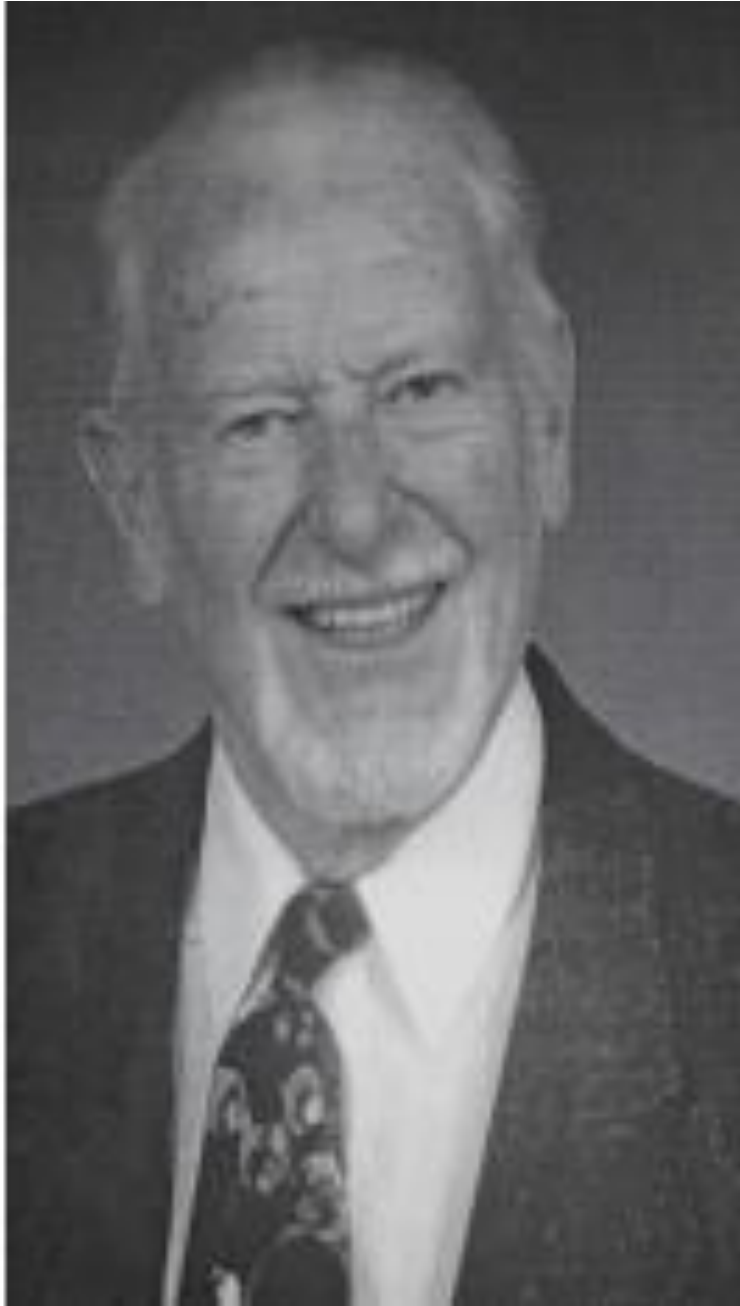




EAST YORK INKLINGS

Newsletter of the East York Historical Society

Volume 13 Issue 4 – September 2017



Read
President
Pat's
spotlight on
our Past
President
John
Stirling
Ridout who
served
from 1980
to 2003

JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Refreshments at 7:00pm ~ Meeting Starts at 7:30pm

**John S. Ridout Auditorium at the S. Walter Stewart Library
170 Memorial Park Avenue**

Our Meetings are Co-sponsored By



Special Guest Presenter:
Topic:

Scott Kennedy
DON MILLS: From Forests and Farms to Forces of Change

A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT PAT

Greetings to all friends (Members & Guests) of the East York Historical Society.

President Pat's Spotlight in the light of Canada 150 is our former President of the East York Historical Society John Stirling Ridout when you read this brief history on the Life and Times of this remarkable East Yorker, I believe you will join in agreement with me. I requested the Story be told by his daughter Lynn Ridout.

I hope this President's Message find you all in good health, happiness and that you have enjoyed a great summer.

Our May Speaker Justice of the Peace Marilyn Churley on topic "Shameless" The Fight for Adoption, Disclosure and Search for My Son". She was warmly greeted by myself, former Vice President Alan Redway and paid Piper

Sarah Severn East Yorker. Marilyn's talk about finding her son had a happy ending. Q&A time showed that the talk had connected many of the souls in her audience with many sales of her book...

Canada Day 2017 on 1st July this year was a huge success during our walk and at our table in Stan Wadlow Park. We had over 200 visitors to our table for information about the East York Historical Society...our own volunteers

VP. Ron Brown , Dir. Ron Chamberlain. PP. Margaret McRae, Jeff Smith mbr. Pres. Pat & treasurer Val Dodge was on hand to cheerfully answer questions related to the region, take new membership applications, hand out EY Inklings Newsletter of the East York Historical Society, brochures, and sold a few EYHS 35th Anniversary Pins, various other questions related to the region.

Please note the 2018 Canada Day on your calendars as we hope to participate in the walk. It is so much fun. More and more East Yorkers are hearing about the East York Historical Society. July 1, 2018 will fall on a Sunday which means we will be celebrating **Canada Day on the following day, Monday July 2, 2018.**

September has set the stage for ongoing summer sunny weather to be enjoyed right into the month of October.



This is good news for us all as our next evening general meeting is scheduled for September 26th. I look forward to see you all. We will have gifts Compliments of Cultural Arts **HotSpot** T-Shirts and buttons for the first 35 people in attendance. Sizes S.M.L.XL.XXL. 10 HotSpots T-Shirts and buttons will be available at the October 14 afternoon meeting for those who would like to have one. Presenter will be Ed. Freeman's topic "Photos Before and After of East York Historic Sites.

Our 2017-2018 calendars are complete with the best presenters and speakers including our September 26: **Mr. Scott Kennedy who will present on topic: "Don Mills from Forests and Farms to Forces of Change"**. Refreshments, Dessert and finger foods will delight your pallets on this evening.

2017 HotSpot Cultural Arts event in East York & East End continues at the Cosburn Art Centre, Cosburn United Church, [1108 Greenwood Avenue](#). Event on Saturday, 14th October please come and visit your East York Historical Society Pop Up Archival Museum on display/exhibit at the Cosburn Park Art Centre located on the street level of Cosburn United Church corners of Cosburn & Greenwood Ave. Enter from Greenwood Ave through the big wooden doors on [1108 Greenwood Ave](#).

Recently, I asked our Vice President Ron Brown to write an article on **his thoughts** about Canada 150. Article – see pg. 8

More of President Pat's special features on the following pages 5,6,7 & 9... About Pipe Sarah Severn for May 30, 2017.

Leaside Life News July Edition. Lorna Krawchuk remembers...& Lorna Krawchuk on Agnes Macphail note on the Canada's \$10 bill in 2017.

In Honour of the 75th Dieppe Raid Anniversary.. Missing in Action: PTE W. E.G. Ramage of Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Whistler Bar and Grill...Sold mid-September 2017 Closed December 31, 2017 after 36 years... Congratulations to the Mastoras Family on your many wonderful contributions to the East York community.

Prince Alexis Sergeevich Troubetzkoy.. Condolences have been sent in the memory of Alexis who was scheduled to present in Sept. 2017.

Lucky prize Winners will be announced for our East York Historical Society 35th Anniversary Dinner guests during our September evening meeting.

Wanda & Ron Chamberlain East York Historical Society Facebook experts... THANK YOU!

Special thanks to our volunteers Ron Chamberlain, Ron Brown and Jeff Brown who joined me on September 24th at the Harvest Festival at Todmorden Mills.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

A reminder to all our members, please renew your membership with our treasurer Val Dodge at our upcoming meetings or mail to address on back page of Newsletter. On behalf of myself and our team of executive board of directors we need all our members and visitors continuous support to this Society. Thank you!

DIEPPE, France-August 19, 1942 - August 19, 2017

Please join us at our September evening meeting for a Moment of Silence in memory of the "75th Anniversary of the Dieppe Raid" otherwise known as the "Battle of Dieppe" or "Blue Beach"...and the incredible loss of lives our Canadian Servicemen paid on this horrific day in August.

Please wear your name tags during the meetings so we can better acquaint ourselves with each other and please ask our treasurer about all the books we have for sale displayed on his table



Pancheta (Pat) Barnett
President of the East York Historical Society
E-mail: eyhs@eastyork.org
Web: www.eastyork.org/eyhs.html

COSBURN ARTS CENTRE

PRESENTS

EAST YORK: A LIVING HISTORY



POP-UP MUSEUM

Our Pop-Up Museum will feature artifacts, photos and other memorabilia showing the history of our East York community

10AM- 6PM

FREE ADMISSION

OCTOBER 14TH 2017, 10AM- 6PM

FREE ADMISSION

1108 Greenwood Ave. East York

PHOTO WALL REVEAL ON THE MAIN STAGE- 3PM

A newly created photo wall will be revealed and the presentation to the winners will take place on the main stage. This wall will contain photos taken by participating local youth guided by professional photographer mentors

this photo wall is a **CULTURAL HOTSPOT SPARK** project
in partnership with the City of Toronto

"THE WORLD IS CHANGING"

A musical evening
celebrating Canadian
composers!

8PM- \$15/ General Admission

at the door or
eventbrite.ca
Call For Info:
416-421-5711



From left to right, Past President Margaret McRae, volunteer Jeff Brown and President Pat Barnett at the EYHS table at Stan Wadlow Park celebrating Canada's 150th Birthday on July 1st.
THANKS GUYS!!!

President Pat's Special Feature: SARAH SEVERN

Who performed for us on the evening of Tuesday, 30th May, 2017? Miss Severn piped in our main speaker Justice of the Peace Marilyn Churley, lead by the Hon. Alan Redway followed by EYHS President Pat Barnett. All arise to the occasion!

Pipe Sarah Severn an East Yorker have been playing Bagpipes for over 21 years. She learned Piping when she was in Army Cadets with the 48th Highlanders of Canada and was even Awarded Piper of the Year. Sarah also took lessons from Pipe Major John MacDonald and Pipe Major with the Toronto Police Pipe Band; played in the Scarborough Legion Pipes and Drums Band for 13 years and have played at various events: Former MP., Maria Ninna; Community Centre 55; Variety Village - Lieutenant Governor Games; Toronto Police Services School Crossing Guard Award Ceremony & MPP., Arthur Potts

- President



PRESIDENT PAT'S SPOTLIGHT: JOHN STIRLING RIDOUT

John S. Ridout was the President of the East York Historical Society from 1980 until his death in 2003. From an early age, John was committed to serving his community in the widest sense of the word. His volunteering started as a server at his church, St. David's on Donlands, near where he grew up on Strathmore near Greenwood, and his service to the Anglican Church community continued through his roles as board and committee member, president, co-founder, etc. of various branches of the Anglican Church, not only in Toronto, but across the country and continent.

John's service to East York began with the Home and School Association at his children's elementary school. He was appointed to the East York Library Board in 1968 and served on the board, often as Chair, for 24 years (except for 2 years when he was on East York Council) until 1994. In 1995, in recognition of his service with the Library, the auditorium at S. Walter Stewart Library was named The John S. Ridout Auditorium. His service at East York Library led to service on the Metropolitan Library board for 22 years where he also served as Chair for two 3 year terms.

The Ridout name goes back a long time (1797) in Toronto (which was then York) and John was proud of his ARidout@ heritage and was always interested in history. His interest in East York history started with Todmorden Mills, East York's centennial year project. He had been appointed to East York Council in 1970

to represent Ward 1 for the remaining 2 year term after the resignation of the then alderman and sat on the historical board. After the Council term was finished, he wasn't interested in remaining in the political field but continued to serve on the Todmorden Mills Museum Board. He felt that Todmorden Mills and East York history wasn't being promoted enough, so he and a few like-minded citizens decided to revive the East York Historical Society. There had been a couple of earlier versions, including one that was absorbed into the Todmorden Mills Museum Board. At the first meeting of The East York Historical Society in 1980, John was appointed President. In 1992 when Arthur Sellers retired from producing its newsletter, *Yore Lore*, and no one else volunteered to take over, John took on task of writing it, newly named *Borough Inklings*.

As President, John was a tireless worker for The Historical Society and East York history. He arranged for the plaques marking places in East York's history – the financing, the wording, the permissions and permits. He researched and learned about East York history and then gave speeches and slide shows to various community groups about it. He represented the Historical Society at various board meetings, community information programs, and marched in the East York Canada Day parade. He answered phone calls from teachers asking about the history of the street name their school was on, or people searching their heritage and wanting to know about gravesites.. He hand drew the posters for the meetings (this was before computer programs did it

for you) and delivered them to the libraries in East York. He gathered information and wrote the articles for *Borough Inklings*, in early days in DOS, had them printed, and folded and mailed them. He convinced people to join the East York Historical Society and to serve in official positions.

John served on the EY 200 Committee, arranging activities celebrating the start of East York when permission was given to the Skinners to build a grist mill on the Don River in 1796. He pushed to get Eleanor Darke's book of the early history of Todmorden Mills, "*A Mill Should Be Build Thereon*", written, funded, published, promoted and sold. (The copyright is held by The East York Historical Society as well as J.I. Rempel's book, *The Town of Leaside, A Brief History*). He was involved in restoring the "bulldog with the boy and girl" statue, now in the East York Civic Centre. He served on the Agnes Macphail Award Committee, as well as the East York Foundation Board. For his service to East York, he was awarded the East York Silver Bulldog in 1994.

His "Ridout" history lead him to serve on The Town of York Historical Society board, where he served as President for a period of time, promoting Toronto's First Post Office and the early history of Toronto/York. His many years of service to the heritage community was recognized by the Ontario Historical Society when he was awarded the Carnochan Award in 2002.

John didn't spend all of his time sitting on boards and committees. He was a loyal employee of Ontario Hydro for 37 years until his retirement in 1985. He delivered meals to shut-ins for True Davidson Meals on Wheels. He was an intrepid traveller, taking his wife Joan and four young children to Europe and camping trips across Canada and the United States. He would plan the

"Photographic Evidence" is a short vignette and the performance coincides with the opening of an exhibit, "Through the lens of Geraldine Moodie." The display is of some of the historic photos by Geraldine Moodie, the subject of the vignette. Toronto born Moodie was one of Canada's first professional women photographers. In 2013 her photograph of "Koo-tuck-tuck" (1903-05) was featured on a Canadian postage stamp.

route and research the places to visit and their history. He and Joan also travelled to the USSR before the Berlin Wall came down, and China before it was fully open to tourism, throughout Europe, and the other continents. When he travelled he was never from Toronto, always East York. His mailing address was East York. He was a loving, caring and patient parent and grandparent. He was an enthusiastic supporter at hockey games, theatrical shows and dance recitals and game for any adventure his grandchildren would dream up. He spent time in his garden and grew vegetables.

John was always learning. He was never without reading material, the newspaper, a book, board reports, whether riding the TTC, standing in line, or relaxing at home. When he travelled, he would pick up the local paper to find out what was going on in that city/country. He was interested in people, their stories, their histories. He didn't like to be in the limelight.

In all his activities, John Ridout was caring, tolerant, open minded and innovative. He was loyal citizen serving all of his communities. John, please know that you are remembered always.

Photographic Evidence

**Saturday
September 30, 2017**

Doors open 1:00pm
Exhibition opens 2:00pm
Performance 2:30pm

*Free admission * Refreshments*

A short one-woman play by
Rex Deverell and presented by
Mixed Company Theatre with
Nicole Wilson.

Geraldine Moodie is one of
Canada's first professional
women photographers,
best known for her images
chronicling the lives of the
Indigenous peoples of the
Northwest and Arctic regions.

Although the play is a fictional
reconstruction, it is based on true events
and extensive historical research.



Ungunga, Fullerton Harbour, Hudson Bay, by Geraldine Moodie. © Glenbow Museum.

Lambton House
lambtonhouse.org
416-767-5472

4066 Old Dundas Street, York, M6S 2R6
TTC bus 55 from Jane station stops at the door.

Sponsored by





Lorna Krawchuk remembers...

LORNA KRAWCHUK, PUBLISHER, LEASIDE LIFE JULY 1, 2017

PRESIDENT REPRINT BT PERMISSION FROM LORNA KRAWCHUK

Depending on the year, it might be a “loaner” convertible from Gyro Mazda, or a firetruck, or someone’s well-polished convertible, or one of the assortment of “older” cars that were made available to us.

Once the parade was organized, it would head over to Bayview. Jenner Jean-Marie and I were the local councillors for most of this time, and we would vie to see how many people we recognized, or who recognized us, as they were enjoying coffee or picking up pastries for the holiday. We knew that once we got over the Leaside Bridge, there would not be many who would wave specifically to us, so we made the most of it while we were on home turf.

Near the East York Civic Centre, the motor parade got integrated into the marching and walking parts of the parade to then make our way to Stan Wadlow Park for the noon opening ceremonies. The afternoon was for playing bingo, buying hot dogs and other treats, wandering around to the booths set up by local organizations, and often, going home for a bit of relaxing time without crowds.

But once it got dark, it was back to the park again – because, while they never seemed to get advertised in the broader Toronto area, all the locals knew there would be an excellent fireworks display at Stan Wadlow. A number of us got good at bringing lawn chairs, parking our cars and the lawn chairs strategically, so we could see the fireworks, but could also make our getaway quickly afterwards.

Unfortunately, the days of the early morning citizenship ceremony and the motorized parade down Bayview are no more. But the East York Canada Day Committee still organizes a parade in East York, activities during the day, and fireworks at dusk. Consider taking a look this year.

My earliest memories of July 1 may not even be for that specific day. Since I grew up in a company gold-mining town in northern Ontario, with a population of 2,167, a highlight of the beginning of summer was the mine picnic – which I think was held on what was then called Dominion Day. And the highlight for me as a young kid was the sandbox, liberally “salted” with pennies for those below a certain age.

But my best memories of Canada Day have to be from the 1990s, when I was a member of council for the Borough of East York. Early in the morning, we would head over to the East York Civic Centre to be special guests at a citizenship ceremony organized especially for Canada Day – with all the pomp of a citizenship judge, an RCMP officer with the red tunic and the Sam Browne hat, and the excited individuals and families who were about to become Canadians on that special day.

The ceremony was held early, because a longstanding tradition of Canada Day in East York was a parade – and the parade started with a motorized version that gathered in the driveway of Leaside High School. We all had big signs with our names and official positions in big letters. These had to be placed on our special vehicles.

EATON PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE of 40 years was reconstructed back in its former Queen Street location (after being demolished in May 2017) on July 8, 2017.



AGNES MACPHAIL RECOGNIZED ON COMMEMORATIVE \$10 BILL

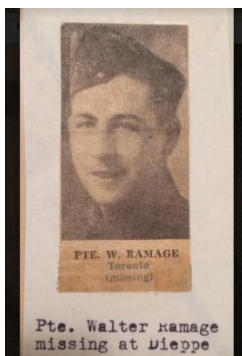
By Lorna Krawchuk, Chair of the East York Agnes Macphail Recognition Committee

In 2015, the East York Agnes Macphail Recognition Committee wrote to the Governor of the Bank of Canada, Stephen Poloz, suggesting that there should be a woman on a Canadian banknote – specifically, Agnes Macphail.

Nothing came of that originally, but then in 2016, there was a nomination process to submit names for this very honour. Viola Desmond was named as the woman whose image will be on the permanent \$10 bill by late 2018. But to our surprise, this spring, Agnes Macphail and three others were honoured to be the images on a special Canada 150 issue of the commemorative Canadian \$10 banknote.

She, John A. Macdonald, George-Etienne Cartier and James Gladstone are the 4 images on this bill which went into circulation on June 1, 2017. This is the first time that a Canadian woman and an Indigenous Canadian have been depicted as portrait subjects on a Bank of Canada bank note. It is only the fourth time that the Bank of Canada has issued a commemorative note.

If you haven't yet seen one of these bills, it might be worthwhile to try different branches of different banks. In one branch where I tried to find one, a helpful teller went through hundreds of \$10 bills looking for one with no success. In another branch of the same bank, they had kept some out of general circulation, so when I asked, the teller was able to sell me a few.



Torontonian PTE Walter E.G. Ramage, from the Royal Regiment of Canada, missing in action but not forgotten.

He is the grand uncle of former East Yorker Garry Toffoli Executive Director of Canadian Royal Heritage Trust in Toronto.

EYHS President request to print photo/info from G. Toffoli

SAVE THESE DATES:

THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY IS
PLANNING AHEAD.
REFRESHMENTS ARE ALWAYS SERVED

October 18, 2017 @ 2:00 PM

Presenter: Ed Freeman

Topic: Photos before and after of EY Historic Sites

November 28, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

Annual General Meeting and A Silent Film by
Charlie Chaplin-British (April 16, 1889 – December
25, 1977)

Presenter: Silent Film Historian: Mr. Rob Prince
Ph.D

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Speaker: Stanley G. Grizzle's son –
Stanley Grizzle Jr.

Topic: The Grizzle family

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

Richard Fiennes Clinton

Tuesday, May 29, 2018

Topic: TBA

Tuesday, September 25, 2018

Paul Farrelly, Chair, Toronto-East York Community
Preservation Panel - Topic: Frank O'Connor

Tuesday, November 27, 2018 - AGM

Speaker: Ron Brown

Topic: TB

WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Leslie Forge

Murray Fenner

Ulana Baluk

Membership Totals for 2015 = 145

Membership Totals for 2016 = 147

CANADA AT 150, A Celebration or a Work in Progress

Thoughts from Ron Brown, vice-president

In a year that witnessed controversy around a proposal to remove Sir John A. MacDonald's name from public schools and the statue of Edward Cornwallis from a Halifax Square, many Canadians chose to "celebrate" the passing of the British North America Act which made Canada a dominion.

Yet, as many schoolchildren know, "Canada" was around long before that. In 1535, Jacques Cartier encountered the Chief Donnacona at Stadacona, now Quebec City, where the Indigenous population had long since referred to their homeland as "Kanada," a Huron-Iroquois word meaning "Settlement". By 1613, as settlers from France began to take up land in the area, the French continued to call their territory "Canada."

In 1791, the Constitution Act created the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, which united as simply the Province of Canada in 1841. However, ongoing threats from the newly created United States, first through the War of 1812, and then the threat of Manifest Destiny alarmed Canadians. However, the War between the states diverted America's attention to just remaining a country.

Following that deadly self-immolation, Canada's merchant community worried that the ghosts of Manifest Destiny would re-surface. And so, in 1864, political representatives from the British colonies assembled in Charlottetown to plan a union to protect Canada's economic interests against American dominance, an initiative that was realized with the creation of the Dominion of Canada on July 1, 1867.

And it is that legislated union which many Canadians celebrated in 2017.

But what are we celebrating?

During that period, we have been a less than celebration-worthy country. As an MP, John A. McDonald openly supported the Confederacy during the Civil War. And then as Prime Minister, drove the Indigenous population from their lands to build his scandal-ridden railway and then began a process of genocide by sending them blankets infected with small pox. Meanwhile, authorities in the colony of Newfoundland had placed a bounty on the indigenous population of Beothuks, eliminating them completely, while in Nova Scotia the "celebrated" Edward Cornwallis placed a bounty on the scalps of the local Mi'kmaq peoples.

Since then respective governments have barred Sikhs, Chinese, Jewish refugees fleeing Hitler's Holocaust, kept African American settlers from the Prairies, and interned Canadians of German, Italian and Japanese descent during the First and Second World Wars. Only in 1929 did the British Government accept that Canadian women could be considered "persons." For decades Indigenous children were ripped from their families in order to destroy their cultural identities.

Canada at 150 has acknowledged these indignities, and in some cases apologized and made reparations. But work remains to be done; facing up to racism, eliminating poverty among our First Nations communities, and following through on our promise as a diverse, welcoming and compassionate nation. While at 150.



We will have gifts Compliments of Cultural Arts HotSpot T-Shirts and buttons for the first 35 people in attendance at the evening meeting. Sizes S.M.L.X.XXL.

10 HotSpots T-Shirts and buttons will be available on the October 14 afternoon meeting for those who would like to have one.

Presenter will be Ed. Freeman's topic "Photos Before and After of East York Historic Sites."



CORRECTION TO MAY 2017 NEWSLETTER: Thank you to our volunteers of the East York Historical Society 35th Anniversary Dinner, which was held on April 5, 2017.... Paula Davies had members and guests sign the guest book. President Pat promoted EYHS 35th Anniversary Celebration and sponsors

OUR GUEST SPEAKER FOR TUESDAY'S MEETING AT 8:00 PM: SCOTT KENNEDY

East York Historical Society Main Speaker for September will be Mr. Scott Kennedy on topic: DON MILLS: From Forests and Farms to Forces of Change

Scott's first address was R.R. #1, York Mills. He was born in 1952 to Royal Canadian Navy veteran Peter Raymond Kennedy and Barbara Elizabeth Kennedy (nee Thompson) who worked as a "bomb girl" at Research Enterprises in Leaside during WWII. The bungalow that the young couple built in 1949 stayed in the family for over sixty-five years. Scott attended Harrison Road Public School, St. Andrew's Junior High and York Mills Collegiate.

He quit school after grade twelve to pursue a career in music; joining the Toronto Musicians' Association in 1969 where he remained a member for twenty-five years, performing all over North America and in Toronto venues as varied as Massey Hall and the Gerrard Tavern. He joined his father's children's wear business in the late 1970s and worked there until the company was sold in 1994. Scott continued to work as a musician, house painter, delivery driver, car salesman and animal rights activist.

He has performed in musical groups such as Icarus and Kensington Market and has served as a director on the boards of the Toronto Vegetarian Association and Animal Alliance of Canada, where he was responsible for writing a quarterly legislative newsletter that was mailed to all MPs, MPPs and MLAs in Canada.

Through it all, Scott has been compiling stories and photographs from the rural edge of Toronto that he knew as a child. His first book—*Willowdale; Yesterday's Farms, Today's Legacy*—was published by Dundurn Press in 2013. The next book in his series on the farms of North York—titled *Don Mills; From Forests and Farms to Forces of Change*—was published by Dundurn in February 2017. Scott and his partner Anne Livingston live with two rescued cats and all the wildlife the backyard can handle, in a Heritage Conservation District they helped create in the Beaches.

The author, at the age of two-and-a-half, visits Hogg's Hollow to survey the damage following Hurricane Hazel in October 1954. The author's Mom stands by to make sure he doesn't fall off his Dad's brand new Plymouth."



**COPIES OF SCOTT KENNEDY'S BOOK WILL BE
ON SALE AT THE MEETING**



ALSO PLEASE NOTE>>>

At 7:55 pm Tuesday evening September 26, 2017, our opening speaker will be Mr. Johnny Issaluk Brief Topic: Canada 150



**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT OF THE
EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
BY PROUDLY WEARING ONE OF
OUR PINS. THEY ARE AVAILABLE
ON SALE FOR \$5.00 EACH**



O J SIMPSON



NICOLE BROWN SIMPSON



RON GOLDMAN

American OJ Simpson (Nicole Simpson-Brown and Ronald Goldman) released from prison in October

WE NEED MEMBERS OF THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO SEND A LETTER OR AN E-MAIL OF SUPPORT.



East York Historical Society Board member Justin Van Dette made a deputation before the City of Toronto Committee last week.

Read the article from the East York Mirror regarding an effort being made to restore the East York logo on our street signs. - <https://www.insidetoronto.com/news-story/7565470-toronto-council-considers-return-of-old-east-york-logo-on-street-signs/>

On October 2nd, Toronto City Council will commence their monthly meeting and there is an item on the agenda regarding the addition of former municipalities' logos on street name signs.

The issue was discussed at the September 19th meeting of Public Works and Infrastructure Committee. The issue ended in a tie (3 to 3) so there is no recommendation going to Toronto City Council.

We're asking members of the community to write to the City Clerk so that you can let them know that you support having the East York logo on our street signs. Here's how you do it.

Please send the email by October 2nd at 9:30 AM.



Write the letter or e-mail like this:

(Insert Date)

Ms. Marilyn Toft
City Clerk's Office
City of Toronto
12th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

OR email: clerk@toronto.ca
OR fax: 416-392-2980

Re: City Council Item – PW 23:10 – East York Logo on Street Signs

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

I am writing in support of the East York logo on our street signs.

(insert here why you feel the issue is important – talk about community pride, the importance of East York and/or how the logo is the cherished symbol of our community and why it should be on our street signs).

Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. I hope members of City Council will vote in favour of having our East York logo on our street signs.

Sincerely,

Your name
Residential Address
Phone Number

Dawes Road: a Shortcut to the Market and a Natural Resource Base

by Melanie Milanich

Reprinted from February 14, 2011

Contrary to its current image, Dawes Road in the nineteenth and early twentieth century was several times its current length and played a not insignificant role in the agricultural and commercial development of Scarborough, North York, East York and Toronto.

This pathway, as local historian Gene Domagala points out in one of his columns, was in use as a main north-south route from the north to the St Lawrence Market in the early 1830s. Old Dawes Road, as it is referred to by Ron Brown, is now known as Victoria Park Avenue. It ran from the L'Amoreaux Community at Finch, which was settled by a French Huguenot UEL family about 1816.

From there it went on down to O'Sullivan's Corners at Sheppard, and the Wexford lands at Lawrence. After a surge of immigration during the 1820s much of North York and Scarborough were rapidly being cleared and farmed in the 1820s and 1830s.



1915 - Funeral Procession, in front of Empringham Hotel, Danforth Ave., s.w. cor. Dawes Rd.

Dawes Road served as one of the busiest roads in this section of Ontario in the nineteenth century as

farmers from the northern areas and along south brought their produce and livestock along Dawes Road to the market in the city. This route was a short cut to avoid having to travel to Don Mills Road to the west or Danforth Road to the east

which was in bad repair. One historian tells the story of Mrs Walton, who settled with her husband at Ellesmere and Old Dawes Road in 1823, carrying her butter and eggs 10 miles through the path in the woods to the market.

Lumber was also a major resource being transported along Old Dawes Road. W.H. Smith in his 1846 gazetteer tells us that almost one-half of the acquired land of Scarborough was under cultivation by 1842.

Scarborough is "well settled, contains many good farms, a large portion of which are let to occupants, the average rent being \$2 per acre. There are one grist mill and eighteen saw mills, large quantities of sawed lumber are exported" In winter many logs of wood were hauled to York down Dawes Road in the winter.

Old Dawes Road was what is now called Victoria Park Avenue from Finch to St. Clair. The intersection at St. Clair was then Moffat's Corners where Thomas and Alex Moffat ran the Royal Oak Inn at the north east corner. The Wexford Women's Auxillary's book has a photo of this hotel for which they give a date of 1820 for its original construction. William Devenish had settled just east of here at St. Clair and Victoria Park in 1803. His brother in

law and William Purdy built a carding mill in 1820 on the Taylor Massey Creek presumably where the Dentonia golf course is today. Devenish is credited with erecting Scarborough's first frame barn in 1807. The Strangford

postal station provided service for the Moffats as well as other early settlers nearby.

Going south from St. Clair, Dawes Road then continued along the present Dawes Road to south of Danforth where it currently ends. At that time, however, it then crossed the railway tracks to connect with Kingston Road near

where Main Street is today, just north east of the village of Norway.

A glance at a map indicates that the section does not follow a typical grid pattern along surveyed lots. Could Dawes Road been a native pathway before European settlement? Evidence of the earliest human habitation along Dawes Road is on the south banks of Taylor Massey Creek. This was an Iroquois, pre-contact Huron settlement of the 15th century, first documented by David Boyle, then Victor Konrad as having a possible stratified midden and a nearby ossuary. Because Dawes Road did not follow normal survey lines a special by-law of the Home District was required in 1848 to make Dawes Road an "official" road. Joanne Doucette, a local writer who is of native ancestry, maintains that it is traditionally understood that Dawes Road was a native trail.

Danforth Avenue, "The Danforth" of today, was called the Don and Danforth, meaning that it connected Don Mills Road (Broadview) to Danforth Road which were main thoroughfares. But it was itself a less significant back lane way. Because there were many acres of

unmaintained clergy lands and because the lots west of Woodbine were laid out horizontally with landowners only required to maintain the road that faced the front of their property, the Don and the Danforth remained a little used rural backyard. The more populated, main east-west corridor for this area was Kingston Road. Major development did not take place along Danforth Avenue until the Toronto Civic Railway was built in 1913 connecting Broadview to Luttrell Ave. and then with construction of the Bloor Viaduct in 1918. That being said, there was one important event in 1868 that brought the attention of the province and beyond. Charlie Gates held the Queen's Plate at his Newmarket racetrack behind his hotel just east of Woodbine when newspapers reported that 12,000 people attended and a horse could not be found for love or money.

Victoria Park Avenue (up to just north of Danforth) and Dawes Road from St. Clair north to Lawrence were the survey boundaries separating York Township from Scarborough Township. Old Dawes Road was sometimes called the Townline [i.e. township line] in the nineteenth century, or sometimes referred to as the Boundary Line or Concession line.

Where Taylor Massey Creek now crosses Victoria Park, near the subway entrance, was deep swampland not drained and filled in until the 1960s when the subway was extended.

Clem Dawes, for whom the road was named, was an early farmer on lot 2, concession 2 of York township. David Dawes, possibly his son, was a blacksmith in Norway at Woodbine and Kingston Road. Clem ran a hotel at the northwest corner of what is now Dawes Road and Danforth. This became a busy intersection throughout the nineteenth century and became known as a "rough and rumble" neighbourhood attracting people from the city who wanted to have a "spree". In the 1860's it was known as Smith's Corners, named after William Smith, another hotel keeper. In the 1870s it became known as Coleman's Corners when Charles Coleman ran a hotel and was appointed the first post master at the intersection.

In 1883, when the Grand Trunk railway decided to put a divisional Sorting yard at Dawes Road just south of Danforth, the area boomed in population and land development and became known as Little York. The name came from the name of the station stop, a flag stop, known as York since the Grand Trunk was first constructed south of the Danforth in 1856. Little York flourished through the 1880s and and 1890s. City directories continued to refer to the area as Little York right into the 1920s.

Remnants of Little York still remain to be seen in the area. Bay and gable Victorian houses built in 1890 with

stained glass windows line the street north of Danforth Avenue and 1880s semi-detached homes with bric-a-brac built for railway workers can be found on Coleman Avenue. A steam powered grist mill, built in the 1890s and originally called

Chalmer's Flour Mill still stands at #10 Dawes Road just north of the railway tracks. The exceptional Gothic Revival house with elaborate gingerbread at 122 Dawes Road was built in 1885. It was owned by Charles Taylor, a maltster, in 1885 and later sold to William Newman. Newman, a prominent businessman in the early history of Little York, began his career as a teamster and owned property on Midburn (originally Midland) in the 1880s.

The significant geological features of Dawes Road go back long before this historical time, however. Glacial Lake Iroquois some 12,000 years ago left a large horizontal baymouth sand and gravel bar crossing Dawes Road just at and south of Danforth Avenue. This had important consequences for the commercial development of the area in millenia to come. Sand and gravel businesses were prolific around Dawes Road in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Sand was used for the production of sand-lime bricks as well as for polishing glass and marble. The gravel was used for roofing, for concrete, and for roads. Roads in York County were gravel into the 1920s, much of the gravel coming from this area.

The sand and gravel baymouth bar was also significant for a number of other reasons. The sand created a prairie type ecology still found in such sites as the land referred to as the Gerrard Prairie or the "Quarry lands" northeast of Victoria Park and Gerrard, and in other local spots such as Prairie Drive off Pharmacy. The baymouth bar was critical in determining the direction of Taylor Massey Creek. It deflected the Creek to the west to make it one of the only rivers or streams in the Toronto area to flow east to west rather than north to south. The flat, solid base of the baymouth bar also provided the strength to withstand the large sorting yards with 420 railway cars and a roundhouse for dozens of engines, making it the perfect site. The area was later used for coal and gravel yards.

North of Taylor Massey Creek the lagoons of Lake Iroquois left clay deposits where the creek crosses Dawes Road. These deposits provided for the brickyards owned by the Chapman family over three generations. John Chapman had settled on Lot 1, Concession 2 of York County by 1850. He had been credited with brickmaking early on and his son David is listed in directories as a brickmaker in 1885. Halsey and Chapman Streets are named after Halsey Chapman who ran the former brickyards that are now the sites of the Park Vista apartments and the George Webster Public School. (see map) Halsey, who lived on Dawes Road was also active in municipal politics.



East York Historical Society life member Joe Cooper retired June 9, 2017 as a writer for the East York Mirror. Congratulations from EYHS!

Learn with Toronto Branch this Fall



The Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society is offering three courses and two full-day workshops in the fall of 2017, including a special Canada 150 event!

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Workshop leader: James F.S. Thomson
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A full day on **Saturday November 18** devoted to exploring the history and genealogy of the people of Canada, through the legacy of records our young country has created over time.
Speakers: Christopher Moore; Kathryn Lake Hogan; Jodi Aoki, Denise Harris, Jess Posgate, Tammy Tipler-Priolo

Further details are available on our [Branch website](#). - <https://torontofamilyhistory.org/>

Thank you for your support of Toronto Branch activities. Toronto Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society torontopublicity@ogs.on.ca



City Councillor and Deputy Mayor Canadian Pam McConnell –
February 14, 1946 – July 7, 2017 - Condolences entered in City Hall Book

**Prince Alexis
Sergeevich
.TROUBETZKOY
March 6, 1934 -
January 22, 2017**

Mr. Troubetzkoy was scheduled a year ago to speak at the East York Historical Society on Tuesday evening 26th September, 2017.

Mr. Troubetzkoy was "never one to talk about himself" and so his presentation topic was To be announced at a later date.

The East York Historical Society condolences was sent earlier on to his family via the President of the East York Historical Society

Pat Barnett.

Read the Wikipedia at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alexis_S._Troubetzkoy



ABOUT THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The East York Historical Society was formed in 1980 and incorporated in 1981 as a non-profit corporation affiliated with the Ontario Historical Society to bring together people interested in the diverse heritage of East York, to research, retain, preserve and present historical data pertaining to the region.

Meetings of the East York Historical Society are generally held on the last Tuesday of January, March, May, September and November at the S. Walter Stewart Library (northwest corner of Memorial Park and Durant Avenues) at 7:00pm and include an illustrated presentation on a subject of historical interest. Our meetings are co-sponsored by the Toronto Public Library.



INTERESTED IN THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY, CONTACT US:

Pancheta (Pat) Barnett
President, East York Historical Society
E-Mail: eyhs@eastyork.org - Web: www.eastyork.org/eyhs.html

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HELP PRESERVE THE HISTORY OF EAST YORK BY BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE EAST YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Help strengthen the History of East York by becoming a member of the East York Historical Society. Provide us with your ideas and know more about the great community that we live in. Your membership helps us to keep you informed and organize events that educate the residents of East York.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone No. _____ E-Mail: _____

New members and guests are always welcome. The fees for 2018 are:

Single - \$15 Family - \$20 Student - \$7 Organization - \$50

Bring cash to our next meeting or mail us a cheque payable to the "East York Historical Society" to:
East York Historical Society, 107 Cambridge Avenue, Toronto, ON, M4K 2L7

[] YES!!! Please add me to your e-mail distribution list – help save a tree!