



# Outlook

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## Of muskets and bosom bottles

by Lewis Zandbergen

How often have you heard people say they wished they had lived in the past? Sentiments rise from a desire to immerse oneself in an era when life appeared so much more simple. However, romantic notions of how our ancestors lived their daily lives might be a whole lot more disappointing than uplifting. Forget the notions of elegance of the bygone era; the belief that our ancestors lived lives filled with the warmth of family and a bucolic existence as is portrayed in books, movies and television productions. Even our history books often gloss over the realism of the lives our forefathers knew.

Several citizens from the past made an appearance at the Tuesday, April 16, meeting of the Hastings County Historical Society. Widow Wentworth (aka Barbara Monk) is a genteel woman of the Empire period, simple yet elegant in her high-waisted dress.

An unnamed bateau man (Peter Ferri) regaled us with a few tales from his years on the water. Helen Scott portrayed a woman of the mid-1800s while Jon Wannamaker and David Smith were cast in the roles of militia men; Mr. Smith brought along a rather heavy looking musket. Each of the re-enactors was emphatic about the quality of life two centuries ago and it's not at all the way Hollywood makes it look.

Oh, and bosom bottles? They were small round-bottomed bottles which would hold a few fragrant flowers. Women wore them under their clothing between their breasts to mask objectionable body odours.

## Next Meeting

**Tuesday, May 21, 2002**

### Guest Speaker

**Hazel Lloyst-Shaw**

Topic

**Belleville's Farmers' Market**

Refreshments at 7:30 p.m.

Meeting begins at 8 p.m.

Monthly meetings are held in the Auditorium of the Quinte Living Centre

370 Front Street, Belleville

Figures from the past visited the Hastings County Historical Society meeting held Tuesday, April 16. From the left David Smith, Helen Scott, Peter Ferri, Barbara Monk and Jon Wannamaker take part in re-enactments staged in Canada and the United States. Each told of the harshness of life during the pioneer years; Hollywood productions belie the notion that life long ago was a peaceful co-existence between man and the world. Women widowed during the War of 1812 often had to seek a new husband within days so she could continue to claim rations. Barbara Monk portrays the Widow Wentworth at many re-enactments and hosts an annual event at her farm north of Odessa. Called the Upper Canada Trade Faire, it features all sorts of re-enactments, civilian and military encampments depicting life between the 1750s and the 1860s, cooking and sewing demonstrations, blacksmithing and craft demonstrations, as well as mock battles. The Widow Wentworth of the early 19th century does concede to at least one very 21st century convenience; she has a web site at <[www.tradefaire.ca](http://www.tradefaire.ca)>.

*The Hastings County Historical Society, General Delivery, Cannifton, Ontario K0K 1K0*

May is Museum Month 2002!

# Statistics and facts about Ontario museums

Celebrating its 30th anniversary, the Ontario Museum Association (OMA) is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing public awareness of Ontario's heritage as it is interpreted through museums in the province. The Association works to enhance the educational role of museums and to facilitate the public function of museums by promoting the interests of the museum community. The web site address is <[www.museumsonario.com](http://www.museumsonario.com)>.

A museum is most often defined as: not-for-profit, open to the public at regular hours, administered in the public interest, existing for the purpose of collecting, preserving, studying, interpreting, assembling and exhibiting to the public objects and specimens of educational and cultural value, including artistic, scientific, historical and technological material.

Close to 300 special events marked Museum Month 2002.

Almost all Ontario's museums are members of the Ontario Museum Association. Both individual and institutional members span across the province in communities large and small, and add significantly to community life and tourism in this province.

Ontario's heritage sector, including public art galleries and museums, contributes \$480-million dollars to the province's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and generates 14,000 jobs.

The official launch of Museum Month 2002 was held with the Southwestern Ontario Heritage Council members at the Art Gallery of Windsor on Wednesday, May 1, with the Honourable David Tsubouchi, Minister of Culture, and Mayor Michael Hurst of the City of Windsor.

There are more than 600 museums, archives, art galleries and historic sites in Ontario. There is a museum site in almost every city, town and village in Ontario.

Nearly 34 per cent of these museums are community museums.

Almost 17 million people visit museums or heritage sites in Ontario annually. More than 100,000 school group visits are made to Ontario museums and heritage sites each year.

Fifty-four per cent of Ontario residents have visited a museum or heritage institution in the past year. By contrast, only 36 per cent of Ontario residents attended a sporting event in the same period.

The percentage of tourists to rural communities and municipalities who are Heritage Tourists totals 43 per cent.

U.S. visitors to Ontario museums per year total 1.5 million. On average each of these visitors to Ontario spends \$121 per night.

The average museum or heritage site admission price in 1995-96 (latest year available) was \$4.75

Over \$19-billion is contributed to the Canadian economy by museums and other cultural organizations (2002).

The number of Canadians employed in museums totals 30,000.

Is there a guide to Ontario's Museums? Yes, the OMA offers an online Guide to Ontario Museums, in both French and English. The English web site is <<http://www.museumsonario.com>>.

The types of institutions listed in the OMA's Guide to Ontario Museums are:

Agricultural Site, Archaeological Site, Archives, Art Museum/Gallery, Botanical Garden, Children's Museum, Community Museum, Conservation Area, Cultural Centre, Ethnically Specific Museum, First Peoples Cultural Centre, Historic Building, Library, Living History Site, Marine Museum, Military Museum, Multidisciplinary Museum, Natural Science/History Collection, Park, Railway Museum, Resources, Science & Technology Museum, Specialized Collection, Sports Museum/Hall of Fame, Transportation Museum/Artifact, Zoo.

## Membership does have its privileges.

Why not become a member of the Hastings County Historical Society today.

New members are always welcome!

Please complete this form, or a photocopy of the form if you wish to save the newsletter, and bring it with your payment to the Society's next general meeting (third Tuesday of each month except June, July, August and December), or send it by mail to the Hastings County Historical Society, 154 Cannifton Road North, General Delivery, Cannifton, Ontario K0K 1K0

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

Individual	\$20.00 _____	Life Member	\$150.00 _____
Family	\$25.00 _____	Corporate Sponsor	\$ 50.00 _____
Senior/Student	\$15.00 _____	Women's Institute/ Organization	\$ 20.00 _____

I also enclose a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ toward the work of the Society.

*The Hastings County Historical Society is a Registered Charity. Official receipts for Income Tax purposes will be forwarded to you with your membership card.*

# May is Museum Month and all Ontario is celebrating!

Wherever you live, and whatever your tastes, this month kicks off a summerful of exciting exhibits and events. For further information on any of these events see the Ontario Museum Association web site at <<http://www.museumsontario.com>>.

Here's a breakdown of some events in southern Ontario.

## Southwestern Ontario

Did you know that the first permanent European settlement in Ontario was in the area which is now the City of Windsor and its environs?

Did you know that Eileen Vollick, born in Warton, at age 19 in 1927 was the first woman to receive a pilot licence?

Fanshawe Pioneer Village will host the Ontario Artists Blacksmith Association with blacksmithing and farrier demonstrations.

The Serbian Heritage Museum opens an exhibit of beautifully framed drawings, paintings and prints by Serbian artists dating from the early Middle Ages to the present.

Follow the trail of the Underground Railroad in Southwestern Ontario at sites such as the North American Black Historical Museum, Buxton National Historic Site and Museum, and Uncle Tom's Cabin.

## Festival Country

Did you know that you could see a 100-year-old restored, working, drilling rig at the Canadian Drilling Rig Museum?

Did you know that the "Jennifer Show" is an art exhibit where each artist was chosen based on the simple criteria that her name is Jennifer? Oakville Galleries.

If you can never get enough of firefighters, be sure to come to the Doon Heritage Crossroads 10th Annual Firefighters' Muster, Games and Parade. Let the bells clang and the sirens wail.

"Bloomin' Bloomers" is the title of Eva Brook Donly Museum's fun new exhibit on bloomers, drawers, longjohns, lingerie, and washday antiques. And what do they mean by Wonderfully lurid 1893 police gazettes? Come down to Simcoe and see.

If quilting is your interest any one of the events at these museums will fascinate you: Homer Watson House and Gallery, Woodside National Historic Site, Niagara Historical Society Museum, or Joseph Schneider House.

## Lakelands

What floating historic tourist destination won Attractions Canada's Best-Large Attraction in Ontario in 2001? And where does the last coal-fired, steam-driven passenger steamship operate in Canada? Visit the Muskoka Steamship and Historical Society Museum and find out.

Did you know that the OPP was created in 1909? "Danger and Decision: Defining Moments in the History of the OPP," is on display at the Ontario Provincial Police Museum.

June 2 marks the Aviation and Military Heritage Festival at the Billy Bishop Museum in Owen Sound. Honour the 85th anniversary of the air battle that earned Billy Bishop a Victoria Cross.

Visit Montreal-based Sylvia Safdie and her poetic sculptural installations at the Tom Thompson Memorial Art Gallery, until June 28.

## Toronto

Did you know that the 10th Annual Fiddlers' Contest will be held at Black Creek Pioneer Village on May 20. Hear fiddle music from across Ontario.

Where can you taste Chinese, Japanese, Hungarian, and Persian food all in one day? At Benares Historic House's "Taste of the World" Carassauga International Pavilion.

Spadina Historic House and Gardens "Music in the Orchard" Sunday afternoons in May. Spread your blanket on the grass and enjoy music in a special setting.

A new exhibit at Mackenzie House brings to life a dynamic decade

(1850-1860) in the history of Toronto's Black citizens.

Paintings, photos, and installations by young artists explore the themes of the integration of two cultures, of immigration and alienation, and of the adaptation of old European motifs to modern Canadian art. Lithuanian Museum-Archives.

Visit the McMichael Art Collection for a 20th century showcase of Canadian art by the Group of Seven, First Nations, Inuit, and contemporary artists.

## Getaway country

How many canoes can you put in a Lift Lock? Bring your canoe and come out to the Canadian Canoe Museum's Great Kawartha Canoe-a-thon and find out. This fourth annual event has had 200 participants in past years.

Did you know that the Markham District Historical Museum contained over 20 buildings, many of which are relocated historic structures?

Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum will open its exhibit "The 200 Wonders of Whitchurch" on May 18, along with a plaque unveiling to commemorate their community's bicentennial.

Experience a live theatre production called "And Freedom for All" as part of the Peterborough Centennial Museum & Archives exhibit on the Underground Railroad.

Need a break from your whirlwind tour of visiting museums? Have a relaxing cup of tea and home-baked goodies at the Elman W. Campbell Museum's May

## Ontario east

Did you know that the Upper Canada Village's exhibit "Hoop Dreams" was about hoop skirts and not basketball?

Did you know where you could see items from the *Titanic* without leaving the Ottawa region? "*Titanic* 90 years later," a joint exhibit with the Royal Ontario Museum and the Bergeron White Star Collection will be at the Nepean Museum until May 31.

Where can you find a floating museum by day that is a bed and breakfast at night? Check out the *Alexander Henry*, a retired Coast Guard Ship at the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes in Kingston.

On May 18 all Ottawa will celebrate International Museum Day. Join the festivities at the National Gallery of Canada, Canadian Museum of Nature, Canadian Museum of Civilization, Canada Science and Technology Museum, National Archives of Canada and the National Portrait Gallery, Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography, Canadian War Museum, and the Currency Museum of the Bank of Canada. Also open for this special day are Cumberland Village, Billings Estate, Pinhey's Point, and Laurier House.

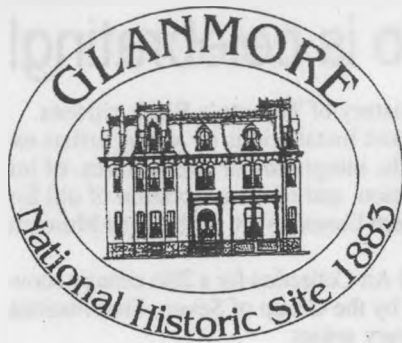
Whether large or small the Ottawa area museums join all Ontario in celebrating Museum Month.

Kids will also want to go to the Virtual Museum of Canada at <<http://www.virtualmuseum.ca>> to play the new game "The Adventure Train" for a chance to win great prizes. You can play during the whole month of May and on International Museum Day.

For something a little different try the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum for events and exhibits on quilting, silk painting, embroidery, and much more opening May 16.

The Heritage House Museum of Smiths Falls presents "The Rub of The Green" a travelling exhibit on the evolution of golf course design. Bring your golfing fan to this unique exhibit from the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame.

For a look at *Glanmore National Historic Site's* Museum Month festivities please turn to page 4.



# G LANMORE

National Historic Site

257 Bridge Street East,


Belleville, Ontario K8N 1P4

(613) 962-2329

## Celebrating Museums Month at home!

Celebrate your local Museum this May! Visit Glanmore National Historic Site for an Open House on Saturday, May 18, 2002 - International Museums Day.

The museum will be open for tours from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free and refreshments will be served. Check out the Ontario Museums Association web site to find out about other May is Museums Month events taking place across the province <[www.museumsontario.com](http://www.museumsontario.com)>.



**Summer Fun at Glanmore**

This summer, Glanmore will be hosting a variety of activities for both the young and young at heart. Tour Glanmore on alternating Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. and take part in some old-fashioned fun!

Regular museum admission applies.

- July 10 - Make a floral tussie mussie!
- July 24 - Play Victorian garden games!
- August 7 - Make and eat homemade ice-cream!
- August 21 - Make a Victorian paper craft!

## Friends of Glanmore Boot Sale

Saturday, May 25, 2002

8 a.m. to ?

Plants, books, baking, yard sale treasures and bargains galore will be found

at the Friends of Glanmore Boot Sale.

The Boot Sale will take place on the

grounds of Glanmore National Historic Site,

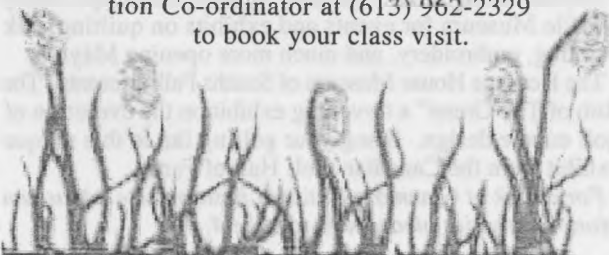
257 Bridge Street E.,

Belleville

Rain or Shine.

## Garden Delights School Program

Join us in the garden to play popular 19th century games such as hoops, stilts, croquet and badminton! Tour Glanmore to see our spectacular Victorian mansion and learn how Victorians used flowers and herbs from the garden in their everyday lives. Plus, make a simple garden craft to take home. Parlour games and other indoor activities will be featured on rainy days. The Garden Delights School Program is suitable for grades K to 6 and is offered at Glanmore National Historic Site from May 14 to June 21, 2002. Limited space is still available. Please call Melissa Wakeling, Education Co-ordinator at (613) 962-2329 to book your class visit.



Outlook is published in January, February, March, April, May, June, September, October and November for the friends and members of the Hastings County Historical Society.

It is edited and produced by Lewis Zandbergen.

Anyone wishing to submit articles or information may contact the editor at 613-395-3022, or E-mail [lewzan@reach.net](mailto:lewzan@reach.net)

Thank you to *The Community Press* for its assistance.

### PLEASE NOTE!

The Deadline for the June 2002 issue is May 23, 2002

mailing label

# Day Trip



Join the Hastings County Historical Society on a day tour to northern Hastings County. Rediscover Bancroft's rich heritage ... Familiarize yourself with the historic sites of north Hastings ... Rediscover crystal clear lakes, and delight in the ambience of century old buildings.

**Saturday,  
June 8**

The bus will leave Belleville at 8:30 a.m. and will return at about 8:30 p.m.

The tour costs just \$40. That includes a comfortable highway coach ride through some breathtakingly beautiful country, a delicious catered dinner, and a local speaker.

Book early to avoid disappointment.



Call Vera at 966-4859 for details