



THOROLD and BEAVERDAMS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2 Vine Street, Thorold, Ontario L2V 4V3

www.tbhs.ca

Preserving Thorold's History

Volume VI, No. 1

March 2011

Bob Sagness, Author

SPEAKERS for 2011

March 28: George Cottage, Restoration of the Quebec Bank Building

April 25: The Upper Family in Niagara, Bob Upper

May 30: Union School No. 6, Decew Road. Melanie Battell

June 27: The Battle of Beaverdams, Alun Hughes

July: Hiatus

August: Hiatus

November speaker, Victorian Christmas, Annual General Meeting with Election of Officers and SHOW and TELL, plus February speaker.

November 29: Slavery in Canada by Gerry Rodney. Mr Rodney told us a brief history of slavery from the time of the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, West Africans and in Europe, England and North America.

Canada had been a slave society for almost 200 years. About 1500 black slaves were brought here under the French regime in New France. Then after the American Revolution another 2,000 came north with their United Empire Loyalists, fortunately their lives were a mild form of bondage, far less brutal than life on a sugar plantation. In the U.S.A. in 1926, a week of celebration to promote the contributions of black Americans to American life was instituted and fifty years later, the week officially became a month.

In December 1995 a motion was introduced in Parliament to recognize February as black history month and it received unanimous consent by all parties.

December 04: Our second Victorian Christmas was a resounding success, thanks to the skill and creativeness of Carla Kuchard, Melanie Battell and Cathy Mellor. Also a special thanks to the Seniors Centre choir for their rousing renditions of Christmas songs, Bob Sagness for his Christmas reading and to the many members who brought food for the Christmas treats table. Thanks everyone. Let's have a third one next year!

January 31: At our Annual General Meeting the new Executive Committee for 2011, were declared by acclamation and they are as follows:

Chair: Randy Barnes
 Past President: Dianne Barnes
 Treasurer: Carla Ann Kuchard
 Secretary: Margaret Lamb and Melanie Battell
 Directors: Alun Hughes
 Cathy Ker
 Heather McCafferty-Leger
 Bob Sagness
 Albert Secord
 Bob Upper

We again enjoyed numerous Show and Tell items brought in by; Cathy Mellor, David Griffiths, Alun Hughes, Neil Walker, Albert Secord, Cathy Ker, John Kees, Brenda Fox, David Hemmings, John Nogas, Randy Barnes. .

February 28: Roger Bradshaw wowed us with his power point presentation and photographs of the Welland canals. As he says in his book “The Welland Canals are our history and heritage. We have a hidden jewel in our midst, take time to discover and rediscover these surviving historical treasures.” His book with maps, and photos old and new, illustrates the remnants of the first three Historic Welland Canals and would make an ideal gift for any Niagara resident.

MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

November - 48
 Victorian Christmas – 23
 January – 34
 February - 52

Gentle Thoughts for today...

The older you get, the tougher it is to lose weight, by then your body and your fat have gotten to be really good friends.

The easiest way to find something lost is to buy a replacement.

He who hesitates is probably right.

Have you noticed the Roman Numerals for forty are XL.

If you can smile when things go wrong, you have someone to blame.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so he can tell when he's really in trouble.

Aging: Eventually you reach a point when you stop lying about your age and start bragging about it.

Some people try to turn back their odometers. Not me, I want people to know 'why' I look this way. I've travelled a long way and some of the roads weren't paved.

Lord, Keep your arm around my shoulder and your hand over my mouth.

NEW MEMBERSHIP LIST

After working diligently all morning on Saturday, March 19, and then phoning members over the weekend, our membership secretary, Cathy Ker and her committee have purged our membership list and have done a complete update with all the latest addresses, postal codes and phone numbers. This year we are adding e-mail addresses to the list and ask each member who has an address to please give it to Cathy to be included in the new list, a copy of which will be available for everyone next month.

THOUGHT DU JOUR

Why does a slight tax increase cost you \$200.00, and a substantial tax cut saves you \$30.00?

MEMBERSHIP HAPPENINGS...

- *Final reminder, 2011 yearly membership fees are due – single \$10.00, family \$15.00.
- *Albert Secord was nominated by our executive for the Thorold Good Citizens Award.
- *A children's antique toy display is now set up in the side-front window of the museum entrance way.
- *Don Louthier, who was a very active member of our Society and kept the museum open everyday for two year, died last month. Our condolences to his family.
- *We now have a new computer, projector and printer for museum use. Hurray!
- *In 2010 we welcomed three new members ... we're growing.
- *Carla Kuchard hosted a Ukrainian Easter Egg Painting workshop at the museum on March 5, with eleven "painters" in attendance.
- *Twenty-five members of The Canadian Federation of University Women toured our museum on March 17 and left us with a generous donation.
- *Our revised website is scheduled to be completed next month.
- ***Clear your calendar for Saturday, June 4, for our Canadiana Trivia Night at 7pm.**

*Set aside Saturday, June 25 for another Laura Secord Day at the museum from 11:00am to 2:00pm



Photos of the antique toy display in the Museum side window by the library front door.

REMEMBER US IN YOUR WILL

If you have items you think would be of value to our Society and might be mislaid or inadvertently discarded upon your death, please mention them in your will or leave a note to a family member to pass these items on to the Society. Also, small monetary bequests would be greatly appreciated.

Our Society is a member of the Ontario Historical Society.

We meet the last Monday of the month at 7:30 pm, at the museum at 2 Vine St., Thorold: with a guest speaker, followed by refreshments.

The museum is open year round to the public on Saturdays 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and by appointment at other times. Admission is free.

Phone (905) 984-4435 or (905) 227-1632 for further details.

Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.