

HERITAGE CORNER

Moore Museum celebrates 40 years of heritage preservation



The 40th anniversary of the Moore Museum attracted a large crowd of well-wishers, volunteers, former volunteers, and curious residents, some of whom had never set foot on the museum grounds before. During her remarks, Moore Museum Curator Laurie Mason commented that people who visit the museum site are always pleasantly surprised by what they see. "People are surprised when they see the size of the museum," she said. "They are looking at the size of the community when they should be looking at the size of the heart of the community."

ABOVE: In the case of Connie and Michael Courtney, their story is closely linked to the museum. The rustic cabin they are standing in front of was actually built by Michael's great-grandfather around 1874. Now known as the Courtney Cabin, the building is one of 12 that now graces the Moore Museum site. A photo of Michael's great-grandmother, Elizabeth, hangs on the west wall of the building.



TOP RIGHT: Susan Shaw who, along with her husband, Scott, volunteered at the Moore Museum for 20 years before moving to London, watches the anniversary ceremony with her fascinated grandson, Miller.

RIGHT: Rev. Brock Saunders, who was present for the initial planning of the museum and was a member of the 1975 Moore Museum Board, recounts memories of the early days of the facility and of some of the first artifact donations made to it.

Left: Museum organist, volunteer, and steam engine enthusiast Jeff Searson and Ron McLean of Wallaceburg treated visitors to the Trinity Chapel with a stirring version of *Amazing Grace*. The instrument is a vintage Doherty Organ made in Clinton, Ontario. *Photos by Bonnie Stevenson*



VOLUNTEERS are always welcome at the Moore Museum, 519-867-2020, and Sombra Museum, 519-892-3982 (seasonal). A lot of opportunities are available, from helping with major projects to staffing the special events that take place. Call to find out how you can help and make new friends, too.

NEW BOOK! *Farm Stories, Volume Two* now at Sombra Museum

The second volume of *Farm Stories* is now available at the Sombra Museum.
The book is compiled and issued by the Sombra Historical Society.