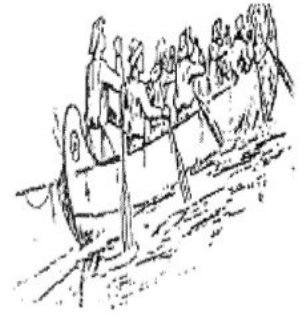

GLENGARRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

BOX 416 ALEXANDRIA ON K0C 1A0
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next issue: June 2009 ***

NEXT MEETING

Date: May 7, 2009
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Location: Alexandria United Church-on-the-Hill
Topic: *Historical Renaissance in Vankleek Hill*



- *Dane Lanken writes:*

There's a historical renaissance these days in Vankleek Hill, our sister community just a few miles north on Highway 34.

The Higginson Tower, built almost 200 years ago, lay derelict for years but is now, with its refinished stone base and new and brilliant blue top, a very striking feature of the community. In addition, plans are well advanced to open a museum in the town.

A Vankleek Hill Historical Society is busy these days collecting artifacts of local significance and preparing an old and handsome Main Street building to accommodate them.

A pair of central players in all this activity are Michelle Landriault and Denis Séguin. Michelle is a veteran museum curator, and Denis, among other accomplishments, was the restoration architect for the Higginson Tower. When you call them at their Vankleek Hill address, you also get the Vankleek Hill Historical Society.

Michelle and Denis will be our guest speakers at the May 7 meeting of the Glengarry Historical Society. Their experiences in organizing a museum these days might find parallels in our own society's getting museums up and running in decades past. And their success in re-opening their historic Higginson Tower may be an inspiration to us here in Glengarry in preserving our own historic tower, the 113 year-old (and threatened) Alexandria Standpipe.

* ** Grant Cameron, Nominating Committee Chairperson, is pleased to announce that, starting with the GHS June Newsletter, our new editors, Doreen Hutton and John Woodrow, will be at the Helm!

- *Doreen Hutton writes:*

John and I moved into our home on Loch Garry Road on May 1, 2001. We had both worked at Concordia University in Montreal.

My tenure was 25 years and John's 35! I started working at "Sir George Williams University" in 1972 as a Senior Secretary; when I retired in 1997 I held the position of Director, Department of Human Resources. For most of my service in H.R. however, my position was Manager, Employee Relations and Recruitment.

John was a student at Sir George Williams and graduated with a Bachelor of Science, Major in Mathematics in 1971. He began working in the Computer Centre, as it was known in those "good old days" as a Software Analyst; at the time of his retirement in 2001 he held the position of Director, IITS (Instructional & Information Technology Services).

We both share a passion for travel, cycling, hiking and sailing, having sailed on Lake Champlain for 15 years

and in Florida for another 16 before selling our boat 3 years ago. I have a passion for horseback riding; John makes an excellent groom!

Since we have lived in this area we have become involved in community work with the Seniors Outreach Centre and I volunteer at the Glengarry Memorial Hospital. Clearly, we have a keen interest in History; between us we have read all of the Rutherford books!

John has a long history of Newsletter production from his working and post retirement days, I am a neophyte Editor with only "one" newsletter to my credit, and even with that , John was the technical expert!

We look forward to learning more about the local history of the Glengarry Area, and hope that our efforts with regards to the GHS Newsletter will be beneficial to all members!

*** To our New Editors, the Members of the Glengarry Historical Society say

*WELCOME ABOARD YOUR
NEW SKIFF.*