



A First Settlement; painting by WH Bartlett



From the collection of the
Museum of Strathroy - Caradoc

Dedicated to Preserving the History of Glengarry

Guest Speaker - Alexander(Sandy) V. Campbell will give a presentation on The Royal American Regiment: Glengarry County's Other Military Founder.

Sir Jeffery Amherst commanded the largest army ever to pass through what became Glengarry County 250 years ago. A battalion of redcoats drawn from the 60th (Royal American) Regiment of Foot, composed of Highland Scots, foreign Protestant mercenaries, Irish drafts, and provincial recruits, formed a vital part of this task force that captured Montreal in 1760. Many of the 60th's veterans joined the Royal Standard again during the American Revolution and continued to influence the course of British North America history through the War of 1812. Based on his new book, *The Royal American Regiment: An Atlantic Microcosm, 1755-1772*, Dr. Alexander V. Campbell will speak about the impact that this famed army unit had on the selection, settlement, and subsequent defense of Glengarry County. Come and hear why the Royal American Regiment should be considered to be our county's other military founder.

Sandy was born and raised in Cornwall Township. A former member of the Glengarry Pipe Band and an infantryman in the

Next Meeting

- ✓ **Date/Time: Thursday, Oct. 7, 8pm**
- ✓ **Place: The Church on the Hill, Alexandria**
- ✓ **Speaker: Alexander(Sandy) V. Campbell presents: The Royal American Regiment: Glengarry County's Other Military Founder**

S.D. & G. Highlanders, he holds an M.A. from the University of Maryland and a Ph.D. from the University of Western Ontario and teaches history part-time at the University of Ottawa. Sandy had his first book published by the University of Oklahoma Press in May. He is happily married to his wife, Pearl, who comes from Baltimore. They both enjoy living in his old family home and look forward to making maple syrup in the Spring.

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Help Save a Tree

We encourage the use of electronic mail to help us control costs. Please submit your email address if you are comfortable with this format. You will also be able to enjoy the newsletter in full colour rather than just B&W.



The Wine and Cheese Reception at the Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museums was a great success with its theme of the 'Old School'



Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum Executive Profiles

Gay Hamilton, Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum Committee Chair

Gay Hamilton has resided in Williamstown, Ontario, just a few steps from the Nor'Westers and Loyalist Museum, for the past ten years.

Gay has many years of experience with nonprofit organizations both as a professional manager and volunteer. She was the Director of Laubach Literacy Canada, a national adult literacy organization, as well as the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks. She has also worked at the helm of two economic development corporations including her current mandate at the SD&G Community Futures Development Corporation in Cornwall.

Gay has a great deal of experience in fundraising and proposal writing and has taught courses on these subjects at St. Lawrence College and through private consulting. She has a special interest in governance training and often directs her volunteer contributions to helping boards with policy and process. She has been a member of several national and provincial boards as well as a member of the Advisory Committee on Literacy and Essential Skills to the Minister of State for Human Resources Development in 2005.

A recipient of the Commemorative Medal for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee for her volunteer work with food banks, Gay has also won awards for project management and innovative initiatives.

An enthusiastic student of history and an amateur genealogist, Gay is fascinated with the Museum's collection and connections to Canada's economic foundation in the fur trade and the Loyalist settlers, a heritage which her family shares. She is enjoying working with the GHS and museum volunteers and staff and hopes to make a meaningful contribution to the organization's future.

Sheila Fraser was the guest speaker on September 2. Born in Dundee, Quebec she has a special relationship to Glengarry.

These days she tries to keep our financial ship afloat in Ottawa, as Auditor General.

GHS President Allan Macdonell, opened the meeting by thanking the Reverend Andrea Harrison for facilitating the use of St. Andrew's Church. He then called upon Allan Sullivan to introduce the guest speaker.

Ms. Fraser opened her presentation with some of the history of her ancestors coming to this area in the early 1800s from Scotland and referred to the second Auditor General, John Fraser who served from 1905 to 1919. She herself is the tenth Auditor General. She revealed that her mandate of ten years is focussed largely on the typical financial aspects, and also the performance aspect of auditing. She sees environmental protection as a priority. Her staff of 650 accountants, engineers, sociologists, and other civil servants work within a budget of 98 million dollars. She also covers Heritage concerns such as Fort Henry and Cape Spear. Another highlight of interest is the auditing of the conservation of official residences. Rideau Hall has been the beneficiary but virtually no work has been directed at 24 Sussex Drive. The work of her department is an important contribution in achieving accountability and democracy in our government.

The question period leads to further interesting and relevant points. Bill Gilsdorf pointed out the cumbersome difficulties that smaller initiatives such as local museum voluntary staff encounter in trying to register for public funding from Federal government. Miss Fraser acknowledged the issue. In response to another question from the floor she explained the procedure in doing an audit, which typically takes eighteen months.

In thanking the speaker, Gay Hamilton remarked on the real connections that seem to have been made in an interesting talk. It is encouraging to note the emphasis on heritage.

Miss Hamilton presented Ms. Fraser with two very "personal" gifts on behalf of the GHS: A copy of the recently published "Dictionary of Glengarry Biography" by Royce MacGillivray and a copy of the GHS founder, Hugh P. MacMillan's "Adventures of a Paper Sleuth", which she graciously accepted.

After the interesting presentation, the entire crowd was invited to the adjoining Irvine Hall to partake in the generously laid-out delectables and refreshing drinks.

Adapted from the notes of R. Bleile

The Great Fire of Dunvegan

The year was 1892. Dunvegan was a bustling industrial community, and one of the few places of business in the northern part of Glengarry. The fire broke out on the corner of Main Street taking with it a stable, Malcolm McRae's grist mill, the ashery of C.P. Welles, a number of houses, and Dan Murray's store. The residence of Shea, the school teacher was also burned.

Looking Back

By 1845 the village of North Lancaster received its name. One of its most enterprising pioneers was Charles Leclair who established a store, which became also an ashery, hotel, tennant house and several farms. A room in the house was made into a chapel and when the clergyman son, Father William was home a bell would be rung to call the neighbours to Mass or prayers.

In 1865 the Glen Nevis Post Office was opened in Alex McRae's store, near the present church, and soon Glen Nevis was a busy community with, beside the store, the Post Office, a dressmaker, a blacksmith, and a shingle and sawmill

A brief excerpt from "St. Margaret of Scotland Parish - 100 Years Old

*By Grant MacGillivray
Glengarry Life, 1983*

More to Come! October Events

Family & Local History Day in Vankleek Hill, L'Orignal, Dunvegan and Hawkesbury

Date: October 2, Beginning: 9:00 AM

Location: Vankleek Hill, L'Orignal, Dunvegan and Hawkesbury

Contact email: curator@vankleek.ca

Contact phone: 613-678-2323

Special offer: La Seigneurie, Centre de genealogie et d'histoire, located inside the Hawkesbury Public Library, will be open to researchers from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Extra Special: *The Review* will release the first 10 years of its digitized newspaper archives on October 2nd: 1893 - 1904! Free access all day!!

On the same October weekend, the local microbrewery Beau's Beer is holding its annual Oktoberfest on Saturday Oct. 2 and Sunday Oct. 3 in Vankleek Hill. Tickets for this event must be purchased in advance www.beaus.ca

Follow the links to the 'Events' page at www.vankleekhill.ca for the full program

The Thousand Islands Writers Festival

Date: October 15-16

Time: 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Location: Downtown, Brockville, Ontario

Contact email: info@tiwfestival.org

Contact phone: (613) 342-4397

The second annual Thousand Islands Writers Festival (TIWF) takes place in historic downtown Brockville, Ontario. The festival's four events features nine authors, including two historical nonfiction writers; Roy MacSkimming and Charlotte Gray

The full program is at the website www.tiwfestival.org

Scenes from the parade at the Glengarry Pioneer Museum's Harvest Fall Festival ... Several thousand people enjoyed a great event in excellent weather....



Become a Member

Membership in the Historical Society means you are an integral part in preserving local history. You are invited to each of the regular meetings, which usually feature an interesting guest speaker or presentation. You will receive the Newsletter (several per year), and advance notice of Historical Society events. Membership in the Glengarry Historical Society is \$20 (\$25, Family) annually, or \$200 Lifetime membership. The Glengarry Historical Society is an affiliate of the Ontario Historical Society. Contact information on Page 1.

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