

OHS BULLETIN

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A Tribute to Jean Burnet

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Canada has lost a distinguished scholar and teacher who made a very significant contribution to the study of our Canadian society. The OHS has lost an historian, author, editor, lecturer, volunteer, donor and one of its greatest friends.

We must also remember first and foremost Jean's love and devotion to her dogs and cats.

Born in 1920, Jean grew up in Owen Sound where she developed a keen interest in the politics and natural heritage of Grey County. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago and Jean, as a young woman pursuing a scholarly career, was indeed a pioneer. Jean became a sociologist and her teaching career began at the University of Toronto (1945-1967). She went on to become the founding chair (1967-1972 & 1974-76) of the Department of Sociology, Glendon College, York University.

In 1951 Jean published *Next Year Country*, which examined the social dynamics of a small prairie town during the Great Depression. Many of our members will be familiar with Jean's classic "*Coming Canadians*" *An Introduction to a History of Canada's Peoples*, written with Harold Palmer and published in 1988. Her many books and countless articles clearly established the groundwork for the field of ethnic studies in Canada.

In memory of Jean, Dr. Tamara Palmer Seiler, University of Calgary, in a letter to me accurately summarized her impact. "In short, Jean was a role model for young

scholars, perhaps particularly for those who came of age in the 1960s and 1970s and who found in her work a point of departure for their own, and in her determination and courage, they found great inspiration."

For over 65 years Jean had a

and many children. There was also narrative history, some of it high quality, by both amateur and professional historians, but many of the documents had an appealing immediacy."

Jean was the author of the first publication in the OHS Research Series, launched in 1972. *Ethnic Groups in Upper Canada* was to set a high standard for the series, and Jean continued to set an incredibly high standard in everything that she did for the Society.

In 1988, the OHS and the Multicultural History Society of Ontario established The History of Ontario's Peoples Grant Programme, with support from the former Ontario Ministry of Culture and Communications. I was hired by the co-chairs, Jean Burnet and Dorothy Duncan to develop and administer a new grant programme for not-for-profit organizations and First Nations Band Councils. The application form stated that "a project had to promote a greater understanding and appreciation of the history of one or more of the many peoples of Ontario. A project had to concentrate on raising the public awareness of the history of Ontario of a particular culture or cultures."

We were swamped with applications each year and in five years we funded over 200 projects.

It is very hard to believe now that the OHS actually gave out grants from 1988-1993 but Jean cherished this programme. She was one of those unique scholars, modest, humble and unpretentious, who could relate to the diverse cultures of Ontario and work effectively at the grassroots level. She also believed in the importance of local and oral history.

From 1990-1995, Jean was the editor of our scholarly journal, *Ontario History*. Her first edition



The OHS remembers Dr. Jean Robertson Burnet
June 10, 1920 – September 14, 2009

variety of relationships with the OHS. As a young student, Jean used the *Papers and Records of the Ontario Historical Society* (the name was changed to *Ontario History* in 1947) in preparing two theses. Jean wrote, "I remember with special pleasure the 'Proudfoot Papers' which appeared in the 1930s, the diary of the Reverend William Proudfoot, a Presbyterian clergyman with strong opinions

OHS Sets New Landmark for Affiliation!



OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty (right) meets with George Lefebvre, Secretary of the new Jack Munroe Historical Society of Elk City, the OHS's ninth affiliate to incorporate in the province of Ontario in 2009 – a landmark number for the Society in its over 120-year history.

Photo Andrea Izzo

2009 has certainly been a very busy and fulfilling year for The Ontario Historical Society. Heading into December and reflecting upon the past twelve months, one pattern seems to emerge – an energy and excitement at the 'grassroots' level among local historical groups, societies and the dedicated volunteers without whom these historical organizations could not exist. *An Act to incorporate The Ontario Historical Society, Assented to 1st April, 1899*, authorizes the OHS to incorporate an affiliated society dedicated to preserving and promoting Ontario's history. Interested groups must go through an application process during which they must form a volunteer board of directors and draft an organization mission statement, constitution and by-laws, pay an administration fee to the OHS in addition to holding a public meeting. The Society is very proud to announce that in 2009, nine historical organizations have incorporated through affiliation with the OHS and are now not-for-profit corporations in the Province of Ontario, a new record in the Society's history! Congratulations

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President's Report

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Greetings members! I am pleased to report that the OHS offices have been busy with activities and hard work to better provide improved customer service for our members, and I'd like to offer a special thanks to the our staff and volunteers who make such work possible.

Since the launch of the OHS Insurance Programme, 71 historical organizations who are members in good standing with the Society have applied and been approved for General Liability insurance and Directors' and Officers' Liability insurance. If you would like more information, contact insurance@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

I am pleased to report that at our most recent meeting of the Board of Directors, a new Legal Affairs Committee was established, and

Jesse Kugler, of Caley-Wray of Toronto, was elected as Chair. Its role will be to offer support and advice to the Board on legal matters facing the Society.

Congratulations to OHS Past President Jean Murray Cole on the launch of her new book, *Sir Sandford Fleming - His Early Diaries, 1845-1853* (please see photo, page 6). Congratulations are also in order to OHS member Liz Driver, curator of the Campbell House Museum and Past President of the Culinary Historians of Ontario. Liz was recently recognized at the 12th annual Canadian Culinary Book Awards as the first recipient of a new hall of fame award for her book *Culinary Landmarks: A Bibliography of Canadian Cookbooks, 1825-1949*.

I wish all of our members and OHS Bulletin readers a very safe and happy holiday season!

...FROM BURNET, PAGE 1

was appropriately a special issue devoted to women's history. Jean never looked back and over the next five years she broke new ground and pioneered many themes and fields. There were other special issues on the First Nations, on early education and on museums. In September 1993, there were two articles written by members of the First Nations. The March 1994 edition, *Nineteenth-Century Wikwemikong: The Foundation of a Community and an Exploration of its Peoples* completely sold out in a few weeks. The OHS reprinted another 1,000 copies and they in turn were quickly sold: this remains today a record for *Ontario History*.

Jean did not expect that "looking after *Ontario History* would be so rewarding." Her editorship had the enduring characteristics of inclusiveness and the goals of high standards of research and writing. Because of these achievements, Jean contributed immeasurably not only to the history of Ontario but also to the development of the discipline of history.

From 1992-95, Jean helped the OHS to stop the demolition of the John McKenzie House and then supported and donated generously to the restoration of the Society's new headquarters. In the next few years, Jean picked up the pace, speaking on our behalf at conferences, seminars and workshops across Ontario. She assumed the editorship of our popular *Hometown History*, with a chapter that she authored titled "Including Ethnic and Cultural Groups in Your Local History". For the OHS publication, *My Cultural Handbook*, Jean wrote an article "Festivals of the Newcomers in 20th Century Ontario".

Through this engagement Jean developed as an activist for the Society. She joined us at demonstrations at Queen's Park to protest the relocation of the Ministry of Culture and the destruction of archival documents. She listened carefully to our member organizations that were very concerned about the fate of Grosse Île. She



To demonstrate the OHS' appreciation for Jean Burnet's many years of service, the late Mary Lou Fox (right) of the Ojibwe Cultural Foundation, Manitoulin Island and a former OHS Board Member, conducted a special eagle feather ceremony at the 1995 OHS Annual Conference in Chatham. Mary Lou also handcrafted a beautiful leather shield which she presented to Jean.

Photo Rob Leverty

then researched, wrote and gave presentations on "the Irish Quarantine Tragedy". The Government of Canada ultimately appointed Jean to a special "Advisory Panel on Grosse Île." Jean was very engaged with this file and helped influence recommendations for greater preservation of this important national historic site.

From 1995-2003, the OHS appealed various Provincial Orders to relocate pioneer cemeteries in the *public interest* for real estate development. Jean attended every single public hearing, often helping us late at night to review testimony and prepare questions for the next day. Jean realized that if you believed the OHS represented all the cultures of Ontario and its mandate was to preserve and protect the history of all the peoples of this province, then it was your fundamental duty to defend everyone's burial place. In other words, she exemplified the notion of the *public interest*.

Point Abino Lightstation – A Threatened Treasure

Charlene Nigh, Guest Editor
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Described by lighthouse experts as the "Taj Mahal" of Canadian lighthouses, Point Abino stands tall and proud, even as her beauty fades with each passing year.

Built on the north east shore of Lake Erie in 1917, the lighthouse warned mariners of the treacherous rocky shoals in the busy shipping corridor between the Welland Canal and Buffalo, N.Y./Erie Canal. After 78 years of service, the lighthouse was declared inactive, replaced by automation and electronic navigation aids. Within a year (1996), the lighthouse, and the keeper's dwelling were listed as "surplus".

In 1998, the lighthouse was designated a National Historic Site, and assurances made that its heritage character would be protected when it left the federal inventory. Although the keeper's dwelling was not designated, it is included in the character-defining elements which contribute to the heritage value of the lighthouse. The dwelling, the lighthouse and their associated property define the "Point Abino Lightstation".

The lightstation languished, alone and uncared for, until purchased by the Town of Fort Erie

in 2003. A pre-purchase estimate of restoration costs was approximately \$350,000. The purchase price was \$5,000.

Hope to see the lighthouse restored faded quickly, as community leaders debated funding priorities, public access and jurisdiction. Delay after delay led to avoidance and indifference. Restoration and development of the lightstation as a heritage tourism destination has clearly not been a priority for the Town.

The one bright light since 2003 has been the summertime trolley tours to the lighthouse. These volunteer-led tours have recently completed their seventh year. The tours are a cooperative effort between the Town and the Point Abino Lightstation Preservation Society (PALPS). Thousands of visitors from Ontario, Western New York, and beyond – on both sides of the international border have enjoyed this delightful experience.

In the spring of this year, two major events occurred at the federal level – the Heritage Lighthouse Protection Act was adopted in May 2009, and Parks Canada presented the National Historic Sites Cost-Sharing Program.

The Town applied for a grant

PALPS CONT'D, PAGE 3...



On November 18th, Jim Brownell MPP Stormont-Dundas-Glengarry and Parliamentary Assistant, Ministry of Consumer Services got another huge pile of petitions in support of his Private Member's Bill 149 from Rob Leverty, OHS. Since last March, when *The Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009* received all party support at 2nd Reading, Jim has been reading your petitions into the official record at the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. The OHS and OGS continue to collect petitions from across the Province. The response has been overwhelming with thousands upon thousands of signatures and fellow citizens from over 296 cities, towns and villages in Ontario supporting Bill 149. The message from Jim is "Send those petitions and keep up the pressure!"

Photo Office of Jim Brownell

On a cold, damp November afternoon in 2001, Jean supported the OHS vigil in front of St. James Cathedral, protesting the Cathedral's application to relocate, in the *public interest*, the northern half of the burying ground for luxury condominiums.

Jean was awarded the Cruikshank Gold Medal "for outstanding contributions to the OHS...for all that you have done, and continue to do for the Society."

We miss you Jean – your splendid humour, your careful editorial pencil, your warmth, your dignity, and your wisdom. You made our country more decent, tolerant and civilized. In 1989 Jean was recog-

nized by the Government of Canada when she received the Order of Canada.

We were both humbled and thrilled to be informed that IN THE LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT of JEAN ROBERTSON BURNET, of the City of Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, her ESTATE is instructed "to deliver the sum of TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS to the Cemetery Defence Fund of The Ontario Historical Society."

On behalf of the membership of the OHS - Thank you again Jean! Your incredible generosity inspires us with new confidence and will sustain us for future challenges.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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Archaeologists of Ontario

Canadian Friends
Historical Association

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Sarah Hutcheon

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in memory of Dr. Jean Burnet

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in memory of Joan Copping

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Brian Winter

Across The Province

On a beautiful evening in September a very large crowd gathered at Black Creek Pioneer Village to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the construction of the Schmidt-Dalziel Barn. Several speakers reminisced about the rich history of this incredible structure located at the north-west corner of Jane Street and Steeles Avenue in the City of Toronto. Marty Brent, General Manager of the Village, Gerri Lynn O'Connor, Chair, Toronto Region Conservation Authority, Jim Agnew, representing the Dalziel and Agnew families, Ken Higgs, former Field Officer, Humber Valley Conservation Authority, Lorne Smith, Secretary, Pennsylvania German Folklore Society of Ontario, Dorothy Duncan, former Curator of the Village and Jim Hunter, Registrar of the Village brought tears to the eyes and laughter to the lips of the guests, as they shared their personal memories and adventures with the guests. To learn more: 416.736.1733.

The City of Waterloo opened a new museum at the Conestoga Mall in October. This permanent display and exhibition space includes 4,000 square feet and will provide space for the city's Heritage Collection of over 10,000 artifacts, which was last on display at the Seagram Museum, 11 years ago. Congratulations!

The Board of Management of Guelph Museums has launched a fundraising campaign for the new Guelph Civic Museum. In the meantime, the museum continues to offer a busy programme of exhibits, events and lectures: 519.836.1221.

The new Scugog Shores Heritage Centre and Archives, located at the Scugog Community Recreation Centre on Reach Street in Port Perry is now open. Congratulations to the Lake Scugog Historical Society and all the other contributors to

this fine, new facility. Information: 905.985.3658.

The Campbellford-Seymour Heritage Society participated in the 100th Anniversary celebrations of the Seymour Generating Station with a display of historic materials: 705-653-2634.

Congratulations to Mark Leiren-Young, author of "Never Shoot A Stampede Queen" on winning the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour and cash award for 2009. Danielle Shachar, a Grade 9 student at Newtonbrook Secondary School in Willowdale, was the winner of the Stephen Leacock Student Humorous Story Competition, presented by the Stephen Leacock Association. For details on the 63rd Annual Award competition and presentation in 2010: 705.835.7061.

In preparation for the commemoration of the War of 1812 The Ship's Company of Penetanguishene plans to produce a replica 27 foot War of 1812 gunboat that could be transported to events and destinations in the Great Lakes area and beyond. To learn more about this volunteer group or to donate to the project: hmsbadger@csolve.net.

With regret we note the passing of Ken Dawson of Lakehead University and dedicated member of the Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society. He was the author of many books and articles on the archaeology and history of north-western Ontario and the museum is accepting donations for the Professor Ken Dawson Research Trust: 807.623.0801.

Two books of interest to the heritage community: *Fingerprints Through Time* is filled with crime stories and fascinating facts about law and order throughout Guelph's history, 1827 to the present: douglas.pflug@police.guelph.on.ca and *Adventures of a Paper Sleuth* by Hugh P. MacMillan has



...FROM *PALPS*, PAGE 2

to restore the lighthouse. A 2009 restoration estimate was \$1.4 million. A promise of \$425,000 in funding was offered, if the Town provided the rest of the money. With only \$140,000 in the lighthouse reserve, Council voted to sell the lightkeeper's dwelling.

This prompted an angry response from the lighthouse volunteers, heritage groups, and the wider community. The Town's Museum and Cultural Heritage Committee advised that the dwelling is an intrinsic part of the lightstation, and was under review for heritage designation. PALPS withdrew the letter of support which had been

sent with the grant application. The volunteers have long advocated the use of the dwelling as a visitor center, tea room and possible bed and breakfast accommodation, as a means of providing revenue for the lightstation.

On Oct. 13, 2009, the Council passed a by-law to designate the Point Abino Lighthouse Keeper's Dwelling under the Ontario Heritage Act. However, the Parks Canada grant and status of the Keeper's Dwelling are still unclear, and the Point Abino Lightstation remains threatened.

Formed in 2003 with a mandate "to encourage and support the restoration, preservation, and promotion of the Point Abino Lightstation" PALPS recognizes the jurisdiction of the Town, and work with the Town in a cooperative relationship.

PALPS became incorporated in the Province of Ontario through

now been issued in paperback: 613.692.5590.

Looking for somewhere to go or something to do? Look no further!

- "A Heritage Christmas": Chesley Heritage and Woodworking Museum until January 15, 2010: 519.363.9837.

- "All Dressed Up With Somewhere To Go": Peel Heritage Complex until February 28, 2010: 905.791.4055.

- "The Forgotten Years" celebrating the work of artists living in Niagara-on-the-Lake from 1929 to 1973, until April 15, 2010: 905.468.3912.

- "Treasures from the Collection" McCrae House, Guelph, until April 25, 2010: 519.836.1221.

How about attending a lecture or programme?

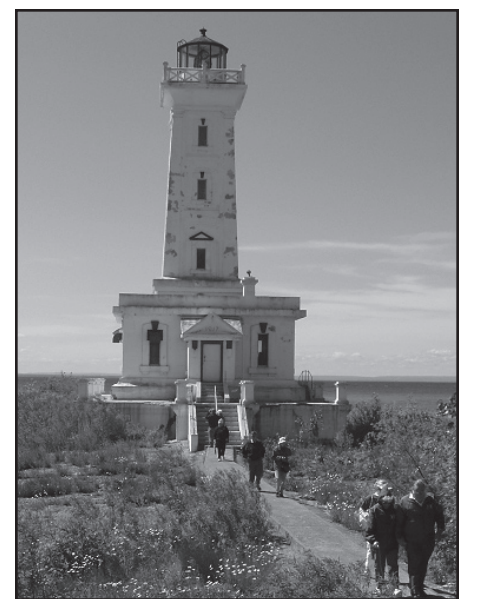
- January 20, 2010: "North Pole Exploration" with Dr. Ken Hedges, and February 17 "Orillia's Industrial Heritage" with Drs. Todd Stubbs and Reg Horne, sponsored by the History Group of the Orillia Museum of Art and History at St. Paul's United Church: 705.326.2159.

- January 20, 2010: "The History of National Flags" with Right Reverend D. Ralpy Spence, at the Grimsby Historical Society: 905.945.8587.

- February 2, 2010: "The Early Settlement of Ontario: The Untold Story" with Dr. Catharine Wilson, University of Guelph, and March 2, 2010 "Building the Wall" with Ross Irwin, Guelph Historical Society: 519.824.3840.

- March 29, 2010: "Canadians at Table: Food, Fellowship and Folklore" with Dorothy Duncan, at the Beaver Valley Community Centre, Thornbury. Contact The Blue Mountains Craileith Heritage Depot: 705.444.2601.

- April 17, 2010: "Cavalry Cavalcade" celebrating the 200th anniversary of The Governor General's Horse Guards, sponsored by The Governor General's Horse Guards Foundation and the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust, at the Markham Theatre: 905.305.SHOW.



Point Abino Lightstation (above) and Light Keeper's Dwelling (above left) are national treasures which remain threatened.

Photos PALPS

affiliation with the OHS in September 2005.

For further information or if you would like to make a donation to PALPS, please contact Charlene Nigh, Secretary, 905.382.2047 or gnigh@mergetel.com.



At the annual Ontario Museum Association Conference in October 2009 in Hamilton, an Award of Excellence was presented to The OPP Museum, for its “outstanding, innovative and engaging” travelling exhibition, *Arresting Images: Mug shots from The OPP Museum*. Left to right: The Honourable Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture; Jeanie Tummon, OPP Museum Curator; Anne-Marie Hagan, Chair, 2009 OMA Awards Committee; and Chris Johnstone, OPP Museum Collections Coordinator.

Photo by Graham Iddon for the OMA

Museum Focus: The Sunset Museum Network

**Pam Cain-Hawley, Chair,
OHS Museums Committee
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the dedicated to the promotion and preservation of local culture and history in the Dryden area.

Formed in 2002, the Sunset Museum Network includes ten museums in the far north and west of Ontario, geographically part of the Sunset Travel Region. The museums represent the variety found in museums across the province – operated by either municipal councils or volunteers; open either year-round or seasonally; operating out of either historical buildings or museum-purpose facilities. The Sunset Museum Network meets twice a year to plan opportunities for joint promotion, programming support, traveling exhibitions, advocacy and professional development.

Atikokan Centennial Museum

Along with an adjoining cabin, this newly restored museum in the old Atikokan Town Hall displays the early history of the area with regard to aboriginal peoples and pioneer settlers. The history of the local logging and mining industries is also presented. Artifacts in the museum include locomotive, logging and mining equipment and a 10,000-year-old caribou antler.

The Chapple Museum

Located in a former General Store on Main Street in Barwick, the Chapple Museum was established in 1999 as part of the town's Centennial. A seasonal Museum, the exhibits feature display rooms related to the community and early settlers. Operated by the Chapple Heritage Committee of the township, the organization also designated St. Paul's Anglican Church built in 1906 as a Heritage site.

The Dryden & District Museum

This museum is located in the historic Hambleton House, built in 1897. Renovated in 1987, the museum moved to the site, creating themed room galleries. The Dryden & District Museum is operated by the City of Dryden and is open year-round. The collection reflects

The Fort Frances Museum

Fort Frances is a gateway community bordering on the United States and is the largest town in the Rainy River District. The Fort Frances Museum grew from the dreams of a historical society organized in the late 1950's. The committee's projects included building a replica fort and displaying artifacts in a lookout tower. In 1978, the historical committee found a permanent home for the museum – originally built in 1898 as a school, the building is located in the downtown business district.

A year round facility, the museum houses and interprets a collection based on the development of Fort Frances and the Rainy River District. When the historical society disbanded, operation of the museum fell under the Community Services Division of the Town. Since 2004, the museum has been implementing a Heritage Tourism development that included a major renovation and expansion completed in 2007. To be completed in 2010, the project includes the re-development of the original museum lookout tower and the logging tug boat *Hallett*, as well as way-finding banners and interpretive panels reflecting the fort and border history of the community along the Rainy River.

The Lake of the Woods Museum

Located in the community of Kenora, on the northern shores of Lake of the Woods, the Lake of the Woods Museum was founded in 1964 by the Kenora Town Council. Its purpose is to collect, preserve, research and exhibit the material culture of the community to reflect its origins, growth and development. When the museum was established, the collection focused on the artifacts of Captain Frank Edwards, a First Nations

SUNSET CONT'D, PAGE 8...

Access Beyond the Ramp Part 2: Representation of Persons with Disabilities in your Collection

**John Rae, Guest Editor
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Editor's Note: John Rae is 1st Vice President of the Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBEC). In his first article for the OHS bulletin (Dec. 2008), John Rae examined a variety of access issues for museums. In the following article he discusses the topic of representation of the lives and history of persons with a disability in your facility's collection.

Persons who live with disabilities have a history, though it is not nearly as well documented as it should be! We have been present in all societies from time in memoriam. Today, we are found among all cultural backgrounds, in all communities, and comprise approximately one-seventh of Canadians.

What material exists in your collection that pertains to the lives and history of people with disabilities in your community? At a time when museums are increasingly concerned to present “hidden histories,” why is disability rarely, if ever, included or discussed?

A project in the United Kingdom, titled *Rethinking Disability Representation in Museums and Galleries*, identified a wealth of material in museum and art gallery collections throughout the UK. However, much of this was in storage, and not on display. Where objects and artworks were displayed, their connection with disability was rarely made explicit or interpreted to visitors.

Representations of people with disabilities in displays and exhibitions, when presented, most often conformed to prevailing stereotypes found in other media - in film, literature, television and charity advertising. These stereotypes include people with disabilities as freaks, as passive and dependent recipients of charity, Biblical miracle cures; and as heroes who somehow transcend their disability by overcoming the challenges presented by their impairments. Depictions of people with disabilities in everyday life were practically non-existent.



On November 7, 2009, the OHS, in partnership with The Simcoe County Historical Association (SCHA), held a workshop entitled *Making Ontario's Heritage Accessible for People with Disabilities* at the Simcoe County Museum in Minesing. Seen here (left to right) are: Rob Leverty, OHS; Diane Gallinger, Jordan Heritage Resources & Founding Director, Canadian Accessible Museums & Galleries Association; Ellen Millar, SCHA; John Rae, First Vice President, Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians; Dr. Dorothy Duncan, Vice President, Friends of The OPP Museum and Carol Johnson, President, The Uxbridge-Scott Historical Society. Another speaker not pictured was Dr. John Carter, Museums & Heritage Advisor, Ministry of Culture.

Photo Timothy Mikkelsen

Interviews conducted with curators helped to explain this situation. Many were open to including representations of people with disabilities in exhibitions and displays but were concerned how this might be achieved. Many expressed a fear of causing offence, of making mistakes.

Should we tell (and if so, how should we tell?) the difficult stories surrounding disability history - of asylums, industrial and war injury, holocaust, freak-show history, and the personal experiences of pain, discrimination and marginalization? In what circumstances should an object's link with disability be made explicit where it might not otherwise be obvious to the audience? How can the material in collections be presented in ways which incorporate perspectives and insights from disabled people themselves?

While I believe in providing more information to the visitor than some may prefer to do, involving individuals with various disabilities from your community can offer their perspectives and help answer these and other questions you may have. Any group is more likely to patronize your facility when they see their group represented in exhibitions and the content of programs such as lectures and discussions.

Making your facility more welcoming to persons with disabilities does involve offering opportunities to touch items on display, an attitude of acceptance, and it should also include representations of the history and lives of persons with various disabilities.

The social model of disability is challenging the negative ways in which persons with disabilities have traditionally been depicted by highlighting the environmental, attitudinal and social barriers that people with various disabilities face in our struggles for equality and basic human rights.

Museums, which depict the past, can play an important role in portraying the role of persons with disabilities throughout history, and our search to achieve the elusive motto of the International Year of the Disabled Person back in 1981, “full participation and equality.”

Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart, Editor
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In September, Toronto police arrested a man who was stealing bronze vases from Mount Hope Cemetery. He was charged with two counts of fraud over \$5,000 and one count of possession of the proceeds of a crime. Ten days later York Region police were called to Beechwood Cemetery and apprehended the same man taking vases and name plates! This time he had an accomplice. The investigation led to a third man and a warehouse with 659 bronze flower vases and 16 name plates. There has been a series of this type of robbery and several cemeteries have been targeted. At least four Catholic cemeteries in the Toronto area have been affected.

At Cataragui Cemetery in Kingston vandals continue to steal statuary despite the constant vigilance of the cemetery staff. It is believed that some of the stolen goods make their way across the Thousand Island Bridge.

In Greely near Ottawa The United Jewish Community Cemetery was the scene of desecration. Nazi swastikas and anti-Semitic epithets were sprayed on the walls and headstones. The hate crime unit is investigating. The damage to a sacred place might be repaired but the shock and hurt to the community will linger on.

Many monuments were extensively damaged recently in Mountain Mennonite Cemetery in Campden. Many of these monuments commemorated early settlers. This damage is believed to have occurred when municipal maintenance staff attempted to lay down gravestones that were a potential safety hazard. The damage in many cases can never be repaired. Maintenance staff should be trained to handle this type of situation. Under the Cemeteries Act it is illegal to damage a tombstone.

Congratulations to the Citizens for the Protection and Preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery of Peterborough who have been awarded the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario's A.K. Sculthorpe Award. This was for their work in opposing the closure and removal of the remains of at least 75 original pioneers interred at Confederation Square. The original proposal was to construct a Wall of Honour monument. A settlement has been approved to honour the local veterans without disturbing their ancestors. Please see photo, top right.

Laura Suchan writing in "Kindred Spirits", the newsletter of the Durham Region Branch O.G.S. discusses gravestone iconography and the remarkable progression of artistic, cultural and religious expression throughout the nineteenth century. Much of the information contained on gravestones is in danger of being lost due the effects of environmental agents, atmospheric pollution, weathering and poor repair.

Genealogists and historians carefully record the personal information and epitaphs but seldom record anything else on the stone. Laura

has developed a simple Grave-stone Inventory Sheet for use in cemeteries. This may be obtained by e-mailing Laura at laura@laurerelwriting.com From personal experience I have seen many stones, particularly in older cemeteries, that have scenes which are eroding badly. Many are unique and should be carefully preserved for their artistic as well as historic value. I urge our cemetery friends to take along a sheet when they visit a cemetery.

Members of the Chinese community tend their ancestors' graves during the Chung Yeung Festival. This is a time set aside to pay respect and remember their ancestors. This tradition is still carried on by Chinese families here in Canada.

An impressive ceremony was held at Mount Pleasant Cemetery in Toronto in October. Commemorative plaques were unveiled for five premiers who are interred in the cemetery. Specially invited guests included Lt. Governor Honourable David Onley, former Lt. Governor Honourable Lincoln Alexander and Jim Brownell, MPP for Stormont-Dundas-South Gengarry who represented the Premier. Jim Brownell was the sponsor of a Private Member's Bill to recognize Ontario's Premiers similar to the national recognition of Canada's Prime Ministers. Jim Brownell is also the sponsor of Bill 149, *Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009*. Other guests included Hon. Kathleen Wynne, Minister of Education, MPP Don Valley West; Hon. Aileen Carroll, Minister of Culture, MPP Barrie; and Rob Oliphant, MP Don Valley West. Mike Filey delivered the Historical Address. The Premiers that were honoured were Sir Oliver Mowat, Sir George William Ross, Sir William Howard Hearst, George Howard Ferguson and George Stewart Henry.

Noreen Croxford has kept an eye on Port Franks Cemetery in Lambton Shores for several years. With her interest and efforts the cemetery has now been recognized and will appear on the Official Town Plan. We keep stressing that small cemeteries, particularly those that are unmarked, should be recorded on the Official Town Plan as well as registered with the Cemeteries Regulation Unit, Ministry of Business Services. The more people that know about a cemetery the easier it will be to preserve it.

There have been a number of concerns raised regarding the removal of tombstones to a central location to make it easier to cut the grass, dousing for burials, and probing. The Cemeteries Act is quite clear that removal of tombstones is against the law. Requests for dousing and probing must be approved by the administrators of the cemetery and could be considered disturbing human remains which is illegal.

At this time I would like to thank those who have signed petitions and written letters in support of Bill 149 – the *Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act*. We still need the support of all Ontarians until this

Citizens for the Protection and Preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery Receive Provincial Award



The presentation of the A.K. Sculthorpe Award to John Sheehan (center) and Prof. Peter McConkey (right) was made by David Sculthorpe, whose mother Alice King Sculthorpe, of Port Hope, was a pioneer of historic preservation and a mentor to preservationists throughout Ontario.
Photo ACO, Peterborough Branch

Editor's Note: *The following is excerpted from a media release and reprinted with permission from the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario, Peterborough Branch.*

Local group Citizens for the Protection and Preservation of the Pioneer Cemetery (CPPPC) was honoured recently by the Provincial Council of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario (ACO) for advocacy on behalf of the pioneer Burial Ground and the heritage precinct – Confederation Park and the historic buildings surrounding it – in which it is situated. John Sheehan and Prof. Peter McConkey accepted the A.K. Sculthorpe Award of Merit on behalf of all members of the group, including Eleanor Aldus, Bill Amell, Gary Carey, Stan MacLean, Richard Wellesley Staples, and Fergus Young.

The presentation was made Friday November 6, 2009 at the annual ACO Awards Dinner held at the historic Arts and Letters Club in Toronto.

The A.K. Sculthorpe Award recognizes an individual, an informal group or an established non-profit organization which at a critical point achieved exemplary success in solving a significant heritage crisis. The people involved have demonstrated leadership in the field, integrity, and the ability to be inclusive and communicate the value of heritage conservation to others.

The award recipients, CPPPC, are a group of Peterborough and area residents who came together in 2006 to oppose the closure of a significant part of the original pioneer Burial Ground as proposed by the City of Peterborough. This pro-

posal was intended to facilitate the construction of a Wall of Honour monument commemorating local veterans of various wars, and, as required by the Ontario Cemeteries Act, would have necessitated the disinterment of the remains of up to 75 pioneers in unmarked graves.

John Sheehan of the CPPPC remarked: "Looking ahead, the most straightforward avenue to change is MPP Jim Brownell's private member's Bill 149, the *Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009*. This bill has all party support, has passed second reading, and is in committee. It would prevent the removal of remains from any of the inactive, often historic, cemeteries currently at risk. Petitions in support of Mr. Brownell's bill are coming into the legislature from all across the province."

Eleanor Aldus, also of the CPPPC remarked: "The more I do genealogy, the more I understand that those who have pioneer families have to stand up ... you cannot understand who you are if you do not understand where you came from."

The award citation for the CPPPC reads in part: "For researching and saving an original pioneer burial ground in a preeminent Peterborough open civic space, and for efforts at influencing the Ministry of Culture and other civic and provincial officials to develop a best practices protocol for future similar situations." Just how convincing was the research undertaken and published by CPPPC may be gauged by the historically uncharacteristic decision of the Registrar of Cemeteries to deny the city's request to close the cemetery, thereby disallowing disinterment.

Bill is passed. Please keep the petitions and letters coming. I would also like to acknowledge all who have supported the Cemetery Defence Fund with their donations. Also, there is a group of supporters who send me clippings, articles etc. Their continued interest is most welcome. I wish my cemetery friends compliments of the season.

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE OHS CEMETERY DEFENCE FUND!

The resources of the OHS are constantly challenged as we try to defend the cemeteries that are threatened across the province. We can't do it alone. All donations will receive a tax receipt.

Exhibits, Events and Notices



On Saturday, October 17th, the OHS held a workshop in Sudbury entitled *Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of The Ontario Provincial Police*. This workshop was hosted by The Sudbury Region Police Museum and presented in partnership with The OPP Museum, Friends of The OPP Museum and The Voyageur Heritage Network. Seen here were workshop speakers (left to right): Dorothy Duncan, Vice-President, Friends of The OPP Museum, who gave a presentation on *MUSH!! Dining on the go in early northern Ontario, social history and recipes collected for the OPP's Commemorative Patrol: by dog sled, snowshoe and rail*. Dorothy also brought samples to taste; Patricia Bromley, Retired OPP Staff Sergeant, who gave the presentation *New and Uncharted Waters – Reflections on Women Joining the OPP in 1974*; Jeanie Tummon, Curator, The OPP Museum, who gave a presentation on stories behind *Arresting Images: Mug shots from The OPP Museum*; and Emile Lavigne, Chair, The Sudbury Region Police Museum and Retired Superintendent, The Sudbury Regional Police who spoke on *Working Together*.

Photo Linda Kelly

...FROM AFFILIATION, PAGE 1

and welcome to these nine groups:
The Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society:

This organization strives to bring together those people interested in the diverse historical heritage of the former Townships of Adolphustown, South Fredericksburgh and North Fredericksburgh, now part of the Town of Greater Napanee, to research, retain, preserve and present historical facts pertaining to this area. More specifically, the aims and objectives shall be: To undertake and promote the study and publication of historical research in the former Townships of Adolphustown and North/South Fredericksburgh; to disseminate historical information, to arouse an interest in the past, and to encourage the preservation of historical, archaeological, and architectural heritage of the area by publishing or printing material; by marking buildings, sites or other features of the historical landscape; by holding public meetings, lectures and exhibitions; and by undertaking a variety of information sharing, publicity and public education programs; and to do all such proper things as are necessary, incidental or conducive, to attaining the aims and objects of the Society.

Canadian Friends Historical Association:

The mission of the Canadian Friends Historical Association is to preserve and communicate the history of Friends (Quakers) in Ontario and Canada including the documentation and preservation of Quaker Meeting Houses, Burial Grounds and other significant contributions of Quaker heritage and the publication of the Canadian Quaker History Journal.

The Canadian Royal Heritage Trust:

The mission statement of The Canadian Royal Heritage Trust is to preserve, present and enhance the royal heritage of Canada and to make the people of Ontario and Canada aware of their rich democratic heritage as a constitutional monarchy and to broaden their knowledge of the role of the Crown in Canadian society.

Chiefswood Board of Trustees:

On behalf of the Six Nations of the Grand River people, the Chiefswood Board of Trustees is charged with the responsibility to protect, preserve, promote, and operate E. Pauline Johnson's home as an important representation of our unique culture and history and its contribution to the overall cultural fabric of Ontario and Canada.

The Jack Munroe Historical Society of Elk City:

The mission statement of the Society is to preserve and present the history and heritage of Elk Lake and its residents and conduct research to broaden the knowledge of both; to support the Elk Lake Area Museum; to perpetuate the contributions of its namesake to this area and the North in general and create the Order of the North, an award that will be conferred on recipients who have made a significant contribution to Northern Ontario.

Kawartha Heritage:

The purpose of Kawartha Heritage is to bring together those people interested in the diverse history and heritage of the Kawarthas. Kawartha Heritage is dedicated to recognizing, documenting, preserving and sharing the local heritage and culture of our region and to further the continuing awareness and appreciation of that heritage by present and future generations.

London and Western Ontario Branch of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada:



On November 17th, OHS attended the launch of *Sir Sandford Fleming – His Early Diaries, 1845-1853*, edited by Jean Murray Cole, a Past President, OHS. This special event was sponsored by the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors (AOLS), held at The Archives of Ontario. Seen here with Jean are: (left) Alan J. Worobec, President, AOLS and Barry Penhale, Publisher Emeritus, Natural Heritage Books, a member of The Dundurn Group.

Photo Rob Leverty

SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you have an exhibit, event or story that you would like to publicize? If you have a submission, send it to:

Editor, *OHS Bulletin*,
 izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

The *OHS Bulletin* reserves the right to edit all submissions. Good quality, high resolution images are always welcome.

EXHIBIT

Dolls: Person, Place, Thing

Based around the collection of the Joseph Brant Museum, *Dolls: Person, Place, Thing* looks at the place in society of the doll. From the Victorian era fashion and the Kewpie doll, to Barbie in her many incarnations, and the macho G.I. Joe; this exhibit takes viewers through the social-cultural phenomenon that is the doll and how this toy remains one of the most popular among young and old alike.

DECEMBER to MARCH 2010

Remembering John McCrae

This exhibit, developed by Guelph Museums, offers, through the use of rarely seen photographs, artifacts, archival materials and quotations, new insights into this remarkable man's life. Thunder Bay Museum, 425 Donald St., Thunder Bay. www.thunderbaymuseum.com

JANUARY 25

Seeing Your Family's History Through Military Records and Memorabilia

This workshop by Ron Wencer is offered by the Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society at the North York Memorial Hall at 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2

The Early Settlement of Ontario: The Untold Story

The Guelph Historical Society presents this University of Guelph lecture by guest speaker Dr. Catharine Wilson at the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, at the corner of Norfolk and Suffolk Streets, Guelph, at 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 20

Northern Terminus: The African Canadian History Journal Vol. 7 Launch

The launch of this publication occurs at 1:30 p.m. at Grey Roots Museum & Archives located just south of Owen Sound. The afternoon will feature a formal presentation with readings followed by refreshments and the smooth jazz music of Roselyn Brown and Company. This event is free. Details and directions available at www.greyroots.com.



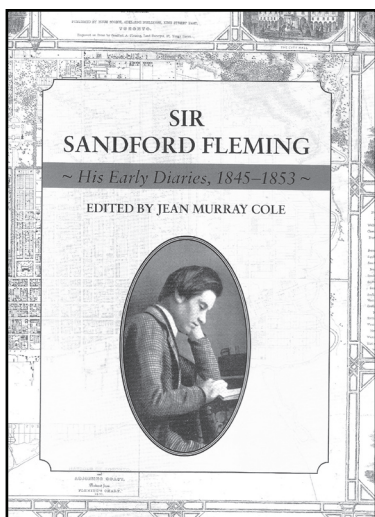
From The Bookshelf

Chris and Pat Raible, Editors
raible@georgian.net

AMERICAN WAR

***A Dirty, Trifling, Piece of Business, Volume 1: The Revolutionary War as Waged from Canada in 1781.* Gavin K. Watt. Dundurn Press. 504 pages. Illustrations. \$35.00 softbound.**

The American Revolution was not fought on Canadian soil, but invasions were mounted in Canada, directed by Canada's governor Frederick Haldimand. This exhaustive study focuses on one year of the war, 1781, the last year of major fighting. The most important battles were fought further south, but American rebel forces were constantly harassed from the rear (upstate New York) by loyalists raiders and aboriginal allies. At the same time, secret negotiations were attempted in a scheme to separate Vermont from the rest of the Americans colonies. John Butler (the man later so central to the founding of Niagara-on-the-Lake) organized Butler's Rangers whose heroic exploits are legendary. Readers will find other familiar names – Ethan Allen, Joseph Brant, Sir John Johnson – in every chapter. Students of military history, especially those who revel in the details, will adore this volume.



DAY BY DAY

***Sir Sandford Fleming: His Early Diaries, 1845-1853.* Edited by Jean Murray Cole. Natural Heritage Books/Dundurn Group. 327 pages. Illustrations. \$30.00 hardbound.**

Sir Sandford Fleming is best known for his work as Canada's foremost railway surveyor and construction engineer and for his instrumental role in the adoption of standard time. In his later photographic portraits, he is an impos-

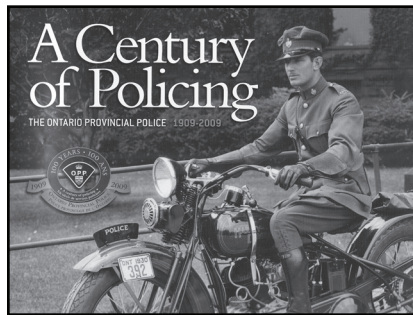
ing figure with his flowing white beard. Jean Murray Cole shows us the young Sandford, as revealed in his early diaries, started just before his eighteenth birthday. Sandford and his older brother, David, were shortly to set sail for Canada, with the expectation that the rest of the family would follow (which in time they did). He tells of the voyage across the Atlantic and of his early days in Canada. Apprenticed in Scotland to a prominent Fifehire surveyor, Sandford had learned considerable skills, but finding a suitable position in 1840s Upper Canada was a tough proposition. Sandford notes "Mr. Gzowski ... thought it a very bad country for professional men and would advise me as the most profitable for myself to return to Scotland." (Fortunately, he did not take Casimir Gzowski's advice.) After making do with various odd jobs, Sandford connected with leading architects and engineers, finding employment suitable to his talents. All was not work, however, and he reports on leisure pastimes and trips to Niagara Falls and Brock's monument. The *Diaries* are interspersed with Sandford's charming sketches and engravings, and the whole is enriched with Cole's informative introductory chapter for each year. Kudos to the Peterborough Historical Society for conceiving and promoting this excellent book.

SMALL ISLAND, BIG HISTORY

***Wolfe Island: A Legacy in Stone.* Barbara Wall La Rocque. Natural Heritage Books/Dundurn Group. 310 pages. Illustrations. \$30.00 softbound.**

Stones quarried on Wolfe Island were used in the construction of the Rideau Canal and many of the fine stone structures of near-by Kingston – despite its title, here is the story of people much more than of stone. Wolfe's island's story encapsulates the story of Ontario – the geology of its rocks, the archeology of its native settlements, the genealogy of its French and Loyalist settlers, the architecture of its buildings, the history of its wars, the economics and politics of its commerce, the current controversies of transportation and wind-power. Barbara La Rocque is not a knowledgeable historian, but a passionate amateur. She is a woman in love with Wolfe Island, a devotion she absorbed from her Anglican priest father – indeed

much of the book is based on his lifetime of research. Well annotated for sources and well indexed for easy reference – what a fine, full volume this is.



POLICEMEN'S LOT

***A Century of Policing: The Ontario Provincial Police 1909-2009.* Text by Jennifer Matthews. Ontario Provincial Police. 128 pages. Illustrations. \$29.99 hardbound.**

Policing in one form or another is as old as the early settlement of our province, but the need for an Ontario Provincial Police, a force responsible to Queen's Park rather than local governments, grew out of the need to establish safety and order in new mining areas in the north and to limit illegal activity along the border to the south. Since its inception in 1909, the OPP's responsibilities have grown and evolved – patrolling highways and waterways, combating ever-changing forms of crime, dealing with emergencies and natural disasters, controlling crowds and demonstrations, and much more. This lavishly illustrated volume – a scrap book of artifacts, articles, photographs and commentaries – is an attractive reminder of how well we continue to be served by a force dedicated to keeping our communities safe.

LAZY, HAZY DAYS OF SUMMER

***The Nurture of Nature: Childhood, Antimodernism, and Ontario summer camps, 1920-55.* Sharon Wall. UBC Press. 392 pages. Illustrations. \$85.00 hardbound, \$32.95 softbound.**

Wall explores a number of summer camps and considers what they were intended to do to and for the children who were "packed off" each summer. By the 1950s dozens of summer camps in Ontario were providing a "back-to-nature" experience for about 150,000 children each year. Catering to different socio-economic groups, the camps varied in the activities they offered, as well as their location, comfort, and duration, but "camp" in the general sense was a rite of passage for a substantial number of Canadian children. Wall considers how two competing tendencies – anti-modern nostalgia and modern sen-

sibilities about the landscape, child rearing, and identity – played out in the camp's interaction with nature, its class and gendered sensibilities, and the politics of race inherent in its "Indian" programming.

FABLES, FINS AND FEATHERS

***The Rivermen: Echoes of Lake St. Francis.* Roy Lefebvre and Norman Seymour. Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Historical Society. 270 pages. Illustrations. \$40.00 softbound.**

Lake St. Francis is a wide place in a great river, the St. Lawrence. Much human history and natural history has flowed through it. Hence this volume, written from the perspective of the rivermen – those who earned their living and enjoyed their playing on the lake. The water and the shoreline, the fish and the birds as much as the people, are all part of the story. Wars and politics may be referenced, but the focus is more immediate – the hotels and hostels, the coves and craigs, the boat builders and the decoy carvers. The era of the lake for fishermen (as an occupation) may be over, but the lake as a site for recreation flows. Thanks to this volume, its tales and traditions will continue to be cherished. Here is a water's history that is down to earth – and fascinating.

MATTAWA MAYOR

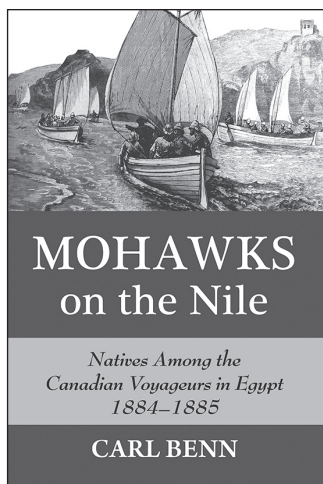
***Where Rivers Meet: The Story of Dr. S. F. Monestine, Canada's First Black Mayor.* Doug Mackey. Past Forward. 79 pages. Illustrations. \$19.95 softbound.**

Signs at the entrances to the town of Mattawa say: "There is a story here where rivers meet," the rivers being the Mattawa and the Ottawa. Mackey suggests that in fact there are many stories and the one he chooses to tell is of Saint-Firmin Monestine. In the summer of 1951, Dr. Monestine, a native of Haiti but now a recently Canadian-certified M.D., was looking for a medical practice, possibly in Timmins. Setting off to explore that opportunity, he stopped for lunch in Mattawa. Here Dr. Monestine was told that one of Mattawa's doctors had

BOOKSHELF CONT'D, PAGE 8...

Please Note: More extensive reviews of a number of books relating to the history of our province are published in each issue of Ontario History, published by The Ontario Historical Society.

The prices of books referred to on this page may or may not include GST or postage charges. All prices are in Canadian dollars unless otherwise noted.



**Mohawks on the Nile
Natives among the Canadian
Voyageurs in Egypt, 1884-1885**
by Carl Benn

30 b&w photos, maps, timeline, appendix,
notes, bibliography, index
\$40 hardcover

The story of 60 Mohawks who used their boating skills to transport an Anglo-Egyptian army along the Nile to reach Khatoum to relieve Sudan's governor, Maj. Gen. Charles Gordon, besieged by Muslim nationalists.

Available from your favourite bookseller.

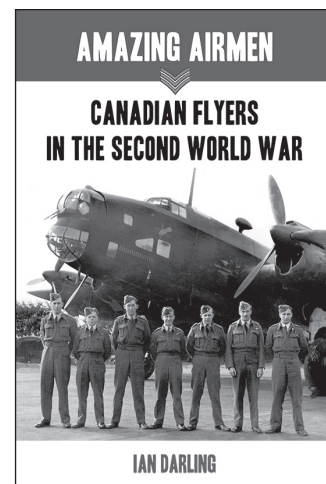
**Amazing Airmen
Canadian Flyers in World War Two**
by Ian Darling

55 b&w photos, bibliography, index
\$24.99 paperback

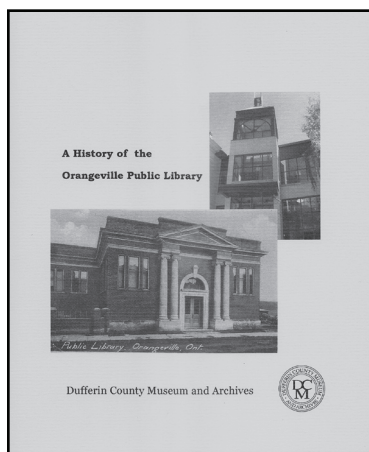
These true stories of heroic fighter pilots draw you into the fray – dodging bullets and Nazi troops, escaping from burning planes, and enduring internment camps. Well researched stories of the British and Canadian Airmen in the Second World War.



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recently died. He was prevailed upon to stay, at least for a little while. He never left but instead he became a pillar of the community as well as a beloved physician. He and his Russian-born wife, Zena, took an interest in local politics and Monestine ran for Council, winning a seat in 1962. The next year he ran for Mayor, making history as Canada's first Black mayor. For fourteen years, Monestine served Mattawa as either councillor or mayor, championing low rental housing, road and street improvements, and industrial development. A remarkable achievement was the establishment of the Algonquin Nursing Home. Monestine's story is one of heart-warming



FREE FOR ALL

***A History of the Orangeville Public Library.* M. Jane Cooper. Dufferin County Museum and Archives. 36 pages. Illustrations. \$8.00 softbound.**

Like many public libraries, the Orangeville Public Library began with a Mechanics' Institute, part of its mandate being to provide suitable reading material for working men and women. Books, newspapers, and periodicals were selected. A checkerboard was purchased and public lectures organized. In 1875 the name was changed to "Public Library," although users continued to pay a small annual subscription. In 1900 the Orangeville Town Council was asked to take over

the library with free access for all. Dugald Macpherson, the new librarian, also assumed the duties of caretaker. By 1903, it was clear that more adequate premises were needed and, like many other public library boards, Orangeville wrote to Andrew Carnegie, the American steel magnate, asking for funds. They were rewarded with the news of a \$10,000 grant, on the condition that the town would provide adequate financial support for materials. A fine new building was opened on April 2, 1908. Periods of steady growth have ensued since then, with notable increases in services and materials. Orangeville's centennial project in 1967 resulted in a greatly improved children's library. Further restoration and renovation began in 2006 to match the increasing needs of the library. By the end of 2008 there were twenty-four library staff members, active card holders numbered 9,066, circulation and programs were expanding every year – and the head librarian was not expected to be caretaker.

HISTORY NOTED

Since our last issue of *From the Bookshelf*, we have received these notices describing publications of interest:

***Singing towards the Future: The Story of Portia White.* Ian Goodall. Napoleon Publishing/Rendezvous Press. 80 pages. Illustrations. \$18.95 softbound.** – Born in an era of prejudice and discrimination, by her determination, talent, and hard work Portia White became an internationally recognized contralto. This inspirational story, out of print for several years, is now available in a softbound edition.

***Looking Back Over My Shoulder.* Jack C. Cooke. The History Press. \$29.95** – The author, born on a farm in Fullerton Township, Perth County, and made deaf from scarlet fever at age twelve, shares his memories and reflections of life over eight decades.

DIRECTORY OF PUBLISHERS

Dufferin County Museum and Archives,
Box 120, Rosemont, ON L0N 1R0
www.dufferinmuseum.com

The Dundurn Group,
3 Church St., Suite. 500, Toronto, ON M5E 1M2. www.dundurn.com

The History Press,
94 Lillian Cres., Barrie, ON L4N 5H7
www.thehistorypress.ca

Napoleon Publishing/Rendezvous Press, 178 Willowdale Ave., Suite 201, Toronto, ON M2N 4Y8
www.napoleonpublishing.com

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Past Forward Heritage Ltd., 330 Sumach Street #41, Toronto, ON M5A 3K7
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agent in Kenora from 1920 until his death in 1945. As the collection grew, the display and storage facilities in the original museum proved to be inadequate and in August of 1986, a new museum building was opened to the public. Today, the museum is part of the City of Kenora's Community Services Department. It is a year-round operation and in addition to its permanent gallery space, the museum features an ever-changing schedule of temporary exhibits.

Rainy River District Women's Institute Museum

Recently moved into three former houses of the OPP, this museum's collection includes pioneer artifacts relating to the settlers in the Rainy River District. Established in 1968 after encouragement following a visit by Dr. Walter Kenyon from the Royal Ontario Museum, the museum boasts being privately owned and operated by a Women's Institute. A dedicated group of volunteers fundraises, works and supports the museum. Since 1978, the museum has also accommodated a tourist information centre for the community.

The Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre

Located at "the end of the road travelling north", Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre is a modern facility which houses an historical museum featuring displays on Aboriginal history, gold mining, the fur trade, immigration and much more. Open year-round, it also offers tourist information, a gift shop, temporary and travelling exhibitions, and displays on the natural history of the area, including Woodland Caribou Park. It was established in 2005.

The Sioux Lookout Museum

This museum represents another far northern community and preserves the local history of the Patricia Area in a manner which is visually appealing

as well as educationally stimulating. Officially opened on July 18, 1981 the museum existed in various incarnations well before then – including the Public Library. The town council set aside a piece of land to house the museum and the Public School Board donated two portable classrooms which were no longer needed. The volunteers came together to build a permanent establishment out of the trailers, and that is the museum which is still being used to this day.

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Membership is open to all individuals and societies interested in the history of Ontario. The *OHS Bulletin* is sent free of charge to all members of the OHS. The OHS's biannual scholarly

journal, *Ontario History*, is available to individuals for \$22.00 per year, member organizations and institutions and non-member individuals for \$32.00 and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$43.00. Inquiries about membership should be directed to: Christina Perfetto at members@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

Inquiries about submissions and advertising should be directed to: Editor, *OHS Bulletin*, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, ON M2N 3Y2, 416.226.9011, izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

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www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca



TORONTO POSTCARD CLUB 29th ANNUAL SHOW & SALE Sunday, February 21, 2010

At a new location

Thornhill Community Centre
7755 Bayview Ave.
9:30am to 4:30pm, \$5.00 admission
Details at www.torontopostcardclub.com



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