



NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

1798 Heritage House and War of 1812 Battle Site

May/June 2024

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2024, Number 4

WELCOME

NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

Nelles Manor Museum is operated by Nelles Manor Heritage House, a non-profit charitable organization.

We present Nelles Manor, a **1798** Georgian style home built by United Empire Loyalist **Robert Nelles** from local materials.

The Manor opened as a museum in 2016 and represents the history of the Nelles Family who through their involvement in early government and military service plus their extensive early trade and commerce helped to build Canada as an early Nation.

The site of the home is also the site of the **Engagement at the Fort** in the **War of 1812** that may have been an important part in the destiny of Ontario and Canada.



Red Dress Day - May 5

Inspired by the work of Métis artist Jaime Black that would go on to spark the REDress Project, this day draws attention to the more than 1,000 Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) in Canada. The project was started in 2010 after Black displayed an installation at the University of Winnipeg that included a series of empty red dresses to honour and symbolize the lost lives of Indigenous women at the hands of violence. On this day, participants are encouraged to display empty red dresses in public spaces or wear red dresses to show support for the lives of MMIWG. Additional activities taking place on this day include also marches, memorials, and walks across Canada. Installations of red dresses are displayed in museums, university campus.

Thank you to volunteer Meg Grimsno for the display.

Mother's Day Tea – May 11



Another sold out event! Every year our volunteers host a tea the day before Mother's Day. This year Donna's Fashions participated with a lovely fashion show. There were door prizes including a gift certificate from Forest of Flowers, a wreath by Marilyn Cornwell, prize bags from Donna's Fashions and more.

There will be a Harvest Tea on October 6.

Tours and Tarts Opening Weekend – May 18

Nelles Manor Museum opened our 8th season with a baked goods and artisans' event. The fog lifted for a sunny day and everyone went home with a treat!



Opening days and hours for the 2024 season are:

Friday and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Holiday Mondays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Last tour begins at 3:00 p.m.

Board of Directors

L. Coutts – Chair
B. Coutts
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E. Furlan
J. Roberts

Museum Manager/Curator

K. Pyatt

At Nelles Manor
Museum
We bring
History to Life

Upcoming Events

Saturday June 15 - Engagement at the Forty

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

A flag raising will take place at 11:00 a.m.

War of 1812 Reenactors, artifacts, and heritage crafts.

Sunday June 23 - Music at the Manor Concert Series - Old Tyme Fiddlers

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

This is the first performance in our series of four.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Children under 12 are free.

You can also purchase tickets for the full series of four for \$30 adults and \$15 for students. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Sunday July 7 - Music at the Manor Concert Series - Michelle Headly

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

This is the second performance in our series of four.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Children under 12 are free.

You can also purchase tickets for the full series of four for \$30 adults and \$15 for students. Tickets will go on sale soon.

Saturday July 27 – Afternoon with Jane Austen

Enjoy a performance of music and theatre.

The performance starts at 2:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Children under 12 are free.

Contact

www.nellesmanor.ca

info@nellesmanor.ca

126 Main St. W.
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289-235-7755

Welcome Back Clara!

Nelles Manor Museum is so happy to welcome back summer student Clara Falconier as our Collections Assistant. She will continue cataloguing the museum's artifacts and assist with tours.

My favorite Nelles Manor Museum artifact is the spring driven roasting jack hanging over the fireplace in the Hearth Kitchen.



Rotisserie cooking became common in the Middle Ages, particularly in large households; this was likely because spit roasting allows for numerous cuts of meat to be cooked all at once. The downside to Rotisserie cooking was the hard manual labour required in turning a spit. There were workers in medieval kitchens who were called “spit boys” whose job was dedicated to manually turning the spits. It was extremely grueling and hot work, as they would be forced to rotate a spit over a fire for hours. The “spit boy” position was seen as one of the worst jobs in a medieval kitchen, and devices were soon made to make the “spit boys” obsolete.

At first, they got rid of the need for human labor by attaching hamster wheels to the spits, which were turned by small dogs. These dog-wheeled Rotisseries became so popular that dog breeds like the “Vernepator Cur” were created especially for turning spits. Afterwards, they began making completely mechanized spits with weight driven roasting jacks, which used a series of weights, ropes, and gears to self-turn. While weight driven roasting jacks were revolutionary devices for many kitchens around Europe, they were complicated and required a large fireplace to operate.

Spring driven roasting jacks like the one at the Nelles Manor Museum were a later innovation on the automated rotisserie spit which addressed some of the issues with the weight driven roasting jacks. Created in the 18th century, spring driven roasting jacks use a wind-up clockwork mechanism to turn vertically. They look a bit like bells, but without an opening; on the bottom of the jacks there is always a hook on which anything you would like turned can be hung on. They are smaller than weight driven roasting jacks and are largely self-contained, making them significantly more portable; they can be stored in a cupboard or carried around by hand and can be used with any sized fireplace. Plus, any kind of attachment can be hung on their hooks, making them more versatile. The downside to the spring driven roasting jacks is that they couldn't handle a lot of weight, so they were only used for small cuts of meat.

All donations to Nelles Manor are tax deductible and a donation receipt for tax purposes will be issued for amounts over \$20.

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I always think of the concept of automated, time saving kitchen devices as something that came out of the 19th century, so I was surprised to hear about how far back the history of roasting jacks goes. It really stands out to me, how “modern” this device feels; I feel more connected to the people of the past when I look at it.

Clara Falconier

Contact us if you would like to be one of our amazing volunteers.

DID YOU KNOW?

Happy 110th Birthday UELAC

Ottawa – May 27, 1914

Act of Parliament (Cha. 146, 4-5) the incorporation of the Loyalist Societies into one body

"The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada"

The one hundred and thirty years since the Treaty of Separation had seen the growth of a nation, from sea to sea, and a great scattering of the Loyalists descendants. The length and breadth of the new country made it difficult to unite the Loyalist descendants in the common cause of keeping the Loyalist history alive and telling it to their countrymen and to the world. In 1913, the various provincial societies met in Toronto to discuss their future. Col. George A.S. Ryerson strongly advised the delegates that the best solution rested in uniting local and provincial societies into a Dominion of Canada association. This advice was unanimously approved by the delegates, including, Dr. W.O. Raymond, New Brunswick; the Rev. Canon Alfred Brown, Halifax; Mr. George H. Ham, Montreal; Sir John Beverley Robinson, Edgewater, New Jersey; His Honour Hedley Clarence Taylor, Edmonton; Mr. H.S. Seaman, Winnipeg; Sir Charles Hibbert Tupper, Vancouver; Lieut. Col. George Alexander Shaw, Sir Alien Aylesworth and Lieut. Col. William Hamilton Merritt, all of Toronto.

The meeting was chaired by Col. Ryerson, and drafted a constitution, to incorporate local and provincial societies into a united body, drawing up a set of by-laws for the purpose. An Act (Chapter 146, 4-5, Geo. V, 1914), May 27, 1914, was passed by the Parliament of Canada. The Prime Minister was Robert Borden. The Act incorporated "The United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada", authorizing its operation in all Provinces and Territories of Canada, and to be controlled under a central body, based in the City of Toronto, Province of Ontario.

From the 'Loyalist Trails' UELAC Newsletter 2024-21, May 26, 2024

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New and Returning Friends of Nelles Manor

Cheryl Allen
Vie Chow and Mark Cracknell
Anita Hurst
Lance Klamer
Mary McLaren
Elizabeth and James Wagner

Getting Involved

Volunteer Opportunities!

Each year our dedicated volunteers give of their time and skills to showcase the important role that Nelles Manor Museum had in the development of Upper Canada. They raise funds to support the preservation of the heritage house. They research the family and life of Grimsby's past. They create wonderful events that deliciously feed and delight our community.

These activities could not be done without our incredible volunteers.

We invite you to join them as they, sew, garden, act, and greet our visitors from around the world.

If you are interested, please contact info@nellesmanor.ca or 289-235-7755.

Become a Friend of Nelles Manor Museum

Some of the benefits of becoming a Friend of Nelles Manor includes receiving first notification and early registration for ticket sales on all events and programs. As a Friend you also tour the Museum for free during our regular season. As well, we have participated in The **Museums of Niagara Association** reciprocal agreement so that with your support through Friends of Nelles Manor you also have free admission to several of the Niagara Region Museums.

To become a Friend of Nelles Manor the cost is only \$25 for individual and \$40 for family. Your contribution helps support the preservation of the Manor and programs. **This contribution helps the museum financially as we do not receive annual operational funding from any government level.** Your contribution shows us the community support and interest in our mandate of protecting Grimsby heritage.

If you would like to become a Friend of Nelles Manor, please contact us at info@nellesmanor.ca.

Remember, Friends of the Manor receive advanced notice for all events.

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Nelles Manor Museum Baseball Caps!

We only have **five** limited edition baseball caps left. They are available for \$25 each. Thank you to Calhoun Sportswear for their contribution and support of Nelles Manor Museum.

2024 EVENTS

June 15	Engagement at the Forty recognition
June 23	Music at the Manor Concert Series - Old Tyme Fiddlers
July 7	Music at the Manor – Michelle Headly
July 27	An Afternoon with Jane Austen
August 5	Music at the Manor - Shari Vandermolten trio
August 18	Music at the Manor - Natalie Walker
August 24	Vintage Car Show and Bake Sale
October 6	Harvest Tea
October	Spirit Walk Paranormal Tours
December	Annual Christmas at the Manor Tours
December 14	Candlelight Christmas Reception

Remember Friends of Nelles Manor receive advanced notice for tickets sales.

Thank you to our sponsors!

Signature

Forty Creek Whisky; Grimsby Hyundai; Grimsby Power; Harmony Jewelers;
Life Coach Financial Strategies and Spaceless Marketing

Supporter

The Lynn Fee Team (Keller Williams Realty); St Andrews Anglican Church and
Dave and Chris VanSickle (Royal Lepage Macro Realty)

Value

88.5 the Lake; Agis Computing and Newsnow

If you would like to support Nelles Manor Museum as a sponsor,
please contact info@nellesmanor.ca

Contact

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For more information on our events and activities refer to our website
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