

The Ontario Historical Society

Annual Report

2004



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Cover images:

Top: Posing for a photograph at the 2004 Heritage Day reception held at the John McKenzie House are, left to right, Carol Whittaker, Bruce Whittaker, Minister of Culture Madeleine Meilleur, Bill Meakins and Timothy Avery. These colourful re-enactors added a special air of military heritage to the event where a wide variety of guests enjoyed themselves.

Middle: George W. J. Duncan signs copies of his book Thoreau MacDonald's Sketches of Rural Ontario, published by the OHS, at a launch on October 3, 2004 at the J. E. H. MacDonald House in Thornhill.

Bottom: Janet Carlile identifies antique silver objects at the Silver I.D. Clinic held on the Friday evening prior to the all-day Silver Workshop. Several guests were pleasantly surprised at the age and quality of their silver pieces.

Photos S. Creighton

President's Report

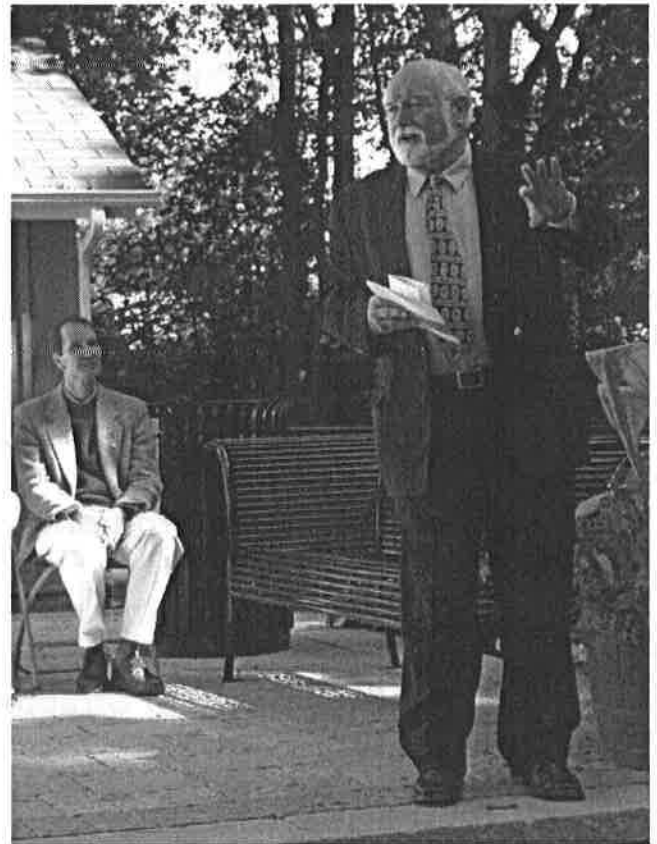
When my predecessor, Jean Murray Cole, handed over the reins last year, she wished me well and expressed the hope that my term would be "a rewarding one." Not quite the infamous Chinese curse, but the last year has certainly been a period of "interesting times."



*At The Ontario Historical Society's 2004 AGM held at the John McKenzie House, Jean Murray Cole (left), Past President and Brian Osborne, newly-elected President of the OHS, pose for a photograph.
Photo Rob Levery*

Much of it has been a matter of business as usual as will be evident in the reports of the Society's officers. Perhaps this is how it should be with any well-run organization. Certainly, the good work that has brought much praise to our Society over the years continues, thanks to our excellent staff and dedicated volunteer Board. Our Executive Director's report will refer to the specifics of our now well-established outreach program, as well as new initiatives she pursued on our behalf last year. For my part, I have enjoyed visiting our affiliate Societies, mostly in Eastern Ontario, and am looking forward to speaking to others elsewhere in the near future. However informative our excellent *OHS Bulletin* is in disseminating news and information, the personal visits by OHS staff and Board members appear to be much appreciated.

And there has been so much to do this year. The OHS put its shoulder to the wheel in supporting the campaign for enhanced facilities for that essential arm of our heritage community, the Ontario Archives. While we are awaiting progress on this front, OHS is most gratified to see the passage of Bill 60: The Ontario Heritage Amendment Act. Together with other agencies, OHS orchestrated the support of its affiliates who responded most vigorously in this cause.



*OHS President Brian Osborne addresses attendees at the launch of George Duncan's new book *Thoreau MacDonald's Sketches of Rural Ontario*. Author and historian George W. J. Duncan (seated) donated his time and skills to the OHS to produce this chapbook-style publication. Launched at the J.E.H. MacDonald House, there was a good turnout on a beautiful fall day.
Photo S. Creighton*

On a different note, I regret that I am unable to report a resolution of negotiations concerning the "Banting property," a matter that has received considerable attention in the media in recent months. Members might recall that the OHS received the generous bequest of the Banting Homestead in Alliston from Edward Knight Banting, in memory of Sir Frederick Banting and in support of the mission of the Society. Faced with the prospect of the considerable expense in maintaining this property, the OHS Foundation has been seeking an agreement whereby the heritage of the Banting site will be maintained, and also funds raised for repairs of the property and pursuing OHS's mission. We trust that we

will soon be able to report a resolution that both celebrates the memory of Sir Frederick Banting and enhances the activities of the OHS.

I wish to close this report by thanking the OHS Board, Staff, and membership at large for their support over the last year.

Brian S. Osborne
President



OHS President, Brian Osborne (seated front row right) spoke at the fall meeting of the Verona Area Heritage Society on the topic "Kingston: Building on the Past for the Future." Members of the Verona Area Heritage Society seen here are: left to right (back row) Jane Adams, Andy Adamson, (middle row) Eileen Steele, Charles Stewart, Louise Day, Marilyn Hewson, Barb Stewart, Val Ruttan, (front row) Jim Reynolds, Enid Bailey. Photo Courtesy Ian MacAlpine, Kingston Whig-Standard

Executive Director's Report

2004 was an extremely busy and productive year.

Our Heritage Day celebrations started the year on a very positive note. More than 150 people dropped by to meet Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Culture, and enjoy the afternoon's festivities that featured music by Café Jazz, food by Eidolon Catering, wine by Joseph's Estate Wines, and costumed re-enactors (Bruce and Carol Whittaker, Timothy Avery & Bill Meakins). The John McKenzie House, freshly painted, courtesy of Benjamin Moore & Co. Ltd. and Community Foundations of Canada, was the perfect backdrop for the occasion. Minister Meilleur brought greetings from Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario, and formally announced the province's investment in the OHS's *Guide to Heritage Tourism in Ontario*. Our full-colour Heritage Day poster saluting Ontario's military heritage was distributed to all members of The Ontario Historical Society and reproduced in the *Saturday Star*.



Tim Cozens (left) and Ron Mathews of Café Jazz performed jazz classics at the 2004 Heritage Day Reception. Photo S. Creighton

Many heritage organizations experienced a decline in attendance during 2003. Lower attendance revenues, cancelled school programs, and the reluctance of foreign travelers also resulted in lower gift shop sales. To offset this decline the OHS applied for, and received, funding from the Ministry of Culture's Cultural Tourism Marketing Fund (CTMF) to produce a Guide to Heritage Tourism activities and events. Members, heritage partners, and others were invited to advertise their summer events for a nominal fee. As a benefit to our affiliated societies, their first listing was 'free'. *Fascinating Ontario*, a guide to over 140 heritage attractions, events and organizations was published by the *Toronto Star* and released the first week of June. The Guide was circulated to more than 2 million readers of the *Saturday Star* and was also available at participating sites and travel centers across Ontario. Readers were invited to enter a draw to win one of five Ontario getaway prize packages. Over 2,400 entries were received. Our getaway prizewinners were: Margaret Palmer, Ivan Church, Cheryl Barned, Estelle Morris and Mr. J. Allmeier.

Participants in our antique identification workshop series learned how to identify 18th and 19th century decorative arts. An antique identification clinic was held on the Friday evening preceding the Saturday workshops. Noted appraiser Janet Carlile presented the first three workshops in the series on glass, silver, and porcelain/pottery. Janet is the Curator/Director of the Arnprior and District Museum and has been invited to join the Canadian Antiques Roadshow. Museum advisor Daniel O'Brien joined Janet for the fourth, and final, workshop on antique furniture. Daniel shared his extensive knowledge of historical interiors, furniture and design. Feedback from participants who attended the workshops was extremely positive. Everyone loved the hands-on approach, and the relaxed atmosphere.



Antique expert Janet Carlile shows attendees at the Saturday Antique Glass Workshop a huge variety of glass objects. She instructed on how to identify different types of glass from the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. Photo S. Creighton

The Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, through the Ministry of Citizenship, awarded the OHS a grant in 2004 to produce an Information and Resource Tool Kit designed to make Ontario's heritage and culture accessible to people with disabilities. The Tool Kit is being presented at public information workshops beginning Spring 2005 in Sudbury. Four additional workshops will take place in locations across the province: Fort Frances, Hamilton, Chatham and Ottawa.

On June 14th, Madeleine Meilleur, Minister of Culture, brought forward amendments to the *Ontario Heritage Act* for second reading in the Ontario Legislative Assembly. Since the government introduced Bill 60, *An Act to amend the Ontario Heritage Act*, on April 21st, people from across Ontario have expressed how important the proposed legislation would be in safeguarding Ontario's valuable heritage resources. Third reading of this important legislation remains pending.

The Ontario Historical Society Property & Casualty Insurance Program was announced in late fall. This cost-saving program is offered as a benefit to our affiliated societies.

Thoreau MacDonald's Sketches of Rural Ontario

was launched in late fall at the J.E.H. MacDonald House in Thornhill, in partnership with the Society for the Preservation of Historic Thornhill and Heritage Vaughan. *Sketches* features the distinctive black and white drawings of Thoreau MacDonald and the prose of George W.J. Duncan. *Sketches* is available through the OHS and museum and gallery gift shops.

As in years' previous, the OHS hosted, or participated in, a number of special programs and fundraising events and such as Doors Open/Book Sale, Cookbook Caper, the Toronto Postcard Show, Municipal Freedom of Information workshop, etc. Our resources are stretched thin and we could not do as much as we do without the support of our many volunteers and friends. Thank you all for your generosity and kindness.

I would also like to commend the team of dedicated, hardworking staff who strive to serve you, our members, promptly and courteously - Rob, Christina, Carlos, Natasha, and Sheila - and our two summer students, Barton and Sana. Thank you!

Patricia K. Neal
Executive Director



Our summer students in 2004 were: Barton Wong (left) and Sana Rizwan. Barton documented our publications and produced a catalogue of publications for sale, and Sana organized and updated the OHS database directory and created a database for affiliated members of the OHS. Photo Rob Levery

Treasurer's Report for the Year Ending December 31, 2004

The year was marked by improvements to internal operating procedures and expanded activities.

2004 was a challenging year. Total income and expenditures were dramatically increased with the funding of two Government of Ontario one-time programs [CTMF and EnAbling Change], in addition to the annual operating grant. The Grants permitted the Society to significantly enhance membership services and the image of the Society throughout the Province. The Statements of Operations for the year ended December 31, 2004 show revenues of \$632,909 compared to \$388,588 for the previous year.

For the year 2004 there is a small deficit of \$12,960 compared to \$26,892 for the previous year. The deficit resulted from the settlement of a wrongful dismissal case. If it had not been for this one time extraordinary expense the Society would not only have operated at a surplus but would have also been able to do more to promote History in Ontario. The Society settled the wrongful dismissal suit mentioned above through mediation rather than through litigation. This was a challenge during the year and was settled satisfactorily with the active efforts of the Executive Director.

All the programs were managed within the funding available.

External auditors were changed at the 2004 annual meeting with the appointment of Browning, Milgram, experts in auditing not-for-profit organizations. They were chosen after the previous auditor indicated that they would not reduce their professional fees and after three competing proposals were considered.

The Audit Committee, which was created in 2003, met on a regular basis and worked to ensure that the financial statements were more detailed, regular, accurate and timely. This enabled the Board of Directors to be better informed. The Committee was strengthened by the recruitment to the Board of Mr. Naresh Khosla, FCA, who brought considerable financial experience to the Committee.

The Audit Committee prepared an Investment Policy Statement which was submitted to the Board and approved. The Committee also led the Annual Business Planning process for 2005, which was marked by increased Board participation and a Plan which envisages a modest surplus for the year.

Looking ahead to 2005 the Society plans to operate on a break-even basis, or even achieve a small surplus, while:

- strengthening the Board's capacity to serve its members through a planning workshop
- initiating a Fund Raising Plan and Program
- continuing to strengthen the Society's financial position and improving financial reporting.

Joseph E. Martin,
Treasurer,
April 18, 2005

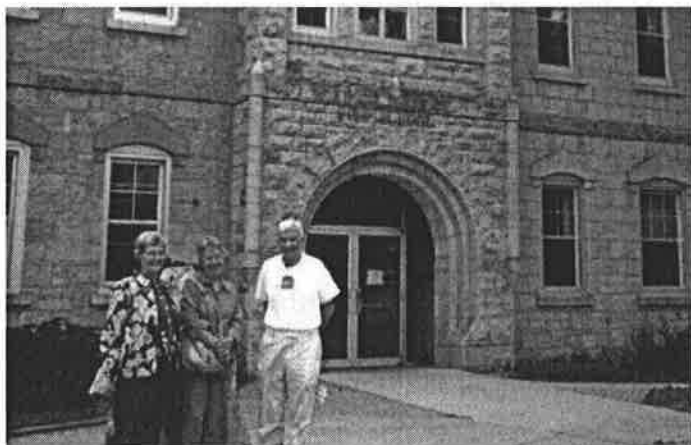
Membership

Thank you for continued membership in The Ontario Historical Society. During 2004 we added to our existing membership list 97 new members & subscribers. It is your membership and your participation at our events that make the difference. Thank you to all our members and donors for their continued support, and welcome to all the new members of the OHS and subscribers to *Ontario History*.

In early 2004, Canada Revenue Agency determined that membership fees in the OHS were eligible for tax receipts. Individual and family memberships were issued tax receipts in 2004 for their dues and donations.

New Affiliates of The Ontario Historical Society accepted by the Board of Directors in 2004 are:

- Culinary Historians of Ontario
- Arthur & Area Historical Society
- Dawn Twp. Historical Society
- Fairfield Homestead Heritage Assoc.
- Beach Canal Lighthouse Group
- Verona Area Heritage Society
- Tavistock & District Historical Society
- Friends of Warton's Historic School



Welcome to a new OHS Affiliate in 2004! Members of Friends of Warton's Historic School pose for a photo in front of the historic school just before an OHS presentation on strategies for community-based organizations to preserve historic buildings.

Photo Rob Levery

Dundas Valley Historical Society
Lucy Maud Montgomery Society of
Ontario

I would like to remind you that we do accept credit cards for your membership, donations, and publications orders. Visa, MasterCard, and American Express are all accepted. Please use your credit card when placing your request via fax or email. You can email your renewal or orders at: members@ontariohistoricalsociety.ca

I sincerely hope that you enjoy your membership benefits, and I look forward to assisting you throughout the coming year. Please contact me with any membership, donation, or publication requests.

Christina Perfetto
Membership Coordinator



Enjoying themselves at the Heritage Day reception are, left to right: Carmela Andraos, OHS Member and Volunteer; Christina Perfetto, OHS Membership Coordinator; and Rita Scagnetti, Director Heritage & Libraries Branch, Ministry of Culture.

Photo S. Creighton

Communications

2004 was a big year for the OHS communications division. There were several special projects which were above the usual publicity we do – the Heritage Day poster and the four-page heritage tourism supplement in the *Saturday Star* – which gave us full Ontario distribution!

The grant the OHS received from the Cultural Tourism Marketing Fund included a Heritage Day component, and the supplement in the *Toronto Star* newspaper. The supplement included: editorial about the OHS, advertising, a 'getaway' promotion, event listings (one free for affiliates) and photographs. We also had two full page colour ads in the *Toronto Star* – one to promote Heritage Week's military theme and one to promote the supplement and start our contest promotion. There were also three banner ads in the week leading up to the supplement. Overall it was the largest amount of Ontario-wide advertising the OHS has ever enjoyed!

We officially launched our colourful Heritage Day poster at the OHS Heritage Day reception. This poster was compiled and printed in only five short weeks. Posters were mailed to all members in time for Heritage Week and were also distributed to members of Canada's military. Thanks to the many people who let us use their war-related photographs, especially collector Rick Shaver of Brantford, and Success by Design for their assistance with the design and printing. This poster was made possible as part of the grant the OHS received from the Cultural Tourism Marketing Fund. The OHS received many positive comments about the poster.

Heritage Day 2004, our second annual event was a great success. Although it again snowed, that didn't stop a large eclectic crowd from attending. People really enjoyed themselves. In keeping with the military theme, we had a jazz duo, Café

Jazz, playing 1940s jazz hits and costumed re-enactors strolling around the party. The wine was again provided by Joseph's Estate Wines and the catering was beautifully done by Chef Frederick Oh and Eidolon Catering.



Minister of Culture Madeleine Meilleur accepts a framed poster from OHS President Jean Murray Cole at the Heritage Day reception.
Photo S. Creighton

The *OHS Bulletin*, the main communications tool of the OHS published five issues in 2004 (Issues 143 – 147: February, May, Summer, September and December). It continues to enjoy support and interest from the heritage community in all regions of Ontario. Our members regularly send in their event notices, story ideas, photographs, and other information. We attracted a few new advertisers, and many of the "regulars" continued to advertise. Thank you to all the regular contributors: Pat & Chris Raible for their interesting and informative column *From the Bookshelf*; Marjory Stuart for her popular *Cemetery News*; and Rob Levery for the many great photographs of our members' events. 2000 issues of each *Bulletin* are printed with many being distributed at OHS workshops, programs and events. The newsletter is also posted on our website.

In 2004, with the assistance of Natasha Urlic, we produced many publicity emails in the form of

Ontario History **Acting Editor's Report**

Since the departure of the Editor of *Ontario History* in the fall of 2004, the production of the journal has been in the hands of Sheila Creighton, editor of the *OHS Bulletin*, and myself. The Fall theme-issue on Ontario's First Nations, while somewhat delayed in production, met with a favourable reception from the membership. As announced in the Editor's report last year, the Spring 2005 issue will be devoted to aspects of the architecture of Ontario and Edwin Rowse will join us in producing it. Our work has been much aided by a student volunteer, Rachael Hazlitt, who did valiant work in coordinating the book reviews.

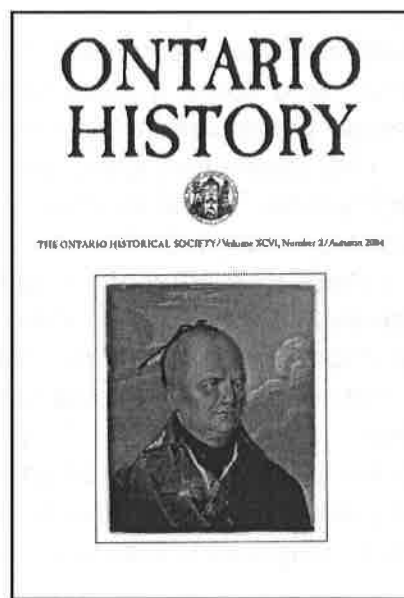
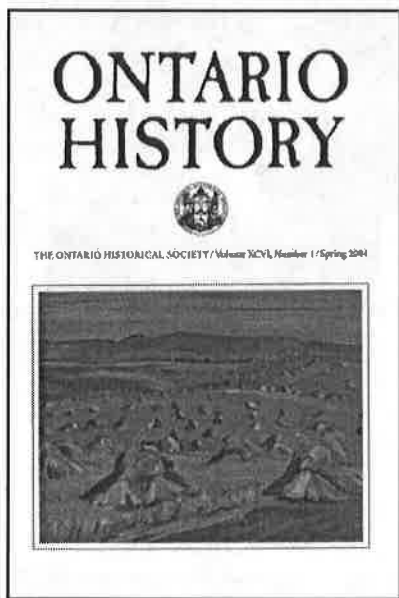
It should be noted that we have received some comments that members do not want too many theme issues in that they enjoy a more diverse range of papers. And, as always, there is the tension between those who prefer high quality historical scholarship and those wishing more

popular and entertaining topics. Again, as always, we will attempt to satisfy the interests of both constituencies by providing a journal reflecting the profile of our membership.

To this end, I am pleased to report that as I write this we are in the midst of interviewing candidates for the position of Editor and I trust I will be able to introduce the successful candidate at the time of the AGM. Certainly, the new Editor will have available to him/her a rich batch of papers submitted for consideration by authors seeking to publish in *Ontario History*.

Finally, I wish to thank the members of the Editorial Advisory Board who provide considerable expertise and labour in producing our flagship journal.

Brian S. Osborne



Museums Committee

Thanks again to the very competent OHS staff, my colleagues on the Board and especially my fellow Committee members. It has been another exciting and satisfying year as the Chair of the Museums Committee. The following is a brief summary of our activities during the year.

A call to the membership for interest in creating a directory of heritage-related fundraising campaigns for promotion through the *OHS Bulletin* received no response. As a result, no further action on the initiative was taken. A successful workshop on the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was held on May 7, 2004. Committee members also reviewed and commented on drafts of the EnAbling Change Tool Kit being developed by OHS staff in conjunction with the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, Ministry of Citizenship. In partnership with York Region Public Health, we are now starting to make arrangements for a Safe Food Handler course, to take place sometime this fall, for representatives from museums, heritage sites and historical societies who provide food services.

Our Committee congratulated Minister Meilleur and the Ministry of Culture staff on the early release of the Community Museum Operating Grant cheques also reminding the Minister how critical the continued availability of stable operating funds is to the ongoing success of community museums throughout Ontario and encouraging an increase to the program's overall funding.

In response to a call for input on the revision to the Municipal Act by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Committee called to Minister Gerretsen's attention the fact that since 1997, museums have been excluded from receiving development charges and requested that the Province commit to developing new revenue-generating tools for municipally owned and operated museums.

With the knowledgeable and talented assistance of my Committee members and OHS staff, as well as the invaluable input of the Society's members, I look forward to continuing our achievements next year to address the needs of the museum community in Ontario.

Dorie Billich
Museums Chair and Curator,
Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum,
Vandorf

Museums Committee Members:

Mary Baruth,
Heritage and Culture Development
Advisor, City of Windsor

Janet Carlile,
Curator/Director, Arnprior & District
Museum, Arnprior

Cathy Masterson,
Acting Curator, Edinburgh Square
Heritage and Cultural Centre, Caledonia

Susan Neale,
Museum Coordinator, Peterborough
Centennial Museum & Archives

Robin Ormerod,
Director/Curator, Museum of Northern
History, Kirkland Lake

Honours & Awards

Winners for 2004, awarded in 2005

Award	Winner	Book Title
Alison Prentice Award	Roberta Hamilton	<i>Setting the Agenda: Jean Royce and the Shaping of Queen's University</i>
B. Napier Simpson Jr. Award of Merit	Not awarded in 2005.	
Carnochan Award	Evan Morton	
Cruikshank Medal	Jeanne Hughes	
	Penny Potter	
Dorothy Duncan Award	King Township Archives, King Township Public Library, King Township Historical Society	
Fred Landon Award	Sharon Jaeger	<i>The Work of Our Hands: Mount Pleasant, Ontario, 1799~1899: A History</i>
J.J. Talman Award	Martin L. Friedland	<i>The University of Toronto: A History</i>
Joseph Brant Award	Robin Jarvis Brownlie	<i>A Fatherly Eye: Indian Agents, Government Power, and Aboriginal Resistance in Ontario, 1918-1939</i>
Museum Award of Excellence in Community Programming	Scarborough Historical Museum	
President's Award	Wm. Kim Donovan, President Kincore Holdings Ltd.	
Riddell Award	Linda M. Ambrose	<i>"Better and Happier Men and Women": The Agricultural Instruction Act, 1913-1924</i>
Russell K. Cooper Living History Site Award	Not awarded in 2005.	
Scadding Award of Excellence	Not awarded in 2005.	

Education Programs

In 2004, the OHS was invited by both old and new partners to present numerous educational programs across Ontario. The OHS developed a new presentation entitled *Preserving Ontario's Natural Heritage* which was given in Owen Sound and Sheguiandah. Our partners were the Owen Sound Field Naturalists, the Escarpment Biosphere Conservancy and the Centennial Museum (Manitoulin Island). The Amherst Island Women's Institute invited the OHS to hold a public meeting entitled *How Local Citizens Can Preserve and Restore Their Historical Past*. The Etobicoke-York Community Preservation Panel (City of Toronto) invited the OHS to present *Designation of Cemeteries under the Ontario Heritage Act: Process and Benefits*.

There were again requests for oral history workshops which were conducted this year in Goderich and Collingwood. The OHS presented *In Your Own Words?* and our co-sponsors were The Huron County Historical Society, The Huron County Museum, The Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee and the Sheffield Park Black History Museum.



The OHS, The Voyageur Heritage Network, and the Northern Ontario Railroad Museum and Heritage Centre (NORMHC) co-sponsored the workshop *The Importance of the Railroad* in Capreol. Oran Hayes, Vice-President, NORMHC, is seen here giving the workshop participants a demonstration on the use of the Morse code and the telegraph system.

Photo Rob Levery

In Capreol, The Voyageur Heritage Network, the Northern Ontario Railroad Museum and the OHS co-sponsored the workshop *The Importance of the Railroad*.

Publisher James Lorimer donated a \$1,000 to the OHS Cemetery Defence Fund at a ceremony and reception held at the Players' Guild of Hamilton. The OHS spoke at this special event attended by representatives from the Ancaster Historical Society; Beverly Heritage Society; Dundas Valley Historical Society; Glanbrook Heritage Society; Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society; Stoney Creek Historical Society and Waterdown-East Flamborough Heritage Society.



Publisher James Lorimer (James Lorimer & Co. Ltd.) is seen here (left) giving Rob Levery (OHS) a \$1,000 cheque to the OHS for the Cemetery Defence Fund. Right is Margaret Houghton, Special Collections Archivist, Hamilton Public Library.

Photo Paul Kuzyk

The OHS had a book table in the marketplace and was one of the guest speakers at the Ontario Genealogical Society's Seminar 2004 – *3 Rs of Family History*.

The OHS began its EnAbling Change Project-Making Ontario's Heritage Accessible To People With Disabilities in partnership the Accessibility Directorate of Ontario, Ministry of Citizenship & Immigration to develop an Information and

Resource Tool Kit on accessibility issues in Ontario. Both the Provincial Steering Committee and the Provincial Advisory Committee for this project were established and held meetings. Various heritage organizations and institutions across Ontario joined a field advisory committee formed by the OHS to review various drafts of the Tool Kit. The OHS also began to develop a series of accessibility workshops to be conducted in 2005.

In May the OHS and Natural Heritage Books held the 1st Annual *Celebration of African-Canadian History in Print* at the John McKenzie House in Willowdale. This was a special event to meet authors, editors and publishers. During the evening guests were inspired by some memorable readings.



A Celebration of African-Canadian History in Print was held in May at the John McKenzie House co-sponsored by the OHS and Natural Heritage Books. Authors attending included, back row, left to right: Betty Mirembe, Lawrence Hill, Peter Jallal, Bryan Walls, Barry Penhal (Publisher Natural Heritage Books), Bryan Prince. Front row, left to right: Catherine Slaney, Afua Cooper and Karolyn Smardz Frost.
Photo Rob Levery

In 2004, the OHS again hosted *Doors Open Toronto* in partnership with the Culture Division, City of Toronto. OHS staff and volunteers conducted tours and managed a book sale at the John McKenzie House. The OHS and the Culinary Historians of Ontario also held the Annual Cookbook Caper.

The OHS hosted an *Antique Series* of ID clinics and workshops at the John McKenzie House on the following topics: 18th & 19th Century Glass; Silver; Porcelain & Pottery; and Furniture.

The popular OHS workshop *Victorian & Heritage Gardening* was held in Bethany and Belleville. Our two co-sponsors in 2004 for this workshop were the Manvers Township Historical Society and the Friends of Glanmore National Historic Site.

The OHS was invited to conduct various site visits including: the United Empire Loyalist Heritage Centre & Park in Adolphustown to discuss the challenges a not-for-profit charity faces in owning and managing a nationally significant historic site; the Heritage Project for St. Phillips Anglican Church in Etobicoke; the restoration of the historic South Caradoc United Church Community Centre (Mt. Brydges) and the Friends of Warton's Historic School to discuss strategies for community-based organizations to preserve and restore historic buildings.

In Durham, the OHS participated in the 3rd Annual Grey County Black History Event entitled *Heritage Uncovered: Black Pioneers*.

The OHS presentation *Ontario's Cemeteries: The Struggle for the Public Interest* remained very popular. The OHS accepted invitations from The Huron County Historical Society; the Huron County Genealogical Society; the Whitefish River First Nation; The St. Catharines Historical Society; the Niagara Peninsula Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society; the Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society (Hamilton) and the Brampton Historical Society.



The Chief and Council of the Whitefish River First Nation, Birch Island, invited the OHS to present Ontario Cemeteries – The Struggle for the Public Interest. Seen here are (left) Esther Osche, Lands Manager for the Band Council and Whitefish River First Nation Chief Franklin Paibomsai. Photo Rob Levery

The OHS had numerous rentals at the John McKenzie House including: Canada's National History Society and judges from across Canada for the 2004 Governor General's Awards for excellence in Teaching Canadian History; a workshop conducted by the Friends of the Archives; the Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the Huguenot Society of Canada and the descendants of John and Eva McKenzie held a christening ceremony for family and friends.



July 23-25, 2004 at the John McKenzie House, the OHS hosted Canada's National History Society and judges from across Canada for their deliberation for the 2004 Governor General's Awards for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History. Photo Rob Levery

Numerous OHS outreach programs were held throughout 2004 including: *Bringing Local History Alive* with presentations at the East York Public Library and Presteign-Woodbine United Church in Toronto; the slide show and lecture by Harvey Medland based on his book *Tombstone Tales from Ontario's Cemeteries* at Amica Swan Lake in Markham and at the Muskoka-Parry Sound Genealogical Society in Huntsville; the *Artifact Preservation* workshop at the Haileybury Heritage Museum; the open line show on Radio CJBQ 800 AM in Belleville; the 6th Annual Meeting of the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee; the 35th Anniversary of the 7th Town Historical Society and the 10th Anniversary of the Marilyn Adams Genealogical Research Centre in Ameliasburg; the OHS in co-operation with Black Creek Pioneer Village presented various educational programs to heritage groups from the Collingwood area and the OHS participated in Gibson House Museum's Art and Heritage Summer Camp.

Rob Levery
Director, Programs & Preservation



Radio CJBQ 800 AM in Belleville has the oldest continuous running open line show in Ontario. Seen here is phone-in show host Peter Thompson (left) with Rob Levery of The Ontario Historical Society. Rob and Ian Reilly, President, 7th Town Historical Society fielded questions from CJBQ listeners on the preservation of Ontario's Cemeteries. Originally booked for one hour, there were so many callers and requests that Peter invited Rob and Ian to stay for the entire morning show. Photo Ian Reilly

Programs, Services & Events 2004

5-Jan	Presentation to City of Toronto/Designation St. James'	Toronto
14-Jan	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
14-Jan	Partnership discussions with Richmond Hill PL	Richmond Hill
20-Jan	Meeting with Corporate Sponsor - TOCL	Toronto
21-Jan	Meeting with Corporate Sponsor - Toronto Star	Willowdale
21-Jan	Meeting - Ontario Heritage Connection	Toronto
22-Jan	Meeting with Corporate Sponsor - Success by Design	Willowdale
25-Jan	Ontario Black History Society Anniversary Luncheon	Toronto
26-Jan	Museums Committee Teleconference	Various
29-Jan	Meeting of Executive	Cobourg
2-Feb	Nominations Committee Teleconference	Various
3-Feb	Ontario History Meeting	Willowdale
4-Feb	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
10-Feb	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
13-Feb	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting	Willowdale
14-Feb	Board of Directors Meeting	Willowdale
14-Feb	Salute to Ont's Military Heritage - promotional ad	Toronto Star
16-Feb	Heritage Day Events at Black Creek Pioneer Village	Downsview
16-Feb	Heritage Day Celebrations with Minister of Culture	Willowdale
16-Feb	Elgin Wintergarden 90th Anniversary celebrations	Toronto
17-Feb	Bringing Local History Alive Workshop - Toronto Library	Leaside
17-Feb	Meeting with Deputy and Asst Deputy Ministers of Culture	Toronto
19-Feb	Meeting with Heritage Partner - OMA	Toronto
19-Feb	CSIF Meeting with Ministry Staff	Toronto
21-Feb	Heritage Showcase	Cambridge
22-Feb	Postcard Show at Humber College	Toronto
24-Feb	Meeting with Historica re: heritage fair partnership	Orillia
24-Feb	Nominations Committee Teleconference	Various
27-Feb	Meeting with Heritage Partners - OHF, OMA, CHO, ACO	Toronto
10-Mar	Museums Committee Meeting	Willowdale
12-Mar	Meeting of OHS Foundation	Alliston
17-Mar	Celebrating Toronto's Irish at Toll Keeper's Cottage	Toronto
18-Mar	Meeting with Corporate Sponsor - Toronto Star	Willowdale
23-Mar	Nominations Committee Teleconference	Various
25-Mar	Annual Meeting of Toronto Historical Association	Etobicoke
30-Mar	Book Launch - Lt Governor's "On Six Continents"	Toronto
30-Mar	Meeting with Glanmore Ntl Historic Site Board	Belleville
30-Mar	Meeting with Arnprior Historical Society and others	Arnprior
3-Apr	Conference Keynote Address/Owen Sound Field Naturalists	Owen Sound
6-8 Apr	Meetings & Presentations to Huron Co. OGS/Mus./H.S.	Goderich & Huron Co
6-Apr	Meeting with Heritage Partner - OHF	Toronto
7-Apr	Meeting with Ministry of Culture advisor	Willowdale
7-Apr	Meeting with Leaskdale Manse Museum group	Uxbridge
15-Apr	Meeting with Smith Ennismore Historical Society	Bridgenorth
16-Apr	Antique ID Clinic	Willowdale
17-Apr	Antique Workshop - Glass	Willowdale
17-Apr	Workshop with Friends of Glanmore Ntl Historic Site	Belleville
18-Apr	Donation to Cem. Defence by James Lorimer Publishers	Hamilton

Programs, Services & Events 2004

19-Apr	Museums Committee Teleconference	Various
19-Apr	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
20-Apr	Meeting with Ministry of Citizenship - EnAbling Change	Willowdale
21-Apr	Presentation to Chief/Council Whitefish River First Nation	Birch Island
22-Apr	OHS Earth Day Lecture at Centennial Museum	Sheguiandah
23-Apr	Meeting at Ojibwe Cultural Foundation	West Bay
23-Apr	Meeting with Voyageur Heritage Network Executive	Sudbury
24-Apr	Workshop with Northern Ontario Railroad Museum	Capreol
24-Apr	CAPHC Awards Jury 2004	Toronto
27-Apr	Meeting with Affiliate - Arthur & Area Historical Society	Arthur
30-Apr	OHS Foundation Board Meeting	Alliston
30-Apr	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting	Willowdale
1-May	Board of Directors Meeting	Willowdale
1-May	OHS AGM	Willowdale
7-May	FIPPA Workshop	Willowdale
15-May	Antique Workshop - Silver	Willowdale
18-May	Natural Heritage	Willowdale
18-May	Program presentation to Peterborough Historical Society	Peterborough
20-22 May	Historica Provincial Fair	Kingston
25-May	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
26-May	Fundraising Day - Assoc of Fundraising Professionals	Toronto
28-May	Collector's Night - Book Sale Preview	Willowdale
29-30 May	Door's Open Toronto/Annual OHS Book Sale	Willowdale
31-May	Heritage Tourism Guide - promotional banner ad publication	Toronto Star
2-Jun	Heritage Tourism Guide - promotional banner ad publication	Toronto Star
2-Jun	Meeting with Affiliate - Beach Canal Lighthouse Group	Burlington
3-Jun	Heritage Tourism Guide - full-page ad publication	Toronto Star
4-Jun	Heritage Tourism Guide - promotional banner ad publication	Toronto Star
5-Jun	Heritage Tourism Guide released	Toronto Star
5-Jun	CAPHC Conference	Muskoka
7-Jun	Oral History Workshop	Collingwood
9-Jun	Rental - North York Orchestra	Willowdale
10-Jun	Routes to Learning Regional Workshop	Peterborough
12-Jun	Awards Presentation to Provincial Women's Inst. Conference	Oshawa
12-Jun	Provincial Wmn's Institute Conference presentation	Oshawa
13-Jun	Honours & Awards Presentation/Prize Draw #1	Willowdale
13-Jun	Amherst Island Women's Institute - Workshop	Amherst Island
15-Jun	Greenbelt Task Force - Arts & Culture	Pickering
15-Jun	U.E.L. Quinte Branch - Presentation	Adolphstown
17-Jun	Awards Presentation to Pickering Museum Village	Pickering
18-Jun	OHS Foundation Board Meeting	Willowdale
18-Jun	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting	Willowdale
19-Jun	Board of Directors Meeting/Prize Draw #2	Willowdale
5-Jul	Prize Draw #3	Willowdale
9-Jul	Treasure Hunt at John McKenzie House	Willowdale
12-Jul	Meeting with Affiliate - Chatham-Kent Black History Society	Chatham
14-Jul	Meeting with Affiliate - Friends of Wiarton	Warton
15-Jul	Old Durham Road Committee	Grey County

Programs, Services & Events 2004

16-Jul	Treasure Hunt at John McKenzie House	Willowdale
18-Jul	Presentation to Beaver Valley H.S. AGM	Victoria Corners
19-Jul	Prize Draw #4	Willowdale
20-Jul	Meeting with Heritage Partner - ACO	Willowdale
23-Jul	Treasure Hunt at John McKenzie House	Willowdale
23-25 Jul	Canada's Ntl History Society Gov Gen Awards Review	Willowdale
28-Jul	Meeting with Heritage Partner - BCPV	Toronto
28-Jul	Meeting with Heritage Vaughan	Maple
4-Aug	Whitchurch Stouffville Museum 'Prep Rally' Meeting	Vandorf
8-Aug	Whitchurch Stouffville Museum Classic Car Show	Vandorf
9-Aug	EnAbling Change Advisory Committee Meeting	Willowdale
9-Aug	Prize Draw #5	Willowdale
10-Aug	Meeting with Heritage Canada	Toronto
11-Aug	Meeting with Affiliate - Tavistock & District H.S.	Tavistock
21-Aug	McKenzie Family Baptism at John McKenzie House	Willowdale
25-Aug	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
25-Aug	Roger's Cable filming of "Structures" at John McKenzie House	Willowdale
10-Sep	Presentation to Head of Lake H.S.	Hamilton
10-Sep	OHS Foundation Board Meeting	Willowdale
10-Sep	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting	Willowdale
11-Sep	Board of Directors Meeting	Willowdale
11-Sep	Meeting with New Affiliate	Tavistock
13-Sep	YDAMA Meeting	Pickering
17-Sep	Antique ID Clinic	Willowdale
17-Sep	OHS Fdn Teleconference	Various
18-Sep	Antique Workshop - Porcelain & Pottery	Willowdale
21-Sep	Board Meeting Teleconference	Various
21-Sep	Aurora Heritage Centre Opening	Aurora
24-Sep	Board Meeting Teleconference	Various
27-Sep	Meeting with Etobicoke H.S.	Etobicoke
29-Sep	EnAbling Change Advisory Committee Meeting	Willowdale
30-Sep	OHS Fdn Teleconference	Various
1-Oct	Meeting with Simcoe County representatives	Newmarket
3-Oct	Thoreau MacDonald's Sketches of Rural Ontario book launch	Thornhill
4-Oct	Presentation to Etobicoke Preservation Panel	Toronto
5-Oct	Ontario Forest Council Workshop	Toronto
6-Oct	Museums Committee Teleconference	Various
8-Oct	OHS Fdn Teleconference	Various
12-Oct	Queen's Park Reception	Toronto
15-Oct	EnAbling Change Advisory Committee Teleconference	Various
15-Oct	Antique ID Clinic	Willowdale
15-Oct	Oral History Workshop	Huron County
16-Oct	Antique Workshop - Furniture	Willowdale
16-Oct	Oral History Workshop	Goderich & Huron Co
18-Oct	Wm Kilbourn Lecture and Heritage Toronto Awards	Toronto
22-Oct	Workshop for Manvers Twp H.S.	Bethany
23-Oct	Artifact Preservation Workshop With Voyageur Heritage Network	Haileybury
24-Oct	Celebrating Pioneer History	Collingwood
26-Oct	Friends of the Archives Workshop	Willowdale

Programs, Services & Events 2004

26-Oct	CAPHC Teleconference	Various
30-Oct	Friends of the Archives Workshop	Willowdale
3-Nov	Meeting with Affiliate - Dundas Valley H.S.	Dundas
3-Nov	Media Training Workshop	Toronto
3-Nov	Meeting with Affiliate - LMM Historical Society	Uxbridge
4-6 Nov	Workshop for Prince Edward Co. 7th Town Historical Society	Ameliasburg
8-Nov	Meeting of Finance Subcommittee	Willowdale
9-Nov	Friends of Archives Workshop	Willowdale
10-Nov	Oshawa Historical Society Book Launch	Oshawa
11-Nov	Workshop - St. Catharines Historical Society	St. Catharines
12-Nov	OHS Foundation Board Meeting	Willowdale
12-Nov	Admin & Finance Committee Meeting	Willowdale
13-Nov	Board of Directors Meeting	Willowdale
14-Nov	Cookbook Caper	Willowdale
18-Nov	Preserving Ontario's History Presentation	Leaside
18-Nov	OHS Foundation teleconference	Various
20-Nov	Huegonot Society of Canada AGM	Willowdale
29-Nov	Presentation to Renfrew County Museum Network	Arnprior
6-Dec	Women's Cdn Historical Society Luncheon	Willowdale
8-Dec	EnAbling Change Provincial Advisory Committee Meeting	Willowdale
8-Dec	Meeting at Ministry of Culture	Toronto
14-Dec	Heritage Project Meeting in Etobicoke	Toronto

OHS Board of Directors 2004/05

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Chris Oslund, Haileybury	Vice-President
Joe Martin, Toronto	Second Vice-President/Treasurer
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John Sabeau, Pickering	Director
Mary Angela Tucker, Chatham	Director





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