

Vol. 3 – March 2013

HEIRS

newsletter

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society



www.HEIRS.ca
Tel.: 519 738-3700
Email: hheritage@bellnet.ca

243 McAfee St., PO Box 53,
Harrow, ON Canada N0R 1G0
Harrow & Colchester South
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



Inside this Issue...

March meeting:

- The Kingsville Archives 'Visits' HEIRS

Newsletter News!

HEIRS was started to capture local information and to help people to learn more about our regional history. This month's meeting will provide some additional 'local tools' you can use for your own family research.

Additionally, ElderCollege and HEIRS will showcase how you can approach accessing historical resources, including those offered at HEIRS. There's a ton of information, photographs and printed resources in the HEIRS collection. So why not take the upcoming course in March, & get to know HEIRS better, while learning more about your family?

Make March your month to get started - or restarted - on all things genealogy!

March Meeting

When: Thursday, March 28th, 1:30 PM

Where: Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Centre

Our speaker will be Marilyn Armstrong Reynolds, who is past president of the Kingsville Gosfield Historical Society, and currently serves as President and Administrator of the Kingsville Archives, located behind the new Kingsville Library on Main Street.

The Archives are a large and growing collection of research materials relating to the history and the people of the Kingsville-Harrow area.

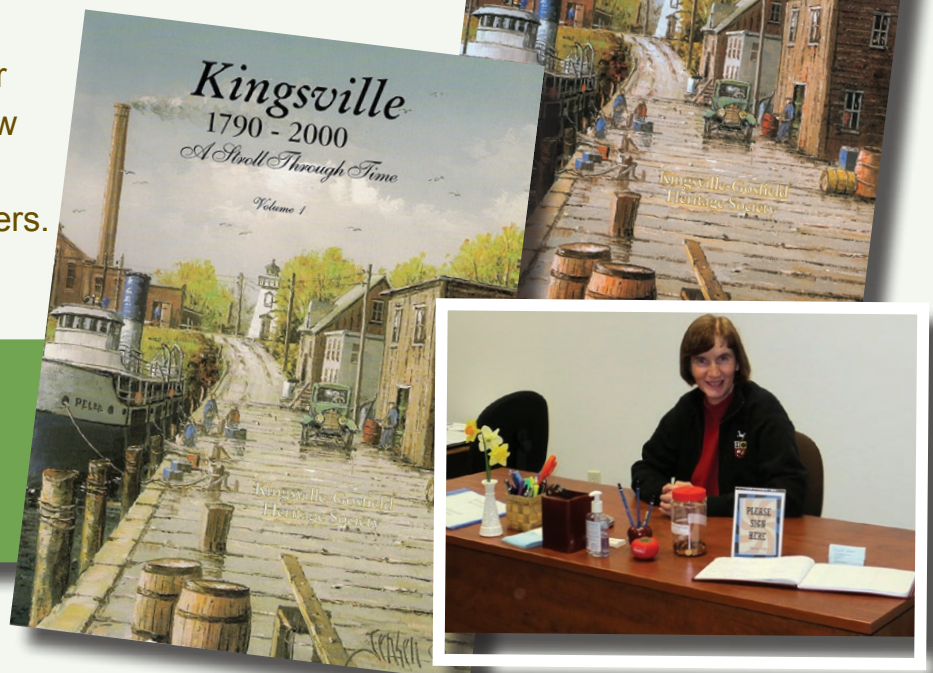
Marilyn will enlighten us as to their available resources, and show how HEIRS and the Archives together have much to offer local researchers.

Marilyn edited the Kingsville Gosfield Heritage Society's two-volume story, entitled, *Kingsville 1790-2000, A Stroll Through Time*.

LOCATION CHANGE:

The March meeting of HEIRS will now be held in our usual spot, the meeting room of the Harrow-Colchester Arena.

We apologize for confusion on this, but we are HOME AGAIN.



Elise Harding-Davis

- The Black Presence in the War of 1812

On Feb. 28, HEIRS met to hear Elise Harding-Davis speak about the contributions made by black citizens during the War of 1812. As she pointed out, the history books do not discuss this war in depth at all, as there was no clear winner, and little glory for anyone involved. She said this is particularly true in the case of the black soldiers, who rarely are mentioned as being in existence. We all know of Brock, Laura Secord, and Tecumseh, among others. Black participation has been ignored.

A former slave himself, Richard Pierpoint approached General Isaac Brock with the idea of forming a fighting force of black volunteers, but the idea was rejected. Only when enlistments dropped to a dangerous level was the idea adopted. One of the first volunteers for this "Coloured Corps" was Richard Pierpoint, already in his sixties! A patriot indeed!

The "Coloured Corps" fought with distinction at Queenston Heights", and several other major conflicts of the Niagara Campaign and often were used as a guerilla-type unit, striking quickly and then withdrawing, upsetting enemy plans and creating havoc whenever and wherever they appeared.

Elise also told the stories of war veterans such as John "Daddy" Hall, considered the founder of Owen Sound, Fountain Thurman, who lived and prospered in the Amherstburg area until he was 102 years of age, and John Stokes, who became a pastor in Amherstburg and was an important "conductor" on the Underground Railroad in this area.

Thanks to people like Elise Harding-Davis, these stories are being discovered and shared, and these all-but-forgotten heroes of Canadian history are receiving their rightful recognition.



Men of Upper Canada Militia Nominal Rolls 1828-29

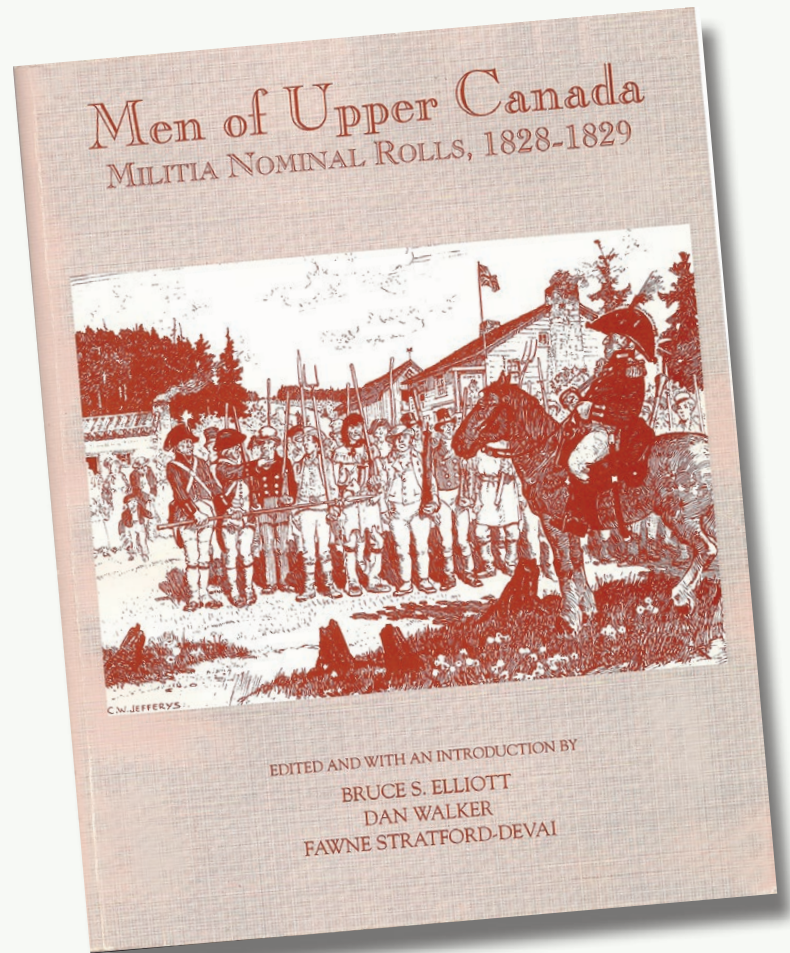
This is one of the earliest census type of records available, falling between the arrival of the Loyalists about 1790 & the first real census in 1852.

At the time of this listing, there were 24,000 male inhabitants of Upper Canada (or Ontario) between 19 and 39 years of age. The book provides the name, age and area of residence.

A second list, men between 40 and 60 years, adds 1,137 names. A third collection adds 1,800 officers of the militia.

The actual records are in the National Archives in Ottawa, and this book is the index showing who is included.

This is a very valuable resource for those researching the War of 1812 participants as well. Those listed in the Militia in 1828-29 can be assumed to have taken part in the events of 1812-14 if of the appropriate age at that time.



Due to its rarity, this book is available for use ONLY within the HEIRS Resource Centre,

Often one finds fathers and their sons listed together, and serving together. Since kin often lived in the same general area, it is quite common to find their names in the same grouping.

The lists are alphabetically by region, so that the Essex Militia is near the front of the book and Stormont, for example, would be near the back. Anyone of pioneer Essex County stock would almost certainly find a number of ancestors in this volume, and of course your findings can easily be captured at HEIRS.

EVENT DATE CHANGE

The previously announced performance by the 30-voice Wilberforce University Choir, sponsored by the North American Black Historical Museum in Amherstburg, has been rescheduled for Sunday, April 14, 2013. Details are expected to be very similar to those in our January newsletter.

You can contact the Museum at (519) 736- 5433.

A Stolen Life

Searching for Richard PierPoint

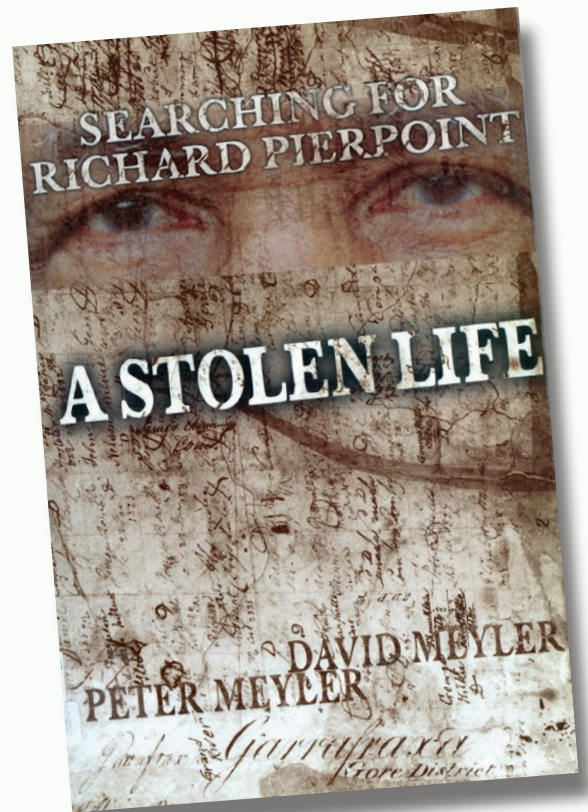
- by David & Peter Meyler

This book recounts the story of a young African man who, at the age of 16, was captured by slavers and brought across the Atlantic to be sold into slavery.

After several years of forced labour, he escaped and was able to join Butler's Rangers and fought for the British cause in the American Revolution. Following the end of the war, he came to the Niagara region of British Canada and began his life as a free man & farmer.

He was successful in this, and won the respect of his neighbours as well. When danger again threatened in 1812, he took up arms to defend his homeland.

He died in 1837, at the age of 94, after a life full of hardship, challenges, and conflict. He made a significant contribution to early Canadian history and to black history in general, and deserves to be much more widely known than he is at present.



Paperback, 118 pages complete with photos, maps & sketches is available from the HEIRS Lending Library.

COMING UP FAST:

March 11th & 25th, 2013

HEIRS will again be offering an introductory course in Genealogy through ElderCollege.

This is a fun way to start exploring your own family tree. The course will be offered at the Kingsville Public Library, on Main Street in Kingsville, on March 11, in a 2-hour session.

Then, 2 weeks later (March 25th), all participants are invited back to the HEIRS library in Harrow, to discover the resources that HEIRS has to offer.

Please call HEIRS SOON for more information on registering for the course.



Finding the
Skeletons
In Your
family's Closet

6 **Upcoming Events**

During March Break, the Homestead features the science behind maple sugaring, with costumed guide and hands-on activities. (Tuesday March 12th and repeated on Friday March 15th, start time for both days is 1:30 PM sharp). Tickets are \$6 for adults, and kids under 16 are \$4. Family maximum charge is \$20.

Tuesday, March 12: Enjoy the Maple Moon. It's a 7 PM sugaring-off party by candle-light, with special maple activities and a sweet treat to take home. Admission is \$15 per person, and pre-registration is required, as space is limited. Register online at: onlineregistrations.ca/jrph. Get more information at jrph@erca.org (519-738-2029)

Did you know?

Did you know that HEIRS has a large collection of magazines on genealogy topics available for your research?

One example is shown here on the right, with others by the OGS (Ontario Genealogy Society) available.

Some provide articles of information on specific topics, while others are a how-to guide when you are seeking new material for your own files.

They are in our RESEARCH collection, but info of interest can be readily photo-copied for your personal use.

HEIRS has so much available... make the trip and see what we have to offer YOU.

Researching Your Family Roots Online
Internet www.internet-genealogy.com
GENEALOGY
GET CONNECTED!
From online to handheld, we look at the latest hi-tech research tools!

Portraits From the Past
Where to Find Your Old Family Photos

California Dreamin'
Resources For Uncovering Your West Coast Roots

Obituaries Online
Where to Find Notices of Your Ancestors' Death on the 'Net

Firefighters in the Family!
Where There's Smoke, There's Usually Fire!

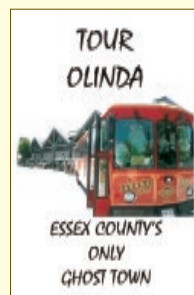
PLUS!
Getting More From Google
HEIRS Library Herow, ON

Hobbies: Genealogy \$6.95
56898 28447 5
April/May 2010

We still have these resources available for sale.

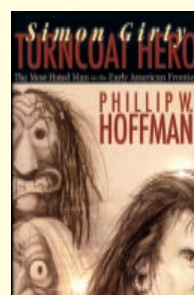
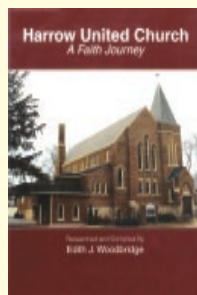
Contact the HEIRS office for more information.

**Index to
Commemorative
Biographical Record,
Essex County**
\$40.00



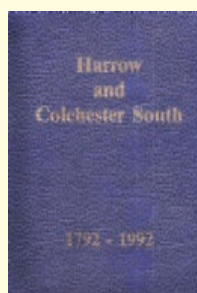
**Olinda:
Essex County's
Only Ghost Town**
\$25.00

**Harrow United Church
A Faith Journey**
\$30.00



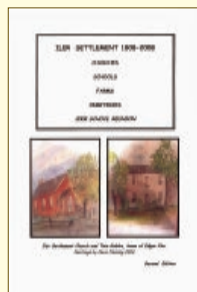
**Simon Girty
- Turncoat Hero**
(soft cover)
\$20.00

**Harrow & Colchester
South 1792-1992**
(2nd edition)
\$30.00



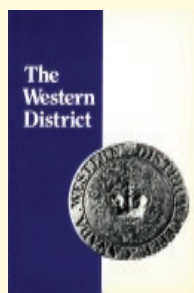
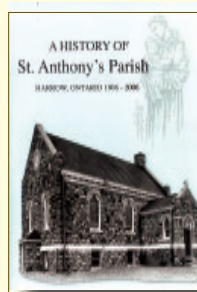
**The Story of Tecumseh
- Canadian Heroes
Series**
\$19.00

**Iler Settlement
1808-2008**
\$28.00



**The Story of Isaac Brock
- Canadian Heroes
Series**
\$19.00

**A History of
St. Anthony's Parish
Harrow, Ontario
1906-2006**
\$25.00



The Western District
\$5.00



From the HEIRS mailbag...

***We continue to gain new members as our group becomes better-known.
Don't forget to tell YOUR family members about who we are and what we do.***

A gentleman called into the HEIRS office looking for information on what has happened over the years to the McCormick land holdings in this region. Alexander McCormick and wife Elizabeth Turner left 1,000 acres, and 12 children.

How was this divided?? Also, William McCormick, brother of Matthew, received 10,000 pounds inheritance from an Irish uncle. Did any siblings receive a like amount? William's share was verified in court in 1866, and he purchased Pelee Island. Are there records and information on this wealth and how it has been dispersed? ***If you can help, please contact Michael at mgbeverages@gmail.com and copy HEIRS so we can the info to our records.***

HEIRS member Bill wants information about the YOUNG family in Colchester about the time of the War of 1812. Peter Young, originally from Fort Erie, married Hannah Riselay and they had a large family. A Peter Young is listed with the First Regiment of Essex, and a Peter Young of Colchester claimed losses due to American troops during 1814. Can we connect the Peter Young of Colchester with the Peter Young of Niagara?

Contact Bill at dwyoung@cogeco.ca if you can assist him.

Got Questions?

***Drop us a line by snail mail, email or by phone.
Our resources are here to help you discover
your own family history.***



Here to help!

Need negatives / print copies?

Need videos copied?

Audiotapes burned to CD?

HEIRS can help.

***Call us for more
information.***



The Amherstburg Echo.

M. Jett, Leonard, Assoc.

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 rate.

HARROW BRANCH, AMHERSTBURG BRANCH. C. A. MacMAHON, Manager. M. I. LANE, Manager.

LOST.

LOST—Stolen from my place, Verker, on Sunday Feb. 28th, a black watch and the English silver watch, answering to the notes. Finder will receive liberal reward by returning to me, or as being notified will be after by A. WILSON, Verker.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Mrs. Wm. HANMER's condition keeps about the same. Miss ESTER HANMER is laid up this week with a gripe. "Jerry" from Kerry at the Town Hall, March 10th. Reserved seats at Mr. Ewy's. Don't fail to see "Jerry" the funny fellow. He will...

MALDEN.

Ernest McGee, of Flint, Mich spent Sunday at home. Mrs. Frank Hunt has been suffering from an attack of a gripe. Wm. Golden suffering from severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism. Mrs. Annes McLean, of Windsor, is on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Wilson Harris, 4th con. Mrs. Frank Boudoin, of the lake road, is confined to the house with a severe attack of the gripe. Jas. Ladberry, of the river, is recovering after meeting a serious case of...

BROOKER vs. AMHERSTBURG.

Judge McHugh refuses to grant New Trial.

At the recent sitting 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 \$50 and costs. The town, through their solicitors, 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. Hugh McHugh, D. R. Davis the 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 plaintiff by falling on a sidewalk on Front St., which the plaintiff alleges was a dangerous and slippery one. It is pleaded by the defendant that if the plaintiff has a good case of injury the damage claimed are such that they would be nullified in the law. The law requires a municipal corporation to keep its streets in a reasonable state of repair and if it neglects to perform that duty the law prescribes that it shall be held responsible for all damages sustained by any person by reason of such default. The defendant's deposition applies to set aside the judgment in favour of the plaintiff on the ground that there is no evidence that the sidewalk in question was not repaired. The law prescribes that the plaintiff is to keep their streets in a reasonable state of repair, so that persons using them may reasonably expect to find them in such a state. The defendant's deposition is not sufficient against the plaintiff to set aside the judgment in favour of the plaintiff. The law prescribes that the plaintiff is to keep their streets in a reasonable state of repair, so that persons using them may reasonably expect to find them in such a state. The defendant's deposition is not sufficient against the plaintiff to set aside the judgment in favour of the plaintiff.

ANDERDON COUNCIL.

Saturday, Feb. 27th.

Council met in regular session with all members present. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that the minutes last read be adopted.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Yollans and Cote, that Fred Piquois get a warrant for \$4 groceries furnished to the Venters.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Yollans that Antoine Lefort get a warrant for \$1 clearing lot from 6th concession road, and Wilbert Suits \$2.75 repairing bridge on south side line.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Yollans and Cote, that Isaac Groulx get a warrant for \$1, refund of dog tax.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Cote and Groulx, that René Bouchon get a warrant for \$2.00, for 1 sheep killed by unknown dogs.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that Willis Howard and \$6 charged for outside labour.—Carried. Samuel Duke applied for a culvert across the middle side line in order to provide an outlet for the water which accumulates on his property. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that Messrs. Yollans and Cote, be appointed to attend to Mr. Duke's application.—Carried. Jas. L. Dufour complained that the culvert across the St. C. R. track in the Dufour district is not low enough to allow a sufficient outlet for the water, the clerk was instructed to notify the M. O. R. Co. to have said culvert lowered. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cote, that the clerk be instructed to notify the M. O. R. Co. to have said culvert lowered.

BURK BROS.

THE POPULAR TRADING HOUSE.

3

Special

March 7th

Alexander Boussey died out west, lived in Harrow 18 years, employed by Henry Herdman.

March 14th

The council of Colchester South has been asked by the town of Leamington to co-operate with other municipalities in South Essex in urging upon the Hydro-Electric Commission the advisability of building their transmission lines along the southern or Lake Erie route, because of the greater density of population, and because the electric road, which would parallel the lines, would receive great quantities of fruit, fish and vegetables to carry by express.

March 21st

John Wright sold his farm, 75 acres of the old Peter Wright place, to Wm. Klie of New Canaan.

William L. Hughson has sold his farm to Mr. Corcoran and J. O. Duke of Ruthven.

Mrs. Huldah Snider, nee Ferriss, daughter of Isaac Ferriss has died. Born May 3, 1825, she was one of eleven children: Philip; Mrs. Joseph Drummond, Ebenezer of Windsor, Abner L. of Colchester South, Thomas H. of Harrow, and Isaac of Anderdon. She married Joseph Snider. He died 20 years ago. Their children: Lewis (died young), Herman (deceased), Edward of Calgary, Ellen, Mrs. Elihu Scratch of Kingsville, and Ida, Mrs. George Byron (deceased).

We need to build a new school. The old one is 30 years old and not at all equipped for modern requirements. This is a well known section, on a main and much travelled road, with a large amount of land. Many children attend and people here can well afford a new school.

March 28th

Marshfield was flooded as never before, several feet deep. One family had to be rescued when their house was surrounded and the fire went out. The whole Richmond Drain area is affected.

Hours of Operation: September to June (excluding December)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM to 3PM / **Wednesday:** 9AM to 12 Noon

Please call for appointments for other times.

Memberships

Due: May 2012 to April 2013: \$20 per person / couple (CDN / U.S.)

Send cheque to: HEIRS, PO Box 53, Harrow ON Canada N0R 1G0

Please include your phone, fax, email, website & names you are now researching.

Non-member user fee for HEIRS Research Library, as of January 2013: \$5 / visit (+ photocopy costs).

HEIRS Newsletter

The HEIRS newsletter is published 9 times per year, in conjunction with General Meetings held on the 4th Thursday of the month, from September through June (with the exception of December).

Newsletters via Email

If you currently receive our newsletter by mail and would prefer to receive it by email, simply provide your email address to any one of our newsletter committee members. Not only will you be able to archive the full colour newsletter PDF easily on your computer, it will save HEIRS the extra handling, reproduction and mailing costs.

Special thanks to Greg Harrison at the Computer Centre in Harrow, for his ongoing support of all things technical, setting up our new equipment, and keeping things running smoothly.



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herniman5@sympatico.ca

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jmb1@xplornet.com

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kathyl@msni.net

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Committee Chairpersons

Resource Centre
Pauline Baldwin
baldwin1@xplornet.com

Kathy Langlois
kathyl@msni.net

Program / Publicity
Chris Carter
cdcarter002@gmail.com

Ted Steele
twsteele@sympatico.ca
519 733-3456

Membership
Richard Herniman
herniman5@sympatico.ca

Hospitality
Les Hodgkins

Newsletter
Ted Steele
twsteele@sympatico.ca