



## Oshawa Historical Society

### Annual Report 2010

OSHAWA COMMUNITY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

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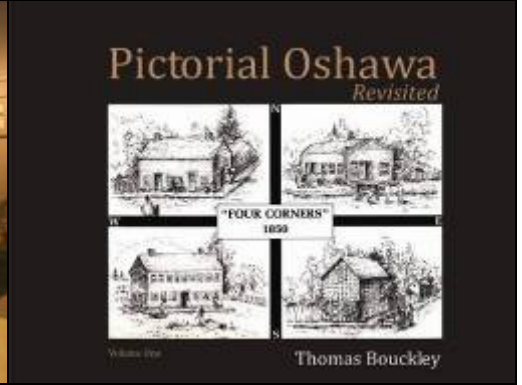
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# 2010 At A Glance...





## Your President's Report

This past year has added yet another year to both the history of Oshawa and the history of the Oshawa Historical Society. On both accounts it seems to have been a very good year. While it is traditional at this time of year, especially for a historical society, to look back to reflect on what has gone well (or not), I hope that you will not mind if I take a look to the future as well.

There are a number of indicators that the future of Oshawa will be a positive one as will the role of our Historical Society in that future. With the coming of university life to the downtown of Oshawa, we are seeing the beginnings of a resurgence of the downtown with notable historic buildings such as the Regent Theatre and the Alger building gaining a new life and purpose as part of the campus of UOIT. The energy that the student body is injecting into the community is also bringing new opportunities and interests. Our Director and Curator have become involved with the Trent University expansion and are delivering courses related to preservation of both history and artifacts.

The future seems to hold even more opportunities for our museum and archives to become a broader base for community learning for both young and old. Our staff members now provide programming for school classes and for seniors. Special interest classes have been well received at local senior's centres, and it is hoped that more can be done in the future. We are especially proud of our many volunteers who help to make our special events at the museum and archives such wonderful events. We look forward to involving even more volunteers in the future as our programs expand to meet the demand for services on the weekends.

The City of Oshawa appears to have confidence in our ability to administer the museum and archives on their behalf as indicated through their continued support of our budget requests and interest in our operations. The recent publication of the Waterfront Planning Report and Recommendations also bodes well for our future. The historical significance of our museum buildings has been acknowledged, and none of the recommendations will infringe on their security. In fact, several of the recommendations will place an even greater focus on our operations by grouping more year-round activities near our current location. It is expected that the proposed improvements to the waterfront will bring more people to the area and create a greater tourism and residential focus for both the park area and nearby developments.

Much of our recent success stems from the hard work of our staff. We are fortunate to have a staff that is made up of members who are highly regarded in the community and valued for their knowledge and abilities. We are also fortunate to benefit from the long tenure of many of our staff and their dedication to the museum and archives. That dedication is further supported and echoed by the more recent additions to our staff who are building on the strong base that has been established.



The membership of the Oshawa Historical Society also continues to grow and to become more diverse. Our move to the McLaughlin Library auditorium has proven to be a good one, and we now face the prospects of outgrowing that space in the future. Recently we exceeded the capacity of the auditorium in response to Ron Brown's presentation at one of our monthly meetings. This is a nice problem to have and will present us with the challenge of ensuring that we keep up with ways to meet the interests of our members and the general public.

There are many opportunities for us to preserve, share and celebrate our local history in new and innovative ways. Our experience with virtual exhibits, use of social media and the publication of books and articles on local history has been positive and points the way to even more use of these mediums in the future. We also enjoy the benefit of working with other like organizations in the Greater Oshawa Area such as the McLaughlin Gallery, Parkwood, Oshawa Public Libraries and other cultural groups. We will continue to look for opportunities to expand those partnerships and to explore ways of combining our forces to ensure a strong place for the enjoyment of arts and culture in our community in the coming year.

Thank you to all of our members, Board Members, volunteers, funders, staff and the general public for your continued confidence and support.

Merle Cole  
President, Oshawa Historical Society

# Operating Highlights

The OCMA remains the only museum in Oshawa with a mandate to present and preserve the history of the entire City. Our operating highlights for the year 2010 reflect the varied work we performed:

**Objective: To promote awareness of Oshawa's diverse history and ensure its preservation and build a strong base of community support.**

Actions	Accomplishments
1. Partner with groups to encourage development and presentation of special projects and new initiatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participated in 21 partner events</li> <li>• Identified new partnership opportunities with Oshawa Senior's Centre through <i>History of Oshawa</i> course</li> <li>• First exhibit mounted at new City Hall</li> <li>• Continue to offer curatorial advice to Art and History Committee</li> <li>• <i>Pictorial Oshawa: Revisited</i> project developed in partnership with the RMG and OPL</li> <li>• Trent University partnership in development – Historical Archaeology</li> </ul>
2. Continue work to refine, build and manage the collection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PastPerfect Software installed</li> <li>• 14 000 collection records migrated to new system</li> <li>• 15 000 collection records are digitized</li> <li>• Acquired 7 pieces of Smith Pottery</li> <li>• Accepted collection of funerary items from Humber College</li> <li>• Accepted 35 artifacts, including Hortence Henry's table, into the collection</li> <li>• Accepted 125 archival items into collection</li> </ul>
3. Provide accurate information on the artifacts in a variety of formats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Several publications digitized and available online in partnership with the Oshawa Public Libraries</li> <li>• Bi-weekly newspaper column continuing</li> <li>• Museum blog updated with research and exhibit news</li> <li>• Twitter and Facebook updated regularly</li> <li>• Staff presented at Canadian Historical Association conference in Montreal</li> <li>• Harmony Village history researched and published in a book</li> </ul>

**Objective: To deliver a meaningful and engaging visitor experience through exhibits, programs, services and other means of access.**

Actions	Accomplishments
1. Continue collections based research and exhibition projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feature exhibit <i>Lights, Cameras, Lenses</i> opened in March 2010</li> <li>• <i>Lights, Cameras, Lenses</i> exhibit booklet produced</li> <li>• Updated blogs to reflect collection and research focus</li> <li>• Over 1100 photos uploaded to <i>Our Ontario</i> site</li> </ul>
2. Continue to promote museum to school and family audiences.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued Family Day opening</li> <li>• Facebook updated regularly</li> <li>• Programs updated and revised</li> <li>• Program catalogue developed</li> </ul>
3. Continue to improve the high standard of program and service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report prepared on use of audio tours, grant application submitted</li> <li>• Surveyed visitors to monitor client satisfaction, 95% of respondents listed their satisfaction as good or very good</li> </ul>
4. Continue development of exhibits and renewal of permanent galleries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lights, Cameras, Lenses</i> opened</li> <li>• Hosted John McCrae travelling exhibit</li> </ul>

**Objective: Continue to meet the annual financial plan.**

Actions	Accomplishments
1. To secure community support through in-kind goods and services, donations and sponsorships.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OPG sponsorship of <i>Lights, Cameras, Lenses</i> exhibit</li> <li>• Continued sponsorship opportunities for Christmas Lamplight tour</li> <li>• Continue to participate in Community Museum Operating Grant Program</li> <li>• Rotary Club sponsorship of <i>Pictorial Oshawa: Revisited</i> publication</li> </ul>
2. Continue to seek additional sources of self generated revenues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Items added to storefront on website</li> <li>• Continue sales of redundant articles on EBAY</li> <li>• Successfully applied to Summer Job Creation Program and Young Canada Works</li> <li>• Awarded Cultural Strategic Investment Fund Grant for publication of <i>Pictorial Oshawa</i>.</li> <li>• Awarded 2 travel grants to attend the Canadian Historical Association conference</li> </ul>
3. Continue work to develop a culture of giving.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated giving opportunities and policies</li> </ul>



# Mandate and Governance

## **Mandate**

The Oshawa Historical Society was founded in 1957 and is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society. The purpose of the Society is to bring together those individuals interested in the diverse historical aspects of Oshawa and to research, record, retain, preserve and present historical information pertaining to the Oshawa area. The objectives of the Society are:

- Encourage the study and research of the history of Oshawa.
- Secure and preserve an accurate account of the historical, architectural and archaeological heritage of Oshawa.
- Promote public interest in the history of Oshawa.
- Maintain, as an agent of the City of Oshawa, a community museum and archives as a repository for artifacts and written records of historical interest to Oshawa.

## **Governance**

The Oshawa Historical Society's governing body is its Board Of Directors whose nine members were elected by the membership at the Annual General Meeting held in April. The role of the Board is to provide guidance to the staff of the Oshawa Community Museum and Archives and to represent the Historical Society and the interests of its members in the community.

Several standing and ad-hoc committees assist the Board in their duties. These committees report to the board and bring important matters to the board for discussion and direction. The Standing Committees are: Finance and Audit Committee, Governance Committee and Human Resource Committee.

The day-to-day operations of the Oshawa Community Museum and Archives and the Oshawa Historical Society are the responsibility of the professional staff.

# Highlights & Events

## January

- Jill attended a Parkwood Interpretation meeting

## February

- Open Family Day for tours
- Participated at Oshawa Centre *Heritage Week*

## March

- Victorian Tea and Tour
- Participated in Oshawa Public Library *Trash to Treasures* event
- March Break Archaeology Program
- *Lights, Cameras, Lenses: A Journey Through the History of Photography* Exhibit Opened
- Outreach: *Archaeology at Oshawa Senior*



Melissa at *Lights, Cameras, Lenses* opening

Citizens Centre

## April

- Union Cemetery Tour
- Participated in the YDAMA Workshop at the Scugog Heritage Centre
- The Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society
- Outreach: Tara gave a presentation on the *History of Oshawa* at White Cliff Retirement Residence
- Participated at the Historica Fair at Cullen Central Park
- Had a display table at the Actifest Senior Games

## May

- Mother's Day Tea
- Had an artifact display at Antiques Roadshow event at Hillsdale Estate
- CIB Planter Challenge
- Laura and Melissa went to Montreal for the CHA conference



CIB Planter Challenge

## June

- Outreach: *Herbs to You* at the Oshawa Public Library
- Swing into Seniors Fest
- Bike to Work Week event
- Jill attended a volunteer workshop
- Attended Children's Community Fair in Memorial Park
- Union Cemetery Tour
- *Lights, Cameras, Lenses* Tour for the North Durham Photography Club
- Hosted a Victorian Tea and Tour
- Participated at the *Roaring Twenties* event at Cedarcroft Nursing Home
- Participated in the Métis Heritage Celebration event in Memorial Park
- Outreach: *History of Oshawa* at Traditions of Durham
- Installed display at City Hall

## July

- Happy Canada Day! Open for tours on Canada Day
- Summer Program: *Frontier Fun and Pirate Pandemonium*
- Weekly Victorian Teas
- Hosted a Diary Writing Workshop at the Oshawa Public Library
- International Festival
- Centennial Tea at Parkwood for the Hospital's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Melissa at Parkwood for Hospital's Centennial Tea

## August

- Children's Memory Book workshop
- Weekly Victorian Tea
- Red Hat Tea
- Outreach: *Stories from the Homefront* Oshawa Public Library
- Summer Program: *Medieval Days and Knights*
- Outreach: *Stories from the Homefront* at Cedarcroft Nursing Home
- Attended the Canadian National Exhibition (CNE) with a *Toys and Games* display
- Installed an exhibit on *1940s Women during the War* at the Northview Branch of the Oshawa Public Library

## September

- Hosted a Teddy Bear Picnic
- Outreach: Presentation of *Clothing from the 1940s*
- Union Cemetery Tour
- Presentation for the York Pioneer Historical Society

- Presentation at Trent University at Oshawa on the *Early History of Oshawa*
- Participated in Pass the Book Gala at the Jubilee Pavilion
- Participated in Doors Open Oshawa
- Opening of *Remembering John McCrae Exhibit: 1872-1918*, a travelling exhibit from Guelph Museums
- Hosted *History of Oshawa* class at OSCC
- Outreach: Presentation on Oshawa's Railway at Traditions of Durham



Laura and Merle with Carol, facilitator for the OCMA Visioning Session

## October

- Jill attended Museum Educators Group meeting
- Jennifer returned from her maternity leave
- Lisa begins at the OCMA in the position of Program Assistant
- Outreach: Victorian Mourning Customs in Cobourg
- Annual Halloween at the Harbour event, with D&D Exotics, Spirit Matters and Sandy Dale, face painting, participating
- Staff and board members participated in a Visioning Session for the future of the OCMA
- Staff attended OMA conference



Visitors checking out D&D Exotic's animals at the Halloween at the Harbour event



## November

- Remembrance Tea
- Launch of *Pictorial Oshawa: Revisited Volume I* at the Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Participated in World War II event at Centennial Retirement Residence, *Stories from the Homefront*
- Outreach: *Stories from the Homefront* at Oshawa Senior Citizen Centre
- Jill attended Durham Heritage Fair Committee Meeting
- Unveiling of a plaque for Premier Gordon Conant by the Ontario Heritage Trust
- Outreach: *Curious About Cameras* at the Jess Hann branch of the Oshawa Public Library
- Installed display at City Hall



Laura, Melissa, Tara, Sonya Jones (RMG) and Jennifer Green (OPL, OHS Board Member) at the *Pictorial Oshawa: Revisited* launch.

Photo captured by Snap Oshawa

## December

- Outreach: *Mourning After* presentation at the Jess Hann branch of the Oshawa Public Library
- Participated at the Deck the Halls event at the Oshawa Public Library
- Victorian Tea
- Annual Lamplight Tour
- Board Breakfast
- Participated at a Volunteer/Career Fair at Monsignor John Pereyema Catholic Secondary School
- Christmas Victorian Teas
- Outreach: *Toys and Games* at the Jess Hann branch of the Oshawa Public Library
- Holiday Tours at the Museum



Volunteer Kathryn and City Councillor Bruce Wood at our annual Lamplight Tour

# Curator's Report

## Collection Highlights

The museum received several interesting and wonderful artifact donations from a number of patrons in 2010. Here is a glance at some of the highlights of newly acquired items by the museum over the year:

- Smith Potteries 2 lamps, 2 vases, bowl, bookends and carnival heads (each piece is unique)
- Hortence Henry's Table (Hortence Henry was Thomas and Lurenda Henry's great grandchild)
- 19<sup>th</sup> Century Victorian Funeral Artifacts from Humber College's Funeral Service Program, items include coffins, a wicker body transfer case, embalming table, and cosmetology kit
- Williams Batteryless Radio, circa 1930 (made locally by the Williams Piano Company)
- Rug and bonnet belonging to the Bennett family who once lived in Harmony Village, now part of Oshawa.



Smith Potteries Vase



Smith Potteries Vase

We would like to thank all of our donors for making a contribution to the preservation of Oshawa's history. Your commitment will help us preserve our community's heritage for future generations.

At the beginning of 2010 the curator and archivist participated in a workshop entitled, "Let's Get Digital" hosted by the Ontario Museum Association in partnership with CHIN (Canadian Heritage Information Network). This workshop was a positive experience that allowed staff to learn about proper digitization techniques and how to start our own artifact digitization project. The end result of this workshop was the uploading of 20 artifacts to the Artefacts Canada website. The artifact collection is currently being digitized and uploaded to PastPerfect, the museum's collection management database. In the spring of 2011, portions of the database will be available online for research and viewing. Watch for details on our website, Facebook page and in our quarterly newsletter, *Historical Happenings*.



Smith Potteries Carnival Head

The museum received one travelling exhibit through the course of 2010 from Guelph Museums, *Remembering John McCrae: 1872-1918*, which was on display during the month of November just in time for Remembrance Day activities.



Medical Collection display at Lakeridge Health Oshawa

Six outreach exhibits were created; these included: two exhibits for the Oshawa Public Libraries, one exhibit was on display at the *1940s Social Pass the Book Gala*, and the other for the North Oshawa Branch which focussed on women in Oshawa during World War II. The museum installed two exhibits in the new wing of Oshawa's City Hall, one about sports and the other about the Williams Piano Company. There is still time to see this display at City Hall – a Williams Piano is on display, be sure to check it out! The museum was invited to participate in an event at Cedarcroft Retirement Home, *The Roaring Twenties*, where the museum displayed dresses and accessories from the 1920s. Lakeridge Health Oshawa celebrated 100 years of service in the community, a display showcasing artifacts from the museums medical collection were on display in the front lobby of Lakeridge Health Oshawa. The museum continued their partnership with YDAMA and produced another fantastic exhibit for the CNE focusing on rural life in the Durham Region.

The museum has a great line-up of exhibits planned for 2011 including a travelling exhibit from Peterborough Museum and Archives which is called *Voices of the Town: Vaudeville in Canada*. This display will also feature theatrical history in Oshawa. In the fall, *Milk Stories*, which will highlight the history of the dairies that were located in Oshawa, will open. Watch for more details in our quarterly newsletter, *Historical Happenings*.

Thanks go out to Cheryl MacGregor, an intern from Sir Sandford Fleming College's Museum Management and Curatorship program who assisted with digitizing the collection of artifacts that are housed at Robinson House.



Cheryl MacGregor, MMC intern, cataloging in Robinson House

# Archives Report

The Archives was pleased to publish the book *Harmony Village: Remembering the Settlers & a Lost Cemetery*. This work was the result of a great deal of effort put forth by Historical Society members Dr. Gillian Gilchrist, Ed Novak and Interim Archivist Tara Lember. The project was brought to the archives by Dr. Gilchrist who was very interested in the unrecorded cemetery unearthed at St. Gertrude's Church and wanted to work to determine who it might be interred there. The finished book has turned into one of the best sellers in our gift shop.

Digitization of the archival collection continues. The decision was made to switch the database used to catalogue both the museum and archival collections to PastPerfect. The new database is designed specifically for museum and archives and is much more flexible and inclusive than the database previously used to maintain the collections. The focus is now continuing to digitize the photograph collection and ensure that the new database is updated as this process goes forward. To that end, over 400 photographs have been entered into PastPerfect since July 2010. With the return of Archivist Jennifer Weymark, the focus has moved to include adding oversized photographs as well as maps to the database. This work allows the collection to be accessed in a timelier manner and allows for less handling of more sensitive items. The museum and archives is also working towards making the collection accessible on-line through PastPerfect. This project will be a focus of 2011.



James Orin Henry – 2<sup>nd</sup> child  
born to Thomas Henry &  
Lurenda Abbey

Our partnership with the *Oshawa Express* newspaper continued with articles written by staff, in particular Tara Lember and Jennifer Weymark, being published bi-weekly.

The Archives prepared photographs and conducted research for the *Lights, Cameras, Lenses* exhibit.

In November, a member of the Henry family who lives in California sent the archives a digital copy of a Henry Family photo album. These photographs have been posed to the Museum's Facebook page, and we are continuing to work to identify the people in the photos.

# Sponsors & Donors

## Donors in 2010

The Oshawa Community Museum and Archives would like to extend our thanks to the following individuals and businesses for their support during 2010:

- Donald Sloman
- Frank and Pearl Cooper
- Ontario Power Generation
- Stephen Dinsmore
- Gary Bazowsky
- Doris Spencer
- Charles Taws
- Sandra Gaskell
- Marlene Malish
- Sharon Goulding
- Sharon Henry
- Millie Herancourt
- Tedd Hann
- Adrienne Hood
- Jim Sadler
- William Cane
- Brian Gough
- Anonymous

## Sponsors in 2010

The following sponsors assisted with various special events at the Oshawa Community Museum and Archives during 2010:

- IODE
- Lions Club of North Oshawa
- Ontario Power Generation
- Oshawa Harbour Commission
- Suchan McQuaid Financial
- Janet Dowson
- Robert Bell
- Robert McLaughlin Gallery, Thomas Bouckley Collection of Photographs
- Ed Warner

## Community Partnership in 2010

Throughout the year, the Museum worked with the following groups on various projects:

- Oshawa Public Libraries: McLaughlin Branch
- York Durham Museum and Archives Group
- Oshawa Camera Club
- Robert McLaughlin Gallery
- Lakeridge Health Oshawa

## Garden Brick

In 2010 the Museum re-launched the Garden Brick fundraiser. For a tax deductible donation of \$50, the Museum had recipients names engraved on a brick that was placed in the Henry House Heritage Herb Garden. Thank you to William Cane, Linda Bazowsky, Marlene Malish, Victoria Gould and Patty Bathen, who together donated \$550.00 and had 11 bricks added to our garden pathways.

## Education Award Recipients

The 2010 awards were as follows:

Eastdale CVI.....	Stephanie Hoskin
Monsignor Paul Dwyer Catholic High School .....	Ellysa Chenecy
R.S. McLaughlin CVI .....	Laurel Borthwick
Monsignor John Pereyema Catholic High School.....	Keatra Pelleg
O'Neill CVI .....	Naomi Reesor

# Public & Education Programming

## Public Programming

The Programming Department had a busy year out in the community in 2010! We attended numerous events across Oshawa and Durham Region, including three new ones; *Trash to Treasures* at the Oshawa Public Library, the Actifest Kickoff (2010 Senior Games) and the Métis Festival Weekend in Memorial Park. We visited a number of new friends in the community for outreach presentations ranging from *Stories of the Homefront*, to *Oshawa's Railways to Archaeology*; 14 groups and over 300 attendees. The Museum produced 185 hours of public programming and outreach in 2010 with over 2600 participants.

On March Break, 13 kids spent 3 days at Robinson House participating in the *Digging up the Past* archaeology program, and throughout the summer 50 kids came down to enjoy *Frontier Fun & Pirate Pandemonium*, *Eco Days*, a *Memory Book Workshop*, *Medieval Days & Knights* and a *Teddy Bear Picnic*.

This year Victorian Teas were offered near Mother's Day, Christmas and throughout July and August. The cost was \$10 for adults, \$5 for children and \$8 for Members of the Oshawa Historical Society. This included a light lunch of sandwiches, scones, desserts and tea followed by a guided tour of the Museum by a costumed interpreter. In 2010, 223 people attended the teas.

Month	Casual	Tours	Partner Events/Outreach (# of People)	Archives	Museum Events	Community Groups			School Groups		
						In	Out	#	In	Out	#
January	37	9	96	11	0	6	0	1	67	0	1
February	105	14	218	6	4	0	0	0	45	0	1
March	437	21	73	26	13	14	63	3	0	0	0
April	185	10	268	21	31	0	0	0	40	27	2
May	406	25	80	13	82	47	0	4	38	40	2
June	582	67	369	14	50	66	15	6	13	0	1
July	1448	115	20	17	58	63	9	6	0	0	0
August	1042	108	320	11	102	96	17	7	0	0	0
September	353	44	233	15	65	78	88	8	39	0	1
October	118	7	55	12	128	0	20	1	0	120	4
November	204	17	70	18	58	9	156	7	0	78	3
December	50	5	168	8	179	128	18	9	0	125	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4967</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>1970</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>770</b>	<b>507</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>16</b>



## Education Programming



Ashley demonstrating butter making to Grade 3 students during the *Day in the Life of a Victorian Child* program

This year in the Programming Department we were able to reap the benefits of last year's program redesign. Classes came in to view the *Lights, Cameras, Lenses* exhibit and take photos of the Museum with their own home made pinhole cameras; grade three children learned to make butter, candles, plant herbs and scrub laundry the pioneer way! Grade five classes made pinch pots and wrote stories using native pictographs after visiting the Archaeology in Oshawa gallery.



Student washing clothes using a washboard during the *Day in the Life of a Victorian Child* program

The Museum's collection of education artifacts were shuffled into different kits and made available for classes and the public to rent. There are now seven kits that can be rented: Archaeology, Around the House, Bonnets & Breeches, Down in the Barn, Early Lighting, The General Store, and Toys & Games. Staff also made use of the artifacts to create interactive stations on the tours of Robinson and Henry Houses. In another form of outreach programming, the Museum visited 6 schools to give presentations on topics such as Industrial Oshawa, and the History of Oshawa.



Students at Durham Region Historical Fair, 2010

# Oshawa Historical Society

Members of the Oshawa Historical Society enjoyed programs and visitors at the regular monthly meetings. The meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month, except June, July, August and December. The meetings begin at 7 p.m. and typically take place at the McLaughlin Branch of the Oshawa Public Library. Due to renovations which occurred at the Library, meetings during 2010 also took place at the Centennial Retirement Residence, Oshawa, and the Oshawa Community Museum & Archives.

The speakers featured this year are as follows:

January 19 – “Ontario’s Forgotten South Coast,” Ron Brown

February 16 – “Camp X,” Lynn Phillip Hodgson

March 15 – “History of the Magic Lantern and Their Shows”  
Lindsay Lambert

April 20 – Annual General Meeting – “Industrial Oshawa” Jillian Thurn

May 18 – “Tour through *Lights, Cameras, Lenses* photography exhibit,” Melissa Cole

September 21– “Demill Ladies College,” Laura Suchan

October 19 – “Fashioning Fabric: The Arts of Spinning & Weaving in Canada” Adrienne Hood

November 16 – “Research Symposium,” Tara Lember and Laura Suchan



January 19<sup>th</sup> OHS Monthly Meeting with speaker Ron Brown

## Membership Services

In addition to assisting in the preservation of Oshawa’s history, being a member of the Oshawa Historical Society offers: free admission to the monthly Speaker Series, addressing a variety of heritage topics; the Society newsletter *Historical Happenings*; free admission to the Oshawa Community Museum; a 15% discount at the Sydenham Country Store; and, early notice of historic tours and special events sponsored by the Society.

As of December 31st 2010, the total number of Society memberships was 108 with 24 new memberships throughout the year.

### Membership Fees:

Individual	\$20
Family	\$25
Student	\$5
Friends of the Society	\$60 (\$40 tax receipt)
Life	\$300 (\$200 tax receipt)

### Membership Breakdown of 2010

Individual.....	53
Family .....	23
Friends of the Society .....	2
Community .....	1
Corporate.....	1
Life .....	12
Student.....	1
Complimentary.....	15
(Volunteer/City Council)	
<b>Total Membership .....</b>	<b>108</b>

\* **PLEASE NOTE:** After the 2011 AGM, Membership fees will increase by \$5 if an email is NOT provided for e-newsletters for all new members. This DOES NOT apply to current members as of the 2011 AGM.

# Volunteers

The Museum had a fantastic group of volunteers in 2010. They spent countless hours helping in the garden, in the collection and archives, on tours, and with the kids. The 2010 Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year award recipient was Uwe Schneider. At our celebration in April, we commemorated Melanie Abrey as our recipient of the Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year for 2009. The celebration took place at Parkwood National Historic Site where we enjoyed an afternoon of tea and a tour of the site led by curator Samantha George.

We continued to partner with Operation Springboard and the Durham Region Association of Volunteer Administrators and brought two new volunteers on board! We have expanded our 'At Home' and 'Junior Volunteer' sectors and found that these up and coming opportunities could soon be our most popular form of volunteering.

Thank you to the following volunteers for all of your assistance throughout 2010!

## 2010 Volunteers

Melanie Abrey  
Tyler Angi  
Dylon Angi  
Mary Ellen Cole  
Pat Davies  
Jacqueline Frank  
Sharon Henderson  
Kathryn Holden  
Dorothy Kitchen  
Peter Martin  
Kathy Moffat  
Kay Murray  
Uwe Schneider  
Cheryl Seltzer  
Irene Stone  
Susanne Sutton  
Operation Springboard  
Erika Suchan  
Lisa Terech



Volunteer Peter with visitor at annual Lamplight Tour



Melanie Abrey receiving 2009 Earl Hann Volunteer of the Year Award

# Minutes, Annual General Meeting

Held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, in the Auditorium of the Centennial Retirement Residence, 59 Hillcroft St. Oshawa at 7:00 p.m.

1/ **Welcome:** Stoney Kudel, President of the Board, called to order the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society, and drew attention to last year's minutes printed in the back of the Annual Report.

2/ **Motion was called to accept the Minutes** of the April 14, 2009 Annual General Meeting as presented. Moved by Donna Bradley; seconded by Susanne Sutton. **CARRIED.**

3/ Stoney then asked the Membership to review the information contained in the Annual Report.

**Motion was called to accept the 2009 Annual Report as written.** Moved by Isabelle Hume; seconded by Ray Smith. **CARRIED**

4/ Stoney called upon Merle Cole to speak on proposed **Amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws**, as distributed to the Membership (full report is filed with the minutes as Annex A and B, respectively).

Proposed changes to the **Constitution** dealt with 3 areas:

(a) ARTICLE IV - ORGANIZATION, Section 2 - Board of Directors – to consist of nine (9) elected members. Merle advised this change was because Oshawa City Council ceased the practice of appointing representatives to serve on any agency Boards or Commissions.

(b) ARTICLE V – MEETINGS, Section 2 – Board of Directors shall meet at least once per quarter during each fiscal year. Merle explained the Museum now has more staff participation and they require less direction from the Board to operate the Museum.

(c) Robert's Rules of Order, the standard today for most Boards, is proposed to replace the outdated 1916 Bourniot's Rules of Order.

**Motion was called: "That the proposed changes to the Constitution of the Oshawa Historical Society, as distributed to the Membership, be adopted to take effect immediately...."**


Moved by Merle Cole, Seconded by Brian Gough. **CARRIED**

Proposed changes to the **By-Laws** dealt with:

ARTICLE IV – Section 2 – **Nine** Board members, and Section 4 – Standing Committees being named as "Human Resources Committee", "Finance and Audit Committee" and "Governance Committee".

**Motion was called: "That the proposed changes to the By-laws of the Oshawa Historical Society as distributed to the membership be adopted to take effect immediately...."**

Moved by Merle Cole, Seconded by Brian Gough. **CARRIED**



**5/ (& 6 on the Agenda).** Stoney called upon **Brian Gough**, to make a presentation regarding **the Nomination Committee Report & Elections** (full report is filed with the minutes as Annex C). He advised Nicole Patterson had resigned January 25, 2010. Board recruitment advertising was conducted on the City of Oshawa online events listing, the Events calendar at Durhamregion.com as well as the Society's web site and on Facebook. In addition, postings were placed in branches of the Oshawa Public Library and the Senior Citizens' Centre. The Nominating Committee also sought out other potentially interested parties. No nominations were received from any other members of the Society. Two applications resulted from the recruitment process, and following interviews, both applicants, Erin Gendron & Jennifer Green were recommended. All current board members have agreed to serve again. With the 2010 change to the Constitution & By-laws amending full complement of elected Board members to nine, (formerly 12), and due to the number of candidates nominated being nine, an election at the annual meeting is not required.

**Motion was called, "That the report of the Nominating Committee be approved and the following nine candidates for the 2010 Board of Directors be elected by acclamation: John Beirness, Merle Cole, David Dowsley, Janet Dowson, Val Foster, Erin Gendron, Brian Gough, Jennifer Green, & Stoney Kudel."**

Moved by Brian Gough; seconded by Merle Cole. **CARRIED**

**7/** Stoney then called upon David Dowsley, Treasurer, who drew the members' attention to the Society financial report. **Motion was called "to reappoint Deloitte and Touche as auditors for 2010"**.

Moved by David Dowsley; seconded by Janet Dowson. **CARRIED.**

**8/** Stoney then called on Melissa Cole, Curator, who announced that **Melanie Abrey** will be the **recipient of the 2010 Earl Hann volunteer award**, with the plaque to be presented at the Volunteer Banquet in April.

**9/** Stoney called on **Melissa** to announce the presentation of **Appreciation Pins** to Society Members as follows:

**5 years:** Donna Bradley, David Dowsley, Gordon & Marilyn Dowsley, Beatrice & Harry Lack, Myrna Lack, & Roy Miles

**10 years:** Joan & David Andrew, Y.A. Bennett, Brian & Myrna Gough, Margaret and David Perkin

**15 years:** Steve Barker, Susanne Sutton, Dorothy Kitchen.

**10/** Stoney advised that the Board would meet on Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, Guy House, Verna Conant Galley.

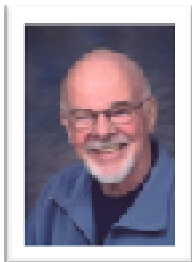
**11/ Motion to adjourn the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Oshawa Historical Society** was Moved by David Dowsley; Seconded by Robert Bell.

# Personnel

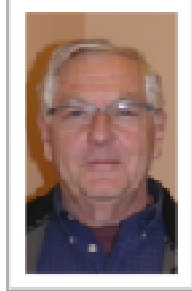
## Board of Directors

The OCMA is administered by the Oshawa Historical Society through a duly elected Board of Directors as an agent for the City of Oshawa. The Constitution and By-Laws (2005) of the Oshawa Historical Society detail the election process and the roles and responsibilities of the Board. The Board consists of nine members elected by the Oshawa Historical Society.

### Board of Directors 2010 – 2011



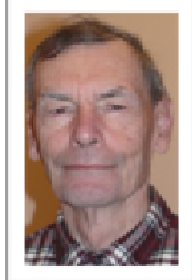
Merle Cole *President*  
Retired from the Federal Public Service, Merle enjoys travel, photography and his family. He attributes his interest in local history to his wife Mary Ellen.



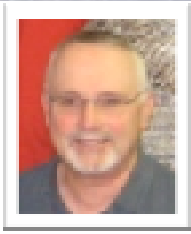
Brian Gough *Vice President*



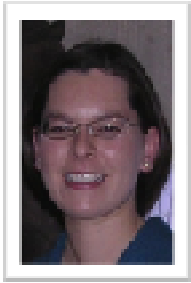
Janet Dowson *Treasurer*



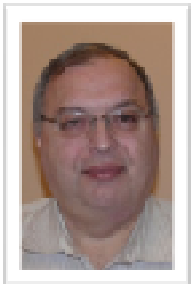
David Dowsley *HR Committee Chair*  
A former teacher in Oshawa, David Dowsley has served on the Oshawa Historical Board as treasurer. He is currently chair of the Human Resources Committee.



John Beirness      *Director at Large*



Jennifer Green      *Director at Large*



Stoney Kudel      *Director at Large*

### **No Photos**

Erin Gendron    *Membership Secretary*

Erin Gendron has over 10 years experience managing corporate communications and fundraising programs for a variety of organizations, including those in the cultural sector, and is in her final year of the Master of Information (archives, cultural heritage) program at the University of Toronto.

Val Foster      *Director at Large*

### **Staff**

**Executive Director, Laura Suchan**

905.436.7624 ext 104 [director@oshawamuseum.org](mailto:director@oshawamuseum.org)

Laura has been employed at the Museum for 21 years and is responsible for the day-to-day administration of the Museum. She has a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree from Trent University majoring in Anthropology and a Master of Arts degree from York University in History.



**Archivists, Jennifer Weymark & Tara Lember**

905.436.7624 ext 100 [archivist@oshawamuseum.org](mailto:archivist@oshawamuseum.org)

Jennifer has been employed at the Museum since September 1999 and is responsible for the administration and presentation of the Museum's archival collection. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree from Trent University, a Museum Management and Curatorship Certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College and a Master Degree in Museum Studies from Leicester University.

Tara started with the museum in February 2009 to aid in the camera collection before taking over the position of Archivist while Jennifer was on maternity leave. She has her Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Anthropology and History and her Masters degree in Museum Studies from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

**Curator, Melissa Cole**

905.436.7624 ext 103 [curator@oshawamuseum.org](mailto:curator@oshawamuseum.org)

Melissa joined the staff in August 2000 and is responsible for the administration and presentation of the Museum's collection of artifacts. She has a Bachelor of Art (Honours) degree in Anthropology from Trent University and a Museum Management and Curatorship Certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College.

**Visitor Experience Coordinator, Jill Passmore**

905.436.7624 ext 106 [programming@oshawamuseum.org](mailto:programming@oshawamuseum.org)

Jillian has been employed at the museum since September 2002 and is responsible for the planning, monitoring and evaluation, as well as the design, fabrication and delivery of tours and activities to ensure visitor experience is positive, engaging and meaningful. As part of her duties Jillian manages the volunteers, gift shop and Henry House garden. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Brock University majoring in history and classical studies.

**Program Assistant, Lisa Terech**

905.436.7624 ext 106 [membership@oshawamuseum.org](mailto:membership@oshawamuseum.org)

Lisa started with the Museum in 2007 as a volunteer and joined the staff in October 2010. She is responsible for assisting with public programming, membership, tours, and events. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in History (Honours) and Canadian Studies (General) from Wilfrid Laurier University and a Museum Management and Curatorship Certificate from Sir Sandford Fleming College.



**Interpreter, Ashley Ludlow**

Ashley started with the Museum as part of the summer student program in 2008 and 2009, before becoming part of the staff team in September 2009. She is responsible for leading tours for the public, and assisting with special events. She has a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Art & Art History from the University of Toronto, a Merchandising and Marketing diploma from Fanshawe College, and a Bachelor of Education degree in Junior/Intermediate Education from York University.

**Interpreter, Lindsey Hill**

Lindsey has been employed at the Museum since the summer of 2009. She is responsible for leading tours for the public, assisting with special events, and has been maintaining the digital collection on the Our Ontario website. She has a Bachelor of Science (Honours) degree, majoring in Neuroscience and Biology from McMaster University.

**Maintenance, Wayne Rundell**

Wayne has been employed at the museum since February 2009. He is responsible for maintaining the Museum's physical facilities and takes a leading role in maintenance and exhibition projects.



At October Visioning Session.

Back Row, l-r: Brian, Laura, Jennifer, Jillian, Jennifer, Ashley, Janet & David

Front Row, l-r: Melissa, Lindsay, Lisa, Merle & John



## **Standing Committees for 2010**

The President is an ex-officio member of all committees.  
Committees and Members were:

### **Finance and Audit Committee**

Janet Dowson (Chair)  
David Dowsley  
Erin Gendron  
Merle Cole (President ex-officio)  
Laura Suchan (Staff)

### **Governance Committee**

Brian Gough (Chair)  
Erin Gendron  
John Beirness  
Merle Cole (President ex-officio)  
Laura Suchan (Staff)

### **Human Resource Committee**

David Dowsley (Chair)  
Brian Gough  
Jennifer Green  
Merle Cole (President ex-officio)  
Laura Suchan (Staff)

# Financial Report

## **Special Gifts & Memorial (Bequest) Fund**

This fund was established in 1990 and is financed entirely by contributions and bequests from individuals, organizations and businesses interested in the preservation of Oshawa's history. The Special Gifts and Memorial Fund finance the work of the Society in preserving the history of Oshawa. The income earned from the fund is used towards projects that result in a tangible, permanent product and communicate a message regarding the history of Oshawa. Examples of the projects for funding include, but are not limited to, plaques, markers, books and videos. Donations in excess of \$200 are recognized on a plaque located in Guy House.

The principal is invested in a TD Canada Trust Investment Certificate. Interest from the certificate is deposited annually in the Fund's interest account. This investment is held at TD Canada Trust.

### **Financial Statement**

**Dec, 31 2010**                      **Balance \$5, 900**

A copy of the administrative guideline may be obtained by contacting:

President  
Oshawa Historical Society  
1450 Simcoe Street South  
Oshawa, Ontario  
L1H 8S8

**The 2010 auditor's report completed by Deloitte and Touche is on file and available upon request.**

## **Henry House Bequest Fund**

In 1973, the Society received a bequest of \$2,000, the interest from this is to be used to finance projects that result in a tangible product and communicate a message regarding heritage of Oshawa through Henry House. Examples of eligible projects include, but are not limited to; design projects to enhance the period look of the house or the purchase of artifacts for the house.

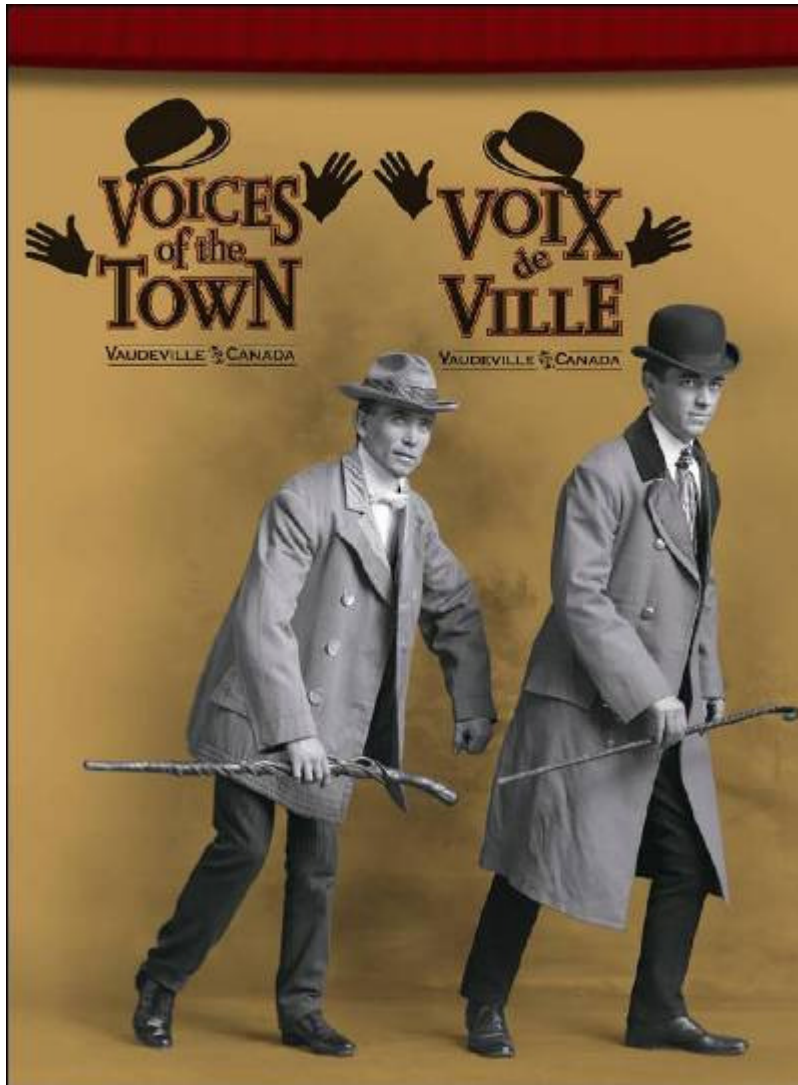
The principal is invested in a GIC with TD Canada Trust. The interest from the certificate is deposited annually in the fund's interest account.

### **Financial Statement**

**Dec. 31 2010**                      **Balance \$2,981**



## 2011- 2012 Exhibition Schedule



*Voices of the  
Town: Vaudeville in  
Canada  
Entertainment in  
Oshawa*

May 9<sup>nd</sup> 2011 –  
August 19<sup>th</sup> 2011

•

*Milk Stories: Dairy  
History in Oshawa*

Fall 2011

•

*The Sea Shanty  
Collection  
Featuring artifacts  
recovered by  
Robert Stephenson*

Spring 2012

•

*Stories from War of  
1812*

Tentatively  
Scheduled for  
2012



OSHAWA COMMUNITY MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

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Website: [www.oshawamuseum.org](http://www.oshawamuseum.org)

Twitter: @OshawaMuseum

Facebook: Oshawa Community Museum and Archives