



Newsletter

Lake Scugog Historical Society

Spring/Summer 2014

President, Paul Arculus • Secretary, Bill Minors • Treasurer, Daphne Naassana • Editor, Wendy Hatherley

President's Message

This year, 2014, marks the 100th anniversary of the beginning of "The War to End All Wars" - 1914 to 1918. Many of this community's young men signed up for "King and Country" to oppose the whims of the Kaiser and his expansionist policies in Europe. Off they marched; unfortunately many never came back, and this community mourned their tragic deaths. The next four years will give us an excellent opportunity to remember their sacrifice. I will certainly make this a focal point of our annual cemetery walks.

Pine Grove Cemetery is one of the most interesting cemeteries in this part of the country. It holds the memorials for more significant people than most, and their accomplishments are incredibly far-reaching. Due to the popularity of these walks we are planning to hold two separate walks this year, each one with a different theme. More details about these walks appear elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our thanks go out to Marilyn Pearce, who has led us in running yet another successful Antique and Craft show. The profits from this show are used to enable our Historical Society bring outstanding speakers to Scugog and to expand our activities.

As part of those expanding activities, our executive is proud to announce that the Lake Scugog Historical Society will be offering a \$1000.00 scholarship to a student from this year's Port Perry High School graduating class. The scholarship will be awarded to a student going on a post-secondary institution (College or University) and taking a course in history, heritage, or museum studies.

As usual we have an interesting line up of speakers for this spring and I look forward to seeing you there.

Cheers
Paul Arculus
President of the Lake Scugog Historical Society

Guest Speakers

**Tuesday, April 15,
7:30 p.m.**

**John Boyko,
"Blood and Daring"**
(after our AGM at 6:30 p.m.)

**Wednesday, May 14,
7:30 p.m.**

**Doug McLatchy,
"Mr. Hockey"**

**Wednesday, June 11,
7:30 p.m.**

**Alexander Craig
"Britons Strike Home"**

All meetings are held at St. John's Presbyterian Church, at 319 Queen Street, Port Perry, (corner of Queen and Simcoe).

Please join us in the downstairs meeting room, using the rear door, off the parking lot.

Note: The meeting of April 15th will be held in the church sanctuary.

Cemetery Walks

This coming fall the Lake Scugog Historical Society will present two separate Cemetery walks at Prince Albert Cemetery. The walks will be hosted by Paul Arculus, rain or shine.

The first will be held on **Wednesday, September 10th, at 6:30 p.m.** and is entitled "Founders, Fame, and Fortune." The walk will focus on the community's founders and on those who helped to establish the economy of this region as well as those who went on to fame and fortune beyond Scugog.

The second walk will be held **Wednesday, October 1st, at 6:30 p.m.** and will amalgamate our former Ghosts and Ghastly Deaths walk, under a new Cemetery walk called "Misfortune, Mysteries, and Murder." This walk will lead us into the Halloween season by focusing on some of the more mysterious and strange characters of our history.

Prince Albert Cemetery is located on Jeffrey Street, off of Old Simcoe Road, south of Highway 7A and the meeting place is near the United Church.

There is no charge for either of these walks, but a hat will be passed at the end for voluntary donations to the Lake Scugog Historical Society.

If you haven't been to one of these Cemetery Walks, you really should get out to one or both of these events; they are interesting and informative and always attract a good group of participants!



WEBSITE

Did you know that we have a website?

Find us at: www.lakescugohistoricalociety.com

You will find upcoming events and other items of interest.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We have a number of members who have not yet renewed their annual membership; please fill in your forms, or drop into Books Galore and More, on Perry Street and renew there. You can also renew with Wendy, at the next meeting. Ask for your membership card from Wendy when you renew as well, if you haven't received it yet!

1914

This year, 2014, marks the 100th anniversary of the first, and arguably, one of the most startling events of the 20th century; that of the beginning of the “War to End all Wars,” more frequently referred to as the First World War. The event that triggered the war occurred on Sunday June 28, when a Bosnian Serb, named Gavrilo Princip, shot and killed Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his wife, Countess Sophie Chotek, in Sarajevo. Ferdinand was the heir apparent to the Austrian throne.

Austria immediately accused Serbia of inciting violence, and within days the Austro-Hungarian army began a wholesale massacre of the Serbs. A week later the Serbs retaliated and drove the Austro- Hungarian Army back across the border. A series of inter-related international treaties, alliances and agreements quickly brought other nations into the conflict. The Russians supported the Serbs. The French had an alliance with the Russians, and, ultimately, the British had a “moral” obligation to support France and neutral Belgium.

When Britain declared war in August 1914, the nations of the Empire, including Canada rallied to support the mother country. Eventually over 600,000 Canadian soldiers were recruited and most served in Europe and the Middle East. Newfoundland, still, a colony of Britain recruited 12,000 men.

Recruitment offices sprang up across the country including Port Perry and Columbus. Here in Scugog, over 250 young men volunteered for “King and Country” and sailed across the Atlantic to become involved in the bloody conflict. Ontario County (now Durham Region) has a long tradition of military history dating back to the 1837 Rebellions. In 1866, in response to the Fenian raids, the 34th Battalion of Infantry was established in Oshawa and drew many volunteers from present day Scugog. In 1900 this became the 34th Ontario Regiment.

When war was declared in August 1914, recruiting soon filled the ranks and the 116th Battalion was formed from those recruits. Later, once the ranks had been filled, some Scugog lads signed up with the 182nd Battalion. It wasn't until the bitter conflict had gained momentum in 1915 that the tragic news of the deaths of Scugog's sons began to arrive.

We will carry a detailed report of that tragic side of the conflict in the subsequent issues of our newsletter.

HERITAGE & MUSEUM NEWS

General Information:

Address for Heritage Centre: 1655 Reach Street, Port Perry, ON L0L 1P2

Address for Village: 16210 Island Road, Port Perry, ON L9L 1B4

Contact information:

Shannon Kelly

museum@scugog.ca / 905-985-8698 x 103

www.scugogshoresmuseum.com

Once Upon A Time: A Medieval Exhibit Scugog Shores Heritage Centre & Archives March 10 - May 23, 2014

On loan from the Bruce County Museum, 'Once Upon A Time' takes visitors back to medieval England to the time of lords and ladies, knights and damsels, peasants and common folk. See how they all lived, played and fought. Get locked in a stockade and visit with a knight at this interactive exhibit.

Children's Medieval Spinning/Weaving Workshop Scugog Shores Heritage Centre & Archives April 5, 2014 1:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Learn about the art of spinning and weaving in Medieval times. Weave your very own Medieval tapestry to take home, using a hand-made loom. This workshop is being run by volunteers from the Port Perry Spinners and Weavers. Pre-registration is required. Registration is \$10/child and includes admission to the exhibit "Once Upon A Time."

Medieval Man-At-Arms Scugog Shores Heritage Centre & Archives April 12, 2014 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Experience Medieval Times like never before! This wacky history lesson uses humour and stories to cover such topics as the evolution of armour, weapons, and language. Visitors will have a chance to handle authentic replica weapons and armour. Pre-registration is required. Admission is \$15/person and includes admission to the exhibit "Once Upon A Time."

46th Annual Canoe the Nonquon

June 7, 2014

Participate in the longest running canoe race in Ontario. Sanctioned by OMCKRA the traditional canoe race down the Nonquon River and into Lake Scugog will be held on Saturday, June 7. Registration takes place Friday, June 6 from 6:00 - 9:00 pm and Saturday, June 7 from 7:00 - 9:00 am. The first boats can enter the river on Saturday at 7:00 am. Novice and professional canoeists of all ages may enter recreational and competitive categories. Registration is \$50 per canoe or kayak.

12th Annual Dog Days of Scugog

**Scugog Shores Museum Village
July 19 - July 20, 2014 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Dog Days celebrates the unique bond that exists between dogs and their people. It has grown to be the largest Dog Day in Durham Region. Highlights include Ontario Dock Dogs, Woofjocks by K9 Central, Scugog Disc Dog, Rally-Obedience, fashion shows, talent contests and much more. Visit with local breeders to discover what breed would be the best fit for your family, explore unique gift ideas for your pooch from one of the many vendors or just have fun introducing your dog to some new friends. Admission to the all-day event is \$7 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, \$2 for children 5-12, free for children under 5 and all dogs. 2-Day Passes are also available.

Pioneer Day**Scugog Shores Museum Village****August 10, 2014 11:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Step back in time to the 19th century as you stroll through the Museum Village. Meet the blacksmith and the woodwright, try out the printing press and write on a school slate. Heritage demonstrations, exhibits, children's games, crafts and more.

Driftwood Theatre - The Tempest**Scugog Shores Museum Village****August 17, 2014 7:30 pm**

The award winning Driftwood Theatre returns to the village for the third year to present their outdoor "pay-what-you-can" theatre event. New for 2014 is a double feature! Come early to see the special Driftwood in Concert performance, *'Food of Love'*, a collection of music created by long-time collaborators Kevin Fox and Tom Lillington, followed by the cast's feature performance of William Shakespeare's *'The Tempest'*. This rare opportunity will be available at select venues only.

Murder Mystery Evening**Scugog Shores Museum Village****September 05, 2014 7:00 pm**

This popular yearly event pits all participants against a dastardly murderer to see who can solve the crime. All assistant detectives will have the opportunity to conduct interviews and search for clues. Prizes, donated by local merchants, will be awarded to the detectives who catch the culprit. Tickets are \$20 and must be purchased in advance. Tickets sell out every year so get yours early to avoid disappointment.

Exhibit: Mr. Hockey: The Hockey Historian**Scugog Shores Heritage Centre & Archives****September 14 - December 15, 2014**

Over the past 40 years of collecting images, programs and anything relating to hockey, Port Perry resident Doug McLatchy has amassed a huge hockey collection. This unique exhibit will feature a sampling of some of his most prized artifacts.

RECAP OF THE LSHS AGENDA FOR SPRING 2014

Award winning author John Boyko will be the speaker at the April 15th LSHS meeting. Mr. Boyko will talk about his latest book "Blood and Daring," an account of the more than 40,000 Canadians who fought in the U.S. Civil War. In this critically acclaimed work he explains how that war had a significant influence in Canada becoming a nation in 1867. John Boyko will have copies of his book for sale and will be available to sign them.

Doug McLatchey, known to many as "Mr. Hockey," will be our guest speaker at the May 14th LSHS meeting. This nickname is a result of his incredible collection of Hockey pictures and memorabilia. Doug has collected a photograph of every person who ever played in the NHL, up to the year 1999, as well as those who played in the professional hockey teams that preceded the creation of the NHL in 1917. Doug's collection contains over 200,000 photos, and he will present a sampling of his photo collection, including some of his favourites, and will talk about his experiences working at the Hockey Hall of Fame in Toronto.

Author Alexander Craig will be presenting his talk called "Britons Strike Home" at the June 11th meeting. Alexander Craig has been a contributing member of the Royal Marines Historical Society since 1985. In 2013 he published "Rockets, Bombs and Bayonets: A Concise History of the Royal Marines in the Defense of Canada 1812-1815." His talk will tell you something new about the War that defined Canada. You will hear of how two battalions of marines were sent to defend the borders of Upper and Lower Canada, where they helped turn the tide of the war by taking part in winter and amphibious assaults on American targets on the inland lakes.

Watch for the next Newsletter in September/October, 2014.

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