



Remember the Corman House

Stoney Creek Historical Society

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

NEWSLETTER

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FALL 2011 – MEETING SCHEDULE

Stoney Creek Historical Society Meetings are held jointly with Friends of Battlefield on the second Tuesday of each month September to May at the Nash-Jackson House, Battlefield Park.



Senator William E. Sanford

Tuesday October 11
Paul Grimwood will present the history of one of Hamilton's forgotten giants William Eli Sanford.



Tuesday November 8
Jeff Young will present on the restoration of the Avro Lancaster at the Hamilton Warplane Heritage Museum.

Guests are always welcome at our meetings. Please join us!

This newsletter issue is sponsored courtesy of Bing and Georgina Harris



President's Message

Your Stoney Creek Historical Society (SCHS) continues to pursue its objective of preserving the history of Stoney Creek.

We have received a variety of inquiries on a number of areas of interest, from local individuals as well as those from far afield. Their areas of interest include family history, past events, local buildings, among others. We are pleased to receive these and our Reference

Library and Archive volunteers do an excellent job in compiling a complete and helpful response. Their dedication and resourcefulness has earned them very complimentary letters of appreciation, some expressing their delight at the quality and caliber of our reply. I wish to extend my appreciation to our volunteers. Well done.

SCHS and Friends of Battlefield, enjoyed a picnic at the Battlefield Park pavilion on June 17th, 2011. The food was good, the drinks were cold, the dessert was great, but the fellowship was even better. Those present had an opportunity to see friends and colleagues, and catch up on the latest. You should join us next year. My thanks to those who made this year's picnic, a success. You know who you are.

On several occasions, SCHS has had a "booth" at local events. These include battle weekend in Battlefield Park June 4th, Pier 4 West Harbour Hamilton July 1st, and Binbrook Fairgrounds August 13th in support of the Erland Lee Home. We display historic pictures, welcome new members, answers questions, and sell books and articles that we have sponsored. One such publication, "Billy Green and Balderdash" has been well received.

The three area secondary schools greatly assisted us in selecting the winners of our school awards program. Recipients were all history minded members of each graduating class. We were impressed by the achievements and contributions of these young people, and wish them well as they pursue their post secondary history studies.

Our guest speakers for the coming months bring a variety of topics of local interest. Each has their own style and manner of presentation, and everyone should find these sessions not only enjoyable but informative. Come on out and see for yourself.

Greg Armstrong

Pres.-SCHS

Stoney Creek Reference Library and Archives News

Jennie Foley Has Resigned as Archives Co-ordinator and Board Director

Unfortunately, we have lost the services of Jennie Foley, Society Director and Archives Co-ordinator. We owe Jennie a great debt of gratitude for the many hours she has dedicated to creating and maintaining a library and archives of the highest standard. Judy Green, Treasurer and also tireless library worker can attest to the enormous amount of work involved. The Society's Board of Directors accepts Jennie's resignation with deep regret but appreciates that due to other commitments, she is no longer able to continue her work with the Society.

Society members Nancy Capstick and Sue Heatherley have recently been appointed to the Society's Archives Committee and have jointly taken on responsibility for research inquiries. Thank you so much.

Viewing the Past Eighteen Months and Looking to the Future

The move to Nash-Jackson House last year was indeed a dream come true. Our Reference and Archives Library is now proving to be a valuable resource for our members and all others interested in local history. The meeting area in Nash-Jackson has also been perfect for our monthly SCHS/Friends of Battlefield general meetings. In many ways our new location in Battlefield has been ideal; certainly as a beginning. The City of Hamilton and staff have been most generous in their help each step of the way as our dream became a reality.

Experience has proven to be an excellent teacher and today we are able to demonstrate precisely what is needed in order to adequately service the local community. Your Society's Board of Directors and Archives Committee have developed a comprehensive vision for the future. It is recommended that larger quarters be sought very quickly. This need is an urgent one. Current space is vastly undersized and environmental conditions are damaging to the collection. Computerization and access to the internet is not feasible in our current location.

Negotiations are continuing with the City in an attempt to find a suitable location for our Reference Library and Archives. Members will be kept informed as new information becomes available.

Erland Lee Update

The Friends of the Lee are continuing their efforts to raise funds for the closed Erland Lee Museum. The Federated Women's Institute of Ontario which owns the building has stated that up to \$1 million dollars is needed to restore the building and grounds.

The importance of the Erland Lee Home and Museum, birthplace of the worldwide organization of Women's Institutes cannot be overstated. The Stoney Creek Historical Society is a solid supporter of all parties attempting to save the Lee. As previously stated in our May newsletter the SCHS "does not consider failure to be an option".

A number of fund raising projects organized by the Friends of the Lee are presently underway; the goal being to have the museum re-opened to the public.

Recently a marketplace of approximately 30 vendors sponsored by the Friends of the Lee was held at the Binbrook Fairgrounds. The Stoney Creek Historical Society was very pleased to be an active participant. Your Society purchased 2 tables for the "Country Marketplace" at which we were able to provide information for prospective new members and also make available books for purchase.

The Friends of the Lee are launching the sale of their 2 year Calendar on September 14 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 P.m. and have sent the following invitation to all SCHS members:

*You are cordially invited to attend
The Launch of our 2 Year Calendar
For the Erland Lee (Museum) Home
By the Friends of the Lee
On Wednesday, September 14, 2011
Location: The Erland Lee (Museum) Home
552 Ridge Road, Stoney Creek, Ontario
Time: 6 pm to 8 pm*

Annual Society Awards to Local History Students

Awards were presented last June to an outstanding history student as nominated from each of the three local Secondary schools. These graduating students have demonstrated a keen interest in history and have shown leadership within their respective schools. Each has a very impressive list of community service hours.

The Stoney Creek Historical Society is very proud of this year's award winners. We congratulate each on a job well done and wish them all every success as they embark on their post secondary studies.

Orchard Park Secondary School – Hillary Morris

Hillary took three grade 12 history courses in 2011, Classical Civilizations, Challenge and Change in Society, as well as Canadian History. Hillary has earned a scholarship from Waterloo's Wilfrid Laurier University (History Studies) and is planning to teach history.

Cardinal Newman Catholic Secondary School – Kelli Brenton

Kelli has taken five history courses, including grade 12 Canadian History. She has accepted an offer from Ottawa's Carleton University to study public affairs and policy management, an interdisciplinary curriculum that examines a variety of issues facing society today including social policy and human rights.

Saltfleet District High School – Jessica Powell

Jessica has been an outstanding student of history and the Social Sciences. She will be attending the University of Ottawa and her goal is to work for the United Nations, or for Canadian Foreign Affairs.

Welcome New Members!

We extend a warm welcome to members who have recently joined us:

**Michael & Nina Clements; Murray Crozier; Shirley Ferguson and
Ian Gardner**

Battlefield House Museum News

By Marnie Maslin

1920s Dunington-Grubb Landscape Plan Re-creation In Battlefield Park Now Underway.

The husband and wife landscape architect team, Howard and Lorrie Dunington-Grubb, was hired by the Women's Wentworth Historical Society in the mid-1920s and the result was an ambitious and extensive plan for tiered, ornamental gardens and meandering walkways. The Women's Wentworth Historical Society spent the first quarter of the 20th century making improvements to the Gage house and surrounding property in recognition of the significance of the site during the War of 1812. The landscape plan was partially implemented and then altered over the years.

The current restoration of the landscape is part of the Battlefield Park Master Plan and is a War of 1812 Bicentennial project. The result will be a peaceful place to reflect on the Battle of Stoney Creek, an event that took place 200 years ago that helped shape Canada as a country.

Closure of the Museum and Monument

Please note that the Museum and Monument will be closed for the duration of the landscape work. However we hope that you and your family will join us for the following special events taking place in the Nash-Jackson House.

Upcoming Events at Nash-Jackson

SO THOU THINKEST THOU CAN DANCE?

Listen to lively music, learn new skills and meet new people at this regency period dance workshop. It's easier than it sounds! Just imagine yourself in Jane Austen's "Pride and Prejudice" and join us for an evening of light-hearted fun. Light refreshments will be served.

Date: Saturday, November 5, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 per person.

"AUSTEN"-TACIOUS: A REGENCY ROMP

Experience the elegance and grace of the regency period as we celebrate the writings of author Jane Austen.

Costumes, music, dancing, readings and refreshments bring the charm of the early 19th century to life.

Date: Saturday, November 26, 2011

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$15.00 per person

GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP

Children will decorate their own pre-made, homemade gingerbread house to take home. The workshop includes a visit with St. Nicholas.

Date: Sunday, December 11, 2011

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Ages: 2 to 12 years.

Cost: \$24.95 per person. Pre-registration required.

Stoney Creek Historical Society Board of Directors

President	Greg Armstrong	(905) 662-6269
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1 st Vice President	John Fraser	(905) 667-3688
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Director	Meaghan FitzGibbon	(905) 662-2691

Committee Chairs/Co-ordinators

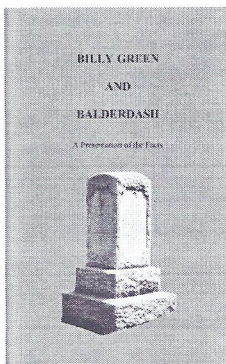
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 Sue Heatherley
 Newsletter: John Fraser
 Programming: Kathy Wakeman
 Social: Sue Heatherley
 Carolyn Briggs

Telephone: June Guzar
 Genealogy: Dorothy Reid
 Membership: Judy Green

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
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

Billy Green and the Battle of Stoney Creek



If you enjoyed James Elliott's Strange Fatality and would like to learn more about the exploits of legendary Battle of Stoney Creek hero Billy Green, then you should read Billy Green and Balderdash.

A limited number of copies are available from the Stoney Creek Historical Society for a nominal cost of \$2.00

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

Stoney Creek, ON

L8G 5E6

Phone Number _____

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]

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 at (905) 664-6355

Other research queries -please e-mail

Nancy Capstick - ncapstick@sympatico.ca

or Sue Heatherley - sueheatherley@hotmail.com

Please Help Us Manage Newsletter Printing Costs

A \$30.00 donation helps with the expense of printing and mailing our newsletter. If you would like to become a sponsor please contact our Treasurer, Judy Green at 905 662-4065. Tax receipts are issued for donations.

Members can receive copies of the newsletter by e-mail. Receive your full colour copy in advance of the general meeting. Please contact John Fraser at:
schs-newsletter@cogeco.ca