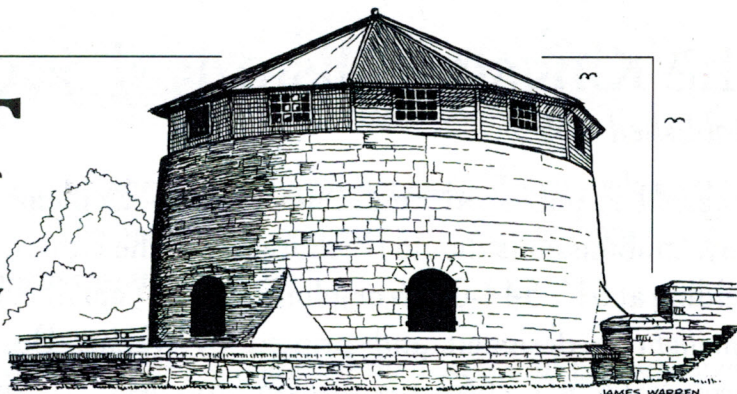


LIMELIGHT

Newsletter of the
Kingston Historical Society

vol 14 no 1 January 2012 ISSN 1488-5565



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, Christmas has come and gone. My wish for all of you is that you had a splendid time with family and friends over the holiday season.

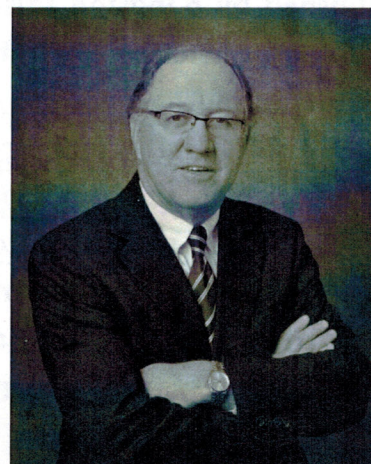
Wednesday January 11 will see our premier winter event – the Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner – spring to life once again. Thanks to the efforts of Warren Everett, the dinner was sold out by mid-December, and promises to again be a stellar success. We look forward to some lively toasts, wise words from our guest speaker Peter Milliken and a convivial evening for all attending.

The Awards presentation at our Holiday party December 7 recognized two stalwarts of the society – Ed Grenda and Bob Andrews. The recognition was richly deserved in both cases, and timely. Congratulations to both Ed and Bob, and thanks to both for their many contributions over a long period of time, to the society.

Thanks also to Alicia Boutilier for organizing the party at what turned out to be an excellent venue.

In the next few weeks, you can look for the registration form for our October 27 conference to appear. With any luck at all, it will be inserted in the February Limelight, but if that is not possible due to mailing costs or other considerations, we'll be certain to get it into your hands at our regular meeting.

The conference promises to be a great day of presentations on the effects of the War of 1812 from Canadian, American, and First Nation perspectives. There will be an “early-bird” registration fee of \$90. For this you receive 8 presentations, buffet lunch, and dinner featuring our keynote speaker, Dianne Graves. This all takes place at the Four Points Sheraton in downtown Kingston.



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Gordon Sinclair

The Kingston Historical Society

established 1893

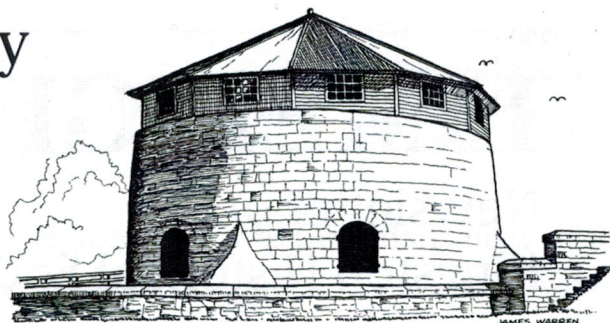
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KHS holds monthly talks or events, usually at 7:30 pm on the third Wednesday of the month, September to May, usually in the Wilson Room of the Kingston Public Library on Johnson Street at Bagot Street. Special annual events include a dinner and talk honouring the birthday of Sir John A. Macdonald in January and a ceremony marking his death in June.

New members are welcome! Membership rates are \$40 individual, \$50 family, \$50 institutional or \$25 student. Memberships include *Historic Kingston*, published annually by The Kingston Historical Society.



Murney Tower by James Warren

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Kingston Historical Society Membership Form

I am renewing	
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I am a new member	\$
As an individual \$40	\$
As a family or institution \$50	\$
As a student \$25	\$
I am making a donation	\$
TOTAL	\$
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Name: _____

Address: _____

Optional Phone: _____ Email: _____

I give permission to publish my name in *Historic Kingston* and *Limelight* Newsletter. ☐ YES ☐ NO

I am interested in receiving *Limelight* by email. ☐ YES ☐ NO

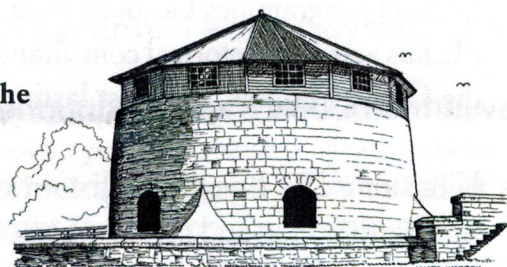
Please mail to:
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PO Box 54, Kingston, ON K7L 4V6

OR

Hand form and payment to a member of the
KHS Council at a monthly meeting.

Your support is appreciated!

www.kingstonhistoricalsociety.ca



History Related Announcements

Cataraqi Cemetery Heritage Society This Society was formed to assist the Cataraqi Cemetery with its various volunteer programs (tours, genealogical research, fund raising, Remembrance ceremonies). Those interested are invited to its inaugural meeting at the Meeting Room of the Isabel Turner Library near the Cataraqi Town Centre on Tuesday, January 24, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. For further information, contact E.R. Grenda at 613-985-3715.

The Kingston Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will meet in the Wilson Room of Kingston Frontenac Public Library, 130 Johnson St., Saturday, January 21, 2012 at 10 a.m. Ron Walsh will speak on Marine History of Kingston. Visitors welcome. Further info at www.ogs.on.ca/kingston

Kingston Historical Society Awards

By Peter Ginn
with photos by Betty Andrews

Since 1993, the Society has made one or more awards to individuals, groups or institutions in recognition of outstanding contributions to the preservation and interpretation of local history. This year the Society awards were presented at our annual Holiday Party on December 7th to two distinguished members.

EDWARD RONALD GREENDA

During the past thirty years, countless local, national and international heritage activities have benefited from the ardour and capacity for detail of Edward Grenda. He has provided leadership within a wide variety of heritage groups, including the Society for International Hockey Research, the Frontenac Heritage Foundation, the International Ice Hockey Hall of Fame and Museum, and the Kingston Association of Museums, Galleries and Historic Sites. Through his dedicated service in several of its offices, the Kingston Historical Society has also received the benefit of Edward Grenda's organizational skills. In particular, his intimate knowledge of government funding programmes has been fundamental in obtaining ongoing financial support for the Society's Museum. He has acted as historical consultant for film and television productions by the National Film Board, PBS and the CBC. Perhaps, his most lasting contribution will prove to have been the chairmanship of the committee whose work resulted in the design and formal recognition of the flag, badge and coat of arms for the City of Kingston. The Kingston Historical Society is pleased to recognize Edward Grenda's contributions to the study, promotion and preservation of our heritage.



ROBERT JAMES ANDREWS



An educator by profession, as well as, an author and editor, Robert Andrews is a dedicated scholar and interpreter of local history. His pre-eminence in this field led to his selection as the founding author of the Ginn Studies in Canadian history. He has lectured on local studies in Canada and abroad. His assiduously well edited and soon to be published journals of Jeffery Amherst are significant contributions to the Canadian historical record. As chair of the Kingston Historical Society's Publication Committee, Robert Andrews edited and annotated the journal of First Lieutenant Charles Allan Parker and also guided the production of Ged Martin's study of John A. Macdonald and the electors of Kingston. His presentations to the Kingston and Pittsburgh Historical Societies and to other local groups are always stimulating and instructive. The boards of numerous museums and historical organizations, both nationally and internationally, have benefited from his wisdom and insight. It is with great pleasure that the Kingston Historical Society recognizes Robert Andrews' outstanding contributions to the study, research and recording of local history.



Online registration is now open for Conference 2012 of the Ontario Genealogical Society, to be held 1 - 3 June, 2012 in Kingston, Ontario, hosted by the three branches of Region VIII of OGS: Kingston, Leeds & Grenville, Ottawa.

Visit our website www.ogs.on.ca/conference

for full program details. You may register via our secure web form, or if you prefer to mail or fax your registration, you can download a PDF brochure that includes a registration form – just print off the form and complete it.

All registrations received by March 31 will be entered into an Early Bird draw for a weekend package courtesy of Tourism Kingston.

Come to Kingston to build bridges to other genealogists!

The Challenges Facing the Editor

I actually enjoy editing Limelight for the Kingston Historical Society. I have been doing this job for going on eight years. As a retired person I like to have certain jobs I have to do each month - I like the routine. It helps me to structure my time, gives me a sense of purpose or usefulness and I feel that I am giving back to "history". I loved my profession as a history teacher at the secondary school level (22 years) and teaching how to teach history at Queen's Faculty of Education (13 years). I also enjoy writing so this is just an extension of what I enjoy doing.

My biggest challenge, however, is not only ensuring that I have enough relevant and informative material each month but also that your newsletter engages you and holds your interest.

What I am saying is I need your help. If you have a Kingston related history/heritage story to tell or a history related event to announce please send it to me. Even if you want to bounce a possible story off me to see if I think it would be of interest for our members, be brave and go-for-it. Don't worry too much about spelling and grammar because that is my job to edit – as best I can. I can't help but think the greater the diversity of voices we have in Limelight the better it represents our membership and the greater the likelihood of you wanting to read it.

All the best to you in 2012,

Your Limelight editor

John Fielding

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

NOTE CHANGE IN LOCATION!

Wednesday, 18 January 2012 7:30 PM

Bruce Carruthers: Father of Canadian Military Communications

David McCarey

**Military Communications & Electronics Museum,
CFB Kingston, 95 Craftsman Blvd., (Hwy #2 East)**

Refreshments

All Welcome

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Colonel Van Straubenzee Revisited

Written by Warren Everett

I was somewhat remiss in the previous article for leaving the story before its proper end. When we last saw the old soldier he was leaving St. John's Portsmouth and "The bright light poured in through colored windows, and its soft radiance was in harmony with the mournful occasion".

Like many of Kingston's prominent citizens of the day, his journey ended at the Cataraqi Cemetery with internment on January 23, 1899. His grave site is lot 143, Section D in the old cemetery. The Colonel rests with his wife Annie MacCauley (1930) and his three daughters, Cordelia (1957), Madeline (1962) and Edith (1972). All the sons are buried in England or France.

The crosses on the Colonel's and Annie's grave markers are quite unique. They are in the shape of a cross made in the form of tree trunks, a unique style. Their style is a reference to passages in the Bible. Interested readers may wish to look up Job 14:5 thru Job 14:14. Madeline is buried to his right as you face the site and Edith on the extreme left, Cordelia is next to her mother. The evergreen tree on the right of the site was likely planted by Annie on the Colonel's death.

I would like to thank Craig Boals, Director of Operations at Cataraqi Cemetery, for contacting me and taking me to the grave sites.



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KHS Holiday Party

written by Alicia Boutilier
captions by John Fielding
photos by Betty Andrews

The Kingston Historical Society Holiday Party on 7 December was a festive affair, held in the former church sanctuary of what is now the Renaissance Event Venue on Queen Street. As members and guests arrived to the strains of Christmas tunes, there was an hour of socializing, punctuated by visits to Novel Idea's excellent book display, as well as the well-stocked bar. Just a little past seven, past president Alan MacLachlan called everyone to their seats to introduce Peter Ginn, chair of the awards committee. Peter had the honour of announcing this year's Kingston Historical Society Award recipients – Robert J. Andrews and Edward R. Grenda – to the pleasure and approbation of all assembled. So well deserved! As you see here, the cameras flashed fast and furious. After the ceremony, all enjoyed hot and cold appetizers set out and passed around. Good cheer was had by all!



Past President Alan MacLachlan, who also acted as Master of Ceremonies for the evening, enjoys a laugh with Ruth Abbott.



At least Three Wise Men were present, in this photo, John Abbott, Louis Grimshaw, and Jack Pike



Of course there was more than one Wise Woman, in this photo, Joyce Waddell-Townsend.



Even the editor and the Missus, Dianne Fielding didn't miss out on the celebrations.