



Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society President's Report to the Annual Meeting on the Activities of 2014

We started the year off with a running start.

We elected a new executive at our first meeting of the year, which was also our Annual General Meeting. New members were welcomed and retiring members were thanked.

We soft unveiled the Nora Francis Henderson plaque for the members to see and read, with the promise that it will be in the ground and unveiled in the summer. The plaque was the idea of the Society and also funded by us. The long journey of how a plaque comes about was documented in the January edition of the *Bailey's Bulletin*.

We also heard from our archivist, Mary Pomfret, about the many items we have in storage and the many documents and photos we have about the Mountain history. Many of these items do not have a providence or identification and we were asked to look and comment on anything unknown. It was truly an eye opening talk to know just how much information the Society houses.

A letter was sent, on behalf of the Society, to the Hamilton Municipal Heritage Committee, requesting that they look into the physical state of Century Manor. It generated a CBC Radio/Web report done on the issue. We continue to be active with Chedoke House and Auchmar.

A letter was written to the Ontario Heritage Trust about Chedoke House and the response was very positive. The Society can and will take on a leadership role in monitoring the property.

A letter was sent to St. Joseph's Hospital regarding Century Manor. A meeting was held and the result was very positive toward helping to preserve Century Manor. The Society again can and will take a leadership role in monitoring the property. The Manor will be plaqued, by the City, because of its designation status.

The Society has strong representation and a leading role with the Friends of Auchmar.

We continued to respond to questions and concerns of Mountain residents who had concerns about Mountain Heritage. The issue of the ruins of the Sanatorium steps and pillars was addressed with research and City and public contact.

In May, Robin McKee did a new talk on the Niagara Gorge Railway and it was the largest attended talk to date.

The Society was involved with Concession Streetfest, which is a wonderful way of showcasing the Society to the public.

The Society received a donation of 300 DVDs from Gary Kaulback. All proceeds from the sale of the DVDs stay with the Society. Thank you Gary!

The Society was involved in the Art of Gallery of Hamilton unveiling of the Bruce Plaque, which was funded by the Society.

The year's June outing was cancelled due to lack of interest.

In September, Murray Aikman did a talk on the Incline Railways of Hamilton.

For November, in keeping with a Remembrance Day theme, 90 year old veteran Frank Fordham talked about Canada's involvement in WWI.

Some other milestones when it comes to social media:

The Society's web site in 2014 had 1811 visits from 1501 individuals. This translates to 150 people per month visiting the site.

The Society's Facebook page has 151 likes and with just one posting we had 1263 reads on the page.

We are getting out to a newer crowd of people. Now let's hope some of those new people will become members of our Society and even volunteer for the Executive.

I want to thank my executive for supporting the Society this year and all the volunteers that have help us to bring Mountain history to all Hamiltonians.

Thank you

Robin McKee

President

Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society