



**Wednesday, Dec 6, 2017, 7:30 pm**  
**Rousseau Room - Swansea Town Hall**  
**SPEAKER: Bianca Lakoseljac**

## **Stone Woman**

**Visitors Welcome! Light Refreshments!**

*The Swansea Historical Society thankfully acknowledges  
funding grants from the following provincial bodies:*



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**Please note: The speaker will start at 7:30 promptly. If there is a business meeting, it will start at 7:15.**



## ***President's Message:*** by Bob Roden, President

Our monthly meeting on Wednesday, December 6, will be the last formal meeting for 2017. It has been a very busy and exciting year, with many special events celebrating the Sesquicentennial of the Dominion of Canada and the Province of Ontario. I hope you have been able to enjoy at least some of the festivities. Next year, 2018, will mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War One (also known as “The Great War” – the war that was supposed to end all wars). If you have any ideas of things your Society could do to commemorate this significant historical milestone, please let us know.

We are blessed with a very capable and conscientious Executive. Through their dedication, all of the Executive members have played important parts in keeping the Society functioning in 2017, as well as for several previous years. I want to thank all of the Board members for their many contributions over the years. I could not have managed without you!!

As I reported following October's elections, we still have some vacancies that need to be filled on our Board, and I invite you, our readers, to join us. In particular, we need a Secretary, a Publications Coordinator, and a second Auditor. We are also happy to welcome people on board as “members-at-large” – members who may have no ongoing duties assigned but can be called upon to help out at various times. Please give some thought as to how you could get more involved and share your talents with us. Or, perhaps you know of someone you would like to recommend (with that person's permission, of course) for a position on the Executive. In either case, we would like to hear from you. We can never have too much help, and fresh ideas are always welcome!

We hope to see you at the December 6 meeting, and we invite you to bring a friend (or, better still, lots of family and friends). For those of you who are unable to attend, I wish to extend our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As you will see elsewhere in this Newsletter, we have an interesting line-up of speakers booked for 2018, and we will soon be booking for 2019. Thank you for your continuing support of the Swansea Historical Society.



### ***Swansea Historical Society Contact Information***

There are various ways you can contact your Society. Our mailing address is 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto ON M6S 3H9. You can send e-mails to [swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:swanseahistoricalsociety@gmail.com), and the Society's mobile telephone number is 647-859-3901. Your comments and suggestions are always most welcome.

We expect to have our website [www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.swanseahistoricalsociety.ca) operational soon. Also, information related to the Swansea Historical Society, and other local organizations, is posted on the web-site of the Swansea Town Hall – [www.swanseatownhall.ca](http://www.swanseatownhall.ca) . Also, we invite you to visit us on Twitter at [twitter.com/Swansea\\_History](https://twitter.com/Swansea_History) or [twitter.com/historyonhumber](https://twitter.com/historyonhumber) or on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/swansea\\_history](https://www.instagram.com/swansea_history) .



## **Future Events**

**Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017, 7:30 pm Montgomery's Inn (4709 Dundas Street West)** – The Etobicoke Historical Society will present an artifact show-and-tell night. Society archivists will display and talk about some interesting items from the archives collections. EHS members and guests will also be invited to bring interesting heritage items to show and tell.

<http://www.etobicokehistorical.com/events.html>

**Sunday, November 26th 2:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York presents “Finn with an Oyster: The Story behind Toronto's New City Hall” by Michael Kainer and Karen Teeple, both in attendance. Refreshments will be available.

<http://www.lambtonhouse.org>

**Friday, December 1st 6:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York Pub Night featuring “Memorial Park”. As always, doors open at 6 pm with roast beef sandwiches on sale, music at 8:00 pm, and no cover charge! <http://www.lambtonhouse.org>

**Sunday December 3, 2017 High Park Walking Tour, 10:30 am to 12 noon** “High Park Through the Ages”. A guided tour to be led by Dave Berndorff. Meet at 10:30 am at the benches across the road from the south side of the Grenadier Restaurant in the middle of High Park.

**Wednesday December 6, 2017 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: SHS member Bianca Lakoseljac. Bianca is a High Park resident and author, and she was the lead organizer of the highly acclaimed Sesquicentennial Authors' Symposium in High Park in August 2017. She will speak to us about her latest novel “Stone Woman”, the story of a family of five women whose lives are bound by a Vietnam War draft dodger from the hippie “daze” of Toronto.

**Wednesday, December 6th 7:00 pm St. Philip's Anglican Church (31 St. Philip's Road)** – The Weston Historical Society presents "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas Hymn Sing"--a special Hymn Sing to celebrate Canada's 150th Birthday. Good will offering to be given to the church and donations for the Food Bank are welcome.

**Thursday, December 7th 7:30 pm Annette Library (145 Annette Street)** – West Toronto Junction Historical Society monthly meeting. Program TBA. <https://wtjhs.ca>

**Friday, December 8th 7:00 pm Lambton House (4066 Old Dundas Street)** – Heritage York presents its annual carol singing event with seasonal refreshments provided. Singing begins at 7:15 pm. <http://www.lambtonhouse.org>

**Wednesday February 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: John Beram – “The Beginnings of the Canadian Auto Industry”. John Beram, a local history enthusiast and story-teller, will return to Swansea to discuss the early days of the automobile industry in Canada, with special reference to the role of West Toronto in the development of the industry.

**Wednesday March 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: Kelly Mathews – “Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township”. Shortly after the 1922 death of department-store heir John Craig Eaton, his widow Lady Flora Eaton had a palatial 72-room country estate built on the family's King City property. Rediscover an enchanting and bygone age with the life and history of Lady Eaton and her grand Eaton Hall, where she hosted many dignitaries including visiting British royalty.

**Wednesday April 4, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: Garfield Portch is a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada – Canada's national stamp club since 1887. He will speak to us about the intrigues and politics involved in the establishment and operation of the Post Office in the Town of York, and subsequently the City of Toronto, in the 1800s.

**Wednesday May 2, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: Gay Gooderham. The Gooderham and Worts families emigrated from England in the early 1830s to the Town of York, shortly before it became the City of Toronto. Over the following 75 years, these families created the largest distillery in the world, centred on the area we now know as Toronto's “Distillery District”. Many significant landmarks associated with the Gooderhams survive in Toronto today. Gay Gooderham will share the fascinating story of her family, and also talk about her work in creating a website [www.gooderham-worts.ca](http://www.gooderham-worts.ca) that includes a family tree with photos, documents, and stories.

**Wednesday October 3, 2018 SHS Annual General Meeting & Elections, 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: SHS Board Member and author Thelma Wheatley will return to the podium to talk about the subject of her latest book “Brown on White: Mixed-Race Marriage in Toronto in the 1960s”.

**Wednesday November 7, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: Barbara Dickson – “Bomb Girls: Trading Aprons for Ammo”. Author and speaker Barbara Dickson has lived in Scarborough for more than 50 years. Imagine her surprise when she learned there were over four km of abandoned tunnels under the city, less than a km from where she lived. Her presentation offers a unique glimpse into the lives and hearts of the courageous and dedicated Canadian women who worked in a top-secret World War Two munitions factory.

**Wednesday December 5, 2018 SHS Meeting, 7:15 for 7:30 pm, Swansea Town Hall** Speaker: Plum Johnson – “They Left Us Everything”. Plum Johnson is a Canadian writer raised in Oakville, who won the RBC Taylor Prize in 2015 for her memoir *They Left Us Everything*. In it, she describes discovering history in what parents leave behind, and about the importance of preserving it to make sense of the past.



## 2017 Swansea Community Calendars

The 2018 calendar is now available for purchase at monthly meetings and over the counter at the Town Hall. The price is still \$8.00, as in past years. The calendars, with their historical photos and listings of community events, make great Christmas gifts!! Also, for those who enjoy looking at historic pictures, we still have some 2017 calendars for sale at a reduced price, as well as individual calendars and bundles of calendars from previous years.



## MEMBERSHIP REMINDER!!

As of September 1 2017, we are now in a new membership year. (The membership year now runs from September to August). The annual fees are still \$15 for an individual and \$20 for a family. If you have not already paid your dues for 2017-2018, please complete the form below at your earliest convenience and submit the form with your payment. Dues can be paid at any of our meetings, or you can send payment to: 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box102, Toronto M6S 3H9. Your fees help to offset many of the costs incurred by the Society in its ongoing operations.



SWANSEA HISTORICAL SOCIETY



2017/2018 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION  
(The membership year runs from Sep – Aug)

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Individual..... \$15.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Family ..... \$20.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate ..... \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Individual.....\$250.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Family .....\$500.00 \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Given Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Apartment Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ Business Telephone: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Please use e-mail for my newsletters:  Yes  No, thanks

**Please send to: Swansea Historical Society Membership Secretary, 95 Lavinia Avenue, Box 102, Toronto, Ontario M6S 3H9**