

NEWS and views

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Simcoe County Historical Association

Vol. 32, No. 3

ISSN 0700-4427

In this issue...

September BBQ	1
SCHA 2004-2005	1
President's Message.....	2
Young Historians' Adventures ..	2
Orillia Museum of Art and History Update	3
Essa Historical Society	4 & 5
Canadian Websites	4 & 5
Fort Willow: Preparations	6-7
Fort Willow's Native Garden ..	7
SCHA Speakers	8
Mnjikaning Update	9
Museum Ground Breaking	10
SCHA Executive	10
Andrew Hunter Award	11
Coming Events	12

Visit our Website

www.simcoecountyhistory.ca



*Preserving the Past,
in the Present,
for the Future.*

See you on September 18th

We are looking forward to another day out and about in Simcoe County for our Fifth Annual Barbecue. This year, the event is hosted by Sheffield Park Black History and Cultural Museum, a gem of a site just outside Collingwood. This is a must-see spot that includes thrilling underground railway facts, artifact displays and model ships on their spacious property. Guided tours will be offered throughout the day. Our event runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Our barbecue takes place from noon to 2 p.m. and includes a hot dog or hamburger, tea, coffee or pop, and a dessert square all for \$7. Admission to the site is included in the barbecue cost. Covered eating areas are available, but you might want to

pack your lawnchair to guarantee yourself a seat!

The Park is located on Highway 26, approximately two miles west of Collingwood on the shores of Georgian Bay – 705-445-0201.

Consider September 18th Simcoe County's historic event day! After a 10 a.m. tour and an early lunch with us, you can head over to Innisfil for the Garden Dedication and Andrew Hunter plaque unveiling, or enjoy the Nine Mile Portage Heritage Trail Phase II Grand Opening. If you're not too exhausted, take in the Simcoe County Quilt, Rug and Craft Fair on Sunday – better yet, go on Friday when it starts for the best selection! So much to enjoy in one lovely fall weekend!

SCHA 2004-2005 Schedule

October 19 – Dr. Anthony Hopkins – “The Simcoe District Gaol: the Original Footprint”, at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m. – see page 8

November 16 – Charlton Carscallen – “Excavations at the Allandale Train Station”, at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m. – see page 8

January 18 – Dr. Brad Rudachyk – *Beautiful Barrie*, at the Parkview Centre, 8 p.m.

February 19 – Heritage Week Saturday Seminar – Publishing for Historical Societies, at the Simcoe County Museum, time TBA

March 15 – Larry Cotton – *Whiskey and Wickedness in Simcoe County*, at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m.

April 19 – Dr. David Beasley – celebrated author of *Sarah's Journey* and *The Canadian Don Quixote; the life and works of Major John Richardson, Canada's first novelist*, at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m.

May 17 – Annual General Meeting at the Bell Farm Road Banquet Hall

President's Message

At our AGM in May, SCHA awarded the Andrew Hunter Prize for the very first time. Our inaugural winner, Mr. David Osborne, proved to be both a worthy and generous recipient. A student in the Laurentian University programme at Georgian College, Dave had some difficulty obtaining materials pertaining to Simcoe County history. As a result, he generously donated his \$750 first place prize to the Georgian College library to further develop its holdings in Simcoe County and Canadian history.

Dave's generous gesture got me thinking about how we might also assist in developing the College library's history collection. How many of us have spare copies of local publications lying about? What about those back issues of *Canadian Historical Review*, *Ontario History*, or *The Beaver* that are just gathering dust?

I am confident that they would find a happy home in the Georgian College library, where more than 100 eager and budding Canadian historians would put them to good use. If we want to see more and better prize-

winning essays, we need to help ensure that the resources are to hand, especially when it comes to those materials most directly related to the history of Simcoe County.

If you or your local association would like to help, or for more information, give me a call at (705) 726-7380 or send me an e-mail at rudachyk@allstream.net. Putting local history books in the hands of young scholars, I can scarcely think of a better way of "Preserving the Past in the Present for the Future."

Young Historians' Adventures in Simcoe County

Where Amy Went

N&V: Where did you go this time to check out another historic Simcoe County spot?

Amy: My mom took me to Chappell Farms just north of Barrie on the Penetanguishene Road.

N&V: What did you do there?

Amy: The Farms are having their 170th birthday, and they put a whole bunch of their old things into a big display for visitors and school groups to look at.

N&V: What was the best part of your adventure?

Amy: Seeing their dog, but he wasn't really part of the display; he was just friendly. I liked the old water pump they have in the laundry display.

N&V: What was your least favourite thing?

Amy: That's hard because it was all good. I wish was in grade three so that I could come out with my whole class. I'm glad it is open to everybody so I can go too and try to make butter and learn how to do the laundry.

Amy and her mom want to thank Mrs. Chappell for showing us her many items such as foot pumped butter churns and butter molds from the 1860s to the 1890s. The old Cockshutt buggy hanging from the rafters is wonderful too. We really liked the picture of the fourth generation Chappell kids riding in the buggy long ago.

The students of Simcoe County are going to get a great chance to step back in time, not only as they learn to make butter, but also as they perform laundry duty; all the necessary implements are available for pumping the water into the tin tub, heating it on the wood stove, scrubbing the clothing on the



washboards, hanging it up on the clothesline, and then flattening it all out with the antique irons.

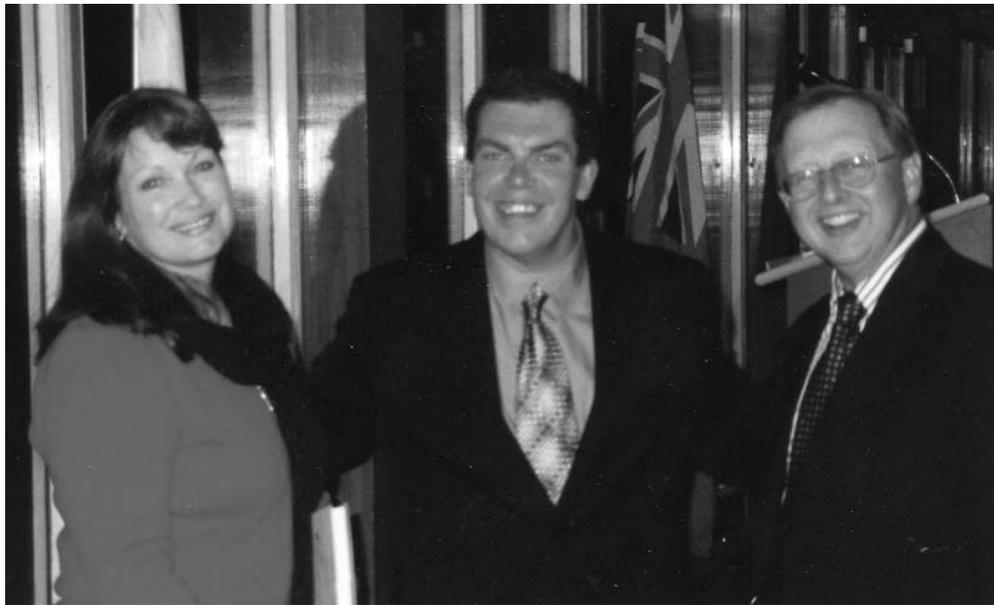
We look forward to going back to see all the pictures of seven generations of Chappells who have lived, worked and played on their beautiful farms for the last 170 years. Eric, seen below, is a member of the seventh generation.



Orillia Museum of Art and History Update

by Dr. Richard Johnston

Dan Needles was the Master of Ceremonies at this year's Leacock Award Dinner at Geneva Park on June 12th. Once again, the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour was awarded to an outstanding Canadian author. Ian Ferguson won the award, and the \$10,000 prize for his book, *Village of Small Houses: a Memoir of Sorts*. For more information on this colourful tale and its writer's history, see www.leacock.ca/win2004.html.



Right: Heath Needles, Ian Ferguson, and Dan Needles

"Honourary Degrees" Conferred



Pat Angus, Olive Schisler, (far right) and Wendy Hutchings (right) were honoured at the June meeting of the Orillia Museum of Art and History for their distinguished, long-standing service. Quennefer Browne organized the convocation at the Leacock Museum, including a singsong orchestrated by OMAH "music faculty members" Lloyd Dennis and Peter Gill on bagpipes.

Museum Construction Update

Jean Sargeant, OMAH Board chair, kindly provided some information to the editor for this update. If you have driven down Peter Street in Orillia this summer, the construction at the Sir Sam Steele building has been difficult to miss! With funding from the federal government, the Trillium Foundation, the City of Orillia, and numerous private supporters, a long hoped for renovation of the 112-year old landmark building is nearly complete. Over the summer, during

my frequent visits to Mariposa Market, I have enjoyed watching the reconstruction of the roof, which should be finished by the end of September. That will make way for repairs to the clock which will see it once again in working order (I think I was too young to drive the last time I saw the hands move). The spire, removed by the city police to make way for their communications equipment, will be reconstructed as well.

The museum staff, and that of the art gallery, anticipate moving during October and opening the building to the public by the end of that month. Congratulations to the Orillia Museum of Art and History on your new home. Locals and tourists alike will benefit from your expanded exhibition and gallery space. For a little history on the building, visit <http://www.scenicorillia.com/historical-orillia/sirsamsteele.php3>.

Founding of the Essa Historical Society

Presented by Norma Hammond at the Society's 25th Anniversary, June 12, 2004

Late April in 1979 was the origin of our future ambitious society. Helen Wanless had a taste of historical societies in a previous area and became very interested in the prospects of having a group in Essa. Harold and Helen called a number of neighbours and area residents to their home to see if they could stir up a bit of interest.

The second meeting was called for May 28th, at Woods School (then Egbert Community Centre). Thirty-six potential members made their way to the Centre, and as a result, Essa Historical Society was founded. Helen Wanless was nominated President, Eugene Smith Vice President, and Norma Hammond second Vice President. Alma Ross was elected recording secretary, Norma Currie corresponding secretary, and Edward Banting treasurer. The guest speaker was Burton Ford, and he became a member of the society.

We were all green except Helen and Burton, and we had plenty to learn. I ended up in charge of the sites committee and quick like a bunny, I was pressed into work. Our older members well remember Neil

McBride and his tireless work making plaques and cleaning up Wilson's Hill Cemetary – cleaning the paths so I could climb the hill to visit the graves. I guess Neil did too good a job because one day he climbed the hill, and on the southeast corner he found a dug grave. It was later learned that a gangster had been killed nearby, and this was his intended resting place. Neil planted trees and flowers at Wilson's Hill. He left filled water bottles beside his plantings for passersby to water his flowers and trees. He made wooden carved plaques for the society to place, one at Egbert Church cemetery, one for Wilson's Hill, one for our lilac tree at the new Township office, and many more around the township.

We placed photos of all the Reeves we could find on the ground floor of the Municipal Building. We also placed plaques at Elines' for First Settlers, Foundings of Angus, Thornton and Ivy, two pioneer sawmills, the fishery, Nicholson Dam, and Utopia school site. We were present to help with St. Peter's cemetery dedication, and we have two more that we are working on for the future.

On our tenth birthday, I believe we gathered at the Township office – the old one – and put on a skit written by Arthur Fletcher of the first Township council holding a meeting. We served birthday cake after the show.

We walked the cemeteries of Essa and prepared notes to record the burials, a task Simcoe County Genealogy Society took over and are still working at. We gathered much information on Essa, and Helen Wanless made the registry office and archives her second home for years to get the old history recorded. Our last project was *Essa: the Garden of Simcoe County*. Here we recorded history from 1950 to 2000. We have these lovely books for sale for \$20 now.

The society meets on the fourth Saturday of the month at 1:30 p.m. at the Thornton Library. Many interesting discussions come out of our roll call, and the programs are a learning experience – sometimes old, sometimes new. I am sure anyone interested in the history of Essa and area would enjoy the 2 ½ to 3 hours we spend each month. Please join us if you so desire.

Who is the Greatest Canadian? and other interesting websites

Visit the CBC's The Greatest Canadian web site at: <http://www.cbc.ca/greatest/greatcanadians/index.html> to meet some great Canadians. You will find biography and more links to explore. In October look for a six week Greatest Canadians TV series on CBC.

The New Canada Quiz

<http://www.statcan.ca/english/edu/canquiz/cquiz1.htm>
New quizzes are posted every three months. Answers can be found in "Canadian Statistics" on the top bar of the Statistics Canada site.

The Canadian Heritage Quiz

http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/cpsc-ccsp/quiz/index_e.cfm

Ten questions to answer on-line.

National Flag Day of Canada

http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/flag-drapeau/index_e.cfm

Canadian Arts Quiz

http://www.pch.gc.ca/special/arts/musique/mus_quiz_01_e.cfm

Golden Jubilee Quiz

http://www.pch.gc.ca/jubilee/quiz_e.htm

Essa Historical Society Charter Members



The Essa Historical Society celebrated its 25th Birthday on June 12, 2004. A photo of the Chartered Members was taken to commemorate the occasion.

Back row, left to right: Lorne Carruthers, Elsie Arnold, Brian Baker, Ron Menary, Olive Menary, Elma Ross, Norma Currie

Front row, left to right: Florence Blanchard, Joan McLean, Helen Wanless, Norma Hammond, Edith Wilson

More interesting websites to explore

Canada Quizzes

Prime Ministers of Canada Quizzes

<http://www.hpedsb.on.ca/smood/pm/pm.htm>

Read about the Prime Ministers and then take the quiz challenge. Ten questions for each Prime Minister from Sir John A. Macdonald to Jean Chretien.

About Canada

<http://www.hpedsb.on.ca/smood/canquiz/trivia2.html>

Government of Canada site with links to information about many aspects of Canada. Test your knowledge after exploring the About Canada Site.

Provinces and Territories Quizzes

<http://www.hpedsb.on.ca/coll/provinces/province.htm>

Geography Quiz on Canada

<http://www.hpedsb.on.ca/smood/canquiz/trivia2.htm>

Parliament Hill- Ottawa puzzle

http://jigzone.com/ms/z.php?p=jz/nag/Parliament_at_Ottawa&z=48_piece_classic&q=gt

An on-line puzzle of Parliament Hill, Canada's capital.

Fort Willow Improvement Group

*Dedicated to the Preservation, Improvement, Restoration,
and Promotion of the Fort Willow Heritage Site*

Proud recipients of the 2002 Ontario Heritage Foundation Achievement Award

Article No. 3 in a series for *News and Views*



Fort Willow: Preparations for the McDouall Expedition of 1814

by Keith H.J. Bacon

We continue the coverage of the McDouall Relief Expedition that passed through Fort Willow on its way to Michilimackinac, as revealed by contemporary documents in the Simcoe County Archives, to whom credit is given.

In the previous article we reviewed two military letters that outlined the desperate conditions at Fort Michilmackinac under threat of American attack in early 1814, and the formation of the relief expedition being sent from Kingston in Upper Canada (Ontario) to relieve, reinforce, and supply that key garrison. Plans were being made to send an advance party of boat-builders to the area to build the 29 bateaux that the expedition would employ for transport, via the Nottawasaga River and Georgian Bay, to get to Michilmckinac.

The following is an extract from the Family History of Richard Titus Willson. Richard was born in 1793 in Poughkeepsie New York State. The family immigrated to Canada from the United States in 1800, and in 1810 moved to East Gwillimbury, to a farm opposite the temple in Sharon (then known as Hope). He did garrison duty at York in early 1813. He volunteered again and was stationed at Presque Isle Point, U.C. when York was captured. He had some experience on the lakes with timber rafts and small vessels.

Later in his Family History he tells the fascinating story of his involvement in the surveying of the Sunnidale Road and in the forces opposing the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837 and 1838: a really interesting read.

Extract from the History of the family of Richard Titus Willson, born 1793 (pages 4 and 5)

In the latter part of November of that year [1813] two boats were brought up Yonge St., for the purpose of taking a large quantity of flour in bags and some clothing for the troops and others about the Sault Ste. Marie at the foot of Lake Superior. These were the first boats that ever crossed Lake Simcoe. I was hired by The Hon. Duncan Cameron to go and manage these boats. The flour, etc., after being taken to where Barrie now stands, was taken on the back of horses, to the head of Willow Creek, the eastern branch of the Nottawasaga River, from whence it was to have been at once taken in large canoes to its place of destination; but the frost set in early and froze up the creek, so it had to remain there until the next spring. The horses that carried over the flour; etc., were taken from about Yonge St., some twenty or more, and were piloted by one of the Snake Indians (John Snake) from near Aurora, by the way of Lloydtown, down to Grasse Point on Cook's Bay, and thence to Barrie. It was all woods then and unsurveyed.

In that winter Capt. Dennis, grandfather of Lt. Col. J.S. Dennis, went over with a party of men to Willow Creek, and there built some twenty-five or thirty boats of about 5 tons. I assisted at the work until - April the 1st when I hired as a substitute, for one Daniel Clarke, uncle to Silas Clarke of East Gwillimbury, and again went to Little York. Here I remained until June the first, when Edward Clarke and I took a contract from the government to boat stores from Holland Landing to where Barrie now stands. We followed that business until the close of navigation.

The document makes reference to the transporting of the two boats up Yonge Street and the carrying of supplies as far as Fort Willow, which remained there for the winter. It then documents the building of the 29 bateaux, and the shipping of supplies from Holland Landing [Fort Gwillimbury] to Barrie [Kempfenfelt Bay].

I now somewhat reluctantly raise the issue of the location at which the bateaux were built for the McDouall expedition. I wrote the booklet "Fort Willow and the Nine Mile Portage" in March 2000. In the introduction I said that I believed that the bateaux were built at or near Fort Willow. I should clarify that this is my personal view and does not necessarily reflect the views of other members of the Fort Willow Improvement Group. My view may not be agreeable to some readers; in fact it involved me in a degree of controversy when I wrote the booklet. Please note that in the above extract, Richard is quite clear as to where he assisted in the construction of the bateaux - Willow Creek. This is obviously at variance with the traditional local history that they were built at Glengarry Landing near Edenvale, where Marl Creek joins the Nottawasaga River. I feel that the Glengarry Landing site may well be where the bateaux were built for subsequent employment on the Nottawasaga River. The original 29 bateaux were taken to Michilmackinac. Future shipments on Lake Huron were by the sailing vessel *Nancy*. Bateaux were still required for the Willow Creek/Nottawasaga leg.

Please consider the following points:

- 1) I question how the supplies were transported from Fort Willow to the Glengarry Landing.
- 2) Chewett's 1820 survey notes that the trees in the area of Fort Willow were pine, an easily worked timber.
- 3) The Glengarry Landing location may have been inspired by Bulger's reference to embarking and descending the "Nottawasaga River" (Bulger's Biography will be the subject of a future article in this series). Wilmot's 1811 map of his Penetanguishene Road Survey shows Willow Creek as the East Branch of the Nottawasaga River.
- 4) Bulger's transit time of three days (22nd thru 24th) also seems reasonable. Water levels prior to agricultural deforestation were considerably higher.

The reader may well point to the bronze plaque at Edenvale; however, recent correspondence with staff at the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada has determined that there is no documentation package to support the wording on the plaque. Whilst not wishing to get into any protracted discussions on the subject, I am open to and would appreciate any input supporting the Glengarry Landing position, or indeed the Fort Willow position, in the form of contemporary documents or more recent histories supported by contemporary source information. Thank you.

The next article in the series will provide a really focused snap-shot of the McDouall expedition passing through York (Toronto) in early 1814.

Fort Willow's Native Garden

by Bernie Longson



This summer, the group at Fort Willow attempted some native style gardening. The presentation by Dr. Conrad Heidenreich, reported in the previous two issues of *News and Views*, detailed the necessary soils, preparation, planting, and fertilizer used by the Huron people. Black Creek Pioneer Village donated the native seeds for the three sisters principle of farming (corn, beans, squash). A rainwater recovery system caught rainwater from the shelter roof, stored it in barrels, and then distributed it via a 125 m pipeline to give an ongoing supply of irrigation water. (The Rotary Club of Barrie funded the project). In addition to the three native plants, we added broom corn (dating back

to Columbus' time), decorative gourds, cucumber, and pumpkin around the outside perimeter. A note of interest is that raccoons do not like the prickly stems on the squash, pumpkin, and similar plants, and this tended to keep them away from the corn. One change we made to the soil was, where the native people used wood ash for fertilizer, we added a little Miracle Grow to get everything going the first year. With the garden's success, we will probably try wood ash next year. The garden was started in the later part of May, and checked once a week for watering and weeding if necessary. The corn is probably up to 8 or 9 feet (2 1/2 m) at present. (Editor's note: Wow!!)

SCHA's Fall Speakers

October 19, Dr. Anthony Hopkins "The Simcoe District Gaol: the Original Footprint" at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m.

The project seeks to investigate the intellectual, architectural, and social history of three Radial gaols designed by Thomas Young of Toronto in 1839-41. Two of the gaols still stand. Government policies of the period requiring gaols to be built are well known. Historical documents of a variety of kinds are known and available in the Provincial Archives. Others are held locally in facilities in Kingston, London, Guelph, Goderich and Barrie; (and some, lost for nearly twenty years, were recently rediscovered). Some architectural drawings and plans for the buildings also exist.

The gaols, however, have not been studied as a group, nor have they been studied in terms of the range of ideas and motives driving their unusual eight-sided design in the hinterlands of Upper Canada. The study seeks to answer the question that presented itself when I first encountered the gaol in Goderich - how did such a large, unusual building come to be here at such an early date?

Answering that question involves the history of English prison architecture, and a survey of public and governmental attitudes about civic administration in Upper

Canada. Extensive searching through 1835-45 books, documents, and Legislative Assembly Acts is a necessity, as is a search for early drawings and plans related to the design and construction of the three Ontario gaols. Because of the unique nature of many of the documents, quite a few of which cannot circulate or withstand repeated handling, photographing and other forms of duplicating documents is most necessary if they are to be studied intensively.

November 16, Charlton Carscallen "Excavations at the Allandale Train Station" at the Simcoe County Museum, 8 p.m.

In the fall of 2000, AFBY Archaeological & Heritage Consultants was contracted by the New VR to perform an archaeological assessment of the Allandale Station property. The assessment was part of the site evaluation process required prior to the planned redevelopment of the property for a broadcast centre. The principle concern of the investigations was the possibility that there was an Iroquoian ossuary located beneath the station's western platform.

A major challenge of the project was the use of fill and grading over the course of 150 years of use of the site as a train station. To accommodate this, a gradall was used to remove railway ballast and fill to expose

original soil surfaces. Once this was done, shovel testing across the property was completed to establish whether any archaeological deposits were present.

No evidence of the ossuary was encountered. However two significant archaeological features were identified: A midden associated with a 13th century Iroquoian occupation of the site and remnant sections of the train station's original 1853 foundations. Both of these components present a fascinating glimpse into Barrie's history.

The Iroquoian midden was still in tact because filling of a small gulley area protected it. Unfortunately, this was the only portion of the 13th century occupation that was undisturbed. Interpretation of the site is difficult

because only limited settlement patterns were identified. However, the density of materials and large numbers of ceramic vessels identified all point to a fairly substantial site.

The train station foundation was an unexpected find. A section of foundation wall from the original one-room structure projects from beneath the existing platform area between the main sections of the station house. Identification of the foundation with the original building is based on comparisons with plans and photographs of the station's various configurations over the last 150 years.

Mnjikaning Fish Fence Circle Update

by Janet Turner

During the past year, the Fish Fence Circle members have been busy with public ceremonies, their travelling visual display, presentations to local historical societies, and conferences around Ontario. This fall, Janet Turner will be presenting the Fish Weirs story at the Orillia Public Library on Thursday, September 23rd at 2 p.m. As well, a Sunrise Ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, October 3rd, please see below.

An exciting future venture is the *Circuit Champlain*, a Francophone initiative designed to replicate the path Champlain took across Canada. Great numbers are expected to be attracted to Ontario to celebrate this historic event. Currently, in Nova Scotia, there are festivities to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the founding of Port Royal. In 2008, events in Montreal will commemorate the 400th anniversary

of the founding of New France. In 2015, similar celebrations will occur to recognize Champlain's stay and explorations in Huronia in 1615. The Heritage Committee of La Cle d' la Baie en Huronie in Penetanguishene intends to coordinate the Huronia Commemorations of Champlain's arrival in New France and Huronia.



PLEASE JOIN US IN A SUNRISE CEREMONY AT THE NARROWS

Sunday, October 3rd, 2004
with Elder John Snache

Time: Sunrise! Please plan to arrive 15 minutes in advance of the sun.

Place: On the Crothers/Hot Knots property on the west side of the Narrows, immediately north of the bridge.

Directions: If you are coming from Orillia, move to the centre left-turn lane as you approach the bridge. Look for the "Hot Knots Boat Sales" signs and turn left into the driveway that goes between the east end of the Narrows Plaza and the two-story grey house. If you are coming from Atherley, the driveway is immediately past the green Orchard Point Road direction sign. Turn right.

Social Time: We will be gathering for a pot-luck breakfast following the ceremony at the Ramara Centre on Highway 12. To get there, turn left onto Atherley Road as you exit the property. Continue past the lights at Atherley and the Rama Road intersection. The Ramara Centre is a short distance further on your right, beside the satellite parking lot for the Casino.

*The fish have gathered twice a year for millennia at this sacred place we call Mnjikaning.
Again this year, the fish are showing signs that all is not well.
Come and pay respect to the fish, to the water, to Mother Earth, to Grandfather Sun –
for future generations.*

Biindigen/Bienview/Welcomes: families, children, persons of all cultures.

If you need more information, call Janet at 705-835-9331

Ground Breaking at the Simcoe County Museum



Warden George MacDonald lends a hand to his neighbours at the museum during their groundbreaking ceremony.



Four shovels are better than one, as demonstrated by the many helping hands at the June 22nd event. Pictured above are Paul Bonwick, MP, Warden George MacDonald, David Walker, Simcoe County Museum Advisory Committee Museum Campaign Co-Chair, and Barry Ward, Councillor, City of Barrie. The \$5.5 million dollar expansion will see corporate sponsors, partners and the community join with the County of Simcoe and other levels of government to enhance the growth and development of the museum.

Simcoe County Historical Association Executive

Brad Rudachyk, President	726-7380	rudachyk@allstream.net
Christina Elliott, Vice President	733-7740	allcanadian_elliott@yahoo.com
Susan Downs, Second Vice President	431-7410	sdowns@bconnex.net
Peter Wiseman, Treasurer	725-0224	peterwiseman@sympatico.ca
Jill Hynes, Corresponding Secretary	739-6220	mark.jill@sympatico.ca
Ellen Millar, Recording Secretary	726-9331	emillar@county.simcoe.on.ca

For Membership Information, contact

Bill Packham, Membership Chair 739-0906 wpackham2795@rogers.com

Does your society have an active correspondent who can provide reports on your activities?

Historical groups are invited to submit photos and articles regarding your significant event. Imagine your society on the cover! Photos will be returned.

Deadline for the next issue is November 20, 2004

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM DE L'ONTARIO

*With thanks to
The Ontario Trillium Foundation
for their financial support.*

A Note from the Editor

In light of the many changes this newsletter has experienced during the past year, the Board has decided to solicit advertisements to help cover the costs of production and distribution. We would like to give you, our subscribers, an opportunity to participate. The cost will be \$250 per year for a business card sized ad (4" x 2.5"), four times per year in our quarterly publication, and once in our Annual Report. If you are interested in providing sponsorship of the SCHA in this way, please contact me, Jill Hynes, at Box 144, Barrie, ON, L4M 4S9 prior to November 20th for inclusion in the December issue.

Don't forget to notify our Membership Chairman, Bill Packham, if you have a change of address. Contact him at our post office box, or through the information listed on page 10.

The Simcoe County Historical Association is pleased to offer The Andrew Hunter Prize again this year to college and undergraduate university students studying Simcoe County topics. Last year's recipient, Dave Osborne of the Laurentian University at Georgian College program, wrote on the Black Settlement of Oro Township after reading a brief reference in one of his textbooks.

Be sure to encourage any college and university students you know, grandchildren, friends, adult students, etc., to submit a qualified paper. The SCHA Board would be thrilled to award both the first and second prizes at this year's Annual General Meeting.

The Andrew Hunter Prize 2005

The Andrew Hunter Prize is awarded annually for the best essay on the history of Simcoe County, Ontario, written in a course by an undergraduate student in any university. In this second year of the competition, we look forward to receiving many worthy entries.



Andrew Hunter 1863 - 1940

In this second year of the competition, we look forward to receiving many worthy entries.

Conditions: Entries must be undergraduate essays between 3000 and 5000 words in length on some aspect of the history of Simcoe County, Ontario, written in English or in French. The author must be a part-time or a full-time undergraduate student in a degree program at an accredited university or college. The essay must have been written to meet the requirement of an undergraduate credit course during the 2004-2005 academic year.

Submissions: Entries shall be submitted no later than March 31, 2005 and will not be returned to the contestants. Essays must be typed in Times New Roman 12 point font, double spaced, and should not bear the instructor's comments or grade. Two copies must be provided. A cover sheet must list the author's name, address, phone number, status, school affiliation and department, and the name of the instructor for whom the paper was written.

Entries should be sent to:

The Correspondence Secretary
Simcoe County Historical Association
Box 144, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9

Adjudication: Entries will be judged by a distinguished panel appointed by the Simcoe County Historical Association. The winners will be announced in early May 2005 with the presentation of the prizes to be made at the Annual General Meeting.

Prize: There will be two prizes awarded, one for \$750 and one for \$250, in Canadian funds. The Simcoe County Historical Association may edit the winning entries for the purpose of publication.

The Simcoe County Historical Association is under no obligation to award a prize. For more information: <http://www.simcoecountyhistory.ca>

COMING EVENTS of our Member Societies

Barrie Historical Association – contact Val Brucker

Meet at Barrie City Hall – 7:30 p.m.

Sept. 9 – Steve McEown – *Barrie: A People in Motion* video

Nov. 11 – Show and Tell

Essa Historical Society – contact Olive Lee

Meet at Thornton Library – 1:30 p.m.

Fourth Saturday of the month –
Call 458-9971

Genealogical Society –

contact Claudia McArthur

Meet at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints

79 Ferris Lane, Barrie – 2 p.m.

Sept. 11 – David Lorente –
Story of the Home Children

Sept. 16 – OGS Region V Annual Meeting – Richmond Hill Library
Glenn Wright – WWI Records
1-3:30 p.m.

Oct. 2 – Special Seminar – Innisfil Library, Lakeshore Branch – 9-4 p.m.
\$40 includes lunch and lecturer Ryan Taylor, Genealogy Librarian and author
Call 487-3937 to pre-register

Huron Museum Huron

Ouendat Village –

contact Jamie Hunter, curator

549 Little Lake Park Road, Midland –
Call 526-2844

Sept. 10-Oct. 11 –
Quest Gallery & Huronia School of Visual Arts Show

Oct. 15-Nov. 15 –
Alexander von Svoboda: People and Places Around the World

Innisfil Historical Society – contact Ross Wallace

Meet at Knock Community Centre,
10th SR at 9th Line, Innisfil – 2 p.m.

Sept. 18 – Heritage Garden and Andrew Hunter Plaque Dedication

Oct. 16 – Donna Wice –
History of the Stroud Curling Club

Nov. 20 – Annual Banquet – 6 p.m.
Cookstown United Church

Midhurst Historical Society – contact Alice Mitchell

Meet at the Library, Findlay Mill Road
7:30 p.m. Call 726-7363

Sept. 20 – TBA

Midland Heritage Committee – contact Bill Smith

Midland Council Chambers –
7 p.m. – Call 526-5285

Oct. 17 – Meeting of Municipal Heritage Committees of North Simcoe County

Mnjikaning Fish Fence Circle – contact Janet Turner

Call 835-9331

Sept. 23 – Janet Turner – Fish Weirs Story – Orillia Public Library – 2 p.m.

Oct. 3 – Sunrise Service – see page 9

Orillia Museum of Art and History – contact Ross Wallace

Meet at St. Paul's United Church, Peter St. and Coldwater Rd., Orillia - 7:30 p.m.

Oct. 20 – Jamie Hunter – Franz Johnson

Nov. 17 – Flash and Jessica Clayton – Memories of WWII

Dec. – Christmas Social – TBA

Penetanguishene Centennial Museum and Archives

13 Burke St. at Beck Blvd. –
Call 549-2150

Sept. 2-Oct. 4 – Paintings of Art Pike

Nov. 20-Jan. 20 – Listen to the Night: Bats of Ontario

Simcoe County Museum

1151 Highway 26, Midhurst –
Call 728-3721

Sept. 17-19 – Simcoe County Quilt, Rug, and Craft Fair

Oct. 16 – Last Blast – Equipment run

Oct. 27-28 – An Evening of Hallowe'en

Nov. 12-14 – Christmas at Simcoe County Museum

Dec. 12 - Victorian Christmas

Tecumseth & West Gwillimbury Historical Society – contact Helen Yielding

Meet at Tec We Gwill Hall,
Newton Robinson, 7:30 p.m.

Call 905-775-7144 or 905-936-3659

Sept. 20 – Dorothy Duncan – Nothing More Comforting: Canada's Heritage Food

Oct. 18 – Mary Munnoch – Lost Hamlets of Adjala

Nov. 15 – Ron Brightly – The Avro Arrow

Dec. 5 – Annual Christmas Party



Simcoe County Historical Association

Visit our Website

www.simcoecountyhistory.ca