



Vol. 19 No. 2

Editor: Jim Warren

3 February 1992

### EDITORIAL

Last month, our society newsletter appeared in its new format with a new title: THEN. This month, we have a new editor. And they say that historians never change! Former editor Joe Boucher relinquishes his green eye shade and arm garters to new editor Jim Warren, who is mindful of the fine job Joe has done during the past three years while also serving as Membership Chairman. Your news and comments will always be welcome as we keep you informed of Kingston's historic meetings, events and museums leavened, one hopes, with a dash of irreverence.

### ANOTHER MUSEUM?

After the annual election of officers and council for the Kingston Historical Society on January 22, Jim Warren described his concept of a comprehensive Kingston Museum. This would provide the historical continuity 'from mastodon to nylon' which is missing in the city's many specialized museums, while providing conservation and exhibition design services to smaller museums in the city. The audience was attentive but reserved. If you have thoughts about the museum idea, you can call Jim, or write your ideas on the membership survey form in this issue.

### FEBRUARY PROGRAM

Dr. Wallace Breck is well known for his beautiful models of Fort Frontenac and for many talks to school children about the French fort. On 19 February, Wally regales us with the 1680-1690 Hectic Decade at Fort Frontenac, when LaSalle placed Cataraqui on the world stage. It was from here that he launched his extensive explorations down the Mississippi River more than three hundred years ago. LaSalle, not Wally.

### ABOUT OUR MEMBERS

We learn with regret of the passing of life member Audrey L. Richardson Kirk, U.E. of Frankford after a lengthy illness. Mrs. Kirk was an active and dedicated United Empire Loyalist. Our sympathies are extended to her husband and family.

New member David Warren, late of the Kingston Whig Standard, has rejoined The Idler as Editor-in-

Chief, directing the literary magazine he founded in 1985. Incidentally, his trusty word processor and voluminous library occupy the historic spot which, two years ago, was architectural ruin, rubble and early Kingston artifacts.

### PRESIDENT FRANK MILLEDGE

Frank Milledge was born in England and emigrated to Montreal with his parents in 1929. In the thirties he worked in a stockbroker's office on St. James Street and he was a photographer with the Cunard White Star Line when the war broke out.

He joined the Canadian Army in 1940 through Loyola College Contingent COTC as an infantry officer and transferred to the armoured corps in 1942. He joined the Sherbrooke Fusilier Regiment in action in Normandy in August 1944 in time for the Battle of Falaise, and campaigned in France, Belgium, Holland and Germany. He was with the Sherbrookes when the Regiment returned to Canada in January 1946.

In 1946 he joined The Royal Canadian Dragoons and wore its badge in various staff appointments and United Nations postings until his retirement in 1969. While with the UN, Frank saw service in Lebanon, India, Pakistan and Kashmir. When he retired he was the Chief Administrative Officer at the Army Staff College at Fort Frontenac.

In 1968 he became the Executive Director of our local United Way and he retired from that post in 1986 after being involved in eighteen annual campaigns. He is currently Chairman of Kingston and District United Way Endowment Fund, an organization which he helped to establish. It seeks bequests and gifts to meet the capital needs of United Way agencies.

Frank is a Past President of The Rotary Club of Kingston (1973-74) and was Chairman of the Board of Kingston Regional Hospital Laundry (1979-1983). He was a charter member of the Camp Borden Curling Club, which was formed shortly after the war, and a charter member (1961), and later president, of the Kingston Garrison Curling Club.



With his son Christopher, he is co-owner of the sailing-yacht Samoena, a 29 ft. Bayfield berthed at Loyalist Cove in Bath. He has two sons, four daughters and seven grandchildren.

For forty-nine years Frank was married to Moira Fredrickson who died on December 28th last, a victim of Alzheimer's disease. Moira was a gracious and outgoing lady whom many members will recall with affection.

Hobbies apart from his family, sailing and curling, include travelling and making his computer justify its existence - as in keeping the books of this Society. While interested in history, he does not claim to be a history buff even though he has made several visits to United States Civil War battlefields with fellow Rotarians. In September he was in Holland revisiting some of his wartime haunts. He next hopes to revisit Normandy, perhaps in 1993.

#### ALL TOGETHERNESS

In this issue, along with a notice that membership fees are now payable, is a survey from which, with your assistance, we would like to get better acquainted. Many older members have made splendid contributions of their time and wisdom to the society, but would like to pass on responsibility to newer members. Newer members, being Canadian, are too shy or modest to volunteer aloud. The survey saves embarrassment. You jot your interests and expertise on paper. We scan and wheedle you into lending us your skills and knowledge. In this way, we revitalize the Society and further our efforts to make Kingston's history more accessible and interesting. We also get to know each other better and have jolly fun. Please respond, whether old member or new. Either mail in the survey, give it to any officer of the Society, or write us a letter. Thank you!

#### MARINE MUSEUM

Despite winter, the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes at Kingston (MMOTGLAK?) is open seven days a week, 10 am to 4 pm until Sunday 23 February to celebrate our heritage. Besides its treasure trove of marine artifacts, charts, models and paintings, it presents a special exhibition of native artifacts on loan from the Tyendenaga Reserve, and early French artifacts from Fort Frontenac. The latter were uncovered by the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Centre during its dig at the

fort. A video will accompany the display, as will Wally Breck's model of the 1738 fort.

#### MURNEY TOWER MUSEUM

Our Society has operated the 1846 Murney Tower as a museum since 1925. Parks Canada maintains the building against age, frost and moisture. During the 1991 season, attendance was 5880, generating \$9553.95 in admission fees and \$528. in gift sales. Museum operations were funded by the City of Kingston (\$1000), the Provincial Ministry of Culture and Communications (\$3390.), and the Kingston Historical Society (\$2471.), as well as SEED and EXP grants to defray staffing costs. Society volunteers are needed, come Spring, to greet visitors, sell gifts, record artifacts and plan murders. If interested, call Beverley Lazier.

#### NEW REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The Princess of Wales' Own Regiment reports that its Regimental Museum is now open in the Montreal Street Armoury, Monday and Thursday at 7 to 9 pm. It showcases the history of Kingstonians who 'answered the call' from the 1855 Militia Act to the Gulf War. Seven small companies of volunteer county militiamen became the 14th Battalion Militia Rifles of Canada on 16 January 1863. This became the Princess of Wales' Own after the marriage of Princess Alexandra of Denmark to Edward, Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII. The regiment has served in the Fenian Raids, the Riel Rebellion, the Boer War, World Wars I and II, the Korean War and today's Canadian Forces. The PWOR has the task of defence and security for the First Divisional Headquarters in Kingston, a first for a Militia unit. The museum was opened by Princess Diana during the recent Royal Visit. Curator is Maj. Tex Joyner, 542-2259, or contact the Armoury for appointments at 541-5880.

#### SIR JOHN A's BOOK

It would be irreverent to say that our book "Sir John A. Macdonald, 1815-1891: A Remembrance" is selling like hotcakes, even if it is. However, there are still copies left, now only \$20. It has a chronology of Sir John's life, interesting historical notes, a useful bibliography and fourteen illustrations including a view of our present Prime Minister. Purchase a copy at the next meeting or send your cheque, marked 'Book' to the Society.





# Kingston Historical Society *Since 1893*

Box 54, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 4V6

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS FOR 1992

Past President	Isobel Trumpour 90 Dickens Drive	542-4447 K7M 2M8
President	Frank Milledge 204 Glen Castle Rd.	389-4627 K7M 4N6
Publications V.P.1	George Henderson Queen's Archives	545-2378 K7L 3N6
Programmes V.P. 2	Lou Grimshaw 27 Fay St., R.R. #1, Kingston	549-2500 K7L 4V1
Preservation V.P. 3	Ken Rutherford Box 154, Cartwright Pt.	548-8674 K7K 5E2
Secretary	Sharon Cadieux 1105 Lincoln Drive	384-5590 K7M 4Z5
Treasurer	Mary Patterson 300 Chelsea Road	389-3276 K7M 3Z4
Membership	Joe Boucher 356 Glengarry Road	548-8181 K7M 3K2
Historic Kingston Ed.	Don Redmond 9 St. Catherine St.	546-7728 K7K 3R9
Newsletter Ed.	Jim Warren 17 Richard St.	544-7410 K7M 2J3

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

Wally Breck	306-165 Ontario St., K7L 2Y6	544-4876
Ken Buckingham	14 Machar Place, K7M 1L6	542-6197
Bill Fittsell	79-115 Wright Cres., K7L 4T8	549-8354
<del>Fred Gibson</del>	<del>151 Union St., K7L 2P4</del>	<del>546-9631</del>
Virginia Martyn	80-1 Place d'Armes, K7L 6S5	542-6828
Jack Pike	150 Macdonnell St., K7L 4B8	546-9187
Jim Warren	17 Richard St., K7L 2J3	544-7410
Beryl Way	179 Fairway Hill Cr., K7M 2B5	544-0050

## MURNEY TOWER MUSEUM

Committee Chair	Beverley Lazier 239 Albert St.	542-7012 K7L 3V4
Treasurer	Paul Banfield Queen's Archives	545-2378 K7L 3N6
Curator		

## PROGRAMS FOR 1992

Unless noted otherwise, all meetings are held in the Wilson Room upstairs in the Kingston Public Library at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday in the month.

### 19 FEBRUARY

Dr. Wallace Breck, former President, K.H.S.  
"1680 to 1690 Hectic Decade at Fort Frontenac"

### 18 MARCH

Maj. Lou Grimshaw, National Defence College  
"Fort Frontenac: 300 Years of Service"

### 15 APRIL

Dennis Curtis, Actor, former Corrections Canada spokesman  
"Well and Wisely Governed? Kingston Penitentiary"

### 20 MAY

Prof. George Richardson, Queen's, Mechanical Engineer  
"George Grants Redshirts"

### 6 JUNE, SATURDAY

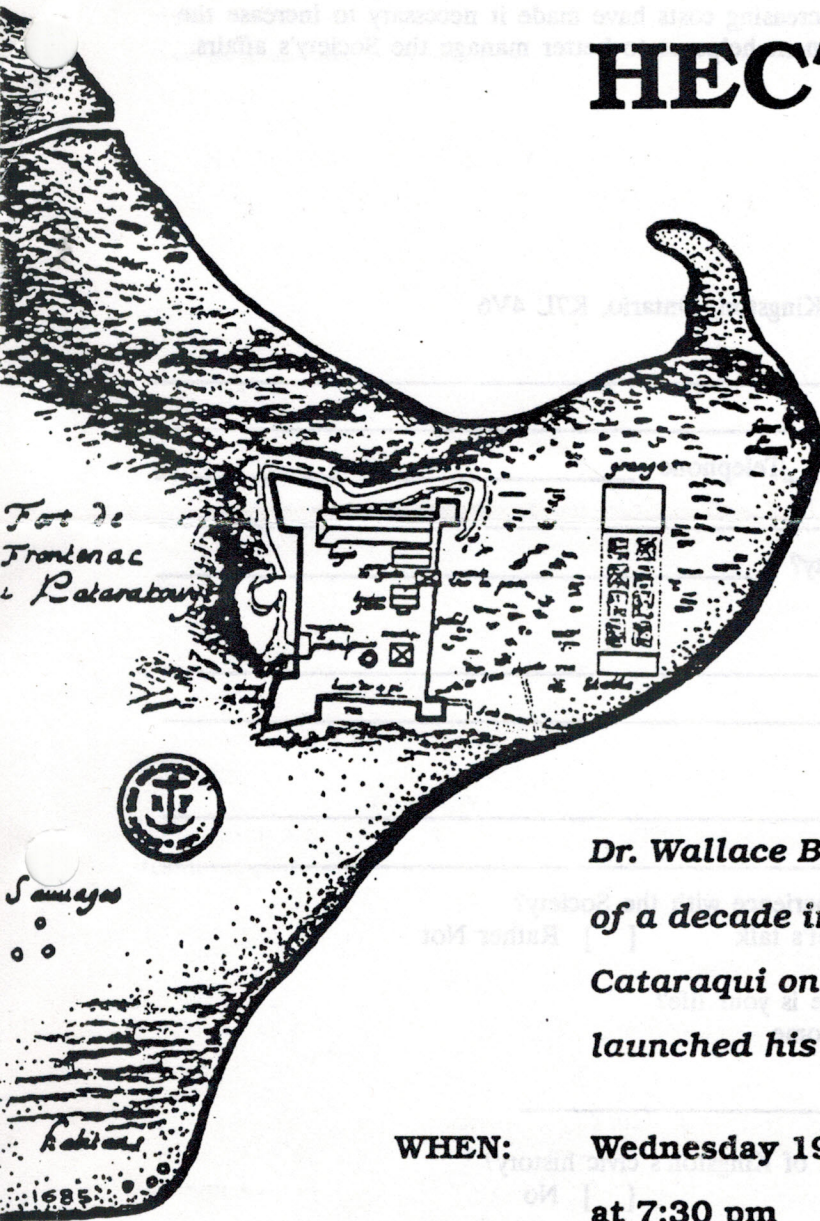
Annual tribute to Sir John A. Macdonald at Cataraqui Cemetery, Kingston



1680 - 1690

# HECTIC DECADE

## at Fort Frontenac



*Dr. Wallace Breck provides a vivid account  
of a decade in which LaSalle placed  
Cataract on the world stage and  
launched his explorations down the Mississippi.*

**WHEN:** Wednesday 19 February  
at 7:30 pm

**WHERE:** Kingston Public Library  
Wilson Room upstairs

**Kingston Historical Society**





## MEMBERSHIP FEES AND SURVEY

Your membership fees are now due for 1992. Increasing costs have made it necessary to increase the fee schedule, as shown below. Your prompt payment helps us to better manage the Society's affairs.

Students	\$ 25.
Individuals	\$ 35.
Family	\$ 40.
Life Members	\$350.

Please make your cheque payable to:  
Kingston Historical Society and Mail to Box 54, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 4V6

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

When did you come to the Kingston area? \_\_\_\_\_

When did you join the Kingston Historical Society? \_\_\_\_\_

What are your career skills and expertise?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What are your hobby skills and interests?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Would you be willing to share a little of this experience with the Society?

☐ Yes, indeed      ☐ Possibly, let's talk      ☐ Rather Not

We wouldn't dare ask your age, but at what stage is your life?

☐ Student      ☐ With children at home  
☐ Single      ☐ Retired  
☐ Married      ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

Would you favour the development of a museum of Kingston's civic history?

☐ Yes      ☐ Maybe      ☐ No

We welcome your suggestions for making the Kingston Historical Society even more vital in our second century. Please write!  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your help. You may give this questionnaire to any officer of the Society, or mail to Box 54, Kingston, Ontario, K7L 4V6. And thanks again.