



# Bailey's Bulletin

Volume 17 Issue 2

September 2013

A publication of the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society  
Founded September 1996

Our Society's logo was designed by Jim Elliott, who was a retired graphic artist and charter member of the HMHS. We are proud to display this logo on the masthead of our newsletters and stationery.

*Bailey's Bulletin* is named in honour of the Reverend T. Melville Bailey, who was a proud Mountain resident and founder of the HMHS.

*Bailey's Bulletin* is published three times per year.

## The Honourable Isaac Buchanan finds a Home



The Rev. Mel Bailey, founder of the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society, was contacted in 2000 by the Ontario Historical Society. They had a portrait of Isaac Buchanan which they believed would best be in the possession of a group in Hamilton: the HMHS seemed a perfect fit. Mel brought the matter to the executive and the decision was made to purchase the portrait. Money changed hands and the portrait became the property of the HMHS in 2001. Not having a place to display this artwork the executive gave permission for Mel to hang it in his

home, to be enjoyed and viewed by all who came to visit or meet with him. Since his passing the executive has considered what to do with the portrait. They wanted it in a public place, preferably on the Mountain. Auchmar would be the natural choice, however in its present state was not a prudent one. Evelyn Haslehurst made the suggestion to display the portrait at Buchanan Park School. Contact was subsequently made with Dr. Scott Lowrey, principal of the school and on Wednesday, September 18, 2013 the portrait will be unveiled to the public at its new home.

The ceremony will take place at 7 pm, following the annual Meet-the-Teacher event. Representatives of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, the City of Hamilton as well as provincial and federal politicians will be on hand. Standing guard over the portrait and proceedings will be two uniformed officers of the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry, in honour of the first Commanding Officer (Lt. Col.) of the 13<sup>th</sup> (Hamilton) Battalion of Infantry, now the RHLI.

## Concession Streetfest, Canada Day & June Outing 2013



The weather was great and the crowds were huge. Sandra Beveridge, Membership Chair, was there bright and early to set up the new display boards for the HMHS. As always people flocked to see the photos and reminisce about their time on Hamilton Mountain. Thanks to all the members who volunteered their time to help out. A very special thanks to the young couple who own the Maribel's Variety Store for their assistance.

Sandra Beveridge and Commander Bob 'man' the display at Chris Charlton's Canada Day BBQ held at Mountain Drive Park. The festivities featured a playing of the 1812 Bicentennial version of The Maple Leaf Forever, performed by the Hamilton Children's Choir.





P.O. Box 60506,  
Mtn. Plaza R.P.O.  
Hamilton ON L9C 7N7  
hamiltonheritage1@gmail.com

[www.hamiltonheritage.ca](http://www.hamiltonheritage.ca)





Happy travellers! We had been on a train ride, seen the St. Jacobs market and been fed a wonderful lunch by the ladies of the Mennonite Church.

## Programme Dates for 2013 - 2014

Meetings of the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society, unless otherwise noted, are held at Olivet United Church, 40 Empress Avenue on the third Thursday of January, March, May, September and November. Occasionally special meetings are arranged in buildings of historical interest. All meetings begin at 7:30 pm and visitors are most welcome.

### **SEPTEMBER 19, 2013**                      **HISTORY OF BURKHOLDER CHURCH**

The Burkholder Settlement, founded in 1794 on the Mohawk Trail, was one of the earliest on the Mountain. Shirley Dymont, Archivist of Burkholder Church, will speak on the history of the church and the family it was named after.

### **NOVEMBER 21, 2013**                      **MOUNTAIN MEMORIES: THE WAR YEARS**

Members of the HMHS will share their memories of these eventful years in our history. We will show a portion of Auchmar: The War Years. If you have photos of yourself, or a relative, in uniform please consider sharing it with us for a special photo montage. Contact us at hamiltonheritage1@gmail.com or call Lee at 905.385.8259.

### **JANUARY 16, 2014**                      **OUT OF THE VAULT & A PLAQUE UNVEILING**

Mary Pomfret, Archivist for the HMHS, will give a report on the holdings of the Society and bring along some artifacts to show off. The Henderson Plaque, paid for by the HMHS will be unveiled to the public at this meeting. The Annual Meeting of the HMHS will also be held on this evening - please consider joining the executive: you will be very much welcomed!

### **MARCH 20, 2014**                      **BLACK HISTORY ON THE MOUNTAIN**

Acclaimed author of *The Journey from Tollgate to Parkway: African Canadians in Hamilton*, Adrienne Shadd, will be our guest speaker. This is one meeting you will not want to miss!

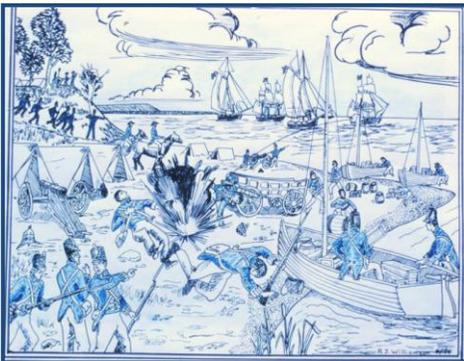
### **MAY 15, 2014**                      **LET'S GO FOR A RIDE**

Robin McKee will take you for a virtual ride on the Niagara Gorge Railway. This presentation was co-produced with Sandra Beveridge and will include some never-before-seen video. Pack a picnic and let's go to Niagara!

*At the top of the Claremont Drive in 1879 the Mountain View Hotel was built of local limestone, replacing a wooden structure that burned down in 1878. The new hotel had a 180 view from a rotunda, a roller skating rink, picnic grounds, sports field, riding horses and the Wentworth Hunt Club. The site where it once stood is now Southam Park, named in memory of Major Gordon Southam, who was killed at the Battle of the Somme in 1916. When was the Mountain View Hotel demolished? a) 1935 b) 1937 c) 1939?*

## Forty Mile Creek - June 8, 1813

The Battle of Stoney Creek on June 6, 1813 was a covert operation, a skirmish in the dark carried out by experienced, highly disciplined troops of the British Army. Surprise was paramount and confusion was bound to prevail in the dark. Although the Americans had lost 125 troops including both their Generals, they did not consider it a defeat. Their army of approximately 3,000 troops was mainly still intact and reformed at their camp at the mouth of Forty Mile Creek (Grimsby) where they were resupplied by bateau from Fort Niagara. It was their intent to continue their march on Burlington Heights. However, on June 8, the British Naval Squadron appeared on the lake off Grimsby, their decks crowded with British troops and bombarded the American position. Recognizing that their supply and communication route on the lake was now controlled by the British navy, the Americans panicked and retreated back to their bridgehead on the Niagara River. Commodore Yeo wrote, "By sharp and well directed fire we soon obliged the enemy to make a precipitous retreat, leaving behind all his camp supplies, provisions, stores and bateaux laden with equipment, which fell into our hands."



This is a perfect example of how naval control of Lake Ontario influenced the action of land forces and demonstrates how Stoney Creek was only part of a bigger military action that saved Canada.

While there are monuments and plaques at Stoney Creek National Historic Site telling half of the story, few people know about the small cairn at Grimsby entitled 'ENGAGEMENT AT THE FORTY' that tells the rest of the story of the Battle of the Two Creeks.

The sketch shows the American encampment at the mouth of the Forty Mile Creek with bateau unloading supplies on the beach. The view looks northwest showing the escarpment at the head of Lake Ontario and the open lake towards York (Toronto). *Submitted by Robert Williamson*

## HMHS Memberships

The annual membership fee for the Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society is \$20 for an individual or family. The membership year is January to December. Visit Sandra at the next meeting to purchase or renew your membership - or submit your fee to our mailing address. Membership forms are available at: [www.hamiltonheritage.ca](http://www.hamiltonheritage.ca).

The Mountain View Hotel was demolished on September 8, 1937.  
Source: Mountain Memories, page 55.



**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL**

**Fee:** \$20.00 per calendar year. (January to December)

**Hand in OR mail to:** Membership Secretary,  
The Hamilton Mountain Heritage Society,  
P. O. Box 60506,  
Mtn. Plaza R.P.O.,  
Hamilton, Ontario L9C 7N7

**Name(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Province** \_\_\_\_\_

**Postal Code** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone Number** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_