



NEWS FROM KING TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!

ANNUAL
GENERAL
MEETING

KTHS Annual General Meeting

Sunday, February 24, 2019

12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

King Heritage & Cultural Centre

2920 King Road, King City

Pot luck lunch, meeting and guest speaker.

The 2019 KTHS AGM Speaker is **Alexandra Ney**, Chair of the Museum Committee, who will present a “**Then and Now**” **photo comparison** of significant places in King Township.

Plus a sneak peek at **Kelly Mathew’s** upcoming book on the history of King!

King Township Book Update: Reflecting on the process

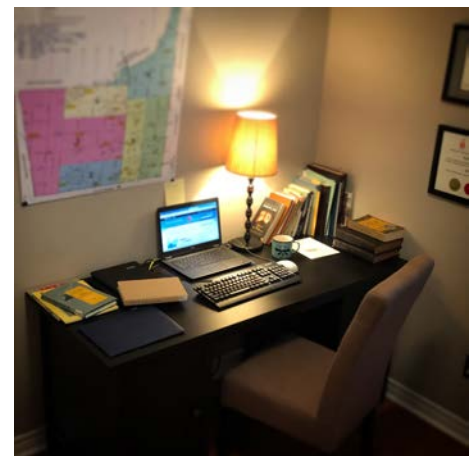
by *Kelly Mathews*

As I approach the 10-month-mark of a 27-month research and writing contract (gasp!) with the King Township Historical Society, I find that I am most awe-inspired, nay, overwhelmed, by the sheer physical size of King Township.

How do you write a historical narrative on the development of a Municipality with no less than 28 distinct villages/hamlets (*albeit the majority now ghost hamlets and some annexed*)?

Do you include the history of land that was once a part of King, but now finds itself absorbed by neighbouring municipalities? How best to tell the story of the chronology of a *place*? Is it by subject or timeline or some other methodology? What to include? What to leave out? Where does one start when the beginning is not where you thought it was? Where does one stop when with every passing day the story continues to unfold?

The questions I have about what content to include is just as daunting as how to include it – much thought has been given to the voice, tone, tempo, language, etc ... the importance of all of it is not lost on me. Most days, when I stop and think about it, I find the magnitude of this project incredibly overwhelming and often have to remind myself “one piece at a time Kelly ... one piece at a time!”



To date, we have received 18 donations to the history of King book fund and are getting closer to reaching our fundraising goal!

KTHS is pleased to announce that our most recent generous donations were from the **Bank of Nova Scotia, Uplands Charitable Foundation** and **TD Canada Trust in Nobleton**. On behalf of KTHS, we say

THANK
YOU!

KTHS is still looking to raise \$19,050 - will you join us in funding this project? Please consider a donation of \$50, \$100, \$500 - any amount is appreciated. Donation by credit card is also an option through **Canada Helps**, available on the KTHS website. As a registered charity, we provide a receipt for income tax purposes, and those who donate \$250 or more will be listed in the book as patrons if they wish.

Having said all that – amid all of the unanswered questions, the doubt, the digging and digression, I can assure you that every moment thus far has been an absolute pleasure. This simply could not be done if it wasn't a total joy, privilege and honour – and it is all three ... in spades!

TEASER: would you like to hear Kelly Mathews read a page from the book as she continues along the research and writing process? If yes, please join us at the **King Township Historical Society AGM on Sunday, February 24th** where Kelly will select a page to read and hopefully whet your appetite for *all-things-King*!



Jazz great Adam Saunders and the Hammered Brass Band put forth a tremendous performance on the keyboard at the annual KTHS Christmas Concert held in the newly re-opened Laskay Hall on November 30th. Recovering from recent surgery, Adam dazzled a full house without missing a beat in an evening of Jazz favourites. Thanks to his tremendous band members and Reide Kaiser for stepping in on the keyboard!

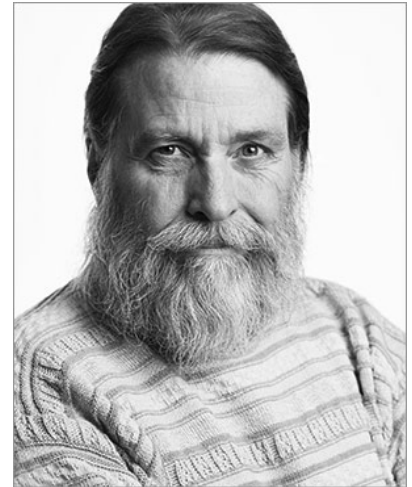


Featuring
Dave Patterson - a.k.a.
“the 1492 guy”
Saturday, May 4, 1:00-2:30 pm

Dave Patterson’s subject is ‘Dispelling the Myths of 1492’. He inspires audience members by retelling actual histories in an effort to help people realize that all European settlers and Indians were peers and co-equals.

These real-life events are compelling: Europeans who did not bathe, had poor health, disease and poor diet; the first true democracy; a 700-year-old transportation system with 225,000 km of roadway; gifts of 75% of our world’s foods; the genesis of women’s rights; 1000+ pyramids; bigger cities than Europe; our concepts of freedom and liberty - there are hundreds of these well-documented accounts!

Join us at the King Heritage & Cultural Centre Sunday, May 5 from 2-4pm for this FREE and exciting event. Refreshments will be served!



Historic Laskay Hall Re-Opens on Grounds of Museum

Longstanding member of the KTHS and lifetime member of the Laskay Hall Board, **Mary Scott** (pictured below next to Mayor Pellegrini, photo credit: King Weekly Sentinel), shared her cherished memories of Laskay at the re-opening of this historic landmark in October.



Mary Scott's remarks:

"I am honoured to be part of today's ribbon cutting ceremony and thrilled to witness the net chapter in Laskay Hall's preservation journey.

"These four walls have helped mark many occasions in my personal life, including first meeting my husband, Lorne, and the open house celebration of our 50th wedding anniversary in 1996.

"It could be that 75 years of treasured memories make me a little biased, but Laskay Hall will always be the most precious jewel in King Township's Cultural Centre.

"One of the many fundraising efforts to pay the Hall's ongoing upkeep expenses was the production of eight historic docudramas. I will always be grateful for the assistance of so many talented and dedicated volunteer actors and crew who helped bring my words to life.

"To close, I have chosen a few lines from *School Daze*, the second play in my Laskay Trilogy (I have changed the last line):

*"When we fill this Hall with fun and laughter
It cheers our memories ever after.
When we bring our spirits of peace and hope
We're helping each other to live and cope.
Thanks for coming and blessings to all
Please book my 100th for Laskay Hall."*

Remembering the Great War 100 Years Later

**Remarks presented at Marylake Shrine's Nov. 11 Memorial Concert
by Ann Love**

Today we honour those who served and those who fell in WWI and WWII. We remember it was 100 years ago today at 11 am GMT that soldiers on both sides in the First World War put down their arms. And we commemorate those times here at the beautiful Marylake Shrine with music, song and poetry selected and artistically directed by Daniele Colla.

Like many people in this room, I am a descendent of survivors of the Great War. My four grandparents all served in different ways. They did not live in King when they signed up, but often came to our home here in later years to join in family meals, and walk with us, eyes peeled looking for berries and morels to pick in the meadows and forests of King.



My father's father was a chaplain in the British Army and his wife ministered as a lay assistant to the wives and families of soldiers. My mother's father joined the Canadian Expeditionary Force, served in the trenches on the western front, and was injured in the leg by a shrapnel blast at the Second battle of the Somme in the summer before the war ended. He met my grandmother, a young nurse, in a rehab centre for soldiers outside Toronto. All four saw family members fight again in WWII.

I remember they talked little about the wars:

- When the topic came up, they would say they fervently hoped I would never have to live through a world war. They would shake their heads and look down, clearly with memories they did not want to share.

- Although I memorized in school the social, political and economic causes of WWI, my grandparents never analyzed the conflict like that. They were clearly loyal citizens but just wanted to get past thinking about all the suffering, divisions and enmity. My mother's mother, the rehab nurse, was more interested in trading crochet patterns and dumpling recipes with her German neighbour when I was a child than in discussing details of war.

- My grandfather who fought in the trenches would only reminisce about the Christmas Day truces and hearing German soldiers singing carols across No Man's Land. He would also sing popular WWI-era songs – all with reasonably upbeat tunes like "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" – or marching chants such as "Left, Left, I Had a Good Job and I Left" ... which I find myself saying to my grandchildren to get them walking faster.

Today we often talk about WWI as an unnecessary war, the product of overzealous nationalisms and rivalries arising from colonialism. We think of the leadership as bungling, crippled by class bias, unable to recognize that new weapons needed new strategy, all resulting in catastrophic – even cavalier – loss of life.

To have analyzed the war that way with my grandparents would have been insulting to their efforts and to the suffering, and loss, of their friends. They wouldn't find it helpful at all.

But they would like to know that yesterday's *Globe and Mail* discussed the ways the Great War shaped our country. And they would also like to know that we still commemorate the defining event of their generation with its music, song and poetry.

To celebrate the best in humanity and the sacrifice of people on both sides of the wars, let us sit back and listen to music and words of the time, curated and presented in this magnificent setting by inspired artists.



send us your
pictures!



***KTHS Wants Your King
Heritage Photos! Help
us tell the story of King
through your gems!***

As local author and historian, Kelly Mathews continues with her research on the comprehensive history of King Township, she is in search of historic photos from old family photo albums, boxes in your attic, or even framed pictures on your walls.

The best place to find local pictures is with local people. You may feel that a photo in your possession has no special meaning, but something in the background could be a real treasure. We will scan the images and return them to you (unless you would like to donate them to the King Archives). Please include a self-addressed return envelope and drop them off to the attention of KTHS at the Museum.

What's Happening at the Museum?

Things from King: A community curated exhibit, Jan. 16 - Feb. 24

What in the World ...? We all have family heirlooms or unique conversation pieces that tell a story about our life or family history. Come view hidden gems from King residents.



When the Artifacts Speak - Oh, the stories they will tell! Saturday, February 9

Community members who have loaned a personal object for display will give a brief explanation on the significance of this item to their personal history. Afterwards, collectible expert, **Ed Moran**, will be the speaker/presenter for a session on the **"Value of Things"**.

March Break Workshops, week of March 11-15

A series of 3 Workshops for students thinking of advancing their art career. Excellent for creative thinkers and makers who are considering an education in art, design and the creative fields.

Please register in advance, contact 905.833.2331 or kingmuseum@king.ca

Did You Know that YOU can Leave a Legacy to History in King Township? *by Bill Salter and David Love*

We all want to pass on our most important values. You can pass on your core values by leaving a gift to a charity which reflects your values in your Will or estate plan. That's what Doris Fawcett did.

In July of 2010, we were thrilled to find that longtime member Doris Fawcett left a legacy in her Will of some \$420,000 to the King Township Historical Society for the "Enhancement of the Museum and it's Exhibits." This generous bequest was totally unexpected. Doris was the first to leave the Society a legacy in her Will. Her gift provided (and still provides) new energy to the work of the Society.

The initial use of Mrs. Fawcett's money was to fund a consultant study to develop a long-term plan for the development of the museum. Since then, the money has funded the purchase of storage racks and cabinets for the proper storage of artifacts, the purchase of display cabinets and display mannequins for the development of exhibits, the funding of four World War 1 exhibits, and the funding of the permanent exhibit of King Township history to be housed in the newly renovated Kinghorn School House.

To date more than \$119,000 has been disbursed or committed from Mrs. Fawcett's legacy gift to enhance the museum and its exhibits. Would you like to leave such a legacy? While Doris' gift was large, every single gift in a Will, no matter the size, will advance the Society's important work.

*If you are interested in remembering the King Township Historical Society in your Will or estate plan, please write, email or call **Ann Love**, current board chair or **Bill Salter**, current board treasurer for a confidential conversation.*

Ann Love, 14645 7th Concession, King City, ON. L7B 1K4 kannlove@me.com or (905) 859-4721
Bill Salter, 8110 16th Side Road, Bolton, ON. L7E 5R7 bsalter@aol.com or (905) 859-0894



King Township Historical Society, 2920 King Road, King City ON L7B 1L6
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2019

(PLEASE PRINT INFORMATION AND MAIL CHEQUE TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS)

NAME(S) _____ PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____ FAX _____
EMAIL _____ POSTAL CODE _____
NEW _____ RENEWAL _____
INDIVIDUAL \$20 _____ FAMILY \$25 _____ DONATION _____
ENCLOSED \$ _____

Upcoming Events in & around King



Family Day Winterfest in King Township

Monday, February 18

Enjoy Family Day throughout the Township while participating in exciting activities including: an annual learn to curl at the Trisan Centre in Schomberg, free snowshoe and cross country ski rentals at Cold Creek Conservation Area and fun Family Day activities in King!

Arts Society King presents the King's Feet Underground Sound & Literary Festival

Friday, February 22 at 7:00pm, Laskay Hall

Enjoy free performances of original works and improvisations, including writers, poets, story-tellers, musicians, and dancers. ArtsSocietyKing.ca



Earth Hour

Saturday, March 30 from 8:30-9:30pm, Dufferin Marsh

Come out on Earth Hour and make a lantern! Bring a glass jar so you can decorate and repurpose it into a lantern, followed by a bonfire with hot chocolate.



Arts Society King presents a Blues Concert

April 12 at 7:30 pm, Laskay Hall

Enjoy the music of Larry Kurtz and the Law Breakers, paired with fun refreshments and mingling. Tickets at ArtsSocietyKing.ca

Arts Society King presents the Studio Tour King Preview Exhibit

Mid March - April 24, King Heritage and Cultural Centre

Enjoy a preview of some of the work of artists participating in the 2019 Studio Tour King. We have many new artists this year! Open Tuesdays to Saturdays from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Free admission. **Opening Reception on Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 pm.**

Best of the Best Rummage Sale at All Saints' Anglican Church

Saturday, April 27 from 9am-2pm, 12935 Keele Street, King City

Loonie entry (children 12 and under free) Donations welcome!



History of KTTHS in Brief:

The KTTHS dates back to 1972 when a group of dedicated residents, with interests in preserving the history of their Township, gathered to form the King Township Historical Society. In 1981 ~1982, the KTTHS was incorporated by the Ontario Historical Society under a Provincial Letters Patent. Our goals and objectives are to encourage research into the history, to secure and preserve an accurate account of the progress and development, and to promote public interest in the history of King Township. More information may be found on our website at www.kingtowshiphistoricalsociety.com.