

# OLD NEWS

PELHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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**February 10, 2024**

Looking for something stimulating to do on a frosty and dark Saturday afternoon? Plan to attend the next meeting of the Pelham Historical Society. The meetings always start at 2:30 with a one-hour presentation on a very interesting topic followed by refreshments and conversation.

You'll be home by 4:30 and happy to have made a delightful social connection. Our meetings are held at the Kirk on the Hill, 1344 Haist Street, Fonthill, Ontario. There is plenty of parking and seating.

The Pelham Historical Society is pleased to tell you that the annual membership has been maintained at \$5. Memberships can be paid at the door.

Bring a friend or neighbour. It's a great opportunity to meet new people and make acquaintances.

## **The New Pelham Historical Society Website**

Be sure to visit our impressive new website! One of the objectives of your directors was to create a convenient online presence and our new website exceeds all expectations.

You will find the news and upcoming events and a record of previous events beautifully presented in a very convenient format.

You will also find many resources and handy access to a variety of pictures and information about the Pelham Historical Society.

Many thanks to Graham Segger for his hard work in making this happen.

<https://www.pelhamhistoricalsociety.ca/>

## **Members Interest Meeting Saturday, February 24, 2024, 2:30 at Kirk on the Hill**

Always a favourite! It's become an annual event. I'm personally hoping that we can prevail upon Bill Lamb to repeat the story of the old post on Canboro Road. The post has attracted quite a following since Bill made his very humorous presentation last year.

This year, we will hear from Mary Lamb about a collection of original cartoons by Jacqueline (Jackie) Damato (1936-2022) that have been acquired by PHS.

Robert Young will speak about Calixa Lavallee and the origins of O Canada.

Carolyn Botari will be introducing the diary of Mr. John Hill. It was found in the wall of the Bissell house on Metler Road.

Wendy Young will speak about the family connections at the Fonthill Church of God.

One or two spots have been kept open for members, if you wish to speak on a topic, please get in touch.

Here is a list of upcoming meetings.

**Early 1792 Hurricane with Jessica Linzel, Saturday March 23, 2024, 2:30 at Kirk on the Hill**

In 1792 a fierce hurricane blew through Pelham levelling many of the trees. Could this be a precursor of climate change?

**Welland Canal History with David Sherlock, Saturday April 27, 2024, 2:30 pm at Kirk on the Hill**

This will be a rare opportunity to see marine memorabilia and photos of the Welland Canal at critical times in its development.

**Visit the Fully Restored Beaverdams Church in Thorold, Marlatt's Road, Thorold, Ontario, Saturday June 1, 2024, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm.**

Members have taken an interest in the restoration of this landmark building. It will be a chance to appreciate this work from the inside out.

**Highlights of the Recent Meeting of the Board of Directors**

**Membership Increasing**

Our membership continues to grow, so that it now exceeds pre Covid levels. The growth in membership can be attributed to the easier social bonding that takes place around common topics of interest, not to mention the fun we share.

**Financial**

Bill Lamb presents the financial statements at each Directors meeting. The Society is in excellent financial shape. Substantial funds are invested in GIC's, and expenses are kept under strict control.