



BHS Quarterly



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Spring 1998 Brant Historical Society 1908-1998 Vol. V No. 1

THE VISIT OF THE PRINCE OF WALES TO BRANTFORD, ONTARIO OCTOBER 20, 1919

Submitted by Angela Files



Mrs. Gilkison receiving the Queen Mary's letter from the Prince of Wales,
October 20, 1919. BHS 1034

On a glorious cool autumnal day, October 20, 1919, the oldest son of King George V and Queen Mary, the handsome, twenty-five year old Prince of Wales visited the city of Brantford. The five hour royal visit was enjoyed by both native and non-native people of Brant County.

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President's Reflection

As I have done in three of the past four editions of the **BHS Quarterly**, I am once again advising you of a change, hopefully the final one for a while, in the Museum Staff. Deborah Van Veldhuizen has been hired as an Administrative Assistant, commencing her duties on February 24th and replacing Anne Byard, our Education Officer. As you are likely aware, we lost Anne's services during the late summer of 1997 as a result of illness. Anne has since resigned her position and with her family has moved to Mississauga where she has accepted a position with an agency of the Federal Government and has involved herself in the local Historical Society.

On February 18th, Anne and Mac were given a grand send off at the conclusion of the 89th Annual General Meeting. Several of the young people who had participated in her Museum programs were present and she was presented with numerous tokens of appreciation. During the evening's program, Ruth Lefler presented and spoke on various artifacts and managed to inter-

twine several of them with Anne's time at with the Museum and Society and with her departure.

Since 1997, we have experienced a complete change in Museum Staff which has resulted in many difficulties and hardships throughout the year. Hopefully, now that we are back to full strength and barring anything unforeseen, we can get our operation back on track. In my opinion, our Curator, Elizabeth Hunter, our Collections Management Officer, Sonia Mrva and our Museum Assistant, Marilyn McDonald have exceeded what would normally be expected of their positions in ensuring that the operation continued to function as optimal as conditions permitted.

As I indicated in the 1997 Annual Report, funding and fund raising continue to be a problem for the Society from the various levels of government and also with the demise of the Antique Show in 1997. Therefore, greater effort will be required in the future to overcome the shortfall. If anyone has any plausible suggestions for fund

raising, please contact myself, the Curator or any Board Member with your ideas.

If you have not already done so, visit our exhibition "Glimpses of Brantford" at the Market Square location. This exhibition is a very interesting collection of photographs of the Walker Studio, which was acquired during 1997, depicting Brantford from 1925 to 1935.

We will be holding our Annual Yard Sale at the Museum on Saturday, May 30th. When doing your Spring cleaning, if you have any saleable items please set them aside for this event.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to express appreciation to our membership and volunteers for any and all contributions made to the Museum and Society during 1997.

Robert Deboer

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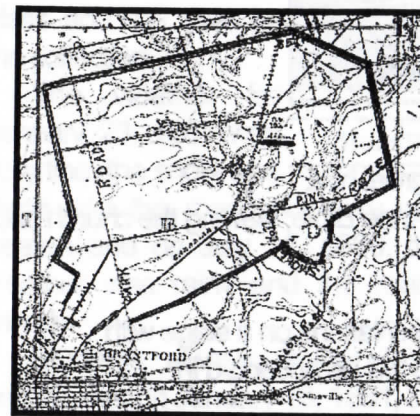
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The Brant Historical Society, 57 Charlotte St., Brantford, Ont. N3T 2W6

ALFORD JUNCTION

Submitted by Ruth Lefler

Where in Brant County is Alford Junction? Check the map and it is located on the



Smokey Hollow - Alford Junction

Powerline Road 2 1/4 miles east of Park Road North where the rail line now crosses.

This community has a long and rich history. In 1807 a large area of land including lots 34 to 52 was settled by Natives from the Mohawk Village that had been established by Joseph Brant. It was known as the "Johnson Settlement" as members of the Johnson family including George Johnson, son of Sir William Johnson and Molly Brant, Captain Joseph Brant's sister, settled here first.

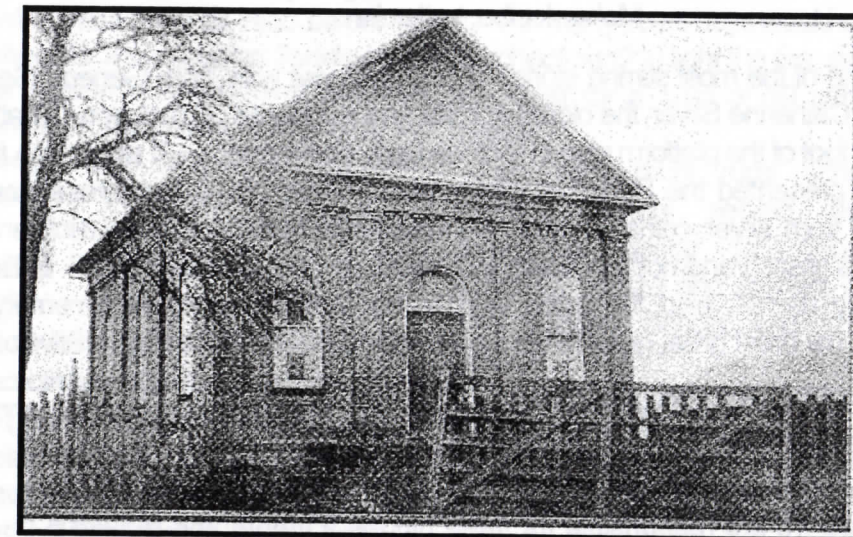
Among the first settlers, in 1807, was Chief Peter Green and his family. This farm, located on the Powerline Road, was part of Sir Frederick Haldimand's Proclamation of October 25, 1784,

transferring to the Mohawks and others of the Six Nations, land, six miles in depth on each side of the Grand River from its source to its mouth. This land is still owned by direct descendants of Peter Green. The early settlers named this area "Smokey Hollow" because the fog lingered over the district. More settlers arrived, cleared land and established their farms when the corduroy roads were built.

Two major focal points in any early local community were the church and the school. The present

Bethel Church. The land was donated on September 17, 1861 by Peter Weaver of Ancaster. Enough land for a graveyard was included. The following 7 trustees were appointed to care for the church - Jacob Shuert and Edmund Palmer of South Dumfries, Abner G. Hopkins and Charles Near of Ancaster and Ensign Buck, James Campbell and Charles Stewart of Brantford Township.

Some of the familiar names associated with the church were Conn, Howell, Stewart, Watson,



The Bethel Wesleyan Methodist Church built in 1861

Bethel Community Gospel Centre was built in 1861 and was known as the Bethel Wesleyan Methodist Church. It was one of the churches that served the Alford Junction area. Wesleyan Methodists from Ancaster, South Dumfries and Brantford Townships joined to build

Lampkin, Ramey, Smith, Mordue, Wood, Weaver, Misner, Edmondson and Drake.

One of the early documents preserved is the Bethel Sunday School Secretary's Book from 1879 to 1882. This book includes lists of

continued on p. 5

Prince of Wales Visit
continued from cover

Published on Page one of *The Brantford Daily Expositor* the itinerary reads as follows:

Reception Of The Prince of Wales

- 1:30 p.m. - Arrival of The Prince of Wales at the Grand Trunk Railway Depot.
Presentation of Civic Addresses.
- 1:55 p.m. - Arrival at Brantford Armories.
Inspection of Great War (1914-1918).
Veterans' Association at Armories Gore.
Presentation of Military Decorations by the Prince.
- 2:30 p.m. - Proceed around East Ward with school children lining the route.
- 2:45 p.m. - Arrival at the Bell Memorial.
Reception at Bell Memorial.
- 3:30 p.m. - Proceed to Tutela Park, King Edward school children will greet him.
Proceed to Mohawk Chapel for the signing of the Queen Anne Bible, viewing the church and Joseph Brant's tomb in the burial grounds of the church.
- 4:45 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Return to Victoria Park.
The Duke of Wales will be made honorary Chief of the Six Nations on a stage with a canopy in front of Captain Joseph Brant's monument. He will be accepted in Mohawk tribe, turtle clan.

One of the most stirring stories of this royal visit was from General George Washington during the American about Catherine Silver, the oldest woman on the reserve. Revolution - That's why we are British!" At the foot of the platform step in Victoria Park, Catherine "I am British too", said the Prince smiling as he took Silver presented the Prince of Wales with a silver pin the red rose from his button hole and gave it to the made from silver coins 'bearing the head of Edward delightful recipient. Dawn of the Day, Da-yon-hem se-ia, Albert's great grandmother Queen Victoria.' the new Six Nations Chief, the Prince of Wales, had a "My name", said the aged woman "is Catherine priceless memory of the loyalty and generosity of aged Silver, my great great grandfather saved King George III Catherine Silver.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH BINGO!!!!

The Brant Historical Society raises \$25,000 every year as a sponsor of charity bingo. This is the single largest source of revenue for the Society and is vital to the operation of the Museum and Archives. On average we are responsible for three bingos a month and require 5 people to staff each bingo. To date we have been relying on a very small roster of volunteers and recently have lost a few members for health reasons. We desperately need more volunteers to share this responsibility. For the most part it involves a two hour commitment from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm on a Sunday. Volunteers sell sheets of bingo cards to players before the game starts. If you can help out, even on an occasional basis, please contact the Museum at 752 - 2483.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Brant Historical Society gratefully acknowledges support from:
The County of Brant
The City of Brantford and Brantford Regional Arts Council
The Ontario Ministry of Citizenship, Culture & Recreation

Alford Junction

continued from p. 3

the teachers and officers for the year and weekly information about the weather, number of teachers and officers present, number of boys and girls present for each class and the total for the collection.

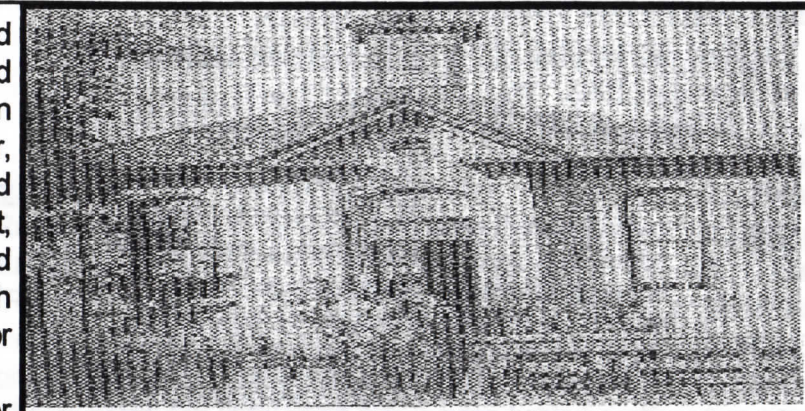
The weather for January 23, 1881 was very fine, the snow was

deep and the roads not very well beaten and on July 11, 1880, the weather was rainy and the roads muddy.

Students always recited Bible verses and, on January 16, 1881, the girls recited 158 verses and the boys recited 210 verses. There were 76 children in attendance.

Temperance played a major role in these Sunday School classes. On Tuesday March 13, 1881 the teachers of the Bethel Sabbath School held their first quarterly meeting and the following information about Temperance was recorded.

"Moved that the Superintendent ask the school each Sunday if anyone has said or done anything during the week for the Temperance cause."



Howell's School in 1895 located on the Powerline Road, Lot 43

Carried

Also if anyone in the Sunday School knows of any person who has violated their pledge.

Moved, seconded, carried that if any person has violated their pledge, that their names shall be read before the school for 2 succeeding Sundays and the person acknowledging his fault, can have the privilege of taking the pledge again and, if not, his name shall be erased"

In 1925, this church became Bethel United Church. In 1952 or 1953 the United Church administration decided to close and demolish this building but friends and neighbours grouped together and today it continues to serve in an interdenominational way as the Bethel Community Gospel Centre.

One of the schools that served this community was Howells School, School Section #8, Brantford Township. It was located on the Powerline Road, Lot 43. In 1862, when it was a small frame building, there was a large turnover of teachers.

Monies to keep the school operating in 1862 came in the form of grants from the local community, the Ontario Government, Clergy Reserves and 25 cents from each pupil. The grand total was \$253.70.

For many years boys would come to school early to light the fire, sweep and dust for a sum of 50 cents a month.

As with most rural schools, Howells School served as a community centre for debating societies, euchre and farmers clubs and Sunday School and church service.

The frame building was later replaced by a brick structure and that too has disappeared.

to be continued in next issue

BRANT COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

57 Charlotte Street, Brantford, Ontario

(519) 752-2483

Admission:

Adults - \$2.00 Seniors/Students - \$1.50

Children - \$1.25 Under 6 - Free

BHS members - Free

Hours: Wednesday to Friday 10 to 4,
Saturday 1 to 4 Open Holiday Mondays

THE MUSEUM IN THE SQUARE

(A Satellite of the B.C.M.A.)

Second Level, Eaton Market Square, 1 Market
St. Brantford, Ontario (519) 752-8578

Admission by Voluntary Donation

Hours: Monday to Friday 10 to 6:00,
Saturday 10 to 5:30

ENDOWMENT FUND

The Brant Historical Endowment Fund is one of the ways in which we can ensure a viable future for the Society and the Museum. The fund currently holds \$75,000, up from \$61,000 at the end of 1996. We thank the following donors for their generous recent contributions to the Endowment Fund:

In Memory of Doreen Kilmer:

Robert Sherred
Marion Johnson
Ruth Stedman
Margaret Stedman
Marie & Gerald Ripley
Dorothy & Jack Lamond
Brant District 40 Superannuated Teachers
Maggie Burns
Ruth Young
Mrs Glen Bell
Kathleen & George Pew
Valerie & James Baynham
Dorothy & Harry Greb
Ivy B. Brown
Donald G Macdonald
Don & Joan Mills
Mr & Mrs. Ron Clarke
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William & Marjorie Cox
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Mary Stedman
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John & Eileen Urwin
Clarry & Win Aldores
Glenn Kilmer
Mr & Mrs Glynn Hughes
Burleigh & Carmela Henry
Reg & Mary Cozens
Mr. George Berry
Larry & Jacqueline Hoshal
Brant Historical Society

In memory of Elsie Caldwell Florence King

In Memory of Ruby Smith Margaret R. Lang

In Memory of Wes Switzer:

Glenn Kilmer
John Johnson
William Leonhardt
Ruth Stedman
Margaret Stedman
Mary Stedman
Mildred Barrie
Morley & Ruth Lefler
Brant Historical Society

C.S. Fissette

On Track Campaign Margaret Lorenz

THE EXPOSITOR

Offering the most in local news and opinion, sports, theatre, health, classified and community bulletins.



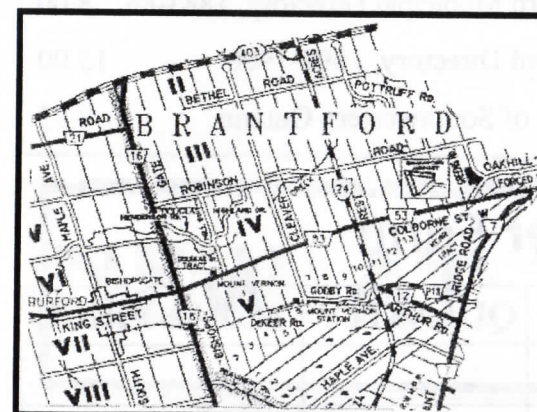
53 Dalhousie St., Brantford ~ 756-2020

THE HENDERSON ROAD OF BRANT COUNTY HONOURS THE NAME OF EX-SLAVE JOHN PHILIP HENDERSON

Submitted by Angela Files

The Henderson Road

The Henderson Road begins at the Brant Rod and Gun Club, south of Bishopsgate Road, RR4, Brantford. It stretches to the south west and terminates on Mill Street in Mount Vernon. The homestead of Cy Henderson was alongside the road near the Rod and Gun Club and the surname of this African descent family was used to name the road.



Henderson Road is off Highway 16, north of Highway 53.

According to early directories of Brant County, African families bearing the family names of Berry, Brown, Henderson, Marshall and Morey settled in the surrounding countryside of Burford Township in Cathcart, Falkland, Harley, Hatchley Station and Princeton.

John P. Henderson

On page 2 of the Friday, June 10th, 1881 edition of the *Brantford Evening Telegram*, the following obituary of ex-slave John Philip

Henderson appeared:

On Monday last, there died in Burford Township, a coloured man named John Philip Henderson, whose age is stated as being one hundred years old. He was born a slave in Maryland and to avoid being sold he escaped to Canada over sixty years ago, leaving behind a wife and two children. He has lived in various parts of Ontario since that time and had remarried having seven children in his second marriage. He was buried on Wednesday in the Christian Church Cemetery, third concession, Burford. His second wife who is seventy nine years of age, survives him.

Cyrus Edward Henderson Second Generation

Cyrus (Cy) Edward Henderson was the son of John and Eva Henderson, born October 4, 1850 died July 21, 1926. On July 1, 1873, Cyrus married Martha, daughter of Horice and Eliza Marshall, at the St. James Anglican Church in Paris, Ontario. Martha was born June 25, 1850 and died

October 27, 1928. The Henderson Family lived on the Fourth Concession, Burford and moved in 1890 to Rural Route 4, Brantford Township.

Third Generation of Hendersons

In 1923 Cy and Martha celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary with two sons and four daughters who were:

1. Eva Eliza Catherine born July 16, 1875, died July 31, 1969, married Thomas Lee, lived in Detroit.

2. Richard Philip Henderson lived, married and died in Chatham, Ont.

3. Sara (Saddie) Elizabeth Henderson married Edward Brooks, lived in Detroit.

4. Martha (Maude) Maria Henderson (born August 16, 1881, died Dec. 30, 1975) married Berette, lived in Detroit.

5. Cyrus Henry Henderson (born July 14, 1883, died May 17, 1980) unmarried, lived on homestead.

6. Margaret (Maggie) Ethel Henderson married Edward Duncan, Hamilton.

In the 1900's the Henderson Family Reunions were held July 1, in Detroit, Michigan. Family members came from Brantford, Chatham, Guelph, Hamilton, Toronto and Montreal to attend the gatherings. Today, many of the members of the Henderson family have passed away but the road reminds us that this family lived in our county.

Endnotes:

1. The family tombstone in the Christian Cemetery near Falkland, has the following inscriptions:

In Memory of John Philip Henderson, died June 6, 1887, Age 110 years.

His wife: Eva Catherine, died Feb. 19, 1890, Age 82 years.

Back of the tombstone-

William H. Henderson, died May 18, 1904, Aged 57 years

His wife Mary C. Roman, wife of above died August 10, 1883, 24 years old.

B.H.S. HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS

A History of Brant County & Its People:		Brant County Place Names & List of	
Vol. 1	\$15.95	Professionals and Trades, 1855	\$ 5.95
Vol. 2	14.95	Oakland Township	8.00
Set of Vol. 1 & 2	22.50	Lewis Burwell's Diary of the Indian Surrender	8.00
The Grand River Navigation Co.	21.95	Grand River Tract Assessment Rolls	
St. George Continuation School	7.00	1816, 1818-1822	5.95
Rural Schools of South Dumfries Township	8.00	Grand River Tract Census	
How Brantford Cooked	4.50	1824, 1827, 1829, 1832	5.95
A History of the Brantford Pottery	9.95	Directory of the Townships of Brant, 1880	10.00
Brantford Arts & Entertainment	9.95	City of Brantford Municipal Directory, 1880	10.00
From Automobiles to Washing Machines	9.95	Irwin's Directory, 1883	10.00
A History of Mohawk Park	1.00	City of Brantford Municipal Directory, 1883-86	8.00
Tuscarora Township	5.95	City of Brantford Directory, 1899-1900	15.00
		Wild Mammals of Southwestern Ontario	8.95

B.H.S. Publications Order Form

TITLE	UNIT PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL PRICE

* Please ADD \$3.00 to cover the cost of postage. ALL ORDERS ARE TO BE PREPAID!

Ship to: NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
POSTAL CODE: _____ Telephone/FAX: _____

Please make cheque or money order payable to: BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mail or bring to: Brant County Museum & Archives
57 Charlotte St., BRANTFORD, Ont. N3T 2W6

SITES OF SOUTH DUMFRIES TOWNSHIP
BRANT COUNTY

Submitted by Dr. Henry Hedges, St. George

Sunnyside

The most spectacular and interesting building in St. George is Sunnyside, which is now the Township Office for South Dumfries. This large red brick house was built in the last century by Dr. Kitchen, a prominent citizen of the village. Later, it became a nursing home, and in recent times was purchased by the township and is now designated a heritage site. The building displays a number of interesting architectural features. In summer this impressive structure on Main Street in St. George is enhanced by two colourful rare gardens, maintained by the local Garden Club.

Restoration Of The Pioneer Presbyterian Cemetery

A group of citizens in St. George has begun the restoration of one of the early pioneer cemeteries in Brant County. The cemetery is located at the west end of the village, and originally was adjacent to the Presbyterian Church which was dismantled many years ago. The committee has found that many of the tombstones have settled into the ground, but are being located by probing the surface. At first, the inscriptions on the stones are barely legible. With the use of a process applied by a specialist, the stones are restored to their original white color, and the inscriptions become quite clear.

Sites of South Dumfries Township will be continued in the next issue.

NEW AT THE GIFT SHOP

Museum quality products for all your preservation needs.

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Photo Sleeves \$0.75 each
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Archival File Folders are ideal for maintaining cherished documents and important papers.

Letter: \$0.55 each
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Archival Storage Boxes perfect for Newspapers, Magazines or small textiles

12.25" x 10.25" box \$9.20 each

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Dr. Irmigard Jamnik	June Bragg	Jane Almond
Beverly Golden	Audrey Haight	Mr. and Mrs. Bruce McBlain
Clara Terryberry	Margaret Stedman	Mr. and Mrs. Eason
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Cynthia Bunnell	Lucy and Sid Hagopian	Larry Devine
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Alan & Pat Young	Mildred Biggar	S.C. Johnson & Son Ltd.

Membership Benefits

A Brant Historical Society membership offers:

- ♦ free admission to the Brant County Museum & Archives, Bell Homestead and Myrtleville House Museum (excluding special events)
- ♦ exemption from regular research fees in our Archives
- ♦ bulletins about upcoming Museum activities
- ♦ subscription to the "B.H.S. Quarterly"
- ♦ discounts on Heritage Bus Tours, Children's Museum Club, and other programs
- ♦ 10% discount on Gift Shop purchases over \$10
- ♦ Memberships are Tax Deductible!

Welcome New Members!

Stephen Robinson, Elizabeth Dukelow, Jacqueline Evans, Wayne & Judy Townson, Rose Bridges, Joan Harrison

Corporate Members

The generous support from our Corporate Members allows us to continue developing quality exhibitions and community programs.

- ♦ Amoco Fabrics & Fibers Ltd.
- ♦ Boddy, Ryerson
- ♦ Cascades Dominion
- ♦ The Expositor
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Brant Historical Society Membership Registration Form

Individual (\$15) Family (\$20) Patron (\$25) Benefactor (\$100) Corporate (\$250.00)

Additional Donation of \$_____ Total Amount Enclosed \$_____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/PROVINCE/POSTAL CODE: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Please make cheque payable to: **Brant Historical Society**

Mail or bring to: **Brant County Museum & Archives, 57 Charlotte St., Brantford, Ont. N3T 2W6**

To all members of the Brant Historical Society:

On behalf of Malcolm and myself I would like to thank you all for your contribution towards our gifts, and going away party. I appreciated getting the time to say goodbye to all the friends I have made over the past 10 years. You have all contributed to my love of my work at the Museum and to my life. For the volunteers that I had the honor of working with over the past years, I thank you for your time and friendship that you were all so willing to give. I also want to thank Bob Deboer & all the members on the present Board of Directors, and all the past members that have given so many hours of their time for the enrichment of the Museum and contribution to the Community. It is only people like yourselves that can take the credit for keeping the Museum and Archives open to the public for all these years. I wish you success in all your future endeavors, and thank you again for 10 great and interesting years.

Yours truly,

Anne Byard

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Val Eaton	Handcranked Singer Sewing Machine
Teresa Moron	Five photographs including snapshot of WABCO and Massey Harris
Ken Fahey	Framed graduation photograph of Mary Dowling
	Framed photograph of Mary and Frederick Stonehouse
	Silverplate tea set
Robert MacMillan	Bath towels from the Bodega Hotel
	Hand towel from the Bodega Hotel
Greg Hogarth	8mm film entitled "Beautiful Brantford"
Margaret Lang	Two Mohawk Chapel Mugs
	One pair of Mohawk Chapel salt & pepper shakers
	One Mohawk Chapel trivet
	Royal Silver Jubilee Plate of Queen Elizabeth II
John Kaszer	Invoice from Western Counties Electric Co., Dec. 15, 1922
	Invoice from Preston and Son's Ltd., March 3, 1923
Marilyn Redfern	Seven photographs
Irene Rae	Page from <i>Family Herald and Weekley Star</i> , March 15, 1950
	Page from the <i>Farmers Advocate</i> , Dec. 12, 1946
	Both feature articles about Mohawk Chapel

Happenings

April

"From Wagons to Trailers"
Wed. April 15, 1998 8 pm
Education Program
 at the Brant County Museum
 57 Charlotte St., Brantford

Speaker Mike Hand will tell the story of the manufacturing of trailers in Brant County from the Adams Wagon Company, Brantford Carriage Works, Canada Carriage, Brantford Coach and Body to Trailmobile.

Exhibition

"Glimpses of Brantford: The Walker Studio Photographs 1925 - 1935"

January 10, 1998 - April 24, 1998

The Museum in the Square

Explore Brantford in the 1920s and 1930s through a unique photographic experience. The

Walker Studio Photographs, complemented with artifacts from the museum's collection, provide us with a rare look into Brantford's bustling past.

May

Exhibition

"An Artist's View of Brant County"

May 2 - May 23, 1998

The Museum in the Square

An exhibition and sale by the Brant Visual Artists guild featuring paintings inspired by Brant County.

"The Penman Knitting Dynasty"

BHS Lecture Series

Wed. May 20, 1998 8 pm
 at the Brant County Museum
 57 Charlotte St., Brantford

Bill Croome will discuss the important historical contribution that

Penman Knitting made to Brant County.

June

Exhibition

"Wishing you were here...Summer Pursuits and Leisure Activities"

June 6 - August 22, 1998

The Museum in the Square

Enjoy the summer with an exhibit devoted to leisure and pastimes as once pursued in Brant County.

Volunteer Appreciation Night at Chiefswood

Wed. June 17, 1998 6pm

We will acknowledge the contribution of our volunteers with a picnic on the grounds of Chiefswood followed by a tour of the newly restored home of Pauline Johnson.

Brant Historical Society Board of Directors

President: Robert Deboer

Past President: Ruth Lefler Vice-Presidents: Glenn Gillis, Robert Glass
 Secretary: Margaret Glass Treasurer: Julie Gillis

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 John Johnson Gloria Neamtu David Partridge
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