



Vol. 9 – November 2019

# HEIRS

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

n e w s l e t t e r



Next meeting...

Childhood Memories  
of Christmas

## Welcome to the November newsletter.

### Remember the feeling we had Christmas morning, when we were kids?

Each year, don't we try our darndest to recreate this same feeling for our own kids and grandchildren? And by doing so, we rekindle what those mornings meant to us back then. As more and more December 25ths fall behind us, it does become harder to mentally and literally "get up" for that special day.

From my own perspective I still really enjoy being greeted & treated just a bit nicer by everyone I meet during the days leading up to Christmas. Whether at the grocery checkout, local coffee shop or even at the mall, during the final crush for the perfect gifts. Christmas cheer reminds us how we all would really like to behave... everyday. But we just can't find the strength to live up to all that 'niceness' that envelops us during the Christmas season.

Personally, we've tried something different (for us at least) these past few holidays, which is to donate a goat, sometimes chickens (and even a pig once) to some family we will never know, halfway around the world. It makes us feel good about ourselves for a while. But, I cannot help wonder... does our 'live gifts' generate the same sort of excitement when they arrive, as we remember having when unwrapping a Hot Wheels car or a Barbie?

So since this is our last newsletter of 2019 (and before my feeling of glad tidings passes), best wishes to all of you, whatever holiday you celebrate at this time of year, and may that special feeling in you, last as long as possible into 2020. - Rick McCormick

**Our next meeting reflects on Christmases past & it's coming up soon... [See you there?](#)**

## Next Meeting

**Thursday, November 28th 1:30 PM**

**Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Meeting Room**

HEIRS will meet to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season. We'll examine the roots of our most cherished Christmas traditions- mistletoe, the true Christmas carols & how "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer", was written for a sick child, but became a best-selling children's book & eventually a song that some well-known singers declined to record.

Our members can then recall special memories of how their holidays unfolded as kids. If you remember galoshes, wet mittens & snow-

ball fights until dark, you know what we'll be recalling. Let's stay kids as long as possible, & relive our favourite times. What extra special gifts did you receive (or give)? Did you star in a Christmas play at school, or had a teacher who made the holidays more fun as the big day drew close?

**It's sad that kids today may miss out on these simpler, happy times that we enjoyed.**

**Join us at the meeting, enjoy the social time and kick off another great holiday season.**

**On Thursday, October 24th, HEIRS hosted retired Master Warrant Officer, Bill Wilson to speak on his experience as a soldier & medic during the past 31 years.**

Wilson volunteers with Memory Project, an initiative of Historica Canada, a volunteer speaker bureau that arranges for veterans & Canadian Forces members to share their military service stories at Canadian school & community events.

**“There’s a lot of veterans out there that are not able to get their story out, due to PTSD. A lot of people don’t want to relive those memories. I think it is important for Canadian people to know where they send their troops & what their troops are doing first-hand,” said Wilson.**

From a Ruthven family farm to the front lines with the Canadian Forces, it all started with a school guidance office poster for Katimavik, offering the chance to volunteer with various community development projects. His service inspired him & when he got back to Windsor, he told recruiter...

**“I want to help people & I want to wear a blue uniform. A week after I signed up, I was gone.”**

He’s since had deployments in Somalia, Rwanda, Bosnia, Afghanistan & served with the Standing NATO Maritime Group



One in Africa. Bill served as a medic for all of his deployments except for the final mission, circumnavigating Africa, as a physician assistant. “The people I have met along the way are pretty amazing.” His presentation included the more mundane, to the more dramatic with his duties as a medic. Wilson saw the bloodier side of service - soldiers with severe injuries. Although working his hardest to save lives, there were a number that passed away on the table despite all best efforts. Resources were limited across all his deployments - doing surgery by flashlight after a power shut off; medics avoiding contamination from lot of mud due to an extreme rainy season in Somalia, or with sand in Afghanistan.



Bill appreciates opportunities to reach out to younger generations with photos & other mementos from deployments, so they can gain first-hand perspective. “They don’t get too deep into stuff that is in the post-cold war era. That’s why I like to talk about those sorts of things. I don’t think people completely understand what those conflicts were about & why we were there.” Wilson stated.

His memories... good & bad, are able to be shared with hundreds, thanks to his commitment to the Memory Project. Bill will be speaking during November at several schools for Remembrance Day ceremonies.

**Storyline & photos Courtesy: Shelby Wye, Harrow News**

# The Amherstburg Echo.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY

Vol. XXX No. 15.

AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1904.

Whole No. 2,474

## 100 ACRES FOR SALE.

In 2nd concession, Anderdon Township, about 4 miles from Amherstburg, 20 acres of bush, some small buildings. For further particulars and price, see

FALLS BROS., Agts., Amherstburg.

## LIME FOR SALE

IN CARLOAD LOTS.

## THE SOVEREIGN BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.  
CAPITAL PAID UP \$3,000,000  
SURPLUS AND UNDIVIDED PROFITS 350,000  
ASSETS 50,000  
H. S. HOLT, ESQ., President. D. M. STEWART, General Manager.

## SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT.

Interest allowed on Deposits of \$1.00 and upwards at highest current rate. Farmers' Notes Discounted at lowest possible rates.

### HARROW BRANCH.

C. A. MacMAHON, Manager.

### AMHERSTBURG BRANCH.

M. I. LANE, Manager.

### LOST.

LOST—Strayed from my place, Vereker, on Sunday, Feb. 28th, a black white and tan English setter bitch, answering to the name "Lady". Finder will receive liberal reward by returning to me or on being notified I will go after her. A. F. HALL, Vereker.

### MALDEN.

Ernest McGe, of Flint, Mich spent Sunday at home.

Mrs. Frank Hunt has been suffering from an attack of influenza.

### ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Miss W. HANCOCK condition better.

## BROOKER vs. AMHERSTBURG.

At the recent sittings of the Division Court in Amherstburg, Mrs. James Brooker sued the corporation of Amherstburg, for injuries sustained, alleged to have been due to a fall on a defective sidewalk. She was awarded \$20 and costs. The town, through their solicitor, DAVIS & DAVIS, applied for a new trial on the ground of the plaintiff's alleged carelessness. The learned Judge refused to grant the appeal and the text of his decision is as below:

BROOKER vs. AMHERSTBURG.—Mr. Rough for Plaintiff, D. B. Davis for defendant. This action was tried before me at the last sitting of the Division Court at Amherstburg. It is brought by the plaintiff to recover damages for personal injuries sustained by the female plaintiff by falling on a sidewalk on Fort St., which the plaintiff alleges was in a dangerous state of disrepair. It is conceded by counsel for the defendant that if the plaintiff has a good cause of action the damages claimed are less than they would be entitled to recover. The law requires a municipal corporation to keep its streets and sidewalks in repair, and if it neglects to perform that duty the law provides that it shall be vicariously responsible for all damages sustained by any person by reason of such neglect. The law does not apply to the plaintiff as a corporation, and it is conceded that there is no evidence that the sidewalk in question was not repaired by the defendant. The learned Judge has awarded the plaintiff a new trial on the ground of the plaintiff's alleged carelessness. It is my duty to advise the plaintiff that she is not entitled to a new trial on the ground of her alleged carelessness.

## ANDERDON COUNCIL.

Saturday, Feb. 27th. Council met in regular session with all members present. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that the minutes just read be adopted.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Villans and Cote, that Fred Pagnou get a warrant for \$4 groceries furnished to the Veronesi.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Villans, that Antoine Leizer get a clearing ice from 60 and Wilbert Sutte bridge on south side. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that Isaac Groulx refund of dog tax.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Villans, that Messrs. Cote and Villans get a warrant for \$5, for two cows, applied for a side line in or for the water property. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Villans, that Messrs. Cote and Villans get a warrant for \$5, for two cows, applied for a side line in or for the water property. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Villans, that Messrs. Cote and Villans get a warrant for \$5, for two cows, applied for a side line in or for the water property.

## BURK BROS.



## November 7

Niles Halstead and Fred Wright have been picking nice quantities of raspberries this November. Second crops have been more plentiful this fall than ever before.

David Crawford died, age 64, at home on the 6th concession. He was born at Garden Island, and came to Colchester with the Canfields 40 years ago, working about the mill for years.

He married Miss Allen of Gosfield South, and had children Cora (Mrs. A. Larabee of Sniderdon), David and Frank of Gosfield South, Eva (Mrs. Earl Fulmer) of Colchester South, and Harrow, Allan, Charles and Mrs. Davis at home.

He also leaves a brother Charles Crawford of Kingsville.

## November 11

Branton and Buchanan garage is nearing completion and will mean quite an addition to the town, both useful and ornamental.

## November 14

O. M. Pastorius will move to Walkerville in December; has disposed of his lease of the Boyle farm to Jason Fox. He will keep his threshing machine and operate it as usual next year.

Everything now points to both the Molson's Bank and Dominion Bank being permanently located in this village. The former has taken a long lease on the C E Drummond place, now being occupied by Dr. J D Collins, and will fix it up with latest office fixtures, while the Dominion Bank is already remodelling its premises in the Madill Building and expects within 2 weeks to have a modern office complete.

Banns of marriage between Irene Beadoin, daughter of John Beaudoin, and Orlie Pastorius, son of O M Pastorius, published in St John the Baptist Church, Aburg.

Chester Quick, who recently sold his farm to E. Batson, has leased the post office store at the corner and will be open for business in the near future.

## November 21

*How the bank times do change! Three banks in town! Now we can get into a bank almost any time. We country people used to have only a cold lunch on Saturday when we wanted to go to bank, and when we saw a neighbour driving wildly by, whipping his horse, we never became excited and listened on the phone to see who was sick, "for it must be someone going for a doctor, driving like that!" It was only someone trying to get to the bank.*

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*A report from Winnipeg is that the Federal Gov't is being asked to arrange to issue cheques for all chartered banks which will bear the 2 cent stamp. This would evade the present difficulty that many cheques are issued without stamps. When this matter is being considered, it would be a very good time for the Committee on Inter-Bank Routine to do inaugurate the uniform size cheque form. This has been a matter long under consideration. Only those who have had banking experience can understand the present difficulties of handling paper money of all forms and sizes.*

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*C E Drummond is taking the rear half of the building occupied by John Readman and installing fixtures for a butcher shop. He will open there as soon as it is ready for occupancy.*

*The great need of this community is more homes. There is a real house famine here at present, at least 10 families are now looking for places in which to live, but cannot be accommodated unless someone else moves out. It is in the best interests of the public men of this community to see that everybody is kept here, and that can only be done by encouraging the building of more homes.*

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*A good deal of interest has been taken throughout the township, particularly along the*

*lake front, in the proposition now appearing in the Echo for the Hydro Electric Power Commission to purchase the SW and A Electric Railway system having its southern terminus in Aburg.*

*This seems to be our opportunity to secure an extension of the railway, from the Aburg line through Malden, Harrow, Colchester, Oxley and so on to Kingsville. Even in the face of very inadequate transportation service, land adapted to the growth of early vegetables and fruits and tobacco have taken a decided advance upwards in price.*

*Just what would happen if this section were served by a Hydro Radial system is hard to say. But with equal soil and climate to that in the Ruthven and Leamington district, there is no reason to doubt but what the price of land per acre would go skyward as it did further down the shore.*

*With electric railway transportation, the development of the early garden truck industry would be incredible, transforming Colchester into a real "Banana Belt"; besides, the impetus that would be given to the summer resort business ought to keep every home along the lake front filled from the first breath of summer to the time when snow flies. The only way this desired improvement can be attained is by petitioning the Hydro-Electric Commission for an extension, and such a responsible proposition ought to meet with ready acceptance.*

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## November 28

*The curfew which tolls every evening at 8 PM has worked wonders in clearing the streets of children who were breaching good conduct.*

*Ezra McLean, village policeman, rings the bell and within 15 minutes every child is at home.*

## 6 Growing your Family Tree

### **GROWING YOUR FAMILY TREE**

- by Ted Steele, Director

Once we have whittled down our collection of materials somewhat, we can start forming a family tree. There are several software titles that can be used - I use Family Tree Maker.



You begin by starting a new file & entering what you know about an ancestor, the further back in time, the better.

You are shown a page onscreen, with empty boxes where information is entered. To start type in the following: the person's name, date & place of birth, date & place of death, spouse's name & the information on that person as far as it is known. For what you don't know, just leave the boxes empty - no problem. **Just type in what you are actually sure of; changes & additions are easily done later, at any time.**

At the bottom of the page you can type in what you know about the children of that couple, their dates of birth & gender. Some couples may have had 10 or more children, so enter all you know.

As a child is entered, a 'tab' is established along the side of the page. Clicking on this tab for any child gives you a fresh new page to enter all you know about that person & their spouse(s) & their children.

Enter what you can, then click on the 'parents of ...' tab to take you one page back, to their parents. Enter info for another child the same way & repeat as needed..

If you wish, you can work in 'reverse' - that is put in your own data in the blanks. Then, click on the tab for 'parents of (you)', and add that information. Once at that 'parents' page, enter what you know about their siblings & fill in your cousins (children of your parents' siblings).

Clicking on the tab for 'parents of your father/mother', will bring up a page where data on your grandparents belongs. It is a 'fill in the blanks' exercise, somewhat exacting, but not difficult to do at all. (Once you have the program in front of you, this will be a great reference until you quickly get the hang of it.)

As you go along, there are spots to input multiple spouses, extra info & the individual 's photo. As this family tree develops (it quickly will), you need to set your focus.

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**A tree has a trunk, and that trunk is the most direct family line to you.**

**The side branches are 'kinfolk' but further removed from your direct line.**

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Further from that trunk, the less close a relative they are. You need to keep your focus on those most often in your life & try to avoid spending too much time on the ones way out 'on the end of a branch'.

**Can you see the value of having your family tree info & material organized?**

Take your binder (or file) on your great-grandfather & enter that info in the computer. Then take out those files on 'siblings of Great-Grandfather & enter them next. Work carefully, a step at a time & it becomes very manageable

**A word of warning!**

**Don't accept family information blindly.**

I accepted a file of info & attached it to my family tree. Then I found out that file contained Popes, French Kings, Vikings & most characters from the Bible... now all of them in my family tree.

My cousin apparently' seemed to connect 'everyone who ever lived' into one big family;

One at a time, I had to delete each of those individuals. I actually deleted from my Steele family tree... one Jesus of Nazareth, among many, many other non-related characters.

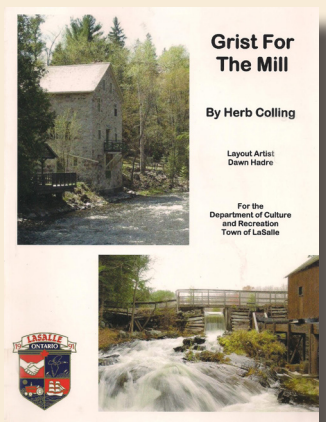
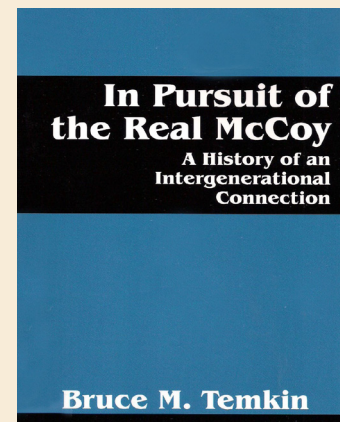
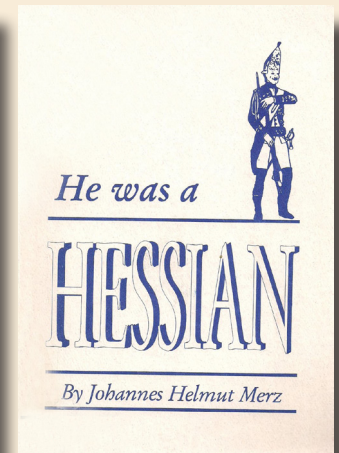
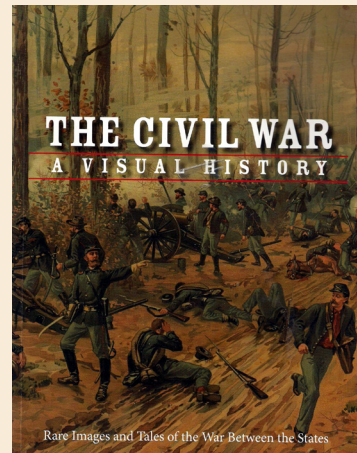
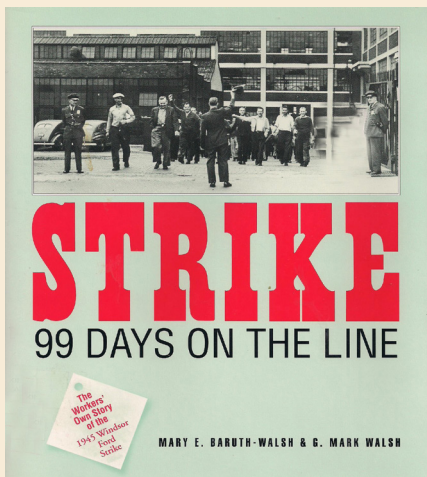
**Family Tree Maker is available for HEIRS members to borrow, and is easy to learn.**

**Come in, and ask us about it when you want to get your family tree project started.**

**Book Sale Starts in November**

In October, we held another DVD sale (dozens donated by Dave & Deb Malley), with the proceeds supporting HEIRS. DVDs sold at 3 for \$5. At some point, residual DVDs will find a home at one of our local care facilities.

Reported in September, member requests for our Lending Library books have diminished greatly, as print becomes less a part of our lives. To gain shelf space, we're offering them for sale at our meetings. Starting at our November meeting, some will be very collectable items and others, very useful to the right person.



**Check out the tables at the back of the room & find one or two books for yourself. Prices vary, but all are very reasonable.**

**Here's some examples of our books for sale.**

### History As It Used to Was...

- by Ted Steele, HEIRS Director

**November is the month we pause to remember sacrifices made for our freedom & the many people who did what had to be done, often without recognition. Stories of terrible events & terrible people from WW II lead us to declare "Never again". Thankfully, stories of great heroism and bravery also come out.**

HEIRS has shared the story of 'Schindler's List, a former Nazi who saw that Jewish workers in his factory did not deserve the fate in store for them, & he managed to save many.

We also heard of Franz Steiger, a German fighter pilot who had the chance to shoot down a crippled & helpless Allied bomber, but instead escorted it back to the English Channel.

We talked of Gail Halvorsen, the Candy Bomber, who dropped candy from his bomber for the Berlin children, while bringing food to the starving people during the Berlin Airlift.

We learned about Irena Sendler at one meeting, a Polish nurse who risked her life to smuggle Jewish children, especially babies, from the Polish Ghetto before the Nazis had the chance to exterminate them. Many of these meetings were sparked by a book or video I chanced to find at the local public library.

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**This article tells of another unsung hero, one Nicholas Winton.**

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He saw the need to get Jewish children out of Nazi hands, and tirelessly worked to bring them, via Kindertransport, to safe countries like England, and found foster homes for them.



In all, he helped save over 700 children, and after the war he did not speak about what he had done - even his wife had no idea what he had accomplished, until she found a box of papers outlining what he had accomplished.





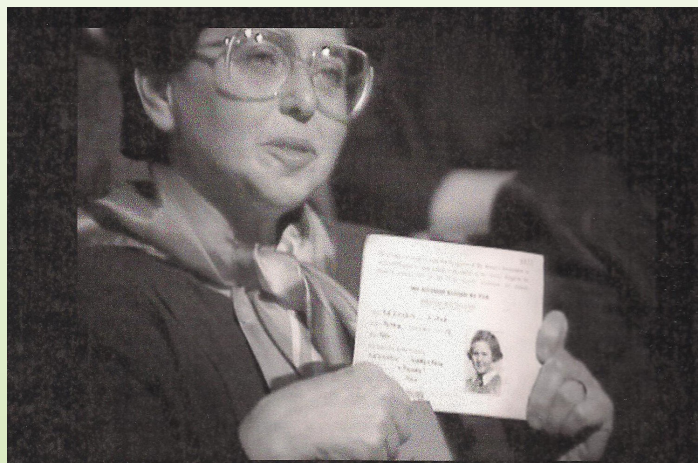
*I had no idea, until I found (good old library) a video called "Nicky's Family" which showed him becoming Sir Nicholas.*



*Sir Nicholas turned to see the entire audience on its feet applauding... several hundred people. He wiped a tear away, and it was hard not to do the same watching the video.*



*He is shown at an event held in his honour, surrounded by a crowd. Two of the children he saved were shown in videos, and then two women sitting one on either side of Sir Nicholas stood, introduce themselves as those same girls in the video, and hugged him.*



*There are good people doing great things, & those who served should be honoured & remembered. Much is owed by many, to a few... and time is making the list of those who served, smaller all the time.*

**Take time to say thank you this November 11th. Let's appreciate what we have & the price that was paid by others, so that we could have it.**

*The moderator at the special event then said...*

*"Is there anyone else in this audience here today, because of this man? If so, please stand."*

**Let us  
never  
forget!**



# HEIRS RESOURCE CENTRE

**Open September - June** (December excepted)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM - 3PM

Call to confirm Wednesday or other appointments.

## Newsletter

Published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, September to June, (December excepted).

Receive full colour newsletters by email, or a B&W print version by regular post. Simply provide your email or street address to our office.

## Memberships

\$25 CDN / U.S. per person or couple.

Memberships run May 1st - April 30th, annually.

## Send membership cheque to:

HEIRS PO Box 53, Harrow  
ON, Canada N0R 1G0

Please include phone, postal address, email & family names you are now researching.

## Non-member using Research Library

\$10 per visit (+ photocopy costs).

## Mailing Address

243 McAfee St., PO Box 53,  
Harrow, ON Canada N0R 1G0

Harrow & Colchester South  
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)

**Phone** 519 738-3700

**Email** [hheritage@bellnet.ca](mailto:hheritage@bellnet.ca)

**Website** [www.HEIRS.ca](http://www.HEIRS.ca)

Kudos go to Greg Harrison at The Computer Centre in Harrow, who provides HEIRS support for all things technical to help keep our office running smoothly.

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