



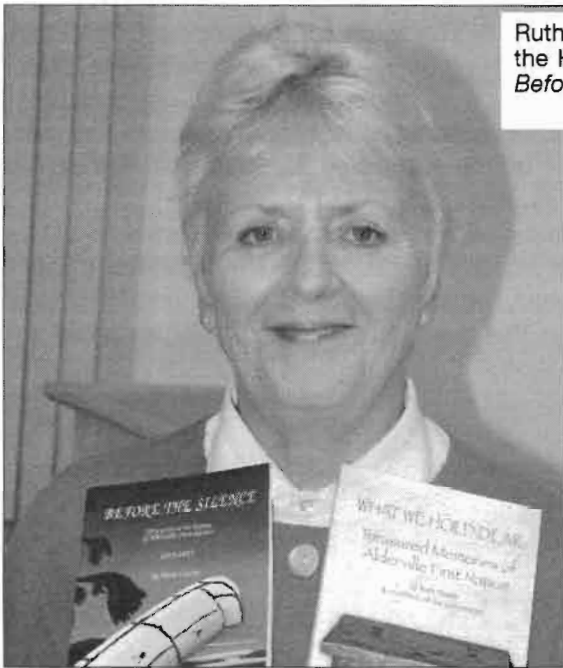
Outlook

Volume 12 Issue 5

Issue Number 226, May 2007

Treasured memories collected in new book

What We Hold Dear



Ruth Clarke was the guest speaker at the April meeting of the Hastings County Historical Society. She is the author of *Before the Silence* and *What We Hold Dear*.

Doug Knutson photo

Ruth Clarke, speaker at the Society's April meeting, introduced her fifth book, *What We Hold Dear: Treasured Memories of Alderville First Nation*. This book is the second volume of her history of these Mississauga Ojibway who in the nineteenth century were known as the Gananoque and Kingston Ojibway.

Her first volume, *Before the Silence*, written from the point of a fictional Native woman, describes these people who were gathered together on Grape Island by the Methodists, in the Bay of Quinte. At one time there were about 200 people on the island, but cholera and typhus started their decline. *What We Hold Dear*, written from the point of view of two fictional characters, chronicles their people's history through photographs and anecdotes from the 1800s to present day.

When their settlement on the island became too small for their needs, those remaining migrated during the years 1833 to 1837 and settled in Alderville, near Rice Lake, in Northumberland County. There, the Methodists started what would be the prototype for residential schools. Some of the men were groomed to be itinerant missionaries. Ruth read selections from her book that included a story about a 175-year-old trunk containing Ojibway history that had been handed down through ten generations and the Jingle Dress, a healing dress laden initially with shells, then later with tiny snuff candles.

Back in the 1800s side-wheel steamers with names like *Rainbow*, *Beaver* and *North Star* plied Rice Lake. Square dancing and canoe races were popular pastimes and every year a big picnic was held with wild black duck and wild rice pudding on the menu.

Ruth's book contains a number of photographs from the period covered.

Next Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 15,

2007

Speaker

Connie Brummel Crook

Topic

**Preserving our Historical Heritage in
Canadian Schools.**

Refreshments

Meeting begins at 7:30 p.m.

**Monthly meetings are
held in the Auditorium of the Quinte**

Living Centre

370 Front Street, Belleville

Please Note!

**The Deadline for the June 2007
issue of Outlook is May 20, 2007**

Get Aboard the ARC!

We've been fumbling around with naming the committee in search of a new archives. So let's call it the Archives Relocation Committee, which can be shortened to ARC, on which we will put two of everything and ride above the flood waters in the basement of the Heritage Centre.

The Archives Relocation Committee is proceeding in an orderly fashion. As reported to our general meeting in April, we have formed a committee headed by Sharon White, a professional archivist with experience at the Archives of Ontario. She is also a director of HCHS. Also on the committee is Mary Jane Throop, another archivist with archives experience in Ottawa and at Glanmore National Historic Site. Richard Hughes, HCHS vice-president, brings political savvy to the committee, as he has spent a career polishing relationships with governments and bureaucracies. And also on the committee as an ex officio member is HCHS president Orland French, who attempts to keep his acerbic observations under control during delicate negotiations.

ARC has invited each of three councils – City of Belleville, County of Hastings and City of Quinte West – to name one or two councillors as committee members as well. Belleville has responded by appointing Councillors Garnet Thompson and Pat Culhane, while Hastings is providing Margaret Walsh, reeve of Tyendinaga Township, and Dave Panabaker, reeve of Carlow/Mayo Township. So far Quinte West has declined to appoint anyone, as its council feels it has adequate storage facilities for its records in its new municipal centre. We

Dedicated volunteer passes

Mary Grace McConnell passed away peacefully in her home on March 20th, 2007. Mary was a member of the Hastings County Historical Society and an Archive Angel for many years. For eight years she served as a Society Director and prior to that as researcher and advisor on Hastings County history. Mary will be missed by her many friends, old and young, that she made both in her profession as librarian in Orillia, Toronto and Loyalist College, Belleville, and in her many activities including the University Woman's Club and the Historical Society. A service celebrating her life was held at St. Columba Presbyterian Church.



will keep Quinte West informed of our progress.

The goal of the committee is to explore the establishment of a joint archives and municipal records retention centre. Both Belleville and Hastings County are in need of proper facilities to store their records, as is the Hastings County Historical Society.

The need for new storage facilities was inadvertently driven home recently.

As the *Intelligencer* reported, there was a "break-through" on the issue. What broke was the floor in the old Thurlow Township hall, where the City of Belleville stores its records. All the floor joists have broken under the weight of the records and the city scrambled to retrieve its records and repair the damage. The north side of the building, used by the Historical Society for its archives, was not affected.

Optimistic that we will inevitably be relocating, the Historical Society has allotted \$10,000 to start a fund to equip and furnish the new archives centre. Contributions to this fund will be gratefully received and acknowledged.

Orland French, president

Tobacco Done Up In Tinfoil Causes Paralysis

It wasn't really an anti-smoking advertisement, but back in 1858 the *Hastings Chronicle* wrote about the hazards of smoking tobacco that was "done up" in tinfoil. It went something like this:

"Tobacco put up in paper becomes dry, which means that the moisture in it evaporates through the pores of the paper and in doing so takes off a portion of the oil of tobacco. The very object of the tinfoil is to prevent this evaporation and keep the tobacco moist, which condenses the oil and makes the tobacco stronger. Any person smoking a cigar out doors upon a wet day has observed that it is stronger than on other occasions and has an acrid biting effect upon the mouth.

"This is caused by the dampness condensing the oil of the tobacco. The pure oil of the tobacco is an instantaneously fatal poison. Hence, we conclude that tobacco done up in tinfoil is moister and consequently stronger and persons using it to excess are liable to experience paralysis, which is not an uncommon effect of its use. If we are correct in this theory, and we at present see no defect in it, it may suggest the importance of discontinuing tinfoil as a wrapping for tobacco on sale.



Our Historic Past

This year, the Society marks its 50th anniversary. One of our early highlights was the opening of the Hastings County Museum (and Archives) on August 9, 1961, in the former County Registry Office on Church Street. The large vault in the 3,000-square-foot building had steel shutters and a steel door, as well as barred windows—an ideal museum and archives facility. Belleville Mayor Mac Haig was among the speakers. He stood on an empty packing case from the Coudery Collection, while Intell reporter Harry Mulhall stood beside him, with Society president Gerry Boyce in the doorway.

Stan Elise photo



Gun Control: One of the early displays in the Hastings County Museum featured Cliff Smith's gun collection. Museum curator Dorothy Sargent (one of the four original curators, each of whom was paid a dollar an hour) holds one of the guns. In 2007, Neil Smith, Cliff's son, is an active curator with the Hastings and Prince Edward Regimental Museum in the Belleville Armouries.

Gerry Boyce photo

WANTED

- (1) The society is seeking pictures of its many activities over the years. If you can help, contact Gerry at 613-968-5023.
- (2) We need copies of the minutes for the following executive meetings: 2000-January, April, September, October, November; 2001-January; 2003-April.

Hostile crowd descends on Madoc's Richardson Gold Mine

From the *Intelligencer*, May 2, 1867

"It seems that a number of gentlemen, miners, lawyers, doctors and others, who had heard reports of the fabulous richness of the Richardson gold mine near Madoc, were determined to satisfy themselves of the truth or falsity of these reports. Accordingly a meeting was held, a chairman and a secretary appointed, and it was there and then resolved that an entrance should be made to the mine, by fair means or foul. The following morning Mr. Johnston and 'Cariboo' Cameron with about two hundred followers went to the mine and demanded admittance. The mine owners immediately dispatched a messenger hot haste for the mounted police.

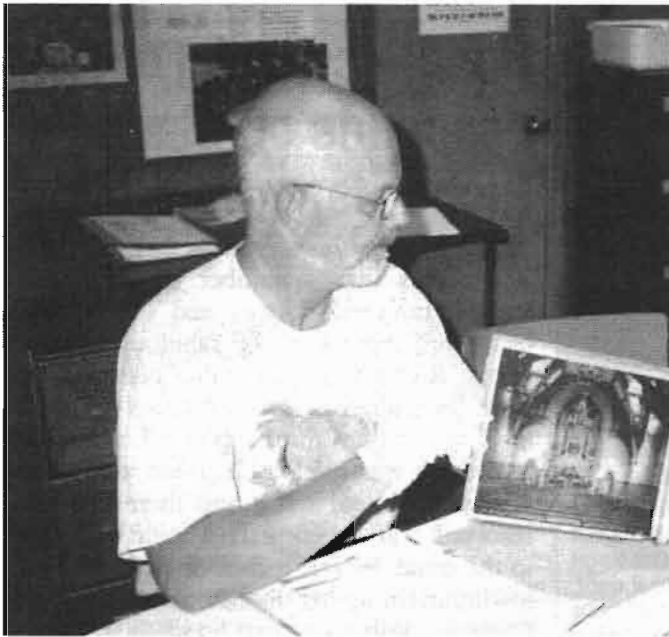
"'We have come,' said Mr. Johnston to mine owner Mr. Hardin, 'to see whether this mine is genuine. Some of us have invested large sums of money and we wish to be satisfied before we go on prospecting whether the Richardson mine is a humbug or not. We desire to do it peaceably, and if we cannot accomplish it peaceably we will by force.'

"While these significant words were being uttered, a large hawser being carried on the shoulders of a score or more of lusty-looking men, and which was designed for the forcible part of the programme, was displayed to the cheering of the crowd and to no small discomfiture of the owners. After some consultation with Hardin it was agreed that two men named McGregor and McQuarrie, who were practical miners, would go down the mine to make an examination while Johnston and Cameron stood sentry at the entrance. The examiners went down and after about three-quarters of an hour returned to the surface with their report.

"McQuarrie got on a stump and told the crowd that he and McGregor had thoroughly investigated the rock, quartz, and dirt and had satisfied themselves of the unparalleled richness of the mine.

"'In all my long experience in gold mining,' said McQuarrie, 'in all that I have ever read or heard of in connection with gold producing countries, nothing can equal the richness of this mine.'

Continued on next page.



Archive Angel of the Month

Bill Kennedy is a newcomer to the Archive Angel staff of volunteers, having joined its ranks about two years ago. His chief activity has been checking the archive's extensive collection of photographs and recording those for which paper copies exist but for which the originals are missing. He is a member of Hastings County Historical Society and serves as editor of this newsletter. He is also a volunteer with Big Brothers.

Bill is retired but continues to do contract projects for his former employer whose role in industry is preparing and certifying companies to fulfill the requirements of Canadian and ISO standards and to provide training in the field of welding technology. His work has taken him throughout North America including the arctic and to Europe. He enjoys reading and looks forward every summer to his annual canoe trip through Ontario's crown jewel, Algonquin Provincial Park. As *Outlook* editor he is always looking for stories about Hastings County's past. If you have a story you think would interest *Outlook* readers he would be pleased to hear from you. His phone number and E-mail address are on *Outlook*'s back page, or talk to him at a Society meeting.

Roster of speakers

May 15 "Meyers Rebellion," & other Meyers books, Connie Brummel Crook

September 18 TBA

October 16 HCHS 50th anniversary

Preserving Our Historical Heritage In Canadian Schools

The speaker for the Society's May meeting will be Connie Brummel Crook. The title of her talk is "Preserving our Historical Heritage in Canadian Schools." Ms Crook decided to write historical fiction in the hope of bringing to life our own North American heritage for students in the classroom. Her books are currently in use in schools across Canada.

Two of her books, *Flight* and *Meyers' Creek*, have gone into repeated printings and *Meyers' Creek* is being released by Fitzhenry & Whiteside in August this year in a bigger format in trade paperback. A third book, *Meyers' Rebellion*, published in 2006, is still in hardcover but will be sold in paperback too, starting this fall. Two other of her books set near the Belleville area are *The Hungry Year* and *The Perilous Year*.

Ms Crook, who was born in Prince Edward County, is a graduate of Queen's University and Ontario College of Education at University of Toronto and taught English in Ontario's secondary schools for 30 years. You can learn more about her and her books on her web site <conniecrook@sympatico.ca>.

Richardson mine high jinks

Continued from page 3.

The black quartz will yield not less than \$60,000 to the ton and the dirt is unexampled in richness. From a quart of dirt we washed \$13.00 of gold.'

"At this news there were cheers all around for owners and investors alike and the crowd peaceably dispersed. The police were, happily, not needed."

Hastings County Historical Society Directors

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Treasurer	Mike Shaw
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Program	Doug Knutson
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Hastings County Historical Society is based at the old township office in Cannifton.

Please address mail to General Delivery, Cannifton, Ontario K0K 1K0

Outlook is published in January, February, March, April, May, September, October and November for the friends and members of

the Hastings County Historical Society.

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