

SWANSEA NEWS

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



Wednesday, Nov 2, 2016, 7:30 pm

Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

SPEAKER: Dave Cook

Fading History – Stories of Historical Interest

Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!

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





President's Message: by Bob Roden, President

The Swansea Historical Society started up its operations again with our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and elections on October 5, 2016. The following members were re-elected to serve on the Executive, and as Auditor, for the coming year. Their new terms of office will extend to the October 4, 2017 AGM.

Robert Roden	President
Linda Symsyk	Vice-President, Archives Director, & THA Representative
Margaret Lyons	Secretary
Wallace Boustead	Treasurer
Marilyn Boustead	Membership Coordinator
Richard Fogel	Newsletter Editor & Publicity
Lance Gleich	Special Projects & Publications Coordinator
Marjorie Horeis	Archives Team
Andrea Jagla	Archives Team
Sarah Lowenberg	Social Media & Archives Team
Sydney Reimer	Representative to 95 Lavinia & Archives Team
Thelma Wheatley	Refreshments Coordinator
Eleanor Woods	Mailing Coordinator
Susan Zalepa	Representative to 93 Lavinia & Archives Team
Maureen Shortt	Auditor

All of these people have worked very hard to ensure the ongoing success of your Society, and we ask that you continue to give them your support. We have a very strong and capable Executive team, but we can always use more help. In particular, our Constitution currently requires that we have two independent auditors, and so there is one vacant position to be filled. If you would be willing to help by reviewing the Society's books once a year, please let us know. (It's not a huge job. I did it for several years before I joined the executive and it generally amounted to about one evening's work each year).

Also, we would be happy to welcome people on-board as "Executive Members Without Portfolio", who may be asked to participate in specific initiatives from time to time. Attendance at monthly Executive meetings is desirable, but not mandatory. Previous experience is not a requirement, and you don't have to be an expert in local history in order to participate. Please

give some thought as to how you could contribute even a small amount of your time and talent, and let us know of any ideas you might have.



Canada's Sesquicentennial – 150 Years as a Nation

Next year, 2017, will be Canada's Sesquicentennial – the 150th anniversary of Confederation. Meeting with other local historical societies, we have been discussing ideas for marking this important milestone in our nation's history. One suggestion which has been gaining traction lately is a series of travelling theatrical productions, and we are hoping to obtain government funding to cover a portion of the costs. Our colleagues at Heritage York (based at the Lambton House on Old Dundas Street) have agreed to take on the lead role in this initiative. Please let us know if you have any thoughts on things that we and our sister organizations could consider doing to celebrate the Sesquicentennial.



In Memoriam

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Miss Phyllis Edge on October 4, 2016. Phyllis was a long-time resident of Swansea. She joined the Swansea Historical Society in 1986, and she was a faithful member of the Society for many, many years. Her funeral service was held in the Turner & Porter Yorke Chapel, at Bloor Street West and Windermere Avenue, on Saturday, October 15. We extend our sincere condolences to Phyllis' extended family.



Swansea Historical Society Contact Information

There are various ways you can contact your Society. Our mailing address is 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, Ontario 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.



Future Events

Thursday October 27, 2016 Etobicoke Historical Society Meeting, 7:00 for 7:30 pm, Montgomery's Inn, 4709 Dundas Street West at Montgomery Road Speaker: Kelly Matthews on "Eaton Hall: The Pride of King Township". Rediscover an enchanting and bygone age with the life and history of Lady Florence Eaton and her 72-room, Norman-style chateau, built on the property north of Toronto which is now the King Campus of Seneca College.

Friday October 28, 2016 Sunnyside Historical Society Presentation, time tba, High Park Library, 228 Roncesvalles Avenue The History of Carnegie Libraries.

Monday October 31, 2016, Swansea Town Hall Halloween trick or treaters on Lavinia avenue: Coming to Lavinia for Halloween, please bring a nonperishable food item for the food bank. Donation Boxes will be at either end of the street and inside the Town Hall!

Wednesday Nov 2, 2016 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Dave Cook. The SHS member, author, and story-teller will return after almost four years with more of his fascinating “*Fading History*” stories about various events centred around Toronto's western suburbs during the mid-1900s.

Friday Nov 4, 2016 Lambton House Pub Night, 4066 Old Dundas Street, Doors open at 6 pm, Music starts at 8 pm Featuring the band “Just Us”. www.lambtonhouse.org

Thursday Nov 10, 2016 Lambton House Heritage Talk, 4066 Old Dundas Street, Doors open at 7 pm, Talk at 7:30 pm Speaker: John Beram on “Canada and the Great War 1916” – The devastating battles that shocked the world and the Toronto men who were there. www.lambtonhouse.org

Friday Nov 11, 2016 Swansea Town Hall Remembrance Day Ceremony and Reception, Seating from 10:15 to 10:40 am, Service starts at 10:45 am. Swansea Town Hall commemorates the men of Swansea who gave their lives in World War I and for whom the Swansea Memorial Library was created. We also honour all those who served in wars and peacekeeping missions and those who have sacrificed themselves for Canada. The service starts promptly at 10:45 am every year and seating is on a first come, first seated basis so please arrive early. Please contact the Town Hall if you are a veteran or will be bringing a veteran with you, as we would like to identify those veterans present during our service. Everyone is welcome. <http://swanseatownhall.ca/sth/?p=1697>

Monday Nov 14 – Dec 12, 2016, Swansea Town Hall Winter Clothing Drive Do you have a new hat you never wore or a pair of mitts you wore once or twice but don't want anymore? Do you knit or crochet and have any items you'd like to donate? Drop off any new or gently used hats, mitts, gloves or scarves in the donation boxes in the main lobby by December 12th, which will be distributed to local agencies that serve the homeless and needy families. <http://swanseatownhall.ca/sth/?p=7442>

Wednesday Dec 7, 2016 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speakers: Janice Douglas and Sarah Hall. Janice Douglas is the People's Warden at St. Olave's Church in Swansea, and Sarah Hall is a distinguished Canadian stained-glass artist, with many spectacular installations to her credit, in Toronto and elsewhere. Janice and Sarah will team up to present an illustrated talk about twelve of the glorious windows of St. Olave's Church that were specially designed and created for the parish church by the talented and renowned Canadian artist Yvonne Williams (1901-1997).

Wednesday February 1, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Daniel Laxer – “Music and Dance of the Fur Trade Era, 1760-1840”. Daniel is a graduate student in history at the University of Toronto. His talk will highlight his studies of Canada's music and dance centred around the fur-trade era. Daniel is also an accomplished fiddle player, and he will perform some traditional music associated with the time period.

Wednesday March 1, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Rona Arato – “The Exodus 1947 – The Ship to Nowhere”. Rona will be returning to Swansea with the

story of the ship *Exodus 1947* (formerly the US packet steamer *SS President Warfield*). In July 1947, the ship sailed from France with 4,515 Jewish emigrants bound for Palestine, which was then part of the British Mandate. The Royal Navy prevented the passengers from landing in Haifa, and they were returned to camps in Europe. The public outcry over this incident factored into the events that led up to the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. A timely topic now when so many refugee issues are dominating the news!!

Wednesday April 5, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Peter Vronsky. “The Battle of Ridgeway – The American Fenian Invasion and the 1866 Battle that Made Canada”. Some 22,000 Canadians were mobilized in June 1866 to fight the Fenian invaders, and the resultant state of national emergency led to Canadian Confederation the following year.

Wednesday May 3, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Anne Dublin – “The Toronto Garment-Workers' Strike of 1931”. At 10 a.m. on February 25, 1931, more than 500 women of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) stopped their work, halted their machines, and walked out of sweat shops across the city, initiating a lengthy and bitterly-fought general strike in the Toronto dressmakers' trade.

Wednesday Nov 1, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall Speaker: Jack Gibney – “The Heyday, Demise, and Future of Sunnyside”. Through historical photographs, humorous skits, and dramatizations, a troupe from the Sunnyside Historical Society will give a presentation covering noteworthy events from various time periods, as well as the unique architecture of the Sunnyside area of Toronto.

Wednesday Dec 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 .who are touched by a Vietnam War draft dodger immersed in the 1960s and early 1970s hippie culture of Toronto's Yorkville district.



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 at your earliest convenience and submit the form with your payment. Dues can be paid at any of our meetings, or you can send payment to: 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box102, 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