
Waterloo Historical Society Newsletter



January 2015

Editor: Marion Roes 519 883-1448 & mlroes@sympatico.ca

Meetings

Members and non members are welcome at WHS meetings. There is no admission charge. **Doors open 30 minutes before the meeting start time** for you to see displays, browse the book table and network. For more meeting information, contact rychmills@golden.net & 519 742-4990.

Saturday, March 21 at 1:30
Kingsdale Community Centre

Main floor gym / meeting hall
72 Wilson Avenue, Kitchener

Joanna Rickert-Hall is our guest speaker. She is a local historian and researcher who is the weekend co-ordinator at Joseph Schneider Haus, acting curator of the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless National Historic Site in St. George and also teaches and lectures on local Waterloo Region history at Conestoga College and Wilfrid Laurier University. Her topic is: "Letters to Christian Eby." Christian Eby, although a product of a traditional 19th-century Mennonite upbringing and the grandson of pioneer Bishop Benjamin Eby, was himself a man of many contrasts. Renowned locally and beyond as a market gardener who used innovative technology to grow exotic fruits and vegetables, he attended a traditional Mennonite church and openly practised a controversial healing tradition called *charming* or "Pow-wow" (that has often been attributed, then and now, with the practice of witchcraft). Through her examination of hundreds of letters from his clients (many of whom were fellow Mennonites) Joanna has come to realize that they didn't care about the controversy and that many believed in Eby's ability to perform healing acts that were beyond the scope of medical science of the time. Joanna will introduce us to the man behind the superstition and will discuss the relationship between Eby and his clients by examining the correspondence between them, as she compares conventional 19th-century medical practices with the folk beliefs and remedies of charming.

Saturday, May 23 at 1:30
Knox's Galt Presbyterian Church

Friendship Room, 2nd floor, elevator accessible
2 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge

David Menary, Cambridge-Galt researcher and columnist, author of *Terrier Town: Summer of 49* and *The River and the Railroad* is our guest speaker. His most recent publication, *Frederick Douglass in Galt* provides the source for his presentation. Just three years before the American Civil War, one of the continent's best-known ex-slaves, Frederick Douglass, visited Galt to give a talk during the community's winter lecture series. It was a memorable evening, although it didn't turn out as expected... He lectured the next night at the town hall in nearby Ayr.

The 2014 WHS annual volume will be distributed free to current 2015 members at this meeting as well.

Parking is off Salisbury Street between Grand Avenue and George Street.

Meeting details – and more – are on the WHS web site and Facebook page
The Book Table inventory is updated regularly on the web site – check it regularly
www.whs.ca and www.whs.ca/booktable

Happenings in the Grace Schmidt Room (GSR)

If you haven't been to visit the new Central Library and Grace Schmidt Room, please do drop by! The large 1861 Tremaine map will return to the GSR in early 2015.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the **KPL Genealogy Fair** being held on **Saturday April 25** at the Central Library. The WHS and the Grace Schmidt Room will be there! Lynn Palermo, the Armchair Genealogist is the keynote speaker.

As I mentioned previously, the archival collection is back, but we are still organizing the storage area. If you would like access to anything in the archival collection, please give me at least **48 hours' notice** for the retrieval so the item can be pulled for you.

An update on the newspapers – we are in the process of returning selected newspapers from off-site storage in early 2015. All available newspapers in the GSR will be noted on <http://www.kpl.org/ref/gsr/newspapers.html> so check back often to see what has been returned to the Library.

Since my last report, the Society has received the following donations:

- A journal containing minutes, dated 14 Apr 1910 to 6 June 1910, of a "Regiment Committee" chaired by W. H. Schmalz, and a menu for Mess Dinner held for Mr. James P. Lee, by Lt-Col. Acheson and officers of the 29th Waterloo Battalion, 30 Nov 1899.
- Women's Institute minute books - Bloomingdale 1949-2009, Hespeler 1906-1911 (photocopy), St. Jacobs 1968-1998, Bridgeport 1946-2012, North Waterloo District 1965-1967 and 1983-2003; Tweedsmuir histories for St. Jacobs, and Bridgeport (12 vols), and a Daily Register from SS (school section) NO. 9 Woolwich, 1934-1939.
- A copy of "Blessing and Dedication of the new St. Mary's School, Sunday, October 2, 1966."
- A copy of "The Beaver" (Autumn 1976).
- *Sideroads* magazines 2011-2014, Elmira Maple Syrup Festival Guides 1966, 1968, 2012 and 2014; 100th anniversary program for the Elmira Fire Department, 1908-2008; and a copy of a "New Building for St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1892."
- Collection of colour slides relating to Kitchener and Waterloo, booklets on Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate Institute history and three editions of the KCI Insight newsletter (1984, 1985 and 1986); pewter medallion of KCI for the 150th anniversary and newspaper clippings on the proposed statues in Victoria Park.
- Photographs of the Schreiter-Sandrock Funeral Home, staff and funerals, and six albums of newspaper clippings of client obituaries and news stories.
- 1936 panoramic Denton photo of Kitchener & Waterloo District Superior Stores 6th Annual Picnic, 12 Aug 1936 with partial identifications, a re-print of a 1916 photograph of the Elmira Planing Mill being rebuilt and an undated postcard showing the Conestogo River bridge in St. Jacobs, ca. 1920s.
- Copies of images received by Vernon Martin during his service in World War II from the St. Jacobs Happy Thoughts Club.
- New Dundee Union Cemetery 100th Anniversary and Decoration Day Service (Aug 10, 2014) programs.

Cheers,

Karen Ball-Pyatt, WHS Archivist

karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org

519-743-0271, ext. 252

GSR blog at <http://historicallyspeakingkitchener.wordpress.com/> and follow us on Twitter for happenings and local history news at <http://twitter.com/kplgshrhistory>

MacGregor Albert Neighbourhood / Community Association

The MacGregor Albert Neighbourhood, located in the Uptown area of the City, is now officially recognized as one of the oldest neighbourhoods in Waterloo

The MacGregor Albert Community Association has a Facebook page with photos – old and new – and activities. Sue Enns is a Neighbourhood Association member (and WHS member) who has been researching houses in this Heritage District. She sends a photo, address and a question to an e-mail group and later follows that with the results of her research. To be placed on the e-mail list, contact Sue at bellenns@rogers.com. An example is (apologies for not including the photo):

Q: *This mystery photo was taken sometime between 1889 and 1907. What an attractive town Waterloo was at that time with its gas lanterns, mature trees and the tram tracks. Note the Zimmermann House Hotel (early Waterloo Hotel), Keil Cigars and Hilliard and Morlock Grocers. One of these names is of particular interest to the MACA neighbourhood. Does anyone know which one?*

A: The photo of Uptown Waterloo taken at the turn of the century showed four names, one being of particular interest to our neighbourhood: Zimmermann, Keil, Hilliard and Morlock. Initially I thought there was only one – Keil. But the past week has revealed strong neighbourhood connections with the Zimmermann family, which I will deal with at a later date. Frederick Keil (1864-1925) was married to Emma Koehler (1866-1944). While Frederick ran his Cigar Shop and Factory in the town of Waterloo they were living at their home at #16 Cedar (Bridgeport) St., just opposite and up the hill from what was once prominent St. John's Lutheran Church. It would have had a prominent position, just across from the grand Snider House at #59 Albert Street, which was once occupied by William Snider, the owner of Union Mills and son of Elias and Hannah (Bingeman) Snider. The Snider house was demolished in the 1970s.

Black Bridge Community Association

A community organization to support the preservation and stewardship of the Black Bridge on the Speed River and the surrounding built and natural heritage on Blackbridge Road, Cambridge (Hespeler)

The Black Bridge Community Association also has a Facebook page, and with photos. In August 2014 the group celebrated Cambridge City Council's approval of the area to be designated as a Cultural Heritage Landscape at a council meeting earlier in the year. Regional Councilor, Jean Haalboom, Chair of the Region's Heritage Planning Advisory Committee, was one of the speakers at the neighbourhood event. She and host Tom Hetherington spoke about the landscape's beauty and cultural importance. From the nationally significant and designated Black Bridge to the surrounding built and natural heritage, Black Bridge is an excellent example of a Cultural Heritage Landscape.

[http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringTheRegion/resources/2014 Black Bridge Road Bridge compressed.pdf](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringTheRegion/resources/2014%20Black%20Bridge%20Road%20Bridge%20compressed.pdf)

Ontario Historical Society

Are you a member of the Ontario Historical Society? WHS was asked to submit posts for the OHS's new blog, "The Well." OHS members can currently access posts by WHS board members, John Glass ("Three Keys to Making an Anniversary"), and Lesley Webb, president ("Launching a New Web Site: Lessons Learned and Shared!"). Watch for another post by rynch mills at www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca.

Requests to / from Readers

WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S AD HOC ON-LINE ANNUAL VOLUME INDEXING PROJECT COMMITTEE is considering its next steps. In light of not having an indexer (see AGM report on page 9), we will discuss whether to change from indexing the volumes to scanning them – which could be a better resource. We would like two additional members for the committee; ones who have had some experience with scanning books to be placed on-line, copyright requirements, and who have time during business hours initially to contact scanning companies. The overall length of the project is expected to be approximately two years. Meeting times and places will be scheduled. If you would like more information or to apply, please contact WHS president, Lesley Webb at lesley.webb@gmail.com.

IS ANYONE ELSE RESEARCHING THESE FAMILIES? I am researching my g-g-g-grandfather and his children and would like to know if anyone else is too: Peter Myers (Meyers/Mires) b. ca. 1778 in USA and d. ca. 1866 near Campbellville. He m. Eunice Myers (ca. 1800-1886). Peter Myers stated that he entered Upper Canada as a child ca. 1790. I have Peter and Eunice living in Nassagaweya Township, Halton County from 1832 onward, but think they were either in Waterloo or Wentworth Counties previously. Three of their (perhaps six) children were Elijah Myers m. Lydia Anne Misener, Elizabeth Myers m. William Buck, and Jane Myers m. James Boyce b. ca. 1820. Jane and James are my g-g-grandparents. They may have separated ca. 1850, and James may have started another family in/near the Wentworth or Waterloo Counties area. Jane Myers Boyce re-married in 1876 to Thomas Tynan near Beverly, Wentworth. There is more information at www.JimBoyce.com.

~ James Boyce, North Vancouver, BC at jbjimboyce@gmail.com. Thank you!

DO YOU OWN A 1995 OR 1997 WATERLOO TOWNSHIP THROUGH TWO CENTURIES BY ELIZABETH BLOOMFIELD? If you do, this note is for you. The third printing in 2006 contained revisions, additions and a few corrections. A **Summary of Revisions** pamphlet with all the changes was published at the same time. If you don't have a pamphlet, please visit the WHS book table at any meeting for your free copy. If you are unable to attend meetings, you may send a request to rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990.

Edna Staebler Research Fellowship

Marion Roes, the 2014 Research Fellow, will present her report on her topic, **"All About Undertaking: Funeral Businesses and Practises in Waterloo County,"** on three occasions:

February 19, 7 pm at Joseph Schneider Haus, 466 Queen Street South, Kitchener. Seating is limited.

March 9, 7 pm in the Christie Theatre, Waterloo Region Museum, 10 Huron Road, Kitchener.

April 9, 7 pm at the monthly meeting of the Waterloo Region Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 10 Lorraine Avenue, Kitchener.

The Edna Staebler Research Fellowship is sponsored annually by the Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus and is open to anyone to apply. It is awarded for research judged to increase the knowledge and expand understanding of the cultures of the folk and founding peoples of Waterloo Region. The deadline to apply for the 2016 Fellowship will be early November 2015. Go to <http://josephschneiderhaus.com/collections-research/edna-staebler-research-fellowship/> for an application form. Copies of the Research Fellows' reports are available at Joseph Schneider Haus, 519 742-7752.

Hillary Walker Gugan is the 2015 Fellow and she will research the cultural significance, form and meaning of both folk and popular art forms particularly related to Mennonite peoples.

Condolences

We offer condolences on behalf of our members to:

Walter Hachborn and his family for the death of wife and mother, Jean (Brown) Hachborn who died on December 26. Jean and Walter have been WHS members since 1968.

Historical Happenings Calendar

Some museums are partially or wholly closed for the season. Check web sites and Facebook etc. and then plan to visit others on your list. It's a good time (anytime is a good time, actually) to visit the Grace Schmidt Room at Kitchener's Central Library to research your family, community, house, book... Thank you to all who submit events for the newsletter.

Members and non members are invited to post photographs and events on the WHS Facebook page for our followers to see and sometimes share on their own pages. If you're not sure how to do it, contact Lesley Webb, Marion Roes or John Glass.

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARIES AND GALLERIES & IDEA/EXCHANGE Queen's Square, 1 North Square

www.cambridgelibraries.ca, www.cambridgегalleries.ca, www.cambridgelibraries.ca/ie

To June, NFB Film Club, 7 pm monthly on the last Monday, 3rd floor program room at Queen's Square. Free.

March 8, She Speaks, 2-3 pm, 2nd Floor, Queen's Square. Flush Ink Productions' 8th annual staged readings of plays about women by women. Discussion follows. Proceeds from donations at the door go to Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region and The International Centre for Women Playwrights.

March 10, Author Visit with Thanh Campbell – Orphan 32, 7 pm, 2nd floor, 5 Tannery Street East, Hespeler location. Come and hear Thanh's remarkable journey of life, love and self-discovery, starting with the last flight out of Vietnam in 1975 when Operation Babylift rescued 57 war orphans. Thanh was Orphan #32.

CITY OF KITCHENER HERITAGE GRANT PROGRAM

Applications due Tuesday, March 31. Designated heritage property owners may be eligible to receive a grant for 50% of the cost of eligible projects up to a maximum of \$3000. Eligible projects include: the repair of deteriorated original elements such as doors, windows or masonry; the replacement of original elements that are beyond repair using materials, sizes and details that match the original; and, reintroduction of original elements that have been lost based on documentation of the property. Administrative Procedures, Operating Guidelines and an application form are at <http://www.kitchener.ca/en/livinginkitchener/HeritageFunding.asp>. Questions can be directed to Michelle Drake, Heritage Planner, 519-741-2200 ext. 7839 or michelle.drake@kitchener.ca.

CITY OF WATERLOO MUSEUM, Conestoga Mall, 550 King Street North www.waterloo.ca/museum Free admission

Karen VandenBrink, manager, museum and archival collections 519 885-8828

January 25, "Overtime: Portraits of Perseverance at Work" by Karl Kessler and Sunshine Chen. This is a special Sunday opening to view the exhibit, from 1:30 – 3:30. Remarks at 2 pm.

February 10 – April 24, FAKES & FORGERIES: Yesterday and Today is an interactive exhibit challenging visitors to distinguish between 115 authentic and forged artifacts, specimens and brands. Discover the fascinating length that forgers will take to hoodwink the unaware. Presented by the Royal Ontario Museum.

GRCA 18TH ANNUAL GRAND RIVER WATERSHED HERITAGE DAY WORKSHOP & CELEBRATION

February 13, 8:30 – 4. Timeline/Waterline: Grand Culture at the Confluence, about Guelph's connection to World War I and the natural and cultural history of the Speed River and the Guelph area.

At the John McCrae Royal Canadian Legion Branch, 57 Watson Parkway South, Guelph

Registration is free and due by January 30. Form and information are at www.grandriver.ca

HOMER WATSON HOUSE & GALLERY, 1754 Old Mill Road, Kitchener 519 748-4377 www.homerwatson.ca

Lunchtime lectures, monthly on the second Thursday

2015 is Watson's 160th birthday! See the web site for winter exhibits and lectures information.

KITCHENER WATERLOO CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL POST CARD CLUB (KWCRPCC) www.kwcrpcc.com

January 14 and March 4 meetings. Doors open at 6:30 to browse and/or buy; presentation at 7:30. Victoria Park Pavilion, 80 Schneider Ave., Kitchener. All welcome. Free admission. rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990

March 15, 9:30 – 4, Post Card Memories Show and Sale by the KWCRPCC – South-Central Ontario's largest post-card expo, at Bingeman's Embassy Room, 425 Bingeman Centre Drive, Kitchener. Admission \$5. Information from David Moore 519 885-3499 or stamphogg@hotmail.com . www.postcardshow.blogspot.com

LAURIER CENTRE FOR MILITARY STRATEGIC AND DISARMAMENT STUDIES Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo

Call for Papers applications are due **February 1** for the

May 8-9, 26th Annual Canadian Military History Colloquium

www.canadianmilitaryhistory.ca/events/annual-colloquium

REGION OF WATERLOO HERITAGE PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HPAC)

Pre-register and payment to be made by January 15

January 31, 8:30 – 4. Cultivating Heritage Gardens & Landscapes Workshop at the Waterloo Region Museum, 10 Huron Road, Kitchener. Contact Lindsay Benjamin at 519 575-4757, ext. 3210 or lbenjamin@regionofwaterloo.ca for cost and registration information.

WATERLOO REGION MUSEUM 10 Huron Road, Kitchener 519 744-1914 www.waterlooregionmuseum.com

January 30 to May 10, Ocean Bound! A new watershed exhibition explores the science of water sources, aquatic animals, and oceans. The interactive exhibit shows us how our actions on land affect our watersheds and oceans. Visitors can move a rain cloud over a three-dimensional terrain model that demonstrates how water cascades down mountains and collects in rivers.

February 23 at 1:30. Talk Series: The book *No Guardians At The Gate* by author Bob Burt, marks the 25th anniversary of Elmira's water crisis. Bob will talk about the events and the residents who have fought for the past 25 years to have a clean environment for their community after the soil, water and air had been contaminated by industrial chemicals. Tickets at the door or in advance: \$8 plus HST, includes admission to the exhibits.

HERITAGE SHOWCASE, February 21. See the back page.

The Imperial Restoration

By Marie Voisin

Follow Marie's blog at www.imperialnewhamburg.com and read about the restoration of The Imperial Hotel, more recently known as Edly's, in New Hamburg. Marie is a storyteller and delightfully describes – in words and photographs – the restoration progress and process, and the many artifacts and documents discovered under floors, behind walls, above ceilings and out in the open. Her blog includes the history of the building and its owners.

In Search of Promised Lands: a Religious History of Mennonites in Ontario

By Samuel J. Steiner

Sam's latest book is scheduled to be released March 9 and is Vol. 48 in the Herald Press series, Studies in Anabaptist and Mennonite History. Sam has started a blog at <http://ontariomennonitehistory.org> and plans to write weekly on the themes, surprises, and interesting people discovered along the way while writing. The complete Table of Contents comprises one of the blogs. Book launch details will be announced. Ordering information is on the blog web site. Canadian orders call 1-800-631-6535 or 519-747-5722 or email craiga@mennomedia.org or in person at the MennoMedia offices at 50 Kent Avenue, Kitchener. \$57.74 Cdn + shipping. *Congratulations, Sam!*

Kudos and Congratulations

To **Elizabeth Bloomfield**, WHS member and author of *Waterloo Township through Two Centuries*

University of Waterloo *Daily Bulletin*, October 9, 2014

Elizabeth Bloomfield will receive an Honorary Doctor of Laws on Saturday, October 25 at 10:00 a.m. and will address convocation. Bloomfield is a well-known community leader and advocate for those with autism, leading several pioneering initiatives both intellectually and organizationally over several decades to bring improvements for those with autism while giving voice and traction to this complex developmental disability. A social innovator, Bloomfield helped to form the Ontario Society for Autistic Children, now known as Autism Ontario, the Guelph Services for the Autistic and Waterloo-Wellington Autism Services, Facilitation Wellington Dufferin, and Rainbow Programmes for Young Children. She has also played a major role in the Ontario Adult Autism Support Network. Bloomfield earned her PhD in History and completed important research on autism services such as the influential report *Our Most Vulnerable Citizens*, published by the Autism Society in 1992.

To **Carolyn Blackstock** for cooking *every* day for a year from The New Galt Cook Book published in 1898 *and* blogging about each one *and* researching the cooks and their families for each recipe! www.thegaltcookbook.wordpress.com

A Very Cool Project

By Nancy Silcox

Part Two of the Silcox Magical History Tour will be in the April newsletter

WHS Annual General Meeting Reports

November 8, 2014

A year of activities and work of the WHS Board of Directors, Committees and Councilors are described in these reports. Not everyone is able to attend the Annual General Meeting – or our other meetings throughout the year – and so we present these reports in order that members may know what the Society has been doing. Your interest and support are appreciated!

Board of Directors Actions – October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014

Lesley Webb, President

Archives

- Accepted archival donations to the WHS collection and set aside funds for cataloguing
- Approved revised Guidelines for Memorial Donations and Bequests

Events

- Attended local history events with display and books for sale: German Pioneers' Day, KPL Genealogy Fair, Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation Heritage Showcase, Waterloo Region Heritage Fair, Preston's Summer Sidewalk Sale & Funfest, New Hamburg Fall Fair, Doors Open Waterloo Region

Meetings

- Held five board and council meetings recorded with minutes and reports
- Held five public meetings featuring guest speakers on local history topics

Membership

- Sent welcome letters to new members and kept memberships up to date in an electronic spreadsheet
- Enhanced membership benefits by offering 10% off used books at meetings and a membership draw at select public meetings allowing members to win a coupon for \$10 off used books

Donations / Support

- Donated \$500 to the Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund for the KPL Soldier Information Card Project in memory of Marcella Menard; Donated \$1,000 to the Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund
- Donated \$250 to the Ontario Historical Society Cemetery Defense Fund
- Wrote a letter of moral support to the Fire Hall Museum & Education Centre in its request to the City of Cambridge to include restoration funding in the 2014 budget considerations
- Wrote a letter of support for the Region of Waterloo Heritage Planning Advisory Committee's nomination of Endla Loney and Mike Loney for a Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation Award of Excellence
- Provided two copies of the book, *Waterloo Township through Two Centuries* as a prize at the Waterloo Region Heritage Fair

Publications / Publicity

- Produced, published and delivered the 101st annual volume
- Awarded Matthew Rederer (WLU), Kayleigh Fleury (WLU), and Kellie Johnston (UW) the WHS Local History Award
- Updated the web site, Facebook page, Twitter, and sent out press releases for meetings
- Made the newsletter available electronically on the website

Nominating Committee

- Approved Mandy Macfie as Membership Chair on November 26, 2013; Harold Russell as a member of the Plaques Committee on November 26, 2013; Ray Ruddy as a member of the Plaques Committee on April 1, 2014; Ray Ruddy as a Director on June 3, 2014

Plaques

- Working on a plaque for Idylwild Park in Cambridge along the Speed River
- T.H. Rieder and the Westmount neighbourhood
- Repatriated the Cherry Flour Mill / John Erb plaque which had been missing

Ad Hoc Annual Volume On-Line Indexing Project

Karen Ball-Pyatt, Chair; Lesley Webb, rych mills, Marion Roes

I regret to report that the Ad Hoc Annual Volume On-line Indexing Project Committee has terminated its relationship with the indexer contracted to complete the Waterloo Historical Society annual volume indexing project. We had been assured that the indexing project could be completed according to an agreed revised timeline with a proofed and edited final draft completion date in late March of 2014. Payment for any completed work was to be made upon receipt of the final draft product. However, none of the deadlines were met and promised drafts did not materialize. Despite repeated attempts to reach the indexer by telephone, email, regular mail and social media, between October 2013 and May 2014, we have not been able to get in touch nor has any attempt been made to contact the chair or other committee members. A registered letter informing her of the termination of our work agreement, sent May 21, 2014 to her last known address, was returned as unclaimed. It is my sincere regret that this project did not come to fruition. We had been trying to be sensitive to the indexer's health and physical recovery following her car accident by agreeing to an extended deadline. However, given the lack of communication and progress on the project, it was agreed that it would be in the best interests of the Society to move on with another plan to have the annual volumes indexed.

In conjunction with the termination, I have decided to step down as the Indexing Committee Chair and as a committee member. I will be taking on new projects and initiatives in the coming year that will demand much of my time and energy. I wish the committee and board all the best in the fulfilment of this important project.

Archives

Karen Ball-Pyatt, Archivist

The year 2014 will always stand out in my mind for many reasons. Namely, the archives of the Waterloo Historical Society moved twice within two months, were reunited with collections held in storage, and now reside in a newly renovated bright and inviting Grace Schmidt Room. 2014 also stands out for me as it has been a time of change and challenge, namely for serving customers in a smaller temporary space during Phase 2, for working with a smaller collection during construction, for working in the middle of a construction site during the two-month closure, for unpacking and setting up the GSR within three days of the May re-opening, and for managing the ongoing return of off-site archival collections. And, while living through a four-year construction project is not something that I am anxious to do again in the near future, I think that the end result has justified the wait. To the WHS board, I say thank you for your support, patience and understanding during the past year and throughout the Central Library renovation. Your dedication, trust and vision has made the GSR a new and exciting space within which to work, research and visit.

One of the highlights of this busy year has been a project which bridges the WHS and the Library – The Soldier Information Card Project. Inspired by Debbie Kroetsch of the WHS Board, this Library project was launched following the 2013 WHS AGM and has attracted 120 volunteers who have transcribed the Library's Soldier Information Card collection and are

writing biographies of soldiers for whom little is known or documented. The collection is being uploaded to Kitchener Public Library's Our Digital World site and is now featured on the Library's web site.

While the WHS' ability to collect was limited during the renovation, we were honoured to be the recipient of many wonderful donations, including:

- Tweedsmuir histories and records of the Bloomingdale, Bridgeport and St. Jacob's Women's Institutes;
- A journal containing minutes of Berlin's "Regiment Committee", chaired by W. H. Schmalz, to investigate the formation of a city military regiment, and dated from 14 Apr 1910 to 6 June 1910; and
- A collection of photographs and clippings related to the history of the Schreiter-Sandroch Funeral Home in Kitchener.

The annual call for inactive corporate records was made at the Waterloo Historical Society Board's first meeting on Tuesday November 26, 2013 following the 2013 Annual General Meeting. To date, I have received the inactive records of Board members and other miscellaneous documents. These records have been processed and transferred to the Society's corporate archives.

As we continue to organize and reintegrate the collection, I will be working on the prioritization of collections, related projects and initiatives. Despite all of the work ahead, I am glad to welcome back everyone to the GSR. It's been a long journey and it's good to be home.

Ad Hoc Newspaper Storage Committee

Karen Ball-Pyatt, Chair

The committee, composed of myself, rych mills and president Lesley Webb, met on 14 April 2014 to discuss findings regarding current newspaper archiving practices, possible collaborations and digital initiatives. We will continue to explore options for the storage of the WHS newspaper collection and will keep the board apprised of our findings.

Book Table

Sherwood Hagey and rych mills

2014 again saw continued interest at the book table. The varied selection provides hours of entertainment to patrons. New this year is a draw for a discount coupon for the book table. There were sales of over \$1000 at meetings and events, as well as from the web site and by word of mouth. This helps to defer the costs of the public meetings. WHS continues to accept book donations from members and estates. Rych's ability to add to our roster of local interest publications is an endeavour of passion that should be applauded. My continued thanks go to Marion, Jeff, John, Debbie and Lesley and other volunteers for their assistance again this year. Lastly, rych spends countless hours assembling the display and boxes of books and volumes to sell at our meetings, and listing the books on the web site, and for that I am grateful.

Communications Committee

Lesley Webb, Chair

Two of our meetings received attention in the press this year. The *Ayr News* reported on our May meeting in an article titled, "Waterloo Historical Society releases 2013 historical volume in Ayr." The History Under the Trees news release was adapted into two articles: "History Under the Trees comes to the Waterloo Region Museum on Saturday" from the July 2 edition of the *New Hamburg Independent*; and "History Under the Trees set for July 5 at Waterloo Region Museum" from

the July 3 edition of the *Waterloo Chronicle*. I hope that you were easily able to find information about our meetings from community calendars, WHS newsletters, web site and social media.

The WHS Facebook page has surpassed the 300-follower milestone. The page currently has 311 “likes,” and that is up 83 since this time last year. Much of the content is different than what’s in the newsletter or on the website. Like us at www.facebook.com/waterloohs or follow the link on our web site. The Facebook page is public so you can view it even if you don’t have a Facebook account. It is a great way to keep track of what we are doing and share local history resources, events, and announcements.

Membership Committee

Mandy Macfie, Chair

The last year has seen quite a bit of change for the Membership Committee. Last November, I formally took over duties previously held by Marion Roes, and Helga Hartman before her. We finished the year with 248 members, including 19 new members. Thank you to all of our returning and new members for being a part of WHS and for helping preserve our local history.

So, what have I done in the last year? The most important achievement was the digitization of the membership list. Needless to say, this involved quite a few hours of data entry, interpretive reading comprehension, and double checking. Some tweaks are still occurring to make the list more functional in the future, but for all intents and purposes, the membership database is complete. We will be using the database to create mailing labels for the newsletter and annual volume. For privacy’s sake, I would like to assure you that I am the only person who has access to this database.

The annual volume was delivered in late July to those members who did not pick up their volumes at the May public meeting. 173 volumes were hand delivered and only 21 were mailed to members living out of town, province, or country. The cost of postage has gone up significantly in the last year, so it goes without saying that hand delivering volumes locally is very helpful to us. So, I’d like to say a big thank you to all of our volunteer deliverers.

Newsletter

Marion Roes, Editor

The WHS newsletter is distributed widely by mail, e-mail and now it is also available on our web site. Anyone in the world can access the newsletter, Facebook page, Twitter and newsletter to read about us – all are good marketing and publicity tools. Some of the past issues have been scanned and placed on the web site. The rest will be done in a few months. It’s important to remember – and we do – that many of our members want to receive the usual paper copy and hold it to read. We are happy to continue mailing their newsletter.

I would like to say “thank you” to Mandy Macfie for taking over a job that I’ve had for about 12 years; and that is producing the mailing labels for the newsletter. It was an extra layer of work to keep matching membership records. Mandy can easily print the labels with her membership program so it’s only a bit more work for her and a lot less for me. I will continue to organize the mailing of the newsletter and I thank Mandy, Lesley Webb and Pat Bailey for helping with that. I always welcome your comments and suggestions, and appreciate contributions of articles, events, requests for information and anything related to what’s going on in your historical world. Thank you.

Nominating Committee

Marion Roes for myself, Lesley Webb and John Arndt

As part of the Nominating Committee report, I am letting you know that Lesley Webb has agreed to continue as president for another two-year term. On behalf of the board and the members, I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Lesley for her work during the last two years and for taking another term. Along with being organized and well-prepared, Lesley has brought a measure of professionalism in carrying out the president's duties. By that, I mean that WHS has benefited by having her in this leadership and public role because most of her career has been as an archivist or in related work. University courses in museum management and curatorship also gave her valuable experience and a broad view for efficiently administering the many facets of Waterloo Historical Society. Thank you, Lesley. Thank you to John and Lesley for doing most of the committee's work.

Board of Directors: The following have agreed to continue for an additional two-year term: Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt, rymills, Jeff Shank, Warren Stauch, and Lesley Webb.

Karen Ball-Pyatt is a director appointed under the agreement with the Kitchener Public Library Board. Ray Ruddy was appointed to the board at the June 3, 2014 meeting. He was introduced in the September newsletter.

Councillors: The following have agreed to continue for an additional one-year term: Rene Eby, Wilmot; Elinor Rau, Woolwich; Harold Russell, Kitchener; Diane Strickler, Woolwich; Bertha Thompson, Woolwich; Joleen Taylor, Waterloo; Nancy Maitland, Wellesley; Veronica Ross, North Dumfries; Bob Green, North Dumfries; Patty Clarke, Wilmot. New councillor: Kellie-Ann Barry, Kitchener. Welcome, Kellie-Ann!

We are looking for another councilor for Waterloo and Wellesley, and two for Cambridge.

Past President

Marion Roes

The Past President's report is short. My past president's role this year consisted of filling in for Lesley at one public meeting and answering a few questions. I updated the information for the Volunteer Service Awards and applied for them. My official term is over but the title lives on. We past presidents continue to consider ourselves – and introduce ourselves – as a WHS past president.. forever. I think it's because we appreciate being a part of a respected and recognized organization. [This wasn't given as part of the report at the AGM, but I have told Lesley that I will continue to take any duties needed as past president.]

Plaques Committee

Warren Stauch, Chair; Debbie Kroetsch, Harold Russell and Ray Ruddy

The plaques committee continues to work on three plaque projects.

John Erb Plaque - A possible location for the newly found John Erb / Cherry Flour Mill plaque is being investigated. Approvals to use the site are being looked at and discussions have been had with the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Idylwild Park - A possible location has been recognizing the site of the former Idylwild Park (1890s-early 1900s) beside a walking/biking trail along the Speed River between Preston and Hespeler. Some discussions have taken place with the GRCA to gain the necessary approvals because the location is located in the flood plain. The committee has not finalized the type of plaque that would be installed. It could be bronze or a story-board type. Ray Ruddy has plenty of photographs and information about Idylwild Park. Quotes for a story board are being obtained from the heritage planners at the Region.

Westmount Neighbourhood - Although a location has been suggested at Union Boulevard and Dunbar Road, no action has been taken.

President Lesley Webb

I have enjoyed chairing the five board and council meetings held this year where we discussed and debated continued and new opportunities for the Waterloo Historical Society. The proceedings of these meetings can be reviewed by WHS members in the approved minutes held by the secretary. The board and council represented WHS at a number of annual local heritage events such as the Heritage Showcase and Doors Open. We were encouraged to participate in the 160th New Hamburg Fall Fair for the first time by Heritage Wilmot. This offered us an opportunity to connect with a new audience out in Wilmot Township. At these events, board and council members promoted our meetings, newsletter, archives, publications, book table and annual volumes.

If you attended our last couple of meetings you will have noticed some new WHS membership benefits. The board is pleased to offer 10% off used books at meetings and a membership draw at select meetings allowing members to win a coupon for \$10 off used books. This is to thank members for their continued support and to encourage meeting attendance. For a complete list of membership benefits, please visit the membership page of our website and keep your eye out for an exciting new membership benefit to be announced in the spring.

On behalf of the board and council I wrote two letters of support for community heritage organizations. The first was a letter of moral support for the Fire Hall Museum & Education Centre (the host of our last AGM) in its request to the City of Cambridge to include restoration funding in their 2014 budget considerations. I am happy to announce that the Fire Hall Museum is currently undergoing a \$606,000 facelift to tear away the front of the building in order to reinstate its original twin arched doors. The renovation should be finished later this month so watch for its reopening. The second letter was in support of the Region of Waterloo Heritage Planning Advisory Committee's nomination of Endla Loney and Mike Loney for a Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation Award of Excellence which was awarded in June.

I was happy to represent the WHS and act as a judge at the third annual Waterloo Region Heritage Fair that took place in May at the Waterloo Region Museum. The Heritage Fair is a showcase of selected student heritage related displays from Grades 6 to 10 in participating schools in Waterloo Region. The WHS sponsors an award for the Best Use of Original Records. The winning student and his/her school each get a copy of the WHS publication, *Waterloo Township through Two Centuries* by Elizabeth Bloomfield.

I would like to thank the board and council for the work that they have done over the past year which was well represented in their reports. I would like to highlight the work of our two new directors, Mandy Macfie and Ray Ruddy. Mandy dedicated a large portion of her free time this year to converting our paper membership records to an electronic spreadsheet which will allow us to more efficiently manage memberships, print mailing labels for newsletters, and the annual volume. The plaques committee has been working on locating missing WHS plaques. Ray was persistent in locating the John Erb / Cherry Flour Mill plaque and it paid off in May when he gained possession. I hope that you will join us in the rededication of this plaque next year.

Programming rych mills, Co-Ordinator

Five public meetings were held by Waterloo Historical Society in 2014. In March, a well-attended event featured Waterloo collector Helmut Ostermann's fascinating presentation of K-W photographs from the 1950s through 1970s. That was at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Kitchener. The May meeting for the release of the annual volume was held in Ayr in the North Dumfries Community Centre. Welcoming WHS was the recently-formed North Dumfries Historical Preservation Society whose chair, David Pyper was just one of several speakers to outline some of the work already done by that Society in the township. July's *History Under the Trees* was a big success. Professor Adam Crerar led a discussion about the life of Peter McArthur, once one of Canada's best-known writers. A visit to his original pioneer log cabin which has been at Doon Heritage Village since the 1960s was a highlight. Many descendants of McArthur, from as far away as Ottawa, attended. September's WHS meeting was in Waterloo at the Region of Waterloo Health Unit meeting hall. The region's medical officer of health, Dr. Liana Nolan and Charlotte Woodley, regional archivist, took us through the various historical aspects of public health in the county / region. This final 2014 meeting for WHS is being held tonight in the renovated main branch of the Kitchener Public Library and symbolically re-affirms our Society's century-plus partnership with KPL. Our thanks to

the library for hosting this afternoon's AGM. I would also like to say "thank you very much" to Debbie Kroetsch and Helen and Ken Lippert for providing refreshments at all our public meetings.

Publication Committee

rych mills, Editor and Chair; Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt, Stephanie Walker and Marjorie Kohli

Again in 2014, the publication committee's work centred on the preparation and publication of the annual volume. Number 101 was released to members in May at our meeting in Ayr. The striking cover featuring the Waterloo Region Museum has brought forth much favourable comment. The committee read through the numerous articles up to seven times each to create the final work which would match the high standards we have set for the volume's contents. Other publication committee projects include the first steps in a possible republication of the Geoff Hayes' 1997 WHS publication, *Waterloo County: An Illustrated History*; and initial work has been done in off-printing the four-part Mary Tivy series on the history of WHS and Doon Pioneer Village / Waterloo Region Museum complex.

Storage Facilities

rych mills, Co-Ordinator

The Waterloo Historical Society has two storage units at Woodside Storage on Guelph Street. The second one is temporary and has been holding several hundred bound volumes of old newspapers from the towns in Waterloo County / Region. These will be returned to the new Grace Schmidt Room storage vault over the winter of 2014 / 2015. The main room holds WHS records; our supply of back issues of the annual volume; a dozen or so collections awaiting cataloguing into the WHS collection at GSR; the WHS book table items; our display materials plus assorted supplies of items such as slipcases, the WHS post cards, flyers, etc. In addition, we rent out a couple corners of our space to outside groups. The only event of any "storage unit" excitement this year was the installation of a sprinkler system throughout the entire building. This was mandated by the City of Kitchener and certainly caused a bit of anxiety at first – historical items and sprinkler systems!! We received assurance about the impossibility of accidental discharge. However, our shelves continue, as they always have been, to be sheathed in sturdy plastic sheeting.

Treasurer's Report as of September 30, 2014

Jeff Shank, Treasurer

The financial statements have been prepared for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and they have been reviewed by BDO Canada. I would like to quickly review some of the major financial activities during the past year.

- WHS had approximately \$25,000 in revenues, which was a \$10,000 decrease vs. the previous year. The decrease arose mainly because we received two significant donations in the previous year.
- We received grants totaling approximately \$5,000 from the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation and the Ontario Ministry of Culture.
- Our largest single expense was approximately \$13,400 to produce the annual volume.
- There were no anniversary projects in the current year. In the previous year WHS incurred costs of approximately \$17,000 towards celebrating our 100th anniversary, which included producing the Centennial Supplement of annual volume articles; and purchasing slip cases for re-sale, to hold annual volumes.
- We supported the Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund at the Kitchener Public Library Foundation with a \$1,500 donation, to recognize Susan's long-time commitment to both WHS and the Library, and to support the KPL Soldier Information Card Project. We encourage our members to consider a donation to the fund. We also gave a total

of \$1,500 for local history awards to three university students who, in the opinion of their professor, produced a high quality essay on a local history topic.

- WHS had a loss in the year of \$1,614. This compared to a loss of \$8,123 in the previous year, when we had approximately \$17,000 in 100th anniversary expenses.
 - WHS ended the year with approximately \$76,000 in assets and \$74,000 in equity.
-

Web Site Committee

John Glass, Chair; Lesley Webb and Marion Roes

The WHS launched its new website one year ago at our 2013 AGM in Cambridge at the Fire Hall Museum. Since then, we have been pleased with the response that the new site has received. During the past year, the site was visited 4,367 times by 3,169 unique viewers to access 11,892 pages of information. The new site allows us to update information in a timely manner, so we recommend that you regularly check www.whs.ca to find out what is happening in your Society. The web site, along with the Society's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/waterloohs) and Twitter feed (twitter.com/WaterlooHS or @waterloohs) are in place to inform members and non-members about upcoming events and to provide information that we feel may be of interest to you.

There are some upcoming changes that will make the website a bit easier to navigate and find information. We are always looking for feedback and information from our membership. If you have an idea or if you have something that you would like to see on the site or if you have content that you would like us to consider for posting (text or photos), please send us an email at whs@whs.ca or jcglass@rogers.com.

Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation (WRHF)

John Glass, WHS Representative

Incorporated in 1973, the WRHF's mandate is to promote and encourage interest in heritage and culture throughout the Waterloo Region. The Foundation is funded through an annual grant from Waterloo Region. The Foundation's 18 board members allocate funds in the form of grants to projects that meet the Foundation's mandate and include such items as: historical preservation of buildings and property, publications and projects/events. Eight of the 18 board positions are held by partner organizations, one of which is the WHS. The ten remaining board positions are filled by the general public through an election process.

I am the WHS representative on the WRHF board and serve as a member of the Allocations and Finance Committee. This committee reviews grant applications and makes recommendations to the WRHF board for funding heritage projects. This is my seventh year on the board. The maximum time a member can be on the board is eight years, so my term will end in June 2015.

In addition to funding, heritage projects, the Foundation presents awards at its AGM in June. These awards recognize individuals, institutions and organizations that contribute to heritage preservation and education in the Region. Public nominations are encouraged and the nomination forms are on the WRHF web site at www.wrhf.org.

WHS: who we are and how to reach us

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lesley Webb, president: lesley.webb@gmail.com
John Arndt, secretary: jarndt@sympatico.ca
Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt, publication committee
Karen Ball-Pyatt, archivist: karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org
John Glass, web site committee chair: jcglass@rogers.com
Sherwood Hagey, book table
Debbie Kroetsch, plaques committee
Mandy Macfie, membership committee chair:
msmacfie@gmail.com
rych mills, chair/editor publication committee:
rychmills@golden.net
Marion Roes, newsletter editor: mlroes@sympatico.ca
Ray Ruddy, plaques committee
Jeff Shank, treasurer: jeff420shank@gmail.com
Warren Stauch, plaques committee chair: mmegeo@golden.net

COUNCILORS

Cambridge: vacant
Kitchener: Harold Russell & Kellie-Ann Barrie
Waterloo: Joleen Taylor
North Dumfries Township: Veronica Ross & Bob Green
Wellesley Township: Nancy Maitland
Wilmot Township: Patty Clark & Rene Eby
Woolwich Township: Elinor Rau, Diane Strickler,
Bertha Thompson
The councilor job description is at <http://www.whs.ca/councillor-duties/>

CONTACT US

Mail memberships and donations to Waterloo Historical Society
c/o Grace Schmidt Room, 85 Queen Street North, Kitchener ON N2H 2H1
whs@whs.ca www.whs.ca
Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/waterloohs and/or WaterlooHS on Twitter

Join the WHS and other local heritage groups at

Heritage Showcase
Conestoga Mall, Waterloo
Saturday, February 21, all day

Thanks to the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation for organizing this event to “showcase” what’s going on in our community of historical societies, museums, archives, advocates, libraries, planning and advisory committees, conservation districts, educators, etc.

Waterloo Historical Society...

- ❖ Gratefully acknowledges that the Kitchener Public Library continues to keep and care for our collection and archives in the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History;
- ❖ Fosters the recognition of our region’s unique heritage and diligently encourages its preservation by documenting the history of Waterloo Region, including the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, along with the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.

Thank you...

To the Bell Canada Employee Giving Program for continuing to support the volunteer work of its retirees. A \$250 donation was given to WHS in 2014 on behalf of Marion Roes.

To Karen Ball-Pyatt, Lesley Webb, Pat Bailey, Mandy Macfie, rych mills and Sue Enns for help with this newsletter, and to all who sent requests and events.

Waterloo Historical Society Newsletter



April 2015

Editor: Marion Roes mlroes@sympatico.ca & 519 883-1448

Meetings

*Members and non members are welcome at WHS meetings. There is no admission charge (except for History Under the Trees). **Doors open 30 minutes before the meeting start time** for you to see displays, browse the Book Table and meet historical colleagues. Questions? Contact rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990*

Saturday, May 23 at 1:30
Knox's Galt Presbyterian Church

Friendship Room, 2nd floor
2 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge

David Menary, Cambridge-Galt researcher and columnist, author of *Terrier Town: Summer of 49* and *The River and the Railroad* is our guest speaker. His most recent publication, *Frederick Douglass in Galt* provides the source for his presentation. Just three years before the American Civil War, one of the continent's best-known ex-slaves, Frederick Douglass, visited Galt to give a talk during the community's winter lecture series. It was a memorable evening, although it didn't turn out as expected...

Parking is off Salisbury Street between Grand Avenue and George Street. The church is elevator accessible.

The 2014 WHS annual volume will be distributed free to current 2015 members. If you can pick up volumes for other members, it would be appreciated. Membership and volume delivery information are on the next page.

Saturday, July 4 at 1:30
Doon Heritage Village at the Waterloo Region Museum

History Under the Trees
10 Huron Road, Kitchener

Come out for an always-sunny afternoon when WHS is hosted by our friends at the Waterloo Region Museum / Doon Heritage Village. A visit to the barnyard of the Sararus Bricker farm starts our meeting. We'll learn about the heritage livestock and poultry and then we'll gather at our usual place at Jubilee Park to hear more about barnyard life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Come early and visit the exhibits or stroll around the village. Admission discount applies.

Meeting details – and more – are on the WHS web site and Facebook page
The Book Table inventory is updated regularly on the web site – check it regularly
www.whs.ca and www.whs.ca/booktable

Happenings in the Grace Schmidt Room (GSR)

It's back! The **1861 Tremaine map** is again hanging in the GSR. Come by and see it !

Mark your calendar for the **KPL Genealogy Fair** on **Saturday April 25**, 9 – 3:30 at the Central Library. The WHS and the Grace Schmidt Room will be there with a display and the WHS Book Table. Connect with experts, vendors and other genealogy enthusiasts!

Since my last report, the Society has received the following donations:

- 1 copy of the journal *Pennsylvania Folklife* (Spring 1977) featuring an article by Reg Good, entitled "Isaac Ziegler Hunsicker: Ontario Schoolmaster and Fraktur Artist" (p. 2-8) and a copy of the "Final Report of the Select Committee on Air Pollution and Smoke Control 1957," 14 Feb 1957, and several unidentified handwritten notes and copies of letters regarding the issue, dated 1960.
- Matchbook (empty) from the Royal Café, Elmira, ca. 1948.
- City of Waterloo general street map, dated 12 Oct 1991, including street name Index.
- 2 wooden nickels from 1957 commemorating Waterloo's centennial.
- Photograph album belonging to Donald Morgan Brown, dated 1939-1943.
- TD Bank colourized reprint of a sleigh at the Waterloo County Courthouse in winter.

Cheers,
Karen Ball-Pyatt, WHS Archivist
karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org
519-743-0271, ext. 252

GSR blog at <http://historicallyspeakingkitchener.wordpress.com/>
Twitter for happenings and local history news at <http://twitter.com/kplgsrhistory>

Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund

*This is included as a refresher for "older" members and information for newer members
Taken from <http://www.kpl.org/donate/localhistory.html>*

Susan Hoffman joined the staff of Kitchener Public Library in 1976 and began working with Grace Schmidt in the library's local history department. In 1984, the [Waterloo Historical Society](#) (WHS) partnered with the library to open the [Grace Schmidt Room of Local History](#) (GSR). Along with honoring Grace Schmidt, who had retired in 1980, it spoke to the high regard the local history collections enjoyed in the Region of Waterloo.

In 2006, the Waterloo Historical Society created this special fund to honour Susan J. Hoffman, in recognition of her many years of dedicated service to the Waterloo Historical Society and Kitchener Public Library.

The Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund benefits the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History. By donating to this fund you will support many local history projects and resources, such as purchasing documents, maps, books, photographs, archival storage materials; GSR furnishings and equipment; cataloguing collections projects, etc.

Call Development Manager, Ann Andrusyszyn, at 519-743-0271 ext. 278 for information and how to donate.

Membership Renewal, Benefit & Volume Delivery

Membership Renewal

Members who are current (paid for 2015) will receive their free annual volume. A reminder email was sent on March 16 to members who hadn't renewed. *For those members for whom we don't have an email address and who haven't yet renewed, a reminder notice is included with this newsletter.*

If you received that email or the reminder notice and would like to continue as a WHS member, please send in your renewal of \$30 to the address on the last page of this newsletter. If you didn't receive either, your membership is current and you will receive your annual volume when it is released!

Volume Delivery

The WHS annual volume will be released at the May public meeting. Members are encouraged to pick up their volumes and any for friends who can't attend at that time. Those remaining will be hand delivered, and mailed to members who live outside the region, in the month after the meeting. Thanks to all who can help!

Announcing a new WHS membership benefit: 25% off admission to the Waterloo Region Museums

Your 25% discount card will be distributed annually with the annual volume and includes admission to the Waterloo Region Museum and Joseph Schneider Haus. Admission to McDougall Cottage is by donation. For a full list of membership benefits, visit <http://www.whs.ca/membership/>

Contact membership chair Mandy Macfie at msmacfie@gmail.com or 519-572-7510 (evenings only) if you have questions about your membership status, volume delivery or member benefits.

Kudos, Congratulations & Thank You

- ❖ Thanks to the **Waterloo Region Record** and its reporters for stories about historians, history and heritage!
- ❖ We are glad to see that **Jon Fear** is back writing and researching his *Waterloo Region Record* column "Flash from the Past"! WHS past president and local historian **rych mills** did a great job filling in for Jon.
- ❖ **Volunteer Appreciation Week** is April 12 – 18. **Thank you to all WHS volunteers for your service and support.** Whether you help a few times a year, monthly or weekly, your time and efforts are appreciated! (Have you hugged a historian lately?)
- ❖ WHS Volunteer Service Awards will be given by the Ontario Honours and Awards Secretariat of the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration to:
 - John Arndt, director, secretary, 10 years
 - John Glass, director, web site committee chair, 10 years
 - Jeff Shank, director, treasurer, 15 years
 - Bertha Thompson, past president and Township of Woolwich councilor, 30 years
 - Stephanie Walker, publication committee, 10 years
 - Lesley Webb, president, communications committee chair, 5 years

We also recognize Harold Russell, past president and WHS Kitchener councilor, for 35 years with WHS! Ministry awards recognize 30 years and 40 years but not 35 years.

- ❖ ***In Search of Promised Lands*** by Sam Steiner was launched in March and April. It describes the emergence and evolution of today's 30-plus streams of Ontarians who identified themselves as Mennonite or Amish from their arrival in Canada to the last decade. Sold at Words Worth Books, Waterloo and MennoMedia, Kitchener.
- ❖ **Breithaupt letters**, written in German, were donated to the University of Waterloo Library's Special Collections and Archives in 2005. They have been transcribed and translated and are available for researchers. *UW Daily Bulletin 14.03.21.*
- ❖ Welcome to Susan Mavor who will be joining the WHS publication committee this summer!

Requests to / from Readers

House of Industry and Refuge – Research and Commemoration

"The Poorhouse" 1869-1951 is an historic institution worthy of research and interpretation. It was situated on Frederick Street in the general location of the current A. R. Goudie Eventide Home. See <http://www.therecord.com/news-story/5273274-searching-for-kitchener-s-lost-graveyards/> .

Commemoration Project: A group of municipal staff, university and community researchers and interested members of the public have been meeting to share research findings and to consider ways to both interpret and commemorate the House of Refuge and memorialize those who died while in residence. If you have questions about this project, please contact Charlotte Woodley, regional archivist at cwoodley@regionofwaterloo.ca & 519-575-4737 x 3511

Online Museum Exhibit: Researchers Dr. Ginette Lafrenière and Dr. Sandy Hoy at Wilfrid Laurier University are collecting stories, anecdotes, memories, photos and artifacts associated with the House of Refuge to develop an online museum exhibit and tell the story of a forgotten part of Waterloo Region's history. Your contribution can be kept confidential or shared at your discretion. Contact Sandy at the Social Innovation Research Group (SIRG) at 519 884-0710 x5232 or shoy@wlu.ca . Please contact Sandy by September 2015.

"Descendant of Waterloo pioneers wants memorial tower open again," *Waterloo Region Record*, Mar. 15, 2015. Bob Oberholtzer would like to hear from anyone interested in having the Waterloo Pioneers Memorial Tower open again. He can be reached at 519 884-7620.

The WHS publication committee welcomes submissions of articles with a Waterloo County / Region theme. The next issue will have a Galt focus in preparation for Galt's 200th anniversary in 2016, so anyone working on a subject pertinent to Galt's history is especially urged to contact editor, rych mills.

We are recruiting!

Do you have experience with and enjoy event planning or taking meeting minutes?
The nominating committee is looking to fill several positions.

Programs Coordinator or a Programs Committee of 2 – 3 people to:

- organize four public meetings a year at various locations and with speakers, and
- coordinate audio/video equipment, and tables for displays, books, refreshments and membership renewal.

Secretary

- to take minutes at five board/council meetings per year, plus the annual general meeting.

Councilor for Cambridge – job description is at <http://www.whs.ca/board-and-council/>

If you are interested in taking on any of these roles, the nominating committee would like to hear from you and will answer your questions and provide a job description. The first meeting to be organized by the new co-ordinator / committee will be in March 2016 with details arranged in time for the January 2016 newsletter deadline, mid December 2015. The first meeting for the new secretary will be November 24, 2015.

Contact the nominating committee at whs@whs or speak to Marion Roes, Lesley Webb or John Arndt

Thank you for considering these requests!

Food History

Carolyn Blackstock, who cooked and blogged about recipes every day for two years, is inviting people who are interested in food history to be part of an email and / or Facebook group. It is a way for everyone to share information about interesting food or culinary history. You can ask questions or just share the latest historic recipe that you cooked up. Contact Carolyn at cjblackstock@hotmail.com and have a look at Food History in Waterloo Region on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/595908070544278/>

KPL Genealogy Fair

Saturday April 25

9 – 3:30

85 Queen Street North, Kitchener

No registration required Free

Connect with experts, vendors and other genealogy enthusiasts!

The WHS will have an historical photo display
plus a variety of books for sale at the Book Table

Historical Happenings Calendar

ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY OF ONTARIO – NORTH WATERLOO REGION www.aconwr.ca

A **Directory of Heritage Practitioners** was launched in collaboration with Region of Waterloo's Heritage Planning Advisory Committee (HPAC) release of **Practical Conservation Guides for Heritage Properties**.
<http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringTheRegion/heritageconservationtoolbox.asp>

CITY OF KITCHENER ROTUNDA GALLERY, 200 King Street West

April – Neighbourhood Voices by 2014 Artist in Residence Dwight Storrington: "The show explores how the ordinary things we do ripple across the community to weave the tapestry of life in Kitchener."

CITY OF WATERLOO MUSEUM, Conestoga Mall www.waterloo.ca/museum

May 5 to September 26, Jewel of the City: Celebrating 125 Years of Waterloo Park

CONESTOGA COLLEGE "HISTORY OF WATERLOO REGION 1 & 2" taught by Joanna Rickert-Hall

Liberal Studies Local History Courses LIBS1750 & 1760 starting in May
Register at <http://www.conestogac.on.ca/continuing-education/courses>

DOORS OPEN ONTARIO <http://www.doorsopenontario.on.ca/Events-Search/Event-calendar.aspx#pos>

April 25 is Doors Open Guelph – the first one of the season. Info at guelpharts.ca and 519 836-3280
If you think that Doors Open happens only in Waterloo Region, you're in for a pleasant surprise. Check the web site above for dates and locations, and plan a few trips this spring, summer and fall.

DOORS OPEN WATERLOO REGION (DOWR)

<http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringtheregion/doorsopenwaterloo.asp>

September 19 Sport heritage and innovation is the theme this year with 10 sites – many new ones – on the web site now. Check Facebook for updates and watch for the Map and Guide in libraries and regional buildings soon to start planning your day.

GUELPH CIVIC MUSEUM, 44 Norfolk Street www.lcolmccreastatue.ca

May 3, 2015 marks the centennial anniversary of the creation of the poem, *In Flanders Fields* by LCol John McCrae. To honour this man and his famous poem, the Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery commissioned Wellesley Ontario sculptor, Ruth Abernethy to create a statue of John McCrae.

June 19 Statue unveiling. Check the web site for time etc. (Not available when the newsletter was printed.)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ST. BONIFACE AND MARYHILL COMMUNITY www.maryhillroots.com

July 1 Canada Day, 1-4 pm. Cake, old cars, antiques, tours of the village and more. Come for a visit!

Joint Project of the Historical Society and St. Boniface Roman Catholic Church Cemetery Board

Do you have ancestors buried in the Old Walled Cemetery? Many of the stones have deteriorated beyond repair and they will be moved to the back of the cemetery. All have been photographed and the graves documented. The cemetery board plans to install a single monument with names and birth/death dates for those graves and is looking for funds to help pay for it. Donations are tax receiptable. Info from Diane Strickler at 519 648-2432 or dstrickler@continuum.org.

Photos of the cemetery are at <http://www.geneofun.on.ca/cems/ON/ONWAT14257>

Explore your family roots is a new program for researchers of Maryhill families to research and meet one another, and to tour the community and St. Boniface church and cemetery with a member of the historical society. For information and to arrange a date, contact Ken Hanson, 519 829-3569 or kenhanson@rogers.com or Diane Strickler 519 648-2432 or dstrickler@continuum.org.

IAN HADDEN'S FAMILY HISTORY blog address has changed to www.ianhadden.org. If you're a follower, you'll have the new address; if you're not yet a follower, have a look.

JOSEPH SCHNEIDER HAUS MUSEUM, 466 Queen Street South, Kitchener www.josephschneiderhaus.com
May 6, 7 pm. "**All About Undertaking: Funeral Businesses and Practices in Waterloo County**" by Marion Roes, 2014 Edna Staebler Research Fellow. Admission by donation

Applications for the 2016 Edna Staebler Research Fellowship will be accepted until early November 2015.
<http://josephschneiderhaus.com/media/10125/edna-staebler-2015-application-form.pdf>

KITCHENER WATERLOO CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL POST CARD CLUB (KWCRPCC) www.kwcrpcc.com
May 19, 7:30 pm, meeting at Victoria Park Pavilion, 80 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener. Sean Murphy, longtime postcard collector, takes us on a tour of his outstanding collection under the theme of "My 25 Favorite Cards and their Stories." Doors open at 6:30 for you to browse and buy from collectors / vendors. All welcome. Info from rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990

KITCHENER-WATERLOO SOCIETY OF ARTISTS
Experience *A Bird's Eye View of KWSA* in The Berlin Tower ARTSPACE, ground floor, Kitchener City Hall.

To **May 3, Juried Exhibition** at the Homer Watson House and Gallery, 1754 Old Mill Road, Kitchener
April 18, 1 – 3 pm. Meet the artists.

LAURIER ASSOCIATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING (LALL) www.wlu.ca/lall/anniversary for parking, location etc.
May 26, 7 pm. **18th Anniversary Lecture** with Dr. Ken Shonk who will speak on the health benefits of humour. Doors open 6:30. Tickets \$10 at the door. WLU Senate and Board Chamber

MCDUGALL COTTAGE, 89 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge 519 624-8250 <http://mcdougallcottage.com/>
McDougall Cottage, ca.1858 granite and limestone labourer's dwelling, is located in downtown Cambridge in the historic factory district. Home for more than a century to two families of hardworking Scots, the McDougalls and the Bairds, this charming traditional cottage with its equally charming pocket-sized gardens, boasts one of the most spectacular hand-painted friezes (patterns along the top of walls or buildings) and trompe l'oeil ceilings (three dimensional illusions) that Ontario has to offer. Check the web site for hours and many more events.

June 11, 7-9 pm, **Galt 100 Years Later**. Galt obtained city status on June 1, 1915. To celebrate this milestone we take a look back at what life would have been like in 1915 with local experts and heritage enthusiasts including Lynn Griggs, corporate records archives technician, City of Cambridge Archives; and items from its collection. Call to register. \$5 +HST.

June 25 at 6:30, Galt's Industrial Living Legacy Walking Tour. As we stroll along the Grand River from the Concession Street bridge to Parkhill Street bridge, enjoy historical residential, commercial and industrial architecture. Learn why Galt was once referred to as the "Manchester of Canada" and explore the recent flood control measures that protect areas on either side of the river. Call to register. \$10 +HST.

PENNSYLVANIA GERMAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY OF ONTARIO, WATERLOO AREA CHAPTER
<http://www.pgfsociety.com/waterloo-2/> for membership and meeting information
April 25, 6:30 pm **Annual General Meeting** and dinner. Speaker Joanna Rickert-Hall, "Humanity & Hardship: Early Black Settlement in Waterloo County." To reserve a ticket by April 15 (or possibly later) contact Marilyn Sararus 519 696-3061.

THE MENNONITE ARCHIVAL IMAGE DATABASE (MAID) at www.archives.mhsc.ca is a new web site providing access to thousands of historic Mennonite photographs. Already it contains over 80,000 photograph descriptions and 10,000 scanned images from seven Mennonite archives across Canada. In addition to Mennonite history, the history of local communities and especially Waterloo Region, figures prominently. Local photographers David Hunsberger and Ernest Denton are well represented. Visitors to the site have the option of purchasing copies of the photographs for non-commercial uses.

At the WHS meeting about Christian Eby, someone asked about the identity of the men in the photo on the front page of *The Record*. Names that were found are at <http://archives.mhsc.ca/gordon-eby-christian-eby-and-boys-at>

VICTORIA PARK GALLERY, 83 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener, beside the park pavilion
Mid May – late October, weekend and holiday afternoons 12-4; featuring photo and artifact displays highlighting both the park and the city's histories. rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990

WATERLOO REGION ARCHIVES ROUNDTABLE www.wrar.org
Check out the **Archive Directory** to learn where all the places are that you could conduct research
The Waterloo Region Archives Round Table is an interest group that meet bi-monthly to discuss archival matters and continuing education in the archives field.

WELLESLEY HERITAGE & HISTORICAL SOCIETY www.wellesleyhistory.org
Newspaper Digitization Project of the Wellesley Maple Leaf
In co-operation with WHS and KPL, the Wellesley Township Heritage and Historical Society has begun a project to digitize the only surviving copies of the township and area newspaper, the *Wellesley Maple Leaf*, published from 1900 to 1927. An eight-year run of the paper (1900-1908) is in the WHS collection at KPL where it was microfilmed. Using a new digital microfilm reader, an image of each page has been digitized. After some editing and processing, the searchable images are uploaded to the WTHHS website where they are available for study. So far, two years of the publication have been added to the site with many more to follow. Check back often!

WATERLOO REGION MUSEUM 10 Huron Road, Kitchener 519 744-1914 www.waterlooregionmuseum.com
Contact the WRM to receive e-mail updates for ALL events there and at McDougall Cottage and Joseph Schneider Haus.

To May 10, Ocean Bound! A new watershed exhibition explores the science of water sources, aquatic animals, and oceans. The interactive exhibit shows us how our actions on land affect our watersheds and oceans. Visitors can move a rain cloud over a three-dimensional terrain model that demonstrates how water cascades down mountains and collects in rivers.

May 1, 9:30 – 5 Doon Heritage Village season opening

June 19 – January 3. BEER The Exhibit, History on Tap

Discover the history of brewing, selling and consuming beer in Canada – with a focus on more than 175 years of brewing tradition in Waterloo Region: how it's made, impact of Prohibition, evolution of craft breweries; public houses, Temperance societies and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) – all the cultural and social influences of beer.

What do you think? Are there many fantastic heritage and historical organizations, events and people in this region?!

WHS and Facebook

www.facebook.com/waterloohs

Facebook is a communications tool like a web site, Twitter, newspapers, etc. Organizations need someone who has the time, desire and expertise to maintain a regular Facebook presence. “Regular” can mean once-a-week or every day. We post at least every few days and occasionally twice in a day. It’s free. And we control the content. Facebook gives ongoing numbers of how many people see each post, how many “like” them, and how many “share” and make comments. The average number for how many see the posts is about 100; occasionally it goes over 500. Pictures usually receive the most attention. Our Likes increase steadily and as of April 13 we have 360.

Frequently asked questions: 1. *What does WHS write about on Facebook?* 2. *Do I have to be a member of Facebook to see WHS photos and comments?* 3. *Can anyone else post on the WHS page?*

Answers: 1. There are photos of WHS meetings and events such as Heritage Showcase; scans of old items like a 1960s MP’s voting card, a 1900 ad for Noah Steinman’s furniture, feed, lime, cement and undertaking business in Baden; and old photos of local people and buildings. We help other heritage groups publicize upcoming events which are happening too soon or too late to include in our newsletter.

2. Anyone can see what we post because we have opted to be public.

3. Anyone can post questions, comments and photos on the WHS Facebook page – and we decide if they stay. Comments are always appreciated. We answer the questions if we can and if we can’t, we refer the person to someone else, usually Karen Ball-Pyatt.

Administrators of the WHS Facebook page are Marion Roes, Lesley Webb and John Glass.

A Very Cool Project: The Silcox Magical History Tour will not be continued here. Sorry folks! But you can enjoy Nancy’s storytelling in various magazines, her blog and books. She almost always is working on a book about local history and/or local people! <http://nancyshistoricsites.com/>

Condolences

On behalf of the WHS members, we offer condolences for the death of WHS members.

- ◆ To the family of Al Menard, who died on April 5. He is the father of WHS director, Debbie Kroetsch. Al and his wife Marcella, who died in 2012, were WHS members for almost 30 years, joining in 1986.
- ◆ To the family of Barb Quickfall, who died April 9. Barb has been a WHS member since 1979.

WHS: who we are and how to reach us

CONTACT US

whs@whs.ca **www.whs.ca**

Mail memberships and donations to Waterloo Historical Society
c/o Grace Schmidt Room, 85 Queen Street North, Kitchener ON N2H 2H1
Facebook at www.facebook.com/waterloohs and Twitter is WaterlooHS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Lesley Webb, president: lesley.webb@gmail.com
John Arndt, secretary: jarndt@sympatico.ca
Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt, publication committee
Karen Ball-Pyatt, archivist: karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org
John Glass, web site committee chair: jcglass@rogers.com
Sherwood Hagey, book table
Debbie Kroetsch, plaques committee
Mandy Macfie, membership committee chair: msmacfie@gmail.com
519 572-7510 (evenings)
rych mills, chair/editor publication committee: rychmills@golden.net
519 742-4990
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Ray Ruddy, plaques committee
Jeff Shank, treasurer: jeff420shank@gmail.com
Warren Stauch, plaques committee chair: mmegeo@golden.net

COUNCILORS

Cambridge: vacant
Kitchener: Harold Russell
Waterloo: Joleen Taylor
North Dumfries Township: Veronica Ross & Bob Green
Wellesley Township: Nancy Maitland
Wilmot Township: Patty Clark & Rene Eby
Woolwich Township: Elinor Rau, Diane Strickler, Bertha Thompson
The councilor job description is at <http://www.whs.ca/councillor-duties/>

Waterloo Historical Society...

- ❖ Gratefully acknowledges that the Kitchener Public Library continues to keep and care for our collection and archives in the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History.
- ❖ Fosters the recognition of our region's unique heritage and diligently encourages its preservation by documenting the history of Waterloo Region, including the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, along with the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.

Thank you...

- ❖ *To Karen Ball-Pyatt, Lesley Webb, Pat Bailey, Mandy Macfie, Diane Strickler, Joleen Taylor and Kate Hagerman for help with this newsletter; and to all who sent requests and events.*

Waterloo Historical Society Newsletter

July 2015



Editor: Marion Roes mlroes@sympatico.ca & 519 883-1448

Public Meeting

Tuesday, September 22 at 7:30
Doors open at 7

Victoria Park Pavilion
80 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener

Long-time reporter and features writer for the Waterloo Region Record, Bill Bean, recounts a memorable career covering events and people in the area. From tragic news stories to uplifting profiles of unique people; from his own special Bean-brand of nature exploration to the ups-and-downs of local politics, Bill has covered and written them all. Bill has lots of memories of things that didn't make it into print and he'll also be taking questions about his career and journalism's changing world.

Come early and explore Kitchener's treasure, Victoria Park.

Parking is in the lot beside the pavilion, or turn left before the lot and go behind the playground. Construction: Victoria and Queen Streets are generally construction free. For specifics closer to the meeting date, Google "road closures Kitchener" or call rych mills.

Members and non members are welcome. There is no admission charge. See our displays, browse (and buy from) the Book Table, meet other historians. Questions? Contact rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990 or www.whs.ca

April newsletter corrections: The location of the meeting for History Under the Trees was given as the Sararus Bricker barn. It should have been the Sararus-Bricker Farm, in the Bricker barn. (The house is the Sararus house.) Thanks to Sherwood Hagey – who is descended from both families – for the corrections.

KPL / GSR / WHS Cataloguing Project

The Susan J. Hoffman Local History Fund recognizes Susan's many years of dedicated service to both the Kitchener Public Library and Waterloo Historical Society. The fund compliments other fund-raising initiatives for the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History by funding GSR-related projects such as **cataloguing the WHS archives**. If you would like to contribute funds, visit <http://www.whs.ca/sjhfund/> and print the donation form and mail it to the Kitchener Public Library or use the CanadaHelps link. Thank you for supporting the WHS and the GSR! Questions about donating can be directed to KPL's Development Manager, Ann Andrusyszyn, at 519-743-0271 x278.

Happenings in the Grace Schmidt Room (GSR)

My heartfelt thanks go to everyone, especially to the WHS Board, who helped make the KPL Genealogy Fair on 25 April 2015 a great success! We are in the process of planning our 2016 event and welcome any comments or suggestions that you might have.

Fall promises to be another busy time – look for us at **Doors Open on September 19** and at other upcoming community events.

I am happy to report that the Society has received the following donations:

- Original Certificate of Registration of Death for Elizabeth (Figuers) Troth, 1915;
- Photograph of the Canagagigue Creek and an Elmira Methodist Church offering envelope, dated 21 Mar 1920;
- 1995-1996 Probus Club of Kitchener-Waterloo member directory and Waterloo County Scenic Calendars from Waterloo Trust for 1940, 1941 and 1942;
- Galt Collegiate Institute and Galt history newspaper clippings, photographs and booklets relating the career and interests of former Galt Collegiate Institute principal, Dr. Thomas Hilliard Wholton;
- 2 audio cassette tapes of Grace Schmidt being interviewed in August 2003, during a tour of Zion United Church, Kitchener, about the history, donations and stained glass windows of the church; and
- 2 German language textbooks (cursive writing exercises and reading) which belonged to Irvine Eckstein and Ivah Eby.

Cheers,
Karen Ball-Pyatt, WHS Archivist
karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org
519-743-0271 x252

GSR blog at <http://historicallyspeakingkitchener.wordpress.com/>
Twitter for happenings and local history news at <http://twitter.com/kplgsrhistory>

Kudos, Congratulations & Thank You's

- ◆ Sam Steiner received the Mennonite Historical Society of Canada Award of Excellence in January. The award is given annually to persons who have made significant contributions to the advancement of Canadian Mennonite History by their research and writing. *Ontario Mennonite History*, June 2015.
- ◆ The Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation (WRHF) Heritage Advisory Committee recognizes outstanding contributions of individuals, institutions and organizations for heritage preservation. Descriptions of awards and the work of the people receiving them are in the WRHF Annual Report and on its Facebook page.

◆ Recipients of the 2014 WRHF awards are:

- **Awards of Excellence:** Friends of the Joseph Schneider Haus for supporting and promoting the Joseph Schneider Haus; Paul Jardin, retired police officer for preserving and making available the records of the Service; Mary-Jean Page, the driving force behind the creation of the Greenfield Heritage Conservation District in North Dumfries Township; Natasha and Cory de Villiers, leading figures in the restoration and adaptive re-use of downtown Hespeler's heritage streetscape.
- **Dr. Jean Steckle Award for Heritage Education** to Joanna Rickert-Hall, one of Waterloo Region's most accomplished and wide-ranging heritage educators.
- **Sally Thorsen Award of Excellence** to Valerie Spring for her 27-year career as Heritage Planner for the City of Cambridge.
- **Region of Waterloo History Prize** to the documentary DVD *Love Lost & Found: The Story of Mel Brown*, directed by Sean Jasmins and co-produced by the late Philip Bast.

Condolences

On behalf of the WHS membership, we offer condolences to the families of members who have died.

- ❖ To Fred Blayney for the death of his wife Dora Mae on April 27, 2015. They have been WHS members for over 50 years.
- ❖ To Ransom Vrooman for the death of his wife Barbara on January 27, 2015. They have been WHS members for 18 years.
- ❖ To Dede Boulden, for the death of her husband John on September 18, 2014.

House of Industry & Refuge – Research & Commemoration

"The Poorhouse," 1869-1951, is a historic institution worthy of research and interpretation. It was situated on Frederick Street in the general location of the current A. R. Goudie Eventide Home.

See <http://www.therecord.com/news-story/5273274-searching-for-kitchener-s-lost-graveyards/>

Do you have stories, anecdotes, memories, photos or artifacts associated with the House of Industry & Refuge?

Researchers Dr. Ginette Lafrenière and Dr. Sandy Hoy at Wilfrid Laurier University are collecting words and items to develop an online museum exhibit and tell the story of a forgotten part of Waterloo Region's history. Your contribution can be kept confidential or shared at your discretion. Contact Sandy at the Social Innovation Research Group (SIRG) at 519 884-0710 x5232 or shoy@wlu.ca. Please contact Sandy by September 2015.

Commemoration Project: A group of municipal staff, university and community researchers and interested members of the public have been meeting to share research findings and to consider ways to both interpret and commemorate the House of Industry & Refuge and memorialize those who died while in residence. If you have questions about this project, please contact Charlotte Woodley, regional archivist at cwoodley@regionofwaterloo.ca or 519 575-4737 x3511

Livingston Presbyterian Church, Baden

Designated under The Ontario Heritage Act

From an article by Teresa Brown, also published in *The New Hamburg Independent*, June 17, 2015

On Sunday June 7, 2015, the community of Baden celebrated the designation of Livingston Presbyterian Church under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act. It is the first church in Wilmot Township to be so recognized.

Livingston Presbyterian Church was built in 1894/95, a project initiated by James Livingston's donation of land, further funding, and his building of the church itself. Fifty congregational members pledged over \$1400 in additional funds. The only Presbyterian church in Wilmot Township, the building is a fine example of Gothic Revival styling, with pointed arches, buttresses, and a variety of window types, including many pointed arch windows as well as Gothic windows of varying sizes. The building's tower, gables, corner parapets and louvres are also mentioned in the Heritage Designation; these features mark the church as a significant example of an architectural style no longer used.

The most spectacular of these historic features is perhaps the stained glass. James died in 1920, and in 1927 his son J.P. Livingston installed a breathtaking stained-glass window depicting the Biblical "burning bush," a symbol of the Presbyterian Church. Two stained-glass windows were installed in 1928 in memory of James' parents, followed by two more windows commemorating James' siblings and in-laws in 1931.

Livingston Presbyterian's place as a vibrant part of Baden's past and present is further established by perhaps surprising tenants: the second storey houses a Masonic Lodge Hall. James Livingston was a Charter Member of Wilmot Lodge No. 318, rising to the rank of the 33rd Degree of the Scottish Rite in 1887 (the highest rank of the Masonic Lodge). The Lodge continues to hold meetings there, surrounded by furnishings and accoutrements, some of which are over a century old.

WHS is Recruiting!

*Do you have experience with and enjoy event planning or taking meeting minutes?
Thank you for considering these requests!*

Programs Coordinator or a Programs Committee of 2 - 3 people to:

- organize speakers and four public meetings a year at various locations, and
- coordinate audio / video and other equipment and tables as needed

Secretary

- to take minutes at five board / council meetings per year, plus the annual general meeting.

Councilor for Cambridge – job description is at <http://www.whs.ca/board-and-council/>

The nominating committee will answer your questions and provide job descriptions. Email whs@whs or speak to Marion Roes, Lesley Webb or John Arndt.

PARALLEL DESTINIES ~ HOMER WATSON & CARL AHRENS

Dundas Museum and Archives, 139 Park Street West, Dundas www.dundasmuseum.ca 905-627-7412

To September 5, 2015 - "Parallel Destinies" is the first comprehensive visual essay of the work of the two great Waterloo County / Canadian landscape artists Homer Watson and Carl Ahrens. The show of 50 works, by collections manager Sandu Sindile, follows their lives and careers, highlighting similarities and differences, to make their work known, understood and appreciated.

Saturday, July 18, Open at **1 pm**, presentation at **2** - Kim Bullock, great-granddaughter of Ahrens, will outline her painter-predecessor's life and art. Kim, a WHS member, wrote about Carl in the WHS Volume 94 – 2006, "Rediscovering Carl Ahrens: The Painter." Read more about Kim and her Ahrens research at http://www.carlahrens.com/ahrenssite_349.htm

Thursday, August 6 at 7 pm - Kitchener collector and author rych mills will complement the exhibition with an illustrated presentation looking at various facets of the two Waterloo County painters' lives.

No Guardians at the Gate: The Elmira Water Crisis

Bob Burt is a WHS member and has been reporter and editor at weekly and daily newspaper in Ontario for more than 40 years. He has written about this Elmira story which started long before 1989 when two of the towns wells were closed because of NDMA contamination. Thanks to Bob for donating copies to be sold at the WHS Book Table. The book is also for sale at Words Worth Books, Waterloo.

Historical Happenings Calendar

THE HISTORICAL BUS TOURS will no longer be happening! Marg Dickson, Helen Koepke, tour organizers, and Edith Coyle helper, are retiring; Marg and Helen after 25 years and Edith after about 15. Mary Johnston, the instigator when she was president of WHS, and an original organizer, retired earlier. An average of 50 people per bus x 6 buses x 25 years = 7,650 people will miss the best organized, most interesting and well planned bus tours ever in Southern Ontario! Not to mention 90% sunny weather. Thank you Marg, Helen. I'm sure you'll find something to do to replace the reading, researching, driving, planning, phoning, mailing, scheduling and organizing that you did for two months (likely more) every year for 25 years.

CITY OF WATERLOO MUSEUM, Conestoga Mall www.waterloo.ca/museum Free Admission

New Hours!

Tuesday – Friday 9:30 - 4

July & August: Saturday 9:30 - 5 and Sunday 12 - 5

Fourth Thursdays of the month: 9:30 - 8 / Fourth Saturdays (except holidays) 9:30 - 4

To September 26 – Exhibit: **Jewel of the City: Celebrating 125 Years of Waterloo Park**. Do you remember wearing your school colours on track and field day, speeding down the toboggan slide, buying a nickel ice cream cone, feeding the rabbits or spending the evening watching a movie in Waterloo Park? Don't miss a chance to relive those days and memories! Come and see the exhibit.

CONRAD GREBEL UNIVERSITY COLLEGE (GCUC) and MENNONITE ARCHIVES OF ONTARIO (MAO)

140 Westmount Road North, Waterloo

To August 31 - The David L. Hunsberger photography exhibit "Taking Community from the Farm to the World." MAO has partnered with Hunsberger's family to create a photo exhibit of a select number of his iconic photos at GCUC. More information is at: <https://uwaterloo.ca/mennonite-archives-ontario/events/david-hunsberger-exhibit-taking-community-farm-world>

DOORS OPEN WATERLOO REGION (DOWR) – Cities and some townships in the Region

<http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringtherregion/doorsopenwaterloo.asp>

September 19 - Main theme: Sport heritage and innovation. General theme: Fabulous and interesting buildings and places – several surprises and old favourites. Plan your day and route using the web site, Facebook and / or Map and Guide.

FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPH SCHNEIDER HAUS MUSEUM & GALLERY, 466 Queen Street South, Kitchener

The **2016 Edna Staebler Research Fellowship** will be awarded in partnership with the Waterloo Historical Society. The topic will be specified, namely the history of the WHS from c1960 to 2012. Applications and more information will be available in September with an application deadline of mid-November 2015. <http://josephschneiderhaus.com/collections-research/edna-staebler-research-fellowship/>

HESPELER REUNION 2016 www.hespelerreunion.com July 8, 9, 10

Send your photos of 1960s, '70s and '80s family, sports, rock bands etc. for a reunion book; also memories of growing up in Hespeler and what you love about it. Send to Jim Hillis, editor jimhillis57@alumni.com

HOMER WATSON HOUSE AND GALLERY, 1754 Old Mill Road, Kitchener 519 748-4377 www.homerwatson.on.ca

Get your E-Newsletter "WATSnew" for all events, programs, openings etc.

To August 16 - 25th Annual Watson Exhibit

Second Thursday each month, 12 - 1 - Lunchtime Lectures

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ST. BONIFACE AND MARYHILL COMMUNITY www.maryhillroots.com

Sundays to September 26, Halter House is open 11 – 2 for research. Other times by appointment.

September 27 - Heritage Sunday - Details will be on the web site.

A New Monument for the Old Walled Cemetery will be erected to replace deteriorated stones which have been moved to the back of the cemetery. It will have names and birth / death dates from the deteriorated stones. Donations are invited to help pay for the monument. Contact Diane Strickler at 519 648-2432 or dstrickler@continuum.org

KITCHENER WATERLOO CAMBRIDGE REGIONAL POST CARD CLUB (KWCRPCC) www.kwcrpcc.com

September 14 - Meeting at Victoria Park Pavilion, 80 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener. **Doors open at 6:30** for you to browse and buy from collectors / vendors. **Speaker at 7:30: Gus Knierim**, will share his enthusiasm for interpreting all the postal clues on pieces of mail. Info from rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990

LAURIER ASSOCIATION FOR LIFELONG LEARNING (LALL) Go to www.wlu.ca/lall/ to be on the mailing list

Below is a partial and tentative listing of topics. All details will be in the fall brochure the week of July 28.

- BRENT HAGERMAN - *The History of Rock Music: 1945-1965*

- RYCH MILLS - *You've Got Mail: The Story of the Post Card*
- JOANNA RICKERT-HALL - *The "Charming" Christian Eby: Medicine Man or Waterloo County Witch?*
- DEBRA NASH-CHAMBERS - *A Time for Truth and Reconciliation? Canada and Her First Peoples at a Crossroad*
- ANDREW THOMSON - *Entrepreneurs in Canadian History: Doing Business from Cabot to RIM*

MCDUGALL COTTAGE, 89 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge 519 624-8250 <http://mcdougallcottage.com/>
July 10 to Sept 6 - Tee Time Exhibit - Come and learn about the history of golf in Scotland and Waterloo Region – including local golfers such as Moe Norman and Mary Gay; golf courses and tournaments.

July 22 - Galt's East Hill Walking Tour, 9 to 11 am. Join us and stroll along streets lined with mature trees. Explore a wide range of architectural styles, from cottages to grand Victorian homes. Do you know which property was recognized as the last farm in downtown Galt? \$10 /person + HST. Call to register.

July 26 - Downtown Galt Walking Tour, 2 to 4 p.m. Heritage Cambridge is leading an historical walking tour of the picturesque commercial district of Galt. With its beautiful nineteenth-century architecture in a heritage conservation district, this area has become popular for filming movies and television shows. Arrive back at the Cottage in time for Piping Down the Sun. \$10 / person + HST. Call to register.

PRESTON DAYS – Central Park, King and Argyle Streets, Cambridge

July 11, 9- 2 – Ray Ruddy will have his **Historical Preston display plus a WHS display**. See some of Ray's amazing collection of photos, and learn about – or tell him about – Preston history.

THE GALLERY IN VICTORIA PARK, 83 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener, beside the park pavilion

To late October, weekend and holiday afternoons **12-4**; featuring photos and artifacts highlighting the park and Berlin / Kitchener histories. Special feature this year is Denton photos. rychmills@golden.net

WELLESLEY HERITAGE & HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1137 Henry Street www.wellesleyhistory.org

Open the last Saturday monthly (except December), **10 – 3**

The Wellesley Maple Leaf issues from 1900-1908 are available on-line and are fully searchable PDF files.

WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

November 14, 1:30 - Mark your calendars for the **WHS Annual General Meeting**. Details will be in the October newsletter, on the web site and Facebook.

WATERLOO REGION MUSEUM & DOON HERITAGE VILLAGE 10 Huron Road, Kitchener 519 744-1914

Use your WHS membership discount card and visit often www.waterlooregionmuseum.com

June 19 – January 3. BEER The Exhibit, History on Tap

Discover the history of brewing, selling and consuming beer in Canada – with a focus on more than 175 years of brewing tradition in Waterloo Region: how it's made, impact of Prohibition, evolution of craft breweries; public houses, Temperance societies and Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) – all the cultural and social influences of beer.

WHS: who we are and how to reach us

CONTACT US

whs@whs.ca **www.whs.ca**

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c/o Grace Schmidt Room, 85 Queen Street North, Kitchener ON N2H 2H1
Facebook at www.facebook.com/waterloohs and Twitter is WaterlooHS

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Mandy Macfie, membership committee chair: msmacfie@gmail.com
519 572-7510 (evenings)
rych mills, chair/editor publication committee: rychmills@golden.net
519 742-4990
Marion Roes, newsletter editor: mlroes@sympatico.ca, 519 883-1448
Ray Ruddy, plaques committee
Jeff Shank, treasurer: jeff420shank@gmail.com
Warren Stauch, plaques committee chair: mmegeo@golden.net

COUNCILORS

Cambridge: vacant
Kitchener: Harold Russell
Waterloo: Joleen Taylor
North Dumfries Township: Veronica Ross & Bob Green
Wellesley Township: Nancy Maitland
Wilmot Township: Patty Clark & Rene Eby
Woolwich Township: Elinor Rau, Diane Strickler, Bertha Thompson

*Thank you for
help with this
newsletter...*

*Karen Ball-Pyatt,
Lesley Webb,
Mandy Macfie,
Ray Ruddy,
rych mills,
Rebekah
Kieswetter,
Joleen Taylor,
Tracy Loch,
Teresa Brown,
George Roth and
all who sent
requests and
events.*

Waterloo Historical Society

- ❖ Gratefully acknowledges that the Kitchener Public Library continues to keep and care for our collection and archives in the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History.
- ❖ Fosters the recognition of our region's unique heritage and diligently encourages its preservation by documenting the history of Waterloo Region, including the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, along with the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.

From Mandy Macfie, Membership Chair

Hopefully you have all received your annual volumes by now! If not, please let me know. (msmacfie@gmail.com or 519-572-7510 evenings only) I'd like to offer my thanks to the many people who helped deliver: to members who took a volume for a friend who couldn't attend the May meeting, to the board members who looked over the list and delivered what they could, and to John Glass who helped me at the May meeting. I'd like to say an extra special BIG thanks to David and Mary Gingrich, who assisted with delivering the bulk of what remained. I honestly couldn't do the rest without their help! *Thank you!*

Watch for your membership renewal form in the September newsletter. Thank you for renewing promptly!

Waterloo Historical Society Newsletter

October 2015



Marion Roes, Editor

Public Meeting

Saturday, November 14 at 1:30

Doors open at 1

Annual General Meeting

St. James Lutheran Church

96 Queen Street East, Cambridge/Hespeler

Join us in Hespeler for our Annual General Meeting. Lary Turner of The Company of Neighbours will give a well-illustrated presentation titled, "Mill Girls," a look at how Dominion Woollens attracted young women across Canada to come and work in Hespeler during the Second World War. It is similar in theme to Sarah Jayne Pawelko's article entitled, "Hometown Rosies" published in WHS Volume 102 – 2014.

St James Lutheran Church, built in 1867, was the church of Jacob Hespeler who helped fund its construction. Enter the church parking lot from Cooper Street, which is off Queen, and use the front entrance of the church.

Members are invited to participate in the annual general meeting conducted by president Lesley Webb immediately following the lecture. The AGM is an occasion for the board of directors to account for its conduct and activities during the preceding year and offer an insight to its plans for the future. The board is excited to update members on the Online Annual Volume Indexing Project and also launch the first phase of placing the annual volume on the WHS website! Members are eligible to vote. The nominating committee is recruiting for the position of programs coordinator. If you would like to discuss joining the board or council, contact Lesley Webb or Marion Roes. Contact information is on the back page of the newsletter.

Online Annual Volume Indexing Project

Waterloo Historical Society is pleased and excited to announce that we are finalizing a contract with a professional indexer to complete an online-only index of names and subjects from all the annual volumes! The WHS volumes are considered to be one of the best sources of Waterloo County / Region history, and an online index will increase their use and value by 100 fold. Each year, after a new volume is published, the index will be updated.

We are applying for two grants to help pay for the estimated cost of \$50,000 and we anticipate that the grants and previous bequests will pay for about 2/3 of the cost. **Members and readers are invited to make a donation to the Project.** Please use the [membership form](#) included, and don't forget to indicate if you would like your name to be on the Acknowledgement page of the index. Questions and comments may be directed to a committee member: Lesley Webb, Darryl Bonk, John Glass, rych mills, Marion Roes. *Thank you!*

Happenings in the Grace Schmidt Room (GSR)

Do come visit us in the GSR this fall! We've got two great displays – sports history and school days in Waterloo County. We are also doing a display with the Red Cross-Waterloo Region in November!

I am happy to report that the Library received a \$37,066 Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation grant, along with a \$10,000 donation from the Waterloo Region Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society, for the purchase of a new book scanner. The scanner will be used to digitize our collection of county and city directories, which will be made available on the GSR's web pages. Watch for details about the project on the "Historically Speaking" blog. Once the directories project is complete (anticipated to be mid 2016), the scanner will become available to the public to use free of charge.

Join us on Monday November 16, 2015 at 7 pm, Country Hills Community Library, 1500 Block Line Road, Kitchener (adjoined to St. Mary's High School) for WHS' own, Marion Roes, who will give a talk on Berlin / Kitchener Funeral Business History. No registration is required and parking is free.

I'll be talking on Wednesday November 11, 2015 at 7 pm, at the Grand River Community Library, 175 Indian Road, Kitchener (adjoined to Grand River CI) about KPL's Soldier Card Project. No registration required and parking is free.

Since my last report, the Society has received the following donations:

- 6 black and white reprints of original photographs, documenting the Martin family and the Evenholme and Purity Dairy in Elmira, ON
- 1948 Waterloo Music Festival medallion, and
- 1 black and white photograph of Elmira telephone operators, ca 1940.

You are welcome to contact me with your questions about the WHS archives.

Cheers,
Karen Ball-Pyatt, WHS Archivist
karen.ball-pyatt@kpl.org
519-743-0271 x252

GSR blog at <http://historicallyspeakingkitchener.wordpress.com/>
Twitter for happenings and local history news at <http://twitter.com/kplgrhistory>

Berlin / Kitchener funeral business history

Funeral businesses and the undertaking profession were under reported in early history books, in my opinion. However, there are likely other professions that also had little coverage. That is what inspires researchers! It inspired me and it has been rewarding to find so much "hidden" material – with a great deal of help from friends, colleagues, historians, archivists and librarians who have been generous with leads, advice and with sharing from personal collections. Interviews with still-working and retired funeral directors and relatives of early undertakers have been invaluable for their stories and details that would be lost otherwise. (Two people I interviewed have died.) Thanks to Karen Ball-Pyatt for much help and for inviting me to talk about and share this

research!

~ Marion Roes

Web Sites, Kudos, News

- ❖ Thanks to Ontario Historical Society and Sarah McCabe, OHS Reach Project Manager, for her blog and photos at “OHS Enjoys ‘History Under the Trees’ with Waterloo Historical Society.” You can read it on the OHS Facebook page or at <https://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/index.php/2014-03-04-21-07-46/news-archives/417-ohs-enjoys-history-under-the-trees-with-waterloo-historical-society>
- ❖ Waterloo Region Generations www.generations.regionofwaterloo.ca now has an additional 6,000 people, 40,000 source citations and hundreds of new pictures. See if *your* Waterloo County ancestors are listed. The site is updated regularly.
- ❖ WHS past president and educator extraordinaire Mary Johnston has donated her papers from 1941-1998 to the University of Waterloo Special Collections. See her bio, titles of series and finding aid at <https://uwaterloo.ca/library/special-collections-archives/collections/johnston-mary-fonds>.
- ❖ North Dumfries Township and the North Dumfries Municipal Heritage Committee have erected signs – that you can’t miss – in order to recognize its Greenfield Heritage Conservation Area. <http://www.northdumfries.ca/en/ourcommunity/MunicipalHeritageInformation.aspx><http://www.northdumfries.ca/en/ourcommunity/MunicipalHeritageInformation.asp> A photo is on the WHS FB page.
- ❖ Another *fabulous* Doors Open Waterloo Region! Thank you to the Region of Waterloo, organizers Karl Kessler and Jane Snyder, site owners, and the *many* volunteers – including photographers – for making available heritage and other interesting buildings. If you didn’t participate or missed getting to all the buildings you wanted to see, check out the DOWR web site, Facebook and Twitter for photos.

Thank you to the Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation

The Waterloo Regional Heritage Foundation (WRHF) was established in 1973. Kathryn Lamb, at that time past-president of WHS and a member of the WRHF, wrote about its beginnings and annual meetings in several WHS annual volumes beginning with Volume 16 – 1973.

The WRHF has given a grant to the Waterloo Historical Society to assist with the publication cost of the annual volume starting with WHS Volume 71 – 1983 in which the grant was noted and acknowledged. Each year since then, WHS has applied for and has been given a grant. Although credit is given as required in each volume, many WHS members won’t know what a substantial and long-time contribution those grants have been. A grant was also given for the 1997 WHS publication *Waterloo County: An Illustrated History* by Geoffrey Hayes.

The WHS has had a representative on the WRHF as an appointed director since its inception in 1973. In addition, some of the elected directors may be WHS members.

See the website for more information about WRHF, its grants and awards programs, annual Heritage Showcase and photos of building projects it has supported. www.wrhf.org

Welcome two new councilors

The nominating committee was pleased to present Jennifer Winter and Jane Britton for immediate acceptance as councilors at the September 8, 2015 meeting of the board and council. The motion was passed and Jennifer is now a councilor for Cambridge and Jane for Waterloo. They will be included in the slate at the AGM.

Jennifer wrote that she is “a 6th-generation Galtonian, and attended Dickson Public School just like my grandmother did in the 1930s. I currently live in an historic home in Paris, and work for a non-profit arts service organization based out of Hamilton - Cobalt Connects. I have an extensive educational background in Canadian and local history, including a Masters of Museum Studies. I have also published a year-long blog on the early Scottish history of the Cambridge area, and am currently working on another research project on early colonial domestic architecture.” Jennifer’s blog is at uppercanadascots.blogspot.com.

Jane has recently retired from the University of Waterloo library as archivist and head of Special Collections, and is interested in learning more about WHS. Most of you will remember Jane’s presentation about Robert Nichols and Personal Studio photography at a 2011 WHS meeting.

Requests to / from readers

- Rych mills is looking for **images that use the Conestoga wagon symbol**. Many local companies have utilized a stylized image; e.g., it was CKCO TV’s main logo for many years; and it is on covers of books by authors from Ezra Eby to Mabel Dunham. Over the next two or three months, if you spot any old or current usages of that Conestoga wagon visual, please drop him a line at rychmills@golden.net.
- Genevieve Gorski Parker is looking for **information about her Ukrainian ancestors** who came to this area. She writes: “I am currently tracing my roots of my Ukrainian ancestors, the Werbowecki and Kuzyk families who settled in Kitchener from Ukraine in the 1920s. I’m trying to learn more about their lives in Kitchener. We are not Mennonites. Annie & Peter Werbowecki and Sam & Maria Kuzyk helped build the Church of the Transfiguration on Victoria Street. Annie & Peter lived on Park Street around the corner and Sam lived on Queen Street where he had a bakery. I have been in touch with Fr. Tataryn there and he has been very helpful. If anyone has information about Peter & Annie (nee Kuzyk) Werbowecki, Sam & Maria Werbowecki, Rudolph & Stella (nee Werbowecki) Kiffman, please contact me. Also, Peter (my great grandfather) came to Canada to work for a Harry Knipfel in Petersburg, ON.” Genevieve is at thegreatggp@gmail.com or 647-588-7793.

It’s time to renew

From Mandy Macfie, membership chair:

Memberships are due now (as of October 1) and you can use the enclosed form to mail your renewal. If you have questions about your membership, please contact me at msmacfie@gmail.com or 519 572-7510 (evenings). Thank you very much for renewing promptly. WHS appreciates your support!

Edna Staebler Research Fellowship & WHS

The Edna Staebler Research Fellowship is awarded for a program of research judged to increase knowledge and expand understanding of the diverse cultures of the folk and founding peoples of Waterloo Region / Waterloo County. It is administered by The Friends of Joseph Schneider Haus and the 2016 award will be given in partnership with the Waterloo Historical Society. This year's topic will be the history of the Waterloo Historical Society from approximately 1960 to 2012, the year of the Society's centennial. A stipend of \$2000 will be paid.

Deadline for application is November 6, 2015 and the Fellow will be announced December 4. The successful Fellow will submit a written report at the end of the term and will deliver a public presentation at Joseph Schneider Haus. In addition, the Waterloo Historical Society reserves the right to edit and publish all or part of the Fellow's research in an upcoming publication.

For an application form, check the web site <http://josephschneiderhaus.com/collections-research/edna-staebler-research-fellowship/> or email Lesley Webb, WHS president at lesley.webb@gmail.com or The Friends of the Joseph Schneider Haus at jsh@regionofwaterloo.ca.

Historical Happenings calendar

19th ANNUAL GRCA HERITAGE DAY WORKSHOP AND CELEBRATION

February 12, 2016 – Mark your calendars

Sponsored by the Heritage Working Group of the Grand River Conservation Authority, the 2016 workshop will highlight Block One of the Indian lands (Dumfries Township). It is the 200th anniversary of the founding of Galt by William Dickson and Absalom Shade in 1816. To be included on the mailing list for the workshop location, registration form and program etc., e-mail Warren Stauch mmegeo@golden.net

ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVANCY OF ONTARIO, NORTH WATERLOO BRANCH

October 18, 3 pm. "Building Waterloo Walking Tour," led by Kae Elgie: 200 years of history in 90 minutes! Learn how Waterloo developed from a mill site to a city. See buildings from each of Waterloo's development eras; discover invisible streams under your feet and historic buildings in clever disguises. Meet at the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery, 25 Caroline Street North. Debrief at the designated heritage landmark Huether Hotel, 59 King Street North. Advance registration required at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/aco-nextgen-building-waterloo-walking-tour-tickets-6835758939>

CITY OF WATERLOO MUSEUM, Conestoga Mall between Hudson's Bay & Galaxy Cinema www.waterloo.ca/museum

Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9:30 – 4. Free Admission

Also open fourth Thursday & Saturday (holidays excepted): Thursday 9:30 – 8 and Saturday 9:30 - 4

October 6 – January 30. We Built the City: A Tribute to Waterloo's Mayors

The intriguing history of over 150 years of municipal government from village to town to city uses 33 portraits. Several are oil paintings by Phoebe Watson. Visitors can share their thoughts about

Waterloo's future growth and also to interact with the new story map that traces the intensification and development since John Hoffman's original 1855 survey.

The latest City of Waterloo Heritage newsletter "Foundations" is at
<http://www.waterloo.ca/en/living/foundationsnewsletter.asp>

DOORS OPEN WATERLOO REGION (DOWR) <http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/doorsopen>

DOWR would like to thank all of the 2015 site owners, volunteers, visitors and event sponsors for another successful year! Do you have suggestions for future sites? Email doorsopen@regionofwaterloo.ca to start the conversation! Follow on Twitter @DoorsOpenWR or on Facebook.

HESPELER REUNION 2016 www.hespelerreunion.com July 8, 9, 10

Send your photos of 1960s, '70s and '80s family, sports, rock bands etc. for a reunion book; also memories of growing up in Hespeler and what you love about it. Send to Jim Hillis, editor jimhillis57@alumni.com

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ST. BONIFACE AND MARYHILL COMMUNITY www.maryhillroots.com for event details

October 18, Fall Harvest Day at the Edward Halter House, 1338 Maryhill Road

Come and visit the society's museum and genealogical resources, and view a display of the 100th anniversary of Maryhill's 4H Club.

November 22, 2 pm. Annual General Meeting at the Maryhill Heritage Park Community Centre, 58 Charles Street East. After the AGM, guest speaker Marion Roes will talk about her research titled "All about Undertaking: Funeral Businesses and Practices in Waterloo County." All are welcome.

KITCHENER PUBLIC LIBRARY See the latest *In Touch* magazine for all events and programs www.kpl.org

November 11, 7 pm. "Soldiers, Cards and Commemoration." Join Karen Ball-Pyatt, local history librarian (and WHS archivist) to remember Waterloo County soldiers. She looks back on the library's Soldier Card Project and some of the memorable stories of sacrifice and valour. No registration required.
Grand River Stanley Park Community Library, 175 Indian Road, Kitchener

November 16, 7 pm, "Kitchener Funeral History." Join historian Marion Roes as she shares her research and knowledge about funerals and undertaking in Berlin / Kitchener and the Schreiter-Sandrock Funeral Home, one of Waterloo Region's oldest until its recent closing. No registration required.

Country Hills Community Library, 1500 Block Line Road, Kitchener

MCDUGALL COTTAGE, 89 Grand Avenue South, Cambridge 519 624-8250 <http://mcdougallcottage.com/>

Check the web site for events and hours

Joleen Taylor, historical teacher / interpreter at McDougall Cottage is always looking for old photos of the Cottage and neighbourhood to help her better understand what the area would have looked like when the McDougalls and Bairds lived there. If you have information, stories or older photos of that Grand

Avenue South area of Galt, please contact her! tjoleen@regionofwaterloo.ca

The cottage closes for the season on December 18 and reopens March 3, 2016.

MENNONITE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ONTARIO www.mhso.org

October 24, 2 pm. Fall Meeting at Floradale Mennonite Church, 22 Florapine Road
"The Growth and Spread of the Old Order Mennonite Communities since the 1960s"

No pre-registration is required. An offering will be lifted to help with expenses.

Hear about the population growth and the increasing geographical diversity of the Old Order Mennonites and Markham Waterloo Mennonites since the 1960s. Rising land prices and the pressure of urbanization have caused these "plain people" to search for new territories.

The presentations will include: Clare Frey, "Adapting to New Challenges" and Amsey Martin, "Maintaining Community in New Locations." Clare is a minister in the Markham Waterloo Mennonite Conference, and writes historical articles for the Church Correspondent. Amsey is a deacon in the Old Order Mennonite Church, and a teacher in its parochial school system.

THE VICTORIA PARK GALLERY, 83 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener, across from the pavilion

To mid November, open weekend and holiday afternoons **12-4**; featuring photos and artifacts highlighting the history of the park and Berlin / Kitchener. Special feature this year is Denton photos. Books and items are for sale including the 1893 Bird's-Eye-View map of Berlin with a border of Busy Berlin factory and store sketches. Contact about the Gallery *and* for information about the next presentation in the **Victoria Park Speaker Series** is rychmills@golden.net

WATERLOO HISTORICAL SOCIETY www.whs.ca whs@whs.ca

November 14, 1:30; doors open at 1 pm for the **WHS Annual General Meeting**. Details are on the front page of the newsletter. Check the web site, Facebook and Twitter for updates and to stay in touch until the next meeting.

WATERLOO REGION MUSEUM 10 Huron Road, Kitchener 519 748-1914

Use your *WHS membership discount card* and visit often www.waterlooregionmuseum.com

To January 3. "BEER The Exhibit, History on Tap"

October 22, 7 to 9 pm. Beer TALKS Series: "Women Enjoying Beer!"

Not just a gentlemen's drink, women are invited to celebrate their appreciation of a pint at an evening with special guests and brew masters in the field. Men are welcome too. Presentation, nibbles and tour. \$15 plus HST

WELLESLEY HERITAGE & HISTORICAL SOCIETY 1137 Henry Street www.wellesleyhistory.org

Open the last Saturday monthly (except December), **10 – 3**

The Wellesley Maple Leaf issues from 1900-1908 are available on-line and are fully searchable PDF files. See also the over 300 obituaries and Wellesley Township schools histories on the web site.

To August 2016 A display about Wellesley photographer Charles F. Ottman, with photos from the Society's collection and images donated by a descendent in Vernon, B.C.

Thank you to the WHS volunteers who helped with the WHS display at Doors Open, Rockway Golf Club: rych mills, Lesley Webb, Marion Roes, Jeff Shank, Harold Russell, John Glass and Sherwood Hagey.

Many thanks to those who help at our public meetings to set up, take down, sell at the book table, provide refreshments... and to all who attend!

WHS: who we are and how to reach us

CONTACT US

whs@whs.ca **www.whs.ca**

Mail memberships and donations to Waterloo Historical Society
c/o Grace Schmidt Room, 85 Queen Street North, Kitchener ON N2H 2H1
Facebook www.facebook.com/waterloohs and Twitter WaterlooHS

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Warren Stauch, plaques committee chair: mmegeo@golden.net

COUNCILORS

Cambridge: Jennifer Winter
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Woolwich Township: Elinor Rau, Diane Strickler, Bertha Thompson

All questions about WHS archives may be directed to Karen Ball-Pyatt.

***Thank you for
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newsletter to...***

*Karen Ball-Pyatt,
Lesley Webb,
Mandy Macfie,
rych mills,
Joleen Taylor,
Warren Stauch,
all who sent
requests and
events; and to
Pat Bailey for
mailing.*

***Thank you
for your support
and
for
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your
membership
promptly***

our collection and archives in the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History.

- ❖ Fosters the recognition of our region's unique heritage and diligently encourages its preservation by documenting the history of Waterloo Region, including the cities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge, along with the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.

Books, Books, Book Table

The Book Table exists on-line at www.whs.ca, and a good selection of books is brought to each public meeting. If you have books of local history (including Ontario) interest that are cluttering your home, consider donating for WHS to sell. All funds help support the work of the Society. To donate and for information, contact Sherwood Hagey or rych mills. Thank you!