

The Township of Bruce Historical Society
Annual Report as of May 31, 2017

The 13 Directors met 8 times during the year in the MacKenzie Room of the Community Centre at Underwood. During President John Dahmer's winter absence, past presidents Herb Henkenhaf and Karen Ribey shared duties of chairing meetings. We welcomed new director Randy Roppel in November. Thanks to retiring director John Kaminski (2007-2016) and retiring secretary Rosemary Beath (2010-2016) for their many contributions to the Society.

Since the Secretary's position was not filled, Karen Ribey and Anne Judd with help from Irene Howe, shared recording and sending out minutes, meeting notices, correspondence, and forms for our affiliation with the Ontario Historical Society. We have 65 paid memberships (including 37 Life members).

Recipients of the 2016 Kenzie Foster Award were Taylor Ribey at École Port Elgin Saugeen Central School and Hannah Grotto at Huron Heights Public School in Kincardine.

Our main focus was preparing to mark the location of SS #14 schoolhouse, following demolition of the building in 2015. Owner Barry Ribey preserved the date stone and a number of bricks and has been most co-operative in the planning to erect a cairn. The Landmarks committee gathered cost estimates, visited the site and talked with municipal officials throughout the year. Grant money received from the Municipality of Kincardine in May 2016 has been designated for this project.

Community Awareness committee led in inviting representatives from area churches to plan a community worship service July 2, 2017 in commemoration of Bruce County's and Confederation's 150th Anniversaries. We applied to the Municipality for funding toward this event.

The publications committee finalized the text of *Bruce Township Migrants* and placed one printed copy with the Archives Research Room at Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. A second printed copy remains with our materials. The text is also posted to the Society's website, www.bruce-township.ca, maintained for us by John Kaminski.

The materials collection committee received donations from Joseph Hyde and Shirley Woodason. A query from a former BTCS student prompted confirming that the contents of the school's 'time capsule' are stored with TBHS.

Planning to record more interviews with seniors who have lived in Bruce Township, the video committee looked for local providers of videography. Directors started a list of potential interviewees.

We participated in other organizations' events such as the placing of wreath at Remembrance Day in Tiverton. Two members volunteered as adjudicators at the Heritage Fair held at Bruce County Museum & Cultural Centre. We supported Tom Evans in international plowing competition through the Bruce County Plowmen's Association. For Archives Week, Karen, Eleanor, and Irene Howe set up a display at BCM&CC. Through the municipality, we purchased an Autumn Blaze maple tree which is planted at the Community Centre and will be marked with a plaque to be dedicated July 2.

compiled by Anne Judd, Director at Large