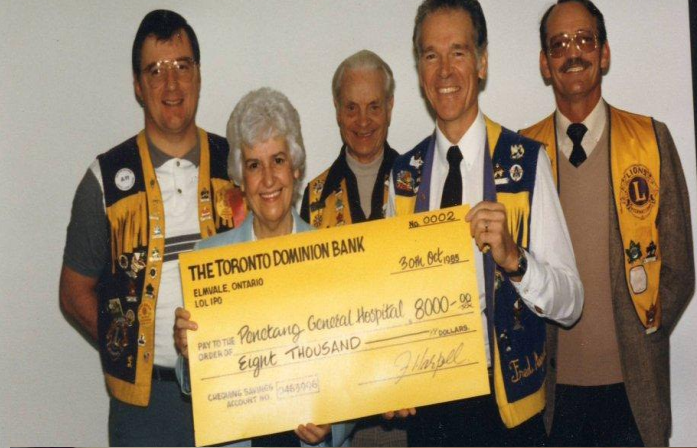


### District Lions donate towards arena

Ewart Thurlow, President of the Elmvale District Lions Club and Jim Boyle, presents Gloria Woods with a cheque for \$6750, the final instalment of the Lion's Club \$25,000 pledge towards the arena. Although Gloria and George Allen have been long since finished their work, it was their initiative that helped motivate the public into supporting our arena fundraising drive. For those who have not yet finished their pledge, letters will be going out to remind them of their commitment. The Lions Club gives generously to many of the areas needs. They are thanked for their hard work. They should be proud of their contributions.

“The Lions Club gives generously to many of the arena needs. They are thanked for their hard work. They should be proud of their contribution”





**A gift of life**  
The Elmvalle Lions Club recently donated \$9,000.00 to Pontiang General Hospital through a walkathon and luncheon held on May 25. Above left: Jack Lynn, first vice president; Sister Joan Whelan, PGH administrator; Lucille Gaudier, head nurse of the coronary care unit; Fred Harpell, director with the Lion's Club and Morley Marchant, co-chairman of the walkathon and luncheon. (last photo)

## PGH receives equipment

Thanks to the **Pontiang Lions Club**, Pontiang General Hospital is the recipient of a new portable monitor defibrillator. The club recently donated \$9,000.00 to the hospital through a walkathon and luncheon held May 25.

Almost 100 people took part in the walkathon which raised more than enough money to purchase the life-saving portable defibrillator.

According to head nurse of the coronary care unit Lucille Gaudier the unit will be used in emergency situations as well as over a longer period of time.

This is the fourth defibrillator that the hospital owns, but it is the only portable one which is equipped with drugs, a suction machine and enough oxygen until the patient could be stabilized.

Sister Joan Whelan, PGH administrator, said that the new piece of equipment is a valuable asset to the coronary care unit.

Coming up on Monday, October 8 is the annual PGH 50th. Look over the Ladies Auxiliary raised \$12,000 and hope again this year to raise another \$12,000.





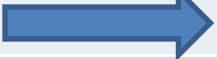


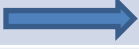



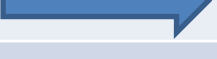


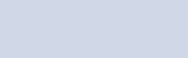
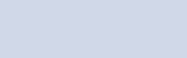
The money raised this year will be put towards the \$10,000 purchase of an endoscope, a piece of diagnostic equipment for the investigation of the gastro-intestinal tract. This piece of equipment could possibly eliminate the need for exploratory surgery.



Over the  
Years  
So  
Many  
Cheques

Level/Quality of Participation	<b>LIONS and SPORT</b> <b>These headings might well be used in a chart re Lions involvement in other community activities/ and projects</b>
Supporting and Fostering Sport	-Little NHL OMHA -Sledge Hockey (1980-1992) -Recreational skating and hockey leagues -Lacrosse (66/68) Broomball -Roller Skating (66) Tennis (76- ongoing) -Judo -Figure Skating (64- ongoing) Ball facilities and upgrades (Elmvale, Phelpston, Hillsdale...) The Arena Build was the structure against which the Curling Club was built. This was such a welcome and needed facility for Elmvale Curlers
Leadership Planning	So often good ideas and plans need a group effort and determination and backing to get underway. Lions have provided that in so many efforts- -the Arena build and ongoing /never ending improvements, additions, rebuilding
Mentoring	Often Lions were instrumental in “getting things up and going” - providing initial support and guidance. ie Figure Skating Club Sledge Hockey Elmvale Minor hockey which eventually took over much of the Arena management ; taking over Board positions -Maple Syrup Festival- originated as a committee and Fund Raising effort of Lions Club. It took on a life of its own with proceeds distributed to a variety of organization, individuals and activities
Ongoing Management	Lions took on not only the building of the Arena but its management and its oversight became the responsibility of one of the Lions’ committees from 1950 to the mid sixties. -Lions members continued to be represented on the Food Bank Board
Actual Building	-The Community Arena -Upgrades to the Arena -Tennis courts - Own Clubhouse (Gun Club) Bus Shelter -Horseshoe pits and league facilities Floe Structure -Ballpark Booth and Pavilion- Heritage Park amphitheatre....
Donations/ Sponsorship/ Fund Raising This level of involvement is similar to the involvement of many other community organizations and companies. It is the longevity of this support that sets the Lions apart	Fund raising activities have been ongoing since the inception of The Elmvale District Lions Club. Funds raised were distributed through committees: especially Health and Welfare and Boys and Girls/Youth Committees In the mid 80s distribution of funds and food from the Health and Welfare Committee was out of the newly built Lions Gun Club. From this activity came the beginnings of the Elmvale Food Bank whose various locations and needs have been supported by the Lions through the years. Fund Raising was at times, specific to various Lions causes. They were numerous and consisted of Carnivals (1949- 1960), Draws, Walkathons, Rallies .....The Annual Car/Truck draw became a major fundraiser. It has become an incredible source of funds for the support of the community.: <b>Its Recreation, Its Health, Its Welfare</b> Very often Fund Raising was held with other Groups in support of major projects: Restoration(s) of the Arena ('75 '93) - Artificial Ice (1963) EDHS re build (2019) --Light the Ball Park (1972) Heritage Park (2000) Trail System etc. etc.etc, etc.

# Outline of Lions Level/Depth of Participation in the Advancement of Sport (BUILDER) in Elmvale and District

Builder Characteristic	1950-1963	1964-1975	1976-1993	1994-Present
Initiation				
Leadership				
Mentoring				
Ongoing Management				
Actual Building				
Fund Raising Sponsor Donor				

The Elmvale District Lions Club's Level of Involvement in the Advancement of Sports has been huge and longstanding. In the first 30 years of its Charter their contribution was crucial and indispensable.

**This would be the period we would hope that you would consider in your deliberations of our nomination of the Elmvale District Lions Club as a Builder to be recognized by SSHHoF**

The following 15 years saw continued involvement but was less intense in areas of Leadership, Mentoring and the need for ongoing hands on Management.

Finally from 1995 to the present.--- Lions continued as important sponsors and donors. Their critical Community focus seemed to shift more to Health Care: medical equipment, respite and mental health care. Very substantial and significant donations and pledges were made in these areas over the last 20 years

Frank Archer, in his SSH narrative re the history of the Arena, stated that the inauguration of Springwater Township in 1994 was of significance. *"The operation of the Arena was now included in the Parks and Recreation responsibilities and remains as such."* With inauguration there was a new planner, an actual department with paid personnel and a budget .

It is evident that the Elmvale District Lions Club fulfilled a significant need for an extended period of time in our history,

**In our Sports History**



# ELMVALE DISTRICT LIONS CLUB



Sports  
BUILDER

