



Historically Speaking

The Newsletter of the Cobourg and
District Historical Society

April 2014 — Issue 265

Skeletons in the Closet

Do you have an illustrious ancestor? Or perhaps a familial connection to a major historical event? Or a family story that smacks of intrigue and adventure? We invite you to share these stories at our April meeting, where the theme will be “Stories, Scandals, and Skeletons in the Closet”. Members are invited to share interesting family stories, and are encouraged to bring along pictures, objects, etc. to help illustrate juicy family histories! There is no need to sign up in advance but we do ask that you prepare to keep your presentation to approximately 5 minutes in length.

The April meeting is our Annual General Meeting and will include the election of officers for our coming fiscal year. Only members in good standing will be able to vote but everyone is welcome to attend.

Join us on Tuesday, April 22th, at 7:30pm in Victoria Hall’s Citizens’ Forum to learn more about the secrets of our members. Doors open at 7:00 PM and the meeting begins at 7:30 PM. Coffee and cookies will be available before the meeting. All are welcome, so bring a friend!

Anyone who would like a ride to the meeting or is willing to drive others should contact Elaine Rosetter-Saunders at 905-372-5958.

Our Previous Meeting

Certo to Kraft: Almost a Hundred Years of Food Manufacturing in Cobourg

Judith Goulin, a very active member of the Cobourg and District Historical Society, presented an informative and entertaining history of Kraft Foods and predecessors in Cobourg.



Relying on original documents and interviews with numerous former employees Judith was



able to answer a variety of questions including “What is the



strange building on Ontario Street just north of the tracks?”, “What product started food processing in Cobourg?”, “Were blind taste testers really blind?”, “What is pectin?”, “Did Kraft have taste testers for dog food?” and many more.

For almost one hundred years Kraft Foods played an important role in the history of Cobourg but unfortunately is now gone forever.

Future Meeting

April is the end of our fiscal year and the last meeting until September. However we have an exciting trip planned for Tuesday, June 3rd. We will visit the Peterborough Museum and Archives and enjoy a Lift Lock Cruise in the Peterborough area. Join us to celebrate the beginning of summer with a day trip to Peterborough!

When

Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 8:30am

Where

Meet at the Commuter Lot on Burnham St. North, just north of Highway 401 on the west side of the road. We will be arranging carpool groups and driving to Peterborough.

What

Enjoy a scenic day out on the water as we take a cruise along the Trent-Severn Waterway and through the famous lift lock. A delicious lunch will be served on board. Following the cruise, we will be touring the Peterborough Museum and Archives. The featured exhibition is "Stories of Sacrifice" and includes artifacts, images and archival material that chronicles the Great War and its impact on Peterborough.

Tickets

Tickets are for sale in advance for \$35 each. They will be available at the April 22 meeting and we encourage you to purchase them early to avoid disappointment. After April 22, tickets can be purchased by contacting CDHS President Ken Strauss at (905)377-9854 or email to ken.strauss@pebblebeach.ca. The final date to purchase your ticket is Thursday May 8.

Other Details

- If you are not able to drive to the meeting place at the Commuter Lot, please let us know when you purchase your ticket. We will arrange for a pick up for you.
- Please bring some change for parking (\$1/hr), as we will be required to pay a few dollars to park before embarking on the Liftlock Cruise. Parking at the Peterborough Museum and Archives is free.
- Admission to the Peterborough Museum and Archives is by donation, so please donate what you are comfortable with.

It's Time to Say Goodbye

Jim Sandham and Emma Gregg have been members of CDHS for 17 years. It was the lure of sailing on Lake Ontario that brought them to Cobourg, but the lure of family is taking them away.

Jim and Emma have made many friends here, through their involvement in many other groups besides the Cobourg and District Historical Society: Cobourg Yacht Club, Lakeshore Genealogical Society and Probus Club of Cobourg and District, to name a few. In recent years, new interests have overshadowed CDHS and sometimes meeting nights conflicted. For both of them, genealogy became a new passion and Emma is intrigued with quilting. So much to do in Cobourg, so little time...

Jim served as Treasurer for three years in our historical society. This month Jim and Emma are moving to Calgary where Emma's children and grandchildren live. It's regrettable when anyone leaves Cobourg, especially when they are such lovely people.

Your friends in CDHS will miss you. Jim and Emma we wish you well in your new home.

Membership Matters

Membership Renewal

All memberships not yet renewed are past due. Please mail your membership renewal form (included in the last newsletter) to Alma Draper, 10 Madison Street, Cobourg, ON, K9A 5R2 or pay Alma at the April meeting.

Newsletter Delivery

Carla Jones would appreciate hearing from anyone who is willing to assist with delivering our newsletters. If you might be willing to help please contact Carla at cgrucelajones@gmail.com or (289) 252-1684 for details of what is required.

New Ideas for CDHS

We especially need new members to assist with the Programme Committee so that we can continue to offer fine speakers; we need new people with fresh ideas. If you are interested in making CDHS a better organization please speak with any member of the Executive about the responsibilities of various positions on the Executive.

Everyday Hero

GO! Magazine, produced by Northumberland Today newspaper, recently honoured our Membership Chairperson, Alma Draper, as an "Everyday Hero". Alma and her husband John moved to Cobourg in 2002 and quickly became valuable assets to the community. Among the Drapers' civic activities are the Vintage Film Festival, the Northumberland's Biggest Coffee Morning which raises money for the Northumberland Hills Hospital, the Big Brothers Big Sisters Garden Tour and many others. Read the full details in the *GO! Spring 2014* issue which is available at the Tourism Kiosk and other locations around town.

Thanks!



A heartfelt **THANK YOU** goes to Leona Woods who has provided treats and coffee for our meetings this year. Her delicious home baking has been a wonderful addition to our Tuesday evenings!

Announcements

Small Town Radio

Small Town Radio is looking for programs created by local community personalities and groups, and the CDHS is very interested in participating. This is a great opportunity we have to present Northumberland's history in a fun way. Contact Carla Jones at (289)252-1684 or email cgrucelajones@gmail.com if you would like to participate in bringing our history to the air.

Northumberland
89.7FM
SmallTownRadio



Old Battles Continue

The CDCI West Re-enacting Club will host native culture and War of 1812 workshops for 600 Grade 7 students between 7 am and 4 pm. There will also be native dancing and music and a re-enactment of a battle of the War of 1812. The event will be in James Cockburn Park off Elgin Street in Cobourg. This is the park that has also been a recent battlefield for canine enthusiasts.

Lakeshore Genealogical Society

The Lakeshore Genealogical Society will meet on Thursday, May 8, in the HTM Room of the Cobourg Community Centre, 750 D'Arcy St, Cobourg, at 6:30. The topic will be "Puzzles and Mysteries and How-To's". The meeting will provide an opportunity to attack your brick walls and challenges with help from the membership. You will discover alternative techniques and lines of inquiry.

Ancestry, FindMyPast, MyHeritage and others will be available online together with the collective wisdom and experience of the whole group. Please send your issue in advance to Carol Evans (cme.ue@cogeco.ca) so that the meeting can be better structured. That does not preclude other questions being raised, time permitting. Visitors welcome.

Port Hope Heritage Fair

The Port Hope and District Historical Society will hold a Heritage Fair on Sunday, May 4 at the Port Hope Lions Recreation Centre on Thomas Street, Port Hope.

Hamilton Township Bus Tour

The Hamilton Township Heritage Committee has organized a bus tour for Saturday April 26th. The tour will visit the Mallory House and other nearby attractions in Prince Edward County to view the Mallory House and other nearby historical attractions including an early New England-style house, a restored 1823 Church, and a Regency cottage. The Mallory House, originally built in Hamilton Township in the 1810s, was dismantled board by board and rebuilt in Prince Edward County. The bus tour is \$75 including transportation, commentary and a box lunch.

Tickets are available at the Hamilton Township office. For additional information contact the Hamilton Township office at (905)342-2810, Les Houston at (905)342-3794 or Tom Cruickshank at (905)342-9093.

Cobourg Museum Foundation AGM

The Cobourg Museum Foundation AGM, originally planned for March 12th, was cancelled due to a snow storm. The AGM has been rescheduled for May 7 in the Northumberland Room at the Best Western Motel. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the business part of the meeting will run from 7:00 to 7:30.

Beginning at 7:45, Chris Robins will describe the concept of the citizen-soldier and the development of the early militia up until 1837. Legion member Ben Burd will then pick up the story by describing the development of local military units and their engagements through to the formation of the Royal Canadian Legion in the 1920s.

All are welcome but only paid-up members will be able to vote during the business session. For more information contact Keith Oliver at (905)377-0107.

Quinte Branch of the ACO

On Sunday April 20th at 2:00pm the Quinte Branch of the ACO will host Tom Cruickshank as their guest speaker. The meeting will be held at Books & Co., located at 289 Main St, 2nd Floor in Picton. Over the past 30 years, Tom has been involved in the publishing of some of Canada's best known magazines including "Century Homes", "Harrowsmith Country Life" and the "Harrowsmith Truly Canadian Almanac". He has also authored six books on Ontario historic houses and buildings.

For additional information contact David Bentley at (613)968-7605

Peterborough Museum and Archives

The Peterborough Museum and Archives is featuring a new exhibition: "Stories of Sacrifice: Peterborough Remembers World War One". This exhibition celebrates the 100th anniversary of World War One and inspires us to reflect on the experiences and contributions of the people of Peterborough and the impact of the war on the community. It features local artifacts, photographs from the Peterborough Museum and Archives collection. The exhibition is open to the public from March 30 to June 8 at 300 Hunter Street East. Phone (705)743-5180 for further information or visit their website at <http://www.peterboroughmuseumandarchives.ca/>

Websites

There are many websites with great Cobourg-related historical material. Visit any of the following:

Cobourg Museum Foundation: northumberlandheritage.ca

Snippets of Cobourg history and current happenings: www.hardscrabble.ca

Cobourg History: www.cobourghistory.ca/

Ontario cemetery records: ocfa.islandnet.com/

History of Great Lakes travel: www.maritimehistoryofthegreatlakes.ca/

Cobourg and Peterborough Railway: www.harwoodmuseum.ca

Cobourg area heritage resources: <http://www.cobourg.ca/links1.html>

Architectural Conservancy of Ontario: <http://www.arconserv.ca/>

1878 Northumberland County Atlas in Google Earth:

<http://www.lakeshoregenealogicalsociety.ca/history-area/maps/northumberland1878>

CDHS Executive for 2013 – 2014

President	Ken Strauss	ken.strauss@sympatico.ca (905) 377-9854
Vice-President	Judith Goulin	jgoulin@hotmail.com (905) 372-7684
Secretary	Carla Jones	cgrucelajones@gmail.com (289) 252-1684
Treasurer	Marilyn Harris	robertharris7456@gmail.com (905) 373-7024
Membership	Alma Draper	adraper8@cogeco.ca (905) 372-5839
Programme	Alison Torrie	alisontorrie@gmail.com (905) 269-8094
Member-at-Large	Leona Woods	leonawoods@sympatico.ca (905) 372-7624
Newsletter Editor	Ken Strauss	ken.strauss@sympatico.ca (905) 377-9854