

Vol. 6 – June 2013

# H.E.I.R.S. newsletter

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society



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Harrow & Colchester South  
Community Centre (Arena Bldg.)



*Inside this Issue...*

*Kicking off Summertime Activities*



## Newsletter News!

*Welcome to the Summer issue.*

*Our cover shows some great moments enjoyed in the past - now let's get out there and capture some history of ourselves for the next generation to look back on.*

The first half of 2013 has really gone by quickly for most of us. We've covered a lot of topics at our meetings, provided education to a growing number of budding genealogists, and viewed treasured heirlooms and family keepsakes at our recent meeting.

Our next meetings include a field trip to the J. R. Park Homestead in September. HEIRS member Mark Fox is working to have his 1923 Ford Model T on hand, so members can have their photos taken in it, if they wish. October is fittingly a time for Remembrance, with local historian, Veronica Brown speaking on how women contributed to the war effort during WW2. In November, pioneer Christmas customs & traditions will be explored with Janet Cobbin, curator of J. R. Park Homestead. **We hope you will plan to join us.**

*Until then, enjoy the Summer!*

## Summer support

**Where:** Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Centre

*During the summer, the HEIRS library will remain open, with Andrea Leslie, our summer student, in charge. This is made possible by the support our Pasta Dinner fundraiser was given by our members and the community. Andrea served us last summer, and is most capable of handling all calls and visitors who come by. She will be available from 9 AM to 12 noon and 1 PM to 4 PM, being closed for lunch from 12 to 1 PM each day.*

### Summer Schedule:

*July 2nd to 12th - open*

*July 13th to 21st - closed*

*July 22nd to Aug 23rd - open*

*Aug 24 through Labour Day - closed*

*Please feel free to ask Andrea for help using our resources, to get the answers you are looking for about your family's history.*

*Andrea Leslie, shown sitting on the left in this picture, will return to assist HEIRS members throughout the months of July & August.*

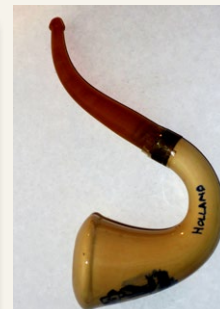
**Welcome back Andrea!**



## Dinner, Elections & Heirlooms... oh my!

The annual potluck dinner meeting of HEIRS was held on May 23rd. A delicious buffet-style meal with everything from meatballs to macaroni & cheese, fresh cherries, rhubarb pie & much more was enjoyed.

A short business meeting followed. Three of the directors had served their terms of service with HEIRS, but chose to let their names stand for re-election, and each was acclaimed by the group. The fiscal year ended in May, and a financial report was given by treasurer John Brush, which indicated a



healthy balance of funds. **President Richard Herniman announced that HEIRS has 35 new members on the year as the group becomes better known and more frequently visited.** Following the business portion of the meeting, all adjourned to browse through the items on display, and enjoyed time to circulate and chat with fellow HEIRS members.

Elise Harding-Davis displayed a colourful quilt made for her by her sister, and explained the symbolism involved, as one red square of women figures showed her “warrior” attitude, and another indicated her tenacious spirit. This is a one-of-a-kind family treasure, & we thank Elise for sharing it with us.

Peter Timmins brought in 2 items from his very large collection of farming antiques, a pair of old tractor seats from models long out of production. We are told Peter has one of the largest collection of this type anywhere.

Richard Herniman displayed a group of old plumbing fixtures & a 4-piece grouping of Blue Graniteware items, from the early 1800's. The centerpiece of the grouping was a strange looking item which was an early model of a bedpan for male hospital patients. He indicated that this is a quite unusual item, rarely found.

Also on display were some 8-track tapes, Mad magazines, a few old 33 1/3 RPM record albums, an early model electric iron with attached sprayer, and a set of photos of member Mark Fox's 1923 Ford Model T.



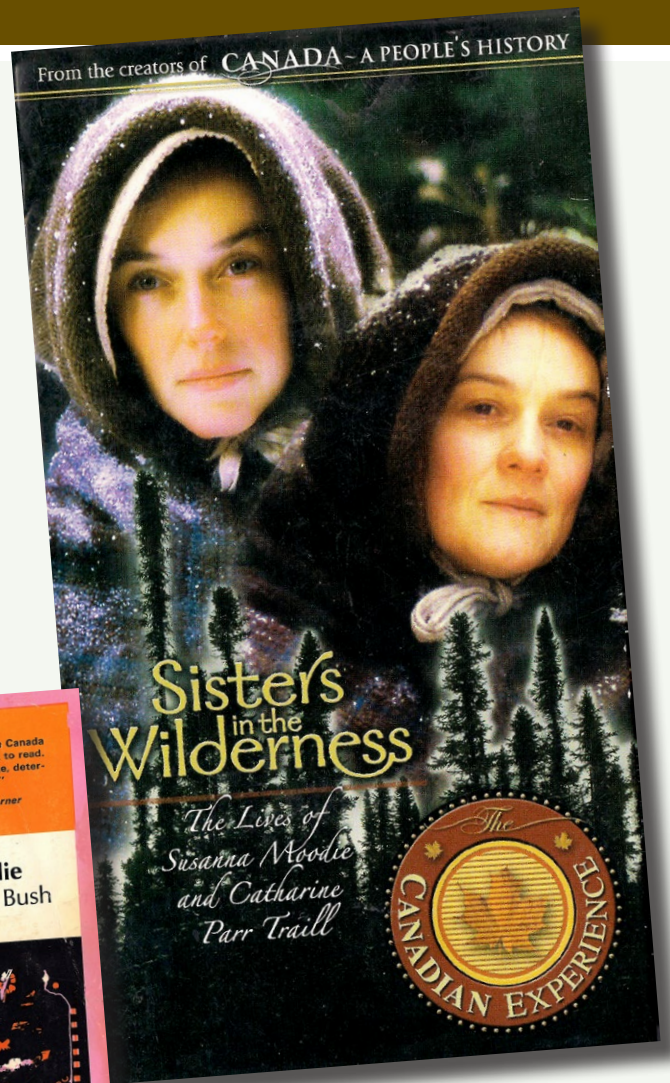
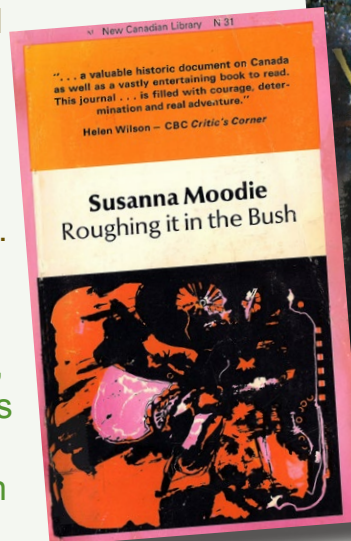
## Sisters in the Wilderness

Susannah Moodie and her sister Catharine Parr Trail, were born in England in the early 1800s. Both dreamed of becoming writers, and each came to Canada in 1832 with her husband. Leaving genteel British life behind, they found themselves having to cope with life in the unsettled wilderness that was early Canada.

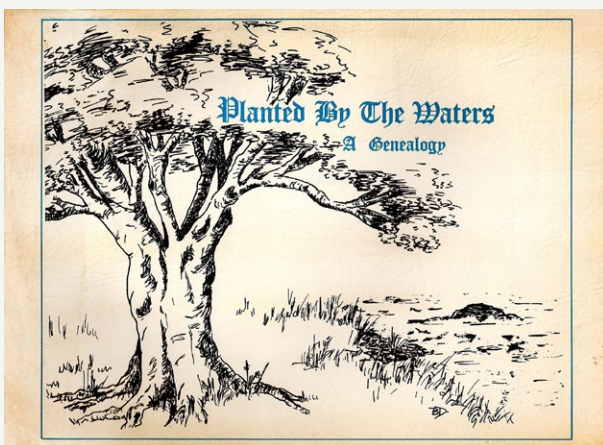
Their letters back and forth with family members in England and with each other, since they did not live close to one another, are a revealing glimpse of how difficult those early times were.

In spite of hardship, accidents, illness, and near starvation, they persevered and recorded their struggles. It is a valuable and fascinating read, or if you wish, you can borrow the DVD from HEIRS and enjoy this true Canadian pioneer story in that mode.

Susannah's book, *Roughing it in the Bush* is paperbound with 155 pages, including a few sketches. The DVD is approximately 90 minutes long, in 'LittleHouse' TV series, though set in



colour, and is similar to the Canada about 40 years earlier.



## Planted by the Waters - A Genealogy

HEIRS offers for your enjoyment, this paperbound book by Hilda Dungy. This 49 page book, with many photographs and family charts, tells the story of a family whose founders were blacks who wound up in the Buxton area to settle. One grandfather, Josiah Jones, escaped from slavery in Kentucky, and reached Chatham Township via the Underground Railroad, about 1847. He married Susan Brown, a caucasian woman, whose family moved from the Niagara area to Chatham Township.

The other grandfather was John Walker Carter, born in Woodstock, Ontario, of free Negro parents who had never been slaves. John married Harriet Cornelia Dyke, a former slave in Virginia. Through the years family members settled at various points in Kent County, including Chatham & Dresden. Family members connected to these lines will learn much from this detailed book.



# Save the Date

August 30 - September 2, 2013



SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO  
**COASTAL TRAILS**  
**SAILS TO SEE**  
*Festival*

COASTALTRAILS.CA



## CHART A COURSE TO AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE!

From August 30 to September 2, Windsor-Essex-Pelee Island proudly hosts the Coastal Trails Sails to See Festival. This can't-miss event will be the final stop of the Pan Provincial TALL SHIPS® 1812 Tour commemorating the Battle of Lake Erie. This is your chance to see and board numerous majestic tall ships as they drop anchor at five ports in our region. Feel history come to life as you explore these vessels up close and firsthand. You definitely don't want to miss these ships!

### 2013 FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

**Launch Event at Dieppe Gardens**  
**FREE Outdoor Concert**

Friday, August 30: 12pm/Launch & 7pm/Concert (Windsor)

**1812-Commemorative Parade**

Saturday, August 31: 11am -1pm (Kingsville)

**Admiral's Table Dinner Reception**

Saturday, August 31: 6pm (Leamington)

**The Women's March**

Sunday, September 1: 11:30am (Amherstburg)

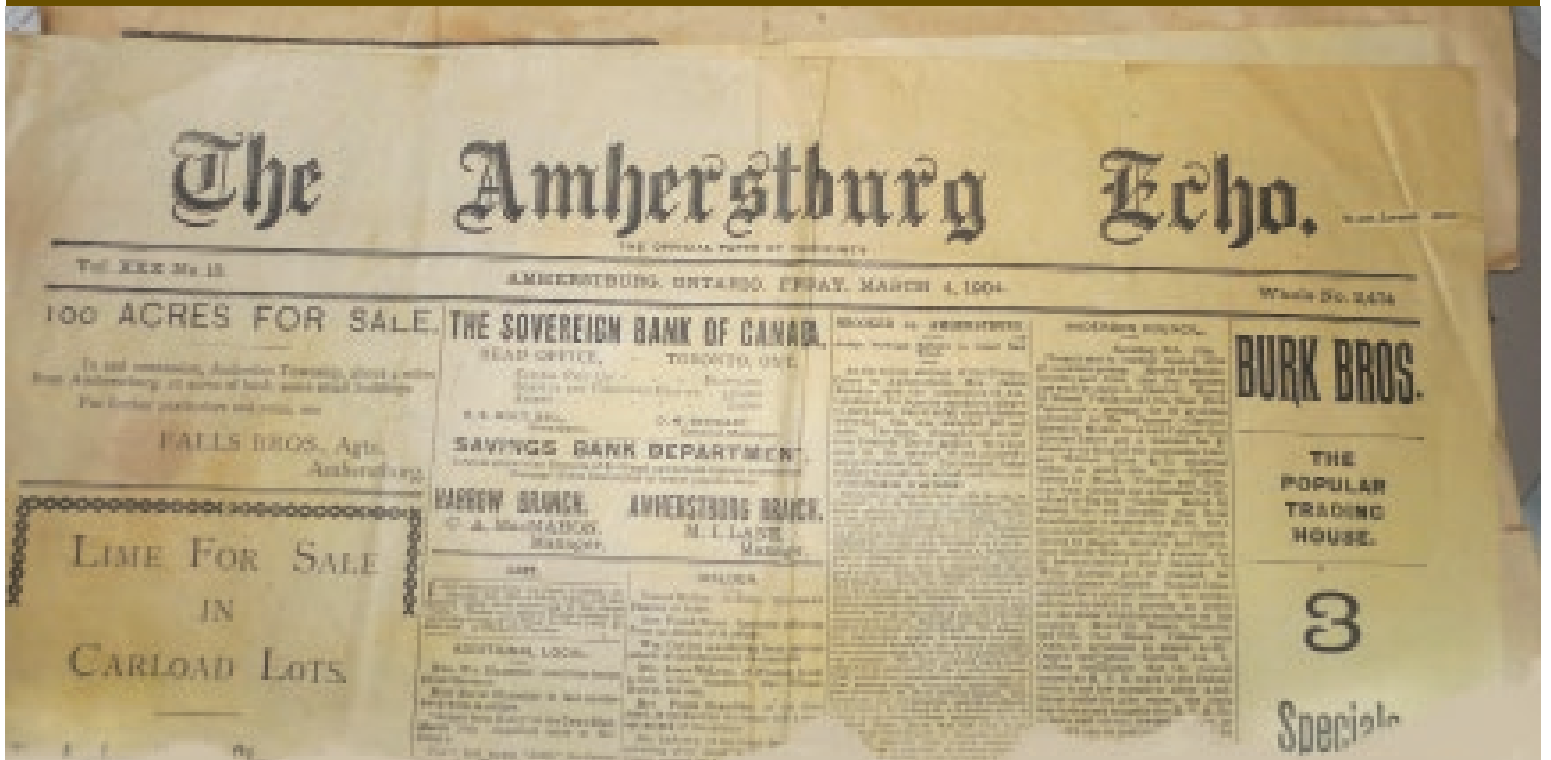
**Reenactment of the Battle of Lake Erie**

Monday, September 2 (Pelee Island)

**Your Boarding Pass gives you onboard ship access at all 5 ports! \$15 per person, ages 3 yrs+**

Call 1-800-265-3633 or visit  
 COASTALTRAILS.CA for more details.





**July 18th**

Petitions for a walk on the north side of King from Queen to Victoria; on the east side of McAfee Avenue, from King to the Fair Grounds; on the south side of Wellington from the Fair Grounds to Erie Street.

The foundation of the new canning factory is completed & blocks are being laid. The machinery has been shipped & will be installed as the work proceeds. The managers expect to be able to take care of this season's crop.

**August 15th**

The big union (Sunday School) excursion from Harrow to Belle Isle was the biggest of its kind on record-600 leaving this point. The day was spent on the island and in Detroit, with no mishaps to mar the outing.

**August 22nd**

The Beaver Oil & Gas Co. has been to Harrow negotiating for a franchise to lay pipe & supply natural gas in Colchester South. They met the council & the Businessmen's Association. The company proposes to lay a line along Concession 2, & supply gas at 25 cents per thousand cubic feet, \$1 a year to rent the meter.

As a summer resort, Oxley & all along the Colchester lake front has become one of the most popular. The excellent home cooking, prime fruit & vegetables, & first class dairy products, light & airy rooms, fine bathing beaches & boating, & the picturesque scenery have attracted large numbers of pleasure seekers from the American cities along the border, & every house is filled to capacity.

The board & rooms are reasonable, being rated from \$5 to \$7 per week. The auto bus from Amherstburg, driven by Lewis Fox, & James Drummond's livery bus from Harrow, give excellent service, & the fares are very reasonable. They will be kept busy until Labour Day. Beside bathing & croquet, the young folks have dances in the Woodsmen's Hall (Colchester Village), marshmallow toasts, & other social gatherings. The Harrow merchants promptly supply the resort with the best wares in their lines. The proprietors of the boarding houses are very courteous and obliging. A list of "this weeks boarders" at the following houses: Mrs. Alta Harris, Mrs. Eva Clark, Mrs. Lemuel Brush, Robert McManemy, & the Ravine Hotel.





## 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.*

Sunday, June 9th, J.R. Park Homestead: Adults are invited to make a "grab and go" basket with a wooden handle/divider. Cost for this is \$50 all inclusive. 9AM - 4PM (approx.). Numbers are limited; advance registration required. Contact [onlineregistrations.ca/jrph](http://onlineregistrations.ca/jrph) or call 519-738-2029.

## HEIRS Fundraiser July 6th.....

HEIRS will be hosting a fund-raising barbecue on Saturday, July 6th in Harrow, in front of the Sanford store on Main Street, 11 AM to 2PM. Pop, chips, burgers & hot dogs will be sold with a share of the profits going to our group. Please join us and support HEIRS, while you enjoy a tasty barbecued treat.

**Ribs & Ragtime**  
 North American BLACK HISTORICAL MUSEUM PRESENTS  
 Saturday, JUNE 8TH  
 Live Entertainment  
 4PM - 8PM  
 \$40 TICKET PRICE  
 519-736-5433  
 277 KING STREET, AMHERSTBURG  
 www.blackhistoricalmuseum.org  
 STRAIGHT AHEAD JAZZ QUINTET & BRUCE JAMIESON, PIANO

## Tour the Thames from another view

Sure, you've seen the Thames River. But from a historical view? The 1812 Tour Along the Thames is scheduled for June 8, but events like this tend to sell out quickly.

Hosted by Windsor's Community Museum, the tour offers a sense of local history and scenery. It costs \$80 per person or \$150 for two people and is available for pick up and drop off in Windsor and in Essex.

Highlights include a guided tour by bus along the Thames, featuring the last days of the native leader Tecumseh, stops at points of interest such as Park's Blueberries and Country Store, a farm tour, Chatham-Kent Cultural Centre, Tilbury Antique Mall. Tickets include transportation, tours, site visits and lunch.

For information and to register, contact Windsor's Community Museum, 254 Pitt S. W., call 519-253-1812, email [hbarrett@citywindsor.on.ca](mailto:hbarrett@citywindsor.on.ca)

Email [twhipp@windsorstar.com](mailto:twhipp@windsorstar.com) or call 519-255-6863; to submit event information, send an email message with Over 50 in the subject line and without attachments, please.

Resource Centre Yearly Report  
2012-2013

The members of this committee include: Ted Steele, Kathy Langlois, Chris Carter and Pauline Baldwin.

The number of signed in visitors to HEIRS for the current year is 120, a slight increase over the past year by 20; the number of email requests is consistent at approximately 120 requests.

Land Registry documents have been entered into our data base, and the documents for Kingsville and Gosfield North and South were transferred to Kingsville Archives earlier this year.

Our weekly volunteers include Nancy Murphy, Karen Hernandez, Jeff Wood, Doug Horne and a recent addition, Mary Paquette; HEIRS is grateful for their contribution to our society over the past year.

Our summer students, Andrea Leslie and Katharine Maag completed the tasks outlined for them. We look forward to one student for the current year.

The two part Elder College course outlined by Ted Steele along with Kathy and Pauline was successful in that HEIRS obtained 10 memberships, as well as community exposure to our society; a basic genealogy course will be offered in the Amherstburg area this coming Fall.

Projects during the year included a publishing of the James Bell Letters through the efforts of Edith Woodbridge, as well as information to Margaret Derry for the publishing of her book, titled Dream of my People, a book about the Bell and Shay families during the early 1900's.

Future projects include how to preserve our genealogical files, map files, photograph collection in a digital format.



## Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

### Statement of Receipts and Disbursements (Cash Basis)

Years ended April 30	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
				\$	\$
<b>Receipts:</b>					
Memberships	2,446.17	2,859.90	2,439.04	2,928.66	2,349.84
Donations	3,212.13	4,529.77	2,574.21	3,014.00	3,546.00
Trillium Grant	-	-	0.00		
Research fee	140.00	309.70	24.97	240.00	250.24
Provincial Grant	1,545.00	1,545.00	3,640.00	3,068.00	919.00
Town of Essex grant	1,500.00				
Federal grant	-	2,460.00	2,153.00	1,710.00	
Essex Student Grant	-	2,000.00			
Book sales	1,170.56	2,122.54	2,194.00	2,226.58	2,391.40
Copier revenue	161.15	170.35	471.05	274.98	373.50
Miscellaneous	76.82	51.12	0.00	24.30	44.95
Fund raiser	945.00	1,045.00	1,139.00	1,381.00	
GST	-	734.73	0.00	499.32	355.42
40th Anniversary	-	78.30			
Transfers from payroll			3,022.62	5,000.00	3,000.00
Guaranteed Investment Certificate proceeds	5,000.00	5,000.00	10.51	85.76	226.50
Interest & US exchange	32.06	17.98			
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>16,228.89</b>	<b>22,924.39</b>	<b>17,668.40</b>	<b>20,452.60</b>	<b>13,456.85</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>					
Audit fee	-	-	577.50	577.50	581.30
Rent	1,356.00	1,356.00	1,340.00	1,260.00	1,260.00
Books & Films	484.69	484.87	440.35	1,031.40	1,398.97
Wages & benefits	4,081.59	4,037.83	5,482.85	4,100.09	2,026.98
Donations	-	-	0.00		
Memberships	65.00	164.75	227.39	201.95	45.00
Postage and office	2,836.44	2,833.03	1,518.03	2,365.14	1,791.16
40th Anniversary	-	115.18			
Miscellaneous	122.76	286.49			
Telephone	2,656.00	2,527.64	2,340.71	2,294.98	2,059.94
Insurance	853.20	934.20	934.20	934.20	853.20
Bank charges	-	-	41.37	2.25	15.75
Fund raising costs	1,425.94	-	584.32	655.17	
Equipment maintenance - computer	-	353.95	0.00		
Equipment maintenance - copier	-	1,139.07	1,241.42	1,480.19	1,266.93
Equipment - miscellaneous	-	-	880.27	819.24	15,686.32
GIC	-	10,016.44	0.00	3,022.62	1,000.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>13,881.62</b>	<b>24,249.45</b>	<b>15,608.41</b>	<b>18,744.73</b>	<b>27,985.55</b>
Excess of receipts over (under) disbursements	<b>2,347.27</b>	<b>(1,325.06)</b>	<b>2,059.99</b>	<b>1,707.87</b>	<b>(14,528.70)</b>
Bank and cash balance beginning of year	4,674.28	5,999.34	3,939.20	2,231.33	16,760.03
<b>Bank and cash balance end of year</b>	<b>7,021.55</b>	<b>4,674.28</b>	<b>5,999.19</b>	<b>3,939.20</b>	<b>2,231.33</b>

**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 2013 to April 2014: \$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.



**Board of Directors**

- President**            **Richard Herniman**  
herniman5@sympatico.ca
- Vice-President**    **Chris Carter**  
cdcarter002@gmail.com
- Treasurer**           **John Brush**  
jmb1@xplornet.com
- Secretary**           **Kathy Langlois**  
kathyl@msni.net
- Directors**            **Jo Ann Jenereaux**  
**Peter Timmins**

**Committee Chairpersons**

- Resource Centre**  
**Pauline Baldwin**  
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- Membership**  
**Richard Herniman**  
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- Kathy Langlois**  
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- Hospitality**  
**Les Hodgkins**
- Program / Publicity**  
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