



# BHS Quarterly



Brant Historical Society 2000 ISSN 1201-4028  
Celebrating Ninety - Two Years of Preserving Local History

## Starboard Go!

Commentary by Ruth Lefler  
(see page 6)



### Our Crew:

Clete Schade, Mid-upper Gunner  
Sid Barber, Flight Engineer  
George Smeaton, Navigator  
Jack James, Pilot  
Jack Gubbins, Wing Officer  
Al Lord, Bomb Aimer  
Hans Bretsch, Rear Gunner

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# President's Reflections

It's hard to believe that summer is over. Here we are starting another fall program at the Museum.

This fall, the Society will be doing something a little different from its usual bill of fare. During the summer, we were approached by the Brantford Film Group, which has been operating under the name World Cinema, and asked to assist in the organization and presentation of festival circuit films. The Group arranges for the screening once or twice a month at the Brantford Mall Cinema of Canadian and International films which would otherwise not come to Brantford. Many are award winners from the Toronto and Sundance Film Festivals, among others.

We have leant our support in order to enable this worthwhile project to continue. We believe it will provide an opportunity to raise the profile of the Society in the community and perhaps reach some people who may not have known about our activities previously.

More information about the films can be found on page 9 or in the enclosed flyer.

Our participation will require some volunteers to distribute flyers, sell tickets etc., mostly on the night of the performance. Anyone interested in helping could contact Elizabeth Hunter at the Museum or Margaret Glass at 756-3705

Come out and sample some great entertainment and tell your friends and colleagues about the program.

## Brant Historical Society Board of Directors

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## BRANT COUNTY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

**57 Charlotte Street, Brantford, Ontario  
(519) 752-2483**

### Admission:

Adults - \$2.00    Seniors/Students - \$1.50  
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## THE MUSEUM IN THE SQUARE

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Admission by Voluntary Donation  
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Saturday 10 am to 5:30 pm**

## A Memorial To E. Pauline Johnson - Conclusion

By Robert L. Deboer

The Thursday, March 8, 1917 edition of *THE BRANTFORD EXPOSITOR* included the following headline: "A Memorial To Pauline Johnson Was Unveiled - Tributes Paid To Her Delineation Of The Indian Character And Sentiments - Splendid Tablet - Dr. R. A. Falconer, President of Toronto University, Judge Hardy, S. F. Passmore and A. W. Burt were speakers." The accompanying article included the following:

The memory of E. Pauline Johnson, the "songbird of the Six Nations" who belongs particularly to that section, through her achievements as a poetess, belongs to the whole country was honoured when the Brant Historical Society unveiled a handsome tablet in the Conservatory of Music Hall. Representative citizens of the city and county participated in the unveiling and many were the tributes that were paid to her worth.

Rev. J. W. Gordon, M. O., opened the ceremony with prayer and Mr. T. W. Standing, Chairman spoke briefly. He referred to the respect and admiration all held for those who achieved honours in literature or science and mentioned particularly Miss Johnson. Telegrams of regret at their inability to be present were read from Mr. Allan Johnson and Miss Evelyn Johnson, brother and sister of the late Pauline Johnson.

Judge Hardy who had been an intimate friend of the family said, "that justice" had not been done to her great talents while she was still alive. He liked to think of Pauline Johnson as the confidante of nature.

The President of the Toronto University, R.O. Falconer, C. M. G., Litt. D. stated that her description of Canadian summer was exquisite. According to Falconer, Pauline Johnson's poems, were "singularly descriptive of the sides of nature in our Canadian life which are unique."

S.F. Passmore spoke of the Tablet that he had designed and Chief G.A. Smith and Chief A.E. Johnson of the Six Nations spoke briefly.

The inscription on the Tablet read as follows:

In Memory of the Canadian Poetess  
Emily Pauline Johnson  
(Te-ko-hion-wa-ke)

A Mohawk Born March 10th, 1861 at  
"Chiefswood"

Grand River Reserve of the Six Nations  
Who Died March 7th, 1913 at Vancouver, B.C.,  
and after cremation

was interred in Stanley Park  
This Tablet was erected in Brantford, Ontario by  
the

Brant Historical Society March 7th, 1917

The Tablet was unveiled on this date, but was not erected until late in 1917 since no agreement could be reached on the most suitable location.

The Minutes recorded that a general discussion regarding the placing of the Pauline Johnson Memorial Tablet took place at the Society Annual Meeting on March 17, 1917, on grounds of sentiment. The Mohawk Church was favoured, but from the standpoint of publicity and educational influence, there was a strong feeling in favour of the main corridor of the Public Library.

It is recorded in the Society Minutes that a Special Meeting was held on June 15, 1917 to decide the location of where the Pauline Johnson Memorial Tablet was to be placed and it appears that it was likely a somewhat contentious Meeting. His Majesty's Chapel of the Mohawks as initially moved by Judge Hardy and seconded by E.R. Read as the most fitting place for the Memorial for the following reasons:

- This Church has been more intimately connected with her life as a place of worship and has for her many sacred and timeless memories, while Miss Johnson was in no way connected with the library.



- All the members of her family who have passed away rest at the Indian Church, including her father, the late Chief G.H.M. Johnson, her mother, her brother Beverly, and this spot is understandably connected with the life of the deceased or her family or her forebears.

- Consecrated places of worship and public libraries are thus appropriate repositories of memorial tablets to the area, the rules of publicity being the main consideration in the case of public libraries.

- The Church itself from its ancient character, unique history and priceless memorials have long been a shrine for distinguished visitors from all parts of the Empire and neighbouring countries, when other buildings and other institutions of local people's interest, such as are common to all communities, remain unvisited.

- The weekly Sunday services in the Church, attended by all Indian people at the Mohawk Institute makes the placing of the tablet there of special educational values, and as service of information for the Indian children.

- His Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks is recognized as the abbey of the Six Nations where repose the leaders of the race.

- This Tablet finds its most fitting environment and associations in the Mohawk Chapel, and as the just due of the Six Nations, as of right is then commemorating the fame of their most distinguished daughter.

Heated debate followed and although the Motion was powerful with strong reasoning, upon being put to the Meeting, it was defeated. This was then followed by a motion that the Memorial Tablet be placed in a position suitable to the Historical Society and the Library Board mutually, which was accepted.

The Pauline Johnson Memorial Tablet was placed in the main corridor of the Carnegie Public Library Building on George Street.

In 1992, the Brantford Public Library relocated from the Carnegie Building on George Street, to a new site; the former location of the Woolco Department Store at 173 Colborne Street. The Pauline Johnson Memorial Tablet was subsequently transferred to the lower level of the Colborne Street location sometime in 1993. It is mounted on the rear wall, clearly visible for all to see and to be reminded of this famous Native Canadian whose poems embodied the sentiment and love of nature.

A second effort regarding a Memorial to Pauline Johnson was made by the Society on February 22, 1938, when Judge Hardy announced to a Society Meeting a project to erect a public library in Oshweken as a Memorial to the late Poetess. This idea originated with Mrs. Bernice Loft Winslow of Galt, who was of the Mohawk Tribe and was a well known lecturer about the Six Nations Indians and their folklore. She had offered to give half her earnings to the project. The proposal regarding a public library is also recorded in the Minutes of the Six Nations Council. Most unfortunately, the project never really got off the ground, whether from disinterest or lack of funding. Interestingly enough, in January of 1947, Mr. Elliott Moses, a member of the Six Nations and Mr. Harold Hill, were directed by the Executive of the Society to interview Judge Hardy regarding the Private Fund for a Pauline Johnson Memorial. They would propose adding the Private Fund to the Museum Building Fund which had been established in the hope of either building or acquiring a suitable facility for use as a Museum. It is suspected that the monies in the Private Fund were likely funds raised or contributed from the 1938 proposal to erect a public library in Oshweken as a Memorial to Pauline Johnson. It is not known if Judge Hardy was agreeable to the funds for the Pauline Johnson Memorial being added to the Museum Building Fund.

Efforts to raise funds for a Museum facility

were successful and the Brant Historical Society purchased 57 Charlotte Street in 1951, which is the current site of the Brant County Museum and Archives. Assuming that the monies from the Private Fund for a Pauline Johnson Memorial were added to the Museum Building Fund, it seems a safe assumption knowing Judge Hardy's interests and support of the Society, that the edifice at 57 Charlotte Street in itself, could be considered a Memorial to Pauline Johnson.

In the introduction to Pauline Johnson's publication, *THE MOCCASIN MAKER*, it is stated:

The anguish of her last months was relieved by a visit in September 1912 from the Duke of Connaught, the Governor General of Canada. In terrible pain, Pauline lingered until March 7th. The Canadian Women's Club carried out her funeral wishes. On March 10th, her funeral procession, which included a large contingent from Vancouver society, marched down streets lined with people. Christ Church Cathedral was filled to capacity for the funeral service. As she wished, Pauline was cremated in Vancouver. Her ashes, which she had asked to be disposed of as near the Pacific Ocean as possible, were buried in her beloved Stanley Park. Despite her express desire that there be no memorial, the Women's Canadian Club, assisted by the Daughters of the Empire, erected a monument to her in 1922.

The Monument, a large boulder with "Pauline" engraved thereon, is a simple tribute to this talented Native Canadian. One cannot disagree with the Women's Canadian Club and the Daughters of the Empire in going against Pauline Johnson's desire that there be no Memorial. It is important that future generations continue to be made aware of her great talents and accomplishments and her contributions to furthering her own race and the Canadian Nation. We as a Society, can be proud of the accomplishments of our predecessors in recognizing and memorializing this great Canadian.

After having read the first part of the article on the Pauline Johnson Memorial, Margaret Lorenz of Brantford provided Bob Deboer with a copy of the obituary of her late uncle, Charles E. Lake who died on November 28th, 1951. The obituary, which had been published in *THE BRANTFORD EXPOSITOR*, stated that Mr. Lake was a brass moulder by trade and had operated a brass foundry at 46 Bridge Street for the past 40 years. The obituary went on to state that among the many plaques Mr. Lake made was the Pauline Johnson Plaque in the Brantford Public Library. An inscription in the lower right hand corner of the plaque states: Engravers & Die Sinkers Co. Toronto.

It is only conjecture, but it is very probable that the plaque was only inscribed by the Toronto firm and was in fact actually manufactured by Mr. Lake here in Brantford. It was likely that the technology was not readily available locally to inscribe a plaque of the this size and detail, and the engraving was done by the Toronto firm, either arranged by Mr. Lake or by the Society.

The Society Minutes indicate the cost of the Memorial Tablet to be \$155.08 to metal and die engraving firm. There is no cost indicated for forging the actual tablet. If Mr. Lake did in fact make the Pauline Johnson Memorial Tablet as indicated by his obituary, perhaps he donated his services.

### **The Creation of a Lasting Memorial-Sculptor Percy Wood and the Joseph Brant Memorial, by Angela Files**

As many tourists visit annually The Brant Memorial located in Victoria Park, downtown Brantford, they often ask "Who was the sculptor of the memorial, Percy Wood?" "Was he Canadian or European?"

In this year, 2000, the Brant Monument is being repaired by a Restoration Committee so that it will continue to be a lasting remembrance of early Brant history and the artistic talents of Percy Wood.



## Like Father, Like Son

Mr. Percy Wood, the elder son of the famous sculptor, Mr. Marshall Wood, was born in London, England. His father's works included *Daphne, Hebe* Psychc, *Musidor*, *Song of the Shirt*, taken from Hood's poems. Marshall Wood's numerous talets become evident in such works as the marble Marble statue of Queen Victoria in the Senate Chamber at Ottawa, a bronze statue in Victoria Square unveiled by Lord Dufferin in 1871 and various busts of prominent Canadian men. The Prince and Princess of Wales, Emperor Napoleon III and Queen Victoria also sat for Marshall Wood. Marshall Wood died in England, when he was 42 years old.

### Early Life of Percy Wood



Mr. Percy Wood received his education at University College, London, England and studied medicine for some time. His knowledge of anatomy helped him to study and shape the figures of Brant Memorial.

Upon the death of his father in 1882, he attempted to complete the works left unfinished in his studio. He later came to Canada where he sculpted a memorial to the late Colonel Williams at Port Hope, boats belonging to the Hon. Wm. McMaster and a replica for the Baptist College at Woodstock.

### Appreciation Shown To Percy Wood For The Brant Memorial

On the 25th of August, 1886, at Lady Dufferin Grove; a spot near Onondaga, Chairman Peter Hill called upon Chief John Buck, the Firekeeper and Chief Daniel Thomas to adopt two white persons into the Six Nations. Miss Clara Kendall of Brantford was adopted into the Cayuga tribe and given the name "Kan-ah-wi-dah", meaning

"always making peace". Mr. Percy Wood was adopted into the Mohawk tribe with the name "Ra-rih-wa-gas-dash", "a thing that lasts", an allusion to the Brant Monument that he sculpted.

### The Design Of The Bronze Monument

Percy Wood designed the Brant Memorial for \$16,000. He visited Six Nations and took great pains to carefully depict the figures and dress of each tribal member who modeled for the monument.

The granite of the monument was mined from Cornwall Quarries which was also used for the Nelson Monument at Trafalgar Square in London, England. The bronze came from 13 cannons donated by the British government. Some of these cannons had been fired in the Crimean War and at The Battle of Waterloo during the Napoleonic Wars.

The unveiling of the statue took place October 13, 1886, where the cornerstone was laid by Chief Clench of the Six Nations and 94 year old Chief Smoke Johnson who died fifteen days later. Percy Wood was the proud recipient of many grateful remarks at this historic event.

### Starboard GO! Commentary by Ruth Lefler

"I felt that it was my patriotic duty to help."

On March 4th, 1942, George Smeaton was sworn into the Royal Canadian Air Force. Thus began his training followed by many night raids over Germany as navigator of the S-Suger, nicknamed Stinky, which was a Halifax Mach III with Bristol Hercules radial engines.

George has written a book describing his war experiences entitled *Starboard Go*, because of the maneuver of the plane. When a gunner had identified the presence of an enemy fighter, he would give the pilot its position and range, and if the fighter was on the starboard or right side, he would warn the pilot by saying, "Prepare to corkscrew starboard," and would repeat this warning every few seconds as he anticipated the attack and watched the left wing of the fighter.

## B.H.S. PUBLICATIONS

### NEW RELEASES

Lorimer Brothers: Brant County's Other Telephone Inventors	6.95
The Way We Were	16.95
<b>B.H.S. ORIGINAL PUBLICATIONS</b>	
A History of Brant County and Its People Vol. 1	14.95
Vol. 2	15.95
Set of Vol. 1 & 2	22.50
The Grand River Navigation Company	21.95
St. George Continuation School	7.00
Rural Schools of South Dumfries Township	8.00
How Brantford Cooked	5.95
A History of the Brantford Pottery	9.95
Brantford Arts & Entertainment	9.95
From Automobiles to Washing Machines	9.95
A History of Mohawk Park	2.00
Wild Mammals of Southwestern Ontario	8.95
Tuscarora Township	5.95
My War	5.00

### B.H.S. REPRINTS

Oakland Township	8.00
Lewis Burwell's Diary of the Indian Surrender	8.00
Grand River Tract Assessment Rolls 1816, 1818 - 1822	5.95
Grand River Tract Census 1824, 1827, 1829, 1832	5.95
Index to 1851 Census	5.95
Brant County Place Names and List of Professionals and Trades, 1858	5.95
DIrectory of the Townships of Brant, 1880	10.00
City of Brantford Municipal Directory, 1880	10.00
Irwin's Directory, 1883	10.00
City of Brantford Municipal Directory, 1883-1886	8.00
City of Brantford Directory, 1899-1900	16.95
Brantford City Directory, 1910	16.00

Check out our listing on the web site [www.rootsweb.com/~onbrant](http://www.rootsweb.com/~onbrant)

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When the wing dropped, the gunner would yell "STARBOARD GO!" The bomber pilot, tense and ready, would immediately respond by pushing the control lever forward and turning it right and hitting the right rudder. The result was to put the bomber into a side slip. The plane would spiral downward two to three thousand feet, then the pilot would reverse the process and spiral back up to height. When the fighter pilot dropped his wing he was committed to a left turn and would be unable to turn back quickly enough to follow the dropping bomber and so would lose it.

George was born and raised on a farm near Mt. Pleasant. He attended Mt. Pleasant Elementary and Continuation Schools. He worked on the family farm until 1941 when he became employed by Hamilton's Bakery of Paris. He later worked at the Massey-Harris Co. in Brantford.

On June 5th, 1940, the first sod was turned to build an airfield on the Burford Road. Under the Commonwealth Joint Air Training Plan, Airfields were laid out, hangers, barracks, administration buildings and classrooms were built. This airport became known as Number 5 Service Flying Training School which was one of many built across Canada.

Two engine Ansons and the single engine Harvards were the planes most seen. It was the Harvard that George enjoyed watching. This helped him make up his mind to join the R.C.A.F.

The following excerpt is from *Starboard Go*:

It was Sunday May 23rd 1943, and we wandered along the street bordering the park in Bournemouth, England. Hundreds of people were in the park enjoying the glorious spring day. When we had reached the southwestern corner of the park, the air raid warning sounded but we thought little of it as we often heard it once or twice a day probably caused by sneak attacks at Portsmouth to the east of us or perhaps Bristol to the north.

As we stood there listening to the siren we idly speculated on the direction from which they would come. Ev. Coulter thought they would come from the east over Christchurch.

"No," said Jack O'Brien, "they'll come from the west."

As he said that, the planes came in from the

south, some 12 to 15 Messerschmidt 109's and Focke-Wulfs at a height of about 500 feet. As they passed over us we saw their bombs, probably about 500 pounders, start to drop and immediately there were explosions from the park and the buildings on the streets surrounding it.

After the first few seconds of shock we took shelter behind an eighteen inch high brick wall around the park, lying on our sides with backs against the wall.

After the initial bombing passed across the area, the planes climbed quickly to about 2,00 feet, turned and made diving runs across the park and surrounding area firing into the crowds. It didn't sound like the rattle of machine gun fire but more like the heavier sound of small cannon, kicking up dirt as close as sixty or seventy yards from us, as the planes crisscrossed the area.

The attack seemed to go on for quite a while but really only lasted about two or three minutes. When we realized the raid was over we got up and started running down into the park as half a dozen Typhoons streaked over us at tree top level in hot pursuit of the invaders. We heard later that they downed three of the German planes over the English Channel.

The park that had been such a placid place half an hour before was now a sickening sight with dead and dying scattered about. One of our fellows, Mike Thrasher, was lying in the middle of the park when the raid began and miraculously was untouched while a few feet from him a young boy, perhaps nine or ten years old with one leg blown off above the knee, tried to hold back the tears as he called softly for his mother. She didn't come to him and we realized that she was one of the dead.

Ambulance crews and nurses worked feverishly, leaving the dead and concentrating on the living. Firemen from the National Fire Service were pouring water on several fires.

An officer with a bull horn ordered all Air Force personnel to report to their barracks and off we raced up the hill to Bath Hill Court which had come through the raid unscathed. We were quickly made up into small groups and ordered to report for work at specified locations.

A church had stood on the area to which I was assigned but now there were only parts of the walls left standing beside piles of rubble and it was this rubble that we had to move as we searched for survivors. We spaced ourselves along the side of the heaps of brick and stone and threw them back out of the way. At ten minute intervals we would be told to stop and maintain complete silence as we listened for any cries or moans. Then it was back to work as before, or if someone thought they had heard a sound, the work was concentrated in that area.

So we worked until darkness came and long after. About midnight with most of the material removed, two lifeless bodies were found and removed and the work continued. In the early hours of the next day it was decided that the small amount of rubble still remaining could not hide any more bodies so the work was stopped. We were told that we were not required for further work so off we trudged up the hill to our quarters. After warm refreshing showers we were soon in bed and fast asleep.

In the next few days clean up and restoration went ahead steadily; the dead were buried and the city tried to return to normal, striving to cover up its scars.



In November, 1944 Pilot Officer George Smeaton was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. His citation read, "This officer has completed numerous operations against the enemy, in the course of which he has invariably displayed the utmost fortitude, courage and devotion to duty."

After the war, George returned to Brantford where he continued his education and became an Ontario Land Surveyor. He worked for the City of Brantford until he retired in 1981.

June 11th, 1985 proved to be a most exciting and emotional time for George. It had been 40 years since "Stinky's" seven crew members had all been together. The crew and their wives joyously met, recounted many war experiences and caught up with events that happened after the War. It was the last time that the crew was all together.

Through his book, George Smeaton has allowed us to enter the world of an R.C.A.F. navigator flying time and time again into danger that we here, had no opportunity to understand. Thank you for sharing your legacy.



**\*NEW\***

**BRANTFORD FILM GROUP**  
Presented by the Brant Historical  
Society at the CINEPLEX ODEON  
(Brantford Mall Cinemas)

**October 12 - New Waterford Girl -**

This "whimsical comedy is a Canadian film that comes from the east Coast, Cape Breton Island. *New Waterford Girl* is "highly original and chock-full of East Coast charm, wit and irreverent fun!"

**October 26 - Bossa Nova -**

*Bossa Nova* is "an exotic romantic farce that weaves a tale of finding love the second time around in stunning Rio de Janeiro."

**November 9 - Shower -**

Winner of the International Critics Award at the 1999 Toronto International Film Festival, *Shower* is a "compassionately humorous story of estranged fathers and sons reconciling themselves in a rapidly changing society."

**November 23 - Saving Grace -**

This crowd pleaser is a "delightful, big hearted comic tale." *Saving Grace* has the "spirit and tone of the UK hit *The Full Monty*."

**December 7 - Stardom -**

Directed by the critically acclaimed Denys Arcand (*The Decline of the American Empire*, *Jesus of Montreal*), *Stardom* takes a "sparkling and witty look into the shallowness of celebrity life."



## The Museum Gift Shop

### NEW BOOKS AT THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

CANDIAN RAIL PASSENGER REVIEW - \$26.95

The Stations and Railways of Brantford

146 years was 11 railways and 14 stations - Donald N.W. Smith

FELONS OF HAMILTON, HALDIMAND AND BRANT - \$20.00

An Anthology of Murder and Executions in Three Ontario Counties- 1828-1953

Local Author - John D. Ayre

ITALIAN ROOTS AND CANADIAN BLOSSOMS - \$20.00

A History of Brantford's Italian-Canadian Community - 1880-1999

Local Author - Arcangelo Martino

MY LITTLE TOWN (Paris, Ontario) - \$16.00

Local Author - Delphene Hopper

IRON, STEAM AND WOOD - \$21.95

150 Years with the Waterous Engine Works Company  
Local Author - Mike Hand

In 1992, one of Brantford's oldest factories closed after 100 years of operation.

The Waterous Company dated back to 1844 when it began operating in a foundry and machine shop located at the present Dalhousie Street site of the Federal Post Office Building

Charles H. Waterous, who took over the foundry from P.C. Van Brocklin, built a company that would become known world wide for producing sawmills, steam engines, fire engines, traction engines, steam rollers and boilers. In later years the company, managed by his sons and descendants, became known for its plup and paper machinery, in particular, the huge wood grinders of which it was a major manufacturer.

This 216 page book, well illustrated with over 150 pictures of family, equipment, employees and Brantford history, will be great reading for historians, steam engine buffs and past employees. It is available at both Museum locations. Written by Mike Hand, a member of the Brant Historical Society, it is his third book tracing the history of Brantford companies.

## ENDOWMENT FUND

*The Brant Historical Endowment Fund is one of the ways which we can ensure a viable future for the Society and the Museum. We thank the following donors for their generous recent contributions to the Endowment Fund:*

### In Memory of Florence A. Eason

Members of Brant Historical Society

Robert and Anne Deboer

Bill Fuller

Morley and Ruth Lefler

### In Memory of Katherine Georgiana Baxter

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Catherine Telfer

### In Memory of Harold Zell

Robert and Anne Deboer

### In Memory of Gladys Clark Hillis

Robert and Anne Deboer

### In Memory of Harriet I. MacKinnon

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Phone: 519-752-2483 E-Mail:  
bcma@bfree.on.ca

### 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



# HAPPENINGS

## \*NEW\*

### BHS Lecture Series

**October 18th at 8 p.m.**

*Join us for a tour of the Canadian Military Heritage Museum, 347 Greenwich St., Brantford.*

**November 15th at 8 p.m.**

*Michael Hand, industrial historian will provide highlights from his latest book "Iron Steam and Wood; 159 Years with the Watrous Engine Works Company"*

**December 20th at 8 p.m.**

*Ken Strachan returns to provide us with a news update from the Christmas season of 1900.*

### Book Launch

*Join author, Mike Hand and local dignitaries for the official launch of his history of Brantford's Watrous Engine Works Iron Steam and Wood. Saturday October 21 2-4 p.m. at the Museum in the Square, Market Square Mall. Refreshments will be served.*

### See The Brantford Film Group listings on page 9.

*It is with regret that I announce my resignation as Director/Curator of the Brant Museum & Archives. I have accepted a position as Curator at the Markham Museum. I take this opportunity to thank the Society members and museum volunteers for their support over the past 3 1/2 years. I have enjoyed getting to know many of you. Also I have appreciated the opportunity to work with the Society's collection and to learn more about the rich history of Brantford and Brant County. I remain interested in your future projects and promise to keep in touch.*

*Best wishes,  
Elizabeth Hunter*

## EXHIBITS

***To Have and To Hold: Boxes, Baskets & Containers from the Brant Historical Society Collection.***

***August 1 - January 8***

The collection box from the Paris Plains Church, the silver chest J.H.M. Johnson presented to his bride, a document box lined with newspaper publicizing the opening of the Grand River Navigation Canal.

These are just a few of the unique objects included in this eclectic display.

*This exhibit has been extended to January 2000, due to its unfortunate closure for several weeks this fall. In order to refresh the show for December, we appeal to any members who might have older (pre 1970) Christmas packaging which they would consider lending to contact the Museum. 752-2483.*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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