Huron County Historical Society
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Website: www.HuronCountyHistoricalSociety.ca

Executive for 2011-12

David Armstrong	president	519-524-1156	Rhea Hamilton-Seeger	councilor
Ralph Laviolette	secretary	519-565-2454	Brock Vodden	councilor
Mac Campbell	treasurer	519-524-7935	Pam Stanley	councilor
Ralph Laviolette	newsletter, Notes	519-565-2454		
Elaine Snell	membership	519-523-9531		

Next Society Meeting………

Wednesday, June 20, 2012
General Meeting and Dinner at the Kintail School on Highway 21 at 85581 Bluewater Hwy, Kintail

5:30pm Welcome and Guided Tour of the School

6:00pm Beef dinner with all the trimmings and dessert, at the School, $20 pp

7:00pm Brief business meeting and a presentation on the history of the Kintail School by Jim Sinnett

Visitors and guests are welcome to any portion of the evening…..

Please call David Armstrong 519-524-1156 for dinner reservations before June 8……..

Membership renewal....
If you received this newsletter by mail, the date shown above your name on the address label is the year to which your membership is paid up, according to our records. Call or email us if your records differ. If you are in arrears, consider this a reminder that the membership fees are now $20. To reserve your member's copy of Historical Notes, keep your dues up to date. Past copies of the Notes are available at the Museum, $8.00 per copy.
Note our current address for mail and memberships:
HCHS, Box 3, Goderich ON, N7A 3Y5.

At the last meeting…….
On Wednesday May 16, members gathered in Belgrave for the Annual General Meeting and for a presentation and visit to the Old Tyme Radio Centre hosted by proprietor Gary Clayton. A sumptuous repast was prepared and served by the Belgrave Women's Institute in the hall of Knox Presbyterian Church in Belgrave. Gary then toured the group through his extensive collection of memorabilia in addition to his specialty - vintage radios of every description. We toured his showroom and shops where he restores old autos and refinishes a wide variety of radio cabinets. He also gave tips on improving radio reception in the area from London stations, notably CBC. A thoroughly worthwhile and fascinating visit. If you missed the meeting and you want a real taste of nostalgia for old–time radio programs and radio sets, Gary is the man to visit – he is in the center of the village on Highway 4, north of Blyth.

Archives Facilities project…..
Members will recall that in 2009, the Society undertook a project to make recommendations for a competent storage solution for the many public and private family and other collections in the County.
The working group that attended many of visits to neighboring archives has completed its report to the board. The report and its recommendations to prepare a business plan outlining needs and costs will be printed shortly. A presentation to the Huron County Council is in the works for support of an application for a federal or provincial grant to bring the project along further.

Historical Notes progress…..

The 2012 edition of Huron Historical Notes is underway. It will feature the celebrations planned for the 125th anniversary of the village of St Helens, near Lucknow, in the north-west part of the County. Notes featuring the village of Egmondville, another featuring a brief history of the Wingham area, and another Pot Pourri edition are also in the works. If you have an interesting anecdote to share, or a story of historic interest to tell, please contact editor Ralph Laviolette 519-565-2454 or email ralphlav@tcc.on.ca.

Gary Clayton of the Old Tyme Radio Centre, Belgrave, explaining to Marvin and Elaine Snell and Mac Campbell about one of the pieces in his collection.

Past Historical Notes on the Web….

Some time ago, the Society's board engaged a webmaster to make editions of our Historical Notes dating back to 1965 searchable, so that names of people and places could be found in our extensive collection of histories, stories and anecdotes could be found easily. The task was daunting since copies of older editions prepared on typewriters had become difficult to read and decipher. But webmaster Derek Fazakas persevered and the task was completed to the Board's satisfaction. At the May 2012 Annual General Meeting, the membership voted to make older copies of the Notes available to members and the public on the web with a proviso that a donation to our efforts will be appreciated if copies are made of edition any Notes or part thereof.

The task of mounting the Notes on our website, HuronCountyHistorialSociety.ca will begin shortly. Stay tuned.

Part of the Old Tyme Radio Centre collection and other items available as period pieces going back to WW2 times.

Brief notes about Kintail……….

Kintail derives its name from an area of mountains in the Northwest Highlands of Scotland. In *The Settlement of Huron County*, 1966, author James Scott records that Kintail was a small post office established in April 1, 1856, with D. McCrae (one of the first overseers of highways) appointed the first postmaster. At its height, Kintail had both a saw and gristmill as well as two general stores and a telegraph office. Other small post offices that came into existence as the surrounding Ashfield Township developed were Kingsbridge, a centre of Irish settlers north of Goderich, Nile, Amberley (named Ashfield at first), Port Albert where it was expecxted that a port would be established, Belfast and Lucknow.

Want to hear more of this small settlement…come to the meeting on June 20.
And call ahead for dinner reservations….