



NELLES MANOR MUSEUM

1798 Home and War of 1812 Battle Site

October 2023

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2023, Number 9

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126 Main St. W.
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2023

Murder at the Manor

In the last two weekends of October a wonderful group of volunteers brought a murder mystery to Nelles Manor Museum. **Murder at the Manor** was a who-dun-it **set in 1820**. Visitors were welcomed to the Manor of the of the Radcliffe family. They were greeted for their tour by the host and suddenly there is a scream! The visitors were then charged with the task of hearing from the suspects and discovering who the murder was. Everyone had a great time!

This was made possible by the commitment and dedication of a group of our volunteers who spent hours and hours over more than three months rehearsing and rehearsing to make sure everything was better than excellent. They were supported by greeters at the events who stood in the sometime cold and rainy outdoors to prepare the newly appointed constables who were directed to solve the mystery.

This was all supported by a director, who relentless edited the story many times to fit the actors and the circumstances. Her many hours and commitment to make this the best possible play, was certainly successful.

A couple of written comments from our visitors were

A Saturday visitor

“I really enjoyed it and so did the others I was with. The actors were well prepared, it was a good story and it was a fun way to experience the Manor.”

A Sunday visitor

“Thank you for this wonderful, interactive piece of theatre. Room by room, we were drawn into each “suspect’s” compelling story The opportunity for the attendees to briefly question any suspect we chose was a fabulous surprise twist. All in all, a most enjoyable evening! A standing ovation for the cast, hosts, director, stage managers, greeters and production team members!



Our cast and crew who made this possible

L to R Front Row: Hilary Jackson – Stage Manager; Jennifer Toews – Director/writer; Kerry Vandermolen – Stage Manager.

L to R Back Row: Paul Bryne – Lieutenant Malcom McDonald; Lori Bruni – Mrs. Maggie Mason; Elizabeth Bond – Rachel Radcliffe; Lathie Vannabouathong - Winifred Radcliffe; Kevin Humston – Col. Roger Radcliffe; Michael Maguire – Walter Radcliffe; Nikita Smit – Kitty Calloway; Graham Bellinato – Jacob Radcliffe; Joan Edwards – Host; Cheryl Allen – Host; Karyn Henderson – Host; Nancy Simon – Host; and Jennifer Connors – Host.

Also, thank you to our sponsors who helped make this possible

Charlie's Barber Shop; Donna's Fashions; Grimsby Glass and Mirror; Impact Financial Group; Jordan's Flowers; Master Mechanic; Zoi Ouzas ReMax Realtor; NewsNow and Lynn Fee Team.

Harvest Tea

We also must celebrate another successful Harvest tea. Again, this house full of visitors enjoying a great afternoon tea made possible by our creative and hardworking volunteers

The table was filled with special sandwiches and rich desserts accompanied by a great selection of teas. There was also a "Fashion Through the Ages" display for our guests to enjoy.

We must thank Forest of Flowers for their gift certificate, M. Cornwell for her beautiful fall wreath and Mingle Hill Farms for their donation of herbal tea.

Please support all of our sponsors, they make these events happen

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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At Nelles Manor
Museum we bring
History to Life



Just one of the many tables of visitors enjoying our special high tea events

✦ Coming Events:

Tickets on sale very soon

Christmas Tours – Sunday December 3 and Sunday December 10

Several timed tours each day

Tickets will be available on Eventbrite and by calling the office

Our Annual Christmas Reception

Enjoy an evening of refreshments, light music and the occasional Christmas carol, all in the ambiance of one of the oldest homes in Ontario

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

✦ **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.

It's Getting Close to Tax Time

You have many requests this time of year and we would hope you keep Nelles Manor in mind. Your donations are tax deductible we would rather you helped us to preserve and present this great heritage property than give money to the government.

Nelles Manor is **not** a government owned, operated or funded Museum. We depend on your support of our tours, events and your donations to protect and preserve this important aspect of our History.

We couldn't do it without you!

DID YOU KNOW?

- By **1804**, Niagara was producing **thirty two percent** of the Whisky made in the eight districts of Upper Canada.
- In the autumn of **1804**, the Crooks Brothers (Major early trading firm) bought **1,000 gallons of Whisky @ 4.5 shillings** per gallon from **Robert Nelles** worth approximately 225 English pounds.
- In **1806**, James Crooks wrote to **Henry Nelles (Robert's son)** while R. Nelles was in York (Toronto) attending to political duties at the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada. He asked Henry for **500 gallons of Whisky** at the price of Robert's choice.
- In **1806** a census of Grimsby showed that Robert Nelles owned 3,000 acres of land in Grimsby, three homes and had **161 gallons of Whisky in his still.**

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.

Thank You



Thank you to **Lynn Fee Team** for donation of a major gift basket. Also thank you to the hundreds of people who signed up to win this great gift.

Congratulations to Stacie Holmes the winner of the Lynn Fee Team basket!

Volunteers -

Volunteers Needed

While our year is coming to a close, we always need new volunteers as others move or become unable to serve. Call us and let us know your interests. We will find your special way to help.

We cannot operate without our dedicated volunteers who serve in so many ways.

Retired? / Bored?

Is your spouse not used to you home all day?

We have plenty for you to do!

We have plenty of Dust and Repair 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

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.



End of Season

Labour Day was the end of our season for walk-in tours.

Groups of five or larger can still apply for tours during the fall season by appointment.

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

SAVE THE DATE
November 28th, 2023



GIVINGTUESDAY

GivingTuesday is a time when Canadians, charities, and businesses come together to celebrate giving and participate in activities that support charities and non-profits; to thank, help, give, show kindness, and share what they have with those in need.

Every act of generosity counts. Everybody has something to give.

How can you be a part of **GivingTuesday**? You can give through the donation link on the Nelles Manor Museum website [Donate - Nelles Manor Museum](#) call for a credit card donation 289-235-7755 or by cheque to 126 Main Street West, Grimsby, Ontario L3M 1R8.

As this year draws to a close, we want to thank you for your tremendous support. We hope you will be able to join us for our last couple of events in December as we plan for our new season in 2024

Newsletter Editor
B. Thompson

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