

# Winter Newsletter

## 2015

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Jan. 12th, 2015

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The beginning of a New Year is always exciting. This year we have several new programs that we have not attempted before. We also have a new energetic staff that will be putting these programs into action. Let me introduce you to the people responsible for operating the museum.

Justin Butler is our Museum Technician in charge of archival research. John Jobe, Museum Technician in charge of Displays and digital projects. Both staff are responsible for overseeing co-op students on a daily basis. Together they are the collections management team that maintains our environmental controls and safety of the collection.

Nathan Etherington, in charge of Seniors Outreach program, has some new sites and new programming that we will be initiating in the coming year. He is also our frontline answering telephones, greeting people at the door, and maintaining members information. He is also my right hand person for grant

writing, which we are already in the process of applying to grants this year.

Sarah Thomas, is our Education Officer at Myrtleville House in charge of childrens programming. Sarah and Nathan are working together to present and promote new programs for the upcoming year. Sarah travels extensively to schools and runs P.D. day camps and Summer Camps. She also works with a dedicated group of volunteers to give public tours of Myrtleville..

Our Newest addition to our team is Christopher Shaw, who is in charge of maintaining our website and our Museum Shop. We are upgrading the shop to offer more local authors, country home candles, and native content. If you need information regarding the Museum Shop please contact [chris.shaw@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:chris.shaw@brantmuseums.ca). Our online store is now operational, please be patient as we work out the bugs.

Heather Mcloed is our part time person working on inventory cataloguing with Justin and John. She has been with us for about a year now and is a very skilled data entry person.

So this is the team, that has accepted the challenge of bringing Our Museum and Archives into a New Year and a new way of presenting ourselves to our community. We are always looking for volunteers to help us out here at Brant Historical Society and I hope you will enjoy working with them as much as I do. If you have any questions or would like more information on volunteering with the museum please contact us at 519-752-2483 or [information@brantmuseums.ca](mailto:information@brantmuseums.ca)

Lana Jobe,  
Executive Director

### Upcoming Events

- Jan. 29th - The Big Book of Brantford Book Signing
- Feb. 4th - Bountiful County Exhibit Opening
- Feb. 13th - Heritage Day - Guelph
- Feb. 21st - Heritage Display - Lynden Park Mall
- Date TBD - Annual general meeting

***“You will be able to have better, easier access to our collections”.***

## RE-ORG Project

We will be participating in Re-Org: Canada beginning March 24th and going through until March 27th. The project is a workshop and seminar to assist with the organization and accessibility of our collection at the Brant Museum & Archives. Dealing with storage is one of the main challenges that museums face. The purpose of this is to improve and optimize the space we currently have available so that we do not require any addition space or buildings. With this project we will be able to better organize the

collection we currently have and give us the tools to maintain that organization with future collections. What does this mean for you, our members, and the public? It

means that you will be able to have better, easier access to our collections.



## New Display - Bountiful County

This February will see the opening of our latest perspective on the history of our county, its natural history. It is easy to get caught up in the faces and dramas of our cultural heritage, so we would like to take this time to reflect on the natural resources and ecosystems that make our county unique. The feature will feature displays on our threatened and invasive plant life, geologic high-

lights, and uncommon animals. Working in partnership with some of Brant County's brightest Naturalists, we hope to intrigue you about our local environment and uncover some of what this winter has concealed.



## Co-op Display

The Temporary Display on exhibit at the museum was put together by the co-op students from Brantford Collegiate Institute and Hamilton District Christian High, with help from museum employees.

After taking time to look through the collection for inspiration we decided on communication as the theme. After pulling items with various topics within the communication theme, we decided to showcase communication in three subsections. Audio, Visual, and

Text, the methods of communication most commonly used today. The items chosen, were chosen because of their ability to showcase the theme as well as local figures, like Alexander Graham Bell

The audio aspect of the display shows two styles: speech and music. The local tie to Alexander Graham Bell is shown with a painting of his monument and an early telephone part.

In the visual section, we decided to pay homage to aspects like the theatre, cinema, and photography. For this we have

displayed items such as projectors, film reels, theatre posters, photographs and cameras.

Finally, the text portion displays different methods and items that would be used in print. There is a stenograph, shorthand typing tools, a letter in Braille, letter stamps, and various cards.

This exhibit is available until late January.



## Volunteer & Member Appreciation Event

The Brant Historical Society hosted its annual Holiday open house on December 17<sup>th</sup> at the Myrtleville House Museum. This festive night was well attended by volunteers, staff, board members and BHS members. Live music from the young students at the Art of Music Academy was a highlight of the evening. The president of the board Mr. Michael St. Amant gave a lovely toast thanking the generous contributions of all of those who have worked with the society this last year. This night is im-

portant to us here at the Brant Historical Society as we value the support of our community immensely. Our wonderful volunteers have enriched what our museums are able to offer to the community. Help has come in all shapes and sizes, from tending the gardens, assisting with education programs, cataloguing artifacts, and delivering world class walking tours. We would like to take this moment again to say thank you for taking the time to help us preserve and share our valuable local history. We welcome

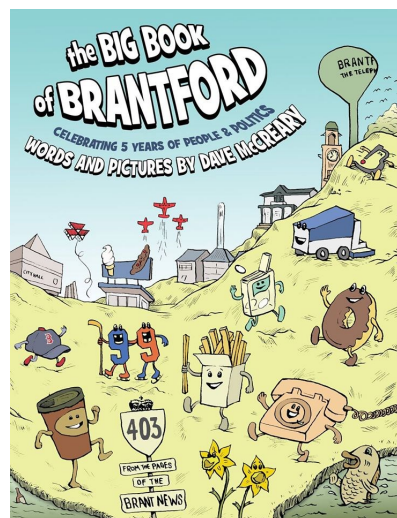
any new volunteers and members who are interested in participating to fill out an application on our website



## The Big Book of Brantford-Dave McCreary

We are very excited to announce that we will be bringing into our Museum Shop, *The Big Book of Brantford* by Dave McCreary. The Book features the best editorial cartoons done by Dave McCreary from over the past five years. The Brant Museum & Archives, Museum Shop, both in store and online, plus [davemccrearyart.com](http://davemccrearyart.com) will be the only place you can pick up this great collection of cartoons about Brantford people & politics.

We will be hosting The Big Book Signing on January 29<sup>th</sup> from 7pm - 9pm at the Brant Museum & Archives to launch *the Big Book of Brantford*. Dave McCreary will be here to present the book, as well as have a book signing, so you can have your own personalized copy from the author himself. We will have refreshments available and everyone is welcome to join us for what will be an entertaining, fun filled evening.



## Museum Shop

Just before the new year we launched our brand new online store, featuring over 100 items from our Museum Shop at the Brant Museum & Archives. We also added great new gifts and books to our store available both online and in store. We now carry Country Home Candles in a variety of scents and sizes. We also added several new books from the Iroquois Collection as well as the Brock's series from Tom Taylor. We also created the

Brantford Gift Baskets available in 3 sizes, and the Country Home Candles basket available in a variety of scent combinations.





## BRANT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**We're on the Web!**  
**Brantmuseum.ca**

### Donations

We are always accepting donations for the museum. Not every donation needs to be financial. We also accept office and museum supplies. If you have something you would like to donate, please contact us to make arrangements for your donation.



*Your History Matters*

### *Images from the Past*

## Grand River at the Lorne Bridge Winter 1916

**This is a photograph taken of the Lorne Bridge over a frozen Grand River in the winter of 1916. In the background you can see The Armories and the intersection of what is today Colborne St. and Brant Ave.**



## Painting of Victoria Park & Lorne Bridge 1951

**Below is an oil painting done by Harold Brown, a resident of the John Noble Home, in 1956. The painting shows a similar viewpoint as the photograph from 1916. The painting also shows the gardens at Victoria**

