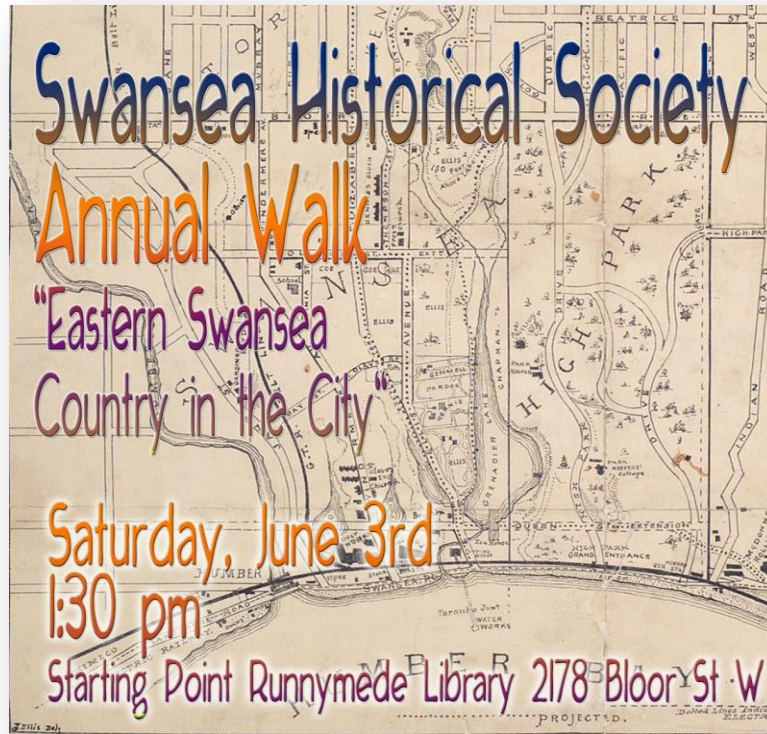


SWANSEANEWS

SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 95 LAVINIA AVENUE, TORONTO, ON, M6S 3H9



ANNUAL WALKING TOUR: Saturday, June 3rd 2017

START TIME: 1:30 pm - The walk will start at Runnymede Library, and finish at The Queensway and Ellis Avenue

TOPIC: Eastern Swansea – Country in the City

The Swansea Historical Society thankfully acknowledges funding grants from the following provincial bodies:



Follow us!



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President's Message: by Bob Roden, President

The Swansea Historical Society meeting on May 3, 2017, was the last formal meeting before the summer break. It is shaping up to be a very busy summer. For example, various walking tours are scheduled from May through October. For the complete list of 2017 Heritage Toronto walking tours, see [http://heritagetoronto.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Online HT tours AODA.pdf](http://heritagetoronto.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Online_HT_tours_AODA.pdf).

As in past years, Doors Open Ontario will run from April to October in 45 communities across the province, with Doors Open Toronto scheduled for May 27-28.

In addition, many organizations are planning special events in 2017 to mark the Sesquicentennial – the 150th anniversary of Confederation, when four British colonies came together to create the Dominion of Canada in 1867. Of particular interest to our members, a “consortium” of local historical societies, including your SHS, has received a Sesquicentennial grant from the Province of Ontario. A working committee, with representatives from each of the participating societies, is hard at work preparing for “Walk the 6 West... HISTORY ON THE HUMBER”. This one-day celebration, on Saturday afternoon, August 5, 2017, will feature a set of dramatic productions highlighting historical figures, staged at sites along the Humber River within easy walking distance of one another. See also “Future Events” below for more details. We hope to see you there!

We will start our monthly meetings again on October 4 with the Annual General Meeting and elections. We are blessed with a very capable and dedicated Executive, but we can always use more help and fresh ideas. In preparation for the elections, please give some thought as to how you could get more involved and share your talents with us. Or, perhaps you know of someone you would like to nominate (with that person's permission) for a position on the Executive. In either case, we would like to hear from you.



On May 13, 2017, the Ruth Franks Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Executive member Marjorie Horeis in a ceremony hosted by MP Arif Virani at the Swansea Town Hall. The award is in recognition of Marjorie's 15 years of dedicated service with the

Federal Liberal Electoral District Association (EDA) for Parkdale-High Park.

Congratulations, Marjorie!

On Thursday June 8, 2017, Marilyn Boustead, Wallace Boustead, Lance Gleich, and Marjorie Horeis will be receiving Volunteer Service Awards from the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration. These people rose to the occasion and answered the call

for help in 2012 when the Society was in a state of turmoil. Thank you Marjorie, Lance, Wallace, and Marilyn for your many contributions to our organization over the past five years, and hopefully into the foreseeable future. We hope the experience is as rewarding for you as it is for the Society.



Recognition for the Society from our MPP

We just recently received the exciting news that the Swansea Historical Society will be one of the “esteemed honorees” at this year's (8th Annual) Community Appreciation Gala. The event will be hosted by our local Member of Provincial Parliament for Parkdale-High Park, Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo.

The notification letter reads, in part, “Parkdale-High Park is, in my opinion, the best place in which to live and work because of individuals who have a passion for improving our neighbourhoods. ... The countless hours members of your organization spend cultivating community and showcasing the rich history of the Swansea neighbourhood are invaluable and commendable. ... Thank you for the real difference you make in our community!”

The Community Appreciation Gala will be held on June 7, 2017, 6:30 to 8:30 pm, at the Lithuanian Hall, 1573 Bloor Street West, one block west of the Dundas West subway station. Delicious food and delightful entertainment will be provided. This event is FREE and open to the entire community. If you wish to attend, please register for your ticket online at <http://cheridinovo.ca/gala> or call 416-763-5630.



Humberside Collegiate Institute 125th Anniversary Celebrations

October 20 and 21, 2017: Former Humberside students, teachers, staff, and friends of Humberside are encouraged to participate in the school's 125th Anniversary celebrations. Tentative plans include events at Humberside on Friday, October 20 (5:00 pm to 10:00 pm) and Saturday, October 21 (8:30 am to 5:00 pm), and also a Pub Night with finger food and cash bar Saturday, October 21 (6:00 pm to 2:00 am) at the Lithuanian House, 1573 Bloor Street West (just west of the Dundas West subway station).

Anyone who is interested in attending is strongly encouraged to preregister online. The \$20.00 registration fee for the weekend includes admittance to the school on Friday and Saturday, and all events at the school. Late registrations and walk-in fees are \$25.00. The entrance fee for the Pub Night is \$15.00. You must be a registered attendee in order to buy Pub Night tickets, which will not be available at the door.

Those registering by Oct 10th will receive a commemorative tote bag filled with goodies. Also, various commemorative items will be available for PRE-ORDER ONLY. (Items will not be available for purchase on the weekend). All orders MUST be received by August 15th. Pre-ordered merchandise will be available for pick-up at the school during the October 20-21 weekend.

For more information and to register for this event, please visit www.hcialumni.org .



Summer Visits to the Resource Centre / Archives

Please note that visits to the Resource Centre / Archives in the Swansea Town Hall will be by reservation only during the summer break. Regular Wednesday opening hours will resume in the fall.



Future Events

Thursday May 25, 2017 Etobicoke HS Meeting, 7:00 for 7:30 pm, Montgomery's Inn, 4709 Dundas St. W. at Islington Ave. Speaker: Bianca Lakoseljac will speak about her latest novel "Stone Woman". For details, see the December 6 SHS announcement below.

Saturday May 27 and Sunday, May 28, 2017, Doors Open at Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas St) and Montgomery's Inn with a special two-site exhibition "Captured on Canvas" – original paintings by local artist Clara Harris (1887-1975), whose work was exhibited with Emily Carr and members of the Group of Seven. Her works demonstrate the great changes that have taken place in the local landscape, and how the arts have helped tell the story of Canada's evolution.

Saturday, June 3, 2017 SHS Annual Walk, 1:30 pm, 2178 Bloor St. W. Historic walking tour of eastern Swansea, presented by the Swansea Historical Society and Heritage Toronto. Explore the eastern part of the former village of Swansea, once an isolated area and summer escape from Toronto. Learn about the distinct history of this piece of "country in the city," including stories of how Catfish Pond got its name, why Swansea resisted annexation to Toronto, and why—despite not being under prohibition—you couldn't get a drink south of Bloor until the 1990s. Start Point: Runnymede Library (2178 Bloor Street West). End Point: The Queensway and Ellis Avenue. Cost: \$10 donation suggested.

Wednesday June ,7 2017 The Village of Humber Heights Retirement Home, 2245 Lawrence Ave W, at 7:30 p.m Western Historical Society AGM - speaker will be Doug Taylor on "Movie Theatres of Toronto – memories of lost movie theatres".

Thursday June 8, 2017 Lambton House Heritage Talk, 7:00 pm for 7:30 pm. Carolyn King, former Chief of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, will speak on the 1765 Niagara Treaty.

Sunday June 11, 2017 West Toronto Junction Historical Society Celebration for Canada 150. 2:00 pm, Lambton House. (TENTATIVE) The premier performance of "Three from the Junction", a historic vignette, written by Neil Ross for HISTORY ON THE HUMBER (see August 5 announcement below), highlighting three diverse figures from the history of West Toronto Junction.

Friday June 16, 2017 Accessing and Preserving Family Heirlooms, 2:30-3:30 pm, Annette Street Library This presentation explores best practices for storing personal treasures, such as photographs, marriage certificates, letters, and other paper records. The presentation will be facilitated by Adriane Van Seggelen from the Archives of Ontario. To register please ask Library staff or call 416-393-7692.

Saturday July 1, 2017, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm, Lambton House Canada Day BBQ and celebration of Lambton House and Sir William Pearce Howland.

Saturday, August 5, 2017 “Walk the 6 West... HISTORY ON THE HUMBER” This signature event is being planned by a group of local historical organizations to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Province of Ontario and the Dominion of Canada. Funding has been approved in the form of a grant from the Province of Ontario, and preparatory work is currently under way. Six short historical vignettes will be staged at sites along the Humber River between Dundas Street and Bloor Street, including Lambton House, Étienne Brûlé Park, and King's Mill Park. Each production will be repeated, allowing viewers to walk from one site to another during the course of the afternoon. This is an event not to be missed! More details to follow on-line and in local news outlets.

Sunday, August 27, 2017 SHS / Heritage Toronto Walk, 1:30 pm, 2178 Bloor St. W. Historic walking tour of eastern Swansea, presented by the Swansea Historical Society and Heritage Toronto. This will be a repeat of the June 3 walking tour. See above for details.

Wednesday October 4, 2017 SHS Annual General Meeting & Elections, 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Jack Gibney and the Sunnyside Historical Society – “The Heyday, Demise, and Future of Sunnyside”. Through historical photographs, humorous skits, and dramatizations, a troupe from the Sunnyside H.S. will give a presentation covering noteworthy events from various time periods, as well as the unique architecture of the Sunnyside area of Toronto. [Please note that this is a change from the date originally announced for the Sunnyside presentation].

Saturday, October 7, 2017 Annual Governor Simcoe Walk, 9:30 am and 1:00 pm A walking tour in western Swansea, presented by the Swansea Historical Society in costume, following the route of Lieutenant-Governor John Graves Simcoe's 1793 expedition up the Carrying Place portage route. Part 1 will start at 9:30 am from the Rousseau site, 8 South Kingsway (north of the Queensway and south of the Petro Canada station), finishing at Bloor Street. After a short break for lunch, the group will reassemble at 1:00 pm at the Alex Ling Fountain (north-west corner of Bloor and Jane) and continue north.

Wednesday November 1, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: John Sewell – “How We Changed Toronto”. John Sewell, was elected as a City Councillor in 1969 and served as the Mayor of the City of Toronto from 1978 to 1980. He will speak about how development pressures were dealt with during a time of rapid change in our City. His thoughts and perspective from the 1970s are particularly relevant today as we are faced with ever-growing development issues that threaten the very

fabric of our neighbourhoods. Mayor Sewell will be available to sign copies of his book after the presentation.

Sunday December 3, 2017 High Park Walking Tour, 10:30 am to 12 noon “High Park Through the Ages”. A guided tour to be led by Dave Berndorff. Meet at 10:30 am at the benches across the road from the south side of the Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park.

Wednesday December 6, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall

Speaker: Bianca Lakoseljac. Bianca is a High Park resident and author, who will speak to us about her latest novel “Stone Woman”, the story of a family of five women whose lives are bound by a Vietnam War draft dodger from the hippie “daze” of Toronto. The novel begins in 1967 during the Centennial Art Symposium in High Park, it relives the creation of the sculptures (of which five still remain in the park), and it draws the reader into the hippie subculture centred in the Yorkville district. The novel is brought to the present time through the lives of the daughters of the women from the 60s. By discovering their family secrets – while unraveling the mystery of stolen art that occurred during the 1967 Symposium – the daughters find ways of handling their own life crises. The novel ends in 2017, with imagined Sesquicentennial celebrations in Toronto.

Wednesday February 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall

Speaker: John Beram – “The Beginnings of the Canadian Auto Industry”. John Beram, a local history enthusiast and story-teller will return to Swansea to discuss the early days of the automobile industry in Canada, with special reference to the role of West Toronto in the development of the industry.

Wednesday March 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall

Speaker: Kelly Mathews – “Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township”. Shortly after the 1922 death of department-store heir John Craig Eaton, his widow Lady Flora Eaton had a palatial 72-room country estate built on the family's King City property. Rediscover an enchanting and bygone age with the life and history of Lady Eaton and her grand Eaton Hall, where she hosted many dignitaries including visiting British royalty.

Wednesday April 4, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker:

Garfield Portch is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada – Canada's national stamp club since 1887. He will speak to us about the intrigues and politics involved in the establishment and operation of the Post Office in the town of York, and subsequently the City of Toronto, in the 1800s.

Wednesday May 2, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker:

Gay Gooderham. The Gooderham and Worts families emigrated from England in the early 1830s to the Town of York, shortly before it became the City of Toronto. Over the following 75 years, these families created the largest distillery in the world, centred on the area we now know as Toronto's “Distillery District”. They also contributed to milling, banking, railways, shipping, farming, and other essential components of Toronto's and Canada's industrial development. They were active in the church and in various communities, as well as in health care, and even in our political institutions. Many significant landmarks associated with the Gooderhams survive in Toronto today. Gay

Gooderham will share the fascinating story of her family, and also talk about her work in creating an online website www.gooderham-worts.ca that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

Wednesday October 3, 2018 SHS Annual General Meeting & Elections, 7:30 pm,

Swansea Town Hall Speaker: SHS Board Member and author Thelma Wheatley will return to the podium to talk about the subject of her latest book “Brown on White: Mixed-Race Marriage in Toronto in the 1960s”.



Swansea Historical Society Contact Information

There are various ways you can contact your Society. Our mailing address is 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto ON M6S 3H9. You can send e-mails to swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com, and the Society's mobile telephone number is 647-859-3901. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome.

Information related to the Swansea Historical Society, and other local organizations, is posted on the web-site of the Swansea Town Hall – www.swanseatownhall.ca . Also, we invite you to visit us on Twitter at twitter.com/Swansea_History or Instagram at www.instagram.com/swansea_history .



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

As of September 1, 2016, we are in a new membership year. (The membership year now runs from September to August). The annual fees are still \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. If you have not already paid your dues for 2016-2017, please complete the form below and submit with your payment. Dues can be paid at any of our meetings, or you can send payment to: 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, M6S 3H9. Your fees help to offset many of the costs incurred by the Society in its ongoing operations.



SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



2016/2017 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(The membership year runs from Sep – Aug)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual..... \$15.00 _____
Family \$20.00 _____
Corporate \$25.00 _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Individual..... \$250.00 _____
Family \$500.00 _____

Family Name: _____ Given Name(s): _____ Membership Number: _____

Street Address: _____ Apartment Number: _____

City: _____ Province: _____ Postal code: _____

Home Telephone: (_____) _____ Business Telephone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____ Please use e-mail for my newsletters: Yes No, thanks

Please send to: Swansea Historical Society Membership Secretary, 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3H9