

# OHS BULLETIN

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Issue 171

OCTOBER 2009

## Preserving History in Thornhill!



Members of the Board of Directors of the Thornhill Heritage Foundation stand in front of the Robert West Heritage Centre, which was generously donated by Mrs. Katherine Louisa Keith. Pictured (left to right) are: Wendy Locke, Treasurer; Nigel Connell, Chair; David Rawcliffe, Secretary; Bill Wylie, Vice-Chair; Robb Stitt, Administrative Officer; and Dr. Ed Pamenter, Executive Director. Front row: Mrs. Keith.

Photo Andrea Izzo

Following approval by the OHS's Board of Directors, the Thornhill Heritage Foundation was affiliated with The Ontario Historical Society and thereby incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation in the Province of Ontario on April 19, 2008. Their mandate is to manage assets donated to or purchased by the Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill (SPOHT), also an affiliated member of the OHS since 1980.

On August 18th, 2009 the OHS was present at a major public announcement that the Foundation had acquired its first asset through a generous donation – the historic homestead of Mrs. Katherine Louisa Keith. This property, located on Yonge Street in the heart of the heritage district of Thornhill, was built by Robert West, an immigrant from England in 1833. Mr. West had opened a general

store across the street, and later built this home, which still stands today, and has been in the West family for many generations and preserved. It remains the only 19th century home in the area to have been occupied by the same family since its construction. The building was designated under the *Ontario Heritage Act* in 1982 based on its architectural value.

Over 160 years after being built, the house was donated by Mrs. Keith to the Thornhill Heritage Foundation, which plans to establish the Robert West Heritage Centre based on local history. Its name was chosen in order to honour and recognize Robert West's role in the development of the original village of Thornhill. The OHS salutes Mrs. Keith's very generous donation and her many years of support for the preservation of Thornhill's past. For more info e-mail [erstitt@sympatico.ca](mailto:erstitt@sympatico.ca).

## Reading and Remembrance: A Growing Success

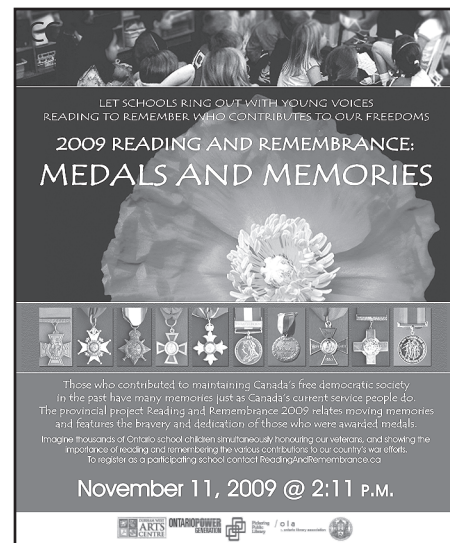
Andrea Izzo, *OHS Bulletin* Editor  
[izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

The Ontario Historical Society has recently become the host organization of an important initiative, the *Reading and Remembrance* programme. Since 2005, creators Angie Littlefield and Mary Cook have devoted countless hours to producing educational materials and curriculum, touching the lives of approximately 100,000 students in almost 300 schools across Ontario. Together with partners such as the Ontario Library Association, the Durham West Arts Centre and Ontario Power Generation, the OHS hopes to contribute to this programme's success and ensure its future continuation.

For schools to participate in *Reading and Remembrance*, teachers can easily sign their class up easily online at [www.readingandremembrance.ca](http://www.readingandremembrance.ca) to receive materials for use in the classroom. Each school year features a different theme, such as "In Flanders Fields" (2005) and "Medals and Memories" (2009) – and teachers are welcome to select current or archived themes for use in class. Starting this year, *Reading and Remembrance* is offered in both English and French, thanks to the support of the office of Mark Holland, M.P. (Ajax-Pickering). In preparation for November 11, 2009, the OHS mailed letters to every English and French school board in Ontario, inviting them to participate. To date, several boards have signed up, and more will continue to do so as we approach November.

This year's theme, titled "Medals and Memories", has curriculum that promises to connect with students of all ages. Lesson plans deal with subject matter ranging from First Nations' contributions to the war effort, with a special focus on the Inuit, to "Feathers, Fur and Hide", a unique and in-depth examination of how animals contributed positively in the World Wars. All of these materials can be accessed and printed online at [www.readingandremembrance.ca](http://www.readingandremembrance.ca).

Included also in *Reading and Remembrance* is a special project



by musician and composer Ennio A. Paola from *In Tacit Understanding: One Community Under the Same Sky* – a programme aimed at sharing concepts of peace and understanding primarily through the use of musical education. One initiative which has arisen from *In Tacit Understanding* is Paola's composition of *Della Quercia ~ Hymn of Faith, Hymn of Hope, Hymn of Peace* which is available for use in school assemblies, particularly those on Remembrance Day. To learn more, please contact Mr. Paola directly at [sigmuse@pathcom.com](mailto:sigmuse@pathcom.com).

*Reading and Remembrance* is growing and it needs volunteers! The OHS is calling out to its membership and all those interested in sharing and preserving stories and research about Canada's involvement in the World Wars to help out in any way possible. If you or a local Veteran have a story to share, or information about a local Victoria Cross winner, local involvement in global events, or if you have any other capacities in which you feel you could contribute to the programme, please contact *OHS Bulletin* editor Andrea Izzo at the e-mail address above or 416.226.9011. Alternatively, the website features a "template" lesson plan, in which interested parties can 'plug in' information. The OHS also welcomes educators to sign up for *Reading and Remembrance* and feature the lesson plans in the classroom! We encourage interested members to get involved, and look forward to hearing from you.

## In This Issue

PRESIDENT'S REPORT .....2

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT .....2

DONORS AND NEW MEMBERS .....2



ACROSS THE PROVINCE .....3

HERITAGE TREES .....4

CEMETERY NEWS .....5



EXHIBITS, EVENTS AND NOTICES .....6

FROM THE BOOKSHELF .....7-8

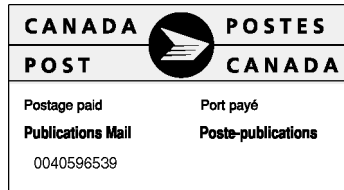
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# President's Report

**Ken Turner, President**  
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Greetings members and friends! I am happy to report that the first meeting of the 2009-10 OHS Board of Directors took place recently and was very productive. I would like to welcome our three new board members: Jesse Kugler (Toronto), Caroline Di Cocco (Sarnia) and Pam Cain-Hawley (Fort Frances). The chairs for the following committees were also decided for the upcoming year: Brad Rudachyk (Barrie), *Affiliated Societies*; Sharon Jaeger (Waterloo), *Honours and Awards*; Jim Leonard (Brampton), *Preservation*; Ken Turner (Kingsville), *Cemeteries and Human Resources*; Pam Cain-Hawley (Fort Frances), *Museums*; Linda Kelly (Sheguiandah), *Annual General Meeting*; and Bob Leech (Toronto), *Donations*.

I am also pleased to report that

the OHS has many new projects and initiatives in the works, despite having fewer staff. Much ground has been covered in our insurance programme, the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden, Honours and Awards, and Bill 149, for which we have continued to collect signed petitions from concerned citizens across the province. To date, we have received signatures in support of *The Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009* from individuals living in over 240 cities, towns and villages province wide. The OHS has also hosted this year's *Reading and Remembrance* program, offering curriculum to every school board in Ontario. For more information on *Reading and Remembrance*, please see page 1. I believe that the hard work and efforts of OHS staff is the primary reason that our membership is growing.

The OHS bids farewell to a long-time supporter of our province's

heritage, Mr. R. Alan Douglas, a Windsor area author, lecturer and award-winning historian, who passed away recently at the age of 80 from non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Alan was the founding curator of the Hiram Walker Historical Museum (now Windsor's Community Museum) and he dedicated 34 years to its success until his retirement in 1991. A year later, he was honoured by the OHS with the Carnochan Award for his years of service to the preservation of Windsor's past. He also served, for many years, as a member of the OHS's Museums Committee.

Congratulations are in order for Mr. Stephen Otto for his recent Heritage Canada award – the Lieutenant Governor's Award for Outstanding Achievement in Heritage Conservation at the Provincial Level for his work in the protection and promotion of Ontario's heritage legacy. As a former director and a member of the Ontario Historical Society, a founding member of Friends of Fort York and a contributor to countless heritage projects, Stephen has been a tireless advocate of heritage preservation in the Toronto area. Congratulations!

Ken Turner, President

## DONORS AND NEW MEMBERS

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Evelyn Babineau  
John Bacher  
Catherine Borczyk  
Jeffrey Hemming  
George Lefebvre  
Terence Loveridge  
Ronald MacFeeters  
Marilyn Nichols  
Beverly Soloway

### DONORS

Merle Alkins  
Carmela Andraos  
Fred Armstrong  
Thomas Bastedo  
Carl Benn  
Gyuszi Berki  
Deb Cushing  
Margaret Derry  
W. M. Dowsett  
Jane Errington  
Dorothy Goldring  
Robert Halfyard  
Barbara Healey  
Karl Hele  
Katharine Hooke  
A. Ronald Junkin  
J. William Lamb  
Mary Lemyre  
M. B. Levitt  
Fiona Lucas  
Marcel Martel  
Marilyn Nichols  
Sharon O'Shea  
James Stanley  
Margaret Surtees  
Paul Taylor  
Brenda Whitlock

# Executive Director's Report

**Rob Leverty, Executive Director**  
[rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

*"One of our most urgent duties will be to cover the Province with local historical societies at all important points. I have the pleasure of announcing that since our last annual meeting a society has been formed at Woodstock, and others are being organized at Ottawa and Simcoe. At each of these centres there is much valuable and interesting material to be collected, arranged and preserved by publication or otherwise."*

President James H. Coyne, B.A., St. Thomas at the 11th Annual General Meeting of The Ontario Historical Society, held at Ohsweken, on June 1st, 1898 at the Six Nations Reserve, in the County of Brant.

I am pleased to report that 111 years after James Coyne's Presidential Address at Ohsweken, the OHS continues to help organize and incorporate historical organizations across the Province.

*An Act to incorporate The Ontario Historical Society, Assented to 1st April, 1899*, authorizes the OHS to incorporate an affiliated society. As soon as the OHS Board of Directors accepts any organization dedicated to preserving and promoting Ontario's history as an affiliated society, it immediately becomes incorporated as a separate legal entity in the Province of Ontario.

Since January 2009, we have already accepted 8 new affiliated societies. This is exciting news indeed and could well be a record for the Society. In the last two and a half years, the OHS has incorporated through affiliation the following 21 independent, not-for-profit historical organizations (*see right*).

Congratulations to all the above historical organizations that have joined over 300 OHS affiliated societies and a further 400 other



**On September 27, 2009, the OHS participated in a Dedication Service of Crosses in recognition of early Black pioneers who were the first non-native settlers in Grey County. Seen here at the Priceville Black Cemetery are Carolynn Wilson (left), President, The Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee (ODRPCC) and Josie Kruzick, Board Member, South Grey Museum. The OHS is very honoured to be associated with the ODRPCC, which incorporated through affiliation with the Society in January 1999.**

*Photo Rob Leverty*

Affiliated Societies	Date of Incorporation
Trafalgar Township Historical Society	March 24, 2007
Essex & Community Historical Research Society	March 24, 2007
Ontario Heritage Fairs Association	March 24, 2007
Green Bay Heritage Cemetery Association	March 24, 2007
SilverShoe Historical Society	September 22, 2007
Anderson Farm Museum & Heritage Society	September 22, 2007
Société Historique du Nouvel-Ontario	September 22, 2007
Thornhill Heritage Foundation	April 19, 2008
Weston Heritage Conservation District	June 13, 2008
Wollaston Heritage	September 20, 2008
Bruce Mines and District Historical Society	November 22, 2008
Credit Valley Heritage Society	November 22, 2008
Dunnville Culture & Heritage Foundation	November 22, 2008
The Portland on the Rideau Historical Society	January 17, 2009
The Unionville Villagers' Association	March 7, 2009
The Canadian Royal Heritage Trust	March 7, 2009
Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society	June 13, 2009
Kawartha Heritage	September 26, 2009
London and Western Ontario Branch of the United Empire Loyalists, Association of Canada	September 26, 2009
Canadian Friends Historical Association	September 26, 2009
Chiefswood Board of Trustees	September 26, 2009

historical organizations and institutions across Ontario that are also members of OHS.

We salute all our members who are donating their valuable time and precious skills every day to preserve and promote history. You are on the frontlines and at the grassroots fighting battles, creating awareness and building respect

for our collective heritage. Your dedication and commitment gives us strength, inspires us and renews our confidence to work on your behalf. It is our great honour and privilege to serve you – our membership. Let me be clear that at the OHS, this is again our main focus and will continue to remain "one of our most urgent duties."



## Across The Province

Congratulations to Agriculture Canada's Harrow Research Centre, established in 1909 to focus on tobacco. Now celebrating a century of research, the focus is on soybeans and greenhouse crops, and it also provides a home to the Canadian Clonal Genebank.

The Orillia Museum of Art and History is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a dynamic schedule of exhibits, events and a History Speakers Series: 705.326.2159.

The birthplace of Sir Frederick Banting in Alliston was recognized by the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada with a plaque unveiling on Friday, September 11.

The official opening of the Mossman Cottage – Cedar View took place at the Simcoe County Museum in August. Built in 1922 on Lakelands Avenue, Innisfil, it served both Knapp and Mossman families as their summer cottage.

The Wellington County Museum and Archives (WCMA) hosted MP Michael Chong, MPP Ted Arnott and Warden Joanne Ross-Zuj for a special funding announcement in June to expand the archives addition to the museum. Each level of government will contribute up to \$1,522,800 to this project, expected to be completed within one year. There is more good news for WCMA with a further grant of \$100,000 from the Museums Assistance Programme of the Department of Canadian Heritage for the purchase and installation of compact, moveable shelving for the new Archives. Congratulations!

The Pickering Museum Village Foundation is currently raising funds for the restoration of the Brougham Central Hotel, now loc-

ated in the hamlet of Greenwood. During its heyday it was a temperance hotel, and later served as Woodward's General Store at the corner of Brock Road and Highway 7. To learn more or to make a donation: 905.839.4672.

With sincere regret we remember the passing of David Somers, Curator of the Peel Heritage Complex in Brampton, and R. Alan Douglas, Windsor's first museum curator. The heritage community owes a debt of gratitude to them both for their dedication to their profession and to the communities they served.

*"Toronto's Tumultuous Year: William Lyon Mackenzie as Mayor"* explores an eventful year in the life of the city and the man who led it. This exhibition at Mackenzie House in Toronto closes in January 2010: 416.392.6915.

2009 is a big year for the Fairfield Homestead Heritage Association. They are celebrating the 225th anniversary of the Fairfields arriving in Township No. 2 (Cataqui) with their fellow loyalists! It also marks the 50th anniversary of a major donation of the Fairfield House to the Association for heritage preservation. In 1984 it was visited by Queen Elizabeth II and it was opened for tours the following year. This building, which preserves the original workmanship of the Loyalist builders, offers the public a physical link to the first years of British settlement along Lake Ontario. To visit or for more information: 613.384.2813.

Do you have memories of Latchford's W.J.B. Greenwood Park? If you do, Ashley Peters, Parks Development Facilitator wants to hear from you: 705.676.2416.



**The OHS recently attended the Michael's Bay Historical Society Heritage festival which included a Fish Fry Dinner, Dance, Pancake Breakfast, and ploughing and threshing competitions. Pictured above is one of the heavy class horse pull at the Russell Farm in Tehkummah on Manitoulin Island.**

*Photo Linda Kelly*

*"A Century of Policing: The Ontario Provincial Police 1909-2009"* is now available: 705.329.6280.

The Streetsville Historical Society has published *"The Tweedsmuir History of Streetsville, Volume II"*: 905.542.1877.

Autumn brings a flurry of heritage activities, events, speakers and workshops across the province. Here is just a sampling:

- October 25: *"Wild, Wild Junction, an Historical Mystery Tour"*, is the fall fund raiser and pub crawl sponsored by the West Toronto Junction Historical Society. For further information and tickets: 416.763.3161.

- October 27: Scarborough Historical Society will host Mike Filey speaking on *"Not a One Horse Town"* at Bendale Library: 416.396.6930.

- October 31: Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group is sponsoring a Genealogy Workshop at their Library, 222 Dickson Street, Pembroke: 613.735.6664.

- November 20, 21: Do you remember the Three Museums

Book Sale in Orillia in May? It was such a success that the three partners are joining forces again when the Stephen Leacock Museum, the Orillia Museum of Art and History and the Friends of The OPP Museum will host a giant sale of cook books, food, gardening and beverage books, treasures for your kitchen, and much more! It will be held at the Stephen Leacock Museum, 50 Museum Drive, Orillia, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Donations may be dropped off at the Constituency offices of MP Bruce Stanton, 575 West Street South, or MPP Garfield Dunlop, 14 Coldwater Road West, Orillia. For further information or to arrange for pick up: 705.329.3084.

Finally, the Guelph Civic Museum is featuring a travelling exhibit from the OPP Museum. Entitled *Arresting Images: Mug Shots from The OPP Museum*, it presents a unique glimpse of policing history. The exhibit runs from October 9 until December 20. Open daily from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

## New OHS Affiliate: The Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society

In 1987, a small group of people south of Napanee, interested in their local history, got together and decided to do something about researching and recording their local history. They later formed the South Fredericksburgh Heritage Committee (SFHC), enthusiastically accomplished many goals, including creating a website ([www.sfredheritage.on.ca](http://www.sfredheritage.on.ca)), refurbishing the old, abandoned cemeteries in the South Fredericksburgh Township and recording their local history through at least fifteen books. It is a wonderful story of how a few dedicated people were able to make an incredible contribution to the area. Most of those people were retired when they started this Committee but they continued to work long and hard at writing their books and just as hard selling them at local summer events or through a few local outlets like the Lennox & Addington Museum.

Nobody should be surprised that in November 2008 the aging membership of the SFHC were seriously considering closing it all down. They had exhausted their

list of heritage subjects, the same few people were still doing all the work, the township (South Fredericksburgh) cemetery work had been completed and there seemed to be no new member interest. Twenty one years is quite a commitment.

At the November meeting, a few interested individuals from the adjoining former townships sat in to hear what was being proposed. In the end, a good case was made not to terminate the SFHC but to expand its membership and coverage to include the former townships south of Napanee, including Adolphustown and North Fredericksburgh. It was noted that the great example set by the SFHC needed to be applied to those areas too as they also had some interesting history to be recorded and they also had several abandoned cemeteries that needed attention. Monthly organizational meetings were held from December to April to develop the idea.

It was decided that there was enough interest to start a new heritage organization. Eventually, it was decided to call the new organization the Adolphustown-



**The OHS attended the Adolphustown-Fredericksburgh Heritage Society's first general meeting in May, during which members voted to incorporate through affiliation with the OHS. Pictured above are the original founding members of the SFHC with Rob Leverty (left to right): Ruth Wright; Pat Galt; Susan Wright; OHS Executive Director Rob Leverty; and Grant Huyck.**

*Photo Judy Smith, AFHS*

Fredericksburgh Heritage Society. Formal application to be affiliated with the OHS took place at a general meeting in May, at which Rob Leverty was the guest speaker. The application required a new name, a new constitution and by-laws, a new slate of officers and a list of projects to be undertaken. The Society invited interested members of the public, especially those who have connections to the former townships, to attend the meeting to hear more of the details and to become involved. Those initial members of the SFHC, still living, were made honorary life members

of the new Society at the meeting. Copies of their books were on display (and for sale) at the meeting.

By June 18th, Mr. Leverty informed us that our application had been approved and shortly thereafter we received the Provincial paperwork and before we knew it, we were affiliated and officially formed. We have lots of hard work ahead of us in abandoned/unregistered cemeteries and local history still unrecorded but more people are showing interest and if we get community support we can make a historic difference.



# Heritage Trees

## Heritage Trees: Canada's Timeless Story Keepers

Old growth trees in Romanian folklore are considered siblings of the people who live in their midst. It is believed that ongoing existence of these trees absorb peoples' stories, consequently Romanians continue to honour them for their importance to human life for all time.

In Canada, Onondaga Chief Oren Lyons reminds us that "when we walk upon Mother Earth we plant our feet carefully because we know the faces of our future generations are looking up at us from beneath the ground". Caring for the land is an ancestral tradition since it affects Aboriginal people culturally, spiritually, nutritionally and socially. This spiritual connection results from years of coexistence with the land.

This is true for all peoples as is shown in the many legends across nations. The maple tree brings success and abundance; the oak is endowed with powers of protection, health, healing, wisdom; the hawthorn symbolizes caution; the fir is associated with clear vision of what is to come; the elm symbolizes dignity and grace and the elder, compassion.

Across Canada and particularly in Ontario, citizens recognize heritage trees for their value in telling our stories. But many of our ancient champions are in peril. Development continues to threaten old-growth stands in isolate, urban and rural areas. Unless we protect them we risk the loss of their historic, cultural and physical significance.

Currently, heritage trees that have been recognized as telling our stories are protected under the Ontario Heritage Act. Examples include the comfort sugar maple

in Pelham; Jacob Fisher oak tree in Woodbridge; cottonwood tree in Sutton; osage orange tree hedgerow in Caledon; copper beech in Drummond Hill Cemetery, Niagara.

What is a heritage tree? Because of its concern for their preservation the Ontario Urban Forest Council (OUFC) through its project, the Ontario Heritage Tree Alliance, adopted a definition coined by Paul Aird, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto:

*Heritage tree ~ a notable specimen because of its size, form, shape, beauty, age, colour, rarity, genetic constitution, or other distinctive features; a living relic that displays evidence of cultural modification by Aboriginal or non-Aboriginal people, including strips of bark or knot-free wood removed, test hole cut to determine soundness, furrows cut to collect pitch or sap, or blazes to make a trail; a prominent community landmark; a specimen associated with an historic person, place, event or period; a representative of a crop grown by ancestors and their successors that is at risk of disappearing from cultivation; a tree associated with local folklore, myths, legends or traditions; a specimen identified by members of a community as deserving heritage recognition.*

This definition is included in its publication *Securing the Future of Heritage Trees: A Protection Toolkit for Communities*. This document and its definition are being used by communities across Ontario to identify and protect heritage trees. Anyone interested in undertaking such a venture are invited to contact the Ontario OUFC at [jradec@mountpleasantgroup.com](mailto:jradec@mountpleasantgroup.com)

## Royal Remembrances

**Rob Leverty, Executive Director**  
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*Reprinted from OHS Bulletin, Feb. 1999*

In 1914, Herman McConnell moved with his family to a farm in the Beaver Valley in Grey County. For the next 75 years, Herman farmed and planted thousands of trees in the Beaver Valley. In June 1939, Herman and his brother Hershel travelled to Orangeville to meet the Royal Train which was carrying the Sovereign of Canada, His Majesty King George VI and his consort Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Suddenly, from one of the royal cars, Queen Elizabeth, now the Queen Mother, appeared and began to distribute royal oak seedlings. Herman and his brother proudly returned to the Beaver valley to plant their two Royal Oaks. The two seedlings thrived and eventually they produced thousands of acorns which were planted in the valley.

In 1973, I bought a farm in the Beaver Valley and my good neighbor Herman taught me all about trees and wildlife. For many years, I planted seedlings and walnuts

under Herman's careful guidance. In 1985, Herman gave me a royal oak seedling which has also thrived and last year it produced hundreds of majestic acorns. It was a great thrill to plant these splendid acorns on my farm.

In anticipation of the 50th birthday of Prince Charles, I sent some of my acorns to an old friend who works with the Prince's Trust. He gave the Royal Oak acorns to Prince Charles and told him the above story which resulted in the following letter:

*St. James' Palace  
16th December 1998*

*Dear Mr. Leverty:*

*I was delighted to receive your marvelous gift of acorns for my birthday. They were among the most unusual but most treasured of my presents-they carry with them some very special history.*

*I am so pleased that my grandparents' tour in 1939 is still remembered so vividly...I asked my grandmother about it recently.*

*This comes with my heartfelt thanks and warmest good wishes.*

*Yours most sincerely,  
Charles*

## Ontario Heritage Tree Program The Launch by Trees Ontario and the Ontario Urban Forest Council

A province-wide program to identify ancient trees across Ontario carrying our stories was announced on June 25, 2009 by Trees Ontario. The Ontario Heritage Tree Program celebrates those trees that have cultural or historical significance to the community or province.

Heritage trees could be those around which a community has held an annual picnic for the past 100 years, a tree planted in the garden of the Canada's Governor General to commemorate the visit of a foreign dignitary, a tree planted to celebrate the life of a soldier, a tree found in a historically designated neighbourhood. These trees form part of the fabric of that community.

Anyone can nominate a tree by registering on the Ontario Heritage Tree website ([www.heritagetrees.on.ca](http://www.heritagetrees.on.ca)). A nominated tree is evaluated by a Heritage Tree representative based on the following characteristics: its historical and cultural importance to the local and broader community; rarity of species; prominence based on size and age; aesthetics and/or artistic peculiarity; and its physical condition and expected longevity. The evaluation criteria can be found on the Heritage Tree website.

If the tree is assessed as having met the above criteria, it will be placed into the Heritage Trees online database and will also be recognized with a tree tag and certificate.

Heritage Trees are usually more than 70 years old. What sets them apart is the important cultural and historical significance they represent. "If these trees could talk, they could provide an intriguing history lesson about the people and land around which they are rooted," said Michael G. Scott, President and CEO, Trees Ontario. "For the communities and people that enjoy, celebrate and nurture these green giants, they are a source of pride, full of rich memories and stories that they can now share."

The Ontario Urban Forest Council's (OUFC) heritage tree toolkit, *Securing the Future of Heritage Trees: A Protection Toolkit for*



**Presentation before "The Sitting Duck" a 175-year old heritage bur oak in Alliston, Ontario, which was dedicated as a heritage tree in September 2005.**

*Photo Ontario Urban Forest Council*

*Communities*, formed the basis for the Ontario Heritage Tree Program. "The toolkit was developed in response to the public's interest in identifying heritage trees in the community," said Jack Radecki, Executive Director, OUFC. "The Council is very glad to be working with Trees Ontario to launch the online provincial program."

"We are pleased to be working with OUFC to extend their heritage tree toolkit into a province-wide program available to the public," Scott continued. "We look forward to receiving nominations from across Ontario and to reading wonderful stories about important trees in our province."

Another important aspect of this program is the opportunity to collect seeds from recognized, native heritage trees, thus ensuring that the trees' seeds live on. Trees Ontario plans to work with local communities to locate and collect these seeds. Growing trees from native seeds is important as those species have adapted to the regional environment over thousands of years and are more likely to survive.



The OHS was proud to be involved in this year's Ontario Provincial Heritage Fair Showcase, which recognizes students for excellent studies in historical research and presentation. Pictured above (right) is Society member and past OHS Board Member Patricia Kennedy, Project Archivist, Library and Archives Canada, presenting an OHS participation ribbon to a student at the 2009 Provincial Heritage Fair in Ottawa for her research into Purdy's Chocolate. The Ontario Heritage Fairs Association incorporated through affiliation with the OHS in March 2007.

*Photo Carol White*



# Cemetery News

**Marjorie Stuart, Editor**  
marjstuart@sympatico.ca

We continue to receive petitions for *Bill 149 – Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act, 2009*. The response has been overwhelming. The need for petitions and letters will continue until the Bill receives 3rd and Final Reading. We ask that you contact your local MPP with copies to the Premier urging their support. As of September 6, 2009 the list of unregistered cemeteries which are at risk stood at 1,653!

Descendants of the Haynes family gathered to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the *Haynes Family Burial Ground* in St. Catharines. The celebrations included reconsecration and tree planting. In 2004, the burial ground, which was highly visible, was threatened by the construction of an access road to a new sports complex. A bitter battle to save the cemetery took place after several grave shafts were disturbed. Fortunately this family burial ground which dates to 1784 was preserved.

Congratulations to The Lower Thames Conservation Authority, The Rondeau Watershed Coalition and students from John McGregor

Secondary School. With their assistance two areas of *Maple Leaf Cemetery* in Chatham have been redeveloped as part of a naturalization project. Planting and re-seeding at the Indian Creek area has developed a native Tallgrass Prairie. The Chapel Drive area was developed into a meadow with flowering perennials. These plant species were originally found at this site and will create a natural habitat for birds.

Restoration work at *Sharon Cemetery* in Etobicoke has been completed. Descendants provided much of the necessary funding. Weather conditions and the location of the cemetery made this work difficult for Randall Reid and his volunteers. An application has been made for heritage designation.

A tombstone for John McDonald was discovered by members of the Barrie District Hunters and Anglers Conservation Club during their annual clean-up in Springwater Township. Through the efforts of the club president, Wayne Forgave, it was determined that McDonald died in 1890 in Southampton. His tombstone has been returned to *Southampton Cemetery*.



The OHS was recently invited to give a presentation on *Bill 149, The Inactive Cemeteries Protection Act 2009*, to The Jewish Genealogical Society of Canada (Toronto) at the Shomayim Synagogue. Seen here (left to right) are Shelley Stillman, President, JGS of Toronto with OHS volunteers Marjorie Stuart and Diane Clendenan. The OHS would like to thank the members of JGS of Toronto for their enthusiastic support of *Bill 149* with 62 individuals at this event signing our petition to the Legislative Assembly of Ontario. Photo Rob Levery

Concern has been raised about *Elm Tree Cemetery* and *Parks Burial Ground* in Arden. *Elm Tree Cemetery* is registered and administered by the Township of Central Frontenac. *Parks Burial Ground* is unregistered.

Rob Levery and I were invited by the Ontario Jewish Archives to a meeting for *Holy Blossom Cemetery* in Toronto. This well-cared-for cemetery is Toronto's oldest Jewish cemetery which was established in 1849. It was closed to further burials in 1930. Sadly the tombstones are now weathered and some inscriptions illegible.

A meeting was held recently to discuss restoration plans for the *Lakeshore Psychiatric Hospital Cemetery* in Mimico. A group of volunteers has done an excellent job clearing the overgrowth and locating descendants of those buried between 1892 and 1973. Plans to memorialize the site are being developed by the Ontario Realty Corporation.

Notice has been received for a request to close a part of *St. John's Church Cemetery* in Bath. The request was made in order to facilitate the sale of the rectory.

An archaeological assessment was conducted and no interments were located in the area to be sold.

The removal of tombstones from their original location has been the subject of discussion on the Internet. While collecting tombstones into one small area makes lawn cutting easier it is against the law. In the past memorial walls were built placing markers in concrete. This usually resulted in disaster. The tombstones were porous and freezing and thawing caused their rapid deterioration.

## 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 are fortunate that many of our members donate their time and expertise but there is much we must pay for so we are forced to ask our readers for their assistance. We can't do it alone. All donations will receive a tax receipt.



During Doors Open Toronto 2009, *Cemetery News* editor Marjorie Stuart volunteered to give presentations on cemetery preservation and to raise awareness among visitors of the OHS's John McKenzie House. Thanks to her efforts, many petition signatures in support of *Bill 149* were collected by concerned citizens. Photo Matthew La Rose



Kirk Howard, President, Dundurn Group with author and OHS member Barbara Wall La Rocque at a launch for her new book *Wolfe Island, A Legacy In Stone* (The Dundurn Group). The event was sponsored by the Wolfe Island Historical Society, an affiliated society with the OHS since May 2006. Photo Lesley La Rocque



The staff of The Ontario Historical Society pictured above during the OHS's AGM in June 2009. Pictured (left to right) are: Andrea Izzo, OHS Bulletin Editor; Rob Levery, Executive Director; Christina Perfetto, Membership Coordinator; Tharshika Krishnamoorthy, Matthew LaRose and Timothy Mikkelsen, OHS summer students. Many thanks to the Ontario Ministry of Culture for funding through the Student Experience Program – our summer students worked diligently on many projects such as the Parkview Neighbourhood Garden and a re-organization of the office filing system.

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# Exhibits, Events and Notices

**OCTOBER 31**

## **Genealogy Workshop**

One-day genealogy workshop hosted by the Upper Ottawa Valley Genealogical Group at the UOVGG Library. 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch and handouts, workshops on computer programs, family tree maker, Ancestry.ca, and more. (613) 735-0719 or <http://uovgg.ca> for more information.

## **OCTOBER 31 & NOVEMBER 1 Haunted Halls**

The Thunder Bay Museum invites you to step back into a haunted medical nightmare in this popular educational and entertaining night at the "boo-seum". \$5 includes basement tour, admission to the museum, and much more. 425 Donald St. East, Thunder Bay. 807.623.0801.

**NOVEMBER 3**

## **Annual Remembrance Lecture**

The Guelph Historical Society presents Dr. William C. Winegard to speak about "Canadian Forces: Wherever They Are Needed" for this installment of their Evening Lecture Series. St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Guelph (corner of Norfolk and Suffolk Streets) at 7:30 p.m.

**NOVEMBER 6**

## **A Night of Nostalgia**

The Paris & Museum & Historical Society presents this fundraiser featuring '50s and '60s music by *Two Of A Kind*. Enjoy a range of ac-

tivities between 8:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. at the Paris Fairgrounds. \$10 at the door or by calling 519.442.9295. [www.parishistoricalsociety.com](http://www.parishistoricalsociety.com).

**NOVEMBER 21**

## **November Social**

The Sir Guy Carleton Branch of the UELAC present their social featuring guest speaker Robert McBride, U.E., editor of *Loyalist* magazine, who will speak on *An Exploration of the Relationship Between the United Empire Loyalists and Freemasonry in Upper Canada*. Cafe 1274, 1274 Carling Ave., Ottawa. Event begins at 11:30 a.m. and includes lunch. Please email [sylvia.powers@gmail.com](mailto:sylvia.powers@gmail.com) for more information.

**NOVEMBER 21**

## **Fundraising Auction**

The Heritage Etobicoke Foundation is sponsoring an auction to raise funds for the re-restoration (beginning in 2011) of Montgomery's Inn. Islington Golf Club, 45 Riverbank Rd., Etobicoke. 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. preview, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. auction. Donations are welcome, please contact Randall at 416.394.6025.

## **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*,  
**The Ontario Historical Society**,  
34 Parkview Ave., Willowdale, ON, M2N 3Y2  
or [izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca).

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

**Submit Information about  
your Local History Event to:**  
[izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

## The Leona Drive Project

Set in one of Toronto's oldest inner suburbs, the community of Willowdale in North York, Ontario, The Leona Drive Project is a unique contemporary art exhibition of site-specific installations that address the shifting space of the suburbs. Curated by Janine Marchessault and Michael Prokopow and supplemented with a unique series of public programming initiatives, The Leona Drive Project aims to challenge and expand our understanding of suburban spaces.

The Public Access Collective, in collaboration with L.O.T.: Experiments in Urban Research (Collective), has commissioned eighteen artist projects for a series of five vacant bungalows slated for demolition by HYATT HOMES, a developer in Willowdale (in the Yonge and Sheppard area of Greater Toronto). From October 22nd to 31st, 2009, a group of noted Canadian artists will be working in a variety of media, including audio and locative media, architectural installation, projection, photography, sculpture and performance to create new works on site. The site is easily accessible by subway – only three blocks from the Sheppard subway station.

An opening reception takes place

on Friday, October 23 from 7-11 p.m. and includes a free shuttle bus from the Toronto International Art Fair and the Gladstone Hotel, a cocktail reception en route and a special screening curated by Pleasure Dome beginning at 9 pm. Through a partnership with Art Toronto (Toronto International Art Fair), The Leona Drive Project will also offer special events and programs at the fair, including free Leona Drive dossiers with artist statements, concept sketches and photographs, and a unique installation by artists Christine Davis, Oliver Husain and An Te Liu in the fair's NEXT lounge area.

Willowdale Councillor John Filion will host a roundtable discussion at the North York Civic Centre on urban planning in the suburbs on October 28 (TBC). A major symposium in March 2010 will address the culture of the suburbs and features a keynote address and panel discussions with urban planners, artists and architects. A special issue of the journal *Public: Art/Culture/Ideas* edited by Janine Marchessault and Michael Prokopow will further explore the issues raised by the exhibition and symposium. For more information please visit [www.leonadrive.ca](http://www.leonadrive.ca)!

## Join the OHS at this Educational Events!

For more information or to download a Registration Form, visit [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca) or e-mail [rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:rleverty@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca)

**November 7  
10-3:30 pm**

**Making Ontario's Heritage Accessible for People with Disabilities** at Simcoe County Museum, Minesing. This workshop, in partnership with The Simcoe County Historical Association, examines practical solutions to improving accessibility in the heritage sector. Includes resource material kit and lunch. \$25, register ASAP.

Contact: Rob Leverty 416.226.9011 or toll free 1.866.955.2755

The Ontario Genealogical Society, Toronto Branch and The Canadiana Dept. of North York Central Library present:

## **Disease and Distress**

*A workshop about how our ancestors handled adversity*

**Saturday, November 28, 2009**

North York Central Library Auditorium,  
5120 Yonge Street, Toronto (North York Centre Subway Station)

Please register by contacting:  
[info@torontofamilyhistory.org](mailto:info@torontofamilyhistory.org) or call 416.733.2608 (voice mail)

## New OHS Award: Huguenot Society of Canada Award

The Ontario Historical Society is excited to announce the creation of a brand new award, the Huguenot Society of Canada Award. This category will honour the best book or substantial article in a major publication published in Ontario in the past three years which has brought public awareness to the principles of freedom of conscience and freedom of thought. This award was created in partnership with its namesake, the Huguenot Society of Canada. Formed in 1967, the Huguenot Society had an objective to research and preserve Huguenot history, aid its members in tracing their genealogy of their Huguenot ancestors, and to bring together the Huguenot community in Canada. Despite having members from across Canada and the USA, the Society unfortunately ceased operations in 2004. For more information about the history of the Huguenot's, please see Page 4 of the Summer 2009 Issue of the *OHS Bulletin*.

Parties interested in nominating a book or article for the 2009 Huguenot Society of Canada Award can find a nomination form on our website, or can request it to be mailed or faxed. Each nomination must provide three copies of the book or article (plus a \$10 fee if it is a book). The deadline to nominate an award for the 2009-2010 Ceremony is Monday, January 10, 2010. The OHS thanks the Huguenot Society of Canada and Peter Dupuy, President, for their ongoing support of the Honours and Awards Program. Please forward questions to [izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](mailto:izzo@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca).



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## 2010 Edna Staebler Research Fellowship

The Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus Museum announce the competition for the Seventeenth Annual Edna Staebler Research Fellowship. This year's Fellowship includes a \$1,000 research stipend. The award will be made for a project adjudged to increase knowledge and expand understanding of the cultures of the folk and founding peoples of Waterloo County/Waterloo region. Information and application forms may be obtained from: The Joseph Schneider Haus Museum, 466 Queen Street South, Kitchener, ON N2G 1W7, 519.742.7752. The competition will close on Monday, November 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. and the winner will be announced on December 4th.

"This award exists to encourage those with research skills and a genuine interest in Waterloo Region to devote a year to exploring facets of our folk and founding

cultures and so increase our collective awareness of the abundance that surrounds us. Research is welcomed across a range of disciplines and media formats."



## **Robert J. Burns, Ph.D.**

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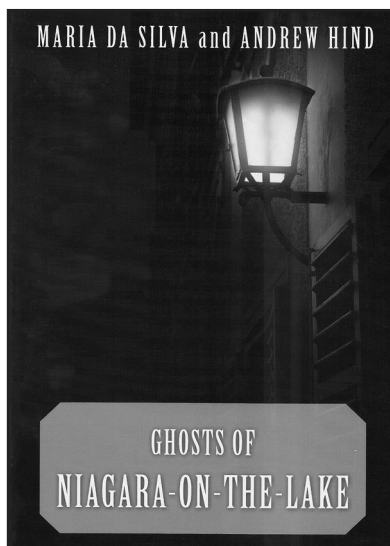
# From The Bookshelf

Chris and Pat Raible, Editors  
raible@georgian.net

## ONTARIO OBSERVED

**Kingston and Frontenac County.**  
Alec Ross and John de Visser.  
Boston Mills Press. 160 pages.  
Illustrations. \$39.95 hardbound.

Once again John de Visser – quite possibly the finest photographer of our province’s human and natural history – has joined forces with a local writer/historian to produce a splendid volume. Their tour of the city and the county enables us to look at old things – buildings, objects, natural scenery – in a new way, to comprehend their historical significance and to luxuriate in their present beauty. Archival images are occasionally interspersed to enhance our understanding of the legacy of this area of Ontario. A book to be read and to be treasured.



## GHOST WRITINGS

**Ghosts of Niagara-on-the-Lake.** Maria Da Silva & Andrew Hind. Natural Heritage Books, Dundurn Group. 200 pages. Illustrations. \$24.99 softbound.

Heritage sites in and around Niagara-on-the-Lake are familiar to most of us – the Apothecary Shop, Fort George, Laura Secord’s House, the McFarland House, and perhaps a dozen more. And, as every historic house curator and every heritage site entrepreneur well know, nothing attracts public interest more than linking incidents in the past to evidences of ghosts in the present. The authors of this imaginative and well-researched volume do much more than trace the known history; they relate tales of the unexplained and inexplicable, of spectres and spirits. Another volume in the borderland between history and mystery, the factual and fantastical.

## LEGAL HISTORY

**Lawyers of the Southwest: A History of the Essex Law Association, 1884-2009.** Patrick T. Brode. Essex Law Association. 42 pages. Illustrations. \$5.00 softbound.

April 14, 1884, was an auspicious day for a small group of lawyers and judges from the towns of Windsor and Sandwich. They had met to form an association not only “to promote the general interest of the legal profession and good feeling and harmony among the members” but most specifically to “form and maintain a law library.” With their new corporate status, they could obtain a loan of \$147 from the Law Society of Upper Canada to help fund a much-needed library. In spite of the advantages of library resources and professional camaraderie, the Association first grew very slowly, but in the years that have followed, the Association has increased in membership and influence, resulting in many improvements to the practice of law in the area, including the creation of the Windsor Law School. An ongoing challenge included the influx of women into the profession in the seventies and eighties, now happily a normal course of events. Recently, the major change faced by the Association, of course, is use of the Internet, calling into question the need for its *raison d’être*, the law library. Nevertheless, Brode notes, “Over the years, the Essex Law Association has been a reflection of the community it has served. ... Change has been an enduring element and it promises to remain so into the future.”

## EPISTOLARY HISTORY

**Somewhere in France: Love Letters from the Trenches.** Kevin Reeves. Distributed by Gulliver’s. Illustrations. \$35.00 softbound.

This “family album” of photographs, clippings and letters celebrates Kevin Reeves’ grandparents, Dave and Laura. Teenage Laura helped the war effort by writing cheery letters to Canadian soldiers who were stationed at the front during World War I. One recipient of those letters was Private Dave Reeve. The photographs and clippings give a detailed picture of life in North Bay during the days when the town was still being carved out of the bush, but Laura’s letters describe her life with afternoon teas, violin lessons and choir practices.

In contrast, Dave’s life was one of “blood, sweat and tears,” but his letters, buoyed by his growing love for Laura, were filled with hope for their future together.

## WAR OF 1812

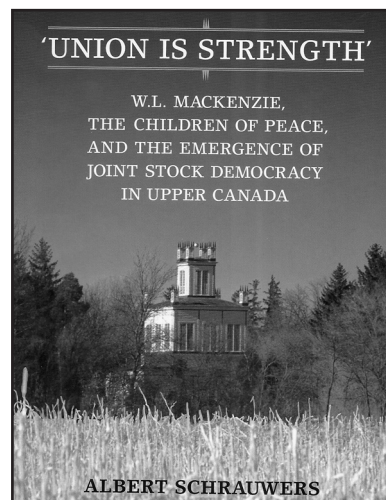
**Strange Fatality: The Battle of Stoney Creek, 1813.** James E. Elliott. Robin Brass Studio. 312 pages. Illustrations. \$24.95 softbound.

For the last several years the Robin Brass Studio has been publishing a laudable series of books, each focused on a particular battle or aspect of the War of 1812. This latest volume deals with a minor battle (in terms of its size and devastation) that had major consequences, for Stoney Creek stopped the momentum of the American invasions of 1813 – successful at York and at Fort George – and, as events evolved afterwards, prevented an American takeover of much of Upper Canada that year. Here the specifics of the battle – the participants, the maneuvers, the mistakes, the fortunes – are well described. One can smell the gun smoke and feel the fear. Here also are myths demolished (such as the tale of Billy Green) and results measured. An added appendix tells a story which may amuse (or appall) historical societies throughout the province: A second battle of Stoney Creek was fought nearly a century later over the location and erection of a memorial monument. The Wentworth Historical Society clashed with the Women’s Wentworth Historical Society for twenty years! Needless the say, the women won.

**Four Years on the Great Lakes, 1813-1816: The Journal of Lieutenant David Wingfield, Royal Navy.** Don Bamford and Paul Carroll. Natural Heritage, Dundurn Press. 280 pages. Illustrations. \$28.99 softbound.

David Wingfield was no great hero. He fought in no decisive battles – indeed, the War of 1812 itself was indecisive. But for four years he kept a descriptive diary which he entitled: *Four Years on the Lakes of Canada 1813, 1814, 1815 and 1816 by a Naval Officer Under the Command of the Late Sir James Lucas Yeo, Kt. Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of H.M. Ships and Vessels of War Employed on the Lakes – Also Nine Months as Prisoner of War in the United States of America.* Preserved by the family for several generations, the manuscript was presented to the National Archives in 1932. Carefully transcribed and thoroughly annotated, it is now

available to all who cherish the details, delights and disappointments of personal accounts of military life. The volume is peppered with archival images, maps, documents – including a section of marvelous colour pictures. Don Bamford was 89 when this labour of much of his lifetime was finally published, thanks to the assistance of Paul Carroll, the encouragement of historian Barry Gough, and the publishing efforts of Natural Heritage.



## FAITH IN ACTION

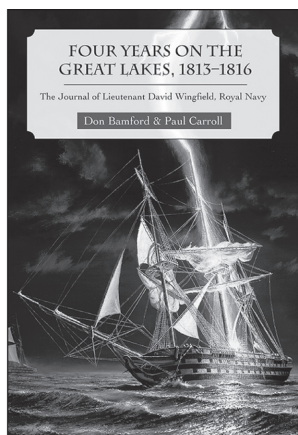
**‘Union is Strength’: W. L. Mackenzie, the Children of Peace, and the Emergence of Joint Stock Democracy in Upper Canada.** Albert Schrauwers. University of Toronto Press. 320 pages. \$70 hardbound.

Sharon Temple, in Hope near Newmarket, is a well preserved historic site – a striking architectural artifact of a religious movement founded in the early 19th century by its charismatic leader David Willson. Most writings about the Children of Peace, as the sect came to be known, have focused on Willson’s spiritual ideals with music at the centre of the group’s worship. This volume has a wider double purpose: First, to examine the role of Willson’s congregation in the movement for political reform in Upper Canada in the 1830s. Second, to consider Upper Canada’s transition to capitalism, fostered in part by Children of Peace-sponsored joint stock companies: the Farmer’s Storehouse Company and the Bank of the People. The

## 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.*



## Four Years On The Great Lakes, 1813-1816

**The Journal of Lieutenant David Wingfield, Royal Navy**

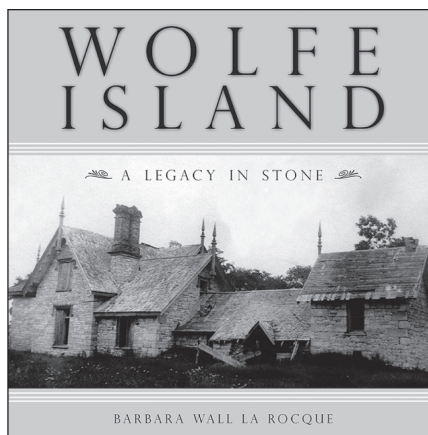
by Don Bamford and Paul Carroll

65 archival illustrations, maps, bibliography, appendices, notes, index  
\$28.99 paperback

A glimpse into the life and attitudes of a young enthusiastic naval officer on the Great Lakes during the War of 1812 and his time as a POW.



DUNDURN  
www.dundurn.com



## Wolfe Island

**A Legacy in Stone**

by Barbara Wall La Rocque

80 b&w photos, map, notes, bibliography, index  
\$30.00 paperback

This extensively researched history of Wolfe Island, from ice-age to present, is a treasure trove for history buffs. It follows the development and decline of industry, the evolution of facilities, land-title frustrations, and the emergence of its own unique identity.

Available from your favourite bookseller.



book is also another in the growing number of works which take William Lyon Mackenzie seriously. An academic treatise (as its price and lack of illustrations testify), it is a significant volume of research and historical interpretation, well worth reading by all serious students of the period.

#### MODERN HISTORY

**Stormont Dundas and Glengarry 1975-2007: A Chronicle of Our Life and Times.** Olive Marin and Frances Marin. Optimum Publishing International for the Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry Historical Society. 822 pages. Illustrations. \$60.00 hardbound.

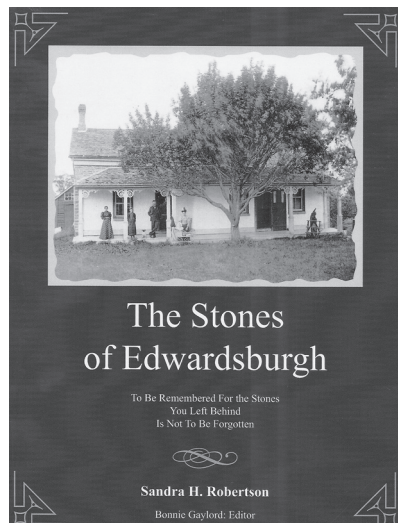
Here is a work of local history distinguished by its mass (822 pages), its narrow focus (32 years), and its intent: to record myriad details before they are forgotten. The authors, who first collaborated on a volume covering the United Counties from 1945 to 1978, now offer a sequel. The work is a reminder that history is the recent as well as the distant past. In today's electronic world – immediate yet maddeningly ephemeral – it is rewarding to discover a historical society so committed to the worth of the printed word. Anyone connected with the area will treasure this comprehensive endeavour.

#### IN HARM'S WAY

**Line of Fire: Heroism, Tragedy and Canada's Police.** Edward Butts. Dundurn Press. 244 pages. Illustrations. \$24.99 softbound.

The common factor of these heroic and horrific true crime stories is that their heroes (who were also victims) were all Canadian police officers. The first tells of the 1804 Lake Ontario wreck of The Speedy, a schooner en route to a murder trial. Drowned in the tragedy were High Constable John Fisk, his prisoner, the judge, the prosecutor, the defence attorney, and several others slated for key roles in the trial. Among other sad

tales – about a third set in Ontario – is the extraordinary career of the murderer of Frank Williams, a Toronto Police detective, killed while arresting a thief. The murderer spent months in the Don Jail, convinced a minister and his church of his innocence and Christian faith, with their aid he escaped and hid out with his girlfriend, and was finally arrested, tried, and hanged despite widespread public sympathy. All in all, crime may not pay, but the victims are too often those who attempt to enforce the law.



#### STONE AGE

**The Stones of Edwardsburgh.** Sandra H. Robertson. Edited by Bonnie Gaylord. Grenville County Historical Society. 180 pages. Illustrations. \$35.00 softbound.

This labour of love lists all the stone houses that are still standing in the Township of Edwardsburgh, including their addresses for those who wish to drive by. Most of the houses were homes from the start, but some began as schoolhouses or churches. Sandra Robertson has included a photograph of each, with a detailed description of how each building looks today as well as details of changes over the years. There is a separate section for the village of Cardinal and the village of Spencerville. "Other Stones" depicts buildings such as the Spencerville Mill, the Spencerville Town Hall (now the

seat of municipal government), churches, and hotels. Of these, most notable, perhaps, is the windmill seized by invading Patriot Hunters in November 1838. (Today it is a National Historic Site.) Also of interest are four stone vaults, two of which are still in use.

#### MEMORIES

**Beyond Mainland: Exploring History and Identity in Cottage Country.** Nathan Tidridge. St\*one Soup Publications. 152 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 softbound.

Written and published by Tidridge, a history teacher in Watertown and a long-time cottager on Muskoka's Buck Lake, this is a charming compilation of family and childhood memories. Based on his youthful journals and hand-drawn maps, Tidridge recalls his summer voyages of exploration around the lakes by canoe. All this he now augments with carefully researched local history, stories of First Nations, and tales of the early settlers, land surveyors and pioneers who came before him. Tidridge reminds us that "history is an environment filled with stories, sweeping across the land like a great lake."

**Beloved Muskoka: Diaries & Recollections of Elizabeth Penson.** Joan E. McHugh. Brucedale Press. 142 pages. Illustrations. \$22.00 softbound.

In her ninetieth year, Elizabeth Penson rediscovered her journals from the early decades of the 1900s, bringing memories flooding back. These she shared with her grand-niece Joan, and they are the inspiration for McHugh's text, written "in Elizabeth's voice because it is, after all, her story." Born in 1884, the granddaughter of a pioneering family, Elizabeth was something of a pioneer herself: training at Queen's University to become a high school science specialist, it was only after several refusals that she was offered a teaching position, needless to say, at a lower rate of pay than her male

#### DIRECTORY OF PUBLISHERS

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**Brucedale Press,** Box 2259, Port Elgin, ON N0H 2C0. brucedalt@bmts.com

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

**Essex Law Association,** 245 Windsor Ave., Windsor, ON N9A 1J2 info@essexlaw.ca

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**UBC Press,** University of British Columbia, 2029 West Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z2 www.ubcpres.ca

**University of Toronto Press,** 10 St. Mary St., Suite 700, Toronto, ON M4Y 2W8.

competitors. Elizabeth's summers on Lake Rosseau are lovingly remembered here, and after a long and rewarding career, she retired to her beloved Muskoka.

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Types of membership in the Society are: Individual/Institution/Organization \$35.00; Senior/Student \$30.00; Family \$45.00; Affiliated Societies \$50.00, Life \$1000.00;

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



#### Kawartha Photographers Guild

#### ANNUAL EXHIBITION



Winter Park Creek/ John Sheehan

October 17-28, 2009  
1-4pm daily

Kawartha Artists' Gallery & Studio  
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(Behind De Lafosse Library)

View prints from some of our finest  
local photographers

www.kawarthaphotographersguild.ca