

Osgoode Township Historical Society & Museum

at the

Old Vernon School

Newsletter

THE CANADIAN PLOUGHBOY OF EDWARDS

Orval Prophet of Edwards, one of Canada's top recording artists and Country Music Hall of Fame now graces the new sign advertising the Museum of the Osgoode Township Historical Society in Vernon. The roadside sign was chosen from an album jacket of "Orval Prophet, the Canadian Ploughboy". The sign was chosen because it suggested a sign reflecting Osgoode Township's rural roots. Murray Little came up with a photo from his own collection and "Deesign Makers of Inkerman made it up and installed it. The Winchester Press is credited with the photo that graced the album, the singer Orval Prophet skillfully ploughing a straight furrow with a walking plough.. A photo reminiscent of his boyhood days on the farm, he wears the familiar denim overalls and red shirt, with reins circling his waist. Dave Mackie also of Edwards owned the spirited horses

Elected to the Canadian Country Music Hall of fame, in 1980 he resided with his wife Laurette at Edwards till his death Jan 4, 1984. Poor health plagued him throughout his life, It prevented him from joining the armed forces, but during the Second World War he worked all day on the family farm in Edwards and in the evening he would take his guitar and walk to an Ottawa hospital to entertain the wounded soldiers.

Son of Mr & Mrs William Prophet (Alice Tomalty), Orval was born on their 200 acre farm in the north east corner of Osgoode Township. At the age of nine, in PS #20, Osgoode, he sang his first public song. As an adult he kept performing, working as a clerk in an Ottawa wholesale firm until his break came. Wilf Carter heard him sing in Ottawa and invited him along on tour. Later Decca records took him on and provided the publicity. His first recording "Going Back to Birmingham" was on Billboard Magazine and Variety's Western Hit Parade for 8 solid weeks. Throughout his 30 year career, Orval was regarded by many artists as a singer's singer. Among those he influenced were Waylon Jennings, Dallas Harms, Johnny Cash, Gary Buck, Dick Damron and Hank Snow. Many of the Canadians artists said of Orval, that he was a Canadian and an inspiration to try to achieve the same. His song "Mademoiselle" was on the Hit Parade in the 60's, second only to Perry Como's "Catch A Falling Star."

The late Joe Rowan wrote in the Winchester Press (1984) that "Mile After Mile" was one of the hit numbers that vaulted the "Edwards Ploughboy" to the pinnacle of success in the country music field. Those who grew up in the pre-war Ottawa Valley harbor fond memories of the farm lad with the amazing musical talent and of his willingness to share that gift at house parties, church socials and community events. At his funeral in Metcalfe United Church was hard pressed to accommodate those who traveled many thousands of miles to pay their last respects to an artist and a friend. Many of the late entertainer's friends, including Tommy Hunter, Hank Snow, Johnny Cash and many others, unable to be present at his funeral, sent telegrams of condolences."

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The focus of the sign was to draw attention to the museum from the many motorists who pass through the village of Vernon. The intent was to draw on the agricultural aspect of the museum with the photo of the singing farm boy with a walking plough and the lively horses teamed with the eye catching lettering of the professional sign maker. Thanks to Dave Mackie, well-known for his horses, for donating the neck yoke from the same photo to the museum. Interestingly, he bought it at a farm auction in 1971 from the father of Fred Alexander, one of the directors of the Historical Society and Museum.

Ann Leighton-Kyle

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GENEALOGISTS TAKE NOTE

- Genealogists never diethey just lose their census
- May you not find a cookoo's nest in the main branch of your tree.
- May you not be from the shady side



O.T.H.S gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the city of Ottawa



EXECUTIVE FOR 2004

Past President Doug Hughes
 President Ron Isaac
 Vice -President Harvey Linton
 Sec/Treasurer Ann Leighton-Kyle

DIRECTORS

Fred Alexander 826-2018
 Russell Johnston ✓ 823-7837
 Ken McDiarmid 774-3270
 Cecil Reaney 821-2742
 Corinne Atkins-Sheldrick 821-3950
 Eda van der Linden 821-1936
 Bill Zandbelt 821-2541
 ✓ new in 2004

POSITIONS

Archivist/Curator
 Asst Archivist/Curator Angela Barkley
 Asst Agric. Curator Bill Zandbelt
 Membership Angela Barkley/Michelle Lachance
 Program Convenor

WEBMASTER Doug Hughes
 NEWSLETTER (interim Ann Leighton-Kyle)
 SOCIAL COMMITTEE Eda van der Linden
 HISTORICAL COMMITTEE: Corinne Atkins-Sheldrick,
 Ann Leighton-Kyle, Michael Daley, Cecil Reaney, Patti
 Mitton
 MUSEUM & ARCHIVAL COMMITTEE: Michelle
 Lachance, Bill Zandbelt, Murray Little, Ken McDiarmid
 COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE: Ann Leighton-Kyle,
 Russell Johnston, Michelle Lachance
 FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE - 5 YEAR PLAN: Angela
 Barkley, Corinne Atkins-Sheldrick, Michelle Lachance
 FUTURES: Doug Hughes, Michelle Lachance, Fred
 Alexander, Harvey Linton

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year 2003 was the 31st year of operation of the Osgoode Township Historical Society, our third year of receiving financial assistance from the City of Ottawa. In addition to the city's grant, OTHS and Museum received special project grants from Bell Canada, Young Canada Works, the Ministry of Citizenship & Culture, C.H.I.N and Ontario Heritage. These funds allowed us to keep the museum open to the public for more hours per week than in previous years and provided the opportunity to participate in a number of special projects such as C.H.I.N's "Community Memories," a virtual museum presentation to be up and running on the internet in the near future and the production of some new publications along with the reprinting of several other O.T.H.S titles. Michelle Lachance, our Curator/Archivist is to be commended for her expertise in the preparation and presentation of our grant applications which has resulted in the procurement of the major portion of this years revenues.

I "inherited" the position of President of the Board of Directors midway through 2003 following the retirement of Doug Hughes. Doug remains the Webmaster, and our consultant. Another retirement was announced this fall, the semi-retirement of our Newsletter editor, Michael Daley. Also retiring from the board this year is Murray Little and long time Social Convenor, Alice Craig. We also received notice of the resignation of our Curator/Archivist Michelle Lachance as of Feb 14th. Thanks to each for their past and continued interest and support.

We had a variety of programs and projects through the year. During Heritage Week in February we held two open houses. On Feb 15 Doug Hughes presented a descriptive account of the Evolution of the

Canadian Flag. The other on Feb 22nd was Dr David Gray speaking about Preserving Heritage in Our Communities. Councillor Doug Thompson was on hand to present prizes to the winners of Heritage Coloring Contest. The Osgoode Township Scrapbook Project was unveiled. The 6 scrapbooks were the compilation of newspaper clippings collected into localized scrapbooks by members of the community. The Metcalfe Women's Institute held their own version of the "Antique Road Show" in the Museum in February.

The March monthly meeting featured Jonathan Moore, an archaeologist with Parks Canada who gave a presentation on several underwater sites along the Rideau River. We also participated in Gene-o-rama at the O.G.S marketplace in March.

April's monthly meeting featured Margot Dixon, dressmaker at Upper Canada Village speaking on period costume. On April 17th at the Collections Committee meeting, the Curator from Brockville Museum shared her experience with collections management.

May was a full month in terms of programs. The monthly meeting featured Paul Catling with a slide show and presentation of "Invasive Plants of Ontario." The Spring Hill Cemetery Project was begun. OTHS volunteers participated in the City of Ottawa's "Open Doors". On Saturday May 31st the Curator's first annual "Airing of the Quilts" - an open doors presentation of our collection of quilts.

June's meeting moved to the Greely Community Centre for the result of Dr David Gray's research of the Adolphus Greely Expedition. We participated in the annual Vernon Garage Sale on June 14th and a display at Metcalfe Farmer's Market on June 28th was part of the Market's pioneer day theme.

We had Pioneer Day in July with a good turnout for our Strawberry Social, country music and many agricultural displays and antique car show.. There also was an organized activity for children. In August, we again displayed at the Metcalfe Farmers Market and again at the Ottawa-Carleton Ploughing Match at Kars.

In September, we learned that budget cutbacks are inevitable from C.H.I.N representative Gilles Seguin. These cutbacks will reflect the number of projects and programs in the coming year. The December meeting was held on a Saturday afternoon and Alexandra de Quimper of Limoge spoke of her involvement with the Grant Cemetery.

New additions to the museum and grounds include a new filtering system to the furnace, installation of an underground cable to light up our sign and provide electricity for outdoor ceremonies. On ongoing main museum painting project is underway. Staff and volunteers have gotten well underway and completion will be when ex-board member Jim Bowman can fit it in. Future plans include extra badly needed storage.

OTHs is very appreciative of the financial and maintenance assistance provided by the City of Ottawa. It is hoped that the same level of help will continue in the future. I would like to thank City of Ottawa Ward 20 Councillor Doug Thompson for his continued interest and support.

Ron Isaac



MICHAEL DALEY

We regret the resignation of our Newsletter editor, Michael Daley. Michael feels that time has come for him to take on less duties and hours in the Historical Society. His presence and expertise will be missed by many. Michael feels 18 years as Newsletter editor has gone by all too quickly and warned us last year that time was coming when he would not continue either as director or editor.

Michael was an charter member when the Historical Society was formed in 1973, though he's quick to point out that he didn't attend until the 3rd meeting. He was president for six years and several terms as vice president and a director for the past 30 years. He has contributed innumerable articles to the 21 volumes of "Pioneer Families" publication and encouraged many others to record theirs and contribute them for publication. He was one of the originators of these publications numbering 210 families with Osgoode Township origins. He has co-authored a number of publications, and is currently working on 150th Anniversary of St John's & St Brigid's.

His community work includes - historian of St Johns and St Brigids Parish, 5 years with the County Milk Committee, 25 years with the Grenville Mutual Insurance Board where he was 2 terms as president. Michael still operates a farm, the milking herd has been replaced by beef cattle.

Michael and his wife Betty live on their farm near Enniskerry where the Daley name has been prominent for 172 years. Michael was born and raised on the original Daley land holding, the fifth generation first settled by his great-great-grandparents Michael Daley and Elizabeth McGuire in 1831. His father Thomas and Mary Ida (Leahy) raised their seven children on the same farm. There was a log house at first, the second house, a frame house that was begun in 1860-70's has little resembles it in its present form. It was home to Michael and Betty's 10 children.

The Daleys have always been active in their community. In the later part of the 80's the Daleys received a certificate of appreciation for service to their church, St John's, Enniskerry. Throughout the years Mike has been warden, parish council member, building committee chairman overseeing renovations and assisting with parish bingo.

Michael will continue to contribute articles, tapping into his own archives. We hope long to continue his association with us.



Ann Leighton-Kyle

settler there. [Any information would be greatly appreciated.]

Connie Dixon

conrob@telusplanet.net

Good late afternoon! I am wanting to know if there was a Schofield Family living in Osgoode Township around 1890-1900. I have a relative - Sarah Cowan - who married Lane Schofield.

Eldon Green

tenaga@tampabay.rr.com

Looking for information on the William Doctor family.

William Doctor was originally from Scotland and his wife Sarah Warden from Ireland. They had four children: William Junior, *b. c. 1834*, Katherine, *b. 1838*, Matilda, *b. 1838*, and Amelia, *b. 1858*. The family farmed the W 1/2 of Lot 20, Concession 8. William Doctor died December 24, 1874 at the age of 74, and Sarah Warden died October 15, 1861. They are buried in the Union Cemetery, Metcalfe.

A note of interest is that seven years after the first settlers arrived in Osgoode, the trustees of the Methodist congregation signed an agreement with William Doctor and his wife Sarah to purchase 3 rods of land (approx. 3/4 of an acre) for use as the site of a chapel and burying ground. The land was purchased by the Methodist Church on March 27, 1834 (From the O.T.H.S. files)

Any additional information anyone can provide would be greatly appreciated.

Brian Doctor

doctorbf@shaw.ca

They're Big...and they're Big News!

The Osgoode Township Historical Society is pleased to announce that now have the following cemetery recordings available for sale.

St John's Roman Catholic Church, Enniskerry:

Updated in 2002 by Nancy and Maureen McEvoy Available in print for \$8.00 per copy in-house, or \$11.00 by mail. We also have photos of each gravestone in the cemetery. These are available for \$5.00 each if printed on bond paper and \$7.00 each on photo quality paper. If sent to you by e-mail, the cost is \$4.00.

Ste Brigid's Roman Catholic Mission, River Road:

Updated in 2002 by Nancy and Maureen McEvoy Available in print for \$8.50 per copy in-house, or \$11.50 by mail We also have photos of each gravestone in the cemetery. Cost of purchasing a photo is described above.

Springhill Cemetery:

Updated in 2003 by Nancy McEvoy, Maureen McEvoy and Alec Ball Special funding was received for this publication from the City of Ottawa, Heritage Development Branch. Available in print for \$25.00 per copy in-house, or \$33.00 by mail. Our first printings of these revised editions are selling quickly, so don't wait too long to order your copy.

Please note that prices quoted are in Canadian \$ if mailing within Canada, and in U.S. \$ if mailing outside to the United States or overseas.

ARCHIVIST/CURATOR REPORT - 2003

2003 has been an extremely busy one for the Museum and Archives. This is the first year that the Museum/Archives was open to the public for a consistent period of five days per week, on a 40 hour/week schedule. This is also the first year that staff have begun to calculate and compile additional statistics depicting the number, nature, and purpose of visits, calls, etc. This is the first year that we have enjoyed hot water in our building, thanks to the services of our City of Ottawa Facilities Manager. We also received a new front door to replace a badly needed one.

IN SEARCH OF THEIR ROOTS



Hi! First, I want to say how much I enjoyed looking through the Osgoode Township Historical Society and Museum website. You have a website that you should be very proud of! I have just started researching my husband's family's roots, and am particularly interested in the Grants who lived in Osgoode. I am told that Robert Grant was the fifth

Curator/Archivist Report Cont'd

In November, 2003, the Board of Directors adopted the Osgoode Township Historical Society Five Year Strategic Plan for Fundraising.

Museum and Archive Collection:

We did acquire some new items for both the museum and the archives, but kept in mind our limited storage space. The Board of Directors adopted a Collections Policy for the Osgoode Township Historical Society. This policy and procedure document defines the types of acquisitions the OTHS we can accept. A new microfilm/microfiche reader was acquired for researchers. Our collection of microfilm, will be listed in a later issue.

Outreach Activities

In March this year we gave a presentation to the Kenmore Women's Institute. We participated in the Gene-O-Rama Marketplace. In April, we gave a presentation Manordale Public School. Our regular monthly meeting in June was held at the Greely Community Centre. Guest speaker Dr. David Grey spoke to us about Adolphus Greely and his explorations at Ellesmere Island. We staffed information booths on two occasions over the summer at the Metcalfe Farmers' Market. On one of our outings there this year, we conducted a quilting demonstration and offered passers-by the opportunity to try their hand at stitching. As part of our Springhill Cemetery Project, we held an information day for the public in July. On August 31st, we displayed artifacts and our publications at the Ottawa-Carleton Plowing Match in Kars. On September 6th we demonstrated steam engines, tractors, rural telephone equipment, dairy industry supplies, one-man cross-cut saw, shingle making, clothes washing, quilting and ice cream making at the Metcalfe Farmers' Market's "Pioneer Day Theme".

As a member of the Community Museum Educators Group, our profile was raised by appearing in 1)the 2003 edition of the City of Ottawa's "Kids' Map"; 2)the 2003 edition of the Heritage Calendar of Events, prepared and distributed by CHOO/COPO. 3)Appearing in the "Community Museums: An Educators' Guide" booklet.

During the month of May, several activities were held to celebrate Museum Month. Our kick-off was a pancake breakfast held at the museum. We held an International Museum Day Open House on the 17th, and held an "Airing of the Quilts" day on the 31st. We also had representation at the International Museum Day Celebration at City Hall on May 16th.

Also in May, we had representation at the first Ottawa Heritage Fair held on May 8th at the Aberdeen Pavilion at Lansdowne Park.

Our annual Pioneer Day event in July drew large crowds who enjoyed the many displays, live entertainment and strawberry social. New to Pioneer Day this year was a "Kids' Tent" which drew in over 30 children who participated in old-fashion games, coloring contests and quizzes.

In September, we displayed artifacts and our publications at the annual British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa conference held at the National Archives.

In June, we received the visit from the grade 3 class of Greely Elementary School.

One new phenomenon hit our museum this summer. We had the visit of two groups of "museum hoppers" who booked tours with us. These are groups of retired or semi-retired individuals who get together one day a week to visit various heritage sites and museums over the summer, choosing two locations for each day.

In October, we received the Castor Valley Home School Co-Op who toured the facilities and enjoyed some hands-on demonstrations outdoors. In November, the Metcalfe Brownie Pack No. 2 visited the museum for their regularly scheduled meeting.

Staffing

We received funding from the Canadian Museum Association, Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations grant to hire a student for the summer. Several new, active volunteers were recruited during 2003. Several are assisting us from home by entering onto computer some of our most fragile textual materials, and by helping us to update some of our older publications.

We recruited two students from the local high school who were interested in meeting their 40-hour volunteer work requirement by working at the museum. One student assisted us over the summer with administrative tasks, special events, and visitors. The other student is helping us to paint the interior of the museum building.

Special Projects

The finishing touches were applied to complete the *Scrapbook History of Osgoode* project. All participants agreed that this worthwhile project was a pleasure to work on. Thanks to their efforts, we now have a unique collection of scrapbooks on the following topics: Metcalfe Village, Vernon Village, Edwards/Kenmore/Marvelville, Osgoode Village, Municipal Government, Greely Village, The Hamlets, Our Neighbours, Historical Society History, Springhill/Manotick Station

In 2003, the OTHS received funding from the Heritage Funding Program, Project Grant, from the City of Ottawa to update and release a new edition of our Springhill Cemetery recordings. Also in 2003, the Society received funding from the Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN) to produce an exhibit which will be part of the Community Memories program and which will appear on the Virtual Museum site managed by CHIN. The topic of our project is *Plain Living in Osgoode Township* and records several activities still practiced here.

We look forward to the release of some publications which are now completely out of print, most notably - *The Manotick Station Story*, *Metcalfe Village, Vernon Then and Now*, *Osgoode Yesterday and Today*.

We will continue to work with educational institutions to obtain assistance and services in our ongoing efforts to provide quality services to our growing number of visitors. We know that we are now seeing 50% more requests from the community be it in the form of a visit to the museum, a request for reference information, researchers using the facilities and groups wanting to book tours and special outings.

Michelle Lachance

** Note - Michelle has resigned as Curator/Archivist at the Museum but plans to continue some of her projects and ideas as a volunteer. Michelle was great in securing grants and keeping the ball rolling. She was our main communicator with the City of Ottawa and the museum community there. She kept us on our toes with fundraising needs and formation of important committees. Her year-end report was edited to fit these pages. We wish her well in her new endeavors.*

HERITAGE PRAYER (FATHER GOD)

We keep forgetting all those who lived before us.
We keep forgetting those who lived and worked in the community
We keep forgetting what our forefathers have done for us.
We drink from wells we did not find
We eat food from farmlands we did not develop
We enjoy freedom we have not earned
We worship in churches which we did not establish
This day, make us grateful for our heritage.

Author unknown

A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST - FARM ROUTINE

The following lines are presented as they were written by Michael P. Dewan as he takes us back to the years of his youth in Osgoode Township

DIVERSIONS

The established farm routine of the seasons was not without diversions. Some of these were amusing or annoying. Others were both. If livestock numbers were to be maintained sows and cows must be bred. My father, being of an independent nature, kept his own sires. Now and then a neighbour brought an animal to be mated.

One fall, just prior to the breeding season for producing spring litters, dad purchased a very well-bred boar. The news got around and sows were brought in large numbers. Dad announced to us "I'm going to charge fifty cents." He did not indicate his motive, whether it was to make some easy money or to discourage patronage. For some days patrons pretended to be unaware of the new regulation but as they began to admit awareness a few paid but many found excuses. One sow owner about to depart shoved his hand into his pocket and said, "Damn it Jack I have no change, never do carry any money in me old pants. Will see you at the threshing on Tuesday." No doubt he saw but chose to forget. In all, dad collected only seven dollars and fifty cents. Though his levy was a financial failure, it did reduce interruptions.

A near relative, who lived on the farm directly west of us, was in the habit of bringing a cow across the fields now and then. He usually arrived just as we finished morning milking our cows in the open. In a few minutes he was accommodated and was gone. Our schedule was not upset.

One morning he did cause unnecessary disturbance for either we were running late or he arrived early. All was serene in our herd; the bull was lying quietly in one corner of the yard. Eight cows were yet to be milked four of these by the women folk. Upon seeing a strange animal our herd was curious and on the move. The bull promptly jumped to his feet and with expanded nostrils welcomed the new arrival. The women, presuming that they were never to be seen in the presence of such goings-on vamoosed for the house.

When the pair had left we had to finish the milking and alone. We were late for breakfast and for the daily schedule. Personally, I had to deliver the milk to the factory before I ate. Jimmy Doyle was putting up a shed for us. He lived near the factory and he was all upset if I did not get him back with me to commence work at seven o'clock. As you observe from this episode, there was ever an effort to be considerate of your neighbours but sometimes you did accommodate with much inconvenience to yourself.

Submitted by Michael Daley

Ottawa Citizen - 150th Anniversary (Dec 31, 1994) (submitted by Harvey Linton) **A CENTURY AND A HALF - Covering Ottawa since 1845 has been quite a story.**

"Sometime in early 1845 in the boisterous, filthy, wildly hopeful community of Bytown, Canada West there appeared the first issue of a weekly newspaper. 'We're still at it.'"

The Great Fire of April 27, 1900

"A spark in Hull started the great conflagration and didn't stop until it had consumed most of Ottawa's west end. It was about 12 o'clock when the tongues of flame leaped from Hull across the river and ignited the lumber

piles at the end of Victoria Island."

For several hours the fire demon cavorted, leaped and crackled in his mad glee and what previously had been a scene of bustling business activity and happy life was transformed into a desert of blackened ruins and abject misery."

"The burned area in Ottawa covers a district extending from the Chaudiere to the St Louis Dam or what is better known as Dow's Lake. The easterly boundary took a zig-zag course sweeping over the flats to Pooley's bridge, thence along the waterworks aqueduct crossing Wellington Street and along Hill street to the hill at the foot of Marla Street."

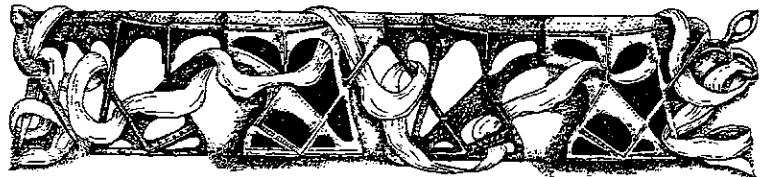
"In the Rochester district south of Albert st the fire broke out in the neighbourhood of the Victoria brewery and rapidly worked up Rochester st forcing its way against the heavy wind engulfing the whole section of east of Division St."

"Three fifths of Hull lies in ashes. To add to the confusion a force of brawling shantymen appeared on the scene looting the stores along Britannia and Alma streets and carousing in different hotels, some of which were actually burning over their heads. The fire was a fierce one and worked steadily against as well as with the wind."

"Mr Booth was undoubtedly the heaviest looser. His offices and millions of feet of lumber have been destroyed. His magnificent home on Preston is also a mass of ruins."

Before the ashes had cooled a ladies committee joined the local and foreign benefactors to come to the aid of the stricken. The committee headed by Her Excellency the Countess of Minto and Lady Laurier, distributed food and clothing at the Drill Hall on Cartier Square and at other temporary depots. Food and clothing for Hull was sent across the river by boat because the Chaudiere Bridge had burned. The Ottawa & Hull Relief Fund which totalled just over \$950,000 (from home and abroad) was disbursed to 3,051 claimants by year end of Dec. 1900. By 1912, the Ottawa Journal said "It was the only big fire fund that caused neither scandal nor reproach and whose administration was universally praised."

Compiled by Ann Leighton-Kyle



OSGOODE TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

Published quarterly at the Museum in Vernon.
Objective is to promote, preserve and publicize history in the Township of Osgoode and to foster genealogical research. Museum & archives are free admission.

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SITES OF INTEREST

United Empire Loyalists - Pioneers of Upper Canada:
www.familysearch.org

The Haldimand Papers
<http://www.tbaytel.net/bmartin/quinte.htm>

Military Personnel Who Died in WWI and WWII from the
British Commonwealth, surname searchable
<http://www.cwgc.org/cwgcinternet/search.aspx>

Requests for Marriage or Death Certificates; Form
#11075
<http://www.cbs.gov.on.ca/mcbs/english/pdf/53KT69.pdf>

Marriage and Birth Certificates - Ministry of Consumer
and Business Services website
<http://www.cbs.gov.on.ca/mcbs/english/marriages.htm>

Name search Loyalists land grants
freepages.genealogy.roots...elist.html
Canadian Family Genealogy Centre
www.genealogy.gc.ca/index.htm

Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints
www.familysearch.org

National Archives of Canada
www.archives.ca/02/0201_e.htm

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

February 21, 2004 - Heritage Day Open House.
Speaker was Audrey Renton of Kars spoke on
"Collecting Military History." Audrey shared humorous
tidbits about her life as a WAAF (Womens Air Force
Auxiliary) while stationed at RAF Base Millon, England
during the Second World War.

March 2nd, 2004 - regular monthly meeting

March 6th - Seminar offered on "Introduction to Family
History" sponsored by Vernon Women's Institute and
B.I.F.H.S.G.O. Leader/presenter John Reid. 10:00 to
3:00 with lunch provided for \$25.00. Limited enrollment.

April 6 - Monthly meeting. Speaker will be Jack Vander
Berg, Director of Heritage Conservation on Restoration
of WWI memorials in France and Belgium. Topic will be
concentrated on the Vimy Ridge Memorial. Beginning at
8:00 p.m. Everyone welcome - refreshments served.

All monthly meetings are on the first Tuesday of each
month at the Museum of the Historical Society in Vernon
(corner of Bank and Lawrence Streets) at 8:00 unless
advance notice given.

Memberships are due for 2004: \$15.00 entitles member
to 4 Newsletters a year. Non residents please remit in
Canadian funds.

Troubles ahead.....Proposed budget cuts...

The City of Ottawa, in an attempt to ward off a
property tax increase, among other drastic
across-the-board restraints, is to close some city-owned
museums and eliminate funding to other museums
including OTHS! This museum relies heavily on city
grants to keep our doors open. At the present time,
our volunteer base, our fund raising, our donations, and

the monies received from the sale of membership and
OTHS publications are inadequate to carry on the level
of service we have been able to provide since Osgoode
Township amalgamated with Ottawa in the year 2000.
As a result of receiving grant money from the city, we
are able to access other funding from provincial and
federal heritage sources as well as businesses such as
Bell Canada.

We have had to cut our hours of operation back
from 40 hours per week to 30 hours. Since the
resignation of our Curator/Archivist with the help of a
part-timer and volunteers, we are attempting to keep the
museum open from 10 to 4 p.m. from Tuesday through
Saturday until the finalization of budget deliberations. At
that time, funding permitted, we will search for a
replacement for the Curator/Archivist position.

Continuing down memory lane

a reminder that Osgoode Township High School, in
Metcalf, Ontario is celebrating its 50th Anniversary by
holding a colossal reunion for all former students,
staff, spouses, significant others, and friends. Please
mark Friday, May 14, Saturday, May 15, and Sunday,
May 16 on your calendars. There will be displays of
High School memorabilia, dining, dancing, socializing
and more socializing. All of this excitement will take
place at the high school on the 8th Line Road, Metcalf,
or across the road from the Larry Robinson Arena.
(Maybe Larry will show up himself). For further
information, and a registration form, please check the
reunion website at www.othsreunion.ca or just "Google"
Osgoode Township High School. Nelda Isaac, OTHS
Graduating Class 1960, is in charge of the memorabilia
display in the Decades Rooms at the high school. If you
have anything - pictures, artifacts, etc., please get in
touch with Nelda at (613) 821-2075, Fax (613)
821-9815, E-mail isaacr@achilles.net

Irish Night

On March 13, 2004 at St. John's Church Hall, Inniskerry
there will be an evening of Irish music, story telling and
perhaps a jig or two. For more info contact Michael
Daley at (613)821-2054.

Doors Open

OTHS is once again participating in Doors Open Ottawa
10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, June 5th and Sunday
June 6th. For this weekend, close to one hundred
buildings in Ottawa are opening their doors to the
public. A complete list will be in the Ottawa Citizen and
LeDroit on May 22. OTHS staff and volunteers will be at
the museum in Vernon and at the former Township of
Osgoode Town Hall in Metcalf to give tours and
answer questions.

Pioneer Day

The Society will sponsor Pioneer Days on July 31st on
the museum grounds with theme of Transportation in
Osgoode Township. Those activities will be part of this
year annual celebration of our past. Special displays will
include a history of the railways, the stage lines, antique
cars, trucks and tractors. Pioneer children's activities
will be part of this celebration of our past. Anyone
having any involvement in, or information about, or
photographs of, or in possession of actual artifacts
connected with transportation, please contact the
museum at (613) 821- 4062 or myself at ((613)821-
2075.

Happy memories!

Ron Isaac, President OTHS and Museum

