

Richmond County Historical Society



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

NORMA HUSK

Hello Everyone!!

It has been some time since our last newsletter and we have much to share with you. Let me begin by saying that I hope you are all still keeping well and staying safe in these challenging times. We are happy to announce we will be open this summer!

To begin our season, we are grateful for the collaboration of the Eastern Townships Research Centre in sharing with us their outdoor exhibit “Black Histories in the Eastern Townships”. This exhibit is free and available at any time starting June 6th to October 9th, 2022. Bring your families and friends!

Indoors, in July and August, we are switching things up a bit and welcoming a number of our own homegrown artists who will display their creative efforts for your enjoyment. We are proud to welcome Daniel St. Amant, Jennie Johnston, and Sandra Picken-Roberts, and Tracey Hill among

those who will be joining us! The artists are generous in sharing a portion of their profits from the sale of their art forms in support of the RCHS. Please stop by to see their beautiful work and lend your support to them! You will find more details on the artists and their work further in this newsletter.

October 8th, the “Migratory Community Arts Festival October 2022: Literacy in Action” will be held at the RCHS! We are excited to be a part of this important community event and invite you to keep your eyes out for further information as October nears.

Updates:

Our Mural Project is very close to completion and is scheduled to be installed sometime in June! Keep watch for further information on our Facebook page: @RCHS.SHCR and local media.

We have made great headway with our ongoing Archives Project thanks to the efforts of interns Bethany Rothney and Natasha Truttmann who recently completed their contracts with us. We are most grateful for their expertise! A huge thanks to all who have helped in moving the archives to the upper floor of the building.

Your donations will help us to preserve the area's history for generations to come! This is an ongoing project and much remains to be done!

QAHN support via the Secrétariat for English-speakers has allowed us to create a wheelchair accessible washroom on the first

floor. Work will be completed in time for the summer season!

Membership: It's that time of year again! We invite you to renew your membership ahead of the Annual General Meeting to be held May 15th 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. via Zoom. Being a member in good standing is necessary to maintain your voting privileges at the meeting. Please see more details in this newsletter on both the AGM and membership renewals.

Wishing everyone a safe and healthy summer! We're looking forward to seeing you!

All the best,

Norma Husk



GET INVOLVED AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING

It's time to renew to get your say

The Richmond County Historical Society will be holding its Annual General Meeting on May 15, 2022 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. via a Zoom feed. All are welcome to attend. You must, however, register for this event by e-mailing president@rchs-shcr.ca before the end of the day May 10. The agenda and relevant documents will be circulated to registrants via email. A separate e-mail will be sent with the Zoom link. Please note that only members in good standing may vote – so renew your membership now!

BLACK HISTORIES EXHIBITION

With health restrictions easing, we are kicking off our first exhibition of the season. In collaboration with the Eastern Townships Research Centre, the Society will host the outdoor exhibit *Black Histories in the Eastern Townships*.

The exhibition will run from June 6 to October 9 2020. Admission is free. Bring your friends and family!

‘MUST SEE’ ARTISTS AT THE MUSEUM

In July and August, indoors, the museum will feature the work of local artists including Daniel St. Amant, Jennie Johnston, Sanda Picken-Roberts and Tracey Hill. Here is some information on some of our fascinating artists who clearly have a deep affinity for our region and all its beauty.

Daniel St. Amant grew up in Melbourne, Quebec. He graduated early from Champlain College with a degree in Fine Arts with a focus on painting. Later, he received his BFA from NSCAD University, in Halifax, Nova Scotia in 2005. He continued his studies by completing a graduate degree in VFX for film and television in Toronto. Daniel’s paintings create a vocabulary of wildlife in a new dialect of urban industrial aesthetics. His language is a mixed media that includes mosses, dried flowers, sticks, stones and crushed cement juxtaposed with staggeringly beautiful realistically rendered creatures.

social/Instagram @danielstamant

website: www.danielstamant.com



Jennie Johnston



Jennie grew up on Tee Brook Farm on Melbourne Ridge, Quebec. She received a pre-university degree in Fine Arts from Champlain Regional College and a BFA from Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick.

On the journey to find her artistic voice she began combining traditional craft techniques like embroidery and quilting with painting and fabric design. Her work has been displayed in solo and group exhibits in British Columbia, Ontario, the U.S, and Italy. She also contributes to social activist art projects from all over the world including Australia and Mexico.

Jennie has also worked with community members through artist residencies to expand knowledge about quilting, textiles and sewing.

She lives with her husband and two sons outside of Vancouver British Columbia, which is the unceded Traditional Coast Salish Lands of the Tsleil-Waututh (səlilw'ətaɬ), Kwikwetlem (k'wɪk'wəɬ'əm), Squamish (Sḵw̓x̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw) and Musqueam (x'wəθək'wəy'əm) Nations.



Born and raised in Richmond, **Tracey Hill**, (BFA, Concordia University), was well entrenched into the world of art at an early age with her father, Michael Hill, who was a local sign painter and fine artist, as well as her great-grandfather William Damant, who painted and studied with Frederick Simpson Coburn.

For over 15 years, Tracey was an art educator, high school principal and art lecturer in Montreal.

Tracey's main focus for 2022-2024 will be depicting scenes of her beloved hometown, in an attempt to bring attention to the beauty and historical significance of Richmond, a once bustling riverside whistle-stop that was heralded as one of Quebec's "gems"; even depicted on the reverse side of the Canadian two-dollar bill.



Sandra Picken Roberts grew up among a family of six children in Richmond. She is a self-taught artist and her maternal grandmother was also an artist. Her passion for history has allowed her to continue revitalizing the town of Richmond through art.

There have been many newspaper and magazine articles about Sandra. Her work was awarded the "People's Choice Award" at *Les Trésors de la Grange* Art Exhibition at the tourist information office in Val-Saint-François. She was recently selected to feature *Portrait des métiers d'art* dans le Val-Saint-François.

CENTURY PROPERTY CERTIFICATES

Century Property Certificates have been given by Richmond County Historical Society over a period of years. These certificates are given to residents whose family has lived on the same property for 100 years or more. As part of the 50th anniversary celebrations in 2012, Richmond County Historical Society granted twenty-two Century Property Certificates, six 150-year certificates and four for 200 years and more. Since 1967, 135 Century Property Certificates have been granted.

Without doubt, some families were missed. If anyone knows of a family that qualifies, meaning 100 years and more (1922 or earlier) on the same property, please contact Bev Taber Smith at 819-239-8804 or custodian@rchs-shcr.ca

Research News:

Robert Carr of Yellowknife has recently contributed an article “Early Postal System of Richmond County.”

Recent research on the settlement history of St. Mary of Ely (Maricourt) by Glen Carlin of St. Bruno entitled “Pioneer Irish Families of Maricourt” has, along with Mr. Carr’s article, been added to our website on our archives page at www.rchs-shcr.ca

Richmond County Historical Society – Membership Renewal

Name: _____ 2022 Membership (\$20) _____
Address: _____ Donation _____
_____ Note: only **donations** of \$20 and more are eligible
for tax receipts;

Phone # _____ E-Mail _____

Please choose to receive your newsletter by e-mail & help us to save printing and mailing costs. Yes ___ No ___

NEW: We are now accepting e-transfers for membership fees/donations. Please use one of the following e-mails for your transaction:

president@rchs-shcr.ca or treasurer@rchs-shcr.ca

or mail your cheque to:

Richmond County Historical Society
1161, Route 243, Canton de Melbourne, QC J0B 2B0

Your membership card and/or tax receipt will be mailed to you.

Please note: annual membership fees are not eligible for a tax receipt.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT. MERCI À TOUS DE VOTRE SOUTIEN.

Richmond County Historical Society

www.rchs-shcr.ca

@RCHS-SHCR

Preserving our local history since 1962