



Uxbridge Scott Historical Society eNews

December 2020

Season's Greetings and Happy New Year from your Your USHS Board:

Gloria Eng - President
Michelle Viney - Vice President
Lorraine Ottolini - Treasurer
Lisha Van Nieuwenhove - Secretary
Amber Scaife - Past President
Bob Kirvan - Co-Chair Membership
Val Linton - Co-Chair Membership
Councillor Pam Beach - Council Representative

A Message from our President

As 2020 ends what was an extraordinary year, we wanted to write to thank you for your support over the past year.

We hope that everyone has been able to reach out to those that might need

assistance. If you are in need of a hand to get groceries or a friendly chat, please let us know!

Eve-Lynn Swan organized a fun Social Evening in February. This was an amazing opportunity to meet other members and participate in local history trivia games. The event was a great success. Thank you Eve-Lynn!

Our AGM would typically occur in May. However, due to lockdown orders and limits on social gatherings, we have not been able to hold an AGM. The USHS Annual Report for 2019 is complete and available to anyone who wishes a copy. Please let us know if you would like a copy.

For the first time in 49 years, we sadly had to cancel our Annual Heritage Day. Next year we will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the USHS. We look forward to celebrating this milestone with our members and the community at Heritage Day 2021!

Amber Scaife planned 4 very interesting and informative events for our Speaker Series. The speakers have kindly agreed to reschedule when health authorities permit us to gather again.

Val Linton, with her green thumb had our herb garden on the museum grounds in full glory. Be sure to stop by in 2021 and take a look. Thank you Val for your hard work!

We are very fortunate to have Pat Neal as our Curator. We received grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), Enabling Accessibility Fund, and Covid Emergency Funding Support through the Federal Government's Museum Assistance Program. Two separate recognition events were held September 25th and October 2nd. More details are noted in the Curator's Report.

Your Board is always looking for new ideas for events, speakers, and members. If you would like to join the Board or have ideas to contribute, we look forward to hearing from you.

Stay safe, shop local and be well,
-Gloria Eng, President USHS

A few words from our Curator

A global pandemic turned out to be an ideal time to address the accessibility, safety and security of staff and visitors to the Uxbridge Historical Centre. All three levels of government contributed to our much-needed infrastructure improvements resulting in an expanded main, paved, parking area, a new accessible parking lot between the Quaker Hill School and Orange Lodge Hall, paved pathways, updated security systems and improved exterior lighting.

The projects were funded by all three levels of government. An event to recognize our federal funding support took place in September with Jennifer O'Connell, MP. The following week, Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP participated in a grant recognition event in support of our Ontario Trillium Foundation funding.

The Uxbridge Historical Centre was not open for tours during summer 2020. Staff hours were reduced to a minimum and no summer students were hired. All planned exhibitions for 2020 were cancelled or put on hold. Visitors, researchers and others were required to make an appointment before visiting with physical distancing and masks required.

A re-opening plan with appropriate safety products and procedures is in place for when the museum re-opens to the public for tours.

The UHC has been awarded a #SafeTravels Stamp by the World Tourism and Travel Council @WTTC for adopting health and hygiene global standardized protocols.

A video promoting the Uxbridge Historical Centre as an ideal location to host weddings and other special events has been developed. It will soon be available for viewing on the museum's website: uxbridgehistoricalcentre.com

Volunteers continued to assist museum staff throughout the summer, although on

a much smaller scale than previous years. The herb garden flourished under the weekly ministrations of Val Linton. Thank you! Other volunteers contributed to exhibition planning and collection needs.

Plans for next season:

Staff are working with community volunteers to develop an exhibition on Uxbridge's military history to open in late August 2021. This exhibition will feature a different theme each season to ensure continuing relevance and interest.

Staff are also working with volunteers to develop several micro-exhibits, placed outside, to interest and entertain visitors when the museum is closed.

-Pat Neal, Curator



Horseshoe Club

Even with the restrictions, Bob Kirvan was able to continue the the popular USHS Horseshoe Club. This was a very welcome outing for many of our Society members, culminating with the USHS 2020 Horseshoe Championship on September 15th.

There were 21 participants and the winners were:

1st place: Grant Manock & Wayne Brasseur

2nd place: Murray Smith & Peter Bouchard.

Bob Kirvan presented the Kirvan Cup to the winners.

Todd Snooks & Cindy Heagle took home the Ken & Irene Watts Trophy.

Irene Watts was a Lifetime Member of USHS who passed away recently and this award was created in her honour. Ken & Irene's family members were in attendance for this presentation.

Thank you Bob for organizing the Horseshoe club. All members are welcome to participate and we hope to see you in the spring of 2021!

2021 Membership

It's that time of year to start thinking about renewing your membership in the Uxbridge Scott Historical Society for 2021.

Your membership and donations help maintain and improve the Uxbridge Historical Centre keeping our heritage alive for present and future generations. Your support allows us to preserve and enrich the collection, bring in interesting guest speakers and hold special events such as Heritage Days.

General Membership Benefits (for All Levels of Membership)

- Direct financial support to the Uxbridge Historical Centre
- Free to join USHS Horseshoe club
- Free guided tours of the Museum site*
- Use of Historical Centre Archives*
- Invitations to member only events (such as exhibit openings)*
- Enjoyable Historical Society meetings featuring guest speakers*

*when permitted by our local health authorities to safely open the museum and gather

You can renew online or by mail. Click here to learn more: <http://www.ushs.ca/membership-form>.

The membership fee for 2021 is unchanged: \$20.00 for an Individual Membership and \$35.00 for a Family Membership. Cheques can be made payable to USHS and mailed to:

Uxbridge-Scott Historical Society PO Box 1301 Uxbridge, ON, L9P 1N5

Please let us know if there are any changes in your mailing address, email address or telephone number.

Our membership co-chairs Bob Kirvan and Val Linton have done an excellent job; our membership is strong, thanks to your support in 2020.

Thank you once again for your support and please accept our best wishes for a safe and happy 2021!

-Your USHS Board