



# NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

## 1798 Home and War of 1812 Battle Site

June 2023

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2023, Number 5

### Board of Directors

L. Coutts – Chair  
B. Thompson – Treasurer  
A. Hurst  
C. Gudas-Murphy  
L. Puddicombe  
E. Furlan

### Events Committee

Chair: Kerry Vandermolen

Cheryl Allen  
Nancy Barons  
Denise Carter  
Linda Coutts  
Katherine Fisher  
Karyn Henderson  
Bev Jarvis  
Susan Perrin  
Kate Pyatt  
Debbie Redmond  
Carla Reid  
Nancy Simon  
Jennifer Toews  
Bill Thompson

### Contact Us

[www.nellesmanor.ca](http://www.nellesmanor.ca)  
[info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca)

126 Main St. W.  
Grimsby, Ont. L3M  
1R8  
Phone: 289-235-7755

2023

**June 17** - We raised a ceremonial flag to commemorate the 210<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of the Forty. This significant engagement at the Forty (Grimsby) was a key battle in the retention of the Niagara region against the invading American forces and its continuing to be a part of Upper Canada.



On **June the 6<sup>th</sup> 1813** the American forces were in complete command of the Niagara region. They had an advantage of 4 – 1 in numbers over the remaining British forces who had retreated from Fort George in Niagara-on-the-Lake after its capture by the Americans.

The well-known Battle of Stoney Creek caused the American troops to retreat to the Forty where they received reinforcements with orders to advance once again and eliminate the much smaller British forces. As a result of the Battle of the Forty, the American forces hastily retreated and no longer controlled any of the Niagara region except for Fort George.

Nelles Manor Museum commemorates this battle as much of it was fought on Robert Nelles' land and the site of the current Museum.

## June 24 - Nelles family Reunion

The day was filled with tours of the Manor House, area walking tours, tours of the Anglican Church cemetery where many of the Nelles family and Descendants are buried and also in the Church. Two of the Church's stain glass windows were donated by members of the Nelles family.

(Land for the erection of the church was donated by Robert Nelles and a further portion of land later by one of his Brothers.)

The Church Hall was a place for attendees to rest, have refreshments, view the early family trees of Robert and his siblings and other historical banners outlining many aspects of the family achievements and connections. Over forty family members attended.

Below are some of the attendees who all expressed their enjoyment for the day and the opportunity to connect with other family descendants.



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

Thank you to everyone who attended, donated documents/photographs and artifacts!

**Thank you** to our wonderful Volunteers who supported our June events and helped to make these historic moments possible.

Recognizing the role that the Battle of the Forty played in the establishment of Canada as a Country with a ceremonial flag raising and bringing family descendants of the UEL Nelles families together are important opportunities to recognize those moments that helped define our history in the history of the Manor and Grimsby

### Contact Us

[www.nellesmanor.ca](http://www.nellesmanor.ca)  
[info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca)

126 Main St. W.  
Grimsby, Ont. L3M  
1R8  
Phone: 289-235-7755



In July we have our Quilt Show on July 22. Combine this day with a visit to the Grimsby Museum where they have an ongoing display of Quilts and their development.

For more information, please email [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca) or [nelles.manor.info@gmail.com](mailto:nelles.manor.info@gmail.com).



### **Also upcoming:**

- August 7 – Kindred Spirits performance
- August 12 – Victorian Picnic

At Nelles Manor Museum we bring History to Life

## ★ Summer Hours

Wednesday to Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sunday 1:00 to 4:30 p.m.  
Last tour begins at 3:30 p.m.

★ We are pleased to report that the Grimsby Chamber of Commerce has decided to support Nelles Manor Museum from proceeds of their golf Tournament. We want to thank them for their support and for the golfers who attended. Our booth at the Tournament is shown below with Clara, our summer student, who was there to inform golfers and others about Nelles Manor Museum.



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

## ★ Murder at the Manor

This year our **October** event will be **Murder at the Manor**.

We are still in need of two actors a male 40 – 50 and a female 16 – 20. If you are interested in being part of this production, please email [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca). More information on dates and tickets to follow.

★ During June we welcomed visitors not only from Grimsby but also from Hamilton, Stoney Creek, Mississauga, Oakville, Thunder Bay, Delhi, Fonthill, Caledon Aurora and Brantford. Internationally we also had a visitor from Egypt.

## Summer Student

We are pleased to announce Clara as our summer student. This position was made possible by **Canada Summer Jobs**. We are grateful to the Federal Government for providing most of the funding for this important role for us. Clara will be helping to record and catalogue our archives, artefacts and family items. In addition, she will assist our tour guides in providing tours of the Manor.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**Ann Nelles**, Hendrick Nelles' only daughter and Robert Nelles' sister married **Charles Anderson**. He is described as a young Irishman who arrived at the Forty about July 1795. He and his wife were each granted 200 acres of land at the Forty. Ann was born in the Mohawk Valley in 1774 and fled with her mother and young brothers to Fort Niagara then into Upper Canada.

**Charles Anderson** was always active in the Town affairs. He was listed in the township council in **1793** as one of overseers of roads. In **1798** he was a collector and held various offices on the council and many early meetings were held in his house.

Charles and Ann are recorded to have had 11 children. Ann died in 1811 at the age of 37 during the birth of her youngest son Hugh. Both she and Charles are buried in St. Andrews churchyard

*Note: Above references from Annals of the Forty volume 3 published by the Grimsby Historical Society*

## Estate Planning

Nelles Manor is one of the few historical properties of original Loyalist built heritage left in Ontario. One of the ways to support the Manor is to include Nelles Manor Heritage House in your estate plans.

A donation from your estate or life insurance policy to the Manor could be supportive in a number of ways:

- To our annual operations
- or to an endowment fund where the income supports our annual preservation, maintenance and operations costs, or
- To a capital fund for major capital needs such as roof, equipment or other major purchases.

Consult your lawyer or accountant as to how to provide this type of support that will help ensure the continuing preservation of this important property.

## Volunteers -

### Volunteers Needed

Now that we are open for our summer season we are need of more volunteers. There are many opportunities that can suit your availability and skills. You can even learn new skills along the way. Meet new friends.

We are looking for tour guides, bakers, cooks, greeters, and more!

If you are interested, please contact [info@nellesmanor.ca](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca) or 289-235-7755.

The Garden group continues to work on the property and some of the flowers and plants are beginning to show colour. Bushes and shrubs are being relocated to enhance their growth and appearance. The butterfly garden continues to develop.

June was a busy month for our volunteers. Most of the time was spent on planning and supporting our two main events, the commemorative Flag raising and the Nelles Family reunion. In June our volunteers contributed **18%** of their time to property upkeep, **56%** to the monthly events, **9%** to administration and the rest allocated to tours, sewing of period attire, outreach and archives.

**Note:** The volunteer time for tours during events are included in the allocation for the event.

## 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** reciprocal agreement so that with your membership in Friends of Nelles Manor you also have free admission to several of the Niagara Region Museums.

The cost is only \$25 for single and \$40 for family and the contribution helps support our operations. This contribution helps us financially as we do not receive annual operational funding from any government level and 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](mailto:info@nellesmanor.ca).

One of the many tours during the Nelles Family reunion



Newsletter Editor  
B. Thompson

For more information on our events and activities refer to our website  
[www.nellesmanor.ca](http://www.nellesmanor.ca)

Thank you all for your encouragement and support and we look forward to a safe, healthy and successful 2023 year!