



Spring 2011 Newsletter Vol. 10

The dream has become a reality. When the Olde Gaol Museum opens its doors on May 24, 2011, the John McCrea Collection will be displayed prominently. This fabulous collection of scale models from turn of the century life in Victoria County demonstrates what it is all about. The collection, "Models of the Wooden

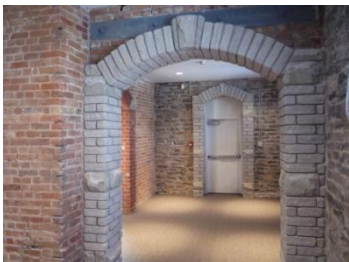
Age of Old Ontario", so named by its creator, John McNeely McCrea, is on loan to the Olde Gaol Museum from the Toronto Museum Board. John McCrea was born in 1865 and worked as a cabinet maker in Omemee. He had a dream to record many wooden landmarks in Victoria County in wood. Mr. McCrea created these items during the last twenty years of his life. He finished his last model, the Pioneer Church when he was 90.



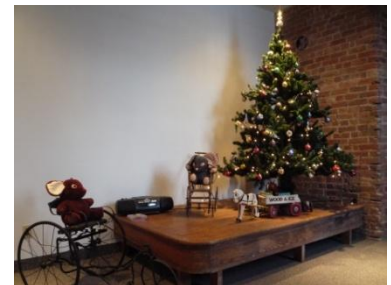
Victoria County Historical Society also had a dream – a museum to house the history of our county, a museum to house artefacts such as the McCrea Collection and preserve it for future generations to view as a window into our past. It didn't happen in twenty years. There were bumps in the road. But now, thanks to the dedication of many volunteers and the foresight of the City to preserve the old jail, it is a reality.



The dream continues with much, much more to accomplish. With the help of all the members of VCHS, both in time and dollars, the museum will continue to grow and prosper.



Come and see what has been achieved. Participate in events. Lend a hand. Help the dream continue to grow.



At the February meeting of the Board of Directors, it was formally decided that the name of the Museum will be the **Olde Gaol Museum** in keeping with the original spelling of the Victoria County Gaol. Please visit our website at www.oldegaolmuseum.ca. For a preview of the McCrea Collection, visit http://www.museevirtuel-virtualmuseum.ca/Search.do?R=VE_1475&lang=en&ex=on.

Message from the President:

Dear Members,

The past three years have flown by and the news just gets better. We have completed first floor remodelling except for the wheelchair accessible washrooms and lift. These improvements will begin immediately to allow full access to the first floor which we will open May 24th, 2011 beginning at 10:00 a.m.

The full Opening Program will be announced soon! The second and third floor areas are already being modified to meet fire code and recently approved funding from the City and others will allow us to begin installation of a sprinkler system for fire suppression that will allow us use of the entire building as planned in our lease.

The Doors to the Museum will open, thanks to grants for 2010/2011 and fundraising. We hope to exceed the \$250,000.00 Campaign target! Congratulations to all donors!

Our hours of operation are tentatively scheduled to be 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Wednesday to Sunday from mid-May until mid-October. Admission will be \$5.00 per adult with students & seniors at \$2.00 each and a family rate of \$12:00

Colborne Street West will provide the Museum Entrance to the 'Olde Gaol Museum' ! This is a newly installed entrance to the building with wheel chair ramp, steps and modern entrance and exit doors.

The interior highlights of this 1861 Historic Building's Construction features are brought to life as an archive for family research, serving all the families with their roots firmly planted in the growth of Victoria County and the success of Lindsay, the County Town.

The 'Olde Gaol' will be the prime Cultural and Tourism attraction of the City of Kawartha Lakes, we are proud to call home!

The Board of Directors is seeking interested persons who wish to become a director of VCHS, or a committee member. If you would like to stand for election to the board, please contact Dave Francis at 705-324-6430 or davewho@sympatico.ca. Election of officers will take place at the Annual Meeting, May 26, 2011.

You're invited ...

*The Victoria County Historical Society
proudly announces the opening
of the
Olde Gaol Museum*

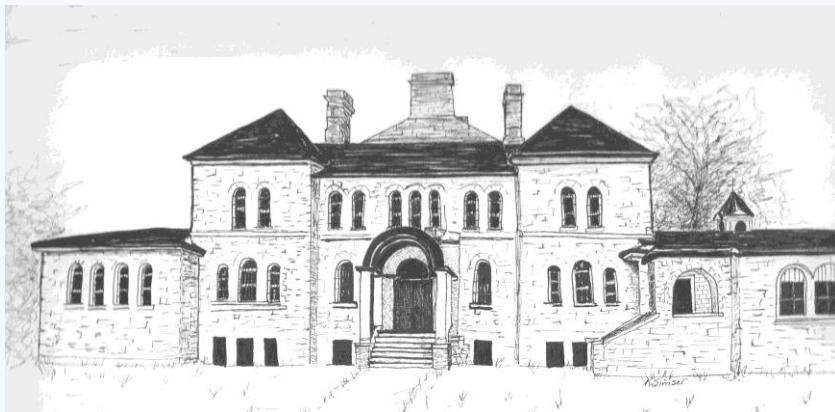
on

May 24, 2011.

at 10:00 am

*Join with the Board of Directors in
celebrating the success of achieving a
dream!*

Everyone is welcome!



The Board of Directors is looking for any members in good standing who would be willing to be in attendance at the Museum when it is open this year, **if** staffing is not in place by May 24th. Please call John Macklem at 705-324-3404 or email john at jmacklem@sympatico.ca if you can help. "Many Hands Make

Fundraising and Grants

Thanks to the hard work of Pat Angiers and her committee, as well as grants from various agencies we are happy to announce that our fundraising total has reached \$129,235.12, including the City's contribution of \$75,000. This puts us well on our way to meet our goal of \$250,000.

We need \$75,000 which will enable us to install handicapped washrooms and a lift to the lower cell area of the museum. The Lions' Club of Lindsay

has generously committed \$5000. The Economic Development grant of \$6000 was approved and will help us mount our Lilac Cotillion and the Honouring the Past day in July. These monies, along with many other donations, are ensuring that we will open on May 24, as a fine addition to Lindsay and the City of Kawartha Lakes. Other grants have been applied for, but the results are not available at this time.

Coming Events

Wednesday, April 27th, 2011	Speakers Series 7:30 p.m. An Evening of Genealogy
Fri/Sat May 6th/7th Saturday, May 14th, 2011	Alexandra School 100th Anniversary Display Yard Sale at the Jail
May 24th, 2011	Official Opening of the Olde Gaol Museum 10:00 am
Thursday, May 26th, 2011	Annual General Meeting
May 24th-31st, 2011	Lindsay Lilac Festival
Sunday, June 12th, 2011	Settlers Day Display at the Muir House, Settlers Village Bobcaygeon
Wednesday, June 22nd, 2011	Speakers Series 7:30 p.m. TBA
Saturday, July 23rd, 2011	Honouring The Past Showcase – Victoria Park Armoury
Wednesday, Sept 28th, 2011	Speakers Series 7:30 p.m. TBA
Saturday, December 3rd, 2011	Candlelight Christmas House Tour

In order to maintain your good standing as a member and to continue to receive information from the Society, please pay your annual dues by January 31. If you have not paid your 2011 membership you are receiving this newsletter as a courtesy. However, you may not receive the notice of the Annual Meeting with changes to the Constitution and By-laws. Only members in good standing are permitted to vote at the Annual Meeting.

Victoria County Historical Society

Lilac Cotillion

dinner and dance

Friday, May 27, 2011 6:00 pm

**Victoria Park Armoury
210 Kent St W, Lindsay**

featuring

Kings of Swing

Appetizers by Alelaide Place

Dinner by Hobarts

Tickets \$100 per person (\$25.00 charitable donation receipt)

Available at : The Kent Florist, Buy and Sell Shop, Adelaide Place

Big Event Floral & Decorating—Fenelon Falls

Olde Gaol Museum (705-324-3404)

Cash Bar—Age of Majority Event

Other events in Lindsay May 24—31, 2011

Official Opening of the Olde Gaol Museum May 24, 50 Victoria Ave N

Lilac Festival, Lindsay St S May 24—31

All About Horses, LC Exhibition grounds May 28-29

Quilted Treasures 2011, Quilt Show, Lindsay Curling Club May 27-29

Great Kawartha Road Cruise, May 28

March of Dimes Ball Hockey Tournament, Kent St May 29

Kawartha Male Chorus "Kaleidoscope of Song" Fairview Baptist Church May 28



Up-coming VCHS Events – Mark your calendars

Wednesday, April 27th, 2011 will be the next evening in the popular **Speakers Series** held at the Skylight Room of the Lindsay Inn at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker for this event will be Howard Jackman and fellow members of the Victoria County Genealogy Group who will present 'Genealogy: Researching your ancestry'. Have you thought about tracing your family tree, or do you need some advice on where to find clues? Our guests will show you how to get started and introduce you to some of the tools available, followed by a question and answer session. Tom or Debbie Mohr may be contacted at 320-9979 for further information.

On **Saturday May 14th**, the Society will open the courtyards for its **annual yard sale**. Tables with gazebos will be available to vendors. The Society is also looking for donations for its tables.

On **Tuesday May 24th**, the long-awaited **grand opening** of the Olde Gaol Museum will take place, with the ceremonies beginning at 10:00 am. The museum will be open free of charge to the public on that day. While it will take some time to prepare the exhibits for the 30,000 artefacts that the Society has in storage, one will be able to see many items on display, including the McCrea Collection of scale wooden models of local buildings and structures found in Victoria County. Highlights of WWI and WWII war memorabilia and a detailed collection of Sir Sam Hughes' artefacts will be featured. In addition, we will be presenting an exhibition of Leslie Frost's artefacts from his tenure as Ontario's premier. Our collection includes more than fifty years of donations from our ancestors, relatives and friends.

Everyone is welcome to join with VCHS to celebrate this achievement.

The **Annual Meeting** of the Victoria County Historical Society will be held on **Thursday, May 26th** at 7:30 in the Skylight Room at the Lindsay Inn, 354 Lindsay Street South. Opportunity for a quick tour of the museum will precede this important meeting at 6:30. The guest speaker will be....

Friday, May 27th will find the VCHS continuing their celebrations, and fundraising, with a dinner and dance to be held at the Victoria Park Armoury. The Lilac Cotillion, so named in honour of our partners, the Lilac Gardens of Lindsay, will feature the "Kings of Swing" of Toronto, which is comprised of the Galaxy All-Star Orchestra and vocalists Ian Jutsun and Gloria Slade. Come and enjoy the music of kings of swing: Frank Sinatra, Benny Goodman, Harry James, Glenn Miller, Artie Shaw, Tommy Dorsey, the Andrews Sisters, The Pied Pipers and others. Dinner, a steak and shrimp menu, will be provided by Hobarts of Lindsay. Big Event Floral and Decorating of Fenelon Falls will set the mood for the great evening. Tickets will be available at Buy and Sell Shop, the Kent Florists, Big Event Floral and Decorating and at the Olde Gaol Museum.

Continuing with the celebration is the "**Honouring our Past**" day, to be held at the Victoria Park Armoury on **Saturday, July 23rd**. Featuring organizations such as historical societies and museums, crafts persons and artists, cultural groups and other community groups, this day will celebrate the heritage of Victoria County in its 150 anniversary year. Outdoor activities will feature games and entertainment for all ages, as well as the Warden's Ice Cream Social. Bring a picnic lunch for your family to round out your meal. Organizations are invited to apply for a display space, free of charge, in the Armoury.

For further information about any of our events, and to order tickets to the Lilac Cotillion please contact the Olde Gaol Museum, 50 Victoria Avenue North, Lindsay or call 705-324-3404.

Partnerships formed: a new co-operation

A short time ago, a group of like-minded individuals gathered at the Olde Gaol Museum to discuss some mutual interests and concerns. The main topic of discussion was how best to promote a particular weekend in May, which promises to be very busy. There were representatives from several organizations: United Way, Lindsay Agricultural Society, Heritage Victoria, Lindsay & District Chamber of Commerce, Lilac Gardens of Lindsay, The Academy Theatre, the Victoria County Historical Society and the City of Kawartha Lakes. This meeting came to fruition because of an agreement between the Lilac Gardens of Lindsay and the VCHS to promote each other's events during the period of May 24th to May 31st. This would include the Lilac Festival, the official opening of the Olde Gaol Museum and the Lilac Cotillion (so named because of said agreement). It was then discovered that there is much, much more happening in Lindsay during that time. It is planned that the city's trolley will run that weekend, providing spectators and participants and opportunity to move freely from event to event.

Here's what's on:

11th Annual *Free Admission*

Lindsay Lilac Festival

May 24 to 31, 2011
Logie Street Park
705 328-1941 705 878-1810

Lilacs and so much more!

May 24 - 31, Daily 10:30-4:30
Garden Tours, Lilac Sales, Souvenirs

May 27
Lilac Cotillion, Dinner & Dance at the Armouries,
presented by the Victoria County Historical Society

May 28, 10:30 - 4:30
Community Showcase
Art Show over 20 artists
Tea Garden in the Lilacs
Live entertainment, speakers, demos, displays

May 29, 10:30 - 4:30
Kids Day, Fun for the Whole Family (12 - 4)
Art Show over 20 artists
Tea Garden in the Lilacs
Live entertainment, speakers, demos, displays

www.LilacGardensofLindsay.com

Other events in Lindsay May 28-29, 2011
All About Horses, Exhibition grounds
Quilted Treasures 2011, Quilt Show, Lindsay Curling Club
United Way Car Rally, May 28
March of Dimes Ball Hockey Tournament, Kent St., May 29

www.LilacGardensofLindsay.com

Great Canadian Road Cruise

Saturday May 28th

**3rd Annual All About Horses
and the 2011 Extreme Rodeo**
from 9:30-7:00pm
at the Lindsay Fairgrounds,
354 Angeline St. S. Lindsay
Ontario
www.lindsayex.com
This event is a celebration of the
horse.

We have Rare Breed
Demonstrations, Miniature
Horse Show, Stallion Avenue,
Draft Horse Field
Demonstrations, Trade Show and
the 2011 Extreme Rodeo each
day.
There are free Wagon rides, Kids
corner and so much more, fun for
the whole family

Quilted Treasures Quilt Show
from 10 - 4 p.m.

at the Lindsay Curling Club
18 Peel Street

There will be a raffle quilt,
exhibits, tea room, The
Scissor Man available to
sharpen all types of scissors,
Boutique and 25th
Anniversary Display
Contact Anne McKinnon at
705-324-7039

March of Dimes

Ball Hockey Tournament

Kent Street Lindsay

Sunday May 29th

Kaleidoscope of Song



**Kawartha Male Chorus
in Lindsay Ontario**

On Saturday, May 28th,
2011, The Kawartha Male
Chorus presents

Kaleidoscope of Song
with special guests
**Bonachords Male
Chorus** of Peterborough.

The concert starts at
7:30pm
located at Fairview Baptist
Church
on Colborne Street West in
Lindsay.
Tickets are \$15 for adults,
\$5 for children under 12
years of age.
call 705-324-2466 for more
information.
or visit

www.kawarthamalechorus.ca

**YARD SALE VENDOR APPLICATION FORM
MAY 14TH, 2011 Event**

**To be held in the Courtyards of the 'Olde' County Jail
50 Victoria Ave. North, Lindsay, Ontario
Presented by Victoria County Historical Society**

This Agreement is between The Victoria County Historical Society AND _____
(please type or print)

Address: _____ Town: _____ Postal Code: _____
Ph: _____ - _____ E-mail: _____ Fax: _____ - _____

Please list the name of other booth attendants:

1. The Victoria County Historical Society (VCHS) grants the Exhibitor the right to use the allotted space upon payment of the booth fee.
2. The Exhibitor, by signing and returning this application form concurs with and agrees to abide by the Contract Conditions listed below.

Booths are \$35.00 (9 x 9) AND include a Gazebo, table and a chair at no extra charge.

Payment enclosed: \$ _____ CHEQUE MONEY ORDER CASH

Please forward payment to Victoria County Historical Society, P.O. Box 187, LINDSAY, ONT. K9V 4S1

Vendor Application Form/Agreement

1. Application deadline is April 29, 2011 - No exceptions!!! Exhibitor space is on a "first-come first pay" basis.
2. FULL PAYMENT must be received with each application. NO POST DATED cheques will be accepted.
3. NSF cheques subject to \$50.00 fee.
4. NO REFUNDS will be available. Exhibitor space floor plan will be arranged at time of booking.
5. The collection and remittance of all taxes is the sole responsibility of the exhibitor.

Rules and Regulations and Exhibitor Hours of Operation

SETUP: Set-up of your vendor/booth space must be completed by no later than 8:00 am on Saturday, May 14, 2011. Take down & removal will be permitted after 1:00 pm and must be completed by 2:00 pm.

STAFFING: All exhibits must be staffed at all times during the event hours of operation listed above.

Vendors/exhibitors are responsible for their own display requirements.

INSURANCE: The exhibitor releases the organizers of the Victoria County Historical Society, all management and sponsors, as well as all volunteers or employees, from injury or damages incurred by the exhibitor/vendor and their agents. The exhibitor releases the organizers of the VCHS, all management and sponsors, as well as all volunteers or employees, from all liability and responsibility for theft, damage or accidents with regard to all exhibitor displays prior to, during, or after the event. Product liabilities, guarantees and insurance are the sole responsibility of the exhibitor/vendor.

SIGNATURE: _____ (*signature mandatory*)

Honouring The Past

You are cordially invited to join

The Victoria County Historical society in celebrating

The 150th Anniversary of Victoria County

at the Victoria Park Armoury, 210 Kent Street West, Lindsay

on July 23rd, 2011 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Free to all, we welcome the participation of Arts and Cultural Agencies, Historical Societies, Museums, and other interested community groups to celebrate our cultural heritage. This is an opportunity to demonstrate your activities at one of Victoria County's most historic locales.

Pack a lunch and join in the family activities of "olde"-fashioned games in the park for all, a variety of live entertainment in the gazebo and history on display in the Armoury.

The event will feature a **Victoria County Warden's Ice Cream Social** in the park including family activities and refreshments!

Please join with the VCHS in our annual summer celebration of our unique and diversified past, from Aboriginal times and early settlement to Victoria County Days and the present city.

For more information or an exhibitor's form, please contact the Olde Gaol Museum at 705-324-3404. More information is available at www.oldegaolmuseum.ca

