

Vol. 5- MAY 2017

HEIRS

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

newsletter



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



Next meeting...

United Empire Loyalists of Canada
- a part of many local family histories

Newsletter News!

Welcome to the May newsletter

As predicted by all... Spring has officially arrived again this year.

If we can pull you away from your gardening chores, and other spring cleaning tasks, we hope you will spend part of an afternoon with us, relaxing and learning at our May meeting. You'll have plenty of time to get back to the clean up the next day.

And what better Spring ritual is there than to get out and greet your fellow neighbours and members of HEIRS, at one of our meetings?

See you there?

Next Meeting

When: Thursday, May 25, 1:30 PM

Where: Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Centre

This HEIRS meeting will be our last before our summer break. We will gather for our annual general meeting and election of directors. Anyone who would like to be part of the board of directors of HEIRS is encouraged to submit his or her name to run - it is an enjoyable group.

This meeting will also serve to give me (Ted Steele) the opportunity to explain the real meaning of the term "Loyalist", and exactly what a "U.E." is. Since it is a fact that many of the original families of Essex County came from Loyalist roots, and intermarried with other Loyalist families, it is most likely that many HEIRS members are also descended from Loyalists, but are unaware of it.

HEIRS is currently forging closer ties with the local chapter of the United Empire Loyalists of Canada, the Bicentennial chapter. Our Fall newsletters will mark the beginning of a new

focus, that centering on the local families of this area.



There will continue to be history information included, but a shift to a more genealogical point of view seems appropriate.

Following my short presentation, everyone is invited to enjoy the trays of nibbles and goodies, coffee or tea, while we socialize and schmooze.

On Thursday, April 27th, HEIRS members gathered to to learn some unusual stories of the battles of World War 1, especially Vimy Ridge, the 100th anniversary of which was observed.

Our focus was the daily lives and struggles of the young men and women who served under horrible conditions, yet did what had to be done.

HEIRS Richard Herniman explained that tanks, a brand new form of weapon, were called Fray Bentos by the foot soldier. That was a common form of tinned meat, and the soldiers in the tanks were compared to this "meat in a can".



He shared stories about the future King Edward, who served, yet made sure his

title & social rank did not give him special privilege, as most of his associates did not realize who he was.

Trench raiders were what we today would call special forces, small groups who would, by sneak attack, terrorize enemy soldiers caught unaware, and occasionally bring an enemy soldier back for questioning.

It was a time of mud and blood, sleeping when and where you could, and maintaining a sense of reality in a daily scene of horror.

Richard was able to show the occasional humorous side of events, as well as the tragedies on both sides of the war, and brought to life little events in a soldier's life that most of us had probably overlooked.



POST SECONDARY STUDENTS

Summer employment at HEIRS - applications NOW being accepted

10-week term in Harrow - Computer literate

Responsible - Socially adept

Mature - Self-Motivated

Applications need to be submitted by MAY 16, 2017

to HEIRS, PO BOX 53, 243 McAfee Street, Harrow, ON NOR 1G0

or call 519-738-3700 or email to hheritage@bellnet.ca

From the HEIRS mailbag....



On Tuesday, April 11, HEIRS was host to a group of Chinese exchange students. Seven young grade 11 students who board at the Académie Ste Cécile International School in Windsor, came out to HEIRS to begin a project involving research on the early communities of Essex County.

We are most happy to be part of this exchange movement, and enjoyed having these young people as guests. Our thanks to the teachers at the school for selecting us to be of assistance.



The Essex County branch of the Ontario Genealogy Society (OGS) meets on Sunday, May 6, at 1 PM at the Maryvale Convent for the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, 940 Prince Road in Windsor.

This is a special visit to the RFPO La Pionniere du Sud-Ouest to learn what they have available for French family history research.

All are welcome, especially those who have French ancestors who helped settle Essex County in the early years.

We are looking for descendants of Benjamin Baldwin, born March 20, 1786 in Connecticut. He died in Kent County in 1857. His son John Baldwin, born 1808, married Sarah Harris, who was born about 1813. John died in 1867 in Kent County, after living in Romney Township of Kent County.

Any information on John or wife Sarah would be much appreciated to be provided to HEIRS at 519-738-3700 or hheritage@bellnet.ca.

On May 7, the Friends of the Park Homestead will hold their annual Yard Sale to benefit many programs offered at the Homestead. Show your support by donating saleable items ahead of the sale, or by attending & “treasure hunting” among the many items for sale. Sale runs from 11 AM to 4 PM, with NO admission charge. For details, call 519-738-2029. Located on County Road 50, south side, near the corner with Iler Road. Sounds like a perfect spring day, & you’ll be helping support one of our jewels of the county.



You may see HEIRS President, Richard Herniman sporting a lapel pin these days, one that commemorates the 100th anniversary of the taking of Vimy Ridge by Canadian forces. This important battle of WW1 established Canada as a full nation, and one whose military abilities command respect. Should you desire a pin, Richard just might have a few on hand for purchase.


Show your pride in being a Canadian, and let others know you remember the sacrifices made at Vimy and many other sites.



THE VIMY PIN

The Vimy Pin commemorates Canada's momentous victory at Vimy Ridge, France, April 9, 1917. The Pin displays the two iconic columns of the magnificent Vimy Memorial accompanied by vertical colour bands representing the four Canadian Divisions, (Red, 1st Div.; Dark Blue, 2nd Div.; Grey Blue, 3rd Div.; Green, 4th Div.) comprising approximately 100,000 men, which fought for the first time as a united force at Vimy Ridge. The order of the ribbon's colours reflects the position of the four Canadian Divisions at Vimy. At 3,598 men killed, Vimy Ridge remains Canada's bloodiest day.




THE VIMY FOUNDATION
LA FONDATION VIMY

Cette épinglette n'est pas destinée à l'usage des enfants de moins de trois ans: Elle comporte des côtés tranchants et des parties amovibles.

This article not intended for use by children under 3 years of age: sharp edges and removable parts.

6 Upcoming Events

Help us build a comprehensive file of information & photos dealing with the two World Wars.

If you have any family information to contribute, we would like the opportunity to copy it for our records.

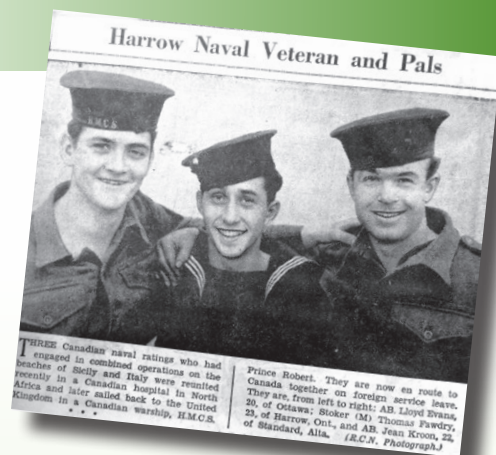
Let's gather as much as possible on record for research before it disappears forever.

We are not asking for donations, merely the chance to duplicate materials and so preserve their contents. Those in our families who served and sacrificed deserve to have their stories remembered, and those researching in the future will be grateful to have the materials available to them.

HEIRS MEMBER RESPONDS...

HEIRS put out the above request in the April NL for members to provide us with access to personal souvenirs, mementos & clippings concerning family members who were involved in any way, in the two World Wars. We just want to COPY the items and add them to our files. An "only copy" of something can too easily disappear and this process makes that information available to researchers and other family members.

Long-time HEIRS member, Pearl Huber has stepped up & made her special items available to our group. Her uncle, Clifford Alexander Robertson, was killed in 1944 while training in Quebec to join the combat as a flyer. He joined the RCAF in 1942, receiving his wings in 1943. A few examples of her items are shown below, & we thank Pearl for her generous use of them. We encourage others to allow us to preserve their mementos as well. Our friends at the Kingsville Military History Park & Museum would be happy to welcome items to their collection, should anyone wish to find them a proper & permanent home.



Harrow Airman Killed in Crash

Ft. Sgt. Clifford Robertson Victim in Quebec

HARROW, May 10.—Sgt. Clifford Alex Robertson was killed yesterday in an air crash near Mont Joli, Que., according to word

received here by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Robertson.

Ft. Sgt. Robertson formerly lived in Colchester South Township, but moved to Harrow with his parents a few years ago.

He is the second Essex County airman killed in a plane crash in Canada in the past few days. LAC Oliver Wilcox having died of injuries at Fort William Saturday night several hours after his training plane crashed.

Besides his parents, Ft. Sgt. Robertson is survived by five sisters, Mrs. Orville Tofflemire, Mrs. Sidney Gibb, Mrs. Arthur Tofflemire, and Mrs. Lyman Agla, all of Harrow, and Mrs. Ruby Robertson of Detroit.

His parents are awaiting further word of the fatality.



The Amherstburg Echo.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY

Tue. Dec. 15

AMHERSTBURG, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 1904.

Price 5c. Weekly

100 ACRES FOR SALE.

In 100 acres, Amherstburg, Ontario, about 10 miles from Amherstburg, in some of best, well settled country. For further particulars see notice.

FALLS BROS., Agts.
Amherstburg.

THE SOVEREIGN BANK OF CANADA.

HEAD OFFICE, TORONTO, ONT.
Savings Bank Department.
HARROW BRANCH. AMHERSTBURG BRANCH.
C. A. WILKINSON, Manager. H. I. LAVER, Manager.

LIME FOR SALE
IN
CARLOAD LOTS.



Special

May 4th

Republic Trucks agent F. E. Richardson; Gordon Arner and Son bought a 35 HP truck to be used in their wholesale and retail butcher business.

May 11th

Arthur Wright has taken charge of the horse shoeing in F. Herdman's store.

James Drummond and Isaac Ferriss have purchased the Drummond Hotel from C. E. Drummond, and have already taken possession. Mrs. Ferriss is in charge of the kitchen. C. E. Drummond will spend his time with his pool room business in Windsor.

May 12th

James Drummond received a trench letter from Pete Fleming, a former resident of Harrow, who for 18 months has borne a charmed life in the front line trenches. He was through the bloody battle of Vimy Ridge. He pays tribute to the late Russell Fox of Amherstburg, at whose side he was fighting when Russell received his death wound. (article shown at right)

AMHERSTBURG SOLDIER DIES.

The town of Amherstburg is again in mourning for another of her soldier boys who made the supreme sacrifice in the field of honor. Last week's Echo contained the announcement that Corp. Russell Fox, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. William Fox, had been dangerously wounded at the famous battle of Vimy Ridge, and was at Boulogne hospital. Saturday they received a message that he had recovered sufficiently to be transferred to Wincennes hospital, and were greatly cheered up, only to be cast down to the depths of despair Wednesday afternoon on receiving one of those heartrending "Deeply regret to inform you" wires from the Canadian Records office that their son had died of his wounds on Saturday last.

The bitter news has almost prostrated Mrs. Fox, already worn out with nursing her daughter Ruth, ill with fever, and words are inadequate to express the deep feeling of sympathy for the bereaved family throughout the whole town.

Corporal Fox was every inch a soldier. He left with the 98th Battalion for overseas last May, and had been in France since September, participating in all the fiercest conflicts since that time. His racy letters, published in The Echo from time to time, were read with deep interest throughout the county. He was a handsome, fearless and manly boy, and his promotion to officer's rank in the field indicates his devotion to duty and that he took seriously his great responsibilities as an integral part of that fighting machine that is upholding the honor of Great Britain, through the greatest peril, toil and pain, in order that democracy shall not perish in the world. No one can measure the reward that should be given for such courageous service. None can estimate the sacrifice of mothers under these harrowing circumstances—"When the dawn of peace breaks bright, blessed she who welcomes whom her God shall save. But honored, in her God's and country's

The Kingsville Military History Park & Museum has the 2nd newsletter issue of "Museum Dispatches" available. Some copies will be available at the HEIRS May meeting.

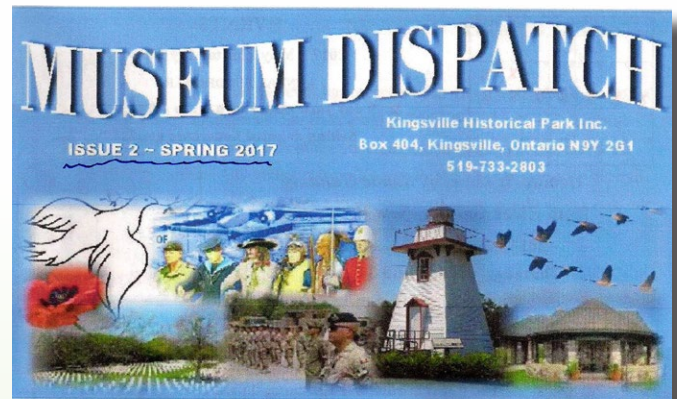
It features several stories on local veterans & their memories and also a story written by a 'war bride' about her experiences.

Another story was written by a Canadian peacekeeper who served in Somalia, Afghanistan, Rwanda and Bosnia, Master Warrant Officer William Wilson. His recollections of these events are both heart-warming & tragic, as friends were killed in service, but other innocents were saved by their bravery & willingness to help.

The Museum is also looking for donations of military significance to be permanent additions to their collection (see poster with this article). Those items you no longer wish to hang on to can be a part of the exhibits for others to learn from & to appreciate. **Please keep the idea in mind that they are a museum; whereas, HEIRS is not!**

Their "Indoor Yard Sale" runs from May 12 to 20, 9 AM to 4 PM, and offers donated household goods as its annual fund-raiser.

On June 1, 2 and 3, also 9 AM to 4 PM, Sande Gunning from River Gallery of New Brunswick will be demonstrating the use of a hundred year old knitting machine. She will show sock making, rug hooking & penny rugs as part of her demonstration. This type of machine was used during WW 1 to knit socks for the soldiers to wear. These were very important when one remembers the wet trenches and terrible conditions they had to fight in.



by Kevin Fox, Museum Curator

This is the second instalment of The Museum Dispatch, a newsletter for the Kingsville Historical Park Museum. Readers who enjoy the stories and articles within the newsletter are encouraged to become Museum members. It is as easy as removing the application from the back page of this newsletter and mailing the cheque to the Museum. As a not-for-profit charity dedicated to the memory of all veterans of Windsor and Essex County we need the support of the community to continue our good works. The Museum does more than provide tours and preserve artifacts; we also have special projects like the Museum Youth Experience or our Dieppe Raid research project.

The Museum Youth Experience is a series of leadership workshops designed to encourage local high school students to take an active role in designing Museum exhibits. Students will be challenged to research, restore and exhibit Museum artifacts in small groups. Each student has the chance to contribute and lead the group. This hands-on experience the Museum would not be possible without the funding support of the Libro Credit Union's Prosperity.

Our Dieppe Raid research project is the preliminary work on a virtual exhibit we are designing to honour every soldier who served at Dieppe with the Essex Scottish Regiment. All 553 men will have historical profiles constructed on their lives and try to shed a light on the people who were involved in an event that forever changed Essex County. Any information you share about a soldier who may have been at Dieppe is encouraged.



Military Museum

Adjacent to Royal Canadian Legion Branch 188
145 Division Street South, Kingsville, Ontario

Hours - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, & Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Closed Wednesday, Sunday, and Holidays

WANTED

Military Museum (military plus) located at Kingsville Historical Park is planning to expand.

We are looking for your help with donations of artifacts from Essex County's civil and military history from the 1800s to the present.
As a non profit registered charity financial donations are always welcome. Income tax receipts available.

To receive your newsletter become a Friend of the Museum with an annual membership

Date _____ Name _____

Address _____ Postal Code _____

Telephone # _____ email _____

Membership Fees

Single \$15.00 _____ Family \$25.00 _____ Business \$50.00 _____ Other _____

Legacy Members (Volunteers)

Single \$10.00 _____ Family \$15.00 _____ Tax Receipt Required Yes _____ No _____

mail to Kingsville Historical Park Inc., Box 404, Kingsville, ON, N9Y 2G1

You can also support the Museum by volunteering at the Museum, at Bingos (Windsor) or donating smaller household items in good condition for our Fundraiser Yard Sale held every May for 9 Days.

**Essex County Historical Society Invites you to attend
The Botsford Scholar Award Dinner May 25, 2017
at Ducks On the Roof Restaurant 1430 Front Rd. South Amherstburg, ON**

Dinner choice:

Breaded Pickerel OR Breaded Pork Schnitzel

All dinners include vegetables, warm bread, Chef salad, Lemon Meringue Pie, coffee/tea

Please specify your choice when reserving your dinner!

Vegetarian or gluten free available (specify with RSVP)

Please RSVP by May 20

mmarkham1@cogeco. ca or Marlene Markham at 519 322-0856

\$25.00 includes tax (pd. at door)

All reservations must be honoured unless cancelled by May 20.

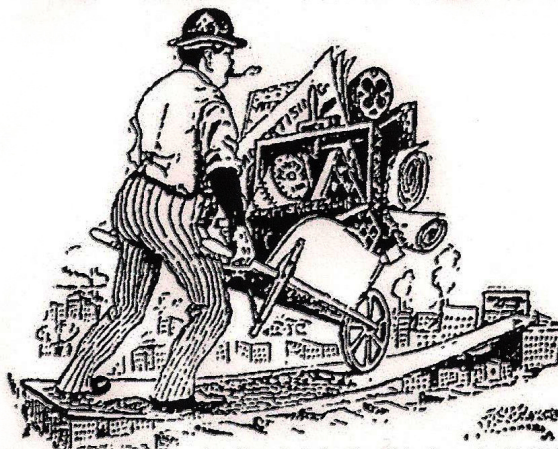
2017 Botsford Scholar: Harrison Priebe

Presentation:

“Workers & Worship: A Historic Walking Tour of Ford City, 1913-2016.”

6:30pm reception, dinner promptly at 7pm

**MARSH COLLECTION SOCIETY
WE ARE MOVING !**



Reproduced from the Amherstburg Echo, September 24, 1915

After 23 years in the same building on Dalhousie Street, Amherstburg, the Marsh Collection Society is moving to its new location at 80 Richmond Street in Heritage Plaza next to the Post Office. Our next issue of Reflections will be from the new home of the Marsh Collection.

We will be closed May 8th - June 12th

As of June 1st, our new address will be:

80 Richmond Street, Unit 5, Amherstburg, N9V 1E9

Phone: 519-736-9191 Email: research@marshcollection.org

HEIRS Resource Centre

September to June (excluding December)

Tuesday & Thursday: 10AM - 3PM

Wednesday or for other appts. Call to confirm.

Memberships

\$25 CDN/US per person or couple: May 2017 to April 2018

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

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

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

HEIRS Newsletter

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).
Receive full colour newsletters by email & save HEIRS the printing & mailing costs of B&W copies by regular post. Simply provide your email address to our office.



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

DON'T FORGET!

Time to pay your dues to keep our gorgeous newsletters coming to your inbox! Only \$25 per year. Pay by cash at the HEIRS library, or send cheque to HEIRS, 243 McAfee Street, P. O. Box 53, Harrow, Ontario, N0R1G0.
Thank you for your support.



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