

HERITAGE CORNER

Looking ahead: Tea, trains, and artistic talent at Moore Museum

On a cold February day, it's hard to recall the warm, gentle breezes of summer and all of the good things summer brings. At the Moore Museum, those good things include a Victorian Tea that takes us back to a the less hurried pace and the delectable morsels that always accompanied the oh-so-civilized afternoon tea. The summer is also about playful afternoons spent marveling at the scale model trains and the incredible Lilliputian land-



scape they travel through in the museum's model train room. And just before autumn signals the end of another St. Clair Township summer, the museum site becomes a shopper's paradise as a multitude of artisans and crafters fill the grounds with a million and one items to decorate the home, tempt the taste buds, and present the perfect gift for a special birthday, Christmas, or even the person doing the shopping. But best of all, summer is a time of exploration and the opportunity to satisfy your curiosity about the community you live in and how it came to be.

*See below for more details
and mark your calendars.*

Victorian Tea

The popular Victorian Tea has been a popular rite of spring for 20 years, treating visitors to the Moore Museum to a variety of delicious home-baked scones with butter and jam, and tea, coffee, or juice served at a proper linen covered table by volunteer Victorian wait staff like Emily, **above**, who is dressed in vintage attire from the Victorian Era. The tea takes place in a turn-of-the-20th Century cottage, **above right**, one of the restored buildings that graces the Moore Museum site in Mooretown. This year, the event is planned for Sunday, May 22 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. at a cost of \$7 per adult/senior, \$3 for children, and \$2 for preschoolers.

Model Train Time

Children of all ages will enjoy this opportunity for enhanced viewing of the many model trains. The volunteer engineers will be on site running the trains and answering questions on Sundays, July 24 and August 21 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Regular admission will apply.

Downriver Craft Sale

Enjoy a unique shopping experience amid over 80 tables of handmade goods and enjoy a lunch break as you shop on Sunday, Sept. 18 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafters can get more information by calling *the Moore Museum* at 519-867-2020 to be added to the mailing list. Admission is \$2 per adult and free for children under age 13.

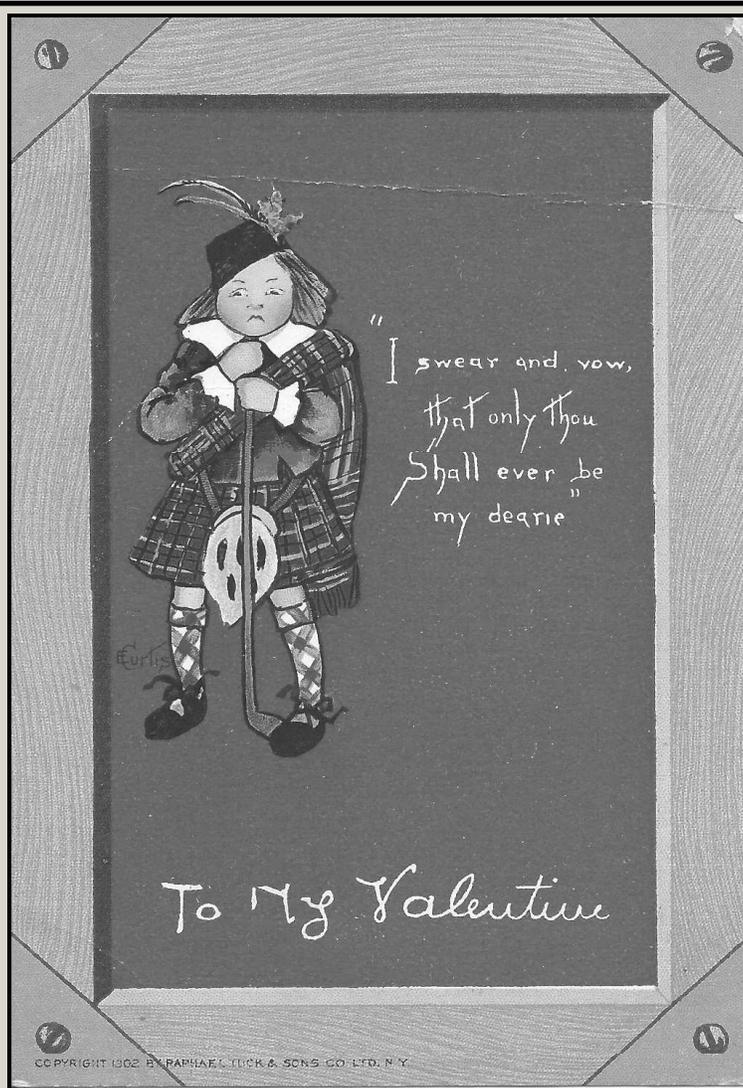
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Volunteers made 2015 a year of progress at Moore Museum

Curator Laurie Mason reports that 2015 was a year of great progress for the Moore Museum. "Fifty-eight volunteers contributed over 2,100 hours (of work)," she said. The volunteers took on a variety of projects including: renovations to the CNR caboose; the restoration of the Courtright fire boat; the construction of a display shelter for WWI memorials; the construction of various display cases; additions to the model train exhibit; maintenance of the museum's buildings and gardens; sewing of costuming for the use of museum volunteers and children in visiting school groups; and ongoing public programming activities such as tours and events.

Mrs. Mason says the volunteers provide services that are crucial to the operation of the museum. "We want to express a huge "thank you" to all of our volunteers for the time they dedicate to sharing their talents to help the Moore Museum grow and offer informative and enjoyable lifelong learning opportunities for visitors of all ages."

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



Here's a Valentine's Day blast from the past courtesy of the Moore Museum archives. In 1908, Miss Eliza MacKenzie of Bridgen received this charming card from an admirer in Detroit, Michigan.

Heritage St. Clair receives Creative County project grant

Heritage St. Clair has received a \$2,000 grant from Lambton County's Creative County Fund to help with the cost of a new interpretive plaque. The plaque, which will be installed in the Sombra waterfront park, recognizes the Rebellion of 1837-38, a conflict that saw raiding parties from the U.S. landing in the Port Lambton and Sombra areas. The purpose of the incursions was to oust British rule and turn Canada into a Republic.

This grant was one of four grants awarded during the latest round of Creative County Fund project applications. The remaining three include: \$3,880 to the Plympton-Wyoming Historical Society to enhance its Early Settlers and Post WWII Immigration exhibits; \$3,200 to the Lambton County Oral History Project,

which provides first-person audio and written accounts of everyday life in Lambton County. The results of this project will be featured on the Lambton County CIS cultural mapping site.; and \$19,500 to the South Western International Film Festival which is held in Sarnia. It offers films, screenwriter's workshops, a producer's workshop; and an actor's Master Class by some of Canada's top artists.

Since it began in 2013, the Fund has advanced \$218,705 to various projects throughout Lambton County. For more information about the Creative County Fund, visit www.lambtononline.ca and click on the "Creative County" tab under the "Residents" heading.