

8,000 people in Pugwash for Gathering of the Clans

The Gathering of the Clans has been deemed a big success, with 7,000 paying visitors and another 1,000 competitors, parade entrants, vendors, volunteers, and judges. Some reported never seeing so many people in Eaton Park for the fireworks, which were indeed splendid.

Special guests for the opening ceremony were Brigadier-General the Honourable J.J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and his wife Jean. After the opening ceremony, their honours stayed on to visit with locals and visitors in the park for an hour or so.

The Park stayed full all afternoon as people enjoyed the vendors and music entertainment, ending with Lennie Gallant and his band rocking the place until the fireworks were set off.

It has been many years since so many pipe bands have competed and played in the Parade. Six bands competed, with first prize in Grade 5 and Grade 3 going to the Dartmouth and District bands. Other competing bands were the 78th Highlanders from Halifax, the Heatherbells from Pictou, the 8th Canadian Hussars from Moncton and the Belfast (PEI) Pipe and Drum Band.

One hundred highland dancers graced the Eaton Stage with dances such as Flora and the Sean Truibhas. The winner of the Bonnie Gael Huston memorial award went to Victoria Boily of Dartmouth.

The parade winners were: 1st Commercial – Roy Mattinson & Sons, 2nd Commercial – Cunningham Construction, Honourable mention – Stillman On Site Land Registration. In the non-commercial category, 1st went to George Lockhart, 2nd – Communities in Bloom which also won Most Humourous and Honourable mention went to the Northumberland Community Curling Club. Of the antique vehicles, 1st was a black 1930 Chevrolet owned by Fred Embree of Chapman Settlement, 2nd went to a 1933 red Ford truck owned by John Van de Wiel, Pugwash and honourable mention to a Model A red Ford convertible, owned by Aubrey Boss of Tidnish

Ribbons went to winners in the horse and pony section. Saddle horse – red ribbon (1st) Gene Williams, blue (2nd) Maggie Dewar, white (3rd) Holly MacRae. A red ribbon to horse team winner Florence Trenholm and a red ribbon to Brooklyn Hiebbert for saddle pony. In carriage horse or pony the red ribbon went to Hubert Hunsley, Louise Haycocks and Kirsteen Thomson won the blue ribbon and the white ribbon went to Richard Jamieson.

Congratulations to all the winners and runners up. A number of trophies have yet to be picked up, please call the Pugwash Village Hall at 243 2946 for your prize.