

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2001



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Board of Directors

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President: Frank Bartoszek
First Vice-President: Lydia Ross
Alexander
Second Vice-President: Jean Murray
Cole
Past President: Bryan Walls
Secretary: Chris Raible
Treasurer: Jo Marie Powers

Directors

Gloria Taylor
Geoff Geduld
Brian Osborne
Penny Potter
Jan Trimble
Ross Wallace
John Witham

President's Report

This has been a year of transition for The Ontario Historical Society. The first goal of the new board was to continue the task of selecting a new Executive Director. The Search Committee, ably chaired by Lydia Ross Alexander, worked diligently throughout the summer and fall to advertise, screen applications, interview candidates, and make a recommendation to the Board.

Our new executive director, Pat Neal, began her duties in January of 2002. She is working carefully and thoroughly to ensure the smooth operation of our Society. Pat is planning new programmes and workshops for the membership. Please give Pat a call; she will be pleased to hear from you.

As you can read in the Committee Reports, we have been active in many areas. Historical societies and museums continue to seek affiliation with The Ontario Historical Society. Many worthy groups and individuals are recognized by the Honours and Awards programme. Board members have also appeared at meetings to speak out for preservation of our build heritage. Fundraising is also an on-going effort as we strive to provide programs and assistance.

One of our most challenging initiatives has been in the defense of cemeteries. Staff and volunteers have spent many hours preparing for hearings and presenting cases to preserve our pioneer cemeteries. The battle continues and we remain hopeful that we will succeed in defending what is right.

I thank those members of the Board who are leaving us, for their hard work during their terms. Special thanks go to Past President, Dr. Bryan Walls, for his dedication, perseverance, and good nature.

Finally, I thank all the volunteers who give so selflessly of their time to work for the Society. Our events and programmes would not be possible without the efforts of all our dedicated volunteers.

My thanks and best wishes to all our members for their continued support of the Society.

*Frank E. Bartoszek,
President*

Executive Director's Report

The Annual Report for 2001 provides our members with an overview of the activities and events sponsored and/or supported by The Ontario Historical Society, its staff and volunteers for the year.

I begin my term as Executive Director with the commitment to pursue excellence in service to our members and affiliates, honour our volunteers, and ensure that the Society operates in a professionally and fiscally responsible manner.

The Ontario Historical Society is a strong and viable organization with a membership dedicated to preserving history in all its forms. I am honoured to have been named Executive Director and look forward to our future opportunities.

*Patricia K. Neal,
Executive Director*

Fund Raising

With decreasing government funding, fundraising is increasingly important to The Ontario Historical Society. A number of fundraising events were held throughout the year, involving a number of volunteers and staff who generously donated time and materials. There were teas, book sales, a fashion show, a street sale, and light meals. One special sale arose from the donation of a number of lovely old linens. These were expertly laundered and pressed, and the resulting sale attracted a number of textile collectors.

A new initiative is being launched in the fall with a bus trip to the Peterborough district. We hope to eventually conduct a series of trips around the province. These will provide an opportunity for members to meet and greet each other, and to augment our fund raising resources.

The committee will continue to explore possible sources of increased revenue to meet rising costs. Creative solutions are vital. We appreciate the support of members and friends. Several members have made valuable suggestions and offered assistance, and further member suggestions would be very welcome. The Committee would be pleased to welcome any members willing to serve.

*Frank E. Bartoszek and Penny Potter,
Fundraising Committee Chairs*

Membership and Local Societies

The Ontario Historical Society welcomed 49 new members 2001 and the following local societies were granted affiliated status:

West Nissouri Historical Society
Cloyne Historical Society
Bayham Historical Society
North Grenville Historical Society
Plattsville & District Heritage Society
West Elgin Genealogical & Historical Society
Ebenezer Gore Heritage Foundation
Friends of Windsor Archives
The Ship's Company of Penetanguishene
Omeme and District Historical Society
The Burleigh Road Historical Society
Bothwell-Zone and District Historical Society
Morrisburg and District Historical Society
Grand River Heritage Mines Society

The following applications for affiliation were received and are awaiting action:

Dryden & District Historical Society
Cleaning & Sanitation Historical Foundation
Rusyn Association of North America
Stirling-Rawdon Historical Society
Bonnehochere Arts & Historical Society
Bromley Historical Society
Canadian Industrial Heritage Foundation

In addition, the Local Societies Chair attended the opening of the Hastings County Heritage Centre in Cannifton (near Belleville) and the 25th anniversary celebrations of the Beaverton Thorah and Eldon Historical Society.

Christina Perfetto, Membership Coordinator
Jean Murray Cole, Local Societies Chair

Honours & Awards

The Ontario Historical Society received entries both numerous and of high quality for its Honours and Awards programme. Many Board members were involved in judging entries in the various categories and I thank them for their help. An excellent suggestion has been made by a Board member that we involve a broader cross section of OHS members in making decisions about the award winners. I hope the Chair of the committee will pursue this option next year.

Following is a list of the 2001 award winners:

AWARDS FOR INDIVIDUALS

Carnochan Award: Charles Doubrough, Leonard McNeil and John Ridout

Cruikshank Gold Medal: Dorothy Duncan

Special Award of Merit: Marjorie Stuart

AWARDS FOR NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

Dorothy Duncan Award: Cobalt Historical Society

Museum Award of Excellence: The Red Lake Museum and Archives

Scadding Award of Excellence: Dunnville District Heritage Association

Russel K. Cooper Living History Site Award: Riverdale Farm

AWARDS FOR AUTHORS

Alison Prentice Award: Jean O'Grady for *Margaret Addison: A Biography*

Fred Landon Award: Jean Cochrane for *Kensington*

Joseph Brant Award: Constance Backhouse for *Colour-Coded: A Legal History of Racism in Canada 1900-1950*

J. J. Talman Award: Christopher Armstrong for *Moose Pastures and Mergers: The Ontario Securities Commission and The Regulation of Share Markets in Canada 1940-1980*

Riddell Award: R.D. Gidney and W.P.J. Millar for "The Christian Recessional in Ontario's Public Schools" in *Religion and Public Life in Canada*

*Jan Trimble,
Honours and Awards Committee Chair*

Publications

The OHS Strategic Plan for 2000-2001 identified the mandate for the Society's publications programme: support of the OHS flagship, *Ontario History* and its commitment to the publication of research relating to "Ontario's history, both scholarly and popular"; the regular production of the *OHS Bulletin* as a vehicle of communicating OHS business and activities. The third domain is the production of "a number of popular publications that attract a wide interest in the history of Ontario, the Society and its activities." The latter is the responsibility of the OHS Publications Committee.

One of the principal events in 2001 was the official launch in January of *Celebrating One Thousand years of Ontario's History*, the proceedings of the symposium held in April of the previous year.

While no new OHS publications were initiated in 2001, sales of our existing titles continued apace, generating revenue of over \$8,000. Of the eighteen titles available for sale, the most popular publications are as follows: *Celebrating 1000 Years of Ontario's History*; *Tombstone Tales from Ontario Cemeteries*, *This Little Piggy Went to the Market and Came Back With a Full Basket*.

The Publications Committee has not recommended new ventures until there is a better sense of the Society's financial status. With this resolved several initiatives will be evaluated:

1. New publications associated with future OHS workshops or which are proposed by prospective authors.
2. The revision and production of two OHS publications that are in demand: *Directory of Heritage Organizations and Institutions in Ontario* and *The Eager Beaver's Guide to Volunteers*.
3. Considering the re-issue of publications that are no longer available but continue to be in demand: *Consuming Passions* and *The 1837 Rebellion Remembered*.

Given the steady demand for OHS volumes, it is important that the Publications Brochure continue to be circulated to members to encourage further purchases.

*Brian S. Osborne,
Publications Committee Chair*

Museum Committee

The Museum Committee was formed and consists of Gloria Taylor (Simcoe County Museum), Janet Cobban (John R. Park Homestead), Sheila Johnson (Woodstock Museum) and Michelle Alderton (Red Lake Museum) with John Carter acting as the MTCR liaison to the committee.

Due to the distance between us, we will communicate via e-mail for most of our meetings. A meeting to coincide with the OMA conference is being planned since most of the committee members attend and costs can be shared.

The Museum Committee will concentrate on two projects:

1. Liaising with MTCR regarding grants in an effort to increase payments and have those paid in a timely fashion.
2. Working with our colleagues across the Province to promote better partnerships between museums and their local Historical groups, to the benefit of both.

During 2001, the OHS was represented by Gloria Taylor at the Committee to promote an Archaeological Symposium in 2003. The Symposium's purpose is to open a dialogue regarding artifact deposition and hopefully resolve some problems.

*Gloria Taylor,
Museums Committee Chair*

Ontario History

Ontario History, the journal of The Ontario Historical Society enjoyed a very successful year in 2001. It was particularly successful in its financial and related affairs. After having been dropped (for three years) from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council funding programme in support of scholarly journals *Ontario History* was able to rejoin the competition and was favoured with a successful adjudication! The panel that reviewed the application commented favourably on both the journal's quality and on its plans to expand its accessibility by developing its presence on the Internet. Those who have access to the web and to the Society's website www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca will know already that the table of contents of several recent issues of the journal are available for perusal and subscriptions to the journal can also be requested online. Future plans include posting the entire *Ontario History* index (currently available in two volumes) online, possibly in the form of a searchable database. This will be followed with postings of back issues of the journal beginning with long out of print issues of its predecessor, *Papers and Records of the Ontario Historical Society*. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of posting book reviews on the website so as to make them available in a more timely fashion. Finally in 2001, the Board of Directors of the Society also agreed to renew my appointment as editor and managing editor of the journal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their vote of confidence.

Apart from these successes, the journal also published two well-received issues in 2001. The Spring issue for the year was a special one, guest edited by Dr Cynthia Comacchio and subtitled "Coeds, Collegiates, and Clubs: Educating Young People in Twentieth-Century Ontario." This was a compilation of three articles that focused on aspects of the history of education in the province. The Autumn issue for 2001, through four articles, ranged broadly across Ontario history in both time and subject matter. Two articles in the issue dealt with aspects of women's history (nineteenth and early twentieth century) and two with aspects of industrial history (early twentieth century and early to mid-twentieth century).

The Editorial Advisory Committee for the journal for 2001 was made up of ten members: Linda Ambrose, Jeanne Beck, Nancy Christie, Cynthia Comacchio, Donald Graves, Laurie Leclair, Jan Noel, Carmela Patrias, Ian Radforth, and Randall White. Thank you to all members for their continued contributions. Jim Clemens continued as the journal's book review editor and I would like to take this opportunity to thank him for his dedication to the journal and wonderful effort on its behalf. In addition, this is an important to thank the journal's accomplished and hardworking manuscript editor, Dr Curtis Fahey without whose efforts no issue would appear.

Gabriele Scardellato,
Editor, Ontario History

Communications

With members in all regions of Ontario, the *OHS Bulletin* continues to be an important medium for our message. In addition to broadcasting upcoming OHS events and workshops, the *Bulletin* provides a forum for local Historical Societies and Museums from across the province to publicize their events, reaching a much larger audience than they would normally have access to.

The *OHS Bulletin* was published five times in 2001- March, May, July, September and December. Every OHS member received a copy of each issue and surplus copies were used as part of the handouts at OHS workshops and events, reaching additional individuals who may not be OHS members. Complimentary copies of the *Bulletin* were sent to a number of politicians and members of the media, helping to raise the profile of the OHS across Ontario.

A brochure and media release was designed for each workshop or event presented by the OHS in 2001. The brochures and media releases were sent to local members, heritage organizations and media across Ontario. New Membership, Publications, Cemetery Defence Fund, and Honours and Awards brochures were also designed in 2001 and sent to members and non-members throughout Ontario, Canada and the World.

*Colin Agnew,
Communication Coordinator*

Educational Programmes

The Ontario Historical Society began 2001 by launching the book and video *Celebrating One Thousand Years of Ontario's History*. In February, the OHS and the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee celebrated Black History Month by launching the book *Broken Shackles: Old Man Henson - From Slavery to Freedom* and the video *Speakers for the Dead*.

With the support of Canada's National History Society, the OHS co-sponsored the workshop "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about an Heritage Organization or Institution but Were Afraid to Ask!" with the Simcoe County Historical Association, Réseau du Patrimoine "Voyageur" Heritage Network, and the Peterborough Historical Society. These workshops were held in Minesing, Sheguiandah, and Peterborough. Interested individuals and members of the following organizations and institutions participated in these three workshops: Tecumseth & West Gwillimbury Historical Society; Brampton Historical Society; Markham Historical Society; Unionville Historical Society; Bradford Historical Society; O.P.P. Museum; Midland LACAC; Barrie Historical Society; Alliston Historical Society; Tiny Twp. Historical & Heritage Society; Bradford Downtown Revitalization Association; Stayner Heritage Society; O.P.P. Veteran's Association; Fort Willow Improvement Group; Ship's Company of Penetanguishene; Sheffield Park Black History Museum; Midhurst Historical Society; Innisfil Historical Society; Central Manitoulin Historical Society; Kagawong Historical Society; Sheguiandah Centennial Museum; Ojibwe Cultural Foundation; Whitefish River First Nation; Sheguiandah First Nation; West Parry Sound & District Museum; Channel View Drop-in Centre; Wikwemikong Heritage Centre; Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Recreation Sudbury Regional Office; Musée Sturgeon River House Museum; Anderson Farm Museum; Michael's Bay Historical Society; Hutchison House Museum; Macpherson House; Lennox & Addington County Historical Society; Fenelon Falls Museum; Proctor House Museum; Smith Township Historical Society; Stirling Rawdon Historical Society; Sunderland Historical Society and the Victoria County Historical Society.

In February the OHS participated in "Seedy Saturday" which was sponsored by Black Creek Pioneer Village and Seeds Diversity of Canada.

In the spring of 2001, the OHS in co-operation with the Réseau du Patrimoine "Voyageur" Heritage Network presented a workshop at the West Parry Sound Museum entitled, "Researching Your Local History - Artifacts and Structures."

A slide show and lecture based on the book *Tombstone Tales from Ontario Cemeteries* continued to be very popular and was presented at Halton-Peel Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society, the Ailsa Craig & District Historical Society, the Newcastle Village & District Historical Society, the Oshawa Historical Society and at Windsor's Community Museum for the exhibit opening of "Gone but not Forgotten: Cemeteries of Essex County."

On May 26-27, 2001, the OHS hosted "Doors Open" in partnership with Heritage Toronto. OHS staff and volunteers conducted historical tours at the John McKenzie House.

Throughout 2001, the OHS participated in various educational activities with the First Nations, heritage groups and descendants to educate the general public in North America and overseas about the issue of public interest and the application to dig up and move the northern half of the burying ground at St. James' Cathedral in Toronto. This culminated in a Vigil on All Souls Day with family members and community heritage groups at St. James' Cathedral.

Representatives of various churches and cemetery boards and over 30 heritage organizations and institutions attended the workshop "The Heritage of Ontario Cemeteries" at the St. John's Anglican Church (Nelson) in Burlington. This workshop was presented by the OHS and Heritage Burlington LACAC.

The OHS presented Young Ontario Programmes at Gulfstream and St. Roberts Public Schools in Toronto. Numerous outreach programmes were held including at Black Creek Pioneer Village, York Mills - Oriole United Church, the Etobicoke Historical Society, the Canadian Royal Heritage Trust, Peel Heritage Complex, the Race Relations Committee for the City of Toronto Police Force and Buxton National Historic Site & Museum.

*Rob Leverty,
Programme Coordinator*

Programmes, Services and Fundraising Events 2001

Date	Event	Location
January 14	Meeting, Omeme and District Historical Society	Omeme
15	Meeting, Community Heritage Ontario re Ontario Heritage Act	Toronto
16	Meeting, Don Valley Brickworks	Toronto
21	Launch, One Thousand Years of Ontario's History	Willowdale
22	Launch and seminar, International Year of the Volunteer	Toronto
26	Parks Canada rental	Willowdale
28	Launch, Black History Month Ontario Black History Society	Toronto
29	Host meeting Ontario Heritage Alliance	Toronto
31	Participate in launch of Black History Month by Race Relations Committee, Toronto Police Services	Willowdale
February 4	Public meeting re St. James Cathedral	Toronto
6	Participate in "The Order of Good Cheer" radio programme sponsored by Guelph-Waterloo Regional Chapter Cuisine Canada	Guelph
	Meeting, Bothwell-Zone Historical Society	Bothwell
	Meeting, The Ship's Company of Penetanguishene	Penetanguishene
13	Lecture, Stratford's Chef School	Stratford
16	Parks Canada Rental	Willowdale
19	Workshop, Simcoe County Historical Association	Minesing
21	Meeting, St. James Cemetery	Toronto
24	Exhibit and sale, Seedy Saturday, Black Creek Pioneer Village	Downsview
24	Meeting, Culinary Historians of Ontario	Toronto
25	Launch, Broken Shackles and Speakers for the Dead, book and video	Willowdale
26, 27	Parks Canada rental	Willowdale
26	Interview, CBC	Toronto
March 7	Meeting, Treasurer – 2001 Budget	Willowdale
7	Meeting, North York Historical Society	Willowdale
8	Meeting, St. James' Cemetery	Toronto

10	Rental, Royal Canadian Heritage Trust	Willowdale
13	Meeting, Heritage Burlington LACAC	Burlington
20	Meeting, Treasurer Ontario re provincial budget	Toronto
21	Provincial launch Volunteer 2001	Toronto
26, 27	Annual financial audit	Toronto
27	Annual General Meeting, Toronto Historical Association	Toronto
29-31	Participant in planning meeting for Centre for Great Lakes Culture	Michigan
April 3	Meeting, Sharon Temple re fundraising	Sharon
4	Meeting, City of Toronto re Official Plan	Toronto
4	Exhibit and colloquium, OGS	Burlington
5	Rental Parks Canada	Willowdale
6	Meeting, Voyageur Heritage Network	Parry Sound
7	Workshop, Parry Sound Museum	Parry Sound
9	Lecture, SLATE conference	Selkirk
9	Lecture, Grange volunteers, Art Gallery of Ontario	Toronto
21	Rental, Mayflower Society of Canada	Willowdale
24	Weekenders Fashion Show Fund Raiser	Willowdale
May 1	Meeting, St. James' Cathedral cemetery	Toronto
6	Opening, North York Group of Artists Show	Willowdale
8	Meeting, Brickworks Advisory Committee	Toronto
15	Meeting, Simcoe County Historical Association	Barrie
16	Meeting, Millbrook-Cavan Historical Society	Millbrook
17	Participant in Studio 2, TVO Programme	Toronto
26,27	DOORS OPEN TORONTO!	Willowdale
29	Meeting, Cuisine Canada re conference	Toronto
June 1	Participant in Studio 2, TVO Programme	Toronto
2	Workshop, Heritage Burlington LACAC	Burlington
6-10	Speaker, Conference for The Association for the Study of Foods and Society and the Agriculture, Food and Human Values Society	Minnesota
13	Meeting, Toronto Historical Association	Toronto
17	Meeting, Brougham Cemetery Association re affiliation	Brougham
20	Meeting, Cuisine Canada re conference	Guelph
20	Filming Vision TV at McKenzie House	Willowdale

July 1	Street Sale	Willowdale
6	Parks Canada Rental	Willowdale
10	Meeting, Cuisine Canada re conference	Willowdale
11	Meeting, Kagawong Historical Society	Kagawong
13-15	Canada's National History Society rental	Willowdale
24	Young Ontario Programme Workshop, Gulfstream	Toronto
26	Young Ontario Programme Workshop, St. Roberts	Toronto
August 2	CBC interview Kate Aitken legacy	Toronto
6	Book table, Simcoe Day, Gibson House	Willowdale
7	Meeting, Fundraising Committee	Willowdale
12	Tea on the Veranda and Linen Sale	Willowdale
13	Meeting, St. James' Cemetery	Toronto
15	Lecture, Etobicoke Lions Club	Etobicoke
22	Meeting, Plattsville Historical Society	Plattsville
24	Meeting, Mayor of Alliston	Alliston
31	Booktable, Buxton National Historic Site Conference	Buxton
September 6	Meeting, Cuisine Canada re conference	Toronto
11,12, 20,21, 25, 26	Rental, Revenue Canada	Willowdale
15	Book table and craft activity, Black Creek Pioneer Village Festival	Downsview
20		
23	Meeting, Museum Board	Fenlon Falls
28	Presentation of Award, Ojibwe Cultural Foundation	Manitoulin Island
29	Workshop, Centennial Museum	Manitoulin Island
October 2	Pre-hearing meeting, St. Albans Cemetery	Toronto
3	Meeting, St. James' Cemetery	Toronto
4	Seminar, Charity and Advocacy	Toronto
4	Meeting, Wold Youth Day	Toronto
5	Programme, York Mills-Oriole Outreach	Willowdale
11	Rental, Cuisine Canada	Willowdale
12	Heritage Awards Programme	Toronto
17, 18	Rental, Revenue Canada	Willowdale
19	Meeting, OHS Search Committee	Willowdale
19	Meeting, OHS Foundation	Willowdale
19	Meeting, OHS Administration Committee	Willowdale

23	Meeting, St. James' Cemetery	Toronto
24	Meeting, Toronto City Hall re heritage issues	Toronto
25	Lecture, Etobicoke Historical Society	Etobicoke
26	Parks Canada rental	Willowdale
27	Meeting, Royal Heritage Trust	Willowdale
30	Meeting, Toronto Historical Association	Toronto
30	Meeting, Save St. James' Committee	Toronto
31	Trick or Treat at 34 Parkview	Willowdale
November 2	Vigil, St. James' Cemetery	Toronto
3	Historical Society workshop	Peterborough
4	Banting Luncheon	Alliston
7	Fund raiser, Oyster Supper	Willowdale
8,9	Meetings	Windsor and Essex County
10	Fund raiser, Architectural Conservancy of Ontario	Toronto
13	Meeting, Alliston Mayor and staff	Alliston
15	Fund raiser, Black Creek Pioneer Village	Downsview
17	Rental, Huguenot Society of Canada	Willowdale
20	Observer, conference call meeting of potential applicant for affiliation	Willowdale
21	Participant, Cultural Summit	Toronto
22	Meeting, Canadian Royal Heritage Trust	Toronto
25	Programme. Peel Heritage Complex	Brampton
26	Recognition, Leonard McNeil	Milton
30	Parks Canada Rental	Willowdale
December 2	Fund raiser, Cook Book Caper	Willowdale
7	Meeting, Ontario Heritage Alliance	Toronto
7	Retirement, Lieutenant Governor	Toronto
9	Meeting, Jane Austin Society	Toronto
10	Women's Canadian Historical Society luncheon	Willowdale
11	Meeting, Northern Bountly Conference Committee	Guelph
12	Volunteerism Seminar, Province of Ontario	Toronto