

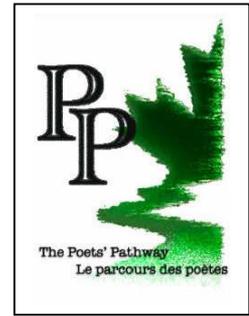
# The Pathway Post - May 2013

Hi Everyone,

Catching you up! Happy Spring!

## Grant

We are so very grateful to the City of Ottawa's Heritage Department for a grant we received this spring. Thank you!



On a chilly but lovely November day last fall, we unveiled two plaques, one to the Rideau River and one to the Ottawa, on the banks of the Rideau in Stanley Park, New Edinburgh.

Our speakers **included Councillor Peter Clark, Stephen Artelle, Jean Yves Pelletier, Ronnie R. Brown, Michel A. Thérien.**

We followed the unveiling with a delicious hot Thai lunch, catered by Nang Phalan.

(This photo and the next, taken by Gert Dreessen, are of Jane's Walk this year.)

## Jane's Walk

Our fourth Jane's Walk was in lovely, historic and literary New Edinburgh, Sunday, May 5, at 10 am. New Edinburgh is a cradle of Canada's 19<sup>th</sup> century literature, and this was a walk for poems and stories and historic homes.

It was a beautiful day with sunny skies and new leaves. We told stories about 42 Stanley Ave, 38 Charles St, and the Fréchette House at 47 MacKay St., and walked beside the river to see the new plaques there.



This walk included the sad story of Bessie Blair, the discovery of Alexander Lumsden's home on "Fair Stanley Avenue", a look at the one-time home of William Wilfred Campbell, poems about Henry Harper, and Alexander Lumsden, and poems about the rivers by Campbell, Lampman, Scott and Garneau.

Thanks for coming out! It was wonderful to see so many interested people.

### Concert!

Also in New Edinburgh. We are happy to announce a Poets' Pathway Concert of music and poetry on June 15, 2013, at 4 pm. at Memorial Hall, MacKay United Church, 39 Dufferin Street. Amongst the performers **are Ben Glossop; Nicolas Tremblay; Michel A. Thérien; Ronnie R Brown; The McGill Alumni Choir led by Joanne Tait; and the poetry contest prize- winners.**

Refreshments to hold you on your way home will be served after the concert.

There are more details to come, but put us on your calendar!

### Poetry Contest

We held our first poetry contest for high schools! Congratulations to the winners! In alphabetical order, they are: **Abigail Carleton, Adele Keyes, Emma McGinnis, Emilly Renaud, Elliot Setzer** and **Alexandra Thomas.**

Prizes will be awarded during our concert June 15.

Thank you to our capable and very experienced judge, poet **Ronnie R. Brown**, for her judging and her guidance, and to the poets who donated their books as prizes: **Daniel Boland, Mary Lee Bragg, Ronnie R. Brown, Blaine Marchand, Susan McMaster, Barbara Myers, Colin Morton, David O'Meara, Michel A. Thérien.** Thanks also to **Dorothy Jeffreys** and the Ottawa Public Library. Also, a big thank you to all the people who sent us poems, encouraged their students, or otherwise supported us, or the students who entered.

### Plaques

This year we are working on putting up a plaque along the Pathway in Rideau-Vanier, and on either in Alta Vista, or by the holding ponds near South Keys.

**Fundraising** is always important for us. It is more difficult for us this year, as we are dealing with surgeries this spring/summer. We hope to raise enough money to be able to put up a second plaque this year.

Our concert is one fundraiser. Our thanks go to Janice Seline who sold some of our plants for us at the Rare and Unusual Plant Sale in the Experimental Farm this Mother's Day.

We also plan to sell some tickets to a comedy put on by the Phoenix Players. The play looks like lots of fun and has some great reviews –

If you would like an evening with lots of laughter, and would like to help us out at the same time, think about buying a voucher from us for the Phoenix Players' production at the Gladstone in November. Tickets are \$18. and \$15., and we share in the proceeds of what we sell. Check out <http://www.phoenixplayers.ca/the-last-of-jane-austen/>.

We'll ask you later. And we will have vouchers available at the June concert.

## Other Events

It was lovely to see people at our **Springtime** party last month. We sincerely hope that that this event was not in any way responsible for Monday's minus 2 temperature.

We are working on other projects – some of which are making a Poets' Pathway movie, having library talks in the fall, holding a walk, a bike ride, and another poetry reading on Poet's Hill...

## And, btw

If you haven't seen this article in *Arc*, related to our Beechwood unveiling in 2010, you might want to have a look.

<http://arcpoetry.ca/?cat=62>

The next newsletter will be coming soon!

### Lines from **Ottawa**

Three are the cliffs, and three the winding rivers,  
High on the cliffs' crest risèth the crownèd town;  
    Three are the cliffs, and one the Fall with its thunder  
    Shaking the bridge while the river rolleth under,  
Flicking the wild white foam from its lips so brown.

Fair is the view when the morning mists are melting,  
Bridge and river and tree awake in the dark;  
    Fairer yet when the rosy clouds of vesper  
    Fire all the Gothic glass, and fair when Hesper  
Shoots at the blue his tiny silvery mark.

Outaouai! Whatever else betide her,  
Beauty is hers for a birthright sure and sweet,  
    And old Romance, could he see her rocks and ridges,  
    Could he stand but once on her spray-swept stormy bridges,  
Would grow young again as he cast himself at her feet.

### **Susie Frances Harrison "Seranus" (1859-1935)**

Harrison was a journalist and a prolific writer who lived in Ottawa during the early 1880s. Her first book, *Crowded Out and Other Sketches*, was published by the *Ottawa Evening Journal* in 1886. Harrison's most reprinted poem was "Ottawa", published in 1891 in *Pine, Rose and Fleur de Lis*. - Thanks to **Steven Artelle**