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Editor

### AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Each new year is a time for reflection, not just for quickly-forgotten resolutions or the annual lists which appear in every newspaper, but thoughts of other times with our childhood friends, or around the table with family of an older generation. In our minds we can hear those vanished voices and wonder whether we have lived up to their hopes for us. God bless them all.

### OUR CHRISTMAS PARTY

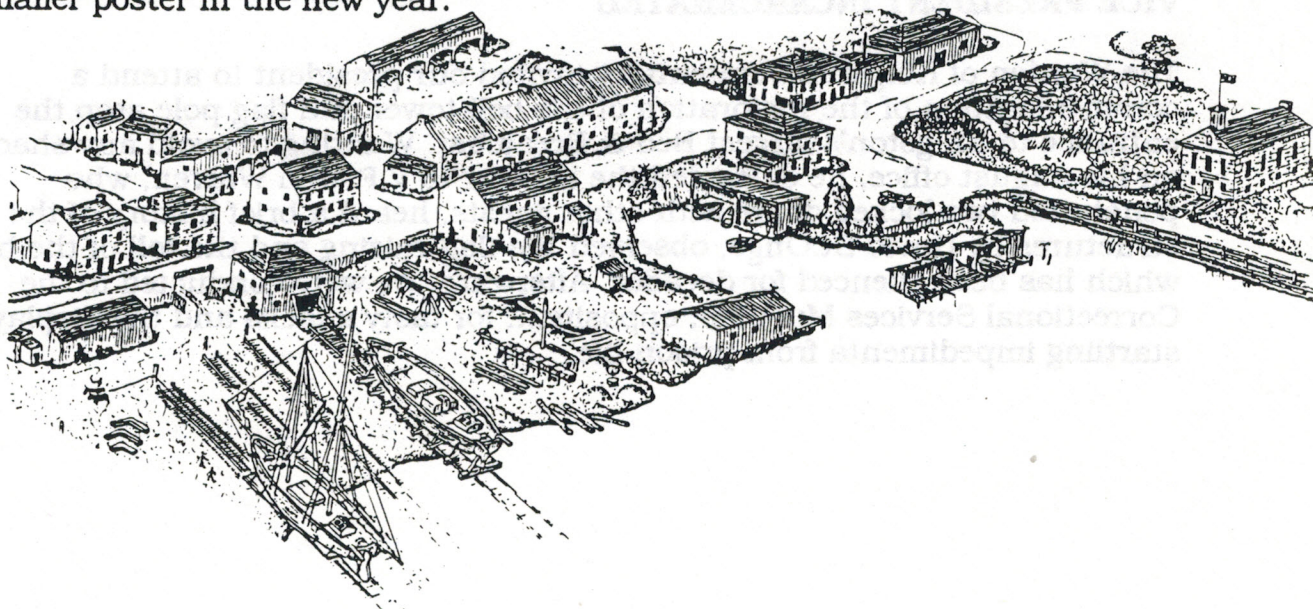
The Society's Christmas party was a delightfully warm and friendly affair in which those who came smiled, sipped, snacked and chatted as Paul Chabot's pleasant music drifted down from the piano.

We had planned for a hundred guests. Only forty came, mainly the members of the present and former executive committees, their spouses and our honoured award recipients.

As Program Chair without benefit of housewifely knowledge, my judgement of the requirements for food and drink were inflated, to say the least, as were my expectations of the membership.

### OUR NOVEMBER MEETING

By contrast, my November chat and pictures about Portsmouth Harbour in 1869 were very kindly received by about one hundred members and visitors from Portsmouth. My original ink drawing of the harbour in the last century, was 17"x 60" in size. It is hoped that it can be made available for sale as a smaller poster in the new year.





## OUR SOCIETY AWARDS

It is always a delight to see that worthy, hard-working individuals receive recognition for their efforts. This year, our Society presented its annual Awards to Brig-Gen Bill Patterson, Donald Redmond and Carol White.

Bill's career has embraced the military, superintendant of historic sites for the St. Lawrence Parks Commission, an author of six historic books, active leadership in both the Kingston and Pittsburgh Historical Societies and much more.

Donald Redmond has edited our annual *Historic Kingston* for twelve years, served on our executive committee and has presented entertaining dramatic readings at our meetings.

Carol White has served the Kingston school system for thirty-one years, sharing her enthusiasm for history with her students and taking a leadership role in the planning of five successive Kingston Regional Heritage Fairs. In their capable hands, our Award recipients ensure that, despite educational tinkering, Canadian history is not dead.

## OBITUARIES

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death on 30 October 1998 of Donald Swainson, Professor of History at Queen's and a Life Member of our Society. The book *Kingston Building on the Past*, which he co-authored with Brian Osborne, remains the definitive history of our city. His dry humour also illuminated several of our meetings.

On 6 November 1998, Mark Grenville, son of Jack and Joyce Grenville and brother to John of our Society, died in Ottawa Civic Hospital.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to both families.

## COUNT FRONTENAC (1622-1698)

Quebec's Chateau Frontenac was the site of re-enactment and celebration honouring the tricentennial of the death of Louis de Buade, Count Frontenac on 28 November 1698.

## VICE PRESIDENT INCARCERATED

The Warden of Kingston Penitentiary invited our president to attend a commemoration of the restoration of the bell tower and flag pole atop the entrance to Kingston's largest Bed & Breakfast. Wanting to avoid any shadow on his august office, he delegated the honour to V.P. Jim Warren, who penetrated two locked doors with other guests, heard a brief history of the structures by David St. Onge, observed the flag-raising and the toll of the bell which has been silenced for decades. Afterward, we were conducted to the Correctional Services Museum, opposite, ... for tasty snacks and the displays of startling impedimenta from prison life.

**URGENT JANUARY MEETING** - *thursday 28 see attached under*

On Wednesday 27 January 1999, we conduct our Annual General Meeting, including the presentation of annual reports, the election of officers, consideration of changes to our constitution and by-laws and a few show-and-tells of historical artifacts.

We listed the various offices for nomination in our November newsletter. Lou Grimshaw noted that the response was greater than last year- one.

**WINTER CRASH**

We regret the inconvenience if your copy of the newsletter should arrive a little late. The printer which converts the electrons in editor Jim Warren's computer into words on paper has crashed, repairs delayed by business holidays. There is nothing so frustrating as to hit the print button and have the printer disgorge a small rubber O-ring. Have a happy year!





**Kingston Historical Society** *Since 1893*

Box 54, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 4V6

## MEETING CHANGE

Please note a change in both the **date** and the **place**  
of the January Meeting of the Kingston Historical Society:

**WHEN:**        **Thursday 28 January 1999**  
                  **at 7:30 pm**

**WHERE:**       **Portsmouth Olympic Harbour**  
                  **Press Briefing Room**  
                  **53 Yonge Street, Kingston**

This is our Annual General Meeting, which will include the presentation of annual reports, election of officers for 1999, consideration of changes to our by-laws and, we hope, a few historic Show-and-Tells. Please join us for this important meeting.