



The Gallery Shop has been receiving new merchandise over the last two months gearing up for our

Annual Gift Shop Christmas Sale

November 20 & 21st from 10:00 - 4:00 p.m.

This is a great chance to support your local museum and artisans. We offer a large selection of new gifts for the holiday season.

We have beautiful hand woven rugs in various colours courtesy of our friends at Wonky Wood Works. Local potter Paul Johnson has provided us with a selection of mugs, bowls and butter dishes. Pam King brought in some new scarves that are truly lovely, warm and washable with a beaded fringe. Kathy Godfrey has supplied us with a series of greeting cards which depict her recent exhibit "Wonky Old Orillia." Our newest artisan, Audrey Knits' & Quilts has brought us hand knit socks for ladies and men, hand knit scarves and quilted table runners.

In Memoriam

Wish List

Some of OMAH's valued members have recently passed away. We would like to acknowledge their special contributions and send our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

Nancy Brown Ryan Jack Shenton

Visiting Katimavik Volunteers are in need of the following items for their house.

Tea pot, tea kettle, bikes, bookshelves, bedroom dresser, telephone, coffee urn

Please contact 326-2159 if you would like to donate any of these items.

Welcome!

OMAH would like to welcome Patricia Turcotte and Jack Yager from Katimavik, Alex King and Katie Sauren High School Co-op students, Karen Burlock and Christina Crawford from the Lakehead Education Department and Shannon Hawke through Young Canada Works.

Thank You!

OMAH would like to thank Bethany Hayward, and Jodi Cox for all of their hard work. We would also like to wish both Bethany and Jodi great success with all of their future endeavors. You will be missed!

Muse News is published by the Orillia Museum of Art & History six times a year. Muse News is available free of charge with a current membership. The museum gratefully acknowledges the financial assistance of its members and supporters. The museum is a registered charitable organization No. 13723 0587 RR0001.

Muse News

VOLUME 15 ISSUE 6
NOVEMBER 2009

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News from the Director/Curator

~ by Gloria Taylor

Welcome to our improved newsletter format. You may not have noticed the change, but due to cost savings, our own Editor Katie Calcaterra is now doing the newsletter graphic design, as well.

As you are aware, OMAH approached City Council for a grant of \$475,000 for the refurbishment of the second and third floor contingent on us receiving an infrastructure stimulus grant for \$1.3 million that we applied for last month. The Councilors were positive, but wished more time and information before making a final decision. If you would like to know more about the project give me a call or drop in to see the plans in our foyer.

Our annual fall fundraising campaign is starting and you should be receiving a package in early November. Please consider a donation to OMAH, becoming a sponsor for one of our exhibits, buying a gift from our shop or giving a museum membership to a friend.

Many happy returns to you and your family over this holiday season and I look forward to seeing you at the Museum in 2010.

HOURS OF OPERATION

*Tuesday—Saturday
10-4:00 p.m.*

Orillia Museum of Art & History
30 Peter St. South
Orillia, Ontario L3V 5A9

*Tel: 705-326-2159
Fax: 705-326-7828
Email: info@orilliamuseum.org*



John A. MacDonald Dinner

The Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner will take place at the Best Western Mariposa Inn on **Saturday, January 9, 2010.**

Cocktails begin at 5:30 p.m. and dinner is at 7 p.m. The guest speaker will be the Hon. Barbara McDougall, formerly a distinguished cabinet minister in the Mulroney government.

Tickets will be available following the History Speaker meeting at St. Paul's Church on Wednesday, November 18 at \$45 each. No tickets will be sold prior to this date but will be available the next day at the Orillia Museum of Art & History or from Don MacDonald 327-0735.

Because of the increasing demand for tickets to this outstanding event, it will not be possible to reserve tickets as in past years. All tickets will be sold on a first-come, first-serve basis. Payment by cheque is preferred, however, cash is accepted as well.

All seats will be reserved for the dinner. If you and your friends would like to sit together simply write down on a slip of paper the individual names, phone numbers and ticket numbers and give them to a member of the ticket committee. We will do our best to meet your requests. Just remember you must get your tickets prior to reserving seats. Complete tables will accommodate eight, nine, or ten people.

Please inform the committee of any special concerns as to physical or dietary considerations.

Wally Bremner, Chair
Ticket Committee:
Donald MacDonald
Cheryl Behan



Current & Upcoming Exhibits

Twelve Days of Christmas

November 26—January 15, 2010



OMAH is celebrating Christmas by displaying an art exhibit on our community art wall made up of images inspired by the lyrics from the song "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

This show is an exhibition as well as a fundraiser for OMAH. Visitors will be able to enjoy this holiday classic and view beautiful art throughout the month of December. Come out and purchase a piece to support OMAH and a local artist.

Cartoons: The Art of Humour

Featuring works by Don Evans, Bob Kain & Duncan Macpherson

November 10—January 8, 2010

Opening: November 14, 2009, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Main Gallery

OMAH is thrilled to announce that we will be showing a Cartoon exhibit featuring three well known and diverse cartoonists from the region including, Don Evans, Bob Kain & Duncan Macpherson. Each cartoonist/illustrator offers a unique take on a number of different topics including, politics, life, and family.

The Hidden Shilling Show - A Call for Submissions

Preparations are under way for The Hidden Shilling Show, which will be held at the Orillia Museum of Art and History from August until October, 2010. The show will be a retrospective of approximately 40 works by Arthur Shilling, loaned mostly from local private collections. Also included will be sketchbooks, paint boxes and palettes, provided by the Shilling estate. It aims to provide a broad view of his artistic development and to showcase the range of his achievements. A lecture and essay will accompany the show. This will be the first of its kind since an exhibition held at the Thunder Bay Art Gallery in 1986, shortly after his death.

Artwork is needed. From pencil sketches, to pastels, to oil paintings, regardless of size or subject matter, if you have something by Arthur Shilling, or know someone who does, I would like to hear from you. Anonymous loans are welcome and getting in touch puts you under no obligation to lend. I am also interested in memories, stories, photos and ephemera; anything to help build a better picture of his life as an artist.

It is hoped that a full colour catalogue/book will also accompany the exhibition, but funding is still needed. Individuals or institutions interested in supporting such a publication are asked to get in touch.

Be part of telling the story of a unique and important artist! For more information, contact Josh Leigh at ShillingProject@gmail.com or 325-4278, or OMAH at 326-2159.

Grant Films Part II

by Lynda Whiston

In 2008 OMAH released the hugely successful 2 disc set of DVD's containing movie film footage more than 80 years old taken by Orillian, Jack Grant. Now Part II will shortly be ready for release.

This Grant film footage dates back to 1929 through to the 1950's and includes some rare colour film footage from 1939. Fifteen reels in all have been copied to DVD and include scenes of Lake Couchiching and the park, shots of road paving using early steam shovels, cranes, and steamrollers dating from the 1930's. Workmen completing renovations on a local home leap catlike up and down a steep rooftop, without safety harnesses.

A train steams out of the station, and a monoplane lands on the frozen surface of Lake Couchiching. Vivid colour erupts onto the screen as the Grants' iris garden, at their country home (now Grant's Woods) appears in all its glory. Caught on film is extensive footage of a hockey game played on the ice of the lake during Christmas week 1931. View a team of horses at work shifting a tree trunk and much more.

Mention of the upcoming release of this second set of Grant Films cannot be made without recognizing the untiring work that Terry Rideout has put into transferring the master footage to DVD with the inclusion of a 2009 interview with 84 year old Bill Grant.

A Call for Fossils & Rocks

Thanks to sponsorship from the Royal Bank of Canada and Casino Rama we are refurbishing our history gallery to focus partly on the geological formation of the Orillia area, its flora and fauna. We would like to ask our members if they would be willing to donate or loan any local fossils or geological or mineral specimens for this exhibit.

Please contact Gloria Taylor at 326-2159

My name is Patricia Turcotte. I come from Chicoutimi in the Saguenay region of Quebec. I am 17 years old and I am excited to be participating in the Katimavik program.

Below I have provided a traditional family recipe for doughnuts that we only make once a year during the Christmas season. It is very special to my family and I hope you will enjoy it as much as I do. Merry Christmas!

Recette de Beignes

4 oeufs

1 tasse de crème (1/2 crème 1/2 lait)

1 1/2 tasse de sucre

Vanille

1 pincée de sel

4 tasse de farine pour épaisir

(pour chaque tasse de farine ajouter

1 pince a thé de poudre à pâte)

- Batre les oeufs avec le sucre (très longtemps)
- Ajouter le lait et mettre les tasses de farines à la main, une à la fois, jusqu'à ce que la pâte devienne belle (epaisse)
- Réfrigérer environ une heure et abaisser la pâte à environs 1/4 de pouce d'épaisseur
- Avec un verre, faire la forme d'un cercle et avec un des à coudre faire un petit trou dans le milieu
- Faire cuire dans 3 pouce de graisses chaude environs 3 minutes (faire attention de ce brûler)
- Déguster à Noël avec ou sans sucre en poudre!

Doughnut Recipe

4 eggs

1 cup of cream (1/2 cream and 1/2 milk)

1 1/2 a cup of sugar

Vanilla

1 teaspoon of salt

4 cups of flour for needing the dough

(For every cup of flour you add you require 1 teaspoon of baking powder)

- Beat the eggs with the sugar until it thickens
- Add the milk/cream to the egg and sugar mixture and a cup of flour at a time until you have a nice soft dough that forms a ball
- Refrigerate for one hour. Pat the dough down until it is 1/4 inch thick
- Use a glass to form circles in the dough. Use a thimble to press the middle of each circle making a doughnut shape
- Place the dough in a pot with 3 inches of bubbling grease/cooking oil for 3 min turning once until brown and dust with powdered sugar. Enjoy!

Research Room Update! - by Marcel Rousseau

Post Card Memories, Maple leaf Club, Dance Night

The Maple Leaf Club opened on June 1, 1942 in the St. James Church Sunday School building. The Orillia Citizens War Committee with over 200 women and girls working in shifts, acted as hostesses to the men and women stationed at the Basic Training Camp.

The "Hostess House" as the club was commonly called, was open seven days a week and became the most active place in Orillia during the war. Dances were held every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 8:00 to 10:30 in the main hall.

250 girls were registered to act as junior hostesses for the dances. Strict rules were in place and the hostesses were instructed to: "Look your best and wear dresses, no slacks or shorts. Change partners after every dance. Do not leave the club with a soldier nor should you leave the club until the dance is over. Smoking is permitted only in the ladies rest room."

Dancing music was often provided by the soldiers themselves and as shown in this photo, most everyone in the hall enjoyed the use of the dance floor.

Every Sunday evening a sing-song was held led by local singers, Mr. Brain, Sgt. Cowan, Mr. A. Anderson and many others. Some of the pianists taking turns were Mr. Murphy, Mrs. Caldwell, Mrs. Glover and Mr. Varley.

Shortly after the club opened, an annex was opened for women in uniform on the east side of the hall. Two large rooms were furnished with a piano, writing tables and a sewing machine for the ladies. Near the entrance to the hall was an information desk and a mend it corner with several sewing machines provided by the volunteers to keep the soldiers garments in repair.

Mrs. Robert Swinton, director of the organization, did a marvelous job organizing her loyal staff to welcome and cater to the many men and women in uniform at Basic Training Camp No. 26.



June 1, 1942—Maple Leaf Club Dance Night

Our Two Cents Worth

- by Qennefer Browne



Dan Byers, History Committee Member and Board Member of OMAH, took our own OMAH heraldic weaponry, the sword of Elme and Sir Sam Steele, to the Grey and Simcoe Foresters Regiment 143rd Anniversary Dinner. Dr. Dick Johnston attended also, and provided this photo.

The dinner was held in Barrie on Friday September 12th. The following day the regiment conducted a ceremonial raising of its Regimental Garrison standard at the Steele Memorial Site, 11th Concession Rd., in Fair Valley.



Katimavik Connection

by Patricia Turcotte

Je m'appelle Patricia Turcotte. Je viens du Québec, à Chicoutimi au Saguenay. J'ai 17 ans et je suis une participante de Katimavik. Cette recette de beignes est vraiment une tradition dans ma famille quand arrive Noël. Nous la faisons seulement une fois par année spécialement pour cette période.

J'espère que vous aimerez cette recette familiale que je partage avec vous. Joyeux Noël!

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Exhibition Schedule & Upcoming Events

Versatility

Brian Tosh

September 29—November 21, 2009

Community Art Wall

Festival of Banners

Banner Exhibition

November 3—November 7, 2009

Main Gallery

Festival of Banners Gala & Silent Auction

November 6, 2009

7:00—9:00 p.m.

Cartoons: The Art of Humour

Featuring the Works of: Don Evans, Bob Kain & Duncan Macpherson

November 10—Jan 8

Opening: November 14, 2009 6:30-8:30

Twelve Days of Christmas

November 17 to January 8, 2009

Community Art Wall

History Speaker Evening

"Canadians at Table: Food, Fellowship & Folklore" Speaker: Dorothy Duncan

November 18, 2009

St. Paul's United Church, 7:30 p.m.

Ticket available for the John A. MacDonald Dinner

Three Museums Cook Book Capers: Hosted by the Stephen Leacock Museum

November 20 to 21, 2009

10-4:00 p.m.

OMAH's Bus Trip to the AGO

November 21, 2009

Tickets available at OMAH

Christmas Gift Shop Sale

November 20 & 21, 2009

10:00—4:00 p.m.

Members Christmas Social

December 6, 2009 at the Orillia Museum of Art & History, 3:00—5:00 p.m.

Holiday Kids Day Camp

Dec 21 to 23, 2009

9:00—12:00 and 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Two sessions each day

Sir John A. MacDonald Dinner

January 9, 2009

Tickets Available at OMAH beginning November 19, 2009

History Speaker Evening

"North Pole Exploration"

Speaker: Dr. Ken Hedges

January 20, 2010

St. Paul's United Church, 7:30 p.m.

History Speaker Evening

"Orillia's Industrial Heritage"

Speakers: Drs. Todd Stubbs & Reg Horne

February 17, 2010

St. Paul's United Church, 7:30 p.m.

March Break Day Camp

March 15 - 19, 2010

OMAH's Bus Trip to the Toronto

Distillery District

April 27, 2010

OMAH's Bus Trip to the Canoe Museum & Petroglyphs

June 9, 2010

Join OMAH for a Bus Trip to the AGO

Saturday November 21, 2009

Cost: \$55 (including admission, coach fare, and guided tour)

To register and purchase tickets or for more information please contact the Orillia Museum of Art and History at (705) 326-2159

Thank You to Donors & Sponsors

OMAH would like to thank the following people and businesses who have donated money to help sustain OMAH or who have sponsored one of our events between Oct 1, 2008 and mid October 2009. We sincerely appreciate your contributions. This list will be updated with every newsletter.

Donors

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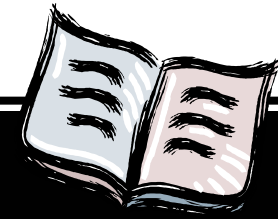
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OMAH would like to apologize for omitting the following people from our donor/sponsor list in the September newsletter. We sincerely appreciate their contributions.

Valerie & Harry Connor
 Sylvia Smith



Cook Book Capers

Cook Book Capers is Coming to Orillia Friday, November 20 & Saturday November 21

Swanmore Hall, Stephen Leacock Museum
 50 Museum Drive, Orillia
 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days

Buy new, used, modern and historical cookbooks, food, gardening, and beverage books, food related gifts, treasures for your kitchen and more!

This fundraiser is sponsored by the Friends of the OPP Museum, the Orillia Museum of Art & History and the Stephen Leacock Museum. Donations may be dropped off at the constituency offices of MP Bruce Stanton, 575 West Street, or MPP Garfield Dunlop, 14 Coldwater Road West, Orillia. To arrange for pick up call 705-329-3084 and leave a message.

***Enjoy a homemade Chili & corn muffin made by Curator Fred Addis for \$3.00**

Programs Update - by Katie Calcaterra



The **2009 Festival of Banners** is going out with a bang. OMAH will be hosting the Gala & Silent Auction on November 6, 2009 from 7:00—9:00 p.m. All of the banners will be on display in our main gallery as well as our education room beginning Tuesday November 3 until the night of the gala. Those who would like to bid on the banners can do so beginning on Tuesday November 3rd. Also at the Gala we will be announcing the new theme for the 2010 Festival of Banners.

Our **Free Drop-In Art** program is back on Saturdays from 1:00-2:30 p.m. It is being delivered by two Lakehead bachelor of education students who are thrilled to be helping out and learning new skills that they will be able to use in their future careers. It began in October and will be available throughout November as well. The Drop-In will stop during December and begin again in January and February.

Holiday Day Camps

The Orillia Museum of Art & History is holding a special holiday day camp for the three days prior to Christmas. Parents are invited to register their children to participate in a fun filled half day of holiday crafts and cupcake decorating.

Parents can spend the day shopping downtown for Christmas while their children are enjoying a craft day with their friends.

Dates: December 21, 22 & 23, 2009

Times: 9:00—12:00 p.m. or 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Fee: Members \$13 for half day

Non-members \$15 for half day

To register contact OMAH at 326-2159