



*Remember the Corman House*

# *Stoney Creek Historical Society*

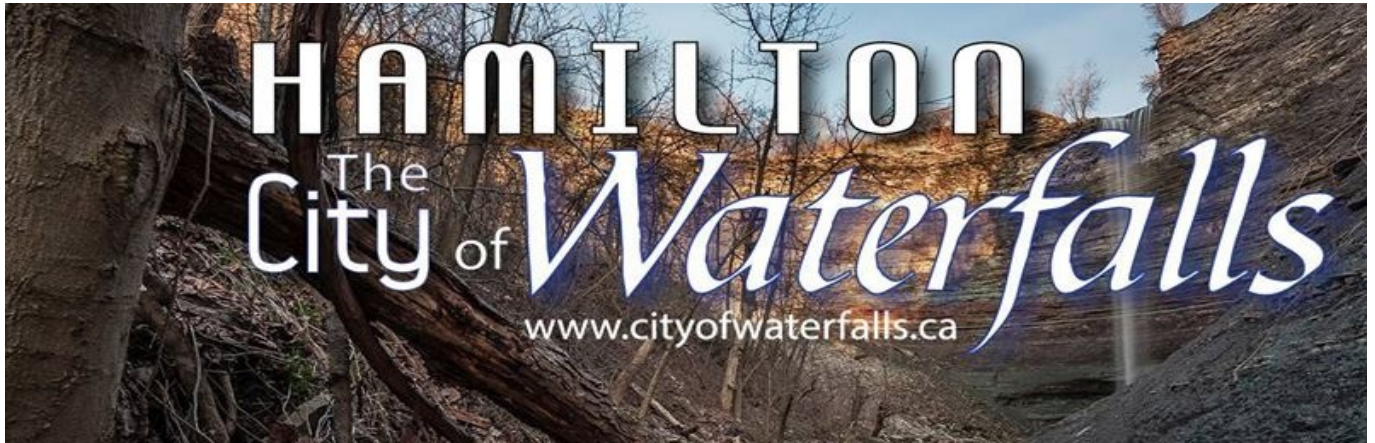
PO Box 66637, Stoney Creek, ON. L8G 5E6

# **NEWSLETTER**

March 2015

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Devil's Punchbowl

One of more than 126 waterfalls with described facts, a map location and pictures on the following website. [www.cityofwaterfalls.ca](http://www.cityofwaterfalls.ca)

If you're on facebook go to "Hamilton-Waterfall capital of the World" for thousands of pictures taken by it's members. Pictures taken throughout the year and some when colour is illuminated by lights courtesy of Chris Ecklund and his crew of volunteers.



Lower Falls at the Devil's Punchbowl



Devil's Punchbowl Falls last spring



Billy Green Falls summer and winter



**Adam Green** ( *Billy Green's father* ) left Johnsonburg, New Jersey and arrived in Canada in 1793 and bought Lot 24, Concession 4 from John McDavid (*McDead*) for the price of 25 pounds sterling. This land is south of King St. extending over the top of the escarpment and lies between Lake Ave south and New Mountain Road.

Before Augustus Jones surveyed the area in 1791 King St ( *formerly called old Queenston Road* ) actually ran further south of its present route going south of the Battlefield House and the Stoney Creek cemetery. King St became the line division of the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Concessions. If you follow present day King St ( *Iroquois trail* ) it winds its way through Hamilton to Queenston except where they chose to alter and could run it along concession lines when the surveying was done in 1791.

Adam later applied for United Empire Loyalist land and received Lots 24,25 and 26 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Concession ( 400 acres total ). Both the Devil's Punchbowl and Billy Green Falls are on lands originally owned by Adam Green.



Pictured above 1902 W.E. Davis quarry located in the Devil's Punchbowl creek. Probably the location and creation of the lower punchbowl falls.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER



The Stoney Creek Historical Society (SCHS) is supported from both its membership as well as the dedication of its Board of Directors.

Our Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on February 4<sup>th</sup>. My great appreciation to those who were willing to stand:

Kathy Wakeman, Joyce Brown, Judy Sowden, Terrance Smith, and Marie Robbins. Karen Cerello, of Cerello and Associates, completed her term as Treasurer. Our thanks, Karen, for your continuing support of our Society.

SCHS is coordinating a Caledonia Boat cruise on Saturday July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015, Times are from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Board at 12:30, with a three course roast beef dinner at 1:00 p.m. A pasta or chicken dinner has to be ordered in advance. Cost is \$45 without gratuity if there are more than 40 participants, otherwise cost is \$50. Please advise me by e-mail [tg\\_armstrong@yahoo.ca](mailto:tg_armstrong@yahoo.ca) if you wish to go. Family and friends are welcome. Transportation is not provided, but SCHS will attempt to coordinate arrangements between those who are attending. The web site for Grand River Cruises is [www.grandrivercruises.com](http://www.grandrivercruises.com)

Our Board recently approved a new membership fee schedule. Continuing members of SCHS have until April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 to renew at the 2014 rates. New members are subject to the new rates which are both comparable and reasonable. Our Newsletter can be issued via e-mail. Please sign up for that arrangement if you have not already done so. It is more cost effective. Those without e-mail will have a higher membership fee based on the additional mailing expense.

Several members have reminded me of how much they enjoyed the Fish Fry that SCHS attended at the Stoney Creek Legion. If you are interested in having another Fish Fry, please let me or any member of our Board know.

Ontario Archive Awareness Week takes place from April 8 through 12, 2015. SCHS will be participating on April 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Centre. We will be showcasing and speaking about the achievements of our Reference Library and Archive. There will be a question and answer period. If we don't have the answer, we will take the enquiry. As you appreciate, the purpose of SCHS is to capture and preserve the History of Stoney Creek for current and future generations. Our volunteers have made significant progress towards that end. Your assistance please in promoting this evening which is one week after our scheduled meeting of April 1<sup>st</sup>.

I have received many compliments on the quality of our Newsletter. The articles read very well and the pictures are a source of great interest. Our thanks to our Newsletter volunteers for a job well done. If you have suggestions or perhaps articles of interest suitable for our Newsletter, please let us know.

In addition, we have been most fortunate in finding first rate guest speakers that our members enjoy. However, our inventory of potential speakers, needs to be replenished. If you would like to speak at a meeting of SCHS or can suggest a possible speaker, please let me know.

We continue to develop our web site. Do have a look at [www.stoneycreekhistorical.ca](http://www.stoneycreekhistorical.ca), and share your thoughts on what was there and what should be there. Your comments are welcome.

My thanks for your continuing support.

Greg Armstrong  
President- SCHS.

## A Blast from the past 1950

Win Title For Stoney Creek – knocking out Gravenhurst in the finals, the Stoney Creek softball



team won the Junior C Ontario championship. Members of the team pictured above, left to right

**back row:** Joseph Woodliffe, manager; Doug Geekie, Bill Bewley, Stan Reed, George Tweedle, Harold Barclay, Dick Koterski, Bill Cowell, and Bruce Lindsay assistant coach

**kneeling:** Harry Sackrider, coach; Arthur Smith, Bill Britt, Richard Boden, Ross Cudney, Claude Broughton, Bob Beringer, Garnet Richmond and Don Mather.

**In the front:** is the bat boy Jim Geekie. Lyall Dingman, a member of the team was not present when the picture was taken.

### Stoney Creek Captures Title

In the Junior "C" O.A.S.A. play-downs Stoney Creek defeated Gravenhurst 12-8 in the last game played at Gravenhurst Saturday night, Gravenhurst holding the Creek at a score of 8-0 in the last of the seventh, when the Creek took over.

Gravenhurst	200	006	000	—	8	6	3
Creek	000	000	084	—	12	7	0

Walker and Irvine; Reed and Geekie.

### Creek Team Wins At Gravenhurst

Stoney Creek, Oct. 10 — Stoney Creek's junior softball team, along with 300 supporters, travelled to Gravenhurst on Saturday to take part in the second of the series for the past president's trophy.

A civic reception, with the Gravenhurst band in attendance, started the game off. The Creek fans were rather quiet in the early stages of the game, when Gravenhurst players had Creek tied down, but toward the last their pitcher either played out or perhaps the vocal encouragement of the Creek fans behind third base rattled him, and the local team roared right in for a strong comeback. The score was 8-0 at the end of the seventh for Gravenhurst, but Creek won, 12-8.

Gravenhurst	. 200	006	000	—	8	6	3
Creek	..... 000	000	084	—	12	7	0

Batteries: Gravenhurst — Walker and Irvine. Creek — Reed and Geekie.

## Upcoming Speakers

Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 7.00 p.m.

Speaker: Ron Sinclair                      Topic: Postcards of Wentworth – The Collection in a Book

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 @ 7.00 p.m.

Speaker: Carolyn Taylor                      Topic: Stained Glass on Famous Buildings in Hamilton

Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 7.00 p.m.

Speaker: Jim Flynn                      Topic: Safe Restoration of Old Buildings

### **REFERENCE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES MARCH 2015**

Welcome to our first newsletter of the new year. We look forward to accepting your donations of photographs, letters, diaries and personal papers. The Archives will record all information and preserve this data in our files. Photographs are kept in acid free protective sleeves and are searchable. There are now over 3000 pictures catalogued, scanned and properly filed. As always, if you prefer to keep your originals for your family, they can be scanned and returned to you. Or, you could consider our Genealogical Will which would ensure the future safekeeping of your family information. Please contact us, or see our website for further information regarding this important document.

Our shelves hold records of local families as well as municipal and provincial information.

The Archives have eight binders of photographs showing houses and buildings designated as historically important. We have completed many of the small and large projects set for ourselves from the beginning, but without your help and interest to donate your memories, donate your cash, visit with us, volunteer with us or make suggestions, we will be slowing down considerably.

The Archives invite you to share with us information for a new project we hope to begin soon. That is to record, catalogue and photograph the lives of men and women who fought overseas and lost their lives, believing that this is vital information to have for our greater Stoney Creek area.

Please consider contributing your family information.

Sue Heatherley

*( Excerpt from Peter Van Wagner's diary. Peter was an area justice of the Peace from 1844 to his death in 1906. )*

Monday December 18<sup>th</sup> 1854

Elias Pettit, Mrs Pettit (*Peter's mother & father in-laws*) & Albert E Carpenter (*Peter's stepson*) came up to go to town. Jane (*Peter's wife*) intended to go with Elias P, they were ready to start when Sydney Biggar & James Hill came running round the house saying Garret Dean (*Stoney Creek*) had been robbed about two hours ago, that they were on track of them, our horses were harnessed. We hitched them immediately, ran them up the beach taking in the young men on the road nearly all of whom were armed and some very much tired. I left the sleigh and run on the ice among the flags. We lost no time in getting on the ice, one of the robbers hid in the flags and was soon surrounded, young Bedell coming up to him first. The other robber was making up the Bay fast on the ice, in passing through the flags six or eight including myself fell several times through the ice our boots being filled and our pants frozen stiff as soon as we got to our feet. Sydney B was exhausted at length and not able to get out of the ice without my assistance. These delays gave the robber the advantage, still we pushed on as fast as we were able, leaving a few to guard the one already taken. One of the three Bedell's and Mortimer Corey took the lead on the ice having got over the flags first. I followed next beckoning the teams which had gone up the Bay road to go on up as the robber headed towards Hamilton. He had given his name Townsend who is the noted robber, so it was necessary to be careful how we approached such a villain. Somebody had put a heavy rifle in my hands and I had made up my mind that he would escape as he ran very fast. When Mortimer Corey said he had turned back I saw that the open water at the mouth of the Canal had stopped him. Mortimer and Bedell then halted and walked slowly. I ran past them thinking their might be some trick in his turning back, as I passed them, I wished them to fire on him if he should fire on me the robber came down on a full run, when we were within six or eight rods of each other. I cocked my rifle and told him to surrender. He immediately threw his hand wide apart saying "I surrender". I continued advancing until I came up to him. I then cocked my rifle, telling him I would knock his brains out if he made any resistance. I told him to take off his coat which he attempted to do. He said he was only a boy and could not do much. I saw to my surprise that he could not be the noted Townsend though over twenty years of age. I took from him one pistol, several of our party coming up. I tied his elbows together and ordered him marched to Dynes by this time those who had fallen through began to feel the effects of the severe frost, to add to our misfortune there was very little fire at the Dynes, so we came on down to the Old Wind Castle, our force getting stronger as we passed on until there were about fifty when we halted. I wished Dr Miller who had turned out with his gun and cutter to go directly to Stoney Creek after the Constables, Jennings & Russell. Our house was examined with men & guns from the country round. I examined the prisoners, took Garret Dean's information and the confession of one of the prisoners and finding sufficient reason committed them both to Gaol. The principal offenders name is James Smith of Hamilton, the other George King of Yorkville near Toronto.

*( the old Wind Castle may be a reference to the windmill Peter's father Henry had built many years previously somewhere in the area of the Hamilton Water Works )*

***Erland Lee Museum Home***  
***552 Ridge Road, Stoney Creek***  
***905-662-2691 erlandleehome@fwio.on.ca***

**Coming Events**

- April 11th**                      **Silk Ribbon Embroidery Workshop**
- April 25th**                      **Pancake Breakfast 9 am - 1 pm**  
Adults \$8.00 Children \$4.00
- May 9th**                         **Rug Braiding Workshop**
- June 6th**                        **Needle Felting Workshop**
- June 27th**                      **Strawberry Social 1 - 4 pm**
- July 18th**                        **"A Step Back in Time" Heritage Day**  
10 am - 4 pm  
Featuring demonstrations & activities circa 1800's & 1900's  
throughout the day suitable for all ages  
Family rate \$15.00, adults \$5.00  
Seniors & children \$4.00 Free for preschool

**100th Anniversary 4-H display throughout 2015**

**The Museum is a National Historic Site,  
the birthplace of the Women's Institute in 1897 and is  
refurbished to portray life during the 1850 - 1945 time period.  
Six generations of the Lee family have resided in the home!**

**The Museum is open Thursday, Saturday & Sunday from noon to 4 pm.**

**Visit the Museum Gift Shop for unique items for family & friends!**



## Stoney Creek Historical Society Board of Directors

President	Greg Armstrong	( 905 ) 662-6269
Past President	Mary Lewis	( 905 ) 643-3665
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Kathy Wakeman	
Treasurer	Judy Sowden	( 905 ) 662-5756
Secretary	Joyce Brown	( 905 ) 662-1705
Director	Judy Green	( 905 ) 662-4065
Director	Peter Kennedy	( 905 ) 664-5706
Director	Dan Lee	( 905 ) 662-5756
Director	Terrance Smith	
Director	Marie Robbins	( 905 ) 662-1813

### Committee Chairs / Co-ordinators

Archives: Nancy Capstick  
Sue Heatherley [archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca](mailto:archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca)

Telephone: June Guzar  
Membership: Dan Lee

Newsletter: Jean Baine, Doug Green  
Programming: Kathy Wakeman  
Social: Bev Gray, Carolyn Briggs

### Member Business Directory

Britannia Cleaners	Ed Strecker	17 King Street East	(905) 662-4971
Bertram & Barry Insurance Ltd.		6 Lake Ave. S	(905) 662-8645
Cerello and Associates	Karen Cerello	42 King St. E. Unit 4	(905) 662-2848
Chamber of Commerce	Dave Cage	21 Mountain Ave. S	(905) 664-4000
Donald V Brown Funeral Home	Julie Brown	36 Lake Ave Dr	(905) 662-2948
Dr. Keith Millar		304 – 15 Mountain Ave S	(905) 662-2312
Flowers by Dianne	Dianne Black	9 King St. West	(905) 664-6621
Ontario Ancestry Research	Kimberly Muldoon – Staley	126 Edgewater Dr.	(905) 643-7064
Queenston Stationary	Mario Figueroa	38 King St. East	(905) 664-3360
Royal Canadian Legion Br. 622		12 King St. East	(905) 662-4171
Simpson & Watson Law Firm		950 King St W Hamilton	(905) 527-1174
Smith's Funeral Home ( Stoney Creek ) Limited		454 Highway # 8	(905) 664-4222

Please contact *Doug Green* by telephone at ( 905 ) ( 662-4065 ) or by email at [newsletter@stoneycreekhistorical.ca](mailto:newsletter@stoneycreekhistorical.ca) or [dgreen136@cogeco.ca](mailto: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.

STONEY CREEK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

*DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE HISTORY OF STONEY CREEK*

I WOULD LIKE TO ACQUIRE/RENEW MEMBERSHIP IN THE S.C.H.S.

MONTH \_\_\_\_\_ DAY \_\_\_\_\_ YEAR \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (S)

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

**MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS**

- 1) INDIVIDUAL - \$15.00      2) INDIVIDUAL-NO EMAIL- \$20.00      3) FAMILY-\$20.00  
4) FAMILY NO EMAIL- \$25.00      5) BUSINESS \$35.00

NEW RATES EFFECTIVE APRIL 1ST 2015

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:

[archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca](mailto:archives@stoneycreekhistorical.ca)

Please Help Us Manage Newsletter Printing Costs

A \$35.00 donation helps with the expense of printing and mailing our newsletter. If you would like to become a sponsor, please contact our Treasurer, Judy Sowden at (905) 662-5756. Receipts are issued for donations.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

John & Betty Cerello, John Thompson