



 NEWSLETTER 

WINTER 2020

1960 - 2020 - 60th Anniversary

www.nyhs.ca

info@nyhs.ca

From the President:

I would like to wish all of the members a Merry Christmas. It is hard to believe that we are still in the midst of the pandemic as the year is coming to a close.

I am sorry to report that longtime member, and former president of the Society, John Laraway passed away in October. He had been suffering from Parkinson's disease. John was a faithful volunteer for many years, not only with the North York Historical Society but a number of other organizations as well.

On December 13 we had a virtual Christmas get together attended by about a dozen members, including Edith and Geoff Geduld who called in from Ottawa. It was nice to see people even if it was only on Zoom.

I am pleased to report that our Heritage Toronto plaque for the George S. Henry house has been paid for and hopefully we will see it installed in 2021. Our latest plaque application is for the Elihu Pease house. The owners of the house have indicated that they would be pleased to have a plaque installed so the process will go ahead. This idea for this plaque was brought forward by Grace Sun, a young member of the Society and I would like to thank her for her enthusiasm.

Here's hoping that we will be able to meet in person in 2021.

Glenn Bonnetta

No Programs are organized at this time - we will keep you posted. Check you emails in early 2021.

Meetings are co-sponsored by the North York Historical Society and the North York Central Library
The North York Historical Society is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society and a non-profit organization sponsored in part by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport.



What has the North York Historical Society been up to

Season's Greetings everyone. My name is Linda Gargaro and I am the NYHS Newsletter Editor. Many things have been going on behind the scenes and I will share with you what we have been up to:

NEW MEMBER:

We have a new member and her name is Grace Anyu Sun and we were approached by her regarding the Elihu Pease House. I have asked Grace to tell us in her own words about her interest in the NYHS and the Elihu Pease House.

My name is Grace Anyu Sun, a student at Cardinal Carter Academy for the Arts. From the Cultural Loops Guide, I found the Elihu Pease House, which was built in 1834. It is the oldest house reserved in Willowdale. However, when I visited the area, none of the people living there could help me find it.



This experience makes me think a lot. The Avondale area is a popular place for new immigrants. It is necessary to set up a Historical Plaque for Elihu Pease House, which can help people learn more about the history of the community, especially for children. It's also a great way to remind everyone the value of the house and to protect it. I believe that the North York Historical Society (NYHS) can help me realize this dream. Reality has proved this to be correct. Thank you NYHS, you are the protecting angel for the history of North York!

I wish to thank Grace for her contribution and this photograph and I have asked her to be a contributor to future newsletters. I look forward to her insights.

NEW LOGO:

As you can see from the first page of the NYHS Newsletter we have a new logo. The graphic artist who did the logo is Charu (Cheryl) Sachdeva of dedesigns@gmail.com.

We would like to thank her for an amazing and perfect design. It is a wonderful addition to the NYHS. Also, thanks to Marla, Sarah and Glenn for all their work in the sub-committee. Thank you also to Marla for finding this designer.



NEW DONATION:

The scissors were presented to George S. Henry to mark the opening of the Cannington Highway, August 7, 1933. Premier Henry gave them to Janet Clarke (pictured) who worked for him for many years. They were given to NYHS by her granddaughter Kim Clarke, October 2020.



NEW PLAQUE

Stay Tuned for the installation of a new Heritage plaque on the George S. Henry house.



George S. Henry home
Picture, 1959, English
Chirside, Ted
"Courtesy of Toronto Public Library"

(photograph taken by Glenn Bonnetta)



Other out and about North York News ...

Thanks to Edith George, Tree Advocate and Historian for her tireless efforts in saving this magnificent tree. Below is one of the NYHS Society Directors hugging the tree.

Saved:



NYHS Director Sheryl Adelkind and the magnificent red oak tree
(photo: Glenn Bonnetta)

Read more here:

Toronto city council votes to save historic red oak

<https://www.thestar.com/news/gta/2020/11/26/toronto-city-council-votes-to-save-mighty-250-year-old-red-oak-despite-funding-shortfall.html>

<https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/toronto-city-council-votes-save-historic-red-oak>



To be demolished:



From one of NYHS members ...

The 50 year old Holiday Inn by Yorkdale is slated to be demolished and replaced by three multi tower condos. The last day of operation is November 30th. One member of the NYHS remembers staying there:

"When I was 12, my family moved back to Toronto from London ON where we'd moved away for seven years for my father's work. The four of us stayed in a room at that Holiday Inn for a few days until we could move back into the house on Betty Ann Dr., which my parents had rented out while we were away.

"That hotel was a transition zone between my old life (smallish town) and my new one (big city!). This was 1983 and I remember listening to the "OK Blue Jays" baseball song, which had just been released, on the radio in that hotel room. Coming back from the airport to visit North York for many years, when I lived elsewhere, I'd always given that Holiday Inn, my old friend, a greeting.

"Ah well!"



(photograph taken by Nadia Gargaro)



Other Association Events:

Toronto History Museums:

As part of the City's COVID-19 response, all City-operated museums are closed until further notice. However, you can explore the Fine Art and Artifact Collection featuring 150,000 artifacts and 3,000 works of art online.

Culinary Historians of Canada – Monthly Newsletter -- Digestible Bits and Bites

<http://www.culinaryhistorians.ca/wordpress/>

An example of one of the talks they are giving:

Enjoying and Surviving a Canadian Winter will be an illustrated online Zoom presentation with a live Q&A. It will take place on Monday, January 21 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. EST.

Fort York:

Subscribe to the The Fife and Drum The Friends of Fort York and Garrison Common Quarterly Newsletter

<https://www.fortyork.ca/join-us/subscribe-to-the-fife-and-drum.html>

Town of York Historical Society and Toronto's First Post Office

Forgotten Squadron: The Royal Navy on Lake Ontario during the War of 1812

January 14th, 2021. Online. By Donation.

In this virtual presentation, travel back in time to 1812 to when a battle was raging in a war that would shape our history. Far from the eyes of Upper Canadian residents on shore, the Royal Navy was performing a vital role in defending the colony from the Americans. Discover the actions of the officers and seamen that crewed the vessels of Lake Ontario's naval squadron. <https://townofyork.com/events/>

Things the new year will bring from the North York Historical Society

- 🌟 **We are in the process of organizing Zoom program meetings. Stay tuned**
- 🌟 **Our annual general meeting and summer excursion has been combined and has been moved to June. We will keep you updated on the date and location.**

Reminders:

- Membership fee is now \$20.00 beginning September 2020
- Follow us on Instagram and Twitter:
Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/northyorkhs/>
Twitter <https://twitter.com/NorthYorkHS>
- Bill Aird (Vice-President/Past President and Archives Committee) is available for presentations on Early History of North York, Memories of North York and the History of Education in North York.
- Marla Weingarten (Board Member and Secretary) is available for presentations on the 1837 Rebellion in Upper Canada
(please contact Bill or Marla for a presentation through our email)
- Susan Goldenberg, membership coordinator, has continued to write stories in the North York Mirror and can be found on the NYHS website.

NORTH YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 2020 Board of Directors, Representatives & Committees
 www.nyhs.ca info@nyhs.ca

President	Glenn Bonnetta	416-222-8341 OR 416-570-6408 (cell)	gjbonnetta@hotmail.com
Vice-President	Bill Aird	416-223-5640	bill.aird@sympatico.ca
Treasurer	Edward Macdonell		meamacdonell@rogers.com
Secretary	Marla Weingarten		mweingarten@rogers.com
Directors	Sheryl Adelkind		sherade@sympatico.ca
	Linda Gargaro		gargarol@hotmail.com
	Susan Goldenberg		susan.goldenberg@sympatico.ca
	Sarah McCabe		sarah_mccabe@msn.com
	Anne McIlroy		anne.mcilroy@sympatico

Financial Reviewer Wesley Lee

Representatives

North York Community Preservation Panel	Glenn Bonnetta
Toronto Historical Association	Glenn Bonnetta

Committees (Chair)

Archives	Glenn Bonnetta
Membership	Susan Goldenberg
Nomination	Bill Aird
Newsletter	Linda Gargaro
Phone	Vacant
Plaquing	Glenn Bonnetta
Programs	Bill Aird
School Outreach	Bill Aird, Glenn Bonnetta, Susan Goldenberg, Marla Weingarten
Street Naming	Mary Ann Cross
Sunshine	Katharine Shorney
Webmaster	Sarah McCabe

North York Historical Society is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society and a non-profit organization sponsored in part by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport

NORTH YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 Membership 2020

Name (print): Phone:

Address:

Email address: May we email newsletter to you?.....

Membership \$20.00

Donation: \$.....

Dedicated Funds: General.....Plaquing.....Miriam Jackson Memorial.....

Please make cheque payable to the North York Historical Society, 5576 Yonge Street,
 POB 10042, Willowdale, ON M2N 0B6