

Submitted Aug. 9/10 by John K.

HISTORY OF THE DOG HOUSE GROUP

To the best of my recollection and knowledge of the Dog House Group, it was started some time prior to Aug. 7, 1977 by “Hoppy” H. in his home on Switch Road, Black Creek area.

When Hoppy was drinking, he would head to the “Dog House” – a very solid 2½ car garage complete with a 2 piece bath. When he quit drinking, he still went to the “Dog House” and brought some original members I imagine mostly from St. Catharines because he worked for the City of St. Catharines.

After a period of time in his home and garage on Switch Road, the Dog House Group became “official” and moved to the Library in August 1977 at St. Josephs’s School where it proceeded to grow until the library wasn’t large enough. The school then permitted the now Dog House Group to use the gymnasium. Unfortunately there were no records kept at this time.

“Hoppy” passed away around 1980 and the fellowship continued with Paul leading the way. It continued to be one of the first discussion groups in the area with speaker meetings on anniversaries.

Around 2005 the Dog Hose group moved from St. Joseph School to St. Joseph’s Hall, where it remains until this day with approximately 20 members and meetings averaging 20 – 25 for discussions and up to 80 for open speaker meetings.