
Waterloo Historical Society Newsletter



August 2022 – Welcome back edition

Marion Roes, Editor

Public Meetings – All are welcome

Saturday, August 20 at 1:00 pm
History Under the Trees

Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum
10 Huron Road, Kitchener

The 2022 edition of History Under the Trees will be held at the Doon Heritage Village site beside the bridge.

Kevin Thomas, Supervisor of Historic Sites, Doon Heritage Village, will be the main presenter. He will talk about the WHS involvement in the original Ontario Pioneer Community in the 1950s and '60s. OPC was the first name of the site before it became Doon Pioneer Village. Almost everyone involved in those days was a WHS member. For those who haven't heard any of Kevin's engaging presentations, he has worked in the public programming aspect of museums for 29 years, in part, creating various museum and village activities. In addition, Kevin has produced various presentations that he delivers to a wide variety of community groups.

The presentation begins at 1 p.m. but come early and enjoy the Museum and Village complex. To receive an admission discount, mention to staff at the entrance that you are attending History Under the Trees. You will be directed to the shortest route to HUT. We will be out-of-doors unless weather interferes, in which case the century-old Shuh barn will be the site. Bring a lawn chair if possible. Light refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact WHS via rychmills@golden.net

The WHS Book Table will be set up with a selection of used books and annual volumes. Payment by cash or check.

Annual General Meeting – November

Details will be announced in the next newsletter.

WHS Volume 109 - 2021 – Pickup for 2022 Members

Pick up volumes at these days / times / places:

Saturday, August 6, from 10 am to 2 pm at the Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum, 10 Huron Road, Kitchener, in the lower parking lot. Drive in and receive your book, plus pick up for other members you know.

Sunday, August 7, from noon to 4 pm at the Victoria Park Gallery, 83 Schneider Avenue, Kitchener

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday evenings, August 8, 9, 10 from 5 to 7 pm at the Victoria Park Gallery

Saturday, August 20, from 1 pm for attendees to the WHS meeting, History Under the Trees. Admission applies.

Many thanks to museum staff for making possible the volume pickup and History Under the Trees!

Happenings in the Grace Schmidt Room (GSR)

I want to thank everyone for your support of the library's grant application to digitize the oral history collection. I am grateful for the vision and commitment to local history that the Board embodies and shares with the heritage community.

I'd like to welcome everyone back to the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History – we've missed you! Our doors are open once again and we are eager to share our collection and resources with the community.

Our team has grown, changed, and evolved since the pandemic hit. Trevor joined us in July 2020 and continues to work in the GSR on a part-time basis. We welcomed Scott and Chiara in early 2021 as our part-time Senior Library Assistants. The three were a great team that quickly fit into the GSR and ably handled our reference queries and collection inquiries. Sadly, for us (but wonderful for them), Scott and Chiara found full-time opportunities outside the library in early 2022.

I am happy to announce that Lauren and Bridget have recently joined us in the GSR as our new part-time Senior Library Assistants. Ingrid and Valerie, long-time GSR supports, are rejoining us on a part-time basis, too. Our new team is looking forward to helping you discover the collection and to make our resources accessible to all.

Our oral history collection is being digitized, and we'll be uploading the digital files to our History in the Making site: <https://makinghistory.kpl.org>. Stay tuned for more updates as this project progresses!

Do you have photographs or VHS cassettes to digitize? Check out our digitization equipment at <https://www.kpl.org/scanning> and book time with your KPL library card! No card? No worries! Give us a call and we can make a booking for you.

Be sure to drop by the GSR to check out our new displays! Staff love putting these together to showcase the treasures in the collection.

If you have a local history or genealogy query, please reach out to us at 519-743-0271, ext 212 or email us at gsr@kpl.org

And.... The GSR will be part of Digital Doors Open Waterloo Region 2022 in September! Watch the Doors Open Waterloo Region website <https://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/exploring-the-region/doors-open-waterloo-region.aspx> for details!

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

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 at the Central Library.

Condolences

Waterloo Historical Society offers condolences to families of our members who have died.

To Terry Weldon and family for the death of his wife Lilianne Weldon on October 5, 2021. Terry and Lilianne have been members since 2007.

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/kitchener-on/lilianne-weldon-10389838>

To the family of Pat Bailey for her death on June 9, 2020. Pat had been a WHS member since 2002. She and her sister Corinne Moffat (2013) helped with mailing newsletters, then Pat did it alone, for a total of about 15 years.

<https://erbgood.com/tribute/details/15070/Patricia-Bailey/obituary.html>

To the family of Paul Bitzer for his death on May 12, 2020. Paul was a life member and is on our 1967 records – the earliest we have.

<https://www.henrywalsler.com/memorials/paul-bitzer/4213959/obituary.php>

To Ralph Shantz and family for the death of his wife Dorothy on November 24, 2021. Ralph and Dorothy have been members since 1979.

<https://www.legacy.com/ca/obituaries/therecord-waterloo/name/dorothy-shantz-obituary?pid=200710234>

Congratulations, Thank you and Welcome Back

Congratulations and thank you to WHS member Jean Haalboom for her 40+ years of heritage advocacy and for receiving the Lt. Governor's Ontario Heritage Award for Lifetime Achievement! The Governor's House and Gaol and the former St. Jerome's High School, now Laurier's Faculty of Social Work, are two of many projects Jean has championed. It is good to see that she has been recognized for her ongoing faithful and tireless advocacy.

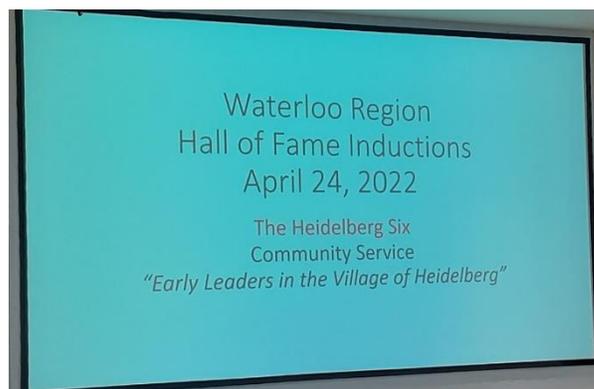
<https://www.therecord.com/news/waterloo-region/2022/03/02/jean-haalboom-recognized-by-lt-gov-for-heritage-work>

Welcome back to an in-person meeting at History Under the Trees, and newsletter issues! *Thank you* to WHS volunteers for their ongoing work behind the scenes, and more visibly, publishing the annual volume during the last two years.

Waterloo Historical Society 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 Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo, along with the townships of North Dumfries, Wellesley, Wilmot and Woolwich.

Hall of Fame Induction

Thank you to long-time director and WHS publication committee member Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt for researching, writing and preserving the history of Heidelberg in three WHS volumes – 107, 108 and, the latest, 109. Convinced that these industrious entrepreneurs and community leaders should be considered for induction in the Waterloo Region Hall of Fame, Rosanne wrote and submitted a nomination for the group known as the "Six Historic Entrepreneurs of Heidelberg."



Who are those six men? They are Henry N. Huehn, John Wesley Huehnergard, Charles Kruetziger, Henry Miller, Valentine Otterbein and Adam Steiss Jr.

The induction ceremony was held Sunday, April 24, 2022 at the Ken Seiling Waterloo Region Museum. Family descendants accepting the citation are, from left: Susan Huehnergard, Dino Stieess and two Huehnergard cousins. Photos are courtesy of Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt.

<https://observerxtra.com/.../early-entrepreneurs-went.../>

New Book

DEATH AS LIFE'S WORK

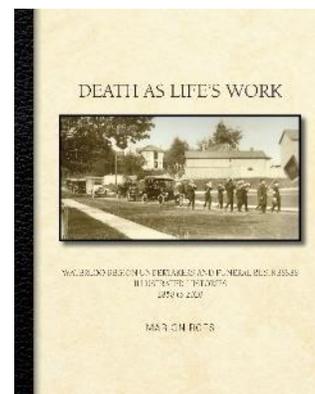
WATERLOO REGION UNDERTAKERS AND FUNERAL BUSINESSES
ILLUSTRATED HISTORIES, 1850 TO 2020

Marion Roes

140 names, 30 interviews / bios / stories
500 illustrations incl. 50+ funeral vehicles

548 pages, colour / hardcover
Indexes, Bibliography, Glossary

Death as Life's Work (self-published 2021) is an extraordinary history about a seldom portrayed profession that affects and serves all of us. Source material is provided for researchers of social, business and family history.



Books are for sale at book stores in Kitchener, Waterloo, Elmira and Guelph, museums Gift Shops in Kitchener, Cambridge, Baden, Wellington County Museum & Archives, and History Under the Trees on August 20. If you are outside of Waterloo Region, contact Marion at mlroes@sympatico.ca re mailing/delivery.

News and Notes from the Board of Directors

Nominating Committee – John Glass, Lesley Webb, Debbie Kroetsch

WHS is currently recruiting for two director positions: **Vice President and Book Table Co-ordinator**. If you are a current member who is interested in serving either position, you are encouraged to email a committee member (see the back page) or whs@whs.ca for the full job descriptions.

Welcome to new councilors for North Dumfries Township: Irene Schmidt-Adeney and Kim Hopps

Irene Schmidt-Adeney was raised and has lived the majority of her life in Ayr. She currently writes for the *Ayr News*, a weekly newspaper that has been in the Schmidt family for over 100 years. Before returning to the *Ayr News* almost 10 years ago, she worked in Toronto for 15 years as an international trainer for Bowne (Donnelly), specializing in financial communications. Her roots in the community run deep. Branches of Irene's family include early Scottish settlers who came to Dumfries/Blandford-Blenheim in the 1800s (Anderson, Laidlaw, Muir). Her German ancestors arrived in Waterloo County in the mid-1800s, and include the Finks (Heuther, Clare, Scroggins). She is involved in many volunteer organizations in the community and comes to the WHS through her membership in the North Dumfries Historical Preservation Society. Irene has a diploma in Advertising/Business from Mohawk College, diplomas in Teacher/Trainer of Adults for both Online and In-class learning, and several technical certificates.

Born and raised in Cambridge, Kim Hopps has been living on a farm with her husband and three young boys in North Dumfries Township for the past decade. Her enthusiasm for local history brought her to the North Dumfries Historical Preservation Society where she is an active member and manages the social media accounts. Kim is always searching for stories, photos etc. to put into the local archives as she believes strongly in preserving local history. One of Kim's hobbies includes metal detecting which has unearthed many local historic artifacts including a coin from 1812 and a rare civil war military belt buckle. These items have assisted her research on local settlers and have helped answer questions regarding life as a settler in North Dumfries Township. Kim has an honours degree in biology from the University of Western Ontario and a diploma in Dental Hygiene.

Book Table – rych mills, acting coordinator

Local and Ontario history books are always welcome at the WHS Book Table. If you are downsizing or if you are helping someone move, please consider donating any excess books to the Book Table. All proceeds go to the WHS. At our public meetings a selection of books is displayed and for sale at low, low prices. Contact rychmills@golden.net or 519 742-4990 to make arrangements. The list of Book Table books that is on the WHS web site is being updated. <https://www.whs.ca/booktable/>

Treasurer – Jeff Shank

Waterloo Historical Society appreciates receiving generous grants from Andrew Hachborn and Malcom Hachborn who represent the Ernest and Honor Hachborn Foundation. In 2021, the grant was \$200 and in 2022, it was \$500. Ernest and Honor Hachborn were WHS members from 1982. Ernest died June 7, 2011 and Honor died October 23, 2017.

Annual Volume Articles – rych mills

We welcome articles about various aspects of Waterloo Region history for the annual volume. See details and contact information for submissions at <https://www.whs.ca/authors/>. Articles may be submitted anytime; deadline for each year is September 30.

Annual Volume Searches

WHS is currently working on creating an online index of all the annual volumes. Once completed it will be available on our website. All WHS annual volumes since 1913 are available in the Grace Schmidt Room of Local History (GSR) at the Kitchener Public Library, as well as most other libraries in Waterloo Region. The number of digitized annual volumes available on the WHS web site has been increased to include up to 1960 (www.whs.ca/volume-search). To search for authors, articles, topics and images try the following resources:

- A card file index for volumes to 1995 in the GSR. Information is at www.kpl.org/localhistory/whs
- A table of contents on the WHS web site for volumes from 1913 to present at www.whs.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/table-of-contents.pdf
- Indexes of text and images for volumes to 2015 on the WHS web site at www.whs.ca/online-index

Who we are and How to Reach Us

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Archives

Contact Karen Ball-Pyatt if you have
questions about the WHS archives or
have items to donate.

Book Table

To donate and to buy books, come
to our meetings and / or see
www.whs.ca/booktable/

Membership – Oct 1-Sept 30

See whs.whs.ca/memberships for a
form to print, information and
benefits. A 2023 form will be on the
web site in September.

*Thank you for supporting WHS with
your memberships and donations.*

Newsletter

Comments, questions and
submissions may be sent to the
editor, Marion Roes.

*Thank you for help with this issue to
Karen Ball-Pyatt, rych mills, Erin
Applebee, Rosanne Atwater-Hallatt,
Lesley Webb*
