



NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

1798 Home and War of 1812 Battle Site

March 2024

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2024, Number 2

WELCOME

NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

Nelles Manor Museum is owned by Nelles Manor Heritage House, a non-government, not-for-profit volunteer driven organization.

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

The Museum also 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 a significant battle (the **Engagement at the Forty**) in the **War of 1812** that may have been an important part in the destiny of Ontario and Canada.

2024

Looking forward to the end of this month when we will provide a local school group with a tour of our historic home and property. While they can read about our history a tour of this 1798 home will bring that history to life.

We are working with local officiates to provide an optional venue for small weddings and people renewing their vows. This would take place in our historic drawing room where many, many early couples were married some 200 or more years ago. Those who wish to have a small service of 10 people or less will have the opportunity to have their service in one of the oldest homes in Ontario.

We are also grateful for the **Niagara Community Foundation** for their grant which will allow us to have 4 concerts of local artists during **2024** on the front lawn of the Manor this season.

We have booked 4 local artists and artist groups for the concerts. There will be a variety of music for all having a different style of music for each. The first concert will be near the end of June.

The concerts will be sold on an individual basis or as a series. Keep a look in further newsletters for more details



BASEBALL CAPS

We have a limited supply of great looking baseball caps embroidered with our name. They are available for \$25 each. Thank you to Calhoun Sportswear for their contribution and support of Nelles Manor Museum.



April 14 – April 20 is volunteer week in Ontario. We are a volunteer driven organization. We rely on our volunteers for almost everything. We will be holding an event at the end of that week to recognize and thank our many, many volunteers without whom we could not have been able to present our historic property and managed our many events.

Later in our newsletter you will see our request for volunteers. We welcome you and we have areas for you to contribute that you will enjoy. Come and be a part of our wonderful dedicated volunteers who bring their enthusiasm and knowledge and dedication to the world of our history.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Nelles Family had a major impact on the protection of the Upper Canada area, particularly in Niagara. This service is reflected below for the early years but the Nelles tradition on military service carried on through many generations as also noted at the bottom of the report.

In **1814** Robert Nelles was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel of the 4th regiment. In **1822** he was rewarded with a promotion to Colonel of his regiment. During the **War of 1812** the following members of the Nelles Family served in the various militias.

4th Lincoln – Robert Nelles Lt. Colonel;

Nelles Abraham (**Robert's Brother**) Captain (1797); Major (16Oct1814);

Nelles Henry (**Robert's Son**) Lieutenant (1812); Captain (1Jul1813) Taken prisoner, 25Jul1814. Removed to U.S.A;

Nelles William (**Robert's Brother**) Captain (25Jun1802)

Slightly wounded at Lundy's Lane, 25Jul1814;

Nelles John I. Private

2nd Lincoln – Nelles Warner (**Robert's Brother**) Lieutenant (1812);

Nelles Abraham Private Taken prisoner, 5Jul1814 at Chippawa

5th Lincoln – Nelles William Private Taken prisoner, 25Jul1814. Removed to USA.

Robert's son Henry served- at the battle of Queenston Heights and was taken prisoner at Lundy's Lane July 1814

1837 Upper Canada Rebellion

During the rebellion in Upper Canada in **1837** the 4th Lincoln Militia were called into service. Among the officers in the Regiment were several Nelles Family members as noted below with their dates of commission

Col. Robert Nelles - January 12, 1822;

Col. Henry Nelles -January 6 1838; (**Robert's Son**)

Captain William Nelles - November 5, 1827;

Lieut. George M. Nelles -June 7, 1833;

Lieut. Robert F. Nelles – August 28 1837. (**Robert's Grandson**)

1865 – Fenian Raids

Two local companies of militia volunteered for service to respond to the Fenian threats and invasion. One company was Captained by **William B. Nelles**. It is reported each company consisted of 55 men. Included in Capt. Nelles's command were

✓ Sgt. Samuel A. Nelles

✓ Beverly Nelles

✓ Cyrus S. Nelles

✓ Walter H. Nelles

✓ Ontario A. Nelles

Several generations continued in their service to Canada.

**At Nelles Manor
Museum
We bring History
to Life**

Lieutenant **Colonel C.M. Nelles** commander of the Royal Canadian Dragoons in **World War 1**. Eventually promoted to **Brigadier- General**. His two sons **Norman Cummings Nelles** (killed in France at the age of 21) and **Percy Walker Nelles** (sailor) also served in **World War 1**. Percy Walker Nelles continued to serve and eventually rose to the rank of **Admiral**.



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

New and Returning Friends of Nelles Manor

Bill Thompson & Wendy Hollinshead
Ron & Faye Zsadany
George and Nancy Nelles
Kate Pyatt
Shirley Pyatt
Carol Mazur
Lynn Riding
Lindsay Dobson
Robert Gibson
Jim Nelles
Marg Bowman
Bev. Jarvis
Lori Bruni
Linda & Tom Brock
Gord Edgar
Trudy Taylor-Fong
Christine Gudas-Murphy

Contact

www.nellesmanor.ca

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

Volunteers -

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

Volunteers Needed

As we begin a new year we look forward to the busy activities of presenting and preserving our important Historic property. These activities could not be done without our incredible volunteers.

We are looking forward to the return of our volunteers from the past year and greeting all those who wish to be a part of our 2024 year

Retired? / Bored?

**Is your spouse not used to you being home all day?
We have plenty for you to do!**

We have plenty of Dust and Repair and Teaching and Documentation for everyone.

We need Painters, Carpenters, Paint Scrapers, Archivists, Gardeners, Tour Guides, Dust Removers, Graphic Artists, Weed pullers, Bakers, Cooks, GreetersYOU

JOIN US

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

Become a Friend of 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

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 support through 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.** 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.

Board of Directors

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

Events Committee

Chair: Kerry Vandermolen
Cheryl Allen
Nancy Barons
Linda Coutts
Katherine Fisher
Karyn Henderson
Kate Pyatt
Carla Reid
Nancy Simon
Bill Thompson
Jennifer Toews

Contact Us

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Call For Candidates - Board of Directors

Nelles Manor is looking for people with an interest in history to join our Board of Directors. We are an operating Board in that members of the Board are expected to assist in the on-going operations and support our other volunteers in the many aspects of presenting and preserving our history.

Meetings are generally monthly. Committees are limited but Directors are expected to be a part of at least one committee.

We are looking for people with a passion for history and experience in Board service, governance and business.

If you are interested, please contact us at info@nellesmanor and we shall send you an opportunity to discuss your qualifications and our expectations in more detail.

Estate Planning

Nelles Manor is one of the few historical properties of original Loyalist built heritage homes 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.



✦ Victoria Day weekend is our opening weekend for Public tours.

We are working to arrange for a Festival on our opening Saturday with several local butter tart bakeries. Along with the butter tarts there will be several booths of homemade items by local crafts people. More to come as we get closer to the date.

✦ Prior to that is our **Mothers' Day Tea** in the historic home. More will be sent out prior to the event as to times etc.

Remember, Friends of the Manor receive advanced notice.

Group Tours can be arranged in the off-season by appointment and are depending on weather conditions.

Please contact info@nellesmanor.ca or 289-235-7755 for more information.



As this year begins, we look forward to a busy 2024 as we have planned many events to interest you and give us an opportunity to present this significant historic property to you.

Newsletter Editor
B. Thompson

For more information on our events and activities refer to our website
www.nellesmanor.ca