

MHS



NEWS

Newsletter Editor - Joyce Deagle Osinga

Welcome to the Middleport Heritage Society (MHS) Newsletter! This biannual publication provides a means to keep members connected and up to date on activities and events. We encourage you to get involved - become a member of MHS, send feedback, write an article or share a photo for future editions, share your memories and folklore on the Facebook group, join a committee or indicate your interest in becoming a Board Member.



*A beautiful bouquet collected and arranged for the Community Harvest Home Service at St. Paul's. Thank you Katelyn Iacobbuci
This lovely vase is one of a pair that are inscribed: Presented to St. Paul's Chapel, Middleport. In Memory of Leonard R. Bowman
by Mrs. Leonard Bowman, 1957*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Middleport Heritage Society's 2023/2024 Fall/Winter Newsletter. It's been a wonderful summer to be out and about, following a historically trying time.

For the first time, the County of Brant held "Arts, Culture and Heritage Days" from September 22 to October 15. A self-guided Heritage Scavenger Hunt toured participants throughout the County. Four heritage structures in the former Township of Onondaga were included.

In November we "Reflected and Remembered". MHS was proud to host a Remembrance Day Veterans Tribute at St. Paul's Chapel and Cemetery on November 11th. Through the MHS's "No Stone Stands Alone" initiative, red tulips are planted and graveside flags are raised to honour all known Veterans in the former Onondaga Township cemeteries. We are grateful to families and community members for sharing memories, photos and memorabilia. Soon an interactive Veterans' tribute will be launched on our website. Stay tuned for the launch date.

In the 2023 Spring/Summer Newsletter, we provided an update regarding the transfer of the church and cemetery property from the Diocese of Huron to the County of Brant. Below is a continued update.

- April 3 - MHS informed that church/property survey was completed and being reviewed by Margaret Walker and Tanya Phibbs (Diocese of Huron)
- May 25 - MHS received preliminary copy of church/cemetery property survey

- October 2 - Report from Brent Pickard, Diocese of Huron lawyer received regarding survey and title discrepancy for Lot 4 of the church/cemetery property. The Diocese plans to have this corrected.

We will continue to share all updates as they become available.

The holiday season will soon be upon us. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Traditional Community Christmas Lesson and Carol Service on Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 pm.

On behalf of the Middleport Heritage Society Board of Directors and myself, I wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year!

Mary Anne Workman Rose, President
maryannemhs@gmail.ca

BUILDING COMMITTEE REPORT

During a recent visit to Trillium Glass (London), we were thrilled to see 6 of the windows completed! (See pictures below). As stated previously, it was recommended and decided to hold off reinstalling the windows until the foundation work has been completed to ensure that no damage is done to the restored windows. Repairing the foundation will cost approximately \$100,000.00. We appreciate any donations provided. We look forward to grant applications that will be available in 2024.

As always, a huge Thank You to our Building Committee and to everyone else involved with preserving and maintaining St. Paul's, a landmark heritage structure.

John Osinga, Building Committee



GRAND OLD TALES

Township of Onondaga (Part 1)

Excerpt from the Brant County Illustrated Published by Page & Smith, Toronto, Ontario 1875

"This Township contains 22,282 acres, is situated at the south east extremity of the County and is bounded as follows: On the north by the Township of Brantford; on the south by the Township of Seneca in the County of Haldimand; on the east by the Township of Ancaster in the County of Wentworth; and on the west by the Township of Tuscarora, and the Grand River. It was originally a portion of the Indian reservation lands and some sixteen lots still remain in the possession of the Six Nation Indians. These lots are situated along the bank of the river and are the best land in the Township. An early settler near Middleport writes that the earliest settlers in this part of the Township of Onondaga (Middleport) were James Ferris, John Patterson and John Quin. They came in the year 1838, and after many travelling difficulties took up their abode near the mouth of what is now known as Big Creek.

Such a thing as a road was totally unknown; nothing but an Indian trail through the dense forest. They as in all new countries had many hardships to endure. They took up their abode together for the first year, until they could procure separate houses. Emigration in most cases is a matter of necessity not of choice, and they were certainly no exception to the rule. Their flour they had to drag on wooden sledges from Seneca, Caledonia then being in obscurity.

Later in the same year several Scotch emigrants settled a little north of these; and this same year a Captain Murray proposed to start a grocery store at the mouth of Big Creek. The settlers turned out en masse, raised and finished a house for him in a day.

The first settler in what is now the village of Middleport, was Mr. John Solomon Hager; he came in the latter part of 1838. He was the son-in-law to a Mr. Currie who had settled in the Township of Seneca, in the year 1836, and who proved to be a friendly assistance to those early pioneers in helping them with their families in procuring homes."

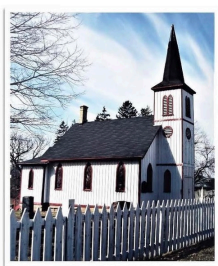
Part II to be continued in the 2024 Spring/Summer Newsletter - stay tuned!

OLD WIVES TALES FROM THE 1800'S - COLD AND FLU REMEDIES

- Drink a mixture of one tablespoon of honey, one tablespoon of lemon, and one tablespoon of whiskey.
- Sip the juice of raw onion.
- Swallow a tablespoon of honey to relieve a sore throat.
- Put a clove of garlic in both of your socks. As you walk, the garlic juice from the crushed clove will be absorbed into your skin.
- Apply a poultice of dried mustard and warm water to the chest overnight or until it dries.
- Brew tea made with three cups of water and half-cup of star anise. Simmer for 20 minutes with the lid on the kettle. Then inhale the steam before drinking the tea. Repeat up to four times a day.
- Drink raw apple cider vinegar (including the "mother").
- Put earwax on a cold sore to help it heal faster.

MIDDLEPORT HERITAGE SOCIETY COOKBOOK - TREASURED FAMILY RECIPES

TREASURED FAMILY RECIPES



MIDDLEPORT HERITAGE SOCIETY
2023

The Middleport Heritage Society is proud to offer our cookbook - Treasured Family Recipes - for sale. This cookbook is a centenary commemoration of the Middleport Women's Institute's 1923 Cookbook - Selected and Tried Recipes. We are very grateful to all of our community members and friends who shared their favourite family recipes with us. We are also indebted to all our sponsors and advertisers for their generous support.

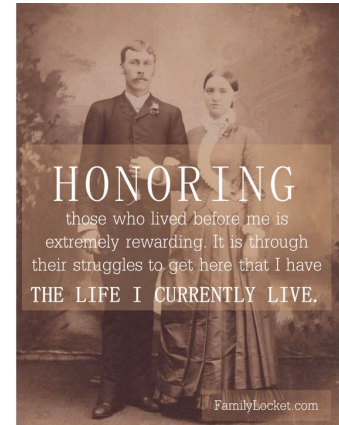
If you would like to place an order for your cookbook, please contact Joyce Osinga - 905-317-0091, or email - secretary@middleportheritage.ca. Cookbooks are \$15.00 each.

At the time of this publication, we have sold over 300 copies and have ordered 100 more! Thank you for your support!

Cookbook Committee - Joyce Osinga, Mary Anne Rose, Tammy Trotman, Patricia VanSickle

YOUR 2023-2026 MIDDLEPORT HERITAGE SOCIETY BOARD MEMBERS

Mary Anne Workman Rose - President
 Tammy Trotman- Vice President
 Joyce Osinga - Secretary
 Grace Workman-Porecki - Treasurer & Membership Coordinator
 Gary Jermy - Board Member
 John W. Lane - Board Member
 Amanda Skelton Lowe - Board Member
 John Osinga - Board Member
 Patricia VanSickle - Board Member



MIDDLEPORT HERITAGE TIMELINE OF EVENT **Continued from Volume 3 No 1**

July 1, 2023 - MHS display at the official Grand Opening of the the TF Warren Group Cainsville Community Centre
 - St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) was open for tours

July 9, 2023 - St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) Community Cemetery Decoration Service

Oct 15, 2023 - St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) Community Harvest Home Service

Oct 26, 2023 - MHS Board Meeting, St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport)

Nov 11, 2023 - Veterans' Tribute and Remembrance Day Community Open House, St. Paul's Chapel & Cemetery

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 18, 2023 - MHS Table at Onondaga on the Grand Christmas Craft Sale - 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

December 10, 2023 - Traditional Community Christmas Lesson & Carol Service, St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) - 2:00 pm

March 16, 2024 - MHS 4th Annual General Meeting - Onondaga on the Grand Community Centre

Find us on Facebook - Middleport Heritage Society - Group. This is a private group, with a growing number of members, near and far, who enjoy sharing photos and stories of our past heritage in Middleport and former Onondaga Township. Please send a request to join and we will gladly add you to our Facebook community.

Visit our Website - middleportheritage.ca. Through our website, you are able to view upcoming events, fill in a membership form if you're not already a member, and make a donation! We also welcome any feedback on our website as we go forward.

Affiliated Associations

The Middleport Heritage Society is proud to be members of and associated with the following organizations:

- Architectural Conservancy Ontario
- National Trust for Canada
- Salt Springs Heritage Society
- The Ontario Historical Society

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE MIDDLEPORT HERITAGE SOCIETY

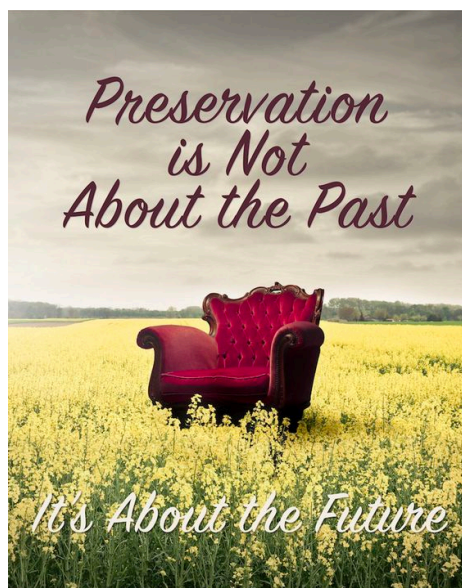
The mission of the MHS is to preserve and enhance awareness of the natural, cultural and built heritage of Middleport and adjacent communities in the former Township of Onondaga, County of Brant.

Your membership dues of \$10.00/year (January-December) are greatly appreciated. The proceeds will help cover administrative costs, fees and maintenance. We also steward and maintain the St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) structure as a venue for cultural events and public use such as wedding/religious ceremonies, speakers, musicals and gatherings. The MHS Board and supporting committees are volunteers, and as such, no remuneration is given for their time and effort.

MHS members enjoy:

- An invitation to the MHS Annual General Meeting with voting privileges
- The MHS newsletter issued twice a year - Spring and Fall
- Opportunities to inquire and share genealogical knowledge/documents, community folklore and history
- Camaraderie, advocacy, stewardship and volunteer opportunities involving our natural, cultural and built heritage
- OHS Bulletin - The Newsletter of the Ontario Historical Society
- Architectural Conservancy Ontario Newsletter

You can easily renew your membership online at www.middleportheritage.ca/membership or by completing the attached form. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or if you need assistance with your membership. Once again, thank you for your past and continued support. (Membership Form attached)





MEMBERSHIP FORM

Becoming a member of the Middleport Heritage Society helps preserve and enhance awareness of the natural, cultural and built heritage of Middleport and communities in the former Onondaga Township and to restore and maintain the St. Paul's Chapel (Middleport) structure as a multipurpose venue for future generations.

DATE: _____

Name (Please Print)

Address (Please Print)

City

Postal Code

E-Mail (to receive MHS Updates & Newsletter by e-mail). Please Print

Phone #: _____

New Member _____ Renewal _____

Membership: Please Indicate:

1 Year: \$10.00 _____ / 2 Year \$20.00 _____ / 3 Year \$30.00 _____ (Cheque _____ / E-transfer _____)

*Donation : \$ _____ (Cheque _____ / E-transfer _____)

Total: \$ _____

Please send your cheque for a 1 to 3 year membership (January-December) and/or donation to:

Middleport Heritage Society
c/o Grace Workman-Porecki
2281 Prospect St., Burlington, ON. L7R 2A1
treasurer@middleportheritage.ca

OR E-TRANSFER TO: treasurer@middleportheritage.ca.

*Donation Tax Receipts issued for \$20.00 or more

Thank you!