



Vol. 6 – June 2019

HEIRS

Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

newsletter



*See you
in September!*

Welcome to the June newsletter.

Will you end up in a thrift shop?

We've all seen the nicely framed 'vintage' images adorning the shelves and walls at our local thrift shops. Those unnamed, unknown citizens that once lived, loved and shared their experience with their children... **now living as curiosities in second-hand stores.**

The reason why this happens?

No one knows who they are! A simple tag or penciled message to identify these souls might have saved them from their demotion from favourite granny to being just a price tag (and likely only valued for the frame itself). **You, yes you, can save your relatives from being decoration in some roadhouse diner.**

Why not take some time to identify the important people in your photos for future generations? It is much more difficult to discard someone who is actually identified by name, than just an unknown face in a group photo. Even today's digital images lead us to depersonalize the people shown, as often we just keep the automatically assigned file number, instead of identifying who and where (perhaps why) the image was taken.

So when it's too rainy, or too hot to head outside this summer, why not spend an hour identifying some of your relatives in your photos... full names, birth / death years & location taken (not just 'Uncle Bille'). Do you know how many photos are described 'Grandmother' out there?

Your family's 'young budding historian' will think very kindly of you in years to come.

And we hope we can identify you... at our September meeting. See you there?

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 26th 6:30PM

Harrow-Colchester Arena Community Meeting Room

Our September meeting will be at 6:30 PM

No speaker is locked in as yet, but several possibilities are available.

Since it is still 4 months away, it can be difficult for our speakers to commit, just yet.

We are always open to members' suggestions for meeting topics.

Contact any of the HEIRS directors listed on page 10 of our newsletter.

On May 23rd, HEIRS met for our last meeting until September. As it was our annual general meeting, three directors were up for re-election, and other members had the opportunity to be nominated to run for a director position.

All 3 directors whose terms had expired, chose to stand for re-election, and no new candidates came forward. Therefore, Chris Carter, Richard Herniman and Ted Steele were acclaimed as directors.

Following the business part of the meeting, we enjoyed a presentation of genealogical humour & oddities that had everyone chuckling at the strange ways some family relationships can unfold, & generally examining getting older from various points of view.

Ted Steele reminded members about the good part of getting older ('a privilege denied to many'), and the fact that we have daily choices on how we grow older (the idea is to die young.... as late as possible).

Details of wills insulting family members left behind & obituaries written by adult children about mothers who made their early years a living hell & were now glad to say they were finally gone. Some wildly creative tombstones were shown: Merv Griffin, 'I will not be right back after this message' and Old West gunfighter Clay Allison, 'I never killed a man that didn't need killing'.

A few 'Darwin Award' winners were shown, including the animal trainer who, while treating a constipated elephant, was buried under 200 pounds of pachyderm poop & suffocated before he was found.

Those attending looked over approximately 150 DVD titles, obtainable through a cash donation to HEIRS. Disks were donated to HEIRS by Deb & Dave Malley & will be also offered at September's meeting.

A number of people suggested that our meetings end with a 5 to 10 minute 'silly session', to share a laugh & leave on a happy note. **We will implement this in September - after all, who wouldn't enjoy a few chuckles now & then?**



The 2019/20 Board of Directors of the Harrow Early Immigrant Research Society

Left to Right:

Ted Steele, Esther Meerschaut, President Richard Herniman, Pauline Baldwin, Secretary; Kathy Langlois, Treasurer, Bonnie Storey & Brian Leslie.

Not pictured:

Vice President Chris Carter & Lorrie Stephenson.

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.

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. AMHERSTBURG BRANCH.

C. A. MacMAHON, Manager. M. I. LANE, Manager.

LOST.

LOST—Strayed from my place, Vereker, on Sunday, Feb. 29th, 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.

ADDITIONAL LOCAL.

Miss Wm. Hanson's condition kept about the same. Dr. McLean to my (Mrs.) Verney's, where, called by a

MALDEN.

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

Mrs. Frank Hunt has been suffering from an attack of la grippe.

Win. Golden suffering from being attacked of influenza.

Mrs. Alice McLean, of Windsor, is on her way to my (Mrs.) Verney's, where, called by a

BROOKER vs. AMHERSTBURG.

Judge McHugh Refuses to Grant New Trial.

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 \$80 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. 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. where the plaintiff alleges was a dangerous state of disrepair. It is contended 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 highways under its control in repair and if it neglects to perform that duty the law provides that it shall be civilly responsible for all damages sustained by any person by reason of such neglect. The doctrine of negligence applies to the corporation to keep its streets and highways under its control in repair and if it neglects to perform that duty the law provides that it shall be civilly responsible for all damages sustained by any person by reason of such neglect. The doctrine of negligence applies to the corporation to keep its streets and highways under its control in repair and if it neglects to perform that duty the law provides that it shall be civilly responsible for all damages sustained by any person by reason of such neglect.

ANDERDON COUNCIL.

Saturday, Feb. 27th.

Council met in regular session with all members present. Moved by Messrs. Groulx and Cole, that the minutes just read be adopted.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Volans and Cole, that Fred Pagau get a warrant for \$4 groceries furnished to the Verney's.—Carried. Moved by Messrs. Cole and Groulx, that Isaac Groulx get a clearing ice from 60 and Wilbur Sutte and bridge on south of

BURK BROS.



LIME FOR SALE
IN
CARLOAD LOTS.

June 6

95th birthday of Philip Ferriss, 150 guests at the homestead.

June 13

Death of Mrs. Murdo McLean, nee Belle Wright, daughter of the late Arthur Wright, age 29. She was married 7 years, had 4 small children. Survived by her mother, Melinda (McCormick) Wright, and 4 sisters - Ella and Flossie of Harrow, Mrs. Clifford Rose, at home, and Mrs. Edward Martin of Colchester South.

Winnifred Ruth Cornwall married Dr. Marcus A. Peterson, son of Dr. And Mrs. W. A. Peterson of Elgin, Nebraska. Bridesmaid was her sister Ella; will live in Nebraska.

June 20

Marriage of Blanche Bondy, only daughter of Thomas D. Bondy, to Earl Fox, son of Asa Fox at the Rectory in Amherstburg.

June 27

Marriage of John Ridsdale and Bertha Ann Mickle of Malden. Living in Windsor.

Divorce granted to Mrs. Lucile Wright of Carthage, Missouri, from Philip Francis Wright of Harrow. She was formerly Lucile Kent, well known in Harrow and Windsor.

A list of Harrow soldiers entitled to medals, a number of whom are still overseas: James LeRoy, Fred Morin, Ivan Knapp, T. Roberts, L. Colbear, M. Saunders, Ernest Byron, A. B. Herring, Eugene Littel, Raymer (Ramus?) Little, Harold Rogers, Eric Rogers, Everett Woodiwiss, Hanlon Wright, William Pollard, Dr. J R Smith, Ivan T. Barnett, Bruce Bruner, Harold Knapp, George Wilkinson Sr., Jack Wilkinson, Elmer Conn, Wm. Freslove, George Meston, Harold Hodgson, Ivan McLean, Walter Shay, A. J. Brush, George Matthews, Wm. Clingman, W. Brookes, Donald Huffman, Alan Iler, John Arner, Ted Corsan.

Mrs. Aldrich died at St. Thomas. She was the daughter of Hugh Russell, Oxley. Left here ten years ago when they bought a grocery business in St. Thomas. Two daughters, Mrs. Everett Pillon, and Miss Jessie, who is a teacher at Niagara Falls.

July 4

War casualties: Charles Cornwall, Capt. Roy Bailey, M.C. Ray Martin, and Carman Husser

July 18

Bernice Levan, daughter of Edna Boussey Levan (Mrs. A. L.) won praise at Music exams in Vancouver, awarded first class honours at age 11.

The production of early tomatoes has been expanded, and some 600 baskets are leaving here 3 times a week for centres as far away as Halifax.

\$3 per 11-quart basket. Principal growers are: Charles Clark, Roy Buchanan, the Essex Specialty Farm, Wm. Staddon, W. A. Barnet, Frank Walton, Fred Shoof and Orley Iler. The crop this year was shipped by the Erie Co-Operative Assn., which, on Monday, shipped 12,000 baskets of tomatoes on the P. M. from various points on the railroad.

July 25

John Cousens purchased F. E. Sinasac's blacksmith tools and outfit, and moved them to the Herdman shop. This leaves but one blacksmith shop in the village.

August 1

Arthur Brimmer died, age 59 years, married Mina Ford, daughter of Andrew Ford. She survives along with 2 daughters & 2 sons. They are Mary, Mabel, Ernest & Hugh, all at home.

August 8

Charles Quick, village drayman, sold his team to Slater Bros., who shipped a carload of horses, and intends to purchase motor truck. He bought a Ford.

August 15

Oscar Pastorius has an agency for Moline Universal tractors.

There is strong agitation for early closing, dealers finding a 15-hour day too long. Also need action on the parking of cars and tying of horses on the main street.

A pedestrian, much less a vehicle, could scarcely get around the corner at Main and Queen on Saturday night.

Extensive repairs to the lighthouse, to cost about \$20,000, are beginning this week. Several cribs will also be built to serve as a breakwater.

Della Ferriss Stover, daughter of A. L. Ferriss, died at her home in Eastwood, Ont., at age 38. Married Raymond Stover 6 years ago. Siblings- Judson, of Windsor, Roland and Harold of Harrow, Lorne and Nellie at home. Emma (Mrs. Evan Wright), Millie (Mrs. Harold McLean,(?)) and (Mrs. Edmund Geiger of(?)) (? Due to torn page). She had worked in the Harrow Post Office, then in **Blind River**.

August 29

Mrs. James D. Forsyth and daughter Genevieve of Essex moved last week to Farmington, Michigan, where they will live.

Margaret will give up her position at the Imperial Bank on Oct. 1 and join them. A.D. Forsyth and daughters Jessie and Lizzie will leave Essex about Sept. 1 for Burbank, California, where they will live.

Mildred L. Ferriss, daughter of Duncan, married Kenneth J. Martin, Colchester South farmer.

Re-discover Essex County this summer!

Many of us are blessed this time of year to be retired, which affords us time to do some fun things that we may have “kept on the back burner” for a long time. As June enters, with bright sun and warm temperatures, we all want to get out and enjoy it. So what is there to see and do? Here are 4 ways to plan a great summer, full of interesting and mind-opening activities.

1. Pick up a ‘Day Tripper’ newspaper

Find one at HEIRS or elsewhere, and see the many articles on places of interest scattered around Essex and Kent counties, which can be visited in a day. Lots of ideas here! When did you visit Lighthouse Cove, etc.

2. Check into the variety of music concerts available free all over the county all through summer.

Essex Centre, Harrow, Colchester and Kingsville all have offered these opportunities over the past few summers and I believe they will do so again. Some of these are weeknights and others are weekend features.



We often visit the Leamington Bandshell at Lakeside Park for Sunday concerts. Rick Atkins Park at the Leamington Marina offers Sunday afternoon music. Entertainment on the deck behind the Leamington Yacht Club is another series to enjoy.



Two Creeks Conservation Area in Wheatley is very popular on Sunday nights. Music ranges from Bluegrass to Folk, John Denver country pop to British Beat rock and roll, with both professional groups and local talent having a showcase to perform.

Wheatley concerts begin June 2, and the Leamington Bandshell series begins June 16. Others will likely start in July. They do ‘pass the hat’ in Wheatley to help defray expenses, but most concerts are completely free; bring a lawn chair, buy a hot dog, and enjoy!



3. Always wanted to explore some of the old pioneer cemetery?

This area abounds with them! Check with HEIRS for a map of the region, locating the cemeteries, mostly along County Road 50, old 18A, near the lake. It is easy to visit 3 or 4 in a day, stop at one of the wineries for a bit, and still be home for suppertime. This is fascinating and you may find some ancestors you weren't aware of before.



4. Look at Essex County through the eyes of a tourist...

What might tourists come here to see? Most of us never bother to visit local attractions, overlooking them for more exotic destinations. When did you last visit the J R Park Homestead, the Canadian Automobile Museum & Heritage Village on the Arner town line, the Freedom Museum (formerly Canadian Black History Museum) in Amherstburg or Fort Malden?

What about the 1839 blockhouse on Boblo Island? The museum on Hwy 77 near Comber? It boasts a great collection of WWI photos & 2 local veterans. Plus you can see the almost life-size Cinderella Pumpkin coach & an 1890's stagecoach crafted by the talented Bob McCracken.

The amazing Point Pelee National Park, with its beaches & wildlife rounds out our choices. Stroll the boardwalk through the Pelee marsh & surround yourself in nature's kingdom.

***We're sure you can add even more options to this list,
but wherever you end up, enjoy an Essex County summer!***



Brain Droppings

We at HEIRS are endeavoring to focus more of our newsletter content on Essex County, and where possible, on Harrow & its vicinity. Local events could be expanded & local genealogies to write up. Old structures have a fascinating story to tell. Your help at would be greatly appreciated.

Tell your family story (in point form or partially completed); provide me ideas for inclusion, legends to be researched, area haunted houses, famous heroes or rascals in your tree.

With enough support, each newsletter could include a 'Harrow History' page featuring what we enjoy & celebrate in this region. Contact Ted at HEIRS any Thursday (10 - 3), or email historynut@outlook.com or twsteele@sympatico.ca . Or drop off any written materials at HEIRS on Tuesdays / Thursdays (10 - 3). Together we can make our monthly newsletters more local & an even better read for all.

Please remember about our charitable collections: pull tabs from cans (for power wheelchair fund); plastic milk bags (for sleeping mats) & Campbell Soup labels (for school computer expenses). Sometimes it costs nothing at all, to help others.

MEMBERSHIPS ARE OVERDUE!

We rely on the cash flow to organize, create & keep all things running well at HEIRS. Thank you to those members who have forwarded their dues.

For everyone else, please send in your payments to HEIRS ASAP! Thanks. \$25 CDN / U.S. per person / couple. Memberships run May 1st - April 30th, annually.

HEIRS BBQ FUNDRAISER

in front of Sanford & Son Supermarket, Harrow

Burgers, hot dogs, cold cans of pop & bottles of water for lunch on the go!



SATURDAY JUNE 29th

11am - 2pm

The Treasures of HEIRS

- by Ted Steele, HEIRS Director

French Canadian Heritage

With many families in this area of Ontario deeply rooted in French Canadian history, here is the last one of our series on its culture and traditions.

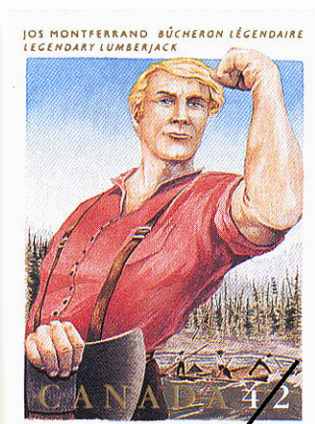
A French Canadian named Joseph Montferrand has evolved into the folklore hero of French Canada.

Born in 1802 in Montreal, young Joe was a voyageur and logger among other things. He regularly knocked out local boxing champions, and gained fame for reputedly besting a gang of 20 English toughs in a street fight.



Bars proudly point to heel marks in their ceilings where Joe is supposed to have kicked the ceiling during one of his incredible high jumps, and was said to use his legs like whips when fighting.

One tale tells of Joe being asked for directions, and he then used the plow he was holding to point the way to go. He died in 1864, but the stories of what he did have lived on and expanded until he has become a legend on the order of Paul Bunyan.



Wilfred Laurier, former Prime Minister of Canada, said, "Joe Montferrand always showed undaunted bravery, great strength, a thirst for danger, and resistance to fatigue. He was the most truly Canadian man I ever knew."

The English rarely mastered his name, so the stories often tell of Joe Mufferaw. Even Stomping Tom Connors sang of his great deeds. He has become a part of Canada's cultural heritage, a legendary character of our colourful past.

I thank HEIRS member Paul Bourque for this story idea, which was new to me. It was the trigger for the French Canadian stories in the past newsletters as well.

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

\$5 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

Website 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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