

# OUTLOOK

The Newsletter of THE HASTINGS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 1418 - BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO  
K8N 5J1

September 1, 1985

1. Welcome to the fall and winter program of the Society. We hope that the summer has been a relaxing time for our members and readers and that you're looking forward to the varied Society activities and programs.

2. This 1908 view of two Hastings County schools reminds us that the September meeting will salute several students for their achievements in historical research, genealogy, and art. If you can identify the location or the teacher, bring



your answer to the September meeting and enter it in the draw. You could be the winner. [One clue: look in a 1967 book that was published by the County of Hastings]

3. You and your friends and family are cordially invited to the Society's GENERAL MEETING on TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17th, when we salute several young students. The meeting will be held in the AUDITORIUM of the QUINTE LIVING CENTRE at 370 FRONT STREET, Belleville. There'll be displays, coffee, and a social half-hour at 7:30 P.M. with the meeting beginning at 8 P.M. This recognition night is always a high point in our year.

In addition to reports by several of the students, we'll have a display of historical apple figures created by students in LOUISE DEMCZYNA's classes at FOXBORO SENIOR SCHOOL, news of the 1985-85 competitions from Education Officer GEORGE SUPER, Minus One Hundred, draws for books, and other activities. It promises to be a great evening.

4. Education Officer GEORGE SUPER is pleased to announce the decisions by the judges in our 1984-85 competitions. He reports that there were a record number of entries in the increased number of categories.

Prize winners at the secondary school level were:

- PEGGY McCORMICK and TRACEY CARR-BRAINT of Belleville Collegiate Institute and Vocational School for their genealogical research
- LUCINDA DONALDSON and VANIA POSTMA of Trenton High School for their art work

Prize winners for genealogical research at the elementary school level were RYAN BURNSIDE and ANGELA PARANUIK of Madoc Township Public School and MATTHEW GREEN of D.R. Atkins.

Prize winners for historical essays at the elementary school level included:

- . ADAM BARTLETT from North Hastings Senior Elementary for "Gordon Clarence Jackson Remembers . . . "
- . STEVE McCAW from Coe Hill for "Our Local Hero, Private Gunter"
- . and the following students all from MADOC TOWNSHIP P.S.:
- . HEATHER ALLEN for "The History of Beth Jecoliah"
- . REBECCA BEST for "A History of Lot 16, 3rd Con. Elzevir"
- . MEREDITH BERRY for "The Life of Charles Frazer Aylsworth"
- . WENDY EMBLETON for "The History of the Spatola House"
- . STACIE JOHNSON for "Ontario's First Gold Mine", and
- . SARAH KETCHESON for "The History of Pitts Landing".

Prize winners for art work included the following elementary school pupils:

- . ADELLE ARTS, BRYAN DITTS, JACKIE DRAGERT, STEVEN PHILLIPS, and ALLISON TUMMON, of Foxboro Senior School
- . MARJORIE DELINE and SANDRA WEDDEN of Madoc Public School
- . Mrs. Demczyna's students from FOXBORO SENIOR SCHOOL, whose historical apple dolls featured Mackenzie Bowell, Chief Joseph Brant, Susanna Moodie, pioneer farmers, Indians, and even a chuckwagon:
  - . CHRISTA BENEDICT
  - . JERRY BLAKELY
  - . CHRISTA BUJER
  - . CHARLIE CARTER
  - . NICOLE CASSELMAN
  - . STEFAN DEMCZYNA
  - . MICHELLE DEMILL
  - . LISA FRALICK
  - . LANE FRANKLIN
  - . JENNIFER GREEN
  - . VALERIE HAMER
  - . JULIE JAMIESON
  - . NICOLE McFARLANE
  - . STACEY NISBET
  - . MICHELLE REID
  - . BRIAN ROWBOTHAM
  - . MARTIN SANDERSON
  - . JENNIFER SCOTT
  - . STACEY SPRY

We congratulate the winners and look forward to seeing the historical apple dolls at the September 17th meeting. We'll also see some of the winning art entries (on slides) and hear from several of the writers in person.

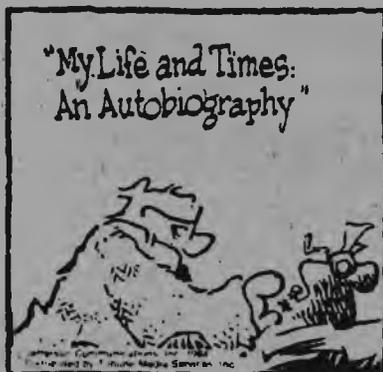


For those who didn't make our list of winners, we say "Thanks for entering". All entrants received certificates. [P.S. The letters in the puzzle spell out a message. Can you find the message?]

5. Still on the topic of research projects and competitions, this reminder about our Heritage Writing Project and the fast-approaching deadline. If you haven't considered entering this year, you might consider making a start now for the 1986 contest. Perhaps you could write an autobiography. [Autobiographies were the subject of a series in the "Shoe" cartoon strip a year ago, with Cosmo Fishhawk offering some interesting insights.]

### Historical essays

Deadline for submissions of historical fiction (with a local setting) or historical research essays to the 1985 Heritage Writing Project is Sept. 13. For further information contact George Super of the Hastings County Historical Society at 966-1806.



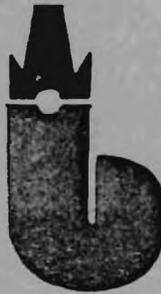
by Cosmo Fishhawk



6. Our June tour to the Museum of the Trent-Severn Waterway in Peterborough and the Pioneer Century Village at Lang was a success. Tourists were especially impressed by the recent expansion of the facilities at Century Village. Thanks to tour organizers CHARLOTTE KUNTZE, ISABEL WRIGHT, JACK KUNTZE, and GEORGE SUPER. Society members are looking forward to future tours of this type.
7. Canada Week activities in Belleville had a strong historical flavour in late June. ALICE DELINE, ADELE DIBBEN, and ISABEL WRIGHT were among the Society members who attracted considerable coverage in the Intell with the special display and information booth at the Quinte Mall. The booth featured genealogical information and material from the picture collection.

8. Canada Week also saw the unveiling of two designation plaques at Belleville by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. Formed in early 1979, the city's L.A.C.A.C. has designated ten heritage buildings - City Hall; Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce; Bellevue Terrace; McIntosh-Ridley House; Jordan-Chant-Kuebler House; Pringle-Penn House; McRae-Van Norman-Burshaw House; Hastings County Museum (Phillips-Burrows-Faulkner House); the Corby-Caldwell Greenley Block; and the Seldon-Asselstine House. ELAINE PRESTON is the L.A.C.A.C chairman and ADELE DIBBEN represents our Society on the committee. The program for the June 26th plaque unveilings included this note; for which we thank L.A.C.A.C.

## OFFICIAL UNVEILING



1. Corby - Caldwell  
Greenley Block  
258 Front Street
2. Glanmore Hastings  
County Museum  
257 Bridge St. E.

Belleville's L.A.C.A.C. wishes to express their gratitude to the Historical Structures Committee of the Hastings County Historical Society for their tremendous contribution in researching Belleville's Heritage Buildings.

9. At the same time as L.A.C.A.C. was designating the Hastings County Museum, because of its historical significance, the museum was launching its first major fund-raising campaign in 12 years to raise \$75,000 to undertake major repairs. Members of our Society have been approached by mail to support this campaign and the directors encourage members and readers of this newsletter to support the museum. We have always had very close ties with the museum, ever since we opened the first Hastings County Museum in the old registry office on Church Street. For several years we operated the museum in Glanmore and still maintain our office and picture archives in the building. If you would like information on the major repairs to be undertaken, contact the museum at 962-2329.
10. A sincere thank you to NANCY MOHAN, education co-ordinator at the Hastings County Museum, for her assistance to the Society and the schools of Hastings County over the past five years. Nancy stepped down at the end of May.

11. The Hastings County Museum is not alone in fund-raising activities at this time. The Trent Port Historical Society is hoping to raise \$100,000 to renovate the old police building, vacated by the city force earlier this year. Designed by noted Canada West architect Kivas Tully, the building was constructed in the Classical Revival Style of the mid 19th century. Constructed of limestone, the old Town Hall and Market House was completed in 1861. Donations should be forwarded to the Trent Port Historical Society at P.O. Box 634, Trenton, K8V 5W6.

The recently organized Stirling Historical Society is working to retain the old Stirling Station. Support for the project appears to be growing in the area and interested people can contact the society at Post Office Box 687, Stirling.

And from Marmora comes word that the Marmora Historical Foundation also has been moving to preserve the old station. The article at right appeared in the Intell and was written by LEIGH CALDWELL.

A turn-out of 22 people at the recent meeting of the Marmora Historical Society was encouraging to society members. They learned that work will begin soon on the old railway station, recently acquired by the society.

A new roof and cement footings and foundation are required for the building at an estimated cost of \$2,000. Although there are no grants available for the project, Andre Philpot reported approval for two students to begin work on the building for six weeks. The Canada World Youth Group will donate four days to community work, when they will be able to assist with work at the station.

Anne Philpot presented the new officers: Gordon Bennett, president; Bob Sanderson, vice-president; Helen Mantle, secretary; Anne Philpot, treasurer; Norma Gillies, Ken Gillies and Ralph Neal, directors; Andre Philpot, grant applications and legal advisor; Bob Sanderson, Rolly Landry, Mr. and Mrs. Denny Draper, Ralph Neal and Gordon Gow, station committee; Stella Bennett, Anne Philpot and Madeleine Gown, social conveners.

12. Our Society is pleased to acknowledge a recent donation to the Living Trust Fund from LOREEN ELLIS, representing the past presidents of the Women's Canadian Club of Belleville and the Belleville and District Canadian Club, which organization operated here from 1914 to 1970. Our thanks to these former executive members for this donation and for presenting the plaque in the Corby Library, in honour of Col. Charles R. McCullough (an early resident of Belleville and the founder of the Canadian Club). The donation to the Society's Living Trust Fund of the balance of the club's funds followed the presentation earlier this year of the club's minute books and other records to our archives in the Corby Library.
13. Information wanted - ALEX MARTIN of 211-1 Snow Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2M4, is trying to find the location of Warwick or Warwick in Hastings County. He's researching the descendants of Robert Parks (probably born about 1780 in England, immigrated to Canada around 1810-20, probably with a family). One member was John who married Jane Robison (born about 1803). John and Jane are said to have lived near Warwick or Warwick in Hastings County. Can you help???

14. Save Ontario Shipwrecks. Quinté Chapter is performing an archaeological survey of the remains of an unidentified sunken schooner in Lake Ontario, just east of Presqu'île. Anyone with a knowledge of shipping mishaps and/or subsequent salvages in the forementioned area is urged to contact KEN MULLINGS at 392-3603. Ken is president of the Quinte Chapter of S.O.S. The society was formed in 1981 to further public knowledge and appreciation of Ontario's marine heritage, after a group of divers became concerned by the wholesale stripping of shipwrecks and consequent destruction of some of the best heritage diving sites.
15. GEORGE SUPER is seeking information on the Aylward hangings at Belleville in December, 1862, and what happened to their three young children. Contact George at 966-1808.
16. From the Mailbag - we appreciate the letters and comments that come in. Here are a few recent excerpts . . .

"Receiving the June 14th copy of OUTLOOK was a pleasant happening of this morning . . ." So wrote WENDELL CAMM, past president of the Bay of Quinte Branch of the U.E.L. Association. We wish Wendell well as he moves to London (Ontario) and thank him for his leadership during 1984's Bicentennial Celebrations. Best wishes also to the incoming president of the branch, EVELYN DREW.

ELEANOR CARLETON MOULT writes that she "thoroughly enjoys and appreciates" the newsletter. The Scarborough resident notes that her U.E. Dafoe roots and Carleton roots stem not far from Belleville.

Belleville native BETTY FARQUHARSON, now resident in Peterborough, invites our members and friends to visit Hutchison House Museum in Peterborough. She adds that she "always enjoys OUTLOOK every month".

HUGH ROWSON writes on the "scope, quality and range of the materials prepared by the society" in the LOYALIST YEARS KIT. He feels that the kit will be useful in the intermediate grades in the public schools of the county and offers congratulations to those Society members and friends who have helped to assemble the kit, now available at the Hastings County Museum (962-2329).

GREGG GORDON, TOM WRIGHTMEYER, and ALLAN DEMPSEY send comments on the wording for the revised plaque proposed by the Ontario Heritage Foundation to honour John Meyers, a founder of Belleville.

NICK MIKA expresses the pleasure he and his wife felt on the occasion of our salute to them and Mika Publishing on June 4th. It was "a great surprise".

RODGER GREIG sends news of the extensive activities of the County of Prince Edward Archives, operated by the Prince Edward Historical Society. The archives has a major role in preserving the heritage of Prince Edward.

# Early School Days in Belleville.

BY JOHN J. B. FLINT.

THE first school I attended was on East side of Pinnacle Street. The master was a fine old Scotch gentleman, the grandfather of the librarian of the Public Library. Very frequently I saw him with his long fish pole and his box of bait, making for the river. The next school was on the West side of Pinnacle, about the site of the Police Court. The teachers were Mrs. and Miss Tapsom, two fine, well educated English ladies. Then a teacher named Kerr opened a school at the corner of Great St. James and Church Streets. The school was in the upper story of the building. Many teachers came to Belleville, whose faces I remember, but whose names I have forgotten.

The Grammar School was a small frame structure erected at the South-western angle of the Court House grounds, directly North of the Public Library. The lower room was occupied by the fire engine. We looked with awe at the rows of leather buckets and caps upon the wall, the mysterious engine, the hooks and ladders. The upper room was the school room, approached by a pair of stairs from Pinnacle Street. At the first alarm of fire, the boys were accustomed to assemble at the earliest possible moment, and assist in passing the water buckets from some well to the fire, or giving a willing hand to the brakes on the engine. How we use to work those brakes which sent the water through one line of hose! My earliest recollection of Sir Mackenzie Bowell is, seeing him on the highest rung of a ladder, in his fireman's clothes, wielding an axe, with which he was chopping a portion of the cornice, which was on fire. How I admired his bravery! It seemed to me that he was in great danger, but he resolutely swung his axe, regardless of everything but his self-imposed task. I think Sir Mackenzie was the Captain of the Fire Company. The fire was in a livery stable which stood opposite the Standard Bank, where the ruin of the Balmoral now stands. I remember the proprietor's name was Harper.

The Grammar School had but one teacher, Alexander Burden, a native of Aberdeen. For several years I attended this school. The rear windows opened upon the side hill, now the Court House Terrace. It was an easy matter to open a window and step out on the hill, which was our play ground. The boys were nearly all older than myself; and they were indeed a rough lot. The instrument of punishment was a cat-o'-nine tails—a broad leather strap, cut into nine fingers, the tips of which had been hardened by fire. The punishment was applied in this manner. The scholar held out his hand, palm uppermost, the master brought the cat down upon the palm with all the force of his right arm. Occasionally the culprit, seeing the lash descending, would lose his nerve, with the result that the master's legs would frequently receive the blow intended for the hand. The master, rendered furious, would seize the hand of the unfortunate, place it upon the desk, and would let the cat fall. There was no chance of avoiding the blow which was generally repeated, in order to convince the beholders that, after all, the best course was to let the extended hand receive the first blow. In extreme cases the cat would be applied to the back. If a scholar failed in his work he was sentenced to remain after the dismissal of the school. The master invariably would lock the door, and resort to Front Street. The detained scholar would open the window, escape to the hill, and go in for sport, leaving a watch to notify the return of the master. When the teacher unlocked the door, the boys would be studying hard. One unfortunate day the guard engaged in a game, and the master strode into the room, unobserved. He looked at the open window, and at the boys. They saw him, and hastily returned through the window; but their jackets were certainly innocent of dust for a long time, and I am confident the master's right arm was very lame. The proudest moment of my life was when I was asked to mount a bench in the school room and was presented with a prize for good behaviour and advance in studies. I believe I have the book. In one corner of the room stood a pail, usually filled with water—a cup by the pail. The dust and dirt used to gather in the corner near the pail, and some one planted two or three peas in the wet soil, and they actually grew until they were four or five inches high. All the boys united in protecting our horticultural experiment. Really, this paper has grown so rapidly that I must close at once.

20. There's still time to register in the Local History course I teach each morning at BCIVS from 8:55 to 10:05. Contact the school at 962-9581 or me at 968-5023.

21. Deadline for material for OUTLOOK normally is one week before the end of each month. We welcome material.

17. School yearbooks and magazines can be treasures. All too often such publications are ignored by historians. The preceding extract from the Belleville High School Elevator of June 1915 sheds considerable light on early schools, especially the grammar or high school taught by Alexander Burdon. Comments on John J.B. Flint's recollections are appreciated.
18. Several new publications of local interest have arrived. The most impressive is "The Settler's Dream", the architectural history of Prince Edward County by TOM CRUICKSHANK and PETER STOKES. It's spectacular and affordable.

Hastings County Junior Farmers have published a 90-page history of the association to cover its 60 years.

Ontario Living (published by the Ontario Motor League) has a brief article by MARGARET McBURNEY and MARY BYERS on the brick building at 208 John Street, Belleville. The "House of Orange" deals with one of "Belleville's darkest days".

The summer issue of Rotunda (published by the Royal Ontario Museum) highlights the Lennox and Addington-County Museum.

A recent issue of the Canadian Historical Review reviews MARY BEACOCK FRYER's book entitled "John Walden Meyers: Loyalist Spy" and ISABEL THOMPSON KELSAY's biography of "Joseph Brant". Reviewer C.M. JOHNSTON feels that the Brant biography dismisses Deserontyon (the leader of the Fort Hunter Mohawks who settled along the Bay of Quinte) in the same brusque manner that Brant did. Johnston objects.

The Hanger Bookshelf and RICK JOHNSON can be credited with three books relating to CFB Trenton . . . "Sgt. Sargent's Trenton" and histories of 424 and 437 squadrons. I can personally vouch for the quality of "Sgt. Sargent's Trenton", an excellent and often humorous account of life on the base during the Second World War.

And don't forget Mika's excellent "The Shaping of Ontario".

19. Hope to see you at our SALUTE TO STUDENTS Night on the 17th *Boys*

*Gerry*

THE FIRST IN THE 1985-86 SEASON'S SERIES OF NOTES, QUOTES, AND VIEWS FROM

Hastings County Historical Society  
Post Office Box 1418  
Belleville, Ontario  
K8N 5J1

Query: What Sesquicentennial does Belleville celebrate in 1986???

