

The Update

Newsletter of The York Pioneer and Historical Society



YPHS board member David Raymont with Governor Simcoe (aka John Rutherford) at Scadding Cabin during Doors Open in May; see p. 2 for more about the cabin.

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ANNUAL YPHS BUS TRIP

Saturday Oct 4'08



Don't delay! Sign up now for another great annual bus trip planned by board member Diane Reid, organizer *extraordinaire*.

Stops on the tour will include King City, Schomberg and Kettleby.

Date: October 4 (Saturday)

Pick up point: Pleasant Blvd. (Yonge and St. Clair)

Time: 9:00 am to 6:00 pm.

Please call Diane for more information: **(416) 483-0907**

Board Member Melanie Milanich e-mailed other board members to bring them up to date about Scadding Cabin; below is an edited amalgamation of her e-mails that I hope you find interesting. Thank you, Melanie! - Audrey Fox, newsletter editor

Scadding Cabin/ CHIN Picnic

Scadding Cabin was open during the three days of the CHIN picnic from 3 to 7pm. Attendance was as follows:

Saturday June 28 - 265

Sunday June 29 - 500

Tuesday July 1 - 805

Total for 3 days: 1,570

Most of the very multicultural community that came were amazed and pleased to learn about the cabin. It felt very, very good to introduce it to so many people, particularly since they all showed a lot of interest.

Sunday, two Tibetan monks with shaved heads, and wearing long bright red flowing gowns, came into the cabin and exclaimed with delight at what they saw. Here was exemplified the height of pure self-sufficiency! They showered Scadding Cabin with praise and declared it to be the best site in Toronto.

Earlier I had e-mailed the manager of the CHIN picnic, Walter Pastorious, inviting him to visit the Cabin. He came on Tuesday and declared that we have a real treasure that he didn't know anything about. He said he would have it announced on the PA system. We weren't always listening so we don't know if that happened or not, but from the people coming there was no lack of interest.

On the Tuesday afternoon when I was carrying the heavy green signs (my arms still ache) to prop them up by the entrance by the fountains there was a young man in his 20s whizzing by on his bicycle peddling away past me with all his might.

All of a sudden he stopped his bike, turned it around, walked it up to me, took off his helmet and asked me "Just what IS the Scadding Cabin?" Right there and then I knew we had actually created a "buzz" around the place. And I felt that was probably my biggest accomplishment with this organization -- to have someone under 30 actually want to know

what the Scadding Cabin is!

A policeman on the beat said he has been doing this area for 30 years but didn't know anything about the cabin. I think my flyers around the neighborhood had something to do with it. Some people talked about joining YPHS or volunteering. Several people promised to send us emails of their photos.

Kayoko has been doing a fantastic job with the herb gardens, coming almost every day to plant, label, trim and water.

- Melanie Milanich



Above: Gov. Simcoe (John Rutherford) during Doors Open at the cabin, May'08.

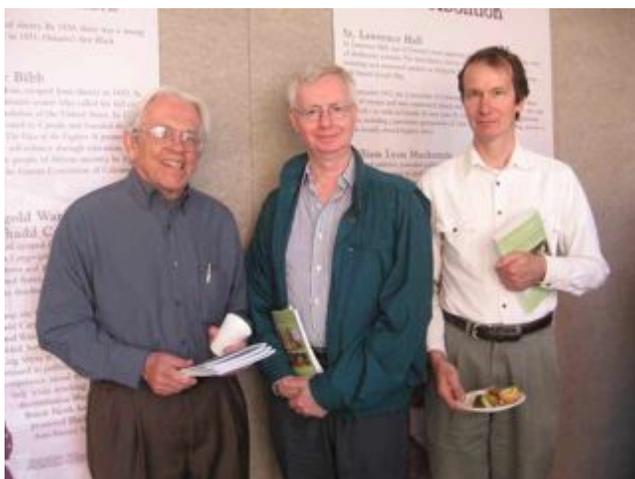
LAUNCH OF THE 2008 YORK PIONEER

On Sunday, April 20, several Pioneers and guests turned out for a walking tour and the launch of the 2008 issue at Mackenzie House, 82 Bond Street.

Below: contributors Chris Raible, Glenn Bonnetta and George Duncan.

Top Right: graphic designer Richard Peachey, Audrey Fox and Editor Jeanine Avigdor

Bottom Right: Jeanine with the revamped magazine

**Call for submissions for the 2009 York Pioneer:**

YPHS members are encouraged to submit articles. All articles will be carefully considered by the editorial committee. No later than Nov. 30 (and preferably earlier), e-mail your submission as a Microsoft document to Jeanine Avigdor at janavi@istar.ca

THANK YOU TO FRIENDS WHO RECENTLY DONATED TO THE YPHS:

June Emes Gladys Holder Donald Guthrie Catherine Sykes

THANK YOU to Diane Reid for many photographs in this (and every!) issue of *The Update*.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Patricia Hind-White, Carol Moore-Ede and Patricia Hartman

THANK YOU to Dorothy Duncan & Jeanine Avigdor for proofing this issue.

Grandma's Apron

I don't think our kids know what an apron is.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.

From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.

Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls.

In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.

It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

REMEMBER:

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the window sill to cool - Her grand-daughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw.

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron.

- Author Unknown -



Above: Toronto Mayor David Miller with YPHS board member Jeanine Avigdor; City Hall Rotunda, during Heritage Showcase, February '08



Left: sugar bowl on the dining-room mantle of Friends House, 60 Lowther Avenue (spotted during Doors Open). Beneath the illustration is

the text "David's Temple, Sharon". The 1906 house is the home of The Society of Friends or Quakers. *- Audrey Fox*

DINNER PHOTOS

Royal Canadian Military Institute, 28 May '08

Clockwise from top left:

(1) RCMI member (& new Pioneer) Patricia Hind-White, with Diane Reid, dinner organizer

(2) Randall Reid entertaining dinner guests Janet Watt & JeanMcFall

(3) After dinner, guests visited the RCMI's beautiful library.

(4) John Marshall and Leo Fox

(5) Pat Robertson, Patricia Hind-White & Jeanine Avigdor with Capt. Charles Scott-Brown, our guest speaker. A former RCMI president, Capt. Scott-Brown spoke of RCMI's history, the heritage building it inhabits and some of its illustrious guests and members.

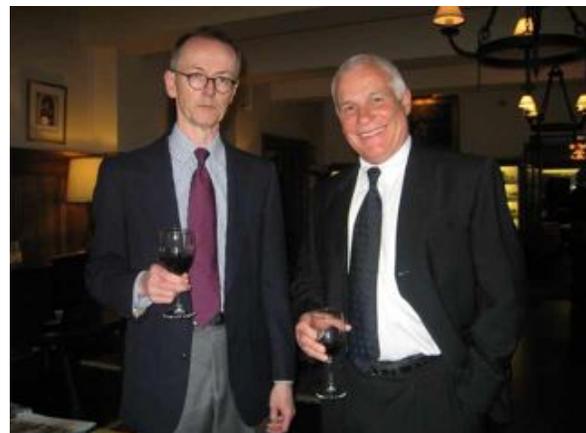
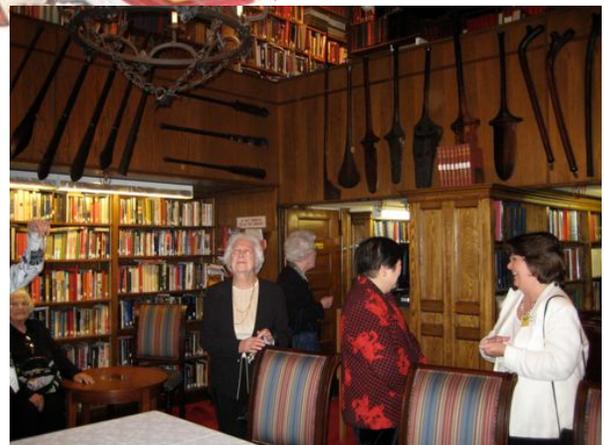




Photo: <http://boldts.net/album/SharonTemple.shtml>

Sharon Temple Events

5 Sept (Friday)

Following the practice of the Children of Peace, we recreate The Illumination on the first Friday night of September every year. It's a unique evening of candlelit splendour, music, readings and ceremony. The Illumination event is followed by light refreshments, including the traditional "Feast Cake" (variously called "Illumination" cake) made from an original recipe used by the Children of Peace.

7 Sept (Sunday) 90 Years Ago Today: (90th anniversary of opening of site by York Pioneer and Historical Society)

Free Admission

For more details, **call 905-478-2389** or go to

www.sharontemple.ca

Calendar

4 Aug Simcoe Day The YPHS will exhibit at the Tollkeeper's Cottage, NW corner, Davenport & Bathurst 10 am - 5 pm

5 Sept Sharon Temple Gala evening and Illumination

7 Sept Sharon Temple 90th anniversary of opening of the site by YPHS

20 Sept Doors Open King (Eversley Church)

4 Oct YPHS Annual Bus Trip

Until 5 Oct: Free ROM walks, Sundays & Wednesdays. More at (416) 586-8097 or info@rom.on.ca and Free Heritage Toronto Walks Saturdays & Sundays. Call (416) 338-1338



In Memoriam

Life Member, and volunteer at her church, senior centre and The Grange, Loraine Warren (née Lennie), passed away 27 March, 2008.

In the News

The Toronto Star (29 May'08) had a lovely article about Sharon Temple's concert program. The headline read: "Good Vibrations return to Sharon".

A May 24 Star article about Cabbagetown featured a photo of, and quotes by, YPHS member Peggy Kurtin.

The YPHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Culture.