



# OHS BULLETIN

34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2

Issue 122 • DECEMBER 1999

## The OHS creates the OHS Foundation

The Board of Directors of The Ontario Historical Society recently approved the creation of The Ontario Historical Society Foundation. This decision was made after the Board was notified that the late Edward Knight Banting of Alliston, a descendant of Sir Frederick Banting, had bequeathed his 100-acre farm, which includes several farm buildings, to the Society.

This farm was the birthplace of the co-discoverer of insulin, Frederick Grant Banting.

Our legal advisor, Catherine Bray of Borden and Elliot, advised the Society to create the Foundation, which is a separate legal entity, to receive and administer the property, thus protecting the Society's assets. The officers of the Foundation include Jeanne Hughes, Chair; Bryan Walls, Vice-Chair; and James Clemens, Secretary-Treasurer.

Beginning in 1979 and continuing over the years, several

representatives of the OHS were invited by Edward Banting to visit the farm and discuss its future.

These included Presidents Gerald Killan, Douglas Leighton, John Bonser, Heather Broadbent and staff members U. Ernest Buchner and Dorothy Duncan. Mr. Banting was concerned about the future long-range use of the property given its historical significance. During these discussions Mr. Banting did not firmly indicate that he planned to leave the property to the OHS, nor unfortunately, did he convey his clear vision for its long time sustainable use.

Since the closing of the estate in September a wide variety of options are now being explored. Members of the Society are invited to share their ideas, thoughts and suggestions with the officers of the OHS Foundation to assist them in making a decision on the future of the property.

Please address your correspondence to the Chair of the Foundation, Jeanne Hughes, at the Society's office, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2.



## Buon Appetito! Italian Foodways in Ontario a Success

Caroline di Cocco, MPP Sarnia-Lambton and Len D'Agostino of Toronto discuss *Buon Appetito! A Symposium on Italian Foodways* in Ontario, hosted by the OHS at its headquarters in Willowdale on November 6, 1999. A large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed the speakers, demonstrations, discussions and a fabulous feast of Italian dishes during the day.

Speakers and sessions included: "Foodways and Italian-Canadian Identity" by Franca Iacovetta, Department of History,

University of Toronto; "Regional Cuisines of Italy" by Gianni Ceschia, Culinary Studio 2000; "Special Days: Special Dishes" by Cristina Perfetto, Toronto, with a pizza making demonstration by Tony Schiassi, Toronto; "From Garden To Table" by Gabriele Scardellato, University of Toronto; "Food and Religious Identity in an Italian-Canadian Festa" by Enrico Cumbo, Toronto; "Italian Foodways as a Model of Cultural Exchange" by Angelo Principe, Erindale College, Toronto; "Grow! Prepare!

Preserve!" by Luigi Pennacchio, Toronto; "Kitchen Utensils from Old World to New" by Maria Pace, co-author, *The Little Italy Cookbook*; and "A Columbus Menu: Italian Food Over Five Centuries" by Ivano Zambotti and Rodney Donne, George Brown College, Toronto.

A publication from the papers presented at the Symposium is being developed. It is being edited by Jo Marie Powers of Guelph and will be launched in the new year.

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## Everything you ever wanted to know about a historical society but were afraid to ask!

On Wednesday, January 26, the OHS will host a workshop at the Immanuel Baptist Church in Fenelon Falls from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. that covers a host of subjects.

Included are "Forming a New Society," "Attracting and Keeping Members," "How to Become Incorporated and How to Maintain your Incorporation as a Non-Profit Corporation," "Successful Programming," "Tips on Fund Raising," and "Questions and

Answers: What are your concerns?" This workshop is a *must* for new and developing societies and highly recommended for established societies in need of some new ideas.

The registration fee is \$5.00 per person and includes the sessions, a kit of resource materials, and lunch. Registration, including payment, must be received in the OHS office by January 21; no registrations will be accepted at the door.

For more information, or if you would like to host this workshop for your community organizations and heritage institutions, please contact Robert Leverty,

Programme, Co-ordinator, The Ontario Historical Society, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2 (416) 226-9011, FAX: (416) 226-2740.

## Office closing

The OHS office will close on  
Friday, December 17, 1999 at 4:30 p.m.  
and re-open on  
Monday, January 3, 2000 at 9:00 a.m.

*Happy Holidays!*

The Ontario Historical Society  
34 Parkview Avenue  
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M2N 3Y2

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# President's Message

Jeanne Hughes

James (Jim) Clemens, a former secondary school history teacher and education officer with the Ontario Ministry of Education, has been retired since 1994 and now divides his volunteer time between the OHS, the Hamilton Children's Choir, his church, and the Burl-Oak Theatre Group.

Jim first became a member of the Society during his teaching days when his department head gave him a copy of *Ontario History* which, no doubt, had been sent to the school as part of one of our many promotional membership campaigns. His next association, some years later, with the Society was to give a paper at one of our Annual Conferences. Shortly after that occasion, he was elected to the Board of Directors. After a few years as a director, Jim was appointed treasurer (yes, the treasurer was appointed in those days). He has subsequently been elected treasurer and has served in that position for the past twenty-five years.

In addition to his duties as treasurer, Jim has been especially involved in raising funds for restoration of the John McKenzie House as the historic headquarters for the Society, and as book review editor for *Ontario History*. Most recently, he has been closely involved in the bequest to the Society of the Edward Banting Farm in Alliston.

Frank Bartoszek, Second Vice-President is a scientist by profession, and holds a B.Sc. degree in Chemistry from McGill University and a Ph.D. degree in Physical Chemistry from the University of Toronto. He also completed postdoctoral studies at Stanford University in California. He is presently employed at Ontario Power Technologies as a Senior Research Scientist.

Apart from an interest in science, Frank enjoys cooking and reading about the history of food and the cultural aspects of food. He is also interested in music and opera and has been secretary of the Toronto Wagner Society for the past 14 years.

Frank has been a volunteer for the OHS and joined the Board two years ago and has worked on the Fund Raising committee to organize events for the Society. He has also given cooking demonstrations for several historic food programmes.

Bryan Walls of Windsor joined the Board of the OHS in 1996 and presently serves as First Vice President. Bryan is a Past President of the Essex County Dental Society, and the 1989 recipient of the Ontario Secondary Teacher's Federation Lamp of Learning Award. He holds a Doctor of Humanities Degree from the Urban Bible College of Detroit and is a Deacon of the First Baptist Church in Puce. He received a fifteen-year Volunteer Service Award from the Province of Ontario and has served for several

years as a member of the Board of Directors and as Board Secretary for the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Bryan currently chairs the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation's Ontario 2000 Fund, and is much in demand as a speaker on Underground Railroad History as he authored *The Road That Led to Somewhere*, the story of his ancestors' journey on the underground railroad from North Carolina to Canada in 1846.

Geoff Geduld of Willowdale joined the Board of Directors this year. Geoff was born in England and educated in London, where he read for Mathematics and Physics at the University of London. He studied at Concordia University in Montreal and received his Bachelor of Commerce degree, and his MBA from York University in Toronto.

Geoff's career has spanned radio, electronics, computers, fibre optics, and semiconductor devices with emphasis on sales and marketing. He has held management positions with Philco Corporation, RCA Corporation, Canada Wire and Cable and Shugart Associates, a subsidiary of Xerox Corporation. In 1985 Geoff founded Penryn Electronics Corporation, a computer peripheral company.

In years past Geoff has served on The Gibson House Committee and the North York Historical Board and is currently President of the North York Historical Society.

Mary Simonds of Cobourg joined the Board of Directors in 1998. Mary was born in Scotland and came to Canada as a teenager, spending her early years in Sudbury. She served as Curator-Manager of the Hastings County Museum in Belleville for 10 years, and then moved with her husband Vic to England. Mary returned to Canada in 1995, settled in Cobourg, and served as Curator of Barnum House in Grafton. Mary currently serves on the Executive of PROBUS, chairs the Speaker's Committee and edits the newsletter. Mary loves to travel, to cook and to bake, and to entertain her five children, 10 grandchildren and their families.

As you may know, I am currently serving as your President. This is the second time in the last few years that I have had this honour, having been elected President the first time in 1991.

In the past I served as Curator of Black Creek Pioneer Village for many years, on the Council of the Ontario Museum Association and as President of the Association. As your representative, I was invited in October to a Tea hosted by The Honourable Helen Johns, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation and was able to brief the Minister and her staff on many of the challenges facing the heritage community in Ontario today.

## Russell King Cooper

The many friends of Russell Cooper were shocked to learn of his death on September 27 as he worked in his garden. Russell was well known across the province for his countless contributions to the interpretation and preservation of Ontario's history and heritage as well as his community service. Black Creek Pioneer Village, seven Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees, Peel County Museum and Art Gallery, Peel County Historical Society, Peel Memorial Hospital Board, and the Police Commissions of both Brampton and the Region of Peel were just a few of the organizations and institutions that benefitted from his involvement

and support. A memorial service to celebrate his life was held at Grace United Church in Brampton. Friends are encouraged to send donations in his memory to Black Creek Pioneer Village.

## Anna Jean Carter

Jean Carter, a former teacher at Kitchener Collegiate, master weaver and craftsperson, and mother of James, Rob and John (well-known Museums Advisor for the Province of Ontario) passed away earlier this year. Jean's three sons gave nostalgic loving tributes to her memory at the service held in Kitchener at the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. Donations to the University of Guelph for a

Scholarship in Jean's memory would be appreciated.

## Robert Hume, FCMA

Bob Hume was known across Canada as a dedicated member, and supporter of, the museum community. He was a Past President and Fellow of the Canadian Museum Association and worked in the Vancouver Art Gallery, Ontario Science Centre, Art Gallery of Ontario, and Parks Canada. He was also an artist, trained at the Vancouver School of Art, with exhibitions of his sculpture in Canada, United States and Europe. The museum community lost a true friend with Bob's passing earlier this year.

# Executive Director's Report

Dorothy Duncan

## The Beat Goes On

The pace of activity that surrounds history and heritage in Ontario is breath-taking. Our Society has attended, participated in, or hosted an incredible round of activities in the last few months.

These have included Riverdale Farm Fall Fair and the Black Creek Pioneer Village Festival, a book table at the Global Family History Fair'99, attended meetings of the Ontario Heritage Alliance, Brampton Historical Society, Connaught and District Historical Society, Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society, Gurd and Area Historical Corporation, and Whitby Heritage Community Association.

We have provided speakers for the Manvers Historical Society, Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee, North York Historical Society, Oriole-York Mills Outreach Group, Owen Sound Historical Society, the Simcoe County Historical Association, the Stratford-Perth Museum, the University of Guelph, and for the workshop 'Working with Volunteers' hosted by the Brant Tourism Co-ordinating Committee and held at the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford.

The workshop 'Preparing for a Victorian Christmas, New Year's and the Celebration of Hogmanay,' co-sponsored with

the Lennox and Addington County Museum and Archives in Napanee was filled to overflowing, and the 'Buon Appetito! Symposium on Italian Foodways in Ontario' drew a large and enthusiastic audience.

We co-hosted *Money Matters!* workshops in Tweed, Renfrew, Fort Erie and Hastings; and hosted Harvest Supper, Cookbook Caper, and Weekenders, all fundraisers at our headquarters in Willowdale.

We attended the launch of That's the Ticket! in Toronto, the Kilbourn Lecture hosted by Heritage Toronto, the Ontario Heritage Foundation (OHF), and *The Toronto Star*, Heritage 2000 hosted by the OHF, a fundraising dinner for the Lloydtown Pioneer Cemetery sponsored by the King Township Historical Society, a luncheon honouring Sir Frederick Banting hosted by the Banting Educational Committee in Alliston, and a Heritage Challenge Fund meeting hosted by the Honourable Helen Johns, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation to discuss the criteria for this new grant programme.

## And in the Future

The pace continues as I look at the weeks ahead, and I am sure that this is only a tiny portion of the activities that are being planned out there in the province.

I look forward to seeing you at the January 11 meeting of the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Governor Simcoe Branch; Heritage Showcase at Scarborough Town Centre hosted by the Toronto Historical Association, February 18-20; and at Heritage Toronto's "Room With A View," March 4 at Spadina in Toronto.

## OHS to Host Provincial Historical Societies

Canada's National History Society has invited representatives of all the provincial historical societies in Canada to attend the first formal meeting of these societies. Several informal meetings were held a few years ago which were beneficial for those of us able to attend. Canada's National History Society is providing the financial support to ensure that all provincial historical societies have representation.

We, at the OHS, were delighted when it was decided that the meeting will be held in Willowdale in February and we will be able to host a reception and tour of our historic headquarters. Sessions will include common challenges for provincial historical societies in Canada, innovative projects and programmes, problem solving, fund raising, and much more.

# Welcome new members

The OHS welcomes new members

Alliston: Garnet Madill  
Carp: D. Alan Jones  
Deep River: The Canadian Clock Museum  
Etobicoke: Torrance Henderson, Manuela Scarci  
Guelph: Francesco Antonio Lai  
King City: Diane Donley  
Kingston: Linda Line

London: Carolyn Croke, Steven McLarty Payson  
Manotick: Logan Atkinson  
Minden: Carol Miles  
North York: Julia Dreger, Shirley Irvine  
Ottawa: British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa, Valerie Culp

Perth: William LeSurf  
Sarnia: Gregory Ross  
Toronto: Ontario Association of Art Galleries, Betty Ewing-Pearse, Presbyterian Church Archives, Guido Pugliese, Olga Pugliese, David Scott, Tina Whalen

# Across the Province

Mary Simonds, Chair, Local Societies Committee and Dorothy Duncan, OHS Executive Director

"The Tree of Freedom" will be explored by Pat Patterson, an underground railroad descendant on January 24 at 7:30 p.m. at the Board of Education Centre, Toronto, hosted by the **Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society**. Call (416) 733-2608.

The **Manitoba Historical Society** will host the annual Sir John A. Macdonald Anniversary Dinner on Saturday, January 15 at Hotel Fort Garry, Winnipeg, with guest speaker Rex Murphy, Host of Cross-Country Checkup and CBC Radio Commentator. Tickets (204) 947-0559.

The **Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature** is planning a "Timeless Treasures Millennium Exhibition" from June to December and is searching for artifacts and specimens. If some have crept across the Ontario-Manitoba border, call Barry Hillman at (204) 988-0672.

The **Royal Ontario Museum** has announced Veronika Gervers Research Fellowship in Costume and Textile History. Deadline for applications is March 30. Call (416) 586-5790 for information.

The deadline for submissions for the **Canadian Museums Association's** Awards for Outstanding Achievement is February 1. Categories include Museum Management, Collection Management, Research, Presentation and Publications. Call (613) 567-0099.

On Saturday, January 1, **Hutchison House** and the **Peterborough Historical Society** will host a Hogmanay celebration. Call (705) 743-9710 for details.

Congratulations to the **Pass Lake Historical Society** on translating and republishing *Danish Settlers in the Canadian Backwoods* by Idun Engberg. For costs and availability contact the Society at RR # 1, Pass Lake, Ontario P0T 2M0.

The Concert Hall, Royal York Hotel was the setting for a Gala Regimental Dinner on September 17 to honour His Royal Highness Prince Andrew, The Duke of York, the new Colonel-in-Chief of the **Queen's York Rangers**.

The **Wellington County Museum** has announced the Gallery Concert Series in the Great Hall continuing until May. Information: (519) 846-5786. While attending the concerts, pause to admire the newly restored 1927 wrought iron entrance gates to the museum grounds.

The **Guelph International Resource Centre** has launched the Rural Women's Oral History Project and is seeking senior women who are long-term residents of rural townships in Wellington County to participate. Call Jennifer Moore at (519) 822-3110.

The **Orillia Historical Society** and the **Sir Sam Steele Art Gallery** have joined forces to better serve the cultural and historical community. The Society has already mounted an exhibit in the

Gallery and continues to meet the third Wednesday of every month in St. Paul's United Church. The Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner will be held January 11 at the Sundial Restaurant with Bob Rae as guest speaker. Tickets: (705) 329-2127.

The **Pelham Historical Society** has announced the publication of Historical Calendar 2000. For costs: Box 903, Fonthill, Ontario L0S 1E0.

The **Old Thyme Gardeners** at the **Scugog Shores Museum** in Port Perry are looking for a light weight push mower and a rain barrel. If you can donate call Lucy at (905) 985-0787.

The **Oakville Historical Society** is looking for a Boy or Girl Friday! If you can help call Barbara at (905) 845-3620.

The **Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society** has launched two new publications: *Thunder Bay to Gunflint: Port Arthur, Duluth and Western Railway* by Elinor Barr and *The Street Names of Thunder Bay* by Diane Grant. Orders (807) 623-0801.

Congratulations to Louis Badone, Ruth Edwards and Geoff Geduld (OHS Board member) of the **North York Historical Society** on receiving 20-year Volunteer Service Awards.

**Bruce County Historical Society** is sponsoring a major essay contest in search of creative works pertaining to Bruce County. Information: (519) 363-2581.

**Guelph Arts Council** has recognized the University of Guelph Food Science Building, the Carden Street Café (Lisa Calzonetti), 72 Edinburgh Road (Pat Weir), and the Black Mustard (Ian Ramsay) with Heritage Awards for preserving, restoring or developing heritage properties in the city of Guelph.

**Kingston Historical Society** has received \$5,000 from the Canada Millennium Partnership Fund to assist in the publication of a book describing local historical plaques and monuments. Author John Grenville, Parks Canada Superintendent is appealing for photographs of dedications, unveilings, or descriptions of interesting or out-of-the-way monuments (613) 545-8666, ext. 203.

**Grimsby Historical Society** has announced its 2000 Programme. Call (905) 945-8864 for details.

The **Culinary Historians of Ontario** continue to search for the identity of 'A.B. of Grimsby,' author of *The Frugal Housewife's Manual*. If you own a copy, or have information, call Mary Williamson at (416) 481-3895.

**Aurora and District Historical Society** has again hosted the ever-popular Candlelight Tour of Homes, raising over \$5,000 for the restoration of Hillary House. If you would like some tips on this fundraiser in your community, call Jackie Stuart, Curator,

Aurora Museum, (905) 727-8991.

Join a Robbie Burns Ceilidh at the **Guelph Civic Museum** on Sunday, January 23 and enjoy Scottish music, entertainment, artisans, nibbles and family fun. Information: (519) 836-1221.

The **Township of Michipicoten Heritage Committee** has published *A Pinch of Time: A Michipicoten Family Heritage Book*, a wonderful combination of family histories for the Wawa-Michipicoten area and their favourite recipes. Interested historians, genealogists, and lovers of good food may order from Marie David, Michipicoten Museum Society, Box 877, Wawa, Ontario P0S 1K0 (705) 856-2174 with payment of \$12 that includes postage and handling.

The **Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society** will hold the Millennium Heritage Dinner in support of the Millennium Heritage Trail on February 11, at the Scottish Rite in Hamilton. Tickets: (905) 549-4407.

Terry Crowley, who has just completed a term as editor of *Ontario History* will be the guest speaker on February 1 at the **Guelph Historical Society** with the topic "125 Years at the College on the Hill." Call (519) 836-2484 for details.

**Trent Port Historical Society** received a \$4000 gift from Whitley Insurance to mark the 50th anniversary of the firm, to be used to restore the two staircases in the Old Town Hall in Trenton.

We are often asked "Where is the largest local historical society in Ontario?" **Gananoque Historical Society** has 1,127 members. Can you top that?

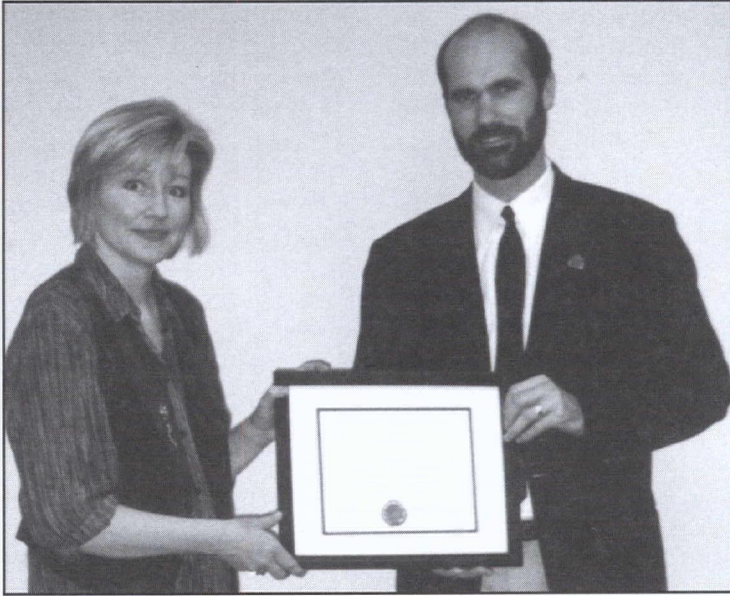
The **Weston Historical Society** has announced the programme for 2000 with John Warburton, (alias Dr. Zebadiah Zonk, the famous Victorian Phrenologist) speaking on February 2 on "United Empire Loyalists." No, John will not be reading heads that night! For details (416) 741-3025.

The **Euphemia Township Historical Society** launched *Euphemia Township History 1849-1999* in October. For costs and availability contact the Society at Township of Dawn-Euphemia, R.R. #4, Dresden, Ontario N0P 1M0.

The **Voyageur Heritage Network** has received a grant of \$76,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for a network co-ordinator to travel and develop outreach and educational programmes in the next two years. The April spring meeting of the Network will be hosted by the **Sturgeon River House Museum** in Sturgeon Falls.

The **Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage** is now located at 113 Marginal Road, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4P7. Call toll free 1-800-355-6873.

Adriana Davies, former Executive Director of **Museums Al-**



A highlight of the September meeting of the Waterloo Historical Society was the presentation of the Fred Landon Award to Geoff Hayes (former OHS Board member) for his book, *Waterloo County: An Illustrated History*. Susan Hughes, Curator, Todmorden Mills Museum and OHS Board member made the presentation. In September Dorothy Duncan presented the Carnochan Award to John McIntyre of Aurora; Judy McGonigal presented the Alison Prentice Award to Linda Ambrose, for her book *For home and country: the centennial history of the Women's Institutes in Ontario*; Jeanne Hughes presented the Scadding Award of Excellence to the **Guelph Historical Society**.

**berta** has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of the newly formed **Heritage Community Foundation** chaired by Morris Flewelling.

Happy Birthday to the **Hamilton Museum of Steam and Technology** who celebrated 140 years on October 26. For more information: (905) 546-4797.

The many friends of the late John Lunau of Markham were pleased to learn that the **John Lunau Heritage Research Centre** in the Markham Library was officially opened with materials from John's estate, and other records from: the **Unionville Historical Society**, files of Anne Armstrong of Locust Hill, and the **Markham Berczy Settlers Association**.

**Heritage Mississauga** has launched a number of geographic and thematic Outreach Slide Kits available for loans and rentals. Call (905) 615-4415 for topics, costs and availability.

The **Mississauga Heritage Foundation** recently announced that internationally renowned jazz musician and national treasure Oscar Peterson has agreed to become an Honourary Patron.

Congratulations to Alice King Sculthorpe of Port Hope, Past President of the **Architectural Conservancy of Ontario** on receiving the Order of Ontario in October.

Congratulations go to Alan Skeoch of Mississauga on winning the 1999 Governor Generals Award for Teaching Canadian

History, sponsored by **Canada's National History Society**.

Commissioner Joe Halstead, **Department of Economic Development, Culture and Tourism, City of Toronto** announced in October that Rita Davies, Executive Director of the **Toronto Arts Council** has been appointed Managing Director, and Beth Hanna (a Past President of the OHS), the Manager of **Cultural Affairs, Arts and Heritage Division of the City**. Congratulations!

Congratulations to Grace Schmidt of Kitchener who received a Doctor of Laws degree, honoris causa, from the **University of Waterloo** at the fall convocation for her pioneering efforts and lifetime work in preserving and celebrating the history and culture of Waterloo County.

Aureen Richardson of the **Campbellford-Seymour Heritage Society** recently celebrated fifty years of volunteer writing for local newspapers. Aureen is an OHS member who has written some wonderful poetry for us, and about us, at some of our seminars and workshops.

The **Toronto Historical Association** has received a City of Toronto Millennium Grant to support Heritage Showcase on February 18, 19, 20 at the Scarborough Town Centre, and provide an exciting event "for the last year of the century." Thank you for keeping the historical record straight!



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# Upcoming Events

**December–January 8:** To find out how Woodstock celebrated the turn of the new 19th century, include a trip to the Woodstock Museum on 466 Dundas Street as part of your modern day revelry for the exhibit **A Turn of the Century Christmas**. Call (519) 537-8411.

**December–February 20:** The new exhibition at the St. Catharines Museum displays women’s clothing representing fashion in the years between the start of the writing career of Charles Dickens in 1836 and his death in 1870. **Ghosts of Fashion Past: Women’s Dress in the Age of Dickens 1836–1870** was produced by Jordan Heritage Resources and Kickshaw Productions for the St. Catharines Museum, located at 1932 Government Road in St. Catharines (905) 984-8880.

**December–March 5:** Admission is always free at the Market Gallery above the St. Lawrence Market, 95 Jarvis Street in Toronto. The present exhibition, **The Young Century: Daily Life in Toronto 1901–1914** provides a unique glimpse of Toronto at the beginning of the 20th century as seen through a selection of photographs and original documents from the City of Toronto Archives and other collections.

**December–March 26:** Winter is the focus at the Guelph Civic Museum, located at 6 Dublin Street South. At **Vintage Winter Scenes** you will discover the Guelph of winter’s past through photographs and selections from the museum’s collection. For the children, winter stories from around the world are brought to life in an interactive children’s exhibit **Winter Tales from Holiday Season**, on display only until January 9, (519) 836-1221.

**December–June 2000:** The McCrae House Museum explores the history of the Canadian Corps Cyclist Battalion in the exhibit **Wheeled War I**. The Museum is located at 108 Water Street in Guelph. Call (519) 836-1221.

**December 18:** Join the Toronto Field Naturalists and the Ontario Society for Industrial Archaeology for a ‘trip back in time’ to ‘visit’ the 1914–18 community of Earls court Sand Hills. Find it with the clues hidden in the modern landscape the topography.

Meet at the southeast corner of St. Clair Avenue West and Via Italia (one block west of Dufferin Street at 1:00 p.m. On **January 15** meet at the entrance to Broadview subway station at 1:00 p.m. for a walk along old Chester and Danforth By-the-Valley of a century ago and visit Scarcrow’s Lane. Ames Pond and Old Kingston Road are highlighted on **February 27** at 1:30 p.m. during a walk of the upper Beach of years gone by. Meet at the southwest corner of Kingston Road and Main Street. A walk along the Toronto Belt Line Railway on **March 26** follows the Right of Way for the 1894 railway line. This walk is a continuation for those who attended part one in Autumn 1999. Meet at the northwest corner of Windermere Avenue and Queen Street West at 1:30 p.m. For details contact the Toronto Field Naturalists at their new number (416) 593-2656.

**December 27–30:** This is a special time of the year at the Gibson House as everyone is **Preparing for Hogmanay**. See the flurry of activity as the ‘bills are paid, the house is cleaned, the silver and brass polished, and traditional Scottish foods are prepared.’ The following day, ring in the new year with a visit from the first footer bearing greetings, gifts and good wishes for the coming year. The Gibson House is located at 5172 Yonge Street in North York (416) 395-7432.

**January 16:** Montgomery’s Inn hosts the 17th annual show of traditional needlework and textile arts **All Done By Hand: a Celebration of Traditional Needlework** with demonstrations and displays including: rug hooking, quilting, Berlin work, textile conservation, as well as featuring a collection of needlework tools and accessories. On **January 23** the Inn comes alive with music, dance, and sweets for **Scottish Country Dancing in Celebration of Robbie Burns Birthday**. Montgomery’s Inn is located at 4709 Dundas Street West in Etobicoke (416) 394-8113. Contact the Inn, also for the **Merriest Days of the Year** programme in late December.

**January 21 and 23:** Put on your kilt, stirke up the pipes and celebrate two Scottish events at the last home of Toronto’s first Mayor, William Lyon Mackenzie. Mackenzie House, located at

82 Bond Street in Toronto hosts **An Elegant Evening of Scotch Tasting and the Annual Robbie Burns Day Celebration**. Reserve in advance to attend (416) 392-6827 ext. 229 or 225. Ask also about the programmes at all Heritage Toronto sites including the Thursday lecture series held at their historic headquarters, the Bank Hall, at 205 Yonge Street, **Toronto Through the Eyes of its Artists** beginning **January 20**; and the Sunday afternoon series of gardening workshops, **Our Growing Heritage** at Spadina, located at 285 Spadina Road and beginning **January 30**.

**March 3–5:** The Hamilton Ships Company of 1812 hosts the 5th Annual **Living History 2000 Conference** at Mohawk College and McMaster University in Hamilton. Keynote speaker Captain (N) Victor Suthren, formerly with the Canadian War Museum speaks on the topic “Time Machine: The Best of Re-enacting.” Concurrent sessions will include: ‘Military Life, Civilian Life, and Entertainment’ and ‘Maintaining Historical Accuracy in Living History Presentations’ covering a wide range of time periods. A highlight of the conference includes a ‘Period Ball,’ featuring instruction in several nineteenth century dances. For details, contact Living History 2000 Conference, 31 Gerald Crescent, Stoney Creek, Ontario L8J 2J6.

**May 4–7:** the Colonel John Butler (Niagara) Branch holds the **Annual General Meeting** for the United Empire Loyalists’ Association, in Niagara Falls with several tours highlighting the historic region. Visits include: Chateau du Charmes winery, Fort Niagara, Laura Secord Homestead, Lundy’s Lane battlefield, Queenston Heights battlefield, and Fort George. The programme brochure will be mailed in the new year. For information contact (416) 489-1783 or write 234 Eglinton Avenue East, Suite 406, Toronto, Ontario M4P 1K5.

**May 6, 13, and June 17:** Papermaking workshops are highlighted once again at Toronto’s First Post Office at 260 Adelaide Street East in Toronto. **Basic Papermaking** begins with the basics for making paper at home; including pressing, drying, embedding, embossing, and working with colour. An **Open Studio Workshop** encourages individual projects such as cards, book covers, or flat sheets. **Paper Bowls and other 3-D Objects** utilizes existing bowls as forms, to work with wet pulp, wet once-pressed sheets, and decorative papers. Space is limited so register early. (416) 865-1833.

**May 12–14:** The Ontario Genealogical Society, Ottawa Branch hosts the OGS Seminar 2000 and Annual General Meeting, **Migra-**

## Can you help?

In my research on Christmas customs in the 19th century Ontario I have seen photographs and pencil drawings of mid-century rooms decorated for the season. They may have been drawn c. 1860, by an amateur, and are signed L.E.M. Mrs. Jeanne Minhinnick used them in a restoration project, without identifying them. Elsewhere, in her files on the project, she mentions “Merrill” drawings, but gives no details. Can anyone help identify L.E.M., or tell me where the original drawings are? The copies are not clear, and I would appreciate being able to see the originals. Joyce C. Lewis, 16 Walmsley Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1X6 (416) 483-7879 (phone and fax).



The Cathedral Church of St. James is preparing an exhibition celebrating the arrival of Bishop Strachan in Canada two hundred years ago, to be on display at the Cathedral from January 9 until October. Do you have any pamphlets, letters, family anecdotes, artifacts or pictures in family collections, or elsewhere which may be brought to the attention of the archivist, or used in the exhibition? Contact Nancy Mallett, Chair, Archives and Museum Committee, St. James’ Cathedral, 65 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario M5C 2E9 (416) 364-7865.

**tion Mosaic: Those who came, those who stayed, those who left** at the Ottawa Congress Centre in downtown Ottawa. The topics are arranged in a series of 45 lectures in 5 concurrent streams: Migration, Resources, Beginners, Intermediate/Advanced, and Tools, in addition to regular features such as the Wall of Ancestors, workshops and tours, and marketplace. New for this year is a Family History Competition. For details write OGS Seminar 2000, Merivale Postal Outlet, P.O. Box 65087, Nepean, Ontario K2G 5Y3.

**May 26–28:** Community Heritage Ontario holds its sixth annual conference in Brantford, the best bloomin’ city in Canada. The theme is **What in the World’s Going On...?** and will address the latest developments in heritage preservation while providing an opportunity for members of Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committees, historical societies, heritage organizations

and all those interested in heritage preservation to share information. A Call for Proposals was issued earlier in the year, and the December 31, 1999 deadline is fast approaching. For information about the conference programme, or to submit a proposal, contact Mary Stephens, Chair, CHO Conference Committee, 763 Leroy Avenue, London, Ontario N5Y 4G8 (519) 439-3373, FAX (519) 432-0723.

**Summer:** The Diefenbunker, Canada’s Cold War Museum is a 100,000 square foot nuclear bomb shelter, and the site of a major art exhibition. The interpretation of the Diefenbunker seeks to provide understanding of the Cold War period through research, educational programmes and guided tours. The modern art exhibit superimposes a series of works over revitalizations of the shelter. The Diefenbunker is located 8 km into the village of Carp. (613) 839-0007 or 1-800-409-1965.

## Join the OHS at these events

DATE	PROGRAMME	LOCATION
January 26	Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About a Historical Society But Were Afraid to Ask!	Fenelon Falls
February 18–20	Heritage Showcase	Scarborough
May 6	OHS Annual General Meeting	Willowdale

For information on these events and others in the planning stages, please contact the OHS, 34 Parkview Avenue, Willowdale, Ontario M2N 3Y2, (416) 226-9011 or fax 226-2740.



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# Cemetery News

Marjorie Stuart, Editor

The **Lambton Cemetery** in Etobicoke was the scene of an attack by vandals, and the Canadian Jewish Congress offered a reward for the apprehension of those responsible. Tom Duguid, an experienced art restorer, sculptor and a Mohawk from the Six Nations Community will restore the damaged stones. A strong bond of friendship exists between the Jewish humanitarian group, Ve'ahava and the Native Men's Residence, whose support has enabled a patrol van to provide warm food and clothing to 200 homeless men and women.

A special pilgrimage to **Grosse-Ile** took place this past summer to commemorate the 90th anniversary of the dedication of the Celtic Cross erected by The Ancient Order of Hibernians. Wreaths were laid in memory of the Irish emigrants who died of typhus and were buried on the island in 1847-48.

Estimates have been received for restoration work at **Richview Cemetery** in Etobicoke. The Committee hopes to raise enough funds to start work next summer. Donations marked Richview Cemetery Restoration Fund may be sent to Etobicoke Heritage Foundation, 299 The West Mall, Etobicoke, Ontario M9C 2Y2 or contact Randall Reid at (416) 394-6025.

A committee has been formed to remount and maintain the Michael Grass memorial in **Cataraqui United Church Cemetery**. Those interested should contact Sharon Cadieux, 26 Leroy Grant Drive, Kingston, Ontario K7K 6X3.

The Kingston Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society held its second annual picnic at **Cataraqui Cemetery**. This successful event included talks on types of stones, inscriptions, and tours of the burial locations of notables from Queen's University, and the military plots.

The King Township Historical Society held a very successful fundraising dinner in October, hosted by Mayor Margaret Black. Guest speaker Pierre Berton drew a large and enthusiastic audience to support the **Lloydtown Pioneer Cemetery**. Although monument restoration is nearly complete, funds are still required to complete this project. Donations may be made to: Lloydtown Cemetery Restoration Fund, c/o The King Township Historical Society, 2920 King Road, King City, Ontario L7B 1A6.

In Whitby concern has been raised over who should bear the costs of reinterring remains that were located in **Brooklin Pioneer Cemetery**. This cemetery was officially closed by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council in 1925. Last year the remains were removed during an archaeological assessment prior to redevelopment of the property and were sent to the University of Guelph for analysis and then forwarded to **Groveside Cemetery** for

burial. It is felt by some that the developer of the property should pay for the reburial and not the cemetery or the municipality.

An archaeological assessment took place at **Warner Cemetery** near Niagara Falls. The proposed widening of the Queen Elizabeth Way will encroach upon the site of the 1801 Methodist Episcopal Meeting House to come within one metre of burial plots. Those concerned should write their MPP and the Minister of Transportation, David Turnbull, 3rd Floor, Ferguson Block, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1Z8.

Catherine Canning of Ottawa is compiling a list of names of those who were buried in **Sandy Hill Cemetery**. This cemetery, now known as **MacDonald Park**, is located near the Byward Market, with four different denominations buried within, was closed to further burials in 1871. Some of the bodies were removed to **Beechwood Cemetery** but many remained in situ. Heritage designation is being sought, and restoration work in the park will be required. Anyone with information relating to those buried at **Sandy Hill Cemetery** should contact your editor.

St. Paul's Anglican Church in Newmarket is planning to restore **Eagle Street Pioneer Cemetery**. The cemetery established c 1820 has been closed to burials for many years. Despite restoration work in 1967 many stones are crumbling and further work is required to preserve them. It is hoped that a columbarium can be established at the site.

The St. Catharines city council have stated that Rev. Anthony Burns' tombstone may not be copied without permission. He was an escaped slave who was tried in Boston and his trial triggered the Boston Riots of 1854. He settled in St. Catharines and was the pastor of Zion Baptist Church. He was buried in **Victoria Lawn Cemetery** in 1862. A clear plastic shield will be placed over the stone to preserve it from further damage.

A special ceremony took place in Toronto at **Mount Pleasant Cemetery** to recognize The Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King. This is a part of the National Program for the Grave Sites of Canadian Prime Ministers. As well, a plaque was unveiled to commemorate D.W. Harvey, a pioneering Toronto Transit Commission General Manager. The **Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries** also dedicated the Cremation Gardens Conservatory.

On October 29, over thirty-five people attended the first annual meeting of the Old Durham Road Pioneer Cemetery Committee, recently affiliated with the OHS. Robert Leverty, the guest speaker, outlined the fundamental principles at stake during the successful battle to prevent the Province of Ontario from closing the **Clendennen Cemetery**.

# Artifact auction sets dangerous precedent

Dennis Carter-Edwards, former OHS President, and former Chair, OHS Preservation Committee

On the weekend of September 24-25, 1999, the Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Historical Society (SDGHS) sold by public auction nearly the entire collection of artifacts used to furnish Inverarden Regency Cottage Museum. The sale, described by Society Curator Ian Bowering as "A Museum [sic] Version of Let's Make a Deal" (*Standard Freeholder* 23/5/99) raises a number of issues that are critical to the future funding, furnishing and operation of museums throughout Ontario.

While it is not unusual for museums to periodically rationalize their collections, deaccessioning is usually done in accordance with Ethical Guidelines developed by the professional museum community. The SDGHS, instead of consulting with other museums, simply offered the collection for sale to the highest bidder. Among the items put up for auction were a chair belonging to Louis Joseph Papineau, fur trade documents and other important pieces of Canadiana. The Society also used the event to dispose of some locally collected items. According to Bowering, "Friday's sale will dispose of my excess... Some of this material may be of local origin. But if it is not of specific historic importance [sic] I ask you just how many iron's [sic] does a museum need?" (*SF* 19/9/99)

The Society argued the sale was necessary to finance the move of the United Counties Museum building which was threatened with demolition, and to help pay for construction of new display space. While these are laudable objectives, other municipal councils may be tempted

to use this example when their own museums are faced with major financial outlays for maintenance or expansion.

The Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, MCzCR, agreed the sale could set a dangerous precedent. Michael Langford, Director of the Heritage Branch for the Ministry, noted that "maintaining the integrity of a museum collection is an important principle that the heritage community should adhere to." (*SF* 17/3/99) The Ministry also had a direct financial interest in the future disposition of the collection. Several of the major pieces used to furnish the house were purchased with provincial grants such as Wintario. What would happen to the public tax dollars given to the Society to acquire these items? Initially, the Ministry was not prepared to release the Society from its obligation to preserve these items or make them available through loans or exchanges to other museums. However, after an intense lobbying effort by the Society, the Ministry relented. According to Michael Johnson, Manager of the Archaeology and Heritage Planning Unit for MCzCR, there was little the Ministry could do. (telephone conversation 20/9/99) In exchange for releasing the SDGHS from the terms and conditions of the lottery based grants, the Society has agreed to "repay the taxpayers investment in [the collection]." (*SF* 1/9/99) When asked for clarification of what this means for other institutions holding collections acquired with the support of such grants, Mr. Johnson declined to reply.

The implications, however, are quite clear. Museum collections

acquired with Wintario and similar provincial grants are now vulnerable to public sale so long as the money originally granted is repaid. Given the escalating prices paid for antiques, some museum committees may be tempted to cash in on the price differential between what an item was originally purchased for and what it can fetch on the open market today. This is also a dangerous precedent that could place museum collections in jeopardy.

Perhaps the most disturbing implication of the auction is the negative effect it may have on future donations to museums. At a general meeting of the SDGHS members held in May of this year to debate and vote on the sale of the collection, it was pointed out that donors are becoming wary of giving their cherished possessions to museums. A director for one of the region's other museums remarked that long time residents followed the debate closely and expressed reluctance to donate items of local interest if they were to be lumped together with other objects and sold at public auction.

In order to reassure donors and establish clear guidelines for any future disposal of museum collections, the MCzCR needs to clarify the rules governing the deaccessioning of important pieces of Canadiana purchased with public funds.

The acquisition of museum collections should be for the benefit and education of present and future generations, not for the purposes of speculating in antiques. Without quick and decisive action, we may well see more "Museum Versions of Let's Make a Deal."

# We gratefully acknowledge the following donors

Frank Bartoszek and Jeanne Hughes, Co-Chairs, Fundraising Committee

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# Museum News

## Opportunities and implications: museums and municipal restructuring



Recently, John Carter (above left), Museums Advisor for the MCzCR and Dorothy Duncan, Executive Director, the OHS met with representatives of heritage and cultural institutions in the Region of Haldimand-Norfolk, at the Eva Brook Donly Museum in Simcoe. They discussed the op-

portunities and implications developing with municipal restructuring.

Many of the museums and cultural institutions in this region are administered by, or supported by, municipalities.

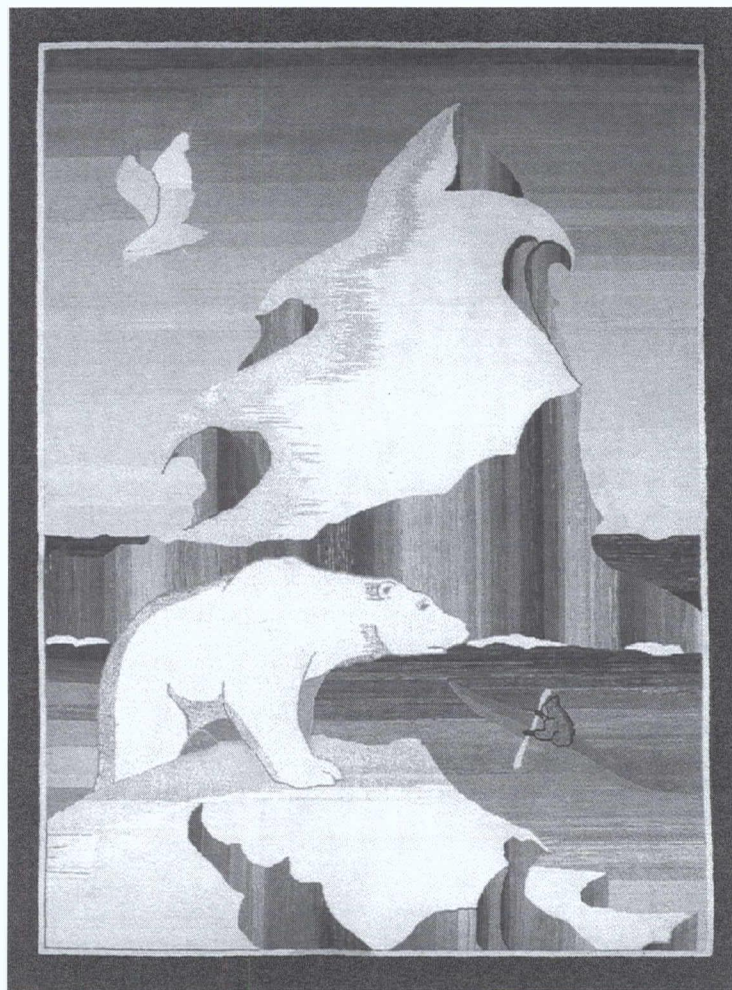
It is more important than ever for these organizations to work

together, and be proactive in the development of the new municipal structure since it must be recognized that museums play an important role in the social and cultural life of their community, contributing to its economy and attracting visitors.

It was agreed a joint brief would be submitted to the special advisor on Haldimand-Norfolk restructuring, highlighting the unique aspects museums and cultural facilities bring to their regional area.

John Carter is continuing to meet with representatives of heritage and cultural institutions in the three other areas to be amalgamated: Hamilton-Wentworth, Ottawa-Carleton, and Sudbury.

## Matting Season: Hooked Mats of the Grenfell Mission



Linda Zutis, Communications Co-ordinator, The Museum for Textiles

## Decorative arts at the ROM

Judith Fitzhenry

The Royal Ontario Museum will host "Decorative Arts of Colonial North America," April 27-29, a symposium which focuses on Canada and the United States between 1600 and 1830. The event will provide an exceptional opportunity for an appreciation of the Royal Ontario Museum's Canadiana Collection.

Surviving ceramics, furniture, silver, textiles, glass and other

decorative arts paint a rich picture of life in Colonial North America. These are every bit as evocative of the times as the written history. The body of scholarship on early Canadian and American decorative arts continues to grow in volume and depth.

Ten years ago an annual symposium on the Decorative Arts was created to highlight the impressive collections in the Euro-

pean Department of the ROM. It has proved to be a successful and expanding programme.

Lectures will be followed by workshops and guided tours of the Canadiana Galleries. Also included are a gala reception and lunches.

The cost is \$210 for ROM members and \$260 for non-members. For information contact (416) 586-5513.

## New statue of Tecumseh revealed

Julie Lawrence, Museum Manager, Windsor Wood Carving Museum

In the fall of 1998, the Windsor Wood Carving Museum called for proposals for a life sized sculpture of Tecumseh to be placed permanently at the museum. More than a dozen candidates across Canada and the United States responded. The commission was given to Neil Z. Cox.

As a figurative carver, Neil has been fascinated with story telling and allegory. He prefers to sculpt in wood or stone, but has enjoyed working in a number of other media, including bronze, sand, snow, ice, clay, and even butter. His work has won many awards

in Windsor, Toronto, Woodstock, Harrison Springs, B.C., Quebec, and Davenport, Ohio.

Neil originally wanted to create the sculpture in butternut, but was unable to locate a piece of wood the suitable size. The black walnut used for the project was originally from Durham and purchased at the Maple Haven Sawmill in Ingersoll.

The log had great character; its size ran from 3 to 4 feet in diameter and 8 feet tall, weighing approximately 1500 pounds. A model was made from chicken wire, duct tape, and a blanket.

The initial carving was worked

with a chain saw, and then an Arbortech grinder, air chisels and finally, hand chisels.

Funding was provided by: the Millennium Fund, Windsor Casino, Trillium Treasure Questers Chapter 1163, local carvers, businesses, the government, and the City Councils of Windsor and Tecumseh among other generous supporters.

The completed statue weighed in at 700 pounds, 7 feet tall, and was unveiled on July 2, 1999 witnessed by over 200 patrons.

Neil is currently working on a life size carving of Thomas Ingersoll. It will be carved from basswood for the town of Ingersoll.

The sculpture has been a positive asset to the museum. Visitors have identified the sculpture as one of their reasons to visit the museum. All are invited to include a stop at the museum when in the area.

The Windsor Wood Carving Museum is located at 850 Ouellette, Windsor, Ontario N9A 4M9 (519) 977-0823.

Approximately 80 hooked mats and related handicrafts produced for the Grenfell Mission between 1918 and 1950 are featured in a major exhibition at the Museum for Textiles until May.

Along the shores of Northern Newfoundland and Labrador, the quiet months of February and March were known as the "Matting Season." Women turned their talents to create the distinctive and pictorial hooked mats and other textiles. In fact, the exhibit tries to illustrate the socio-economic impact of this craft industry upon the lives of the women who made them.

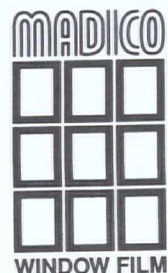
This is the third exhibition Guest Curator, Paula Laverty has assembled on this subject. She has found a significant number of mat patterns never previously

exhibited, all of which are rare and unusual, and a wealth of new archival and support material on the Grenfell Mission.

The distinctly northern images of the Grenfell Mission include: polar bears on icebergs, dog teams rushing to medical emergencies, geese and ducks in flight, sailing schooners heading north, puffins, seagulls, whales, quiet outport views, bold florals, and geometric designs.

In conjunction with this showing, the Ontario Hooking Craft Guild is giving free demonstrations of rug hooking on the first Sunday afternoon of each month of the exhibit.

The Museum for Textiles is located at 55 Centre Street in Toronto and can be reached at (416) 599-2911.



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# From the Bookshelf

Pat and Chris Raible, Editors

## Red Donnellys?

*This Side of Heaven: Determining the Donnelly Murders, 1880.* By Norman N. Feltes. University of Toronto Press. 208 pages. \$40.00 hardbound.

Arguably the most famous murder in nineteenth century Ontario history is here given an exhaustively thorough re-interpretation from, would you believe, a "marxist structuralist" perspective. York Professor Norman N. Feltes insists that the murders must be considered in a much larger context: a whole web of economic, social and geographic structures, all of which profoundly influenced individual actions of residents of Lucan township. This is an entirely admirable academic examination of factors which other Donnelly story tellers have entirely ignored. It is not an easy read, but it is a compelling counter argument to the common view that history is best appreciated when considered as human story.

## Heritage Treasures

*The Architecture of a Provincial Society: Houses Of Bruce County, Ontario 1850-1900.* By Ruth Cathcart. Red House Press. 218 pages. \$39.95 hardbound.

More than a hundred nineteenth century homes comprise this volume. Some are modest cottages, some are middle-class residences, some are elegant mansions—all have survived and are here each aptly described and clearly photographed. Author Ruth Cathcart, assisted by photographer Charles van den Outen, has produced a splendid companion to her earlier work depicting old houses of Grey county. A lovely book assembled with both care and creativity—a treasure for students of history and of architecture alike.

*Legacy in Stone: The Rideau Corridor.* By Fiona Spalding-Smith & Barbara A. Humphreys. Boston Mills Press. 98 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 hardbound.

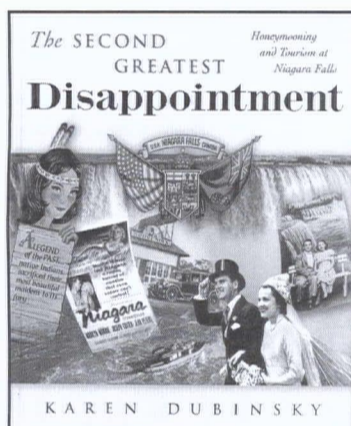
The Canadian Shield may not have encouraged agriculture, but its rocks provided skilled masons with marvellous building materials—attractive, versatile and, best of all, durable. In the decades following the construction of the Rideau Canal, all along its route there arose solid stone structures. They are marvellously photographed here in colour, illustrating examples not only of

fine homes, but also of mills, churches, dams, schools, even the federal Houses of Parliament. Once again, the Boston Mills Press has produced a beautiful book.

## Coming to a New World

*Across the Waters: Ontario Immigrants' Experiences, 1820-1850.* By Frances Hoffman & Ryan Taylor. Global Heritage Press. 424 pages. \$29.95 softbound; \$44.95 hardbound.

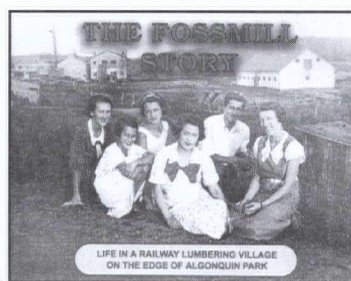
Using quotations culled from the letters and diaries of ordinary early nineteenth century immigrants, two modern authors have created a composite history, relating the common experiences of many of our ancestors. Chapters trace the stages each family went through: preparing for the long journey, crossing the ocean with its storms and shipwrecks, arriving in Quebec and Montreal, travelling up the St. Lawrence, securing and clearing land, building a house or shelter, and learning new ways to live.



## Yours 'til Niagara Falls

*The Second Greatest Disappointment: Honeymooning and Tourism at Niagara Falls.* By Karen Dubinsky. Between the Lines. 290 pages. Illustrations. \$29.59 softbound.

For at least two hundred years hucksters have promoted Niagara Falls tourism, with honeymoons central to much of the promotion, most of it in shabby ways contrasting with the elegance of the falls themselves. Perhaps the most telling criticism was made by a late 19th century journalist: "Of course it disappoints, and must forever disappoint, all who look at it in this foolish, hurried way... [This place] in its sovereign dignity... is to be seen, felt, not talked about." This lively, often amusing and fully illustrated book is nevertheless a serious study of history, heterosexuality and hype.



## Logging Along

*The Fossmill Story: Life in a Railway Lumbering Village on the Edge of Algonquin Park.* By Doug Mackey and Paul Mackey. Past Forward Heritage. 224 pages. Illustrations. \$29.95 softbound. Companion video: Logging by Rail in Algonquin Park. \$29.95.

The focus of this fine book is Fossmill, a lumbering town: created in 1920s, survived through the depression of the 1930s, died in the 1940s. An extraordinary amount of research effort, organizational ability, writing competence, and designing skill have all been combined to relate the history of a small place over a relatively short period of time. The result is quite wonderful. The authors have also produced a fascinating video using archival (early 1930s) film and still photographs to describe the logging, mill and railway operations of the Fasset Lumber Company.

## Three Booklets

*Help! I've Inherited an Attic Full of History. Volume 1: Dating, evaluating and disposing of the accumulation of a lifetime.* By Althea Douglas. Ontario Genealogical Society. 94 pages. \$16.00 softbound.

A professional archivist and genealogist provides very practical advice to anyone embarking on writing family, organizational or institutional history. It answers the question "What do I do with all this stuff?" Highly recommended.

*Life in Lovely Lambeth.* Westminster Historical Society. 52 pages. Illustrations. Unpriced.

The collective effort of a number of Lambeth residents, relating various aspects of the history of a proud community.

*The Bleasdel Boulder.* By Paul and Maria Heissler. 20 pages. Illustrations. \$5.00.

A brief sketch of the history of a big rock: a Sidney Township glacially deposited stone which is 114 feet in circumference and weighs more than 2,000,000 pounds. Thanks to the efforts of two area residents, a trust fund now protects the rock's area and keeps it open to the public.

## Yankee Go Home

*Field of Glory: The Battle of Crysler's Farm, 1813.* By Donald E. Graves. Robin Brass Studio. 426 pages. Illustrations. \$22.95 softbound.

This volume completes a trilogy of detailed descriptions of

decisive land battles in the War of 1812. Crysler's Farm is perhaps less well known than the battles at Chippewa or Lundy's Lane, but it was no less significant. Indeed, because it occurred a year earlier and was such a

complete defeat for the American invaders, it altered the course and ultimately the outcome of the entire war. There is no more readable and reliable Canadian military historian than Donald E. Graves.

## History Noted

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

Street Names of Thunder Bay - a comprehensive account of the names of all the streets in the city. Thunder Bay Historical Museum Society. \$29.95 softbound. Also available in CD-ROM format. \$29.95.

*Give & Take* - a resource manual for Canadian Fund raisers, crammed full of information, statistics, analysis, guidelines and opinions on Canada's charitable sector and Canadian fund raising. Canadian Centre for Philanthropy. 48 pages. \$53.50 softbound or free with subscription to the Front & Centre newspaper: \$64.15 for 1 year.

*Inside Queens Park* - a bi-weekly analytical take on Ontario politics and government. \$315.65 per year. *Ontario Government Information Binder* - essential information on key government contacts and structures. \$339.25 per year. *Queens Park Monitoring Service* - an ongoing stream of bulletins on all major provincial government developments. \$176.55 per month. All from O. P. Murray Research Limited.

*Preparing and Supporting Seasonal Staff* - practical and current information on job descriptions, interviewing, staff training, performance appraisals, and so forth. Includes photocopyable forms, practice exercises, current recommended resources, pamphlets from various organizations, checklists, and case studies. Federation of Nova Scotian

Heritage. 140 pages. \$60.00 with binder (includes 1 year membership).

*The Jewish Victorian.* By Doreen Berger. Genealogical information from the Jewish Newspapers 1871-1880. Included are birth, marriage and death entries, also obituaries, gossip and events concerning individuals. Robert Boyd Publications. £34.95

*Index of Passengers Who Emigrated to Canada Between 1817 and 1849.* Prepared by John A. Acton. Compiled from a small number of passenger lists found in the various records of the British Colonial Office. 93 pages. \$18.00 softbound. *How to Research Almost Anything: A Canadian Guide for Students, Consumers and Business*, 3rd rev. edition by Steven Overbury and Susanna Buenaventura. 240 pages. \$19.99 softbound. *Strays! An index to the OGS Strays Project: Volume No. 5.* Compiled by Shirley Lancaster and David J. Browne. Contains over 1700 names. 186 pages. \$10.00 softbound. All published by the Ontario Genealogical Society.

*Confederation.* By James K. Hitter - Deciding Newfoundland's Future, 1934 to 1949. \$9.95. *John Cabot and Newfoundland.* By Alan Williams. \$3.00. A Cabot Miscellany. Edited by Bert Riggs & Iona Bulgin. \$5.00. *Cabot & His World, June 1997: Papers & Presentations.* Edited by Iona Bulgin. \$20.00. Also three pamphlets, on Sir Humphrey Gilbert, on James Louis O'Donnet and on the Knights of Columbus. \$1.50 each. All published by the Newfoundland Historical Society.

## Directory of Publishers

**Between the Lines**, 720 Bathurst Street, Suite 404, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2R4.

**Boston Mills Press**, 132 Main Street, Erin, Ontario NOB 1T0.

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**Global Heritage Press**, 158 Laurier Avenue, Milton, Ontario L9T 4S2.

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**Westminster Historical Society**, 7079 Colonel Talbot Road, London, Ontario N6L 1J1.

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## OHS life-member adopted by Wyandot Indian Nation of Kansas during weekend of ceremonies

Charles Garrad, Past President, Ontario Archaeological Society

During the weekend of August 27 to 29, a number of significant events occurred in the Midland area. The 350th anniversary of the events leading to the Dispersal of the Huron-Petun ancestors from Ontario in 1650 was recognized with the formation of a new Confederacy, and the return of bones and artifacts as part of a Feast of the Dead ceremony. In addition, OHS life-member, Charles Garrad was one of three men adopted by the Wyandot Nation of Kansas.

In preparation for the return of the bones and artifacts excavated from the Ossossane ossuary near Midland by Kenneth E. Kidd, a special ceremony was held at the Royal Ontario Museum (ROM), to honour these items. The ceremony was conducted by Chief Janith K. English of the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, a descendant of the Petun Indians formerly from the Collingwood area. They were accompanied by a number of Wyandot people and guests, and had the assistance of Dr. Mima Kapches, archaeologist and staff at the ROM.

In anticipation of the smoke that was generated by the burning cedar, sage and tobacco as part of the ceremony, the ROM had wisely turned off the smoke alarms and sprinkler system in the storage area temporarily. In addition to the native ceremonies, Father Michael Stogre, S.J., read an appropriate text about the resurrection of bones, from Ezekiel 37: 1-10.

On August 27, several hundred Ontario Huron-Petun-Wyandot descendants and guests gathered in the Penetanguishene Community Centre. Delegations were present from the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma (who arrived in the tribe's own airplane), the Wyandot Nation of Kansas, the Wyandots of Anderdon (Ontario and Michigan), and the Huron-Wendat of Lorette (by chartered bus, remarkably fresh after a twelve hour ride), as well as from Texas, San Francisco, Vancouver, and Alaska. Some participants had not been in Ontario, or even Canada, previously. Introductory speeches of welcome were followed by social and community dancing, some participants being in 'Wendat' regalia.

The following day began with a sunrise ceremony, and later, a highlight was a procession of canoes along the Wye River to the landing at the foot of Martyrs' Shrine hill. This was a most colourful and impressive event, with the flags of the four participating Wyandot bands flying, and participants ranging in age from children up to 90 years, dressed in colourful regalia. The Ojibwas of Rama and Christian Island conducted welcome ceremonies.

Throughout the day various ceremonies were held, including Pipe, Sweatlodge, and the adoption by the Wyandot Nation of Kansas of OHS life-member Charles Garrad, and John Steckley, both past-Presidents of the Ontario Archaeological Society, and Eric Marason of San Francisco. They were formally adopted into the Wyandot Nation of Kansas in recognition of their devotion to the heritage of the Tribe and to Wyandot people generally. Charles Garrad was given the name *sayonniendetha*, meaning 'he leads them home' because of his work in preserving and interpreting Petun remains in Ontario for the descendants.

In the evening a feast in the Martyrs' Shrine Papal Field was followed by the official signing of a joint declaration, in English and French, by the four chiefs to form a new Wyandot Confederacy. The document was read to the assembly during the evening procedures.

On Sunday, after another Sunrise Ceremony, all gathered at the Ossossane burial site to await the arrival of the truck containing the bones and artifacts to be reburied. In preparation for the Feast of the Dead, purification ceremonies were continued as approximately 80 beaver pelts were laid on the floor of the pit. Clay pots and containers of corn and other foods and gifts were sanctified by smudging for the burial.

The arrival of Dr. Mima Kapches, with Chief Janith K. English who had returned to Toronto to accompany the ancestors' remains was eagerly anticipated. The events that followed have been well described in the *Toronto Star* (August 30, 1999) by Roberta Avery. Chiefs, Elders and those purified in the sweat

ceremony conveyed the more than 300 boxes of bones to the pit, each box being blessed and purified. Every person approaching the pit was purified by smudge. The Chiefs spoke and formed honour guards. The artifacts, food pots and other gifts were placed first on the beaver pelts, then the bones, each again blessed by the elders, passed down one at a time and emptied. The beaver pelts were soon completely covered.

A solitary drum, played by Ted Warrow of Anderdon, and a rattle by the Lorette, were accompanied by the assembly crying "hi-hi-hi," the cry of the souls. One person in the pit used a stick to stir the bones, in accordance with Father Jean de Brébeuf's description of the original 1636 ceremony.

It was a most moving event, always to be remembered, as will the friendships and reunions that took place that day. We understand that the pit was filled on Monday with several tons of sand and rocks to ensure that the bones will not be disturbed again.

The declaration establishing the Confederacy of the four Wyandot nations was signed by Grand Chief Wellie Picard for the Huron-Wendat of Wendake, Quebec; Second Chief Jim Bland for Chief Leaford Bearskin and the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma; Chief Janith K. English for the Wyandot Nation of Kansas; and Spokesman Stephen A. Gronda for the Wyandot Nation of Anderdon.

The Confederacy flag will include the circle of unity set on a blue background and divided into four quadrants, the east containing the beaver symbol of Lorette, the south containing a willow for Kansas, the west containing the turtle symbol of the Wyandotte Tribe of Oklahoma, and the north containing a trillium flower to represent both the Ontario homeland and the Wyandot band of Anderdon.

## Calling all Boer War veterans...

John Goldi, Goldi Productions Ltd.

It is the hundredth anniversary of Canada's first ever military participation in an overseas war, the Great Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902, during which 7000 Canadians went to South Africa, and 270 remain in cemeteries there. In memory of the people and those times, Goldi Productions Ltd. (*"KEEPING CANADIANS IN TOUCH WITH CANADA"*) has created *The Canada Boer War Centennial Project* which includes a 2-hour television documentary for History Television and an interactive website.

We want the website for this project (already viewable and under construction as the Paardeberg Page on [www.goldiproductions.com](http://www.goldiproductions.com)) to be a powerful interactive publicity vehicle to make Canadians of all ages, everywhere, aware of the human story of the men and women who participated in Canada's Boer War, as told from letters and diaries they wrote and the souvenirs they brought back. We request anyone, whether student, teacher, veteran, or history buff to let us know if they have any photos, memorabilia, souvenirs, books,

anecdotes or stories from family members who served in Africa so we can publish it on our website and TV programme. We hope many will want to share in this way, with other Canadians, their family's part in this part of our forgotten history.

We are immensely pleased that our *Canadian Boer War Centennial Project* has been selected by the federal Millennium Bureau as one of the few television projects it has endorsed as an official Canadian Millennium Project to celebrate Canada and Canadians at the turn of the century. We are also pleased that the provincial educational television channels for Alberta (ACCESS), Saskatchewan (SCN), and British Columbia (Knowledge Network), have also signed on as eager Millennium Partners in *"The Great Anglo-Boer War: Canada's Forgotten War."*

If you would like more information or have materials to contribute to the project, please contact Goldi Productions Ltd. (905) 855-1510, fax (905) 823-0397, or [jgoldi@goldiproductions.com](mailto:jgoldi@goldiproductions.com)

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The Society's biannual scholarly journal, *Ontario History*, is available to member individuals for \$21.40 per year, member organizations and institutions and non-member individuals for \$32.10 and to non-member organizations and institutions for \$42.80.

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