



## October 2000 Newsletter

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### OCTOBER MEETING, MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2000

The October meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society will be held on Monday, October 16, 2000, at 8:00 p.m. in the South Stormont Seniors' Support Centre in Ingleside. Please circle your calendar and plan to attend. Your support is appreciated. Better yet, why not encourage a family member or friend to join you. We encourage and welcome new members.

We were most grateful for the excellent support at the September meeting. Much was covered at this meeting, and some of the autumn and winter activities were discussed and planned. As well, members were informed of the successful summer activities at the Lost Villages Museum. Despite the rain, we had a very successful summer season, and we thank everyone for the support. Our museum site continues to receive rave reviews by those who visit, and we have established an excellent profile within the Township of South Stormont.

### PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER MEETING

We are pleased to report that Mrs. Isobel Williams, of Williamsburg, Ontario, will be the guest speaker at the October meeting. Mrs. Williams has organized a committee in the County of Dundas to purchase and preserve the home of Dr. Mahlon W. Locke, (1880-1942), "Dundas's Famous Doctor". Mrs. Williams will update our society on the activities which the committee has undertaken to date, and the plans for the future. She has some wonderful ideas for history and heritage preservation, and she has already asked for advice from our organization. Besides her work with the "Dr. Locke" committee, I am sure we will hear some words about her famous son, the astronaut.

The following excerpt is from John Graham Harkness's "Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, A History".

"I (Harkness) first met him at an inquest at Mountain which the Doctor was conducting and he kindly offered to drive me to Morrisburg which would get me home a couple of hours earlier than if I went by rail from Mountain Station. On the way, the Doctor explained his theory of the treatment of arthritis and rheumatism, by the manipulation of the bones of the feet. I expressed considerable skepticism for I belonged to a family of doctors, but Dr. Locke argued so earnestly and convincingly that I had to admit there might be something to it. Events proved he was right for in a few years, people began to flock to him for treatment and many were benefited, and many more completely cured.

The local papers and some of the magazines began sounding his praises, and telling of the wonderful cures he had effected, but it remained for Rex Beach in an article in the Cosmopolitan Magazine to make him world famous. Patients came to him from all parts of North America, some from Europe and even Asia. One summer he treated as many as 900 in one day, and going through Williamsburg, one would see many more American cars than Canadian. In the winter, the patients were treated in a barn-like structure, in the summer under a canopy beside his house... His regular fee was one dollar and he would not accept more but notwithstanding this, he had accumulated over six hundred thousand dollars at the time of his death. It is said that on one occasion he was sent a cheque for \$10,000.00 by a grateful patient which he returned with thanks. The poor paid nothing.

...So long as the Doctor lived, he continued to have many patients, but the strain was too great for him, his health began to fail and he died suddenly on the 7th of February, 1942. A beautiful and fitting memorial has been erected to his memory at Williamsburg on the east side of Highway No. 31.

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## NOVEMBER MEETING PLANNED

Circle your calendar for the November meeting of the Lost Villages Historical Society. This meeting will be held in the "heart" of Williamstown, Ontario, when we meet at the former township office for the Township of Charlottenburg, (south bank of the Raisin River). Esther Bryan has invited us to a lecture on "Invitation, The Quilt of Belonging", a Millennium project for the Museum of Civilization. This project has received wide coverage in newspaper across Canada, and this visit will allow us to see the quilt work in progress. This is a unique Canadian project, and well worth seeing. Esther has invited us to have our meeting there, and refreshments will be served. Mark your calendar for Monday, November 20,

2000, at 8:00 p.m. Plan to carpool with other members, neighbours and friends. More on this in the November newsletter.

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## SANDTOWN ADVENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

On Sunday, September 24, 2000, an impressive "Dedication Ceremony" was held at the Lost Villages Museum to open the Sandtown Advent Christian Church. The church stands as a monument to a "pioneering" faith in the former Township of Osnabruck, and it gives the Lost Villages Historical Society the space to display and interpret the history of the "Lost Villages" churches.

We are most grateful to the following members of the clergy, who so kindly took time from their busy Sunday schedules to be at the 2:00 p.m. opening. In attendance were Father Peter Crosby, Christ Anglican Church, Long Sault; Rev. Roger March, Long Sault Pentecostal Church; Rev. David Skinner, St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church, Ingleside, Rev. Bob Matheson, Trinity United Church, Ingleside, Father Remigius Owuamanam, Our Lady of Grace/St. Pius X Parish, Ingleside/Long Sault; and Rev. Janet Evans, St. Andrew's-St. Mark's United Church, Long Sault. Appropriate Bible passages were chosen, and reflective words on the "Lost Villages" were presented.

As well, we are grateful to "Walk by Faith" for the selection of hymn which were presented at the service. To Candy Prevost, Scott Sayers, Norm Hurtubise and Karl Kingston, a heartfelt "thank you" for such inspirational music and hymns.

## THANK YOU!!

To Betty and Ron Neville and family for attending the "dedication" of their church at the museum site, and having such faith in us as we overcame the obstacles during the restoration process. With the water damage in the spring, we were quite discouraged, however Betty always seemed to look on the bright side. We, who worked on the restoration project, dreamed that it could and would be restored to its former splendor. Visit the museum site and see the results.

To Leitha (Warner) Casselman, for her contribution of the building to our society. Leitha attended at the museum in the week prior to the opening of the church, and we have some wonderful pictures of her presence there. It was unfortunate that she was not well enough to attend the opening, however our prayers were with her. A biography on Leitha (Warner) Casselman may be found in this newsletter. This is the biography which was read at the dedication ceremony, and the one which now

hangs with her picture in the church.

To Nora Gordon, for her photograph album on the move of Sandtown Advent Christian Church from Sandtown to the Lost Villages. She has captured, on film, the many stages of the relocation process. A job well done!

To Leida (Hehir) Bovin and Dorothy Hawn, former members of Sandtown Advent Christian Church, for their contribution of artifacts associated with the church.

To John and Gwen Reeve, Cornwall, for the beautiful picture of "Christ", which was a memorial to her deceased brother, many years ago.

To Mary (Brownell) Lafave, Cornwall, for the brass crucifix, obtained by her brother, John Brownell, from Our Lady of Grace Church, Dickinson's Landing. To RoseMarie (Laflamme) Smith, Edmonton, Alberta, for her contribution of a painting of Our Lady of Grace Church, painted by John Brownell.

To Bill Brown, Cornwall, and formerly of Moulinette, for his restoration work on the organ. Bill donated his time to the society, and has offered to present a Christmas "Hymn and Carol Service". We look forward to this event. Bill is now a sustaining member of the Lost Villages Historical Society.

To Rick Forrester, Long Sault, a new sustaining member of the Lost Villages Historical Society, for his donated service in restoring the windows of the church to an operational manner. This was a tremendous job, as much rot had set in the bottom sashes. Rick did an outstanding job with the joinery.

To Greg Sullivan Movers for the substantial contribution in moving the church from Sandtown to the Lost Villages. No matter how difficult the project became, Greg always had a smile on his face.

To Les Cruickshank of Glengarry Aggregate, for the contribution of cement for the foundation. His workers, Alain and George, were most professional in their work.

To Murray McGregor, of McGregor Crane Service, for his contribution of the crane to remove and replace the roof. Although we contributed to the employees' time on the job, the crane was contributed to us from Murray.

To Bain Lazette, Lakeview Heights, for allowing the society free storage space at his warehouse on County Road #2, almost directly opposite to the museum site. The church artifacts had clean and safe storage during the restoration project.

To Alan Rafuse, Donnie Alguire, Doug Kuhn, and Alex McGillivray, for their work on the restoration project.

To Auld Kirktown Craft and Gift Shoppe, South Lancaster, for the financial gift received on "dedication" Sunday. Thanks Ranald and Madeleine MacDonald, formerly of Mille Roches.

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## LEITHA (WARNER) CASSELMAN

Leitha Casselman was born on January 13, 1908, on the 7th concession of Osnabruck Township. She grew up on a farm with her mother, Mary, father, Willis, and two sisters, Arla and Ereta (Gallinger). She took her early education in North Valley School, a one room schoolhouse, and then boarded in Finch during her days in the Finch Continuation School. She then went to high school in Avonmore. She attended Ottawa Normal School, after which she returned home to Osnabruck Township, and started teaching in North Valley School. She also taught school at Bush Glen and Grantley.

Having gone to church in Sandtown all of her life, at the age of 18 years she started to teach Sunday School. After the fire in Osnabruck Centre in 1932, when the Advent Christian Church and manse burned down, they discontinued the weekly church services, but she continued with the Sunday School services. When she was about 80 years, she would not go in the wintertime. When at the age of 85 years, she suffered a massive stroke, and she no longer held services.

She also played the organ in the Grantley United Church, where she and her family attended.

She spoke to the Osnabruck Centre Women's Institute about a trip she had taken to Bermuda, and she found that she liked the group. She joined them in 1935, and became an avid W.I. member. She joined the Finch W.I. after her marriage, and was an active member for many years.

She married her husband, Donald Casselman, in 1939, and moved to their home in the first concession of Finch Township, where they still reside. They had three daughters, Mary (Smart), Joan (Rutley), and Betty (Neville). She returned to teach at Goldfield Public School when her youngest was two, after her husband was attacked by a bull and was hospitalized for a while. When Goldfield School closed, and the children were bused to Finch, she took summer school courses and began teaching home economics and occupational classes at North Dundas District

High School. She retired at the age of 67, after 39 years of teaching.

Leitha maintained an active community life, taking leading roles in the Teachers' Association, the Women's Institute, 4-H Clubs, and the Cancer Society.

Throughout all of this, she maintained her strong Christian beliefs, and still enjoys the fellowship of church when she is able to attend.

#### 5TH ANNUAL "BIKE-A-THON" TO THE LOST VILLAGES MUSEUM

The 5th annual Bike-a-thon, sponsored by Longue Sault Public School, and the Lost Villages Historical Society, will be held on Friday, October 13, 2000 at 10:30 a.m. Students at the school are busy getting their sponsors for this event, and the school hopes to surpass the financial success achieved last year. Our society received over \$1,800.00 from this event, and we are most appreciative of the school's generosity and interest in history and heritage.

As reported at the September meeting, it will be necessary to have volunteers at the museum site on the morning of October 13th. Students should begin arriving there at about 10:30 a.m., and hotdogs and drinks will be served from 11:00-11:30 a.m. We would appreciate any help from volunteers in the historical society, and we invite you to share in the barbecue, too. The Lost Villages Historical Society will sponsor the barbecue, with each participant receiving a free hotdog and drink, and special prizes will be awarded to the "top" sponsor collectors. A bicycle will be awarded in a draw. For each \$10.00 contributed, a ticket is given. This is always an excellent incentive prize. Would you like to become a sponsor? If so, mail or drop off a contribution at Box 460, Long Sault, Ontario, K0C 1P0 or 13 Bethune Ave., Long Sault. Students, staff and school community look forward to another successful event.

Should you be able to assist as a volunteer from 10:30 a.m.. to 1:00 p.m., please give Rita Canough a call at 537-2388

#### FORBES "READING ROOM" 1901

The Township of South Stormont owns an interesting building, of historic and heritage interest, in the community of Newington, Ontario. As Annie E. Webber's book, Newington, Osnabruck, Stormont County, 1826-1987, History and Hearsay, states:

"The Forbes left a permanent mark on Newington. They must have been fond of the village for about 1900 having purchased part of his sister and brother-in-law's property Lot 42, George Forbes had a brick building erected to house a library.

The library was dedicated to the memory of the mother, Isabella Forbes. Basic supplies of books were provided by the founder."

The Township of South Stormont is working to have this building moved to the Lost Villages Museum, as no use can be found for it in the village of Newington. With the boxes and boxes of documents, etc. obtained from Fran Laflamme's home and estate auction, and now stored at the former municipal office for the Township of Cornwall, it is necessary to have a permanent home for the documents and artifacts. We all remember Fran's "big" wish, to have a permanent home for our artifacts. With an, "environmentally" controlled building, the "Forbes Reading Room 1901" would make an ideal location. The township has undertaken the initial steps of investigating the costs for its relocation, and fundraising has already started. Just recently, our society was the recipient of two donations for the relocation of the Forbes building, one from the Newington Public School Reunion Committee, and the other from the sale of Annie Webber's books at the Newington reunion. Annie has contributed her books to the Lost Villages Museum, and has requested that the sale of the books be used for the Reading Room's relocation.

This brick building, with its brick exterior, mansard roofline, and attractive front porch, would make a valuable resource centre at the museum. This would make for a fine "centennial" project for a 1901 heritage building from the Township of South Stormont. With the province of Ontario's new "Heritage Challenge Fund", the Township of South Stormont is seriously considering the move of this building to Ault Park. Watch for more news on this project in the future.

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## THE FRIENDS OF THE SANCTUARY

On Sunday, September 24, 2000, the Lost Villages Historical Society participated in the "Waterfowl Day" activities at the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary. We are most grateful to Nathaniel Millward, Ingleside, Ontario, for assisting our historical society at this event. With the many activities at the Lost Villages Museum on that day, it was wonderful to have Nathaniel's help at the "Waterfowl Day". Nathaniel, by the way, covered on Mondays at the Lost Villages Museum during August, and on weekends in September. He provided our society with some volunteer service in July.

We received the following note from Dallas Buchan, President of "The Friends of the Sanctuary".

"The Friends of the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary wish to thank you

and let you know how grateful we are for your support. It is because of your generosity that we are able to continue our efforts maintaining and improving the Sanctuary, encouraging wildlife appreciation, preserving and conserving, and providing educational programs for the public.

The Friends of the Sanctuary's membership is a small percentage of the population, but the number of people who visit the sanctuary is huge in comparison. Warm comments, insightful suggestions and appreciative remarks from Sanctuary visitors helps keep us in focus and on track.

There are many facets to an area such as the Sanctuary. Businesses, charities, individuals, organizations and governing bodies can all lend a hand in making sure such an area remains for all to enjoy and appreciate. Thank you again for taking an active role, no matter how small or large, in the Upper Canada Migratory Bird Sanctuary. Please spread the word about the Sanctuary. And visit as often as you can. The Sanctuary is always open."

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## THE CANADIAN LETTERS AND IMAGES PROJECT

The following letter was received from Dr. Stephen Davies, Project Director, of The Canadian Letters and Images Project. Should you be able to assist this project, you are encouraged to do so at the addresses given at the conclusion of this article.

"This letter is to announce a new Canadian history project and to ask for your assistance. The project is entitled The Canadian Letters and Images Project, the purpose of which is to create a permanent national electronic archives of Canadian war-related correspondence accessible to anyone interested in this aspect of Canada's history. Included for your information is the material from our website outlining the project and its purpose.

The Project is seeking contributions of correspondence from Canadians of all regions, and we are hopeful that The Lost Villages Historical Society may be of assistance. We would greatly appreciate it if you could bring The Canadian Letters and Images Project to the attention of your members and all other interested parties. We are encouraging Canadians to look in their closets and attics for any correspondence and to share a part of Canada's past. Every letter or postcard we receive will make a difference in preserving this important aspect of Canada's heritage.

If there are any questions, suggestions, or contributions, please do not hesitate to

contact the Project. Thank you in advance for any assistance you may be able to provide."

#### ABOUT THE PROJECT:

The Canadian Letters and Images Project is an online archive of the Canadian war experience, from any war, as told through the letters and images of Canadians themselves. Too often, the story told of Canada at war has been one of great battles and great individuals, an approach which unfortunately misses the 'ordinary' Canadian and the richness of their everyday experience. The objective of the Canadian Letters and Images Project is to let Canadians tell their own story in their own words by creating a permanent online archive which preserves Canada's wartime correspondence from the battlefield and from the homefront.

Our hope is that Canadians can share with one another the more personal side of a country at war. Such a collection allows us to better appreciate the struggles, anguish and joy, of Canada during wartime. It will also stand as a tribute to all Canadians, past and present, who have in any manner contributed to Canada's wartime efforts. We believe it is important to collect and recreate the personal side of the wartime experience as soon as possible, before such materials are forever lost or destroyed. Each and every piece of correspondence is a valuable artifact linking us to our past, and while one letter may seem insignificant, in combination with many others, that single letter can help to tell a remarkable story of the unyielding spirit of a country at war.

The project is run under the auspices of the History Department at Malaspina University College with the objective of creating a searchable online archive of the personal side of Canada's war experience. It is hoped that the online format will provide access for scholars, students, and all others interested in this aspect of Canada at war.

The first phase of this Project consists of collecting and electronically archiving previously unpublished correspondence concerning Canada at war, whether from the battlefield or from the homefront. A second phase of the Project will create a searchable online archive of images of Canada at war. As with the correspondence, the images such as photographs or postcards are meant to represent the range of the Canadian experience during wartime. This second phase of the Project is scheduled to begin in 2002.

The Project is seeking any previously unpublished correspondence, letters or postcards, single or in collections, connected to any aspect of the Canadian

wartime experience in any period. The correspondence will be made available to everyone interested in this aspect of Canada's wartime experience through a searchable online archive to be maintained at this site.

When submitting correspondence, transcriptions or photocopies of the originals are also welcomed. If you are sending a photocopy, please be certain that it is a good quality copy to ensure that the letter is accurately transcribed. Originals can be returned by the Project if requested, but it will be necessary to allow sufficient time to process and transcribe the originals.

Whenever possible, please include any biographical details about the author of the letter (such as age, birth, death, etc.), about the recipient of the letter, the relationship of the sender to recipient (i.e. son to mother), and any other information which might be useful to provide meaning and context to the letter.

Contributions to the Project can be directed to Dr. Stephen Davies, Project Director, Department of History, Malaspina University College, 900 Fifth Street, Nanaimo, British Columbia, V9R 5S5, Telephone (250) 753-3245 ext. 2131, or Email [letters@mala.bc.ca](mailto:letters@mala.bc.ca)

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## ST. LAWRENCE STEPPING STONES 2000 "FALL FESTIVAL"

Plans are well underway for "Fall Festival 2000" sponsored by the St. Lawrence Stepping Stones 2000 committee. Circle your calendar, and plan to attend. Our historical society has been invited to participate, and this is another way for the society to promote itself. More information on this will be outlined at the October meeting of the society. The information presented in this newsletter was received by the historical society from Carson Elliott, St. Lawrence Stepping Stones Millennium Coordinator. We hope that you will be able to participate in this important event in the Township of South Stormont.

### FALL FESTIVAL 2000, NOVEMBER 10-12, 2000

The St. Lawrence Stepping Stones 2000 Committee will be hosting "Fall Festival 2000" from November 10-12, 2000, in the Lancer Centre and Osnabruck Hall at Rothwell-Osnabruck School. The doors to the public will open at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, November 10th. The Festival will continue until 4:00 p.m., Sunday, November 12, 2000.

The Fall Festival will feature some very unique attractions that should attract large

crowds. Friday evening, November 10, 2000, will feature over thirty local handicraft artisans, home product specialists, and several heritage displays. This "Show and Sale" will run the course of the three-day Festival in Osnabruck Hall. Featured entertainment for Friday evening, which is R-O Night, will highlight the Squadron 306 Military Concert Orchestra from Montreal. This concert orchestra will perform their music of the war era, starting with early war melodies up to the present Star Wars music, in concert at 8:00 p.m. Proceeds from this special concert will go to the Rothwell-Osnabruck R.O.A.R committee.

Saturday, November 11, 2000, the doors will open with the theme day being "Community Remembrance 2000". At 10:45 a.m., the Festival will focus upon Remembrance Day with special ceremonies taking place in the Lancer Community Centre. Participating will be the Friends of Crysler's Farm Battlefield, dressed in period 1812 costume; the Brockville Infantry Company 1862 Silent Drill Team; veterans and members of the Royal Canadian Legion 569; Legion Padre, Rev. Peter Crosby of Christ Church, Long Sault, will deliver the message and prayers of Remembrance. Several invited guests and local dignitaries will attend. Wreath laying ceremonies will take place and the traditional two minutes of silence will occur. Barb Hunter, of Squadron 306, will present the Last Post, to highlight the ceremonies.

This will be followed by a demonstration of the Brockville Infantry Company (1862) Silent Drill Team, which will present to the public the drills of the period. This event will be followed by a Children's Muster, where children attending will wear period costume and march in parade. Other featured entertainment for the day will include Hill's Angels Senior Choir, which will perform a selection of war songs, and the Golden Girls of Cornwall, with several war period dance routines. Featured exhibit for Saturday and Sunday, in Osnabruck Hall on the stage, will be "The Titanic Display", a collection of memorabilia and artifacts by Mr. Rene Bergeron of Ingleside. From the canteen, the Ladies of St. Matthew's Presbyterian Church will provide soup, sandwiches, hot dogs, drinks, and muffins throughout the day.

Sunday, November 12th events will get underway at 11:00 a.m. with a Community Coffee, Tea and Dessert party. Admission for this event will be \$2.00 per person. During this party, local gospel singers will entertain throughout the course of the afternoon. Patrons will also have plenty of time to visit Osnabruck Hall, to attend the handicraft/home products show and sale, and visit the numerous heritage displays.

Festival 2000 will be open to the public on Friday, November 10, 2000, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., Saturday, November 11, 2000, from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 12, 2000, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$2.00 per person or \$5.00 per family, however if you bring canned goods or other non-perishables for the Dundas and Area Food Bank, your admission is absolutely free to the Festival. For more information, please contact Carson Elliott, St. Lawrence Stepping Stones Millennium Coordinator, Township of South Stormont, at (613) 537-2362 or 1-800-265-3915.

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### IN SEARCH OF ROOTS!!

Mr. Al Chaplin, 355 Hinton Ave. South, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 1A6 seeks the following information:

**COLQUHOUN:** The first wife of my mother's father was Catherine Colquhoun; she was born in Colquhoun, Ontario. She had a sister named Martha, who I believe lived in Farran's Point. Do you have any record of Martha Colquhoun?

**BROUSE:** In the Point Iroquois Cemetery there is a stone for Jacob Brouse. He was the second husband of Frances "Fanny" Lyman, the widow of Cephas Mills II. Jacob had been married twice previously, to Nancy and to Elizabeth. Their names are on his stone, and they have separate stones beside his. There are no surnames for the two wives on any of the stones. Do you have any record of their surnames? Do you know where I might be able to obtain this information?

**OCTOBER MEETING AT THE SOUTH STORMONT SENIORS' SUPPORT CENTRE AT 8:00 P.M. GUEST SPEAKER: ISOBEL WILLIAMS, SPEAKING ON "DUNDAS'S FAMOUS DOCTOR", -DR. MAHLON W. LOCKE**