



Friends of
**LINCOLN'S
HISTORY**

NEWSLETTER

Spring Edition

May 15, 2024



Above picture is from 1971 - Spring Maple Syrup demonstrations at the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority.

Members are encouraged to send in family stories, histories, pictures. Email us at lincolnarchives@gmail.com. Please think about making a donation of old documents or pictures to the Archives. We are collecting for future generations to enjoy and learn from. Please visit our website where you can now view all our newsletters. Website: www.lincolnarchives.ca
Email: lincolnarchives@gmail.com
Visit us on Facebook @ Friends of Lincoln's History
This newsletter is produced by Karen Hughes, a volunteer at the Archives. Send questions to lincolnarchives@gmail.com

Friends of Lincoln's History Board News

Breaking News!! - The Friends of Lincoln's History now has a YouTube account. The account name is **Friends of Lincoln's History**. Our first video is from our December 5, 2023 speaker event, **Vimy Ridge and Canadians in The Great War: An Inside Perspective**.

It features Jay Moyer, who has donated WWI letters and memorabilia of his uncle Private Jay B. Moyer to our Archives. Also joining him that night were Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Robert Christopher and Jay's brother Norman Moyer. Discover an intimate journey on the battle at Vimy Ridge from Private Moyer's letters, and Canada's Vimy Story.

Our second video, a short little teaser on our upcoming "Heritage Tour of Rockway". Mary Lour Garr and Ruth Smith are walking among the gravestones at the Rockway Cemetery telling tales of some of its residents.



Listed below are some future events we have planned:

The Town of Lincoln has once again invited us to participate in **Senior Days**. It will be taking place at the Fleming Centre on Wednesday, June 5, 2024. Please stop by our booth to see our display. The town is promoting this event as a drop-in to learn about programs, services and opportunities for community members 55+.

The Friends of Lincoln's History is hosting a **Heritage Tour of Rockway** on Saturday, June 1, 2024. Please see page five of this newsletter for further details. Order you tickets today.

Friends of Lincoln's History (Archives) address is 4280 Victoria Avenue North, Vineland Station, Ontario L0R 2E0
We are located on the lower level of the old Lodge Building #6 on the Campus of the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre
Open each Wednesday from 9 am to 3 pm, or by appointment. Call us at (905) 562-4242

The "EX" Yacht Club

By: Ruth M. Smith

Papers in our Archives relating to the workings of the "EX" Yacht Club date between 1912 and the 1920s include receipts, invoices, letters and meeting minutes. Among these papers were letters between the Yacht Club Board of Directors and Moses F. Rittenhouse, the Chicago lumber baron, who had donated land for the Experimental Farm where the Yacht Club was located. Apparently M.F. Rittenhouse served as honorary "Commodore" of the club. The title "The EX-Yacht Club" was likely an abbreviation of "The Experimental Research Farm "Yacht Club", most names mentioned in the papers were readily identifiable as "Farm" researchers and staff members. The name was also probably more fanciful than factual, the records show that with the exception of the Commodore's yacht, "The Onward", the club crafts consisted primarily of canoes and assorted small sailboats. In all likelihood, the Club was established to provide a bit of weekend sport for the young men who worked at "The Farm" and, generally, lived there in the cottages and lodgings provided.

Once we identified the location of the club at the North end of Victoria Avenue, by the lake, Heather Troup (a founding member of the FLH Archives) said, "I think I have a picture of that club". From her collection is a photograph (bottom left photo) of the Club House and Club Members with their three canoes and two sailboats. Unfortunately, there no names were on the photograph. Another original picture (below right) was found in Kenneth Moyer's collection but still no names.

An interesting and humorous decision mentioned in the Club minutes was one that arose from a request by the women of the YWCA Camp to "row out of the EX-Yacht Club facilities". The Yacht Club board of directors confirmed their policy of excluding women but, generously allowed them to store their canoes and rowboats at the Yacht Club.

Information from a letter sent to O'Loughlin & Co. Insurance in St. Catharines on May 27, 1919 from the EX-Yacht Club.

"The Club House is of frame construction; it having been made from the old beams of a barn which was torn down. The building is therefore of very heavy construction. The outside is of slabs, giving it a rustic appearance. There is just the one floor which is being used principally for storage of canoes. There are no lighting attachments nor are there any lighting rods".

"Club House value is \$800.00, one sailing dinghy \$100.00, 2 canoes at \$35.00 each, another canoe at \$50.00 and 1 row boat worth \$50.00."

On May 29, 1919 the O'Loughlin Insurance company insured the clubhouse with British Dominion Insurance for \$1050.00 at a cost of \$12.07 per year.

By: K. Hughes



The Old Stone Schoolhouse

(Later replaced by The Rittenhouse School in 1890)

The old stone school was built in 1858 and was razed in 1958.

Pt. Lot 1, Conc. 1 Clinton Township – 1 Acre

Deed #3124 Conveyance – 5 Apr 1890

Freeman Overholt, Clinton Twp, Yeoman & wife Mary Overholt to board of Public-School section one, Clinton and Union School Two, Louth.

Conveyance for a school

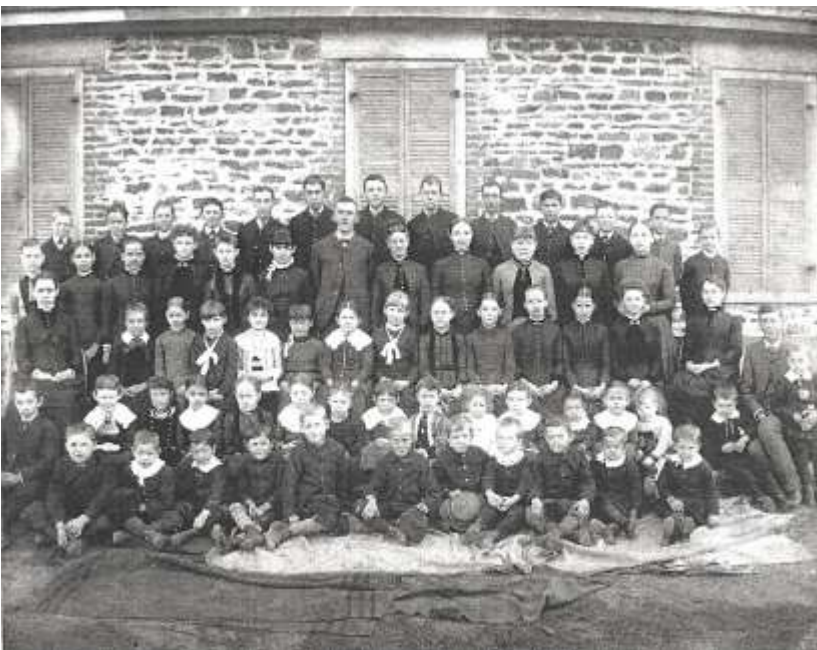


The Schoolhouse

By: Barney Hare Teacher, 1859

The schoolhouse is a stone building built in A.D. 1856 situated on the township line between Clinton and Louth about fifty rods from Lake Ontario in a beautiful pine grove, and is sufficiently large to admit forty scholars. In the inside of the schoolhouse is furnished with map and pictures of which I shall name a few. On the south end of the schoolhouse, there is one of Natural Philosophy, there is picture on the top of the door, five on the door. On the west side there are three maps; one of Europe, one of Australia and one of North and South America. On the North end there are four natural philosophy, five of physiology and one map of the world, one history of England, and one blackboard. On the East side there are three maps; one of Africa, one of Upper Canada and one of Asia.

There are also twenty-two seats on the platform stand, a couple of benches, one stove, a drum, and a long pipe which runs across the schoolhouse ten feet from the floor to the northern part of the schoolhouse where the smoke goes out in the air through a chimney.



Front L/R front row: John Rittenhouse, John Culp, Charles High, Edward Heckadon, John House, Frank House, James Gilbert, Orval Moyer, William Rittenhouse, Moses Rittenhouse, Aaron Rittenhouse. 2nd Row: Sam Church, Bertie Honsinger, Edna High, Suzanna Culp, Laura Wismer, Barbara Rowe, Jessie Wismer, Maude Overholt, Edith Overholt, Cora Gilbert, Mamie Honsinger, Mary Rowe, Edith Culp, Unknown, Fred Culp, Frank Culp. 3rd Row: Cindy Rittenhouse, Jessie Heckadon, Sarah Culp, Mary Nunn, Bertha Culp, Matilda House, Mabel Overholt, Louesa Nun, Louesa Wismer, Mary Rittenhouse, Valeria Rittenhouse, Arletta Culp, Maude Gilbert, Arletta Grubb, William Culp. 4th Row: Annie Culp, Alda Culp, Alberta Rittenhouse, Emily Nunn, Rose Culp, Emma Culp, Robert F. Martin (Teacher), Betsey Culp, Sophia Rittenhouse, Lucinda Swartz, Ida Grubb, Naomi Rittenhouse. 5th Row: Daniel House, Archie High, Irvin Nunn, Auburn Culp, Alonzo Culp, Dan Culp, Tobias Rittenhouse, Irvin Swartz, William Church, Emerson Culp, Jacob Rittenhouse, Clayton Culp, Jonathan Rittenhouse.

In Case you missed them, here is a look at some of our recent events



The picture on left is from our February Speaker event. Rochelle Bush (centre) accepting her FLH Plaque from FLH Chair, Ruth M. Smith and Vice Chair, Gary Dandridge. Rochelle spoke about **Black History in the Niagara Region**. The event was a great success and we thank Rochelle for her time.



Above Right is Gary Dandridge presenting Rose Buitenhuis, PhD, with her FLH Plaque for her presentation on **Vineland Research and Innovation Centre: Over a Century of Research to Support Farmers**. Rose is the Director of Biological Crop Protection at Vineland Research. Picture on left shows Rose speaking to members who came out for her interesting and informative presentation.



Below: The **Memory Lab**, sponsored by the Lincoln Pelham Public Library (Rittenhouse Branch). The event was a big success. Ruth, Gary and Karen from the FLH were there along with the library staff and reps from the Niagara Branch of The Ontario Genealogical Society. Together they passed out information and answered visitors' questions regarding genealogical research, local history and the digitizing of film and pictures from a variety of sources including 8mm film reels, slides and negatives to help people save their memories and treasures for future generations. The library is now taking appointments to come in and use their new equipment, but if you wish to donate your old documents and pictures, please think of us at the Archives.



Heritage Tour of Rockway

on the Fifteen-mile creek

Saturday, June 1st, 2024
10 am - 3 pm

Cost - \$20.00 / person

To order tickets please contact:
Friends of Lincoln's History
4890 Victoria Avenue N.,
Vineland Station, ON L0R 2E0
PH: 905-562-4242

Email - lincolnarchives@gmail.com

Website - www.friendsoflyncolnshistory.ca



The ROCKWAY CEMETERY is a lovely little cemetery situated near the Rockway Presbyterian Church. The oldest headstone in Rockway is dated 1806. We will be Conducting tours of the cemetery every 30 minutes from 10-3 pm. The tour will include interesting and sometimes surprising stories about early settlers who rest here.

This year marks 215 years of worship for the ROCKWAY PRESBYTERIAN Congregation, making it one of the oldest in the area. A log church evolved into this lovely church building which includes a simple sanctuary, and unusual stain glass windows. Enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and some delicious sweets prepared and served by the Rockway Presbyterian Church women.

Come and tour the historic BROWN HOMESTEAD. It was the family home on lands settled along the Mohawk Trail by Loyalist John Brown. It is one of Niagara's oldest houses.

The HENRY OF PELHAM WINERY is located on six generation family lands originally granted to Loyalist Nicholas Smith. The brick building once served as an inn and tavern for travellers along the Mohawk Trail. Enjoy a free glass of wine at the winery with the purchase of your tour ticket.

Rockway Cemetery Circa 1830

Tours start every half hour from 10-3 pm



Rockway Presbyterian Church

Circa. 1892



The Brown Homestead circa. 1796



Henry of Pelham Winery circa 1794

