



Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

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Soldiers From the War Of 1812 Lie Here

The Hamilton Spectator reports (June 3, 2010) that the "City of Hamilton is trying to buy a parcel of land where a group of soldiers were shabbily buried after the battle of Stoney Creek nearly 200 years ago." This property is next to the Smith's Knoll monument and is reportedly listed for \$374,900. Councillor Brad Clark is supportive of this project and has met with a local citizens' advisory group to discuss the city's plans.



(Above) Smith's Knoll Monument
(Below Right) King Street Property for Sale

John Little, a member of the Stoney Creek Historical Society is also lending support to the groups that are urging action to be taken. Mr. Little comes from a military family of five generations and like many other concerned citizens was very upset to find that there are buried at this site, service men from the U.S.A, Britain, and

Canada, as well as Native Canadians, whose remains may be mixed in with garbage and unfortunately over the years simply neglected and forgotten.

The Spectator further states, "Local philanthropist Chris Ecklund has said that he would pay whatever governments would not because he says the situation is a 'national embarrassment'."

Should the city successfully purchase this property, the next step would be an archaeological dig in order to recover the soldiers' remains and to provide for proper burial. Completion of this project would likely require support from several levels of government.

The Stoney Creek Historical Society adds its voice to this cause and urges its members to follow this story closely. Please write and call your area politicians. As we approach the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Stoney Creek, the right time to correct this travesty is NOW!



THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The last few months have been exciting as well as challenging for your Stoney Creek Historical Society. The Annual General Meeting was held in February. Members voted to amend the Constitution and By-Laws. Mary Lewis, Jennie Foley, Kathy Wakeman, and Wendy Klassen were acclaimed to the Board for two year terms.

Notice is being given of the need for a further amendment of our By-Laws in order to change the quorum rule for Board meetings. Please see the important notice that follows my column.

Unfortunately, illness has taken a recent toll on our Board. We continue to pray for a return to good health for two of our long-serving Directors Bill O'Reilly and Mary Lewis.

On the positive side, we are extremely pleased that the City reversed their decision moving Sue Ramsay to Whitehern. Sue is now back at the helm of Battlefield Park where she belongs. Welcome back Sue!

We are also pleased to announce that Dean Wilkes, a volunteer with the Friends of Battlefield for several years and a recent member of S.C.H. S., will be joining the Society's Board of Directors and will take on the job of Recording Secretary. John Fraser will continue as Newsletter Editor.

The Board is looking for a volunteer Webmaster. All other historical societies in the Hamilton area have websites that

are a credit to their organizations; we need to do the same.

Our Library and Archives officially opened on the weekend of April 24. This opening was held in conjunction with the opening of the new gift shop in the Nash-Jackson House. A revised Society brochure employing colour for the first time was also made available to the visiting public.

The work to catalogue all the pictures and articles gathered over time has been a serious demand on the time of those engaged in the project. Judy Green and Jennie Foley have shouldered the lion's share of the load with other Directors filling in as helpers. There is a real concern by the Archives Committee that we will not have enough volunteers to keep the library open on an ongoing basis. If you can spare one Thursday a month to help out in the Library please sign up at one of our general meetings and have your name added to the list of volunteers.

There are many projects that we should be involved with in order to fulfill our mandate. Our aim is to preserve history and to prevent losses such as the Corman House. Homes of historical significance need to be documented and photographed for our Archives. Family histories also need to be preserved and recorded for future generations. For all this, we need volunteers who are prepared to assist the Board as it co-ordinates the various activities. We are looking forward to adding your name to our volunteer lists. Also, looking to the future, it is of course

from a large pool of dedicated volunteers that we would expect to be able to fill Board positions as the need arises. By the time you read this newsletter, our annual S.C.H.S./Friends of Battlefield "Pot Luck" should be taking place. Hope you are able to make this enjoyable social event.

More members have actually decided to join both the S.C.H.S. and the Friends of Battlefield. It is always a pleasure to see our membership growing.

In the meantime and until the next newsletter, have a safe and enjoyable summer.

We have continued to welcome several new members within the last few months.

Bill Mitchell

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Members are being asked to approve the following amendments to our By-Laws:

1) that the quorum requirement for Board meetings be amended as follows:

from two thirds of the Board of Directors to a simple majority of the Board's Directors, exclusive of any Director(s) who may have been granted a leave of absence.

2) Directors who anticipate circumstances that would necessitate an absence of more than two consecutive Board meetings may request a leave from the Board and further should a leave of absence be granted, that the By-Law quorum requirement would apply only to the remaining active members.

Voting on these By-Law amendments is scheduled for the September general meeting.

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

Ross Wilson

Beth & Wayne Watson, Marnie Maslin, Bev Gray, Joyce Kotecki, Al & Arlene Bridge, John & Sheila Little, Elizabeth Laing and Rejeanne Sardo.

SOCIETY'S LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES NOW OPEN

The Nash-Jackson House (Battlefield Park) is finally home to our brand new Library and Archives. We extend a special thank you all who have in any way helped in making our dream come true. The official opening was held on April 24th of this year and coincided with the opening of the gift shop also in Nash-Jackson.

The Library is open each Thursday afternoon between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Members who would like to volunteer to help out on these days are

asked to contact Jennie Foley, tel. (905) 662-2984 or e-mail jennie.foley@sympatico.ca

Now that we have a home for archival material, we are asking residents of Stoney Creek who may have old letters, photographs, newspaper clippings or other memorabilia of the Stoney Creek area to consider sharing this information with us. You may either donate material for careful preservation or allow us to digitally photograph allowing you to keep the originals.



Jennie Foley (Archives Co-Ordinator), Judy Green (Treasurer) preparing to greet visitors at the official Library opening April 24, 2010

Mark Your Calendars

6th Annual Country Marketplace - August 14, 2010

The Country Marketplace takes place at **Binbrook Fairgrounds**. Over 40 vendors will be showcasing their wares: everything from collectibles to jewellery to clothing, inside and outside Building #3. Come meet the Binbrook community in our outdoor market square - Featuring a special appearance by Hamilton's Town Crier. Admission and parking are free. (Submitted by Meghan Fitzgibbon, Curator of the Erland Lee Museum)

Battlefield House Museum and Park News

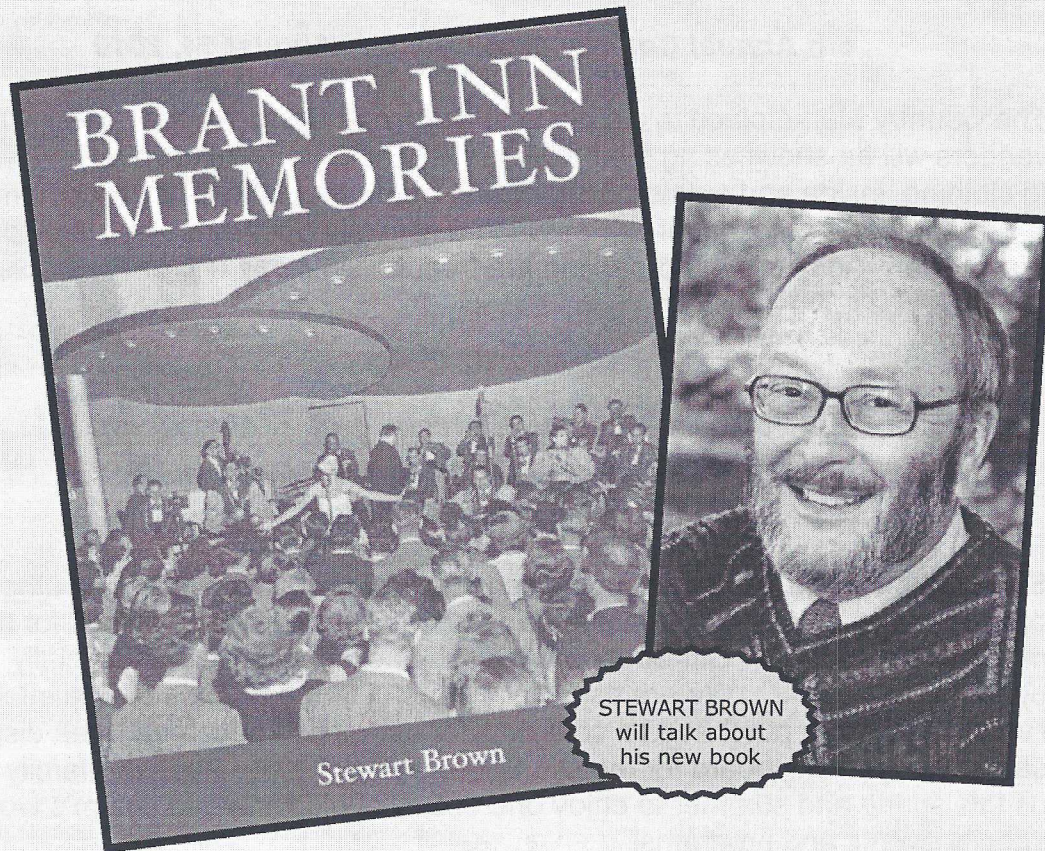
By Marnie Maslin

Spring has sprung at Battlefield House Museum! The lovely warm weather has brought many visitors to the site already, as well as multiple bookings for the months to come. Our Gift Shop in the Nash-Jackson House was officially opened on April 24th. We are especially grateful to the Friends of Battlefield House, who have purchased a coat rack for our office space and three display cabinets and a sideboard for the Gift Shop. We invite you and your family to visit us this spring and summer to enjoy one of Battlefield House Museum's wonderful special events and programs.



Marnie Maslin at the opening of the new gift shop April 24, 2010

Meet the Author



BRANT INN MEMORIES celebrates the glory years of the Brant Inn, the lakeshore nightclub in Burlington, Ontario that was home to name entertainers and generations of dancers for more than 40 years. The big bands – Guy Lombardo, Benny Goodman, Tommy Dorsey, Count Basie, Duke Ellington – played the Brant Inn through the Depression and Second World War and into the rock and roll era. So did stars such as Fats Waller, Sophie Tucker, Louis Armstrong, Ella Fitzgerald and Liberace. And thousands more shared the Brant Inn experience over cross-Canada radio on the CBC. In words and pictures, musicians, broadcasters, Brant Inn staff and the dancing public reminisce for nostalgia sweet and swinging.

Author STEWART BROWN was an entertainment writer for The Hamilton Spectator for more than 20 of his 40-plus years at the newspaper. **BRANT INN MEMORIES**, commissioned by the Burlington Historical Society, is his first book.

Mr. Brown will be the guest speaker at our September general meeting – Tuesday September 14, 2010, 7:30 p.m. in the Nash-Jackson House, Battlefield Park. Be sure to attend!

**Visitors & New Members
Welcome!**

Meetings are held at the Nash-Jackson House on the **2nd Tuesday of each month.**

Beginning at 7:30 p.m. September to May. Coffee and Refreshments follow.

Newsletter by E-mail

For those members who would prefer to receive their copy of the Newsletter by e-mail in PDF format please send your email address to:

jfraser17@cogeco.ca

Sponsor a Newsletter

Would you like to sponsor an edition of the Newsletter? A \$30.00 donation helps with the expense of printing and mailing the Stoney Creek Historical Society Newsletter. A tax receipt for this donation will be issued. Please contact our Treasurer Judy Green at (905) 662-4065.

**Historical Society Research
Queries**

Genealogy queries:

(written only – 50 words max.)

Members: 2 free per year

Non-Members: \$5.00/query

For further information please contact:

Dorothy Reid - (905) 664-6355

Other research queries: Please contact:

Jennie Foley – (905) 662-2984

Stoney Creek Historical Society Board of Directors

President	Bill Mitchell	(905) 664-4576
Past President	Bill O'Reilly	(905) 662-2248
1 st Vice President	Greg Armstrong	(905) 662-6269
2 nd Vice President	Wendy Klassen	(905) 662-1524
Treasurer (Membership)	Judy Green	(905) 662-4065
Recording Secretary	John Fraser	(905) 667-3688
Correspondence Secretary	Dorothy Reid	(905) 664-6355
Director	Mary Lewis	(905) 643-3665
Director	Kathy Wakeman	
Director	Jennie Foley	(905) 662-2984

Committee Chairs/Co-ordinators

Archives:

Cheryl Gemmell (Archivist)

Jennie Foley (Archives Co-ordinator)

Genealogy: Dorothy Reid

Membership: Judy Green

Newsletter: John Fraser

Programming: Kathy Wakeman

Social: Betty and Mike Petis

Telephone: June Guzar

Membership Application/Renewal/Donations

YES! I would like to acquire/renew membership in the Stoney Creek Historical Society.

Name(s) _____ Receive newsletter by e-mail? Y/N

Address: _____ Please send to: Stoney Creek Historical Society

P.O. Box 66637

Phone Number _____ Stoney Creek, ON

L8G 5E6

E-mail: _____ Please check one: New membership Renewal

Please indicate your preferred membership option: Individual: \$10.00 Family: \$18.00 Business: \$25.00

**Please accept my additional tax-deductible donation of \$ _____ to assist the work of the Society.

[Space reserved for address label]

Member Business Directory

Britannia Cleaners	Ed Strecker	17 King Street East	(905) 662-4971
Chamber of Commerce	Dave Cage	21 Mountain Avenue South	(905) 664-4000
Connection Key Travel	John and Mary Fraser	889 Barton St., Unit 2	(905) 643-7444
Dr. Keith Millar		304-15 Mountain Ave S.	(905) 662-2312
Donald V. Brown Funeral Home	Julie Brown-Webber	36 Lake Ave. Dr.	(905) 662-2948
Erland Lee Museum	Meaghan FitzGibbon	552 Ridge Road	(905) 662-2691
Flowers by Dianne	Dianne Black	9 King Street West	(905) 664-6621
Queenston Stationery	Mario Figueroa	38 King Street East	(905) 664-3360
Royal Canadian Legion	Branch 622	12 King Street East	(905) 662-4171
Simpson & Watson LLP Barristers and Solicitors		950 King St. W. Hamilton	(905) 527-1174
Smith's Funeral Home (Stoney Creek) Limited		454 Highway 8	(905) 664-4222
Winona Gardens	Jeff Beattie	1381 Highway #8	(905) 643-2161

This newsletter issue has been sponsored courtesy of Garnet Richmond.