



Trafalgar Township Historical Society

"Documenting, celebrating and preserving the agricultural heritage of North Oakville"

June 2019 Newsletter



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View and search our internet collection at [Trafalgar Township Historical Society Digital Collections](#)

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Contact us via email at michelle@tths.ca or phone by 905-257-6029 x101



Society News & Updates

New TTHS Website Launched

We have launched our new streamlined TTHS website that enables easier access to content.

Our new TTHS website features include:

- a. support for mobile
- b. current events displayed on all pages - as well as a calendar for all events
- c. menus at the top of page, as well as in the footer area for easier access
- d. social media links (Facebook and Twitter) are now included

Our new TTHS website can now be easily modified to meet the needs of our society. Flexibility in format and content are especially important going forward.

Thanks to all members for their comments and suggestions.

--Robert Cook

Heritage Update Newsletter Note by Ross Wark

The 2019 edition of *Heritage Update* is now available. It is put together by members of the Heritage Oakville Advisory Committee and the town's Heritage Planning staff. Many articles include heritage designation sites in the former Trafalgar Township: Trafalgar Memorial, James Appelbe House, restored house on Old Bronte Road, and stained glass windows at Palermo United Church.

Each of the three local Historical Societies is profiled. Information about hours of operation, programs offered, and resources available make it easier to contact Bronte Historical Society, Oakville Historical Society, or Trafalgar Township Historical Society.

We have copies of the newsletter available at our evening meetings and archives open afternoons. They are free!

Additional copies may be obtained by contacting Heritage Planning staff at 905-845-6601 ex. 3875 or 3870.

Out planning contacts are Carolyn Van Slightenhorst and Susan Schappert.

Unknown Soldier Now Identified: General Gouveneur Kemble Warren Note by A. Choate Little

One of the earliest photographs uploaded into the TTHS digital collection was that of an "unknown soldier", a photograph in the family collection of the Nortons and Wilkinsons of Trafalgar Township. Family lore is that this was a cousin of Clarissa Simons who had fought in the American Civil War. Clarissa Simons (1807-1886) married Francis Wilkinson (1795-1884).

Thanks to family descendent Linda Drybrough, we have learned that the photograph is of a distinguished Civil War General, Gouveneur Kemble Warren, b.1830 d.1882.

Gouveneur Kemble Warren's career started at age 16 when he enrolled in the United States Military Academy. He started as a brevet second lieutenant in the Corps of Topographical Engineers. Before and after the Civil War, he worked on transcontinental railroad surveys and mapping, which required extensive explorations of the vast Nebraska Territory, including Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, parts of Montana, Wyoming and lastly, Rhode Island.

General Warren was Chief Engineer of the Army of the Potomac at the Battle of Gettysburg, commanding V Corps in 1863-1865.

General Warren is buried in the Island Cemetery in Newport, Rhode Island.

Here is the link to our TTHS record, where you will find a further link to the Wikipedia page of General Kemble: <http://images.ourontario.ca/TrafalgarTownship/66784/data?dis=dm>

Ted Waller Presentation Note by A. Choate Little

It was a pleasure to have Retired Halton Police Staff Sargent Ted Waller speak at our May 6, 2019 evening meeting.

Ted's police affiliation started in 1956 when he was a teenager, playing drums in the Trafalgar Township Police Boys Band. He remembers performances at the Gregory theatre, the Oakville Centennial parade on Kerr Street, and he definitely remembers the Niagara Falls, NY parade where someone, "disliking the music" started throwing telephone pole generators at the kids resulting in the newspaper headline, "Bandman's Eye Requires Stitches after "Welcome". The "Bandman" being himself! Ted has loaned his diary of these few years to the TTHS and we are making a digital copy of it. Eventually, some of the diary items will be added to our internet collection. (This will enhance the present information about the band in our collection which is courtesy of Walt Wilson who played the cymbals.)

Ted's policing career started with the Town of Oakville police when he joined as a Constable in 1964, working out of the old police station in downtown Oakville. His career saw the amalgamation of the Oakville police with the



Trafalgar Township police, and then amalgamation with Milton and Burlington to create the Halton Regional Police force. His dream was to be a detective. He retired in 1994 from Halton Regional Police.

Ted remembered that the Trafalgar Township police station was one end of the TT Roads Department building on Seventh Line.

He told us of the “headless lady” who apparently haunted Henderson Park – always a busy spot for lovers. Walt Wilson, in the audience, suggested that some of his family might have had something to do with the rumour.

Ted told us of constables being sent out to look for garbage tossed out of cars, particularly in the rural Trafalgar Township ditches. They were expected to check through the bags to identify the owners – who were often from Toronto – and then phone the owners to come and get their garbage or they’d be subpoenaed.

We all enjoyed Ted’s presentation and the additional comments from family and friends, old and new in the audience. Thank you, Ted.

Photos taken by Natalia Lishchyna.



From Our Past

1) Snider’s Corners S.S. #4 Class of 1939



Front row (left to right): Herman Shroeder, Lawrence Hemsley, Edward Shroeder, Sybil Caverley, Merrle Cardinal, Joan Clifton, Shirley Cardinal, Betty Post.

Back row (left to right): Tony Caverly, John Clifton, Claude Clifton, Don Albertson, Shirley Pickering, Eva Pickering, Eleanor Hutton, Barb Royle, Luscen Caverly, ? Watts, Ron Hemsley.

Original image courtesy of Barb Ford (Royle).
Collection of Ross Wark.

2) Staff of Palermo Public School 1966-1967



Back row (left to right): Elsie King, Ruth Scott, Margaret Ball, Marilyn Powers.

Front row (left to right): Muriel Helgason, Bill Reynolds (principal), Ross Wark, Lynn Huxley.

Collection of Ross Wark.

Upcoming TTHS Events

Date & Time	Activity
Friday, June 21, 2019 1:30-3:30	Open House, Research, Reminisce
Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7:00pm	Guest Speaker Evening: Matthew Wilkinson Historian Heritage Mississauga
Friday, July 19, 2019 1:30-3:30pm	Open House, Research, Reminisce
Friday, August 16, 2019 1:30-3:30pm	Open House, Research, Reminisce
Friday, September 20, 2019 1:30-3:30pm	Open House, Research, Reminisce
Sat., September, 28, 2019 10:00am-4:00pm	Family Heritage Fair, Desk & Book Sale Heritage displays, activities and BBQ
Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7:00pm	Guest Speaker Evening: J.D.M Stewart : Speaking on his novel <i>Being Prime Minister</i> and will be selling autographed copies
Friday, October 18, 2019 1:30-3:30pm	Open House, Research, Reminisce
Friday, November 15, 2019 1:30-3:30pm	Open House, Research, Reminisce

Open Houses - Archives Research

Location: Old Palermo Schoolhouse, 2431 Dundas Street West from 1:30pm to 3:30pm

All are welcome in joining us in researching family and community histories. Do you have something to donate or contribute? Bring your precious documents and artifacts to one of our open houses and we would be happy to learn about your story! We can scan your documents and add them to our archives so that others can enjoy and engage in research. Join us from 1:30pm to 3:30pm.

Guest Speakers & Meetings

Location: Old Palermo Schoolhouse, 2431 Dundas Street West

All are welcome to attend our guest speaker evenings to learn more about Trafalgar through informative and interactive discussions. Light snacks and refreshments are provided. If you know anyone who might be interested in being a guest speaker in the future, please contact Michelle at michelle@tths.ca!

TTHS Board Members

Chair: Michelle Knoll

Secretary: Robert Cook

Treasurer: Lara Rowles

Archivist: Ross Wark

Jane Watt

Syzan Talo

Gordon Kaitting