

**Wednesday, Dec 3, 2014, 7:30 pm**

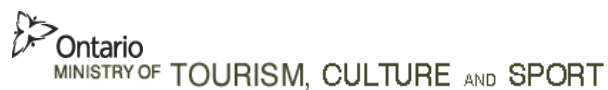
**Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall**

**SPEAKER: Nate Hendley**

**on “Edwin Alonzo Boyd: The Life and Crimes of  
Canada’s Master Bank Robber “**

**Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!**

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





**President's Message:** by Bob Roden, President

If you attended the October 1, 2014 Annual General Meeting, you will already know of recent developments concerning the Society's Executive. For those members who were not at the AGM, I wish to take this opportunity to bring you up to date.

At the AGM, Marilyn and Wallace Boustead, Charles Cameron, Samantha D'Odorico, Lance Gleich, Marjorie Horeis, Andrea Jagla, Linda Symczyk, Eleanor Woods, Susan Zalepa, and I were re-elected to the Executive for the 2014-2015 term. Through their hard work and dedication, the members of your Executive have kept the Society functioning since the spring of 2012, and I am requesting that you continue to give them your whole-hearted support. Also, Maureen Shortt and Evelyn Milligan were re-elected as auditors. Thank you to Ron Clark for chairing the elections.

Kathleen Krisciunas did a superb job over the past two years with the Society's Newsletter and Publicity. Unfortunately, pressures from her day job forced her to step down from the Executive. On a positive note, I am pleased to report that Richard Fogel has been elected to take over, and he has already produced excellent Newsletters for October and November.

Susan Roden has resigned from her job as Refreshments Coordinator. For the past 10 years, Susan has done a fantastic job providing a great variety of your favourite foods at all of our monthly meetings, at the monthly Executive meetings, and at the June walks. You won't find a better selection of refreshments anywhere else! Currently, the members of the Executive are banding together to ensure that Susan's high standards are maintained while a more permanent replacement is being sought. One member has stepped forward, offering to assist if the job can be shared, and that may turn out to be a workable solution, if we can find other volunteers who are willing to take on part of the job. Please let me know if you are interested.

I know you will want to join me in thanking Susan and Kathleen for their many generous contributions of time and talents over the years.

As for myself, I joined the Executive 10 years ago, after serving the Society as an auditor for several years before that. In the spring of 2012, I took on the job of President on an emergency basis when my predecessor resigned very suddenly. One of my first tasks involved building a new Executive, essentially from the ground up, and I am most grateful for the support I have received from my Executive team. I have said it before, and I will say it again, "I couldn't have managed without their assistance". At the AGM, I did agree to allow my name to stay on the slate of candidates for the coming year. However, I feel it would be in the best interests of both me and the Society if I could plan to move on in the near future, and I hope a suitable candidate for the job of President will come forward soon. I do promise to provide whatever coaching may be required to bring my replacement up to speed.



**In Sympathy** We were advised by SHS member Anne (Feely) Downie that her sister Eleanor (Feely) Fenton passed away on September 28, 2014, after a very brief illness. Eleanor grew up on Riverside Drive in Swansea and attended Swansea Public School, Runnymede Collegiate, and then the University of Toronto. She was a member of the Swansea Historical Society for many years, and she kept an active interest in Swansea affairs. Her family will miss her greatly. Her funeral service was held on October 4 at St. Olave's Anglican Church.

We were saddened to learn that Valerie (Husband) Brook passed away on October 29, 2014. Valerie grew up on Mossom Road in Swansea and she taught at Swansea Public School, where many of our members will remember her as "Miss Husband". A few years ago, when her health began to fail, she moved from Etobicoke to the Grenadier Retirement Residence on Bloor Street near High Park. Valerie was an active member of the Swansea Historical Society since its very early days. In the 1990s, she served as the Secretary of the Society. She will be missed !! A memorial service was held on November 12 at Turner and Porter on Bloor Street. Thank you to SHS member Carolyn Watt for her devoted care-giving, when Valerie was no longer able to manage her own affairs.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Eleanor's and Valerie's families and friends.



**Need a Ride to the Meeting?** If you are in need of a ride in order to attend our monthly meetings, give us a call at **647-859-3901** and let us know. Please leave your name and number **one week prior to the meeting you will be attending** so that we can coordinate accordingly.

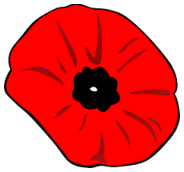


**2015 SHS Calendars** 2015 calendars are now available for \$8! A great Christmas gift.



**From the Happy Hoofers Hiking Club**

The Happy Hoofers Hiking Club wish to say a very big Thank You to Lance Gleich for leading our monthly walk on November 15. Although the day was sunny it was also very cold and windy. The 11 hoofers enjoyed learning more about the lakefront and the former Sunnyside which brought back many memories for some of us. Thank you again Lance for giving up part of your Saturday.



**Remembering Sunday** - When the Swansea Legion Hall building closed in 2013, Branch 46 merged with Branch 266 (called "Maple Leaf") near Jane and Dundas. As Branch 266 did not previously have a cenotaph, Branch 46's 1957 cenotaph was relocated from Swansea to the now-joint facility at 3591 Dundas Street West. On Nov 9, the first ceremonies were held with the cenotaph in its new location. Former Branch 46 President Joe Madracki was one of the presenters at the event, which was attended by a number of people from Swansea. Bill Roberts laid one of the wreaths on the behalf of Swansea Town Hall. The cenotaph, part of Swansea history for over 50 years, will remain a part of Toronto history for the foreseeable future.



# *Future Events*



**Wednesday December 3rd, 2014, Meeting** **SPEAKER: Nate Hendley** on the story of Edwin Alonzo Boyd, the “gentleman bank robber” and leader of the notorious “Boyd Gang” which made front-page news in Toronto in the 1950s. The gang's exploits included a string of bank robberies, the murder of a Toronto police officer, and two daring escapes from Toronto's Don Jail. Two members of the gang were among the last persons to be hanged in the Don Jail.

Nate Hendley is a Toronto based freelance journalist who has written a series of books, primarily in the true-crime genre. Edwin Alonzo Boyd is the subject of Nate's first book. You can find more information on Nate at his website at [www.natehendley.com](http://www.natehendley.com)



**Wednesday January 7, 2015, Meeting** **No meeting**

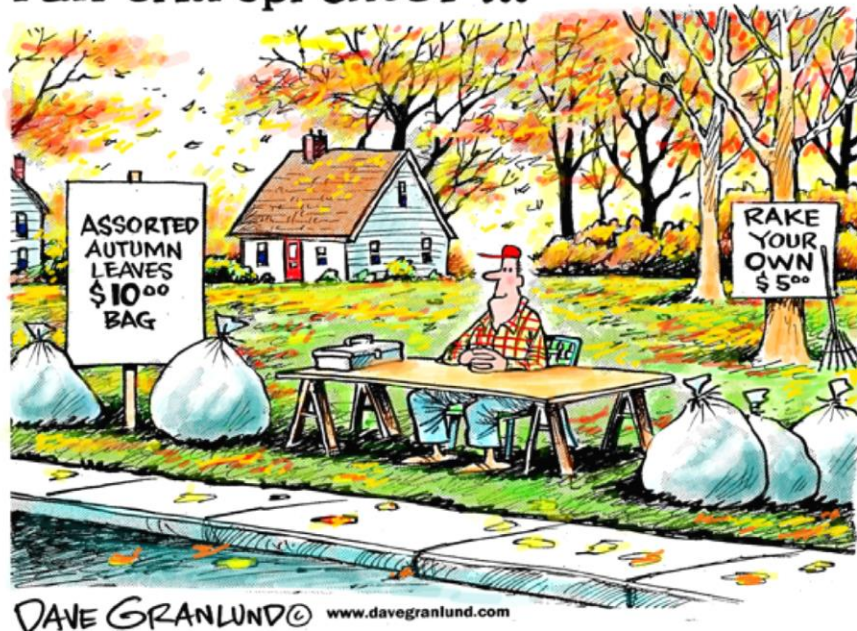
The archives reopen in February. Wishing the membership Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



**Wednesday February 4, 2015, Meeting** **SPEAKER: Will O'Hara**

Will O'Hara's topic will be Life in West Toronto before European Contact. It will be based on research on the Wendat (Huron) people who lived in this area for hundreds of years, long before they were displaced by their eternal enemy, the Iroquois from northern New York State. The story is centred around what is now Baby Point. It covers the Toronto Islands and the Carrying Place Trail to Georgian Bay. This research provided the impetus for Will's novel ***ENEMY ARROWS*** **Toronto in the Year 1420**. For more information about this book you can visit Will O'Hara's web site: [enemyarrows.ca](http://enemyarrows.ca)

# Fall entrepreneur...



## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

We are now accepting membership fees for 2014-2015, and encourage members to renew early. The membership year runs from September to August. The annual fees are still \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. Please complete the form below. 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 costs incurred by the society.



SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



2014/2015 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**

# SWANCESTRY

*JOIN US FOR A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE!*

We continue to uncover more and more interesting pictures as we work through the archives. Even if you THINK you might know anyone in the photo or where it was taken, please let us know! We will have all pictures featured here at monthly meetings available for you to take a closer look at.

