

Greater Harvey Historical Society – Kinmount Heritage Centre

Newsletter May 2019

Volume 2019 Issue 1



President's Message:

Hello everyone. Spring is finally here. It was a long time coming, but with it - good news!!! Trent Lakes has given us permission to open in the offices at Galway Hall. We are holding an **OPEN HOUSE** on Friday, June 28th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Hope you can drop in.

We will be open the second and fourth Fridays of the month from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., between April 1st and November 1st. Winter months will be by appointment only. Call 705-488-9952 and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

The Kinmount Heritage Centre will also be open starting June 6th. Hours are from 10:30a.m.-2:00 p.m. every Thursday. Stop in and see us there.

The opening of our offices at Galway Hall is great news. We are back in Trent Lakes where we belong. We give a big shout out to our Trent Lakes Council and the CAO for all their help and support. They stand behind us 100%.

As always we are looking for volunteers. If you are interested please call and leave a message at 705-488-9952.

Barb Cain, President

Greater Harvey Historical Society

Remembering a long time executive member of G.H.H.S.



We regret to inform you of the passing of Joan Elizabeth Hamilton 1922-2019 (WWII Veteran). She will be sadly missed.

Passed away peacefully at the age of 97, on Thursday March 7th, 2019 at Ross Memorial Hospital in Lindsay, Ontario with her granddaughter Carey by her side. Joan will be dearly missed by her son Jim (Susan), her daughter Sue (Brian), and her son Scott (Debbie). Beloved Grandmother of John Michael (Jamie), Carey (Shawn), Donna, and Holly. Great-Grandmother of Mya, Kyle, Sullivan, and Harrison. Predeceased by her loving parents Herbert and Alice Sparkes. Also predeceased by Richard Walker and Bill Hamilton. Joan was a skilled horseback riding instructor in England and loved horses, especially her favourite, Vanity. She was twice president of the

Peterborough Legion Branch #452 (formerly Elizabeth Smellie Branch). Joan proudly served in the Second World War and was a war bride when she moved to Canada in 1946. A Celebration of Joan's Life will take place at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer Society Peterborough, Alzheimer Society Kawartha Lakes, or LAWS (Lakefield Animal Welfare Society) through the funeral home or condolences may be made online at www.CommunityAlternative.ca



Executive Committee

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President

Guy Scott
Vice-President

Margo Phillips
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Jim Walker
Treasurer

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Director

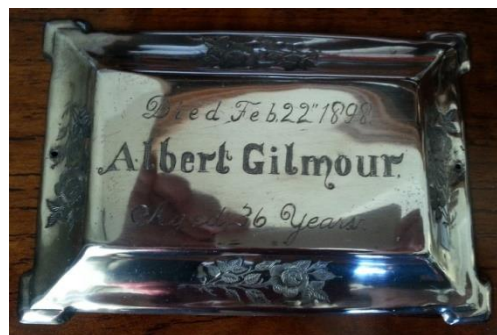
Kathy Lee
Director

Janice Stange
Director

Ruthann Allen
Volunteer

Coffin Plates

The history of Coffin Plates or casket plates is a long but not very well documented one. Coffin plates are decorative adornments attached to the coffin that contain free genealogical information like the name and death date of the deceased. Generally made of a soft metal like lead, pewter, silver, brass, copper, zinc or tin. The different metals reflect the different functions of the plates, or the status and wealth of the deceased. For a basic funeral, a simple lead plate would be lettered with the name, date of death and often the age of the departed, and nailed to the lid of a wooden coffin. But high status people could afford a plate of a more expensive metal and elaborate design. The oldest coffin plates that I have seen date from the 17th century (1600~1699) and were at that time reserved for people of some stature. As time went on more people were able to afford the luxury of a Coffin Plate and with the coming of the industrial revolution the cost of the plates went down so much that by the middle of the 19th century almost every family could afford to have one put on the coffin of their loved one.



Originally the manufacture of coffin plates was of course a cottage industry. The plates were made by a variety of craftsmen and women with varying levels of skill. Wealthy people were able to contract with a skilled metalworker or silversmith and as a result some of the most elaborate plates can rightly be considered works of art. On the other end of the scale many plates were made by the local blacksmith or tinsmith and are of a crude and simple design.

In the late 1840s the first machine made coffin plates began to appear. At first they were simple shapes stamped out of a flat piece of metal. An example of would be the coffin plate of Lucy A Smith who died in 1848. Soon more elaborate shapes with fancy designs stamped on them began to appear and by the 1860s there were literally dozens of shapes and styles from many different manufacturers to choose from. The industrial manufactured coffin plates of course had no names on them. They were in fact just blanks that were intended to be engraved by someone in the local community such as a jeweller or undertaker. As such the quality of the engraving varies wildly.

In North America at the same time that the use of coffin plates was increasing in popularity the practice of removing the plates from the coffin before burial increased. Often the Coffin Plates were never attached to the coffin but displayed on a stand or table next to it. An example of this can be seen in the photo of the coffin plate of Charles Diven Glenn. The coffin plates were removed to be kept as mementos by the loved ones of the deceased. This practice started in the early 1840s and was particularly popular in the North Eastern United States, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The farther you get from the Northeastern U.S. the less common the practice becomes. This practice peaked in the late 19th century (1880~1899) and by the 1920s this practice had all but stopped.

*Your 2019
Membership form is
enclosed!
Thank-you for
being a part of
History!!*



Give Me A Friend

Give me a friend with
whom to spend
Life's golden hours in
gladness,
A comrade who remaineth
true
Alike in joy or sadness,
A little bread, a roof, a bed,
And each new morn a
blessing,
Is all I ask from week to
week:
These wants I come
confessing.

Francis Chambers



Superstitions On Bridal Colors

Brides of today are not superstitious about wearing colors other than white on their wedding day. However in years gone by most young maids wouldn't think of changing this old tradition. Here is what one poet thinks of the situation:

Married in grey, you will go
far away;
Married in black, you will
wish yourself back;
Married in brown you will
live out of town;
Married in red you will wish
yourself dead;
Married in green, ashamed to
be seen;
Married in yellow, ashamed
of your fellow;
Married in blue; he will al-
ways be true;
Married in pink, your spirits
will sink;
Married in white, you have
chosen alright.



Old Disease Names Frequently found on Death Certificates

Dentition - Cutting of teeth
Deplumation - Tumor of the eyelids which causes hair loss
Diary fever - A fever that lasts one day
Diphtheria - Contagious disease of the throat
Distemper - Usually animal disease with malaise, discharge from nose and throat, anorexia
Dock fever - Yellow fever
Dropsy - Edema (swelling), often caused by kidney or heart disease
Dropsy of the Brain - Encephalitis
Dry Bellyache - Lead poisoning
Dyscrasy - An abnormal body condition
Dysentery - Inflammation of colon with frequent passage of mucous and blood
Dysorexy - Reduced appetite
Dyspepsia - Indigestion and heartburn. Heart attack symptoms
Dysury - Difficulty in urination
Eclampsy - Symptoms of epilepsy, convulsions during labor
Ecstasy - A form of catalepsy characterized by loss of reason
Edema - Nephrosis; swelling of tissues
Edema of lungs - Congestive heart failure, a form of dropsy
Eel thing - Erysipelas
Elephantiasis - A form of leprosy
Encephalitis - Swelling of brain; aka sleeping sickness
Enteric fever - Typhoid fever
Enterocolitis - Inflammation of the intestines
Enteritis - Inflammation of the bowels
Epitaxis - Nose bleed

Historical Sketch of the Townships of Galway & Cavendish

In 1861, the combined population of Galway and Cavendish Townships was 352 people. By 1871, the population had risen to 521 people and was a mixture of Irish, Scot, English and German stock. The predominant groups, were Irish of the roman catholic faith and Irish Protestants who were members of the Church of England.

These two townships, united for municipal purposes, form part of the northern area of Peterborough County. Galway Township contains 69,920 acres and lies north of Harvey Township. Both townships have well-known antecedents to their names; Galway being named after the Irish county, and Cavendish being named in honour of the famous scientist Sir Henry Cavendish who first measured the density of the earth and discovered the composition of water.

Galway Township was first surveyed by M. Dean Provincial Land Surveyor, in 1857. Mr. Dean travelled over the northern and western parts of the area and reported that it was well-watered, and although undulating and stony in place still generally well suited for some settlement. Several rock ridges made it more adaptable to cattle raising than grain farming. It was later noted that the south-eastern part of the township was of virtually no use as agricultural land as it was extremely rocky but that it was covered with very fine red and white pine three to four feet in diameter. It was also noted that wildlife abounds in both townships and that trout and black bass can easily be caught.

The Buckhorn Dairy Company 1918

A cheese factory gathered the local milk from farmers, but the bare rocks of the area made for few farms. Lumbering remained the main industry until tourism replaced it. Numerous lodges were established in the area catering to a growing clientele who accessed the area by boat.

Cheese factories seemed to be a mainstay of the Lakehurst economy, and 3 such operations were located in the Lakehurst area. They converted the surplus milk from the extensive local farming community into a sellable commodity.



On May 11, we participated in the Kinmount Community Showcase with other groups at the Kinmount Community Centre. There was a free bbq, giveaways and lots of community spirit!!!




Rhubarb Muffins

- 1 1/4 cups brown sugar
- 1/2 cup salad oil
- 1 egg
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1 cup buttermilk
- 1 1/2 cups chopped rhubarb
- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- Topping:
- 1/3 cup sugar
- 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- Directions
- In large bowl mix brown sugar, oil, egg, and vanilla.
- Add buttermilk, rhubarb and nuts, stirring completely.
- In separate bowl mix remaining ingredients. Stir until moistened.
- Topping:
- Combine and mix until crumbly and sprinkle over muffin dough. Press slightly onto each.
- Bake at 400 for twenty minutes.

Scottish Naming Pattern

First born Son-named for the paternal grandfather
 Second born Son- named for the maternal grandfather
 Third son named for the father
 Fourth and subsequent sons were often named after father or mother's brothers
 First born Daughter-named for the maternal grandmother
 Second Born Daughter-named for the paternal grandmother
 Third daughter named for the mother
 Subsequent daughters were generally named for mother or father's sisters.
 If one of the first three children died, often the next baby of the same sex will be named after the baby that died

We have 100 likes on  facebook
Are you one of them?

Contact Us !!

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Phone/message (705) 488-9952

Private message (pm) through Facebook page - Kinmount Heritage-GHHS