

Heritage on the Hill

THE RICHMOND HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY, P.O. BOX 61527, 9350 YONGE STREET, RICHMOND HILL, ON, L4C 0C9

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Springtime is here finally! Happy Spring to everyone.

In the Spring, I have counted 136 different kinds of weather inside of 24 hours.~ Mark Twain

Never a truer word was spoken, considering the long and cold winter we just experienced. We hope for a lovely summer with lots of sunshine!

Upcoming Events

"DOORS OPEN"

Saturday, May 10, 2014 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

From the town website:

Many intriguing cultural, historic and religious sites within Richmond Hill will open their doors to the public. Even long-time Richmond Hill residents will likely learn something new about their hometown after visiting Doors Open sites. This is a great initiative. Once again we have sponsored the event by sending a cheque for \$100 as an Oak Door Sponsor. Maggie Mackenzie will be distributing 1500 brochures for us during the day's event.

RHHS Monthly Meeting

May 19th, 7:30 p.m.

****A GORTA MOR: AN EXAMINATION OF THE IRISH POTATO FAMINE**

Speaker: Bryan McClure

This talk will delve into the realities of the Potato Famine in Ireland from 1845 to 1851 and attempt to clarify popular conceptions on the Potato Famine. Brian will examine agricultural practices, land holding and

industrialization in Ireland to discover if the Famine was man-made or a natural phenomenon. In addition to this he will examine the cultural and social impact of the Famine not only in Ireland and Great Britain, but in North America as well and see where our modern ideas about the Famine came from.

Brian brings very interesting facts to light - how the Irish Potato Famine was impacted by British and Irish government, how Ireland was perceived at that time, the social impact on other countries and how agricultural planning was altered for the future by the Famine. *Mark this on your calendar and join us for a very interesting evening....*

MEMBERS ONLY EVENT

Our Annual Strawberry Social & Celebration of Doris Leno's 100th Birthday June 16th, 2014

(6:30 p.m. One hour earlier than usual)

Please join us for our annual Strawberry Social at Wallace Hall. This year we have the special privilege of joining in to celebrate a birthday of one of our senior members, Doris Leno, who celebrates her 100th birthday this year. We will make a presentation about Doris Leno's life, growing up and living in the town of Richmond Hill. A special evening, celebrating a special person who has been an integral part of the Richmond Hill Historical Society and the Town of Richmond Hill.

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RHHS Monthly Meeting

September 15th, 2014

7:30 p.m.

The Prisoner's Boxes of the 1837 Rebellion

Speaker: Darryl Withrow

Darryl Withrow teaches Media Literacy to grades 1-8. He is also the Teacher Librarian for the school. He has been a volunteer with Pickering Museum for 7 years. Darryl's talk will be of great interest.

Darryl Withrow will establish little before known facts about a surprising aspect of the imprisonment of the rebels of the 1837 rebellion in Upper Canada. He will bring examples of Prisoner's Boxes – items that not many people are aware of. He returns to our Society by way of having been one of the four speakers at the RHHS Rebellion workshop in October 2013 and was very well received. His passion for this subject extends to him replicating these surprising artifacts and holds a very large collection of these objects. *You won't want to miss this presentation.....*

***Any questions regarding the above information please speak with Andrea Kulesh or call 905-884-2789.*

*The Executive hopes you will be able to participate and enjoy these upcoming events. Please feel free to bring a guest to any of our monthly meetings with special presentations by speakers. ** BRING A FRIEND.....*

"ONE HUNDREDS"

COMMEMORATION - The Great War

began one hundred years ago. Anniversaries and commemorations, throughout the world will be marking this significant anniversary with ceremonies to remember the beginning of the Great War of 1914- 1918. There will be many who will mark this commemoration with memories of their own families who were involved in World War I. This is a special year to be involved in Remembrance.

ANNIVERSARY : THE RICHMOND HILL

GARDEN AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

turns 100 years old this year. They began

celebrations with a Gala at the Performing Arts Theatre on April 16th. Many Past Presidents were invited to join in and some made up arrangements that were on display. Photographs were on exhibit, and letters from the Royal Family were laid out for everyone to enjoy. (*Editor's note: I'm sure Kevin Dark and Norman McMullen had something to do with this!!*) There was a letter of congratulations from the Prime Minister, Stephen Harper and from The Premier, Kathleen Wynne. As President of the Society, Norman McMullen was Master of Ceremonies and many officiates from the Ontario Horticultural Society spoke; as well as significant friends of the Society. A garden at the theatre was officially opened by Norman McMullen and Mayor Barrow – named after one of their members and ours -The Gladys McLatchey Garden. (our Gladys would be so touched) What a wonderful achievement for one of our Town's oldest community groups. We congratulate them on their first 100 years!!

100th Birthday - Doris Leno, one of our members who has been in the Society for many years, right back to the beginnings, celebrates her 100th birthday this year.

Happy 100th Birthday Doris !!



The Richmond Hill Heritage Collection

The RHHS was invited to visit the Richmond Hill Heritage collection on April 16th. We enjoyed an Open house specifically arranged for the Society. Carol Hughes hosted the day as manager of the department. Volunteers were on hand who catalogue and write reports for the artifacts as they are processed to be part of the Heritage collection. It was encouraging to see the excellent care that the artifacts receive. It is wonderful to see how the Town of Richmond Hill has continually been

developing their policy on the storage of all kinds of items. For those who attended and perhaps were able to view donations that they made themselves, it gives you a sense of how these donations will be on hand for people to study in the future, guaranteeing accurate historical observation for future generations. Well done - Town of Richmond Hill!

“CELEBRATE CULTURE” SPRING RAFFLE

Tickets will be available for the Spring Raffle at the May monthly meeting. **Per ticket is \$2.00 and 3/\$5.00**

First Prize: An original abstract painting by Herbert Pryke, a Richmond Hill artist. He is a member of many groups and is a long standing member of the Richmond Hill Group of Artists. His work is reminiscent of our early

Canadian artists. www.herbertpryke.com

Second Prize: An original painting by Valerie Kent, a local artist who has painted the “**MAIN STREET OF RICHMOND HILL**” to commemorate our 140th anniversary of 2013. <http://valeriekent.com>

Third Prize: A book by Jim and Sue Waddington, named “In the Footsteps of the Group of Seven”. You may remember that Jim and Sue spoke to the RHHS in October 2013 and were very well received. Their experience and motivation to follow and locate the well known Group of Seven’s actual painting locations is a wonderful story of a passionate love for these Canadian icons. www.groupofseven.ca

We hope members will help to sell tickets as well as purchase them. There are 600 tickets and we would like to see every one of them sold in time for the draw on June 16th at the Strawberry Social. Good luck everyone.

Call for Photos or News Clippings Of Doris Leno

The RHHS is looking for photos, news clippings, stories and memories about Doris Leno. She will be celebrating her 100th birthday in September. We would like to make a presentation to her at our Strawberry Social. Please contact myself with any information you may have that we can include in the Program. I will be trying to produce a Power Point presentation so I need anything you wish to lend well in advance. We have invited the Mayor to say a few

words about Doris and anyone who wishes to speak, please let Andrea Kulesh know in advance so we can plan for the evening’s program.

40th Anniversary of Hillcrest Mall

Hillcrest Mall is celebrating its 40th anniversary and is looking for photos of the area up to and including the present day. The photos or news clippings can be of what was there originally, then anything after that and any photos people might have taken at the mall, or outside of the mall over the years. They intend to celebrate this anniversary in August and we have decided to join in to assist in with their research and also have a table display for the Historical Society in the mall. Please contact myself with any information you might think could be included. Any of the original area to the south of Richvale is also relevant. (Stephens farm- Roselawn Dairy, golf range on the opposite corner, Yonge Street).

DELMANOR RETIREMENT RESIDENCE

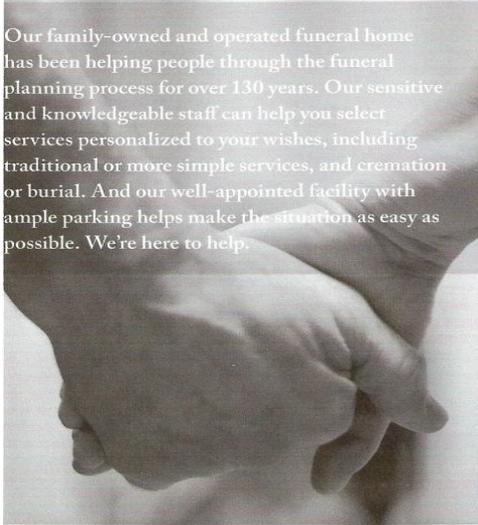
In March, the RHHS spent an evening at Delmanor presenting a program prepared by Alison Hughes named, “Why do We Say That?”. Along with the presentation we took some mystery artifacts for the audience to enjoy. There were many residents on hand for the evening and was very well received by everyone. They have asked us if we would be able to return on a regular basis. Delmanor has kindly been hosting our executive meetings for the second year and we can give back some of that community spirit by visiting and bringing the Richmond Hill Historical Society to the public in different venues you. *I want to thank Alison Hughes for the great presentation and all of the executive members who attended. Thank you.*

HERITAGE VILLAGE DAY JUNE 7TH, 2014

ONCE AGAIN, THE RHHS WILL BE REPRESENTED AT HERITAGE VILLAGE DAY. THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SOCIETY TO GET OUT AND TALK TO LOTS OF PEOPLE..... WE WILL BE CIRCULATING A VOLUNTEER LIST AT THE MAY MONTHLY MEETING . LAST YEAR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS. WE WERE ABLE TO DISTRIBUTE PAMPHLETS, SELL MERCHANDISE AND OFFER DEMONSTRATIONS FOR PEOPLE TO OBSERVE. CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING AT HVD 2014.....

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The RHHS Executive wishes to extend a warm thank you to Marshall Funeral Home for their generous sponsorship for 2014. They have been a long standing and loyal sponsor for over 20 years.



Thank you to Dinah Cruse-Hunter and Greg Hunter for their 3 year presentation of the War of 1812.



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Please Consider Membership:
THE RICHMOND HILL HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership Application Form

Please Circle: **New Member** or **Renewal**

Please Circle: **Individual (\$25)** or
Family (\$40) per year

Name (s) : First: _____
Last : _____

Address: _____

Phone # (s) : _____

E-mail : _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Date Payment Received: _____

Cash ____ or Cheque ____

Please fill in the membership form and mail to: Membership, Richmond Hill Historical Society, PO Box 61527, 9350 Yonge Street, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 0C9 or bring it with payment to a monthly meeting.

We look forward to your support as a Member.