

NEWS and views

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Simcoe County Historical Association

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Visit our Website

www.simcoecountyhistory.ca



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

Dr. Kevin Kee to speak Heritage Week Saturday

On Saturday, February 18th, the Simcoe County Historical Association will celebrate Heritage Week by hosting a lecture and presentation at the Simcoe County Museum at 1:00 p.m.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Kevin Kee, a Simcoe County native, who will share his research on new computer technologies, and their ability to provide us with opportunities to communicate history in new ways, such as through simulations and games. His presentation is entitled "History for the Twenty-first Century: The Promise (and Perils?) of Computer Simulations and Games".

Kevin Kee, Ph.D., is Canada Research Chair in Humanities Computing at Brock University, and Adjunct Professor at McGill University. A cultural historian who researches the development and use of history simulations, he has been a Director and Project Director at the National Film Board of Canada, and most recently an Assistant Professor at McGill University. He received the 2005 Journal of the Canadian Historical Association Award, and his book *Revivalists: Marketing Religion in English Canada* is forthcoming from McGill-Queen's University Press.

Kee is using computer technologies including Artificial Intelligence and Virtual Reality to create simulations that represent history in innovative ways. "These simulations allow students to be placed into historical scenarios," explains Kee. "They can walk in the shoes of people of the past. They can also switch characters and perspectives, and see history from multiple and contrasting points of view. In this way, they can exercise historiographical choices normally reserved for the historian. As a result, their understanding of the narrative may change. Furthermore, as they recognize that the simulation is an imperfect representation of the past, they may consider how traditional texts have been assembled, and the positionality and theoretical assumptions behind any rendering of history."

He is a primary investigator on a project that has recently received funding (\$403,053) from Heritage Canada to design, develop and test a non-immersive virtual reality environment that enables students to explore cultural artifacts and learn more about the social and cultural history of Quebec.

President's Message

I often say, "Everybody loves history, but nobody wants to pay for it." There are so many things that need doing historically, but so little time and even fewer dollars.

At our November directors' meeting, your treasurer, Peter Wiseman, reminded us that a very lucrative investment made by the Association several years ago would be coming due in 2006. With current interest rates, the upshot is that we will find ourselves with approximately \$1,000 fewer operating dollars annually.

In order to continue our current levels of support for our community partners, and the Historica heritage fair at Simcoe County Museum, the Andrew Hunter History Prize, as well as our regular and special meetings, we have to begin to address not only the shortfall but also the broader issue of fundraising.

In years past, the Association routinely made up the shortfall incurred at our Annual General Meeting and dinner. Over the past few years, the AGM has been pretty much breaking even. A higher attendance would ensure a modest profit. Plan to attend and bring your friends. The food is delicious, the camaraderie excellent, and the speaker outstanding.

Under editor, Jill Hynes, our quarterly newsletter, *News and Views*, has been transformed into a first rate publication. Each issue of *N&V* costs about \$500 to produce and mail. It is our hope to obtain some advertising to help offset our costs. Would you or your business be interested in advertising in *N&V*? Please contact Jill she would love to hear from you.

One project that should generate some income is the proposed publishing of the Andrew Hunter History Prize essays. To date we have three fine papers and look to receiving at least two more this year. Those who attended our October meeting can attest to the high quality of our winning essays.

Your Association has not raised its membership fees in three years. Beginning 2006, our fees will be \$12 for an individual membership and \$15 for families and institutions. These remain most reasonable, especially considering the four issues of *News and Views* that each member receives, not to mention the very fine speakers at our public meetings.

The word "fundraising" is often mistaken for a call to run for cover. Nonetheless, your directors continue

to look for that special someone who loves to fundraise. If you have fundraising in your blood, and would like to get in on the ground floor, please contact any director or myself. If you do not feel called to lead the fundraising team, do you have a fundraising idea that SCHA could implement? We would love to hear them as well.

Finally, as you renew your membership dues for 2006, please consider making a donation to SCHA. I promise that it will be put to good use preserving the past, in the present, for the future. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In Memoriam

Jack Poste, a long time member of the SCHA, passed away July 26, 2005. Jack was a member of our executive for many years. His volunteer work in the Collingwood area involved him in numerous causes, environmental, social and historical. He shared his great love of history with many students throughout his teaching career. He is survived by his wife, Muriel, sons Russell and his wife Jeanette, Robert, and Scott and his wife Adrienne, along with five grandchildren.

SCHA 2006 Schedule

January 17 – Brian Baker slide show "Grain elevators: Giants 'Round the Bay" at the Parkview Centre, 7:30 p.m.

February 18 – Heritage Week Saturday Seminar – Dr. Kevin Kee, Brock University, Canada Research Chair in Digital Humanities, at the Simcoe County Museum, 1:00 p.m. – see page 1.

March 14 – Mary Munnoch, "Irish Settlement in Simcoe County" and the Woodgate Irish Dancers performing group and solo step dances at the Simcoe County Museum, 7:30 p.m.

April 18 – Dr. Hugh MacMillan, *Adventures of a Paper Sleuth*, at the Simcoe County Museum, 7:30 p.m.
(Learn more at www.lpg.ca/JoyRead/sep0ct05/titles/adventuresofpapersleuth.htm).

May 16 – Annual General Meeting at the Bell Farm Road Banquet Hall.

From the Mailbag

Andrew Taylor
andrew.taylor4@tiscali.co.uk

RE: Rev Thomas H M Bartlett: first rector of Shanty Bay

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am researching on Rev Thomas H M Bartlett's missionary work at Trinity Anglican Church in Barrie as early as 1834. I have also identified him as officiating minister of St James Cathedral in Toronto between 1841 and 1846.

I would be most grateful if you could indicate any other source of information about Rev Thomas Bartlett, especially how he came to Shanty Bay to become its first rector or where he came from. I would also be interested to read the book on "Foundations of Trinity Church Laid in Early Days of Barrie with Visits by Missionaries."

Kind regards

Andrew Taylor (UK)

Below is some information extracted from some other website.

Trinity Church, Barrie is a Christian community in the Anglican tradition and has been a part of Barrie for over 160 years.

Anglican worship began in Barrie as early as 1833 when the Rev. Adam Elliot, a travelling missionary, conducted an Anglican service in a log house in Barrie. In 1834, the Rev. T. H. M. Bartlett became the first rector of Shanty Bay, but also came to Barrie to hold Prayer book services in private homes.

In 1835, Mr. Bartlett conducted the first service and preached the first sermon in the new building. The Rev. Samuel B. Ardagh came out from

Ireland as a missionary under the auspices of the SPG (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) and became our first rector in 1842. We occupy the present site because ice and snow made it impossible for parishioners to climb the hill to the first church building on Berczy Street during the winter. Consequently, for twenty years, winter services were often held in the parish schoolhouse on Marks Street (now Simcoe Street). Eventually, in 1864, a new church building was erected on the present site, still on a hill, but more accessible. Seventy years later, on May 9, 1934, lightning struck the church steeple (which has never been replaced) and the ensuing fire completely gutted the interior.

The Restored building was reopened in November of the same year and was much the same as we know it today. The school lots of Marks Street were sold and a new schoolhouse was built below the church on what is now Collier Street. This building was later used as a Parish Hall and Sunday School until 1957 when it was replaced by the present hall, connected to the church by a tower walk.

In 1981, the undercroft was completely redesigned and rebuilt to accommodate present need.

Andrew F. Hunter, *A History of Simcoe County* (Barrie: The County Council, 1909 and reprinted 1998), Part I, pp. 286 and 308-10.

Barrie Examiner, 31 July 1953, "Foundations of Trinity Church Laid in Early Days of Barrie with Visits by Missionaries."

Northern Advance, 14 April 1870, p2; Elizabeth Peterson.

Allyson Latta
alatta@sympatico.ca

I hope you can help me. I'm doing some research on my family from the Oro-Medonte area and can't seem to find where the town of Hobart is, or was. Does it still exist, or do you know whether it goes by another name now? I am planning to come to the area with my family and would dearly love to know. The family name is Miller and I am descended from the original Robert and Alexander Miller (from Scotland) who settled there around 1830.

Thanks very much,

Allyson

President Brad Rudachyk replied:

Good morning, Allyson,

I am sending along a pdf. file containing a map of Medonte Township in 1880. Hobart is north and east of present-day Coulson. Happy hunting.

Amy Schroeder
schroeder.amy@gmail.com

I work for a private research firm and we're doing some work on the family of T.R. Ferguson of Cookstown.

We were interested in finding out if you knew of anyone who might have information on the family, or even might know of any relatives in the area today.

What we're specifically interested in are T.R. Ferguson junior (b. approx 1860, died 1923) and his brother Harcourt Ferguson. Any help you could offer us would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Amy Schroeder

SCHA Fall Meetings



At our October meeting, we were pleased to welcome our Andrew Hunter Prize winner, Kate Morris and runner-up, Virginia Morrow. Both students presented their award winning papers with a professionalism that reflected the high quality of their writing.

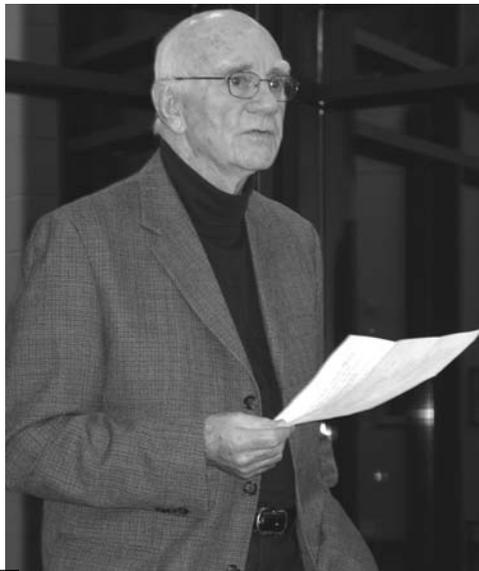
Our presenters provided visuals of their main points, then expanded with details from their research. Questions from the audience were welcomed, and some stimulating discussion ensued.

Left, Kate Morris

Right, Virginia Morrow



George Jackson, right, resident of Bradford, and contributor to the book by the West Gwillimbury History Project, *Governor Simcoe Slept Here: The Legacy of West Gwillimbury*, brought us details of the writing of this book at our November meeting. Overcoming car problems, George shared some sage advice to would-be authors and publishers. Apart from securing adequate funding, he stressed the important, yet unheralded, supporting role played by editors' and authors' spouses.



It's time to renew your membership for 2006!

Please complete the enclosed form and mail it to Box 144, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9 with your membership dues and any additional donation. You will be issued a charitable tax receipt for the full amount.

Simcoe County Historical Association Executive

Brad Rudachyk, President	726-7380	rudachyk@rogers.com
Mark Fisher, Second Vice President	728-3825	mwfisher2@hotmail.com
Peter Wiseman, Treasurer	725-0224	
Jill Hynes, Corresponding Secretary	739-6220	mark.jill@sympatico.ca
Ellen Millar, Recording Secretary	726-9300 ext. 1287	emillar@county.simcoe.on.ca

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. Photos will be returned.

For Membership Information, contact

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

* * * * *

Deadline for the next issue is February 25, 2006

Treasures at the Simcoe County Archives

by Virginia Morrow

Anyone with an interest in local business will be happy with the latest addition to the Simcoe County Archives. The business records of the C. Beck Manufacturing Company Ltd., Penetanguishene, have been at the archives for many years, but without a proper inventory. The Beck records had previously been held by the Regional Collection of the University of Western Ontario in London, where summer students completed a preliminary inventory. The archivist at Western facilitated the transfer of the collection to the Simcoe County Archives, since the records are of greater historical interest to this area. Unfortunately, after the collection was moved and much of it re-boxed, the inventory from Western was no longer useful. The collection is very large, and without the list, there was no way to find a particular item.

There are donations constantly coming into the archives, so the Beck papers and books were not seen as a top priority since they needed a large time commitment to reach an organized state. Subsequently, for many years the Beck business records have been sitting awaiting use...until this past summer, when the archives' summer student, yours truly, was sent to the stack room for a few months to deal with the "Beck stuff".

I went through every box and created an inventory. This is just the first step, and the inventory is a preliminary one until the collection is fully processed

by an archivist. However, this initial work enables the records to be useful to researchers.

The C. Beck Manufacturing Company Ltd. was started by lumber baron Charles Beck in Penetanguishene. It was in operation from approximately 1875 to 1969. Charles Beck and his family built a huge lumber business which branched out into other industries, such as electricity. The archives has records from the early 1870s to the



Simcoe County Archives

1930s, from the main business, C. Beck Manufacturing, and the Toronto Box & Shook Factory, the Penetang Midland Electric Street Railway Light & Power Company, the French River Boom Company, and the Savanne Lumber Company, which were all owned by the Beck family. There are also documents from the Beck family's personal records, such as letters and invoices from their day-to-day expenses.

As for the types of documents in the collection, there is a wide variety. There is a large amount of incoming and outgoing correspondence and

invoices. Because it was a lumber company, there were many camps all over northern Ontario. There are documents pertaining to the camps, such as time books, inventory lists of supplies being sent and lumber being sent out. There are also many ledgers, journals, and daybooks from all of the camps, main business, and the other companies affiliated with Beck.

For anyone with an interest in maps or blueprints, the Beck collection has many maps from all over the

Province and beyond, and many blueprints for different types of machinery and parts of the factories.

There are several letters written by one of Charles Beck's sons, which he wrote to the family from England and the trenches

of France during the First World War. These give some perspective of what it was like for soldiers in Europe. Luckily he survived his time in the trenches and was able to return home to his family.

Anyone with an interest in local business history should drop by the Simcoe County Archives and take a look through the new inventory of the C. Beck Manufacturing Company Ltd. business records. After all of the years that the collection was difficult to access, it is time for history buffs to finally use this valuable collection of documents.

Forward Through the Past – Historian to Activist!

by Gord Hanson

In future days, what occurred today, if the facts shall be recorded, might become tomorrow's history. History (by one definition) consists of a set of timed events, usually relative to an individual or a nation of peoples, that in aggregate form a story, narrative or drama. Evidence of the events, perhaps in an archives to preserve it, support the narrative. The writer has interpreted the expression "making history" casually to include shaping events or simply recording them (as newspapers do).

Did your teachers discuss "current events" with your home-room class in order to establish a perspective for the day and get things started each morning? We did this in my school to enhance student understanding of significance and causality. There may be a more comprehensive way to benefit from an examination of recent events, suggested below in the concluding remarks.

Opportunity

Daily recording of current events, more precise and encompassing than ever before thanks to image, sound and data recording technology, enables the "making of history" in common activities. It also enables the possible reverse engineering of history as digital data storage is tampered and digital identities are stolen, as image and sound is altered then rerecorded. Those "making history" in years gone by were pioneers, groundbreakers, researchers, inventors, explorers, creative artists and the like. There may have been more emphasis on doing than on recording what was done. Now, everyone is empowered to achieve "fifteen minutes of fame" as his or her demographic, civil,

artistic, even mundane economic records, are desktop-published, circulated into cyberspace, or stored in who-knows-whose memory card as a "historical" record.

What sort of events "made history" in the past? Birth, marriage, death, sports results, awards, empire-building, invention, redistribution of wealth, politics, calamity, cultural development, law and governance, politics to name a few. Those events which were accorded greater significance received more attentive reporting. Presently, any recalled event to which one allocates importance can be presented powerfully (perhaps with spin added) to a larger group; we have individually become potential producers and directors of stories, of drama.

Motive

In a contemplative moment, women and men will reflect on the above abilities, and will accord their existence sufficient importance that they will wish not simply to record data but to influence future events in a positive way, unselfishly, to benefit their group or nation. Perspective changes with age; elders become reflective on their past and concerned for future generations. Maturity and wisdom assist in the development of skills to ascertain the potential for future history-making events, and thus we can review the consequences and implications of past events and selectively and carefully attempt to influence future ones.

Look back; what events were markers of progress or decline, pivotal changes, turning points? After enjoying the benefit of hindsight, look forward; what events have the

potential for a high historical weighting? Clues that suggest impending drama include proportion of the number of people to be affected and to what degree; extremity of position – items at the ends of the bell-curve of popular opinion; disputes and dissent – a zero-sum game with a winner/loser or maybe a better outcome; novelty – the rollout of new ideas, things or philosophies; negative or irreversible impacts – war and crime; subjective topics – politics, power, religion and cultural preference.

Knowledge

Some historians assert that almost four hundred years ago, Samuel de Champlain envisioned an integrated French/First Nations race for North America retaining the strongest and best attributes of each parent culture, but through misadventure in establishing alliances among the aboriginal nations, he may have engineered the decline of that vision. In 1814, between February and May, Lt-Col Robert McDouall, in command of Royal Newfoundland Regiment regulars and others of the British militia and navy, executed the "relief of Michilimackinac" securing what is now western Canada against invading American forces. These two tiny excerpts from past pivotal events, although removed from their context, introduce the present cast in our nation's drama, with the struggles of First Nations and French-speaking peoples expressed in current pre-election media reporting. The cultural and political future of these peoples is decisive for the nation. Could today's political issues revisit our cultural past?

In a non-Canadian situation, the New Orleans flood of 1927 resulted in the rebuilding of the municipal levees to a standard engineered to withstand a category three hurricane, yet category five storms are currently known to pass through Louisiana. If the levees are not upgraded after Katrina's damage, could we see history repeat itself with another round of devastation?

Conclusion

Churchill's words, "Let us therefore...so bear ourselves that...if (our nation's identity)...last for a thousand years, men will still say 'This was their finest hour'" challenge us to keep our appointment with history, to succeed in a personal and individual challenge to contribute to the unfolding of future events. While students of bygone drama, we can also act as unofficial mentors if we analyze past data, anticipate possible outcomes using the clues provided, then act and persuade others within our sphere of influence to behave similarly. We might in this way achieve our personal best. Summed together, many contributors might benefit the development of our community and our civilization by making "good" history.

Season's Greetings and best wishes. May we all enjoy the challenges of the New Year.

Gord Hanson is a member of the SCHA Board of Directors, representing the Fort Willow Improvement Group.



**Simcoe County Historical
Association**

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

SCHA Membership Fees Update

At the November Board of Directors' meeting, the members voted to increase the annual fees to \$12 for an individual and \$15 for a couple or family.

If you choose to renew prior to January 1, 2006, the 2005 rates will still apply at \$10 for an individual and \$12 for a couple or family.

Please use the enclosed renewal form and send the appropriate amount to

Box 144, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9.

ORILLIA MUSEUM OF ART & HISTORY

A Celebration of Sir John A. Macdonald

Guest Speaker
Senator Hugh Segal

Special Guest
Hugh Gainsford
Great Grandson of Sir John A.

Wally Bremner, Master of Ceremonies

Saturday - January 14th, 2006

Mariposa Inn

Tickets \$40.⁰⁰

Cocktails - 6:00 pm

Dinner - 7:00 pm

Tickets available from:

Al Hutchings
Ticket Co-ordinator
326-4305

Wally Bremner
329-4171

Orillia Museum of
Art & History
30 Peter St. S., Orillia
Phone: 326-2159

*Tables of 10 available
on pre-booked orders
from Al Hutchings*



Sir John A. Macdonald

Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury Happenings

By Helen Yielding

DIGITAL PIONEERS MAKE FASCINATING HISTORY

The past and the present intersected in a most interesting way at the September meeting of the Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury Historical Society. Lory Whittemore and Doug Pitkin, collectors and restorers of old photographs, provided a cutting edge, PowerPoint demonstration, complete with fitting music, of how old photos of people, places and events conserve and illuminate history in a very special way.

Pitkin and Whittemore were motivated initially to use digital technology to preserve family history. However, their enthusiasm led to a wider application of their technology and their talents in capturing community history by means of old photos. At community events they asked the public for photos of people, places and events from the past, scanned them and recorded the stories behind these pictures. People responded most enthusiastically with photos and information. The collection has grown in quantity and quality. In this innovative way, the history of our communities and their citizens comes alive and is preserved for future generations. What a wonderful bonus for school and community education!

BEETON'S HISTORY A HISTORICAL DELIGHT

Bert Platt, Beeton's celebrated historian and the Tecumseth and West Gwillimbury Historical Society's most popular speaker, performed a hat trick at the October meeting. For the third time his audience shared, with pleasure, the

tales of people and events as seen through the eyes of a nine-year old newcomer to this village in 1949.

Arriving from the busy city to a rural village, young Bert took in all the sights and sounds. Dusty roads, few cars, wide-open spaces and new living quarters were astonishing to him. Beeton was a village of 600 citizens, a service center for a farming community with a bustling shopping area, a regular rail service and an active social community boasting a newly built arena. There were plenty of activities for a small boy to enjoy.

Bert elicited smiles as he described his casual entry into the local four-room school. (The principal came to visit his mother!) Almost immediately, the famous Beeton Fair took place with 37 schools marching in competition in the annual parade. His amazement at the freedom of movement for both horses and onlookers when both shared the same track during the Fair's horse races was a colourful memory.

He even produced a photo of the famous Georgina Barton's mass school concert at the new arena, including Bert. He recounted his agony when, accused of breaking a school window, he and several other boys were given the strap, an object he later purchased at a sale of school equipment.

From playing marbles on the street to wagon rides from the mill, from paper routes to music festivals, Bert's observations of people and events were fondly recalled. Beeton is fortunate to have this exemplary citizen and storyteller.

SUSAN STEIN SHARES HER WAR MEMORIES

A personal story, a warning and a "thank you" were all part of a moving account of the life of Susan Stein, an immigrant from Czechoslovakia, who spoke with great eloquence at the Remembrance Day meeting in November.

Susan recalled the comfortable life her family led, prior to 1936, in Bratislava. Her father, a civil engineer, traveled regularly on business to England and Europe. But the rise of Nazi Germany signaled changes in the political, economic and social circumstances of Susan's homeland and family life. As the German forces advanced eastward toward the Russian Front, they imposed Nazi laws, curtailed freedom of movement and, by 1942, implemented the horrific Jewish Laws. Like other families, Susan's family turned over materials demanded by the German Army, endured house searches, food shortages and curfews. The activities of underground partisans gave hope to the Czechs as did the arrival on May 5, 1945, of the Russian "liberators". Then, the Iron Curtain was imposed on her homeland. It was time to escape.

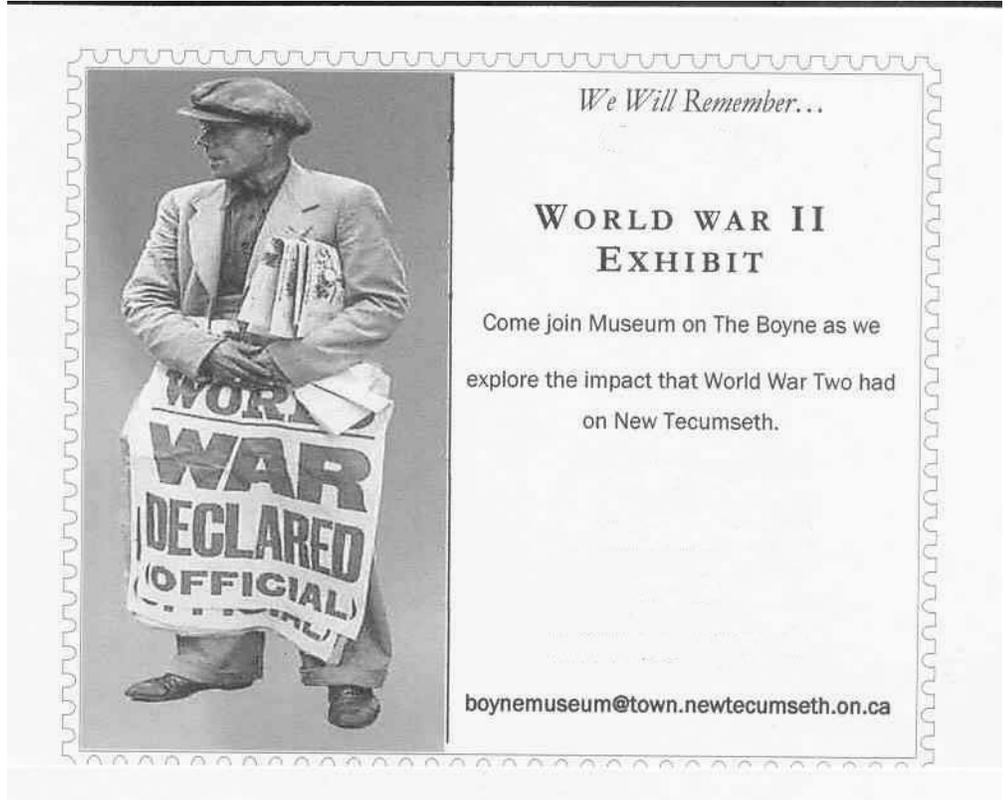
Susan and her husband came to Canada from Switzerland in 1948 under the Colonization Department's farming policy and acquired a farm near Cookstown. Other members of their families joined them in the following years. Their hard work and their indomitable spirits have made them wonderfully successful and grateful Canadians. But Susan's advice, born of her wartime experiences, was firm and direct; look after your freedoms, respect democracy and be good to each other.

Museum on the Boyne Activities

by Rachelle Clayton

The *We Will Remember* in New Tecumseth World War Two exhibit is now open at the Museum on the Boyne. It has been a joy to work with many members of our community and especially the members of the Royal Canadian Legion. Big Thanks to John Lewis and Joe McCarroll for all of their individual help and attention and the Base Borden Military Museum for their kind loan and guidance.

The Museum is calling on the support of our community in two ways. First as the museum until this year was a pioneer museum and only collected objects from the 1850s to 1910, our collection is not strong in the WW II era and we are looking for donations of artifacts from locals. Secondly, Museum on the Boyne has developed Memory Work Booklets to be filled out by veterans and New Tecumseth residents of this time period. These workbooklets on each page have a photo, some history and a few



questions and lots of blank page for you to fill in. Booklets are available at area Legions, Museum on the Boyne, and on the internet at www.town.newtecumseth.on.ca/Projects.cfm.

The Museum is offering many related programs. Don't forget to book your school or service group for "Christmas at the front!" See if you enjoy hardtack while dreaming of turkey at home!

SCHA Donations 2005

The SCHA is pleased to announce the following donations to our community partners during the year 2005:

Simcoe County Museum – \$250 – the second installment of a four-year commitment to the renovations

Innisfil Historical Society – \$500 – contribution to the projects *Farms of Innisfil* and the Knock School Restoration

Essa Historical Society – \$500 – contribution for the erection of an Ontario Historical Foundation plaque to honour T.P. Loblaw

Fort Willow Improvement Group – \$250 – contribution to the ongoing projects at the Fort

Orillia Museum of Art and History – \$250 – contribution to the historical collection projects

Historica – \$250 – contribution to the elementary student History Fair to finance student awards

We welcome the opportunity to partner with local history groups who preserve the past in the present for the future.

Thanks Christina!

This month, we bid farewell to our First Vice President, Christina Austin and her husband Simon as they embark on a new chapter in their lives. Simon has obtained a new job in Boston, MA and Christina will no doubt happily immerse herself in the vast history and culture of that great city.

Christina has participated as our Media Relations committee chair during her tenure as vice president. Thanks for all your work, and best wishes for the future, Austins!

Corduroy Road Debate Laid to Rest

From Robert Campbell

This is an update regarding the possible existence of a corduroy road at the bottom of Toronto Street at Kidd's Creek.

Heritage Barrie has been watching this for some time with the idea that the planks sticking into Kidd's Creek, and buried by about six feet of sand, might be a corduroy road.

City of Barrie engineers have put forth a plan to widen Kidd's Creek on both sides which would ruin any existing road.

As such, Heritage Barrie hired an archeological consultant to examine the area first.

The structure did not turn out to be a corduroy road, but rather the remnants of cattle pens, probably dating from the late 19th century and believed to be in use until after World War Two. Accordingly, it has been determined that the log structure no longer represents a planning concern with respect to the widening at Kidd's Creek.

The Andrew Hunter Prize 2006

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 third year of the competition, we look forward to receiving many worthy entries.

Conditions: Entries must be undergraduate essays between 3,000 and 5,000 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 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 2005-2006 academic year.



Andrew Hunter 1863 - 1940

Submissions: Entries shall be submitted no later than March 31, 2006 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 Corresponding Secretary
Simcoe County Historical Association
P.O. Box 144, Barrie, ON L4M 4S9

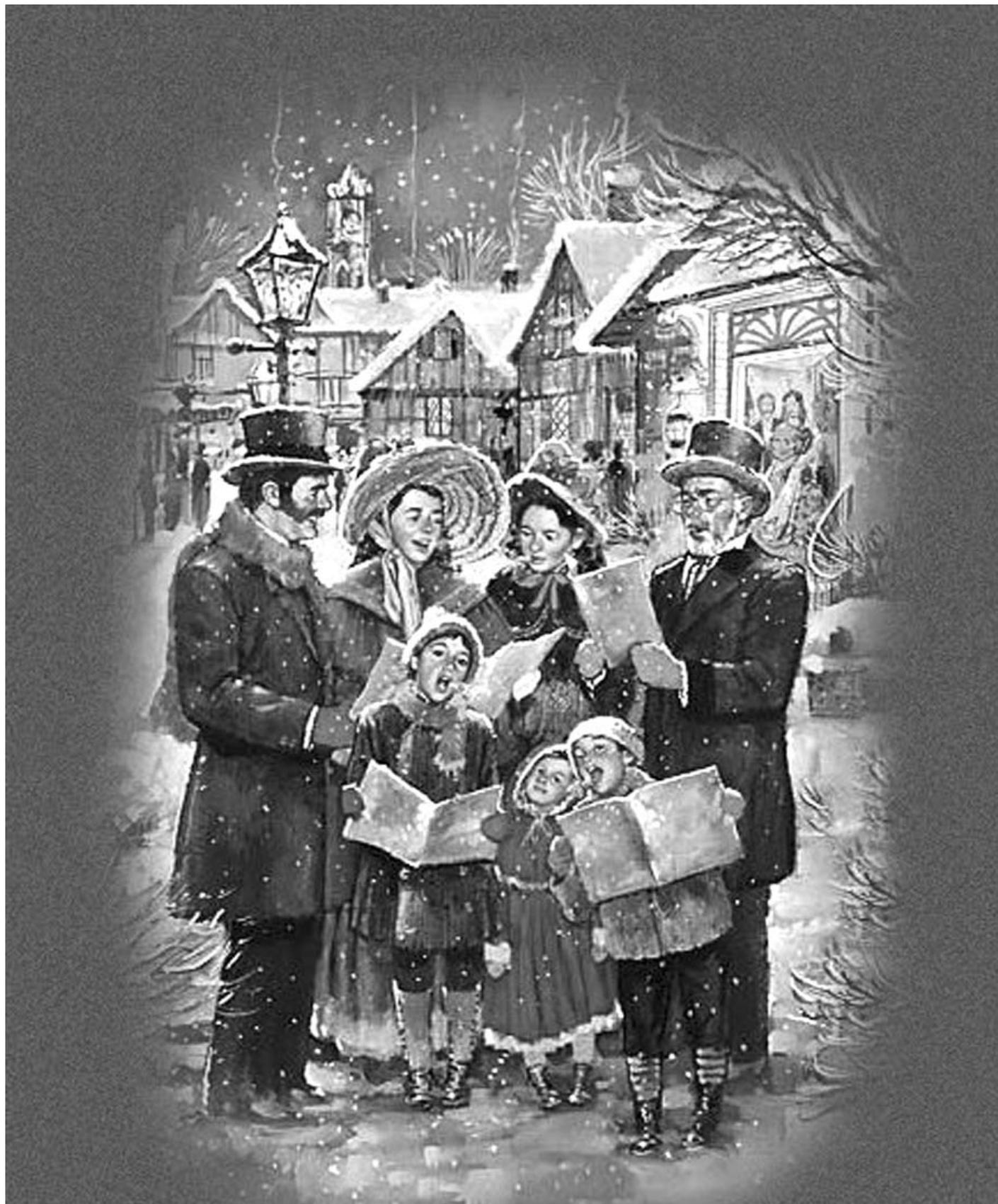
Adjudication: Entries will be judged by a distinguished panel appointed by the Simcoe County Historical Association. The winners will be announced in early May, 2006 with the presentation of the prizes to take place at the Annual General Meeting.

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, see www.simcoecountyhistory.ca.

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 recipients, Kate Morris, first place, and Virginia Morrow, second place, both study history through the Laurentian University at Georgian College program.

Be sure to encourage any college and university students you know, grandchildren, friends, and adult students to submit a qualified paper.



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
from the
Simcoe County Historical Association*

COMING

Barrie Historical Association – contact Val Brucker

Meet at Barrie City Hall – 7:30 p.m.

Jan. 12 – “The One-Room Schoolhouse” presented in period costume, with artifacts, by Tim Crawford (author and former educator)

Mar. 9 – “Historic Photo Restoration” by Extreme Imaging

Essa Historical Society – contact Olive Lee

Meet at Thornton Library – 1:30 p.m.
Fourth Saturday of the month –
Call 458-9971

Huronian Museum Huron Ouendat Village – contact Jamie Hunter, curator

549 Little Lake Park Road, Midland –
Call 526-2844 www.huroniamuseum.com

Innisfil Historical Society – contact Ross Wallace

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

Jan. 21 – Ken Reese, The Basics of Genealogical Research

Feb. 18 – Memories of Snowstorms, Show and Tell

Mar. 18 – TBA

Midhurst Historical Society – contact Alice Mitchell

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

Mnjikaning Fish Fence Circle – contact Janet Turner

Call 835-9331

Museum on the Boyne – contact Rachelle Clayton

250 Fletcher Crescent in Riverdale Park,
Alliston – Call 435-0167

www.allistonontario.com/MuseumontheBoyne.html – see p. 9

EVENING

Orillia History Committee – contact Ross Wallace

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

Jan. 18 – The Mulcahy Sisters, The Mulcahys of Orillia

Feb. 15 – Ruthanne Shaw, The Making of Maple Syrup

Mar. 15 – Mac Wilding, Kitimat

Orillia Museum of Art and History – contact Sim Salata, curator

30 Peter Street South, Orillia – Call
326-2159 www.orilliamuseum.org

Jan. 14 – Sir John A. Dinner – see p. 7
to Jan. 30 – Sunshine Sketches of Lake Country, Works by Tony Bianco and Arnold Nogy

Jan. 19 – Artists’ Talk 7p.m.

Feb. 10 – 7-9 p.m. - Lovin’ HeART – Blind and Silent Art Auction
Fundraiser – advanced bidding Feb. 8

Feb. 14 - Mar. 11 – Reflections... Still Life and Landscape: The Work of Dave Beckett

Feb. 18 – 1-4 p.m. - Opening Reception

Penetanguishene Centennial Museum and Archives –

contact Pierre Moreau

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

to Jan. 20 – Once Upon A Time Knights, Castles & Common Folk

Jan. 23 to Apr. 9 – Remembering John McRae

Simcoe County Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society – contact Claudia McArthur

Meet at Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
79 Ferris Lane, Barrie – 2 p.m.
www.simcoeboogs.com

Jan. 7 – Ruth Blair, Scottish Genealogy

Feb. 4 – Fraser Dunford, TBA

Mar. 4 – Louise St. Denis, Professional Learning Certificates in Genealogical Studies

of our Member Societies

Simcoe County Museum – contact Gloria Taylor

1151 Highway 26, Midhurst –
Call 728-3721

Dec. 19, 20, 21 Jan. 4, 5, 6 – Winter Solstice Day Camp for kids

to March – Barrie Art Club, *Country Colours*

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
<http://www.newtecumseth.library.on.ca/twghistoricalsoc.htm>

Jan. 16 – Show and Tell

THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM DE L'ONTARIO

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

Congratulations to Innisfil Historical

The SCHA congratulates the Innisfil Historical Society on their successful Trillium Foundation application for the restoration of Knock School. The group received \$100,000 from the foundation. The Town of Innisfil is matching the Trillium funds.

Continue to let the society know of materials for their upcoming book *Farms of Innisfil*. Please call Donna Wice at 436-2578.



Simcoe County Historical
Association