

Ontario Women's History  
Network, Dept. of History  
University of Waterloo  
Hagey Hall, Waterloo Ontario,  
Canada N2L 3G1  
gcbrandt@uwaterloo.ca  
Alyson.king@uoit.ca  
<http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/~owhn/>

# OWHN NEWSLETTER

<http://arts.uwaterloo.ca/~owhn/>

SEPTEMBER 2014

## OWHN/ RHFO

### 2015 Conference

OWHN/RHFO  
will hold its  
2015 AGM and  
Conference at  
the Canadian  
War Museum,  
Ottawa

Women and  
The First  
World War

24-25 April  
2015

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

AGM	3
Minutes	
HerStories	4
Café	
News	5
Membership	6
Form	

## OWHN/RHFO at the Berks

### Teachers' Day @ The Berks

By Rose Fine-Meyer

The Berkshire Conference on the History of Women held at the University of Toronto May, 2014 included a special Teachers' Day. Held at University College on May 23, 2014, it included a number of panels that explored issues related to women's history, education and pedagogy. Approximately 80 educators, including teacher candidates from the Toronto area attended the special day. The Teachers Day began with a roundtable that explored "Gender Issues and the School Curriculum in North America." Myra Novogrodsky, Rosemary Evans, Angela Terpstra and Margaret Rocco each gave papers. After a break of refreshments, the second roundtable led by Chair Jane Errington, explored *New Approaches to Teaching about War in the Classroom* with speakers Rose Fine-Meyer, Samantha Cutrara and Rita Gravina from Bishop Strachan School. Gail Cuthbert Brandt chaired a panel on *New Scholarly Research and Practices on Teaching, Past and Present* with speakers Amy Samson, Christine Woyshner, Jessica Schocker, Michelle MacArthur and Joan Simalchik (Co-

sponsored by OWHN). At the same time, a panel was held that explored *Best Practices: Examples of Gender and History in the Classroom* with teachers Maureen McCarthy, University of Toronto Schools and Diane Vautour, Loretto Academy. After lunch, delegates chose between concurrent workshops that included speakers Angela Nardozi and John D. Moran, from the Deepening Knowledge Project, OISE/University of Toronto on *Understanding Context: Exploring Historical Moments which Resonate in Current Indigenous Activism* and *Indian 101: Who are the Aboriginal People in Canada Today?* with Carolyn King, Former Chief and first female elected Chief, Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation, which was co-sponsored by The Ontario Historical Society (OHS). The afternoon ended with a special tour and exhibit at the Toronto Archives. Resources, posters and great ideas were shared by all present. Thanks to all who attended!

Co-sponsors of the Teachers' Day @ the Berks: HerstoriesCafe; Department of Humanities, Mount Royal University; Heritage Toronto; Ontario His-

(Continued on page 2)

## Using New Technologies

By Emily Weiskopf

On Thursday, December 5, 2013, I took part in the webinar "@OntarioHistory: Social Media & Online Communication in Heritage" hosted by the Ontario Historical Society. In this webinar, Kim Pittaway presented information on how to boost an organization's social media impact. I have to admit that, before this webinar, I had never been on Twitter, Tumblr or Pinterest. I do not have a Facebook account because I am a high school teacher. Of course, I had a general idea of how these social media websites worked but had no idea that they could be so powerful.

Pittaway began her presentation with a case study of *Outdoor Canada Magazine* to show the importance of setting oneself a goal with social media. It is im-

portant to spend time lurking before launching – in other words, spending some time checking out the way similar organizations have set up their presence on these sites before starting to tweet, tumblr, and pin. By lurking through other sites, one can, and should, develop a list of key words to describe the unique tone and persona the organization wants to project. These key words should be specific (not just funny, but witty, sarcastic...) and should be shared and understood by everyone in the organization who will be managing these sites. The case study provided a justification for taking one's time with social media. Organizations should figure out what other organizations are doing and who the key figures in the field are. They should follow others before launching. The best way to build a following is by following others. This can be done by retweeting information all

(Continued on page 5)

**MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR  
2015 OWHN  
Conference:  
Women and  
The First World  
War  
April 24 and 25,  
2015**

**REMINDER:  
Renew your  
membership  
for 2015!**

## OWHN/RHFO at the Berks (con't)

*(Continued from page 1)  
torical Society; Ontario Women's History Net-  
work; University of Toronto Schools*

### **Walking Tour** *By Alyson King*

On May 22, a group of visitors from around the world at the University of Toronto for the Berkshire Conference joined an OWHN/RHFO-organized walking tour of selected women's history sites on the university campus. The tour was based on long-time OWHN member Pat Staton's book *Toronto Women: A Walk Through History* (Green Dragon Press, 2012). The tour visited 10 locations on campus and discussed 14 different women connected to the University of Toronto, starting with four women doctors and medical scientists: **Emily Stowe**, **Augusta Stowe-Gullen**, **Maud Menten**, and **M. Vera Peters**. After leaving the Medical Sciences Building, the tour visited plaques and buildings around King's College Circle and on St. George St., as well as Trinity College, the **December 6<sup>th</sup> Memorial** on Philosopher's Walk, Victoria University, Annesley Hall, and the Lillian Massey Building. Following the tour, a reception and book signing was held at the Centre for Women's Studies in Education at OISE/UT.

### **Encounters in Women's History: The Influence of Alison Prentice on Women's History, Feminist Scholars and History** *By Alyson King*

On May 23, OWHN/RHFO sponsored a roundtable to discuss the influence of **Alison Prentice** on women's history, feminist scholars, and education. The participants in the roundtable have worked with Alison in a variety of capacities; indeed, the range of participants on the roundtable demonstrates the breadth of her scholarship and influence on women's history within and beyond Canada's borders. After introductions, the panel began with comments from **Alison Mackinnon** (University of South Australia) about "the education of young Alison." **Elizabeth Smyth** (University of Toronto) followed and discussed the role Alison played in helping to put women and religion into the Canadian historical agenda. **Dianne Miller** (University of Saskatchewan) reflected on Alison's research on the gender stratification in teaching and its impact in the schools. **Paula Bourne** (University of Toronto) turned our attention to the role Alison Prentice played in creating institutional and community-based feminist education and history. The final speaker was **Jan Noel** (University of Toronto), who examined the ways in which Alison helped to politicize women and students. The roundtable concluded with a few words from Alison herself. Later, a well-attended reception in honour of Alison was held at the Centre for Women's Studies in Education at OISE/UT.



Dr. Alison Prentice

## Heritage Fairs Award



OWHN's award in women's history for the Ontario Heritage Fairs Association was presented at the regional fairs in 2013. Students received a newly designed ribbon and an OWHN pin, along with a certificate. OWHN has received much positive feedback about this award. The Heritage Fairs allow students to act as historians, interpreters, and story-tellers.

The criteria for OWHN's award are:

- Winning projects must have a primary focus on women in Canadian history and the ways in which women have contributed to Canadian society. It may deal with Canadian women at the local, provincial, national or international level.
- Projects must provide evidence that the student has thought critically about one or more of the following: historical significance, primary and secondary sources, continuity and change, cause and consequence, possible interpretations of the student's chosen theme.
- Students must be able to present project in an engaging and convincing fashion.

# Minutes of the AGM, May 24 2014

Present: Gail Cuthbert Brandt, Rose Fine-Meyer, Alyson King, Sue Heffernan, Dianne Dodd, Wendy Mitchinson, Paula Bourne, Emily Wieskopf-Ball, Pat Staton; Regrets: Jane Errington, Sharon Cook, Sandra Kritzer, Linda Ambrose, Julia Roberts, Tina Bates, Sarah Hogenbirk,

## AGM Meeting

**Gail Cuthbert Brandt** (substitute) **Chair**

**(Chair Jane Errington absent from meeting)**

Called the meeting to order at 12pm.

- Gail asked for approval of the 2013 AGM meeting minutes and the agenda.
- Approval of the 2013 Minutes and the Agenda: Moved by Paula Bourne and seconded by Wendy Mitchinson. The motion was passed.
- Business Arising from the Minutes

## Report of the Chair:

Rose Fine-Meyer (secretary) read Chair Jane Errington's (in absentia) written report to those present.

Jane thanked those involved with the 2014 AGM planning, especially members of the executive who spent much time planning and organizing the AGM. She commented on the success of the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians, May 22-25, 2014 and OWHN involvement: support for Pat Staton's book walk, book launch ("Toronto Women: A Walk Through History") and reception, as well as all those who participated on the three OWHN sponsored panel sessions.

Jane noted OWHN's continued support of the Ontario Heritage Fairs. Rose noted that Carol White had distributed OWHN awards at the Ontario Heritage Fairs this year. Rose will request a list of the recipients and any photos. As with last year, OWHN sent pins and ribbons.

Website news and update: Paula and Alison inquired about issues with the website. Gail noted it is now being fixed. It will still be run by The University of Waterloo.

Jane had noted in her report an interest in partnering with the Museum of Health Care in Kingston. They have several projects of possible interest to the OWHN community, such as to mark World War I and the centennial of John A Macdonald's birth. The Museum will also be working on Nursing during the war. As well, health and illness in the family, and particularly with respect to John A Macdonald's wives and daughters.

OWHN could, without having to provide funds, co-sponsor research and an exhibit and possibly a talk.

As well, a notice from playwright Dr Charles Hayter: Radical: the story of Dr. Vera Peters, and her fight to alter breast can-

cer treatment will have its world premiere at the Toronto Fringe Festival in July 2014. The Museum is hoping to mount a production in Kingston; but others may be interested in this one.

Discussion followed and the executive decided that OWHN should support these partnerships in Kingston

## **New Business**

### **2015 Conference and AGM**

Discussion followed about plans for the 2015 OWHN Conference and AGM in Ottawa, May 2015

Dianne Dodd noted that she had met with Tina Bates and they had already taken steps to seek out a keynote and exhibits. She noted that they had approached Charlotte Grey and the possibility of holding the event at Laurier House, but that was turned down.

Dianne is working on a number of plans: military nurses uniforms that Tina had displayed at another exhibit, arrangements for speakers, possible tours, and inviting veterans

Discussion followed of possible speakers: possibly Lorna McLean and other scholars writing about peace activism, Laura Brandon and Cynthia Toman and others

Pat noted that her book *It's Their War Too* (with support from Nancy Ruth Foundation), will soon be put online and have free access.

Dianne asked where we might access funding for the conference. It was suggested she approach the War Museum, Nancy Ruth's Foundation, various Teachers Associations (English and French), as well as Faculties of Education (many OWHN members work in faculties of education/ and are teachers)

### **Treasurer Financial Report, Gail Cuthbert Brandt**

Gail provided statements of the Treasurer's Financial Report which was made available for all attendees. It provided details of the Fiscal years 2012 and 2013.

- We need to increase membership numbers in 2014 to maintain our funds. Final numbers are net assets of \$1226.76
- Yearly contributions to Green Dragon Press for the Women's History poster. We usually give \$2000. ETFO and others provide the rest. We hope to continue to do this again this year. Rose moved that we support the poster this year, seconded by Paula Bourne and the motion was passed.
- The costs for Ontario Heritage Fair ribbons and awards are listed on the report.

(Continued on page 4)

**Thanks!!**

To OISE/UT and  
UOIT for  
sponsoring the  
printing and  
mailing of this  
Newsletter with  
the Ontario  
Women's History  
Month Poster.

Send items for the  
next Newsletter to:  
**Alyson King**  
([Alyson.king@uoit.ca](mailto:Alyson.king@uoit.ca))  
Or  
**Sarah Hogenbirk**  
([sarahhogenbirk@cmail.carleton.ca](mailto:sarahhogenbirk@cmail.carleton.ca))

## Minutes of the AGM

(Continued from page 3)

- You can see from the report that our income was \$11534.00 and expenditures were \$11,152.14 with a balance at the end of 2013 of \$1226.76.

Gail asked for approval of the Treasurer's report. Motion seconded by Dianne Dodd.

### New Business

#### Confirmation of Executive Officers (2nd of a 2 year term)

Chair: Jane Errington (2013-2015)  
Vice-Chairs: Christina Bates  
Treasurer: Gail Cuthbert Brant  
Secretary/Archivist: Rose Fine-Meyer  
Members-at-large: Linda Ambrose, Sharon Cook, Julia Roberts, Sandra Kritzer, Sarah Hogenbirk, Pat Staton  
Jan Haskings-Winner has requested to be removed from the OWHN Board and this was confirmed at the meeting  
Past Chair: Alyson King

Executive noted the passing of member Myra Rutherford, and Sharon's husband, Terry Cook. It was decided to send a letter to Sharon on behalf of the executive.

#### The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm

Moved by Paula Bourne and seconded by Dianne Dodd. By Rose Fine-Meyer, Secretary. May, 2014

## Herstoriescafe.ca

### "Finnish Import" with Mervi Haapakoski

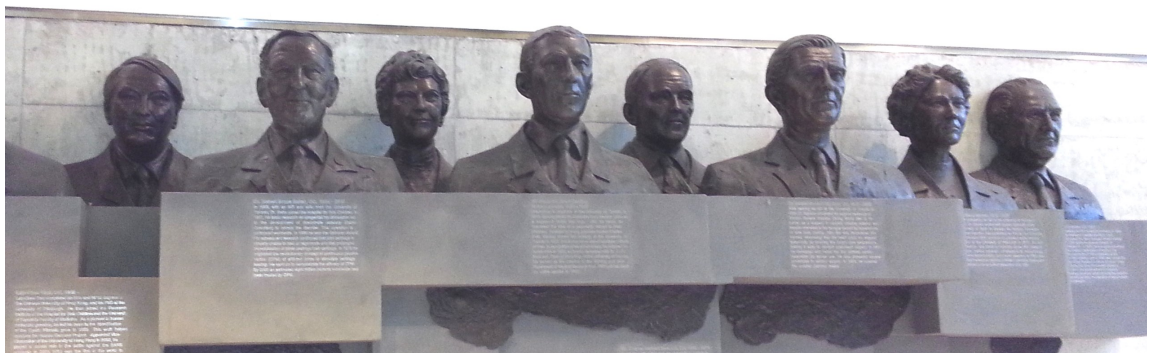
*Location:* Craft Ontario Shop, formerly The Guild Shop, 118 Cumberland Street, Toronto  
416.921.1721

*Time:* 6:30-8:30, Tuesday September 30th, 2014  
*Please RSVP with your name & phone number to* [yha@craftontario.com](mailto:yha@craftontario.com)

*Artist Biography:* Mervi is a glass artist from Finland, currently living in Toronto. She received her MFA from the University of Art and Design in Helsinki. She has also completed studies at Sheridan College School of Crafts and Design, and a three-year residency at Harbourfront Studios. She is loved for her intuitive approach to making, whether it be with glass, fabric or stone.

*About the Shop:* Since 1932, the proceeds from Craft Ontario Shop (formerly The Guild Shop), as a part of the non-for-profit organization Craft Ontario (formerly Ontario Crafts Council), have supported individual craftspeople as well as the programs and activities of Craft Ontario. When you treat yourself to the handmade objects from the shop, you support a local craftsperson, connect to the maker's vision and bring beauty into your life. The Shop represents 300 Craft Ontario members, showcasing jewellery, ceramics, glass, wood, textiles, mixed media work and Inuit and Native art.

*Website:* <http://www.craftontario.com/shop/craft>



Sculpture including Dr. Maud Menten (1879 -1960) and Dr. M. Vera Peters (1911-1993) located at the University of Toronto's Medical Sciences Building, 1 King's College Circle



# 2015 OWHN/RHFO Conference

**Hold the date for the next OWHN/RHFO conference:  
April 24 and 25, 2015**

The conference will be held at the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, on the topic of **"Women and The First World War."** As usual, we will have a reception on Friday night (April 24) and sessions all day Saturday, (April 25). Highlights of the program, which is still being developed, include lectures from noted historians of nursing Cynthia Toman and Melanie Morin-Pelletier, Home Front experts such as Sarah Glassford and Debbie Marshall, as well as Beth Acheson and Dianne Dodd who

will speak on commemorative issues surrounding women and the war. There will also be a tour of the new permanent Home Front Exhibit (followed by a discussion of the question 'Where are the women?'), as well as other pertinent displays, lots of networking and fun.

## News, etc.

Recent publications by OWHN/RHFO members include, **Cecilia Morgan**, "'Write me. Write me.': Native and Métis letter-writing across the British Empire, 1800-1870," in Kirsty Reid and Fiona Paisley, eds., *Writing the Empire: Interventions From Below*. London: Routledge Press, 2014.

**Cecilia Morgan**, 'Mr. Moses Goes to England: Twentieth-Century Mobility and Networks at the Six Nations Reserve, Ontario,' in Jane Lydon and Jane Carey, eds., *Indigenous Networks and 'Transnational' Cultures: Exploring Trajectories of Mobility, Exchange and Border Crossing*. London: Routledge Press. Fall 2014.

**Cecilia Morgan**, "She is a Canadian Girl": English-Canadian Actresses' Transatlantic and Transnational Careers Through the Lenses of Canadian Magazines, 1890s-1930s,' *International Journal of Canadian Studies / Revue internationale Special Issue Print Culture, Mobility, and the Middlebrow/Imprimé, Mobilité et Culture Moyenne*. 48 (2014): 199-136.

**Elizabeth Gillan Muir**. *Riverdale: east of the Don*. Dundurn Press, Forthcoming November 1, 2014. Book launch on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in Dorra Keogh, 141 Danforth (just east of Broadview subway station in Toronto).

Congratulations to **Marion Roes** who was awarded the 2014 Edna Staebler Research Fellowship by the Friends of the Joseph Schneider Haus, Kitchener. It has been given for over 20 years for "research judged to increase knowledge and expand the understanding of the diverse cultures and founding peoples of Waterloo Region." Marion will give a public lecture given during Heritage Week, February 2015 on her research which encompasses the histories of funeral businesses and practises within Waterloo Region from generally the mid 1800s to the mid 1900s. The application form is at <http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/en/discoveringTheRegion/josephschneiderhaus.asp#events>.

## Using New Tech (con't)

(Continued from page 1)

the while adding to the content with intelligent and insightful comments or by making suggestions. Overall, one should determine what the purpose of the organization's use social media is: to get people into a museum, to buy a product, to be informed about an issue... The editor of *Outdoor Canada Magazine* used Twitter to get people to buy the magazine by providing just enough information to get them interested in an article or polled people to get their input for future issues. He created archiving themes on Twitter by having a weekly post with a similar hash tag (#).

Pittaway then used a variety of existing organizations' social media sites to demonstrate ways to keep your followers: (1) Share behind the scenes footage – show your organization getting ready for an event. People want to feel like they belong and giving behind the scenes footage makes them feel like they are part of the organization. (2) Create a conversation not just a public broadcast. (3) Links, info graphics, and photos are shared more than comments. Emotion = distribution. (4) Promote others including your information as you retweet. (5) Use Facebook by engaging and sharing the contributions of your followers. People want to see themselves in your organization so share their comments, their pictures... Pictures give people browsing pleasure – everyone loves a selfie so take pictures at your events and post them online afterwards. Capitalize on big events (assassination of JFK, Halloween...) by sharing a photo or a message that makes people feel good. Create a brand and voice. For example a series on YouTube, a weekly event...

Overall, the key steps to success include:

Listen to your audience: know who they are and what they want by lurking before launching.

Connect: use the best platform for the audience you are targeting (ex: Pintrest for women), follow followers, use keywords that people are likely to search.

Share: everyone wants to be an insider but be sure to give real insight and information. BE REAL. Tolerate positive and negative content because you'll be viewed as more legitimate.

Ask for opinions/impute

Brand yourself and know what your goal is: it's great to have a lot of followers but are they really your target audience, are they buying into your product?

REMEMBER that people stop following you when you over communicate or share information they aren't interested in.

Thanks again for the opportunity! Emily

Ontario Women's History Network  
*Le réseau d'histoire des femmes en Ontario*  
**MEMBERSHIP FORM / FORMULAIRE D'ADHÉSION**  
**2014**

*The aim of the network is to promote the study and dissemination of women's history throughout Ontario. /  
Le but du réseau est de promouvoir l'étude, ainsi que la diffusion de l'information concernant l'histoire des femmes en Ontario.*

\_\_\_ Membership Renewal / Renouvellement d'adhésion (1 January to 31 December/1 janvier à 31 décembre)

\_\_\_ New Member / Nouveau membre (1 January to 31 December/1 janvier à 31 décembre)

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to join the Ontario Women's History Network (OWHN). I enclose:  
Oui, j'aimerais devenir membre du Réseau d'histoire des femmes en Ontario (RHFO). J'inclus :

\_\_\_ \$25 Membership / 25\$ Cotisation

\_\_\_ \$15 Full Time Student, Retired / 15\$ Étudiant à plein temps, retraité

\_\_\_ \$40 Annual Sustaining / 40\$ Cotisation de soutien

\_\_\_ Donation/Dons. OWHN has charitable status (#891772246 RR 0001) and charitable donation receipts will be issued for donations of \$10 or more./ Les dons, en sus des cotisations, donnent droit à des déductions d'impôt au titre de dons charitables, #891772246 RR 0001. Le Réseau émettra un reçu pour tout don de \$10 et plus.

Please make cheque payable to **Ontario Women's History Network**/S.V.P. assurez que le chèque soit établi au nom de l'**Ontario Women's History Network**.

Please complete (Print) / S.V.P. complétez (imprimer)

Name / Nom : \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation / Profession : \_\_\_\_\_

Address / Adresse postale: \_\_\_\_\_

Areas of Interest or Expertise / Domaine d'intérêt : \_\_\_\_\_

Home / Domicile #: \_\_\_\_\_ Business / Bureau #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail / Courriel: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax / Télécopie: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to be included in the OWHN Directory? / Voulez-vous être inclus dans la répertoire du RHFO ?  
Yes / Oui \_\_\_\_\_ No / Non \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to / Postez à : **OWHN / RHFO**, c/o Dr. Gail Cuthbert Brandt, 906558 Road 12, R.R. 4 Bright, ON N0J 1B0