



Newsletter - November 2025

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email: hchs1965@gmail.com www.HuronCountyHistoricalSociety.ca

Zoom Meeting

November 19, 2025

History of the Disney Family in Huron

Disney is a name many of us know, as do our children and grand children. But how many know that the Disney's were among the many early settlers in Huron looking for a better life.

The family initially settled in Goderich and then Morris township in the late 1830s. The family is documented in *A Harvest of Memories, The History of Morris* 2012 and David Yates wrote about Walt Disney coming to Goderich in 1999 in *The Time of Our Lives Stories of Huron County In The Post-War Years*.

The Disneys of Huron County, Project Group has been busy researching the early beginnings of this family in Huron and will be sharing their stories with us via zoom.

Please join us (members and non-members)

Email HCHS1965@gmail.com by Nov. 15 for the Zoom link



Learn more about this photo at the meeting!

Executive for 2025

David Armstrong - President 519-524-1156
Ralph Laviolette - Secretary-treasurer 519-440-6206
Elaine Snell - Membership 519-523-9434

Winter is encroaching slowly

Fall is rolling along although we cannot complain as the glorious weather is making the transition from summer to winter quite smooth.

The new year is promising to be a busy. We have several speakers and a local interview to share with you. No hints, it is a surprise.

Be sure to mark May for another wonderful informative bus tour. More on that in January.

The photo below is part of a collection donated by Allan Barnes to the Huron County Museum Archives. He is a descendent of the Lemp family of Auburn. The photos show canoe rides on the Maitland and overviews of Auburn when building large homes was popular.

Welcome to our new Board Members Pam Stanley and Shirley Hutton who both bring a wealth of local knowledge and a lot of energy!

Getting ready for winter. Pigs were a valuable source of meat for the winter. Smoked meat (think hams), sausages and chops fed a lot of families. The butcher is Conrad Lemp, of Auburn, who was the father of George Lemp, photographer, and John Lemp, clock maker. Photo courtesy of A. Barnes



Directors

- Mary Gregg 519-524-9372
- Rhea Hamilton- Seeger 519-612-1201
- Mac Campbell
- Susan Gloucher
- Larry Mohring
- Ben Woodward
- * Shirley Hutton
- * Pam Stanley

CELEBRATE WINGHAM!

Wingham & Area Historical Society

JOIN OUR SECOND ANNUAL FALLFEST

Wingham Legion
Sat. Nov. 15 - 2-4 pm
Price: \$15.00

Silent Auction

Historical WHAT IS IT? Contest

SING-ALONG with Bruce Robertson

J.C. Coutts Preview of CKNX 100th

Seasonal Home-Made Desserts & Coffee

TICKETS: at Wingham Home Hardware

OR: call Bill Farnell 519-357-3803

OR: at the door

**...and
More!**



Menesetung Bridge repairs nearing completion

The Menesetung Bridge over the Maitland at Goderich was initially built as a C.P.R. bridge. In 1989 this large historical feature was decommissioned and slated for demolition. A group of citizens rallied and with both community and local government support a wonderful destination for hikers and non-hikers alike was created. It is an easy hike, great view of the harbour and the River. Tiger Dunlop's resting place is a quick hike and it offers a great view of the Saltford.

But time rolls along and repairs were required on the tops of the concrete piers. The bridge closure has been over this summer instead of two, despite further repairs being done.

The Huron County Historical Society supported the bridge with a donation last spring. Donations are still needed to complete the task. Both ACW Township and Goderich have dug deep to make sure the funds are there to finish the job.

Donations are still accepted. A form on their website is easy to access.

<https://www.menesetungbridgeassociation.org/donate>

Wingham Historical Society

'Stars Of Wingham' Comes To Life

Our friends in Wingham Historical Society have a major project in the works. The identification of people in **Stars of the Town of Wingham** (1948) has almost been completed (2+ yrs. of a small group watching the movie in slow motion in more than a dozen meetings). Scott Evans is finishing putting on closed captions and has slowed the movie down so viewers can get a better look at the people. It was 52 minutes at first but is now about 91 minutes. He will also do video interviews of some people still living who appeared as children in the movie. The group is hoping TVO will pick it up. The Wingham Historical Society has public meetings the first Wednesday afternoon of the month at the Alice Munro Public Library in Wingham. You can also follow them on Facebook.



Classic postcard view of the CPR leaving Goderich. In the background you can see the mills and elevators.

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 Elaine Snell if you are not sure or need clarification. If you are in arrears, consider this a reminder that the membership fees are \$20. To reserve your member's hard copy of Historical Notes, keep your dues up to date.

We are making it easy to renew membership or simply to make a donation by using e-transfer. Send the e-transfer to: hchs1965@gmail.com

Copies of recent past Historical Notes are available, please email hchs1965@gmail.com (past copies are \$8 to \$10 per copy).

To access the members-only section for the Historical Notes or to do a search for names or places in the Historical Notes, go to www.HuronCountyHistoricalSociety.ca, open the dropdown menu for Publications, click HCHS Members Login. If you cannot get access using the password, then check if your web browser is up to date. If the password is lost or not available readily, contact hchs1965@gmail.com

Just an added note. The login password has been the same for a number of years and our web master suggested it was time for a change. So if you have not renewed and are having problems accessing the archives, please contact Elaine about renewing.

Where to get your Local History Books
And back copies of the Historical Notes

Fincher's and The Book Peddler both of Goderich, North Huron Citizen in Blyth, The Book Barn off Hwy 86 between Wingham and Whitechurch, The Village Bookshop, Bayfield and Bayfield Archives.