

## JOHN HAMILTOM GAMMON (HAM)

Ham retired in 1983 after 35 years of teaching and joined the Bathurst Branch of NBSRT that same year. He held several offices in his local branch including Provincial Director and President. After serving locally he was eventually recruited by the Provincial Branch and served as Vice-president and President. During his time as president, Ham was instrumental in getting Port Elgin Branch started. He also worked hard at increasing membership in NBSRT. Another priority of Ham's was to get relief for those teachers who were pensioned in early years and were finding their pensions inadequate by today's standard.

Ham feels that NBSRT is very important to the retired teacher especially in the areas of pension and health care. He feels it is our watchdog looking out for our best interests. When asked what he personally gained from membership in NBSRT, Ham's answer was: "Most of all I enjoyed contact with my fellow teachers all over New Brunswick, they became like family to me."

Ham feels that every retired teacher should become a member of NBSRT. He feels that numbers are very important when dealing with the Provincial Government. He also feels that Reflections magazine is so important to keep us in contact with the other branches in the province.

Ham lives with his wife, Bernice, on their dairy farm in Carron Point just east of Bathurst and has enjoyed his retirement and his association with NBSRT.

submitted by,

Ron Smith, Director, Bathurst Branch