

Fall Newsletter 2011



KING TOWNSHIP Historical SOCIETY

2920 KING ROAD, KING CITY, ONTARIO, L7B 1L6

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THIS ISSUE

President's Message	1
Le Passage de Taronto	1
Fall 2011 Programs	2
Grant – King Township Archives	3
KTHS Art Contest	3
The Fawcett Bequest	3
Upcoming Events	4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Those old cowboy lyrics, "Back in the saddle again" resonate with me, now that I've returned to the KTHS Directors' circle and into the ever interesting programming and events the Society sponsors in order to promote facets of King Township's history. Upcoming is the unveiling of the new plaque marking the 400th arrival of the French in Upper Canada; it will be at the corner of Weston Road and the 16th Sideroad at 10 AM, September 25, 2011. Everyone is invited to be there but please park well off the road.

It is satisfying to assist in launching a new book that adds significant information to the growing collection of local history. At 2-3 PM, October 13th at the King City Library, author Bernice Bell, great granddaughter of "Man of Vision: Henry William Copson" will speak about how she gathered facts and blended them into a story published in this handsome volume. Open to all; information: 905 833-5101.

KTHS presented Angela Krotowski speaking on "Patches Over Time" at the Community Hall, Main Street in Schomberg, Sunday, Sept. 18. Angela is a renowned quilter who has answers to most questions about making and preserving these artistic stitcheries. We look forward to presenting Angel Krotowski again in 2012.

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is exciting news about the very generous gift to the King Township Historical Society; we are thrilled and honoured to be stewards of our township's 'threshold to the past.' As always, we look forward to enjoying with members and friends the fascinating insights history shares with us today.

Virginia Atkins, President

LE PASSAGE DE TARONTO

Please plan to attend the formal unveiling of our Carrying Place Heritage plaque on Sunday, September 25th at 10:00 am. The ceremony will take place at the corner of 16th Sideroad and Weston Road. **Hugh Barnett, Director – Projects** will be Master of Ceremonies. There will be a brief ceremony with remarks by Mayor Pellegrini, Dr. Jaczek and Alain Beaudoin of AFRY. Parking is at a premium at the site, therefore, please park further east on 16th Sideroad. We look forward to seeing you at this momentous ceremony, marking Le Passage de Taronto.

Heather Robertson, Director, Projects



FALL 2011 PROGRAMS

“A Call to the Hunt”

Presenter: Polly Winsor

October 16, 2011

2:00 P.M.

WaterStone Farm, 17900 Dufferin (north of Hwy 9)

Polly, a member of the Toronto North York Hunt, will help you relive the traditions and stories of the horses, hounds and riders that are part of the history of King Township. In addition to her talk, members and staff of the TNYH will present a “Parade of Hounds” with mounted riders. Don’t miss this event. For more information visit www.tnyh.ca site.



“Tecumseh, Hero or Failure!”

Presenter: Dr. Desmond Morton

November 19, 2011

2:00 P.M.

Nobleton United Church

6079 King Rd. Nobleton (east of Hwy 27)



Dr. Morton, an acknowledged expert on the “War of 1812”, author of over 40 books on Canadian political, military and social history, and recipient of many decorations will talk about “Tecumseh, Hero or Failure”. Dr. Morton says, *“I have decided to focus on Tecumseh as a significant but little-known hero of our side of the War of 1812. Did his loyalty to the British undermine his own people?”* History buffs, don’t miss this opportunity to meet the man who writes history! For more information on Dr. Morton visit, [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desmond_Morton_\(historian\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Desmond_Morton_(historian)) site.



“An Old Fashion Christmas Carol and Story Night”

December 2, 2011

7:30 pm

King City United Church

50 Elizabeth Grove (1 block west off Keele)

Presenters are Harmony Chorale choir, and Hugh Barnett actor. Harmony Chorale will present a lively Christmas music program interspersed with inspiring Christmas stories read by Hugh Barnett. Start the Festive Season by joining the King Township Historical Society at this event, tickets available from the board.



Lynda Rogers, Director, Programs

For More information, go to www.kingtownshiphistoricalsociety.com

THE FAWCETT BEQUEST

The King Township Historical Society is pleased and honoured to inform all society members of the magnanimous bequest made by the late John and the late Doris Jean Fawcett to the King Township Historical Society.

Heather Robertson with Lori Sproule, niece of Doris Jean Fawcett, and with Elsa Ann, brought together an endearing and caring tapestry of John and Doris Jean Fawcett's life in King Township, covering decades. Their interest in the museum and the preservation of the history of King Township seemed to be paramount in their thinking and endeavours. Along with Lori Sproule, we are brought into John and Doris Jean's lives. The Fawcett family represents 100 years of history in King Township. Lori recalls John and Doris Jean were hard workers, farmed both cattle and grain, played cards, and they both did needle work. They were a close couple and "they gave to the community".

The King Township Historical Society is thrilled and honoured to be stewards of this generous gift towards enhancing the museum and its exhibits, and be our township's "threshold to the past".

Virginia Atkins, President

Heather Robertson, Director, Projects

KTHS ART CONTEST

This year the King Township Historical Society has created the "KTHS Art Contest", which will allow high school students from King City Secondary School to display their artistic gifts. The students must display, through art, what living in King Township means to them. This can be done through one of King's beautiful landscapes, historical individuals or events, or anything else their young creative minds can come up with. At the end of the school year, all the entries will be judged by a panel. Judging will be based on how well they captured that spirit of the theme, as well as their artistic level. So for KCSS students who have a flair for the canvas, start brainstorming what it means to live in King.

Jonathan Mauti, Director, Youth



GRANT – KING TOWNSHIP ARCHIVES

The King Township Museum and the King Township Archives are most grateful to have been given a grant by the Memories Program of the Virtual Museum of Canada (Department of Canadian Heritage). The \$2,500.00 grant will assist the King Township Archives with their new One-Room Schoolhouses Research Project. Archives volunteers will research the histories of each of the one-room schools that were once commonplace in King Township and create a database for each school. As this project proceeds we will be looking to our members and the general community to assist us in supplying information on this fascinating part of our local heritage. Did you or a family member attend or teach at one of King's one-room schools? Do you have photos or memories to share? As the project progresses we would love to have your involvement.

In September, as a complement to this special project, the Archives volunteers, along with Sharon Bentley, Deputy-Chief Librarian of the King Township Library, and Kathleen Fry, Curator of the King Township Museum, will join together to create displays in the showcase cabinets of the King City, Nobleton, and Schomberg libraries which will celebrate the history of the schools of King Township. The Archives will contribute pictures of schools and classrooms, the Library will donate a variety of educational texts, and the Museum will share its treasured collection of old schoolhouse artifacts.

Archives volunteers have also spent the last few months gathering together information about the village of Kinghorn and the Kinghorn School. This collection will be showcased at the Museum this September as part of the 150th anniversary celebration of the Kinghorn School.

In other news: A descendant of the Stokes family, who were early settlers in both King Creek and King City, has kindly donated to the Archives three lengthy, detailed and now quite fragile letters written by Christopher Stokes in the early 1830s to his brothers and sisters in Nottinghamshire, England. The letters describe in compelling detail the trials, as well as the rewards, that faced the first settlers in this rural township.

In partnership with the King Township Historical Society and the King Township Public Library, the King Township Archives strives to preserve and celebrate the history and heritage of our unique and picturesque rural township. Every item of information about King Township's present and past that is entrusted to the Archives increases the depth of our resources. If at some time you wish to make a suggestion or a contribution to the Archives collection, please let us know. Archives material is stored in the Archives room in the Local History section of the King Branch of the King Township Public Library, and many items in our collection can be accessed through the library website www.king-library.on.ca. You are welcome to visit the Archives by appointment during library hours: 905-833-5101. And if you would like to volunteer in the Archives, your time and enthusiasm would be most welcome indeed!

Louise Di Iorio, Director

Elsa Ann Pickard, Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

Heritage Plaque Designation - Cold Creek Heritage Barn

October 1, 2011
1:00 P.M.

Cold Creek Conservation Area
14125 11th Concession, Township of King, Ontario
(3.5 km north of the King Road on the 11
Concession and south of the 16th Sideroad)

The King Township Heritage Committee and the Cold Creek Stewardship Committee invite you to join them in celebrating the unveiling of the Heritage Plaque designating the Cold Creek Heritage Barn as a building of cultural value and interest in King Township.

(In conjunction with the Cold Creek Fallfest – 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.; free BBQ 11 am – 1 pm)

Ontario Genealogical Society, York Region Branch

October 12, 2011
7:15 P.M.

Newmarket Public Library
438 Park Ave.
Newmarket, Ontario
(Off Main Street, North of Eagle)

Topic: Very interesting and informative history of Newmarket

Speaker: Wes Playter, past president of the Newmarket Historical Society

** Please note change in meeting place.

OUR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1) To encourage research into the history of King Township.
- 2) To secure and preserve an accurate account of the progress and development of the township.
- 3) To promote public interest in the history of King Township.

See our website for more information and history of KTHS.
www.kingtowshiphistoricalsociety.com

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