



Wednesday, February 5th, 2014, 7:30 pm

Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall

SPEAKER: EVA STACHNIAK

on Catherine the Great of Russia
and will discuss her novel
'The Winter Palace' *.

Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!

* Eva's novel will be available for sale at the February 5th meeting. Cash or cheque accepted.

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





President's Message: by Bob Roden, President

Happy New Year!! 2013 certainly closed off with a flourish – especially in the weather department. As we head into 2014, I am pleased to report that we already have an interesting line-up of speakers confirmed for the rest of the year. As you can see elsewhere in this Newsletter, other events are also being planned for the coming months. We hope you will be able to join us at our monthly meetings at the Swansea Town Hall – and please bring a friend (or a few friends). All of our events are always open to members and visitors alike.

In December, your Executive contracted with Dr. Ellen Scheinberg of “Heritage Professionals” (www.heritageprofessionals.net) for the provision of consulting assistance with respect to the Society's Archives. In summary, Dr. Scheinberg will examine the current state of the Archives and prepare a comprehensive report including draft budgets, model administrative documents, and recommendations for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the Archives operations. By the time you read this Newsletter, Dr. Scheinberg's work will already be under way. It will be funded by the Society's existing archives-improvement grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation. We will keep you posted as the work progresses.



Swansea Town Hall: For many years, the historic Swansea Town Hall (STH) has been the focal point of our Society's activities. We encourage our members to become engaged in the operation and preservation of this important community resource. The Annual General Meeting of the Swansea Town Hall and the STH Association, scheduled for 7:30 pm on Thursday, February 20, 2014, will be an opportunity to learn more about the workings of the Town Hall. (That evening, the guest speaker will be Madeline McDowell, discussing The Humber River.) All are welcome to attend, but you have to buy a \$2 Association membership in order to vote on any questions. You can do so either at the town hall, or at the next historical meeting. For more information, call 416-392-1954 or see the STH web-site www.swanseatownhall.ca .

In addition, persons are currently being sought to fill vacant positions on the Board of Management of the STH Community Centre and Director positions on the Board of Directors of the STH Association. Application forms and information packages can be obtained from the Town Hall. The deadline for the submission of applications is Tuesday, January 28, 2014.



In Sympathy: We extend our sincere condolences to Executive member Charles Cameron on the recent passing of his son, Stephen. Stephen Douglas Cameron passed away in Chilliwack, BC, on November 23, 2013, at the age of 48, after a brief, painful struggle with cancer. The Canadian Cancer Society would be grateful for contributions in remembrance of Stephen.



In Sympathy: We were deeply saddened to learn that Kay Apted (nee Corbett) passed away suddenly on Thursday, January 9, 2014, at the age of 99, after experiencing another fall. Kay had been a member of the Swansea Historical Society for more than 20 years. She was also very active right up until last year in the Swansea Horticultural Society, where she judged the entries in the monthly flower shows, and she was in charge of maintaining contacts with shut-in members. She often walked to events at the Town Hall from her home on Glenwood Avenue, where she maintained a beautiful garden. Many of us attended Kay's 99th birthday party in May 2013, at which time she showed no signs of slowing down, and we were delighted to see her again at the Christmas 2013 meeting of the Horticultural Society. Turner & Porter Funeral Directors, 2357 Bloor Street West at Windermere, are handling arrangements. We extend our sincere condolences to Kay's family and friends.



Ontario Historical Society: In 2013, our parent organization, the Ontario Historical Society, celebrated its 125th anniversary and the 100th anniversary of the construction of its current headquarters, the historic John McKenzie House in North York. Since 1899, the OHS has been publishing a scholarly journal "*Ontario History*". As of April, 2013, 325 issues had been published, with well over 2,000 articles written by some of the province's greatest historians. To mark the two anniversaries, the OHS has undertaken an ambitious project to digitize all past and future issues of *Ontario History* and make this vast treasure trove of historical information available on-line. A drive has been launched to raise \$125,000 with the theme: "The Ontario Historical Society: Preserving 125 years – Our legacy for the Next 125". For more information, see the web-site www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca/125th.



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.



2014 SHS Calendars: As you are aware, the 2014 calendars are complete and ready to go! We also have a very limited number of 2013 calendars still available for sale, in addition to a variety of historical booklets, and the best bargain of all -- bundles of past Swansea Historical Society calendars at the clearance price of \$5 for a baker's dozen of 13 issues, covering the years 1999-2011, all on sale at monthly meetings or over the counter at the Town Hall office.



Sunday March 30th, 2014: Indoor Garage Sale at the Swansea Town Hall (95 Lavinia Avenue) from 10 am to 2 pm. Come and view the treasures on sale. If you are interested in assisting at the Society's information table, please let us know. If you have items you would like to sell, you should contact the Town Hall (416-392-1954) to arrange for renting a table for the day. And don't forget to bring all your large and small outdated electronic equipment to our patio, as iRecycle will be picking up donations of electronic goods and e-waste.



Donations to the Swansea Historical Society: Did you know that the Swansea Historical Society is a **registered charitable organization**? As such, the Society can issue tax receipts for any donations received. In addition to cash donations, tax receipts can also be issued for items donated to the Archives collection, once those items have been formally appraised. Also, as a way of ensuring the Society's viability in the longer term, we encourage our members to consider leaving a legacy to the Swansea Historical Society.

Future Events:



Wednesday, March 5th, 2014 Meeting: SPEAKER: Catherine Raven from Colborne Lodge will relate the intriguing story of John and Jemima Howard, who lived in Colborne Lodge and bequeathed to the City of Toronto the spectacular property we now know as High Park. We will also hear about plans for the March 23, 2014, event, which will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the High Park gates on Parkside Drive in 1914 ... Save the date, as the March 23 celebration promises to be a memorable occasion!!



Wednesday, April 2nd, 2014, Meeting: SPEAKER: Jean Miso, presenting a potpourri of interesting stories related to Canada's military. Jean's presentations usually include a performance of a selection of the songs she has personally composed.



Wednesday, May 7th, 2014, Meeting: SPEAKER: Rev. Dr. Karen Dimock is the pastor at Morningside-High Park Presbyterian Church. Rev. Dimock will talk about Morningside-High Park's long-time role in the Swansea community, and recent developments bringing the Church into the 21st century, including the installation of solar panels, and all the behind-the-scenes activities that were required to bring that initiative to fruition.



MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

We are now accepting membership fees for 2014, and encourage members to renew early. The membership year is the calendar year – January to December. 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 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(The Membership Year is the Calendar Year)

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



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www.tundracomics.com

Chad Lavigne

SWANCESTRY

JOIN US FOR A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE!

Here is another photo from the archives. Even if you THINK you might know someone or something about the picture, please let us know! We will have all pictures featured here at monthly meetings available for you to take a closer look at.



(We apologize for the picture quality in the printed newsletters.)

CAN YOU IDENTIFY ANYONE IN THIS PICTURE OR KNOW WHEN OR WHERE IT WAS TAKEN? DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE PICTURE? FEEL FREE TO CONTACT THE SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IF YOU HAVE ANY INSIGHT! (647-859-3901 or swancnews@gmail.com)