



THE UPDATE

YORK PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.yorkpioneers.org

P.O. Box 45026,
2482 Yonge Street,
Toronto, ON

YPHS Annual Lunch

Date: June 01, 2014

Place: Morton's Steak House
4 Avenue Road (at Prince Arthur)

Time: 12 noon - 3 PM

Cost: \$64

RSVP: Micki Allen, by phone (416)

968-2658 or email mickiallen@marac.com

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GUEST SPEAKER at LUNCH

This year's speaker is Julia Roberts, an assistant professor of History at Waterloo University. In her excellent book *In Mixed Company, Taverns and Public Life in Upper Canada*, Roberts tracks life in Upper Canada as seen through the tavern door. Roberts writes women,

household life and courtship into the history of early taverns, bringing new life and colour to the story of our past. Using passages from the diary of Ely Playter, written during his tavern-keeping years in 1801-1802, Roberts tells the story of Playter's romance with Sophia, daughter of Elisah Beman. Beman also kept tavern, in a building kitty-corner from Playter's establishment, both at the corner of King and Caroline (now Sherbourne) Streets.

This lecture, by an entertaining writer and speaker, is not to be missed.

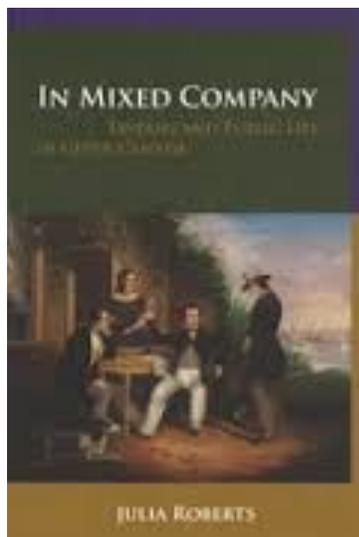
Pay online for your lunch!

Visit www.yorkpioneers.org to use the PayPal button on the Events page

Silent Book Auction

The ever-popular auction of books on the history of Toronto and York (primarily) helps defray dinner costs.

If you have a history book [fiction or non] in good condition that you wish to donate, please contact archivist John Marshall at (416) 961-4420.



Ms Roberts will have copies of her book [above] for sale at the lunch.

Launch of the 2014 *York Pioneer*

April 27, at the Parliament Interpretive Centre, more than 35 Pioneers, family and friends gathered for the launch of the 2014 *York Pioneer*.

Seven of this year's 11 authors attended, including one [Barbara Fear] who came all the way from the Kingston area and another [Katharine Williams] who brought along a 'show & tell' item, the family Bible about which she wrote.

Guests mingled, enjoyed treats, toured the site exhibits and picked up their copies of the 2014 *YP*.



Above: interpreter Jennifer Winter, (standing) welcomes Pioneers, authors, their families and friends.

Message from YPHS Vice-President David Raymont

At the May 11 board meeting of the York Pioneer and Historical Society, Ken Carter announced that he was resigning as president.

Ken has made a remarkable contribution to the York Pioneer and Historical Society. Bringing the organization into this century's financial management technology was no small feat and provides the Society with extraordinary potential.

As vice president, I have offered to chair executive meetings for the balance of the year to ensure that the voice of the York Pioneers continues to be heard in the Greater Toronto Area.

Come to the annual lunch, join in the King's Birthday celebration at Scadding Cabin and get on board this year's bus trip. And don't forget to renew your membership. That way you will receive the *York Pioneer* and participate in events that no other organization can offer. There's lots to see and do as a York Pioneer!

The YPHS gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Government of Ontario through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport.

NEEDED: Newsletter Editor

We thank Matthew Singleton for the work he has done over the past year. We need someone to fill his shoes. Please contact Audrey Fox [416-656-0812] if you can volunteer for this vital role!

MEMBER NEWS

New Annual Members: We welcome new annual members Robert Jarvis, George McNeillie, Sewell & Peter Russell, Dylan Guest and Ian K. Anderson.

Life Members: Dr John McIntyre and Michael Nettleton, formerly annual members, have become Life Members. We thank them for their commitment to the Society.

Keana Faye Fox-Vera was given a life membership by her 'lifer' grandparents, Audrey & Leo Fox in hope that she will 'activate' her membership as an adult. This is one way to donate to the Society and to lay the groundwork for future active members.



Above: our youngest life member, two-year-old Keana Fox-Vera helped Honorary Life Member Jean McFall celebrate her 96th birthday on April 20.

Condolences: To long-time member and *York Pioneer* author Peter Ridout on the death of his wife of 56 years, Judith, on April 17, 2014.

And to the family of Constance (Connie) Masters, a member for many years, who died at 87 on April 17, 2014.

Lost Life Members

Please contact membership chair Barry Mapes at (416) 536-8204, or drop a line to our gmail account, if you have any information about the following: RE Barron, Iva D Curry, Mr & Mrs Evan Dickson, Dr. John Elder, WA Harris, Paul Millar, Mrs. RG Pearse, Leeds Richardson, Mrs NS Robertson, Edna Robinson, Mrs. Don Sharpe, Mrs NL Thompson and Dorothy White

SCADDING CABIN PART OF DOORS OPEN TORONTO

Scadding Cabin, Toronto's oldest building, will be open May 24 and 25, from 2-5 p.m. both days.

YPHS board members met at Scadding at 1 PM on May 11 to open the Cabin before our regular board meeting; some worked in the garden while others prepared the interior of the Cabin to welcome visitors during Doors Open. *[See photos below]*



Above, left to right, David Raymond, Fred Robbins, John Marshall, Cindy Ewins and Bob Horwood prep the Cabin interior prior to our board meeting.

Below: Fred, John, Cindy and David shake winter's dust bunnies out of the Cabin carpet.



YPHS TABLE AT FARMERS' MARKET
Wychwood Barns Market, Christie St., just s. of St. Clair.
Doors Open Saturday, 24 May 8AM-1PM

Help at the table, renew your membership, treat yourself to market goodies or just stop by to say hello!
Can you volunteer? Call Audrey at 416-656-0812

From the Archives

by John Marshall, YPHS archivist

Many York Pioneers were in attendance on Thursday, September 5, 1957, when Ontario Premier Leslie Frost unveiled a new plaque on the obelisk marking the site of Fort Rouille. As Henry Scadding and the York Pioneer and Historical Society were instrumental in the erection of the monument in 1888, the Society was given a prominent role in the day's proceedings.

The speakers were Leslie H. Saunders, Chairman, Toronto Civic Historical Committee (later the Toronto Historical Board and now Heritage Toronto); Professor J.M.S. Careless, representing the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Advisory Board; A.G. Clarry, President, YPHS; Harry Price, Vice-President, Canadian National Exhibition; Mayor Nathan Phillips; and Premier Frost. Also present were Lady Eaton and Dr. Sigmund Samuel, both of whom planted trees west of Scadding Cabin; and former Premier George S. Henry. After the ceremony, the official party visited the cabin.

The original 1888 inscription, carved into a large boulder, is still present on the east side of the obelisk. Unfortunately it is now almost illegible.



Above: Unveiling the new Fort Rouille plaque in 1957 are, left to right, Harry Price, Maurice Careless, Leslie Frost, Lady Eaton, Nathan Phillips. Photo by Turofsky.



*Engraving of George III (1738–1820),
King of Great Britain and Ireland
(1760–1820).*

*Published in 1809, after the original by
Sir William Beechey.*

Celebrate the King at Scadding Cabin!

Exhibition Place SUNDAY ~ 15 June 2014, 11 AM- 2PM

On June 15, the years will roll back at Scadding Cabin! When Scadding Cabin was built, people didn't celebrate July 1st or May 24th – they celebrated King George III's birthday, which occurred in June.

By law, the King's birthday was the time for a local militia rally, but the day was also a time for games and music, and visits with family and friends.

Why not celebrate father's day by toasting the King at Scadding Cabin with free cider?

Hannah Shira Naiman will perform period songs at 11:15 AM!

Re-enactors of the Incorporated Militia will demonstrate their skill!

Demonstration of spinning yarn on vintage spinning wheels!

Test your skill at an old-fashioned ring toss – there will be prizes!

If you want to volunteer to help, please send an email to yorkpioneers@gmail.com with "King's Birthday" in the subject line.

See you there!

ANNUAL BUS TOUR ~ BATTLE OF CHIPPEWA ~ SATURDAY ~ 5 July 2014

Join us as we step back in time to witness the best that Upper Canada had to offer in the form of Militia and their Native allies as they battle an American force bent on spreading fear, destruction and tyranny. This event marks the 200th Anniversary of the Battle of Chippewa and Lundy's Lane.

Afterward, stroll through the encampments to see how the soldiers and their families lived.

Feel like shopping? Visit Suttlers Row where you can purchase period items, from books to lemonade.

Join the YPHS bus trip to experience this once in a lifetime event!

And the details ...

Pick up locations: to be decided according to who signs up! First pick up will be about 9 AM

Cost: to be determined but not over \$70
Includes juice & water on bus & small snack

Return to Toronto: approximately 6 PM

Lunch is NOT included this year; bring your own or plan to purchase at the battlefield.

More information & to RSVP: Micki Allen at (416) 968-2658 or email mickiallen@marac.com