



# Rideau Township Historical Society

North Gower, Box 56, Ontario, K0A 2T0

## November 2007 Newsletter

Newsletter Editor: Coral Lindsay (rideauarchives@ottawa.ca)

- **Meeting**            **Wednesday, November 21, 2007, 7:30 p.m.**  
at St. Andrew's Church Hall  
6812 Rideau Valley Drive South, Kars

**Speaker:**            **Coral Lindsay, keeper of the flame for  
Lindsay's Wharf**

**Topic:**                **The Lindsay family and Lindsay's Wharf,  
1834-1935**

Ledgers, family documents, photos and folklore provide a record of the steamboats coming in and leaving the wharf throughout the century. The boats brought settlers, mail, commodities and freight into the wilderness and carried away produce from farm and forest. Find out what the pioneers could buy at Lindsay's Store. You might be surprised!

- Please come early and watch a DVD of the steamboats, 6:30-7:30 and 7:00-7:30 in the Hall. This was prepared by Ron Wilson.
- Also see the PowerPoint presentation of the Lindsay's Wharf replica in the Aberdeen Pavilion Aug. 16-26, 2007 starring Coral Lindsay shot by Mark Jodoin. This will be shown in the sanctuary either before or after the program.
- There will be numerous displays depicting the activity and life at Lindsay's Wharf. Please read the captions and comments. There will be a history test next week.

Light refreshments with a Scottish flavour,  
courtesy of Melanie Hayes and Jane Anderson

Bring a friend

## **The Lindsays**

As the soldier sons of Ivar, Great Jarl of the Norse, they established vast colonies in Normandy and Lincolnshire during the 10<sup>th</sup> century and wielded battle-axes with William at Hastings in 1066. The Lindsay noblemen served at the court of King David I of Scotland. They built castles and estates to defend their monarchs and their religion throughout the centuries. "The lightsome Lindsays" were and are known for their humour, love of music, law and justice.

Because of the severe economic depression after the Napoleonic Wars, William and Annie (Campbell) Lindsay embarked with their seven children on the sailing ship *David of London* in May, 1821, leaving Lanarkshire, Scotland, for Lanark County, Upper Canada, never to return. They made the Great Trek overland from Prescott to the wilds of Ramsay to earn a living as farmers instead of weavers on the shores of the turbulent Mississippi River.

Their second son James and his wife Ellen Goodwin settled in North Gower Township beside the Rideau in 1829, established Lindsay's Wharf by 1834 and contributed to the development of commerce, industry, agriculture, church, school and community through 7 generations.

Lindsay's Wharf closed when the last Rideau steamer, the *Ottawan*, made her final voyage in 1935. Farewell to the old Lindsay's Wharf.

- **Last meeting:**

Gavin Liddy, Superintendent of the Rideau Canal and other sites, Parks Canada, provided an overview of the history and current use of the Rideau as well as the honour of the UNESCO designation. Carry on the good work, Gavin.

- **Dickinson Square**

Meetings will be held next week between members of our Dickinson Square Heritage Manotick Inc. (DISHMI) and the City of Ottawa Corporate and Economic Development Committee.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the Dickinson Square fund. Your widespread and generous support is heartening for our volunteers and should deliver a "Village Speaks" message.

- **Rideau Warriors:**

Arthur Lennox, Duke of Richmond, was the feature article in this month's *Esprit de Corps*. Well done, Mark.

- **Coming events:**

- November 18      **Rideau 175**  
The Merrickville Historical Society will conclude the Rideau 175 lecture series with Doug Stewart, former Rideau Canal Superintendent, speaking about **The Rideau as Living History**. This will begin at 2:00 in the Merrickville United Church. \$5.00 admission.
- December 12:      **RTHS Meeting**, 6:30 p.m., in the North Gower United Church Hall, Church Street, North Gower. This will be a Christmas pot-luck supper with entertainment. More details to be announced.

**Next executive meeting:**    Wednesday, November 28, 7:30 p.m. Location?

- **Christmas shopping:**

Author Larry Cotton has just published ***Whiskey and Wickedness in the Lower Rideau Valley*** and it will be for sale at the November meeting for \$23.95. Larry's book records the inns, taverns, public houses and stopping places between Bytown and Merrickville, including Bell's Corners and others along the tributaries. Congratulations, Larry.

**Price List – Rideau Township Historical Society**

Buildings of Old Rideau Township	\$10.
Carsonby Community History	\$10.
Cheese Factories of Old Rideau	\$ 8.
The Gourlay Index	\$ 8.
A History of Long Island	\$ 8.
The King of the Rideau	\$10.
Rideau Township Roads	\$10.
Who's Where	\$20.

## News from the Rideau Archives . . .

### Hours:

The Archives is open every Tuesday from 9:30 am to 4:30 p.m., and at other times by appointment. (613-489-2926).

**Oral history interviews:** Ron Wilson is continuing the work begun by our student Chris Manoukian this summer, digitizing the 30-year-old tapes.

### Library:

Owen Cooke is continuing to catalogue books that have been donated to the Archives reference library. Some recent additions are listed below. These may be read at the Archives.

Atkins, Coreen. In Our Defense: the Veterans and Military Heritage of Historic Osgoode Township. 2007. 2 vols.  
355.0971384 At

Dutchak, Phyllis E. College with a Purpose; a History of the Kemptville College of Agricultural Technology, 1916-1973. 1976.  
630.7 Du

Nelles, Mike. Steamboating on the Rideau Canal. 2007.  
386.22 Ne

Nielsen, Jean. Jamieson Genealogy Preliminary Report (in Progress). S.d.  
929.2 Ni

O'Loughlin, Robert Roy, comp. An O'Loughlin Genealogy; the Ancestors and Descendents of Patrick Joseph O'Loughlin (1782-1824) and Rebecca Stewart. 1954.  
929.2 O'L

Ottawa Public Library. Reference Department. Ottawa Room. A Selected Bibliography of the History of the Ottawa Area/ Bibliographie choisie sur l'histoire de la Région d'Ottawa, [par la] Salle Ottawa, Service de consultation, Bibliothèque publique d'Ottawa. 1992.  
016.9713 Ot c.2

Prentice, Alison. The School Promoters; Education and Social Class in mid-Nineteenth Century Upper Canada. 1977.  
370.9713 Pr

Whyte, Donald. A Dictionary of Scottish Emigrants to Canada before Confederation. Volume 1. 1986.  
929.2 Wh

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