



NEWSLETTER

CANADIAN FRIENDS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

c/o Pickering College, 16945 Bayview Avenue, Newmarket, Ontario, L3Y 4X2

2003

- MESSAGE from CFHA CHAIRPERSON -

Welcome to the Spring Bulletin. Presently, we are planning for the Annual General Meeting in September 2003. Count on a good September weekend for the meeting! Newsletters come together when enough material collects in the file to make an issue. Members are invited to report their news and discoveries for future issues. Included will be news and notes on researchers and their projects, and reports of a routine that is seldom ordinary in the Dorland Room / CYM Reference Library, Pickering College.

The executive is growing toward an 'esprit de corps', and we are not a ballet! Just working to have our meetings, and that takes some rare 'choreography'! But once gathered, it is worth it. Busy people all, but when we can focus, it works! We are thankful for the friendship working together permits. I am grateful to all on the executive who make CFHA possible.

The concern for the environment is one all peoples need to be aware of today. It is closely related to peace and human rights, always part of Friends' involvement. This is on the local and global scale, and needs our time and attention. Friends always related to their land as farmers and orchardists, and utilized the resources. We continue awareness of the needs for wise use of the earth's bounty.

We take up new concerns, or older ones made new, as history unfolds. Past history spotlights this as we research and as the threads are constantly woven together. We could close this newsletter with a reminder from "Moby Dick" of the Loom image of the Warp and the Woof that on the loom make the fabric of life, even to the way the bar is snapped to fit the threads to one another. We all are facing much in our lives in today's world with many concerns. To share our experiences and our dreams, our visions for the future, is a way to move forward together, rather than alone. We are not too busy to work together; we are renewed as we go, and lifted by the accomplishments that are then possible. Reading the disciplines in research recently, the thoughts still rang true. Truth does not change, although our understanding of it may grow.

With hope for the future, Jane Zavitz-Bond

- CANADIAN YEARLY MEETING (CYM) ARCHIVES: Research -

- In response to requests for information on costumes that would be right for a docu-drama set on the Quaker Island of Nantucket, based on real experience, from the Herman Melville novel 'Moby Dick', relating the story of a great white whale, we turned to Brinton Turtle's 'Obadiah' books' illustrations of Friends on Nantucket. We add the interesting note that when the whaling industry was impacted by war and later by petroleum, as coal-oil was used in lamps, those Friends moved to new pastures. History has many interesting connections which emerge when researchers come. As the use of whale-oil declined, Elias Rogers began a coal and coal-oil business in Toronto. Elias was the son of Elias and Sarah (Pearson) Rogers, born on a farm on Yonge Street near Newmarket.

- Peter Campbell is researching for a biography of Rose Henderson who appears in early CFSC minutes [1930s]. Having worked to establish the Juvenile Court System in Montreal, she was later elected to the Toronto Public School Board where she worked for children's rights, education, and for peace in the world to allow it all to be possible. She arranged a Peace poster contest and an exhibit at the Art Gallery of Ontario for winning students' work. These biographical enquiries remind us that People are at the center of changing history, as individuals and in groups, so are meetings and organizations. The body of History takes on life and students, especially the younger ones, find their study more interesting if people are presented.

- In order to celebrate its 70 years of history since 1931, the Canadian Friends Service Committee created "Grey Daws" - packets of facsimile items with companion notes. John Sparling visited CYM Archives searching out special items related to Friends faith & practice.

- CYM ARCHIVES: Donations -

Acquisitions continue to be received in the CYM Archives and Library. We always welcome copies of your family trees, and related stories. Books have been purchased for support of the history of Friends in Canada and the world as they seek the light and live their testimonies. Our resources come from many generous supporters.

- A family album, given to the Archives a number of years ago, identifies many of the Knight family in Grey County - descendants of the Luton sisters who married Knight brothers in Yonge St in the 1845. The donor, Audrey Field Duff, also donated the beautiful bonnets worn at the wedding, along with her Aunt Nina Dean's account as to why they are so well preserved.

- An album of Rogers-Doan family photographs in the possession of Faith Rogers McLom is a good source of information. It was given to Seneca Doan by Augustus & Susan (Pound) Rogers. Nearly all the photos were identified, sometimes with relationships given. CYM Archives was given permission to photocopy the album for identification of several names on the Yonge Street genealogical tree.

- Robert Alexander, Meaford, sent books from the Moore family when he moved last fall.

- Did any of you see the docu-drama of Nicholas Austin and his late 18th century settlement in Quebec on the history channel? Martin Duckworth, film maker and descendant, made an excellent film, and promises a copy of the video to the CYM Archives. He sought information regarding costumes and architecture for that time in a Quaker settlement.

- LETTER TO THE EDITOR -

On the Subject of Quakers and Agriculture, Madeline (Hilborn) Malott wrote:

Would your society be interested in materials I am assembling on my Quaker grandfather, William Wilson Hilborn? W.W. Hilborn, as he was known, was the first appointed Horticulturalist of the Dominion of Canada; he was appointed by Sir John Carling, and served at the Central Experimental Station, Ottawa, from 1886-1889. From there, he moved to Leamington area where he attained prominence as a lecturer, promoter of peach culture and greenhouse crops.

As I go through microfilm of local newspapers, his name occurs often. I am putting such on my computer files for family. Here is an example from *Amherstburg Echo*, March 24, 1893, p.6 "W.W. Hilborn, of the Ridge, north of here, has received instructions to ship fresh strawberries to the World's Fair every day during the season, for exhibition among the Canadian exhibits. This should prove a very desirable advertisement for this district as a fruit raising section."

William Wilson Hilborn was the son of Levi & Dorothy (Harvey) Hilborn of Sparta and Arkona, and grandson of Joseph & Susannah (Lundy) Hilborn. In the early 1800s, Joseph Hilborn (1787-1842) was a school teacher north of Toronto [Yonge Street MM], having replaced Timothy Rogers Jr. Joseph was also postmaster at Arkona. W.W. was the great-grandson of Thomas Hilborn (1747-1836) & Sarah (Brundage) Hilborn (ca1758-1836) of Uxbridge, Upper Canada, who came with Quaker families from Catawissa, Pennsylvania. I am relating this from memory and in haste (Ed. note - dates inserted), but thought you could be interested in some newspaper quotes.

Indeed, we are! Thank you, Madeline Malott..

Editor's notes: -

- The newspaper article's reference to 'the ridge' might be to the Ridgetown area, later the 2 year agricultural school.

- Charles Zavitz's Papers, CYM Archives, has the pamphlets of the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago with all the buildings and their displays pictured and listings of displays, and costs. It was amazing! The Agricultural College was involved in the Canadian building. Quakers in Sparta and Ohio were involved in strawberry production and railway shipping to markets at distances. In this early period of market gardening, overnight runs were made when it was cooler, and later ice-cooled train cars were involved.

- NEWS & NOTES -

Send Us Your News - Interesting Events, Projects, Travels, Changes & Joys in Your Life.

A plaque has been erected in Battle Creek, Michigan, with the following wording:

QUAKER PARK

This Park was donated by the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) to the City of Battle Creek in 1999. The Monthly Meeting of the Society of Friends of Battle Creek was laid down in 1916 and, according to Quaker practice at the time, the assets passed to the Pelham Half Yearly Meeting in Ontario, Canada. When the 99 year lease expired, the property was donated by them to the city of Battle Creek as a space for reflection and community enjoyment.

The Kalamazoo Friends Meeting holds an interest to ensure that this land remains a public park. The plaque is within the enclosure on the site of the former meetinghouse. Many of the Friends in Michigan came from Ontario and later went west in the United States, as those of you with genealogical parallels can testify. The present meetings in the area are new and appreciate the sense of history this plaque gives them.

JOHN BURTONIAK, former vice-chairman, retired as Archivist at Brock University in September 2001. John Burtniak received an OGS Citation of Recognition presented at OGS Seminar 2001. VERNON and LAVERN WINTERTON write and send pictures of their Quaker ancestor research and travels, recently in NewTown Meeting in Philadelphia, while wintering in Naples, Florida. PATRICIA WILSON, another relative of the former Mary Eck, an early member of CFHA, also spends time in Florida, and has Quaker-related materials to share.

DEBORAH HAIGHT wrote that she moved from Woodstock to her childhood home in Norwich, Ontario, to live with her nephew. A Quaker is living again in Norwich. Friends from Ottawa made a special celebration for her 90th birthday. She also has materials that she wishes to sort and consider for the Archives.

ROBYNNE ROGERS HEALEY defended her PhD thesis, "Keeping the Faith: Quaker Community and Women in the Yonge Street Meeting, Upper Canada" and was awarded her degree in August 2001, from the University of Alberta at Edmonton. She sent a copy for the CYM Archives. It was a labour of love which has captured her interest for post doctoral research.

DANIEL NELSON defended his Master's thesis, "Faith Enough to Move Mountains: The Dorland and the Quakers of Adolphustown, 1784-1900", at Trent University, in October 2001. The examining committee included, among others,: Chris Densmore, Albert Schrauwers, and Jane Zavitz-Bond. After studying law at the University of Windsor, Dan will begin articling with a law firm in Toronto, summer 2003. We congratulate Robynne and Dan, and hope to hear more of their work in the future.

KATHLEEN HERTZBERG, long our chairperson, and continuing supporter, gave the Sunderland P. Gardner address at Canadian Yearly meeting in August 2002. She wrote and told of her life of Quaker service, beginning before WWII. The following of each opening led her to work with Jewish refugees and German prisoners, to come to Canada with her young family, and to involvement with CFSC, as its clerk during the Viet Nam war years. The talk is published as a Canadian Quaker Pamphlet. Those reading it have found a lift, and thankfulness for her service, and encouragement for the future. We place this sharing on the shelf of the Dorland Room / CYM Reference Library with deep appreciation to Kathleen.

- MEMORIALS -

EILEEN GARDINER lived the last years of her long productive life in Stratford, Ontario. The Memorial Meeting for Worship was held January 14th at Friends House, Toronto. A life-long artist, she always sought and found new ways to express her creativity in art, and taught others to express themselves in art.. She learned how to make a Quaker bonnet from Elma Starr who shared her bonnet block and patterns with Eileen and then gave them to the CYM Archives. Her interest in and care for others made life happier wherever she was.

BURTON HILL died in Guelph on February 5, 2000, in his 91st year. He was the descendant of Pelham and Norwich area pioneer Quaker families. Burton faithfully served in Friends ministry throughout his whole adult life, and was the last recorded minister in Canadian Yearly Meeting. His records of marriages and funerals will be deposited in the Archives by his family. The formal records are one thing; the spirit and care he shared are well remembered. He was supportive of the Yearly Meeting in the founding of Hamilton Meeting. In the early 1930s he was part of the new CFSC and its Camp Nee-Kau-Nis committee as a Young Friend. He crossed the barriers of the separations among Canadian Friends to the reunion as Canadian Yearly Meeting in 1955. He was the minister at Newmarket Friends Church on Botsford Street and supported the Friends there for many years. He spent six years as the minister of Cincinnati Friends Meeting. His recent home was formerly the Harris residence, near their mills, and the early Rockwood Meetinghouse.

CHARLES CAVANAUGH died March 21, 2000, at 83 years of age. He was the son of Wilson Cavanaugh (died November 3, 1933, at 40 years of age) and Margaret (Rogers) Cavanaugh (died March 3rd, 1978), and younger brother to Winifred Ouderkirk, who wrote to CFHA wanting us to know that "another Rogers had passed away". Margaret was the daughter of Stephen Rogers, and granddaughter of George Rogers. The family lived in the Niagara area; Winifred has lived in Thorold since 1978. At 85, she was thanking CFHA for our work, and doing her part to keep us informed. We hope she is well, and appreciate her communication.

FRANCIS STARR died in April. On May 27th 2000, a memorial meeting for worship was held at Yonge Street Meetinghouse. The elder son of Elmer and Elma Starr was descended from Friends who came from Catawisa, PA in 1806. As a young farmer he cared for cattle on ships restocking farms in Europe after World War II; went to India before and after the China years; went with his family to support the new meeting in Ottawa and worked at Carlton University until retirement; lived on Wolfe Island; and, in Costa Rica at the Monte Verde Friends' community; always supported Camp Nee-Kau-Nis. Francis deposited his Memoirs in the CYM Archives; the Friends Ambulance Unit (FAU) China Team portion appears in CFHA's Canadian Quaker History Journal 2000. He wrote with simple eloquence, wisdom, and humour. Through this we see a conservative Friend's outlook and his individual response to life during most of the 20th century

EVERETT BOND died August 20th, 2000. He attended CFHA Annual meetings, with his wife, Jane Zavitz-Bond, and enjoyed the tours especially. Their trailer trip to the Quaker settlements on the Prairies were reported in the Journal. His whole life was spent in the Sparta farming community where he knew the rural Friends Meeting well. His quiet supportive presence will be missed.

WILDA MUNRO CLARK, a descendant of the early Friends in Uxbridge, died December 31, 2000, after 88 full years of life. She worked to preserve the Uxbridge Friends Meetinghouse and Burial Ground. In September 2000, she and Harold Clark met the CFHA tour bus and spoke to the group in the meetinghouse. Her work to preserve our heritage went beyond Quaker sites to Lucy Maud Montgomery's manse home in Leaskdale and other Uxbridge historic buildings. Her warmth and interest in people and their stories shone through her comments to CFHA.

- EVENTS -

Bi-Centennial Celebrations in Newmarket, marking the Arrival of Quakers, 1801-2001

As soon as a route to the interior of the province of Upper Canada was available after 1796, settlers soon followed. Many courageous pioneer families travelled along Yonge Street, the military road which linked York (Toronto) on Lake Ontario to Holland Landing on Lake Simcoe. By 1800-01 the Quaker Settlement on Yonge Street at Newmarket was being established. In the years 2000-2001, the Canadian Friends Historical Association, the Yonge Street Meeting of Friends (Quakers), and the Town of Newmarket, celebrated the 200th anniversary of the founding of this Quaker Settlement.

Members of the Newmarket 200 Committee, with chair Ralph Magel, were responsible for events held during 2001. Sandra Fuller acted as co-ordinator of displays which reflected life and activities in the Quaker community. A sufficient number of responses to requests made it possible for the Newmarket Museum to mount an exhibit which featured a wide variety of items. Appreciation goes to all those whose participation helped to make the exhibit a success - the Canadian Yearly Meeting (Quaker) Archives and Jane Zavitz-Bond, the Aurora Museum, and the descendants of many Quaker families, amongst them Brown, Cornell, James, Phillips, Randall, and Rogers, who produced many treasured keepsakes, usually only known to individual families, but shared on this occasion.

Heritage Newmarket LACAC (Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee) mounted a special display of photographs of some of the many fine buildings in the Quaker community in the Newmarket area - especially, the Yonge Street Meeting House of Friends 1810, Sharon Temple 1832, and Pickering College 1910.

Homecoming Weekend, Saturday, September 29, 2001, provided an opportunity for descendants of early Quaker settlers of the area to have a reunion, exchange memories and information, and view memorabilia. Both Pickering College, formerly a Quaker school, and the Quaker Archives located in the College's library, participated in an Open House. Many guests were interested in the history of the school and Quaker education. A special display of seldom-seen original items in the Quaker Archives was available for viewing in the Dorland Library Room - Timothy Rogers' Journal, certificates of removal to Canada for the earliest settlers - members of the Rogers, Hill, and Phillips families, and early registers of births, marriages, and deaths. There was a great deal of interest in the collection and the information it offers.

In order to mark the occasion of the 200th anniversary of the arrival of Quaker colonizer, Timothy Rogers, in May 1801, CFHA published "*The Best Man for Settling New Country ... " The Journal of Timothy Rogers. The Journal of Timothy Rogers is available for purchase at \$15.00.*

- NOTICES of EVENTS -

- The Trustees of the Friends Burial Ground at Linden Valley near Oakwood, Ontario, invite members of CFHA to participate in a work bee on Sunday, 8 June 2003. The Cemetery Board, a member of CFHA, is now registered for charitable donations.
- The annual service at the Uxbridge Quaker Meeting House takes place on Sunday, 14th June 2003. CFHA is invited to attend.
- Canadian Yearly Meeting will be held at Sedbergh School, Montibello, Quebec, 2-9 August 2003.
- The Buxton National Historic Site and Museum hosts an annual gathering the first weekend of September - a great opportunity to meet others working on Black History in Canada. Many came here as their last stop on the Underground Railroad. It is located south of Chatham and HW #401 and North of HW #3, west of Cedar Springs. Buxton National Historic Site & Museum, P.O. Box 3, 21975 A.D. Shadd Road, North Buxton ON, N0P 1Y0. Email: <buxton@ciaccess.com> Phone: (519) 352-4799 Fax: (519) 352-8561

This CFHA Newsletter comes to you with items we hope will raise your interest and encourage you to join us for the September 20th Annual Meeting Weekend in Kingston! What news can you bring, or send for the Newsletter, of your Quaker related history interests and projects? We have a wonderful variety within CFHA – Genealogy, Social History, Religious Thought, support for academic researchers and authors, background for multimedia articles and productions which involve Quakers past and present. Often these combine as we work on any given project. All of this means that we have multifaceted work which is increasing as interest grows in a rising population. Do you have talents, skills, and time to offer some assistance in this work? Given email and internet, we need not all be centrally-located in order to serve. Life is so full for most members that a shared approach will make the task possible as we seek a viable organization for the future. See you in Kingston!

Jane Zavitz-Bond