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James Warren
Editor

PORTSMOUTH VILLAGE REVEALED

Jennifer McKendry will never allow our village of Portsmouth to be overshadowed by mighty Kingston. This month she offers two shows. On Saturday 5 October, she opens an exhibition of her photographs of Portsmouth from 2 to 4 pm in the Kingston Public Library.

At our October meeting on Wednesday 16 October, same place, she will present a talk about Portsmouth and illustrate it with her slides. What is more, she will be displaying her most recent illustrated book *Historic Portsmouth Village, Kingston*. It is already in your favorite bookstore for only \$15! You are warmly welcomed to both events, to enjoy Jennifer's remarkable photography and her always interesting revelations.

OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

If you weren't there, you missed the colourful comments of Dr. Charles R.R. Hayter concerning the discovery of X-rays in Germany in 1895 and their almost instant popularity throughout Europe and North America in 1896, when everyone wanted to have his or her hand bones photographed. More seriously, Queen's obtained a machine the same year, where it immediately helped in the diagnosis of injury and disease. A replica is displayed in Kingston General Hospital's Hall of Honour.

MURNEY TOWER MOURNS

The Society has made a contribution of \$100, in memory of Ken Rutherford, to his favorite charity, the Cerebral Palsy Fund. His passing has brought a dark cloud to the team who ran Murney Tower Museum. Curator Doug Petty has agreed to take on the job of Acting Chairman of the Museum Committee until the end of the year. The experienced interpretive staff have completed their seasonal contract and may no longer be available. We owe them all our sincere thanks and ongoing support.

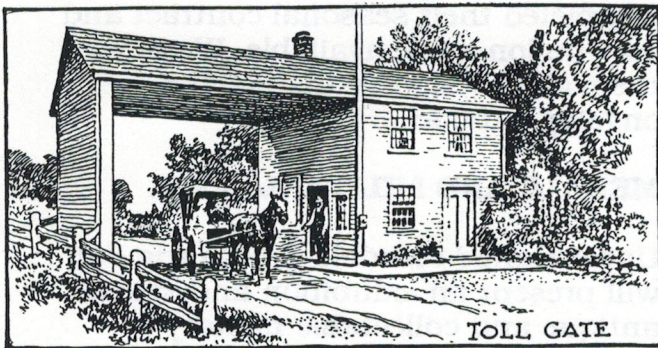
MEDALS AND MILITARIA FAIR

Upper Canada Medals & Militaria Fair will present an exhibition and sale of antique and collectable military artifacts at the Days Inn, near Division Street and Highway 401 on Sunday 6 October from 9 am to 3 pm. Leading dealers and exhibitors from across Ontario will buy, sell, identify and discuss medals, badges, aviation art, books and other interesting stuff. Everyone is welcome to come and see history you can hold in your hand. Call Lou or Heather Grimshaw for details at (613) 549-2500 or fax 613-549-8320.

MILESTONES TO NAPANEE

An early aid to navigation for horsemen and coachmen were the granite milestones that counted off the distance between Kingston and Napanee. Every four miles, a toll gate exacted a modest charge for vehicles or livestock. More than a dozen

milestones still exist and, under the Ontario Heritage Act, those in Ernest Township have been designated as historically significant artifacts. Our president Joe Boucher, a surveyor by profession, has worked with Murray Beckel, Ernestown Planner, and others to justify the restoration of the milestones. They extend along county road 2, once Highway 2, the first macadamized road in Canada. Perhaps Kingston and North Fredericksburg Townships can be induced to complete the project. Look for Joe Boucher's paper in the future.



GEORGE LILLEY PHOTOGRAPHS

Now retired at 78, George Lilley made a remarkable photographic record of Kingston and its everyday life from 1940 to 1970. He worked as a commercial photographer and freelanced for the Whig-Standard, the Toronto Telegram, Time, Life and Fortune magazines. Everything from weddings to riots, train wrecks to gala balls were grist for his mill. His aerial views of the waterfront in 1948 made a sharp historical record of the city just after the second world war. His life work, some 200,000 negatives, has been donated to Queen's University Archives. Unfortunately, time is taking its toll. The film stock is

deteriorating. Negatives need to be printed to make them more easily identified. All of which needs money. Our Society intends to make a donation; maybe you can help, too. Call Stewart Renfrew, Queen's picture archivist at 545-2378, if you would like to help. If you can pinpoint a place, event and date, Queen's may be able to make you a print, starting the ball rolling.

PITTSBURGH H.S. IS TWENTY

We extend our congratulations and warmest wishes to the Pittsburgh Historical Society who celebrate their Twentieth Anniversary. You can help them celebrate by attending their next meeting on Tuesday 22 October at the Fire Hall on Gore Road, across the Cataraqui.

SAVE THE WATERFRONT

The greater Kingston region is dominated by its waterfront which has shaped its historic character, economy and ecology. To this day, the juxtaposition of the city and its marine geography is its greatest attraction for developers, tourists and all who live here.

A Waterfront Working Group, under the leadership of the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, has been working to prepare an inventory of the natural and cultural assets of the waterfront from Adolphustown to Gananoque, including the creeks and rivers to the north and the offshore islands to the south. Its purpose is to assist in comprehensive planning for the future instead of the piecemeal planning (if any) that is carried out by local jurisdictions. This would facilitate more effective environmental protection, beautification and such pleasurable features as hike and bike

trails, park and picnic grounds, historic sites and museums, art galleries, public attractions and greater access and better views of the waterfront for everyone.

Fortunately, the Working Group has enjoyed broad support in consultation with municipal planners and staff in the region, naturalists, recreational groups, archaeologists and provincial government officials. We are happy to see that our own members Alan Campeau and Ed Grenda are very much involved. They deserve our support.



VOLUNTEER AWARDS NIGHT

The Honourable Marilyn Mushinski, Minister of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation, will conduct a ceremony on Wednesday 23 October at 7.30 pm in Memorial Hall, City Hall, 'to celebrate the shining accomplishments of Ontario's volunteers'. Trillium-shaped pins will be awarded, a reception will follow and business attire is expected. We extend our congratulations to those who have made outstanding contributions to our Society over many years.

RESEARCHER AVAILABLE

Katie Spicer is a co-op student at Bayridge Secondary School who wants to expand her classroom studies with part time employment in some aspect of historical research before entering university to pursue Urban Studies and History. She is available afternoons from 16 September to 16 January 1997. If you have a job for her, call Lou Grimshaw at 549-2500 or fax 549-8320.

WHENCE OUR MEMBERSHIP?

Our Membership Chair Ed Grenda advises that our membership has dropped to 119 or 120 souls (presumably one is uncertain). Our Treasurer Desmond O'Meara notes that had it not been for the very successful sale of sesquicentennial coins, our Society would be operating at an annual loss. It would seem to follow from these two facts that we need new young members.

The Kingston Region Heritage Fair, involved 1300 students.. What are we doing to tap this energetic resource? Student membership in our Society costs \$25. Some students do not get enough to eat and most single parents can't afford such fees. Individual teacher memberships cost \$35. Many teachers are uncertain about the future of their employment.

Are Marjorie Simmons and Jim Warren the only members in our Society who see a pressing need to reduce our membership fees? Your editor is aware that our high fees do not quite cover our present operating costs. However, if we are not prepared to make our Society more accessible to new younger members, it would seem obvious that we are descending on a slippery slope towards oblivion.

QUARRY PRESS SUBSIDY

Lamenting the cut in government grants to publishers, Quarry Press has sought our help in publishing Earl Thomas' new book 'The Three Faces of Molly Brant'. Your executive and council has agreed to *loan* Quarry Press \$2000, given the significance of this period in our history. Wally Breck, who did so much to organize the Molly Brant bicentennial, has offered to add \$500 to the loan. We look forward to reading the book in mid November.

HISTORICAL MEDICINAL GARDEN

Phil Quattrocci has a good idea. Why not develop an historical garden in Block D which would grow the kinds of herbs and other vegetation which Molly Brant might have planted around her home as a basis for home remedies? Medical science is taking a closer look, nowadays, at the healing effects of natural substances which, a generation back, were considered old wives' tales. There is also a growing literature about the varieties and combinations of plants grown in pioneer plots. Go, Phil, go!

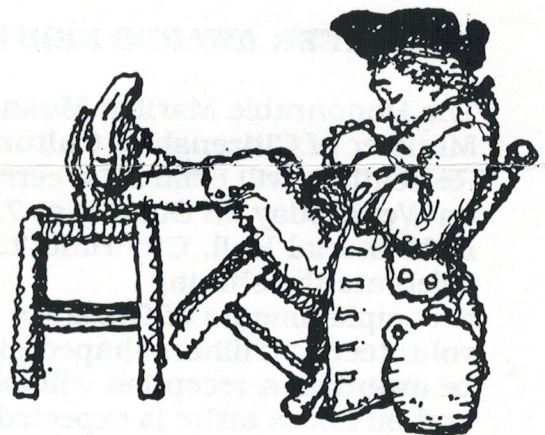
H.M.C.S. KINGSTON

It was like old times to see the grey steel prow of a naval vessel at dockside in Kingston. As one who spent some time on the open bridge of an Algerine minesweeper off Halifax in winter, I appreciated the hands-on manual controls of twin thrusters that could be rotated 360 degrees while navigating from a global positioning system, seated in an upholstered armchair in an air-conditioned cabin. Hard lines, mate! Perhaps Lieutenant Bogart Trumpour could present a paper to our Society

comparing the operation and armament of naval vessels then and now, for those unable to visit the modern ship. 'Yo-Ho-Ho and a Bottle of Rum' afterwards is what I say.

NORMAN ROCKWELL

For many of us, the paintings of Norman Rockwell (1894-1978) were a reminder of happier times, filled with gentle humour about the emotional events and conditions in everyday life. Many of his most interesting works depicted costumed subjects of the eighteenth century, including illustrations for Benjamin Franklin's Poor Richard's Almanacs, published in 1964. Rockwell's delightful pen and ink sketches were inserted at the end of each chapter, captioned by Franklin's whimsical proverbs. Through a visit to the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, and the courtesy of Mr. Michael Hendricks of The Easton Press in Norwalk, Connecticut, your editor received permission to display Rockwell's illustrations in our newsletter, drawn when the artist was seventy:



Do not squander Time, for that's what Life is made of.