



Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

PO Box 66637, Stoney Creek, ON. L8G 5E6

NEWSLETTER

December 2015

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Preserving our oldest heritage landscape

The Stoney Creek Historical Society (SCHS) sent a team to the Eramosa Karst to plant trees last Saturday. Volunteers gathered to create a 600 metre hedgerow between the church at Fletcher Road and Second Road West. Mayor Fred Eisenberger is a member of SCHS. The planting is consistent with the purposes of the SCHS, which is to capture the history of Stoney Creek for current and future generations. (copied from Stoney Creek news 9/30/2015)



Plaque Mounting Ceremony held at Stoney Creek Municipal Cemetery August 21st 2015 to recognize **Private Isaac Corman** 5th Regiment Lincoln Militia.



For complete story behind the above go to the following web page.

<http://www.1812veterans.ca/?p=506>

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

November 2015



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Stoney Creek Historical Society (SCHS), I want to express our appreciation to all of our members and corporate sponsors, for their continuing support. Please reference the listing of corporate sponsors in this Newsletter, and you will observe the growing interest in SCHS shown by many local entrepreneurs. Many businesses have reacted very positively to the membership package developed by a couple of our Directors, and the personal approach used in our campaign to increase our presence in Stoney Creek. Without such community support, SCHS would not exist.

Our dedicated volunteers at our Reference Library and Archives, have carefully catalogued the donations submitted by many individuals. These materials are most welcome and are treated with great respect. Each donation of pictures, and other historically significant documents, moves us closer to our objective of preserving the history of Stoney Creek for current and future generations.

Our friends at the Eramosa Karst, organized a tree planting in late September. SCHS sent a team of enthusiastic tree planters, and met a host of similarly minded community supporters. It was a great day, and everyone had some good old fashioned fun, including Mayor Fred Eisenberger , a SCHS member. My thanks to Mike Pearson, Editor of the Stoney Creek NEWS for publishing the team photo. In addition, it was a pleasure to be interviewed by Mike at our Reference Library and Archive, in October. From that discussion, Mike placed a fine article in the NEWS outlining SCHS interest in locating missing land registry materials.

SCHS has been most fortunate in arranging for outstanding speakers. Their presentations have been both beneficial and enjoyable. Your suggestions for future speakers and/or topics are most welcome.

Our Board of Directors is listed in this Newsletter. On their behalf and my own, may I extend to you and your families, our Best Wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Do join us at our next meeting. I know that you'll be glad that you did and SCHS will have a new member.

Greg Armstrong
President SCHS.

Upcoming Speakers

Wednesday January 6th, 2016 at 7:00 pm

Speaker: Arnie Strub
Topic: The Strub Pickles Story

Wednesday, February 3rd 2016 at 7:00 PM

Speaker: Jeff Mahoney
Topic: History of The Hamilton Spectator.

Wednesday, March 2nd, 2015 at 7:00 PM

Speaker: Dominic Verticchio
Topic: History of the Hamilton Children's Aid Society.

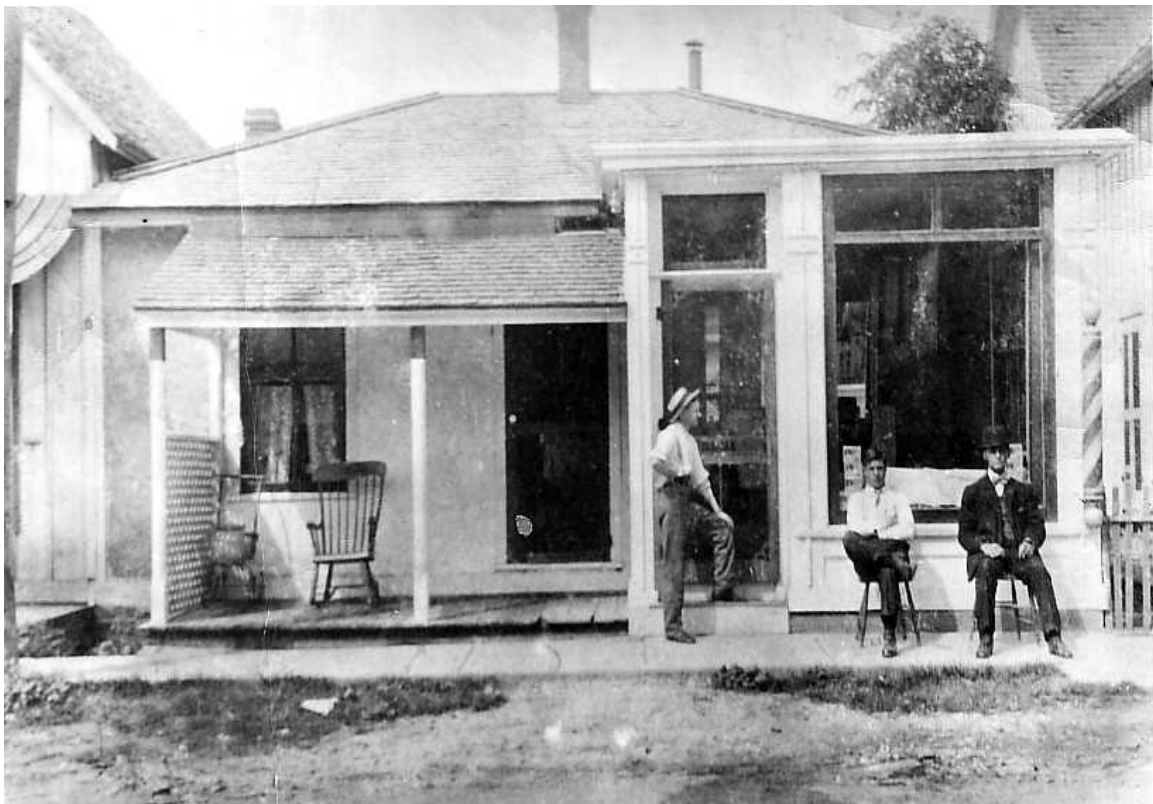
"The Stoney Creek Historical Society's Archives and Reference Library is located at 605 Highway 8. We are generally open on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 1pm - 4pm. Visitors and researchers are always welcome. This month, however, we will be closed from December 21 until January 4th. Happy holidays everyone."

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Doug Conley, Bev & Bob Corsini, Jeff Fenwick, Scott Murray, Mike Prisciak, Gary Strong, Denise Wachnuik, Barbara Gough Insurance, Parkway Back & Foot Clinic, Swiss Chalet #1105 , Scotia Bank Green Rd.

Please contact *Doug Green* by telephone at (905) (662-4065) or by email at newsletter@stoneycreekhistorical.ca or dgreen136@cogeco.ca If you have questions or answers regarding our newsletter content or contributions or if you wish to receive your copy of the newsletter via e-mail. Help us reduce mailing & printing costs.

Stewart's Barbershop circa 1920 19-21 King St. East Stoney Creek.
It probably burned in the 1939 fire at Lee's Hardware (see September newsletter for pics)



The rebuilt brick building now houses the **Picture Palace** and **Village Barbershop**

MURDER IN WENTWORTH COUNTY 1930

The following has been pieced together from newspaper accounts. The Toronto Star and The Globe & Mail. The last name of the murderer changed to protect identity of living relatives.

*Special to the **Star** by Staff Reporter May 13th 1930*

SEEK FARMER IN BUSH AFTER FATAL SHOOTING

WOMAN SLAIN AND RELATIVE WOUNDED IN FARMHOUSE SHOOTING

Miss Mary Tweedle Fatally Shot – Emery Tweedle a Cousin is Dying

YOUNG MAN BLAMED

A mystery Shot Sends Police to Scour Woods for Wm **Smith** (*alias last name*)

May 13 – After shooting Miss Mary Tweedle 60, who died almost instantly, and her cousin Emery Tweedle 55, who is now in St Joseph's hospital, Hamilton at death's door. William **Smith** a young farmer of 30 near here, went home, took his shotgun and escaped to a wooded area where residents heard a shot soon after noon hour.

A posse of provincial and county police, searching the neighbourhood, immediately set out for the indicated area, believing that **Smith** probably ended his life or shot somebody else whom he thought was pursuing.

Smith is believed to be mentally unbalanced from grief following the death of his young wife last December, who left three little children.

Smith, police say, had bought a farm from Emery Tweedle recently for the amount of \$6,000 for which he paid down \$2,000 and was concluding the bargain by mortgages and principal payments.

Last night, **Smith** called at Tweedle's home with a payment of \$1,350 in the form of a cheque. He arrived it is believed about 11 p.m. and talked till almost 1 a.m. when he left for home.

The young man had scarcely left the house, until he knocked again, according to the sketchy story told by Tweedle in the hospital. He went to the door.

A shot rang out, Tweedle was shot through the back and side, investigation later, proved that the shots were fired from a 22- calibre rifle.

Whether **Smith** then went into the house, or Miss Tweedle came to the door, is not yet known. But she too was shot, through the heart and hand.

Almost incredibly, she ran for a hundred yards before she fell dead.

Smith is then said to have gone home to his father's home, where he was living with his parents and his children, said goodbye, grabbed a shotgun and ran from the house.

Shot Down at Door

Emery Tweedle said he heard *Smith* walk down the lane toward the car. The engine started, then went dead. Those in the Tweedle home prepared to retire. They thought *Smith* had gone home. A few minutes later, however, they were surprised to hear a knock upon the back door. Emery Tweedle responded to that knock. As he opened the door, he told police, he was confronted by *Smith*, who stood there with a rifle of 22 calibre levelled. Before Emery Tweedle could defend himself, *Smith* is alleged to have fired the rifle three times, each shot entering the upper part of Tweedle's body.

Jack Digman, who was upstairs getting ready for bed, rushed down to the kitchen and dragged Emery Tweedle into another room. At this instant, Miss Tweedle also rushed from her room, and about to telephone for help when *Smith* threatened her and ordered her back to her room. Before she could place the receiver back on the hook of the wall telephone, *Smith* allegedly fired at her. The bullet wounded her in one hand. Miss Tweedle then fled from the house, with *Smith* in hot pursuit. She had not gone many yards when he fired again. The bullet is said to have pierced Miss Tweedle's heart, and she died instantly.

Meanwhile Jack Digman ran from the rear of the home to the house of Cliff Murray, a neighbour, who telephoned the police. Chief Clark and Deputy Chief Green of Wentworth responded. They found nothing of *Smith*, who evidently fled from the Tweedle home after the shooting. They visited the home of *Smith's* parents and learned that *Smith* had gone there shortly before 2 o'clock in an excitable frame of mind. He kissed his babies and then demanded to know where the shotgun was. He got the weapon downstairs, with a box of shells, and then left the house. His parents and brothers were anxious owing to his actions, but they knew nothing of the tragedy at the Tweedle's home. That was the last time *Smith* was seen alive.

Police Scour Bush

It is believed he went to the rear of the home and then ended his life, although those in the *Smith* home said they heard no shot. County and Provincial Police, as well as a number of farmers all armed, scoured the several bushes in that district from 2 o'clock this morning until 5 o'clock this afternoon. When the body was found it was lying partly hidden. There was a gaping wound in the breast. *Smith*, it is said aimed the shotgun at his heart, and is believed he died instantly.

What possessed him to commit this terrible deed his friends are at a loss to say. He was a pleasant man, they say, who always had a good reputation and worked hard. They believe he suddenly became deranged. Yet the fact that he took the rifle with him in his car to the Tweedle home rather tends to show that his crime was not a mad impulse of the moment.

Dr G.L. Bell of Binbrook was summoned to the Tweedle home to treat Emery Tweedle, and he immediately had the wounded man rushed to the General Hospital. Mr Tweedle was operated on today, and the bullets were removed, it is said. Coroner O.J. Newell has opened an inquest into Miss Tweedle's death, and this will be continued next Tuesday night in the Binbrook Community Hall.

Miss Tweedle was 67 years of age, and was well known in that district. She was the daughter of the late Thomas and Mrs Tweedle of Saltfleet township. She was a member of St George's Church, in Tapleystown, and of the Women's Auxiliary. Deceased is survived by three brothers. A. A. Tweedle and Thomas Tweedle of this city and Dr. W. H. Tweedle of S.D.; and three sisters. Mrs R. F. Walker, Montreal; Mrs H. L. Williams, Jackson, Mich.; and Mrs W. H. Nicol of this city.

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MONTH _____ DAY _____ YEAR _____

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4) FAMILY NO EMAIL- \$25.00 5) BUSINESS \$35.00

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PLEASE ACCEPT MY ADDITIONAL TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION OF \$ _____ TO ASSIST THE WORK OF THE STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY. RECEIPTS WILL BE ISSUED FOR DONATIONS OF \$25 OR MORE. PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OUR NEWS LETTER BY EMAIL OR CANADA POST. PLEASE SEND TO :

STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY,P.O. BOX 66637,STONEY CREEK, ONTARIO, L8G 5E6

WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND LOOK FORWARD TO YOU ATTENDING OUR MEETINGS.

Historical Society Research Queries

Please contact via email:
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Please Help Us Manage Newsletter Printing Costs

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