

HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



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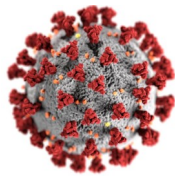
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WEFHS Board 2020-2021

The positions of Treasurer and Newsletter Editor are open. Please contact us if you are interested—or know of someone who is.

Phone number and email are on the back page of this newsletter.

COVID-19 Edition



This spring certainly hasn't gone as we had hoped. Like everyone else, our plans have changed, been put on hold and just generally been shaken up due to an invisible enemy that swept the world.

Our March and April members meetings were cancelled, our Annual General Meeting is yet to be held, and our Archives has been closed since March 13. The highly anticipated book launch for our new childrens' book was cancelled and with no programming being held in the library for the rest of this year, we don't know when we will be able to officially launch it.

This newsletter is a combination of our April newsletter and our Annual Report. The Archives report is condensed due to space limitations. A full Annual Report will be available on our website later this month.

As with many non-profit organizations during this uncertain time, we have not been able to generate any revenue. Summer is traditionally a high point for visitors to the archives, book purchases and research fees. Now more than ever we are depending on you to help us out with donations. Hopefully we will be able to get up and running in the next couple of months but there is no official word when the library or any City buildings will be reopening.

In the meantime we continue to keep our presence out there with Facebook and Twitter. Your Board is working on various ideas to enhance our online profile and we will do our best to keep Flamborough Heritage alive and well!

Board of Directors Changes

We regretfully accepted the resignations of Danielle Herrnstein and Carol Snell. Danielle joined us a couple of years ago and was our Treasurer last year. She is going back to school and has her own business so she's a busy lady. We wish her well and thank her for all of the time she put in for us, volunteering at various events as well as the financial help.

Carol Snell has resigned for health reasons and we are very sorry to see her go. More on Carol elsewhere in this newsletter.



The Spanish Flu HERITAGE PAPER #289

The past is doomed to repeat itself. Everything old is new again. What goes round comes round.

The corona virus— COVID-19 - is a global pandemic, but the world has been through this before. However there are differences and while the global effects of the virus have been devastating, they are not as bad as the Spanish flu of 1918-1919.

In Canada, as of the beginning of June, there were approximately 100,000 cases of COVID-19, with approximately 8,200 deaths and overall numbers trending down. Globally there are over 8 million cases and approximately 445,000 deaths. The Spanish flu is estimated to have killed over 100 million people. Canada had as many as 50,000 deaths. In Ontario there were over 300,000 cases and 8,705 deaths were recorded but the overall numbers were probably much higher due to inadequate record keeping. The medical system was overwhelmed.

The Spanish flu came on suddenly and people were very ill within 24 hours. It seemed to affect young people, mostly those between the ages of 20 and 40 although it did not discriminate. The way it was handled by public health officials is not much different than the situation of today. The public was advised to avoid crowded streetcars, large gatherings, and anyone showing symptoms. "It is advisable to eat moderately, take plenty of outdoor exercise, sleep with windows open, drink lots of good water, and do not get excited about newspaper reports." As infections reached the thousands, Provincial Officer of Health J.W. McCulloch issued a statement on October 7 in which he urged local health officers not to "dislocate business or ordinary affairs of life," as shutting down stores and institutions were "ill-advised measures which only serve to irritate the public and accomplish no useful purpose."

G.R. Cruickshank, Windsor's medical officer of

health, condemned a business-as-usual approach in no uncertain terms, likening sick people who went out in public to Canada's wartime enemy. "Anyone who goes into a crowded streetcar and coughs is worse than the German Kaiser," he told the local chamber of commerce. "Any child that goes to school is worse than any German atrocity."



The Branston Violet Ray Generator was touted as being effective. The instructions make for very interesting reading. https://medicalhistory.uwo.ca/teaching_modules/electrotherapy/Branston_Violet_Ray_Directions.pdf

Municipalities soon enforced stronger control measures. The following order, issued by Hamilton's board of health on October 16, 1918 was typical of the actions taken across the province to prevent flu from spreading:

All schools, seminaries, Sunday schools, dance halls, billiard and pool rooms, bowling alleys, theatres (music or concerts), halls – public or places or amusement, places for public gatherings and amusement are to be closed. Declared: All meetings or assemblies are prohibited, Public funerals prohibited, all utensils in boardhouses/restaurants must be immersed in boiling water for three minutes, no use of common towels or

drinking vessels, only four passengers plus elevator operator, all gatherings essential for the war are excepted.

In Waterdown and Flamborough the same measures were followed. The Waterdown Review of October 17, 1918 carried these notices:

Oftentimes it is impossible to tell a cold from mild influenza. Therefore:
If you get a cold go to bed in a well ventilated room. Keep warm.

Keep away from other people. Do not kiss anyone. Use individual basins, and knives, forks, spoons, towels, handkerchiefs, soap, wash plates and cups.

Every case of influenza should go to bed at once under the care of a physician. The patient should stay in bed at least three days after fever has disappeared and until convalescence is well established.

The patient must not cough or sneeze except when a mask or handkerchief is held before the face.

He should be in a warm, well ventilated room.

There is no specific for the disease. Symptoms should be met as they arise.

The great danger is from pneumonia. Avoid it by staying in bed while actually ill and until convalescence is fully established.

The after effects of influenza are worse than the disease. Take care of yourself.

Dr. Hopper requests all parents to keep their children off the streets during the present epidemic.

On November 4, 1918, the school reopened.

The public school re-opened on Monday, Nov. 4th, and it is to be hoped that it will not be found necessary to close it again.

On November 28, more safety measures were taken:

The Medical Health Officer, Dr. D. A. Hopper, thoroughly fumigated the High and Public Schools on Saturday last.

January 1919 brought fresh outbreaks of the flu.

Our church and school are both closed on account of a fresh outbreak of flu.

Meeting Postponed

The Women's Institute meeting, which was to be held on Tuesday, January 7th, at the home of W. A. Drummond, has been postponed indefinitely on account of the flu.

By order of the Medical Health Officer the High and Public Schools have been closed until January 20th, owing to the prevalence of the flu epidemic.

NOTICE

To the citizens of the Village of Waterdown and the Township of East Flamboro:

I hereby declare all Schools, Churches, Sunday Schools, Pool and Billiard Rooms, and all Public meeting places in the Village of Waterdown and the Township of East Flamboro closed until further notice.

Signed,
D. A. HOPPER, M. H. O.

The public and high schools reopened on January 23, 1919 and there are no further references to closures in the newspaper. It isn't known how many people in Flamborough died from the Spanish flu.

References: When the Spanish Flu came to Ontario by Jamie Bradburn. 2018.

Waterdown Review, issues May 1918—May 1919

THE YEAR IN REVIEW 2019—2020

This year was a busy one for the Society. Thanks to the New Horizons for Seniors grant, we have been working on a new publication. Our first children's book, written by Kim Hirst and illustrated by Lisa Jefferies, blends historic Flamborough photographs with hand drawn characters of children as they go about their lives in the past. We hope these books will be used to help teach younger students about local Flamborough history. We're looking forward to launching 'The Big Move' in the near future.

We were able to hire two summer students thanks to a Canada Summer Jobs grant, and they worked on a number of projects and completed several Heritage papers. A booklet was created on biographies of Crown Patentees in East Flamborough. Both students assisted in updating cemetery transcriptions for St. Thomas Catholic Cemetery, as well as photographing headstones and the cemetery grounds. With the many recent changes to Waterdown, photographs were taken of new construction to document how the community is growing. Our students also assisted in updating inventories, our walking guides, and creating portable displays to be shared with the community.

The society has been out and about in the community throughout the year, whether in person or through our displays within the community. We participated in the Jane's Walk event by exploring how life in Waterdown has been shaped over the years. We also attended the second annual R.E.D. Day (Remember Everyone Deployed) at the Waterdown Legion at which we received the 'Friendship Award', presented to organizations who support the Legion and their community. Presentations were given at the Strabane Women's Institute, Village Manor, and we attended the HPL Genealogy Fair and the Waterdown Farmers Market. With our involvement in the community we have garnered a lot of interest including follow up visits to the Archives.

Our online presence has greatly increased by sharing Flamborough's history on our Facebook page as well as our recently set up Instagram account. One of our Facebook posts reached over 20,000 people, and our followers have increased from just over 200 to over 2200. In conjunction with our already existing website and the Archives, social media allows us to reach our online com-

munity including those that may have left the Flamborough area. It also gives us the opportunity to advertise our meetings and events on a different platform.

As we are networked with the library system, it was necessary to upgrade the Windows operating system to a newer version. Unfortunately with the requirements of the new Windows our older computers were not able to support it, making it necessary to upgrade two of the computers and a monitor in the Archives. Such an unexpected expense when operating funds are low can be harrowing, however we are grateful to those who donated money so that the computers could be purchased and operations could continue as normal.

The 29th Annual Book Fair held in October was a great success. Despite several vendors cancelling last minute, the fair not only showed an increase in attendance and community engagement, but increased sales at all tables. This was also the inaugural year of the 'Back In Time History Quest', a walk-able scavenger hunt in Waterdown's core. With sponsorship from local businesses we were able to distribute swag bags to all participants and prizes to winners. This was our best Book Fair in several years!



We reprinted the 'and they came to East Flamborough' book and the 'Mills of Waterdown' book, both of which had been out of print for several years.

We continue to add to and enhance our photograph and publication program with the help of our volunteers and material shared with us from the community. We encourage you to visit our website, social media pages, and our Archives. We welcome any suggestions for changes, improvements, new program ideas and more!

Thank you for your support.

Statement of Activity for the Year Ended April 16, 2020

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
<u>REVENUE</u>		
Canada Summer Jobs grant	8,359	3,732
Donations	4,200	5,477
Book Sales	1,713	353
Scavenger hunt sponsorship	1,600	-
Ontario Heritage Organization Grant	1,545	1,545
Membership dues	1,216	1,114
Other misc. book and merchandise sales	1,213	3,331
Book fair and fundrais- ing	1,095	1,348
Investment income	71	129
New Horizons for Seniors Grant	-	5,990
Research revenue	-	527
Total Revenue	21,011	23,546
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
Student wages (CSJ grant)	11,635	4,072
Contract services (New Horizons Grant)	4,800	3,228
Archivist Honorarium/Misc. Student wages	1,602	1,200
Computer and printing	1,377	1,604
Archives supplies & equipment	1,369	1,657
Grant writer Fee	1,271	932
Publishing costs	1,241	1,318
Insurance	1,112	1,081
Office supplies	997	432
Meetings	858	964
Book fair/scavenger hunt	598	445
Mobile shelving annual mainte- nance	565	565
Postage and news- letter	379	75
Archives acquisitions	355	185
Misc.	307	13,700
Memberships	192	217
Bank charges	190	278
Total expenditures	28,849 #	31,953

Excess (Deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	(7,838)	(8,407)
Surplus, beginning of the year	24,100	32,507
Surplus, end of the year	16,262	24,100

Statement of Financial Position for the Year Ended April 16, 2020

	2020	2019
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1)	\$ 11,967	\$ 21,369
Book inventory (Note 5)	4,487	2,731
Harmonized sales tax receivable	373	-
Total Assets	<u>\$ 16,827</u>	<u>\$ 24,100</u>
<u>Liabilities & Surplus</u>		
Accounts payable	565	-
Total liabilities	<u>565</u>	<u>-</u>
Surplus	16,262	24,100
Total Liabilities and Surplus	<u>\$ 16,827</u>	<u>\$ 24,100</u>

Statement of Change in Cash Position For the Year Ended April 16, 2020

	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year	21,369	29,332
Excess of revenue over expenditures	(7,838)	(8,407)
Change in accounts payable	565	
Change in book inventory	(1,756)	444
Change in harmonized sales tax receivable	(373)	-
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year	<u>11,967</u>	<u>21,369</u>

Carol Snell

Carol became a Director of The Waterdown –East Flamborough Heritage Society in April 1987, and she has been on the Board ever since. Through the years she has lent her support to various activities and events and has always been there when helping hands were needed. For years she has been the voice in your head—literally— when she called to gently remind you that you hadn't paid your membership yet. She and husband Len were the greeters at the door for the Annual Book Fair and monthly meetings, keeping tabs on name tags, numbers and surveys and making sure the speakers and vendors had everything they needed.



We have missed Carol at our recent meetings and sadly accept her request to step down from the Board. We wish Carol, Len and their family all the best. Thank you for everything you did.

Archives Report 2019

We had an amazing year and our Archives continues to grow both in collections and usage. I cannot thank our volunteers enough—they are the backbone of the Archives and the only reason it is still around. Mary Goossen, Jan Hunt, Robert Lalonde, Sue McNally, Judy Marcoux, Meghan Martin, Bob Thomas, Diane Woods, Robert and Sylvia Wray have volunteered hundreds of hours, working on projects to enhance our research offerings and catalogue new items.

In total, the volunteers put in 2,485 hours and the Archives was open for 187 days, operating on a 4 day week. We received over 1,000 requests for information through in person visits, phone calls, emails, and queries through our Facebook page.

This year we catalogued 550 items to our collection. Many of those were newspaper clippings or articles from local newspapers. Other items included military documentation for WW I and WWII veterans, photographs, books and publications, ephemera, funeral cards, family histories and maps. We received 58 donations of various materials.

We provided photographs for the new Wolcott Realty office, Dominos Pizza, and the Brown brothers building on Mill Street. We had booths at the Waterdown Farmers' Market, RED day at the Waterdown Legion, the Hamilton Public Library Genealogy Fair, HWWA Heritage Day, and made presentations to the Strabane Women's Institute, Jane's Walk, Village Manor and Dundas Valley Historical Society. Our two summer students updated various brochures, wrote Heritage papers, catalogued clippings and took photographs of tombstones in the St. Thomas Cemetery.

Lyn Lunsted, Archivist

Nominations Committee

The existing Executive will move forward to serve next year with the exceptions of Treasurer Danielle HerrNSTein and Director Carol Snell, who have both sadly resigned.

Lyn Lunsted is nominated as acting treasurer, until such time as another treasurer can be found.

Corrie Giles

**The Flamborough
Heritage Society**

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Officers 2020–2021

President: Chris Rivait

1st Vice President:

Corrie Giles

Secretary: Sue McNally

Treasurer: Lyn Lunsted

Past-President:

Nathan Tidridge

Board Members

Bailey Cripps

Brenda Jefferies

Mary Beth Kennedy

Meghan Martin

Keri Raphael

Kim Hirst, Newsletter

Lyn Lunsted, Archivist



NEWS FROM THE SOCIETY

“Nobody told me there’d be days like these, strange days indeed”

As John Lennon said, these have been strange days over the past few months. Unfortunately, with the Covid-19 precautions in place we had to cancel our last two public meetings, which included the Annual General Meeting. Over the past few years, Lyn Lunsted has put together the fantastic Annual Report. This has allowed us to make sure that all the important and necessary information about the Society gets to our membership. Since we are not able to meet in person, we are going to create a virtual Annual General Meeting. A link will be provided for each member to vote for all the motions that you would find at our normal AGM.

We still had many positives this year that we do not want to be overshadowed. First, Kim Hirst and Meghan Martin spearheaded our new scavenger hunt, which saw many families searching through the community and helped promote local businesses. Kim also wrote our new children’s book “The Big Move” with wonderful illustrations by Lisa Jefferies. Unfortunately, we were not able to have our Book Launch like we planned, but it is a fantastic way to share our local history and relive Flamborough’s past.

We are taking precautions going into our next season of meetings and events to ensure the safety of all our members and community. We look forward to seeing you again. Stay safe.

Chris Rivait

AREA SOCIETY WEBSITES

The **Ancaster Township Historical Society** -

www.ancasterhistory.ca

The **Burlington Historical Society** -

www.burlingtonhistorical.ca

The **Dundas Valley Historical Society** -

www.dundashistory.ca

The **Grimsby Historical Society** -

GrimsbyHistoricalSociety

The **Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society**-

www.hamiltonheritage.ca

The **Head-of-the-Lake Historical Society** -

[Head of the Lake Historical Society](http://HeadoftheLakeHistoricalSociety)

The **United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada, Hamilton Branch** -

www.uel.com

The **West Lincoln Historical Society** - www.wlhs.info