President's Letter Kingston Historical Society December 2015



Dear Member,

December Meeting

Our December meeting is our end of year less formal get together. It will be on December 2nd at the Renaissance Event Centre, 285 Queen Street. Doors will open at 6, our annual awards will be made at 7, and they will be followed by a light buffet. This follows the pattern of previous years. Access is easier from Colborne Street, where there is parking. We hope to see you there to congratulate our award winners. And you will be able to pay for your 2016 membership while you are there

Collecting Sir John A Memorabilia

Dr. Paul Fritz has been collecting memorabilia for 60 years, and at our monthly meeting on November 18th, he told us how he started. He has now given most to the Queen's archives. He talked about the five groups of memorabilia:

Photographs including Cartes de Visite, cabinet photos for display and official photos;

One of a kind items, including a charcoal portrait, a relief plaque, and a bookplate in a personal book;

Political posters;

Cartoons and caricatures; and

Commercial items: engravings, busts given free with a newspaper subscription, plates for display, spoons, buttons, stamps, death commemorations stereo cards, metal wall plaques, a 1987 Royal Dolton figurine and trade cards.

He showed samples of all of these, almost all of which were dated after 1867. In the question period which followed, a number of visitors showed their own memorabilia, some of which he had never seen. KHS was privileged to have such an expert tour of a fascinating subject.

Sir John A Dinner

Our guest speaker for this year's Sir John A. Macdonald Anniversary Dinner, **Saturday, January 9th, 2016**, will be Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones whom people will remember as Dean of St. George's Cathedral. The topic of his talk will be "Thomas Bedford-Jones, my great-grandfather and his relationship with Sir John A. Macdonald for the last 15 years of his life".

The dinner will take place at the Senior Staff Mess at the Royal Military College. Please gather in the Mess at 6:00 pm to meet our guest. The dinner will commence at 7:00 pm. The cost for the dinner will be **\$70.00** per person. Seating will be limited to 100 members and guests. Please print and complete the order form and send it along with your payment to the:

Kingston Historical Society

C/O Anne Richardson

750 Amaryllis Street

Kingston, Ontario

All reservations must be received no later than **December 21, 2015**.

NOTE The annual date for this event will now occur on the Saturday closest to his birthday

2017

The City will be granting funds for Canada's 150th birthday celebrations. If you have a suggestion for what the Society could do, please let me know.

Jonathan Moore

Over 200 members and others were entertained and educated when Jonathan Moore spoke in Currie Hall on November 4th on **The Wreck of Sir John Franklin's HMS Erebus:**

Discovery, Exploration and Archaeological Study. As

well as being a scientific report on the three diving sessions, it was a very personal talk. Many in the audience knew Jonathan from his years in Kingston, and were pleased to meet him again in the session afterwards in the Senior Staff Mess. A special thank you is due to the Marine Museum, whose workers ensured that the evening ran so smoothly.

January

The January Limelight will remind you that the next regular meeting will be on January 20th at the Seniors Centre, when John Grenville will talk on "Kingston's Wartime Housing"

Newsletters

As you know, we receive newsletters from a number of other local societies. We have never known what to do with these, knowing that they contain much interesting information on local history in eastern Ontario. I am pleased to let you know that, following the initiative of Joanne Stanbridge at the Johnson Street Public Library, these newsletters are now kept in the vertical files along with the KHS newsletters. If you go in the main entrance and go straight through to the back wall, you will find the filing cabinets where they are kept, along with lots of other fascinating material on Kingston. Thanks Joanne.

Sir John A Macdonald Dinner order form		
Number of members attending:		Vegetarian meal(s)
Number of guests attending:		Vegetarian meal(s)
Amount enclosed:	Please list any food allergies:	
Please ensure you include the names of all those attending the dinner.		

Sponsors Please support the Society's sponsors: Cataraqui Cemetery Pan Chancho Novel Idea Marc. F Raymond, Opticians Cooke's Fine Foods and Coffee James Reid Funeral Home WTC Communications Homestead Shop the Hound And if you want to become a sponsor, please contact us.