



CCHMA

COALITION OF CANADIAN HEALTHCARE MUSEUMS AND ARCHIVES

Newsletter

Coalition of Canadian Health-Care Museums and Archives (CCHMA) Volume 8, Number 2, 2007

A Welcome Change!

It is a particular pleasure to report that transmission of this newsletter to institutional and individual members of the CCHMA will henceforth come from the Museum of Health Care at Kingston. This means that the text will no longer be restricted to plain text as it has been in recent years. It also means that where desirable graphics of one kind or another may be incorporated. We are certainly grateful to the staff of the Kingston museum, in particular the museum's executive director, Dr. James A. Low, who more than any other single person was responsible for the founding of the CCHMA. We also owe particular thanks for the change in the transmission of the newsletter to the Kingston museum curator, Paul Robertson, another key figure in the level at which that museum operates and is recognized.



Plans for Dental Museum in New “Edmonton Clinic”

Dr. Geoffrey Sperber, Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, Dental/Pharmacy Centre, University of Alberta, Edmonton, reports on the planned dental museum in the Edmonton Clinic as a multi-health teaching and treatment facility of the University of Alberta to be open in September 2007. Among new publications are “Dentistry in the Wild West: The Roots of the Profession in Western Canada,” by Erika Dyck and Geoffrey Sperber, published in the *Dental Historian*, vol. 45 (July 2007):87-98.

*Dental Chair, The Ritter Dental Company, c 1930,
Museum of Health Care, 997.010.002 a-f*

Canadian Medical Hall of Fame 10th Induction Ceremony

The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, based in London, Ontario, held its 2007 induction of new laureates October 2nd at the Hilton London. New inductees included: Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw (1881-1982), Dr. Félix d'Hérelle (1873-1949), Dr. Jean Dussault (1941-2003), Senator Dr. Wilbert Keon (born 1935), and Dr. Endel Tulving (born 1927).

The Hall of Fame's Patron is Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michelle Jean, C.C., C.O.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada. Janet Tufts serves as Executive Director of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame. CCHMA members wishing to contact her may address her at The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, 267 Dundas Street, Suite 202, London, ON N6A 1H2. Phone: (519) 488-2003 or FAX: 519-488-2999 or www.cdnmedhall.org

The Ambrose McGhie Medical Museum

Projects realized in 2007 included induction of Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw into the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, as noted above.

Also included was a CD-Rom version of Dr. R. M. Scott's book: *Hamilton Doctors 1863-1935: Guardians of the City's Health*, published in 1995, but out of print for several years. It is now available through the Hamilton Academy of Medicine office for \$25.00, which includes shipping and handling. Those interested are advised to telephone (905) 528-1611 to place their orders.

Other projects planned for 2007 include: (1) Development of a webpage for the museum at Medicalmuseum.ca. This webpage will be linked to that of the Hamilton Academy of Medicine as part of a project which is progressing slowly. See: *Hamilton Doctors.ca*

Another project was the **Dr. Elizabeth Bagshaw Memorial Lectureship**, held 9 October 2007 at Liuna Station in Hamilton.

The museum also had a display concerning Dr. Bagshaw at the lecture. Dr. Bagshaw was a pioneer doctor best known for opening Canada's first Birth Control Clinic in 1932, despite tremendous opposition. She worked as the Clinic's medical director for 30 years and retired as Director of Planned Parenthood at the age of 86. She carried on a very busy practice in Hamilton until retiring at the age of 95. Physicians of the Hamilton Academy of Medicine established this free public educational lecture in 1983 in celebration and honour of Dr. Bagshaw's 100th birthday.

The 2007 lecture was presented by Sonia Anand, M.Sc., M.D., Ph.D., FRCPC, on the subject of "Women and Heart Disease: The Role of Estrogen."

The charity of choice at the lecture was Good Shepherd – Women Services, who were present to accept appropriate donations in kind and monetary.

British Society for the History of Pharmacy turns 40

The British Society for the History of Pharmacy celebrated the 40th anniversary of its founding 14 June 1967. A considerable portion of the Society's house organ, *Pharmaceutical Historian*, Volume 37, No. 2, June 2007, was devoted to the important milestone. Among other things, there is a list of the founding members, as well as the names and portrait photos of leaders of the organization over the period since its founding—all of those active in other pharmaceutical circles over a period of time. Among them is Dr. John K. Crellin, originally from Britain with qualifications in both medicine and pharmacy. He is well known to many of us in North America, where he has resided in both the USA and Canada, specifically Newfoundland for some years now, where he has served as John Clinch Professor of the History of Medicine at Memorial University. He has continued to produce his usual pharmaco-historical publications of great interest and value, such as *A Social History of Medicines in the Twentieth Century: To Be Taken Three Times a Day* (Pharmaceutical Products Press, an imprint of the Haworth Press, Inc., 2004).

The noteworthy 40th anniversary of the founding of the British Society for the History of Pharmacy in 1967, reminds us of the two other like organizations spawned earlier in North America. The first was the American Institute of the History of Pharmacy (AIHP), founded in 1941 in Madison, Wisconsin, where world famous historian of pharmacy George Urdang had taken up residence after fleeing from Nazi Germany to accept a welcome from the then current exemplary dean of the University of Wisconsin School of Pharmacy, Edward Kremers, who had recognized the importance of the history of pharmacy to the profession.



Drawing on the strong example of the AIHP, G. R. Paterson of the University of Toronto--did his Ph.D. degree at the University of Wisconsin with a major in pharmaceutical chemistry and a minor in the history of pharmacy--while George Urdang was still active there. When Paterson returned to his position at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, he promoted the founding of the Canadian Academy of the History of Pharmacy (CAHP) in 1955 and served as its first director. Both the AIHP and the CAHP continue today and certainly wish all the best for BSHP, “the newer kid on the block!”

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH, Toronto): Restoring an Interesting Piece of History

Occasionally, the editor of the CCHMA newsletter receives contributions that stand well on their own. This struck me as a good example of such, produced by our long-term correspondent, John Court of the Archives for the History of Canadian Psychiatry and Mental Health Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, 1001 Queen Street West, Toronto. Those individuals who may wish to interact with John may reach him by phone at: (416) 535-8501 extension 2172; or by e-mail at: John_Court@camh.net

Securing the Future of Our Past

CAMH Heritage Wall Repairs Underway

This (2007) summer, the first phase of repair began for the 120 year-old Heritage Wall that borders much of the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH, Toronto) site at 1001 Queen Street West. The stretch of Heritage Wall on the western portion of the site will be the first section to be repaired as part of the Queen Street redevelopment project. The goal of this work is to protect and preserve the historic and cultural value of the wall for future generations.

The 19th century patient-built asylum boundary walls are an enduring monument to the abilities of the patients who built them,” said Geoffrey Reaume, Associate Professor of Critical Disability Studies at York University.

The repairs to the Heritage Wall will be guided by CAMH’s Heritage Conservation Strategy. ERA Architects developed the strategy and will be directing the repairs—their wide portfolio of heritage architecture projects includes Toronto’s Distillery District and the Flatiron Building.

The program will include extensive repairs to the foundation of the West Wall and the replacement of thousands of chipped, decaying or completely absent bricks along the east and west faces of the wall. As one can imagine, finding a suitable source of matching bricks to repair a 120 year-old structure is a major challenge. Two approaches will be followed. Contemporary bricks will be “tinted” to match the colour and texture of existing bricks and used to repair parts of the wall that must endure a fair amount of wear and tear—next to the laneway for example. Replacement bricks will also be sourced from the sections of wall that are to be dismantled to make way for future public roads.

In accordance with our Master Plan, Adelaide Street West is to be extended onto the Queen Street site in a future phase of the project, but the alignment of the street does not match the existing opening in the wall, requiring the removal of about 25 metres of the Wall along Shaw Street. This segment of the Heritage Wall will be carefully disassembled so that its bricks can be preserved and used to repair the Western Wall, to ensure that it retains its historic integrity. Overall, 96 per cent of the Heritage Wall will be retained and repaired as part of CAMH’s redevelopment project on Queen Street.

Many will know that the Heritage Wall was originally built with the unpaid labour of patients who resided on this site in the late 19th Century. Today, the repairs to this Wall will be an opportunity for those dealing with mental health and addiction issues to again demonstrate their skills.

CAMH clients will participate in the repair project as paid masonry apprentices and construction labourers, and will receive the training and skills they need to pursue a career in the construction industry. “For the apprentices to see the completion of this work while engaged in paid productive work and skills training will go a long way in assisting our clients in realizing their full citizenship potential,” said Diana Capponi, coordinator of CAMH’s *Employment Works!* Program.

Walls that were originally used to confine patients can now be used to liberate their history by allowing these bricks to challenge long existing prejudices that people with a psychiatric history are not capable workers. How much more capable can you get than building a structure that lasts for over one hundred years in a busy part of Toronto?!” added Professor Reaume.

The repair program began in the third week of July with the dismantling of 25 metres of the Shaw Street Wall. Repairs to the Western Wall have commenced, beginning with foundation work. The Western Wall will be fully repaired by October 2007. To learn more about the long and intriguing history of the Heritage Wall, please dial extension 1530 at CAMH, 416-535-8501, for a narrated history of the Wall and those who built it.

The Museum of Health Care at Kingston

Without question, this museum remains the most active and productive in Canada among the CCHMA members. In large measure that results from the fact that Dr. James A. Low, the museum’s executive director, recognized the need for and was personally responsible for promoting the organization of the Coalition of Canadian Health-Care Museums and Archives, CCHMA, and personally continues to actively support its objectives. Equally important to the day-to-day operation and varied programs and activities are its staff, particularly the curator, Paul Robertson.

Presentation on 19th Century Health Care. Originally scheduled for September, this event has been postponed to **November 28**. To make it more interesting, the evening begins with a ferry ride to nearby Wolfe Island’s, then a two-minute walk from the dock to the township hall. There, as part of the Island Historical Society, the Kingston Museum’s education officer will make a presentation about “Nineteenth-century Health Care,” beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Education Program. The basic goal of the longstanding program remains to instill children with a lifetime interest in medical science and health care, as well as to provide teachers with ideas for creating that interest in terms of its importance, science, and history. For further information call the Education Officer, “Marjorie,” at (613) 549-666, ext. 3916 or check: <http://www.museumhealthcare.ca/educationprograms.html>

A Busy October

October 5: The Elevator Starts Operating

After much planning, the museum's long-planned elevator started operating officially October 5th with a reception. This makes the museum fully accessible to those individuals—visitors, staff, and volunteers---who found the original stairs a serious challenge to view the museum, as well as to transport artifacts more easily and safely. The elevator became a reality with the multiple help of the Department of Canadian Heritage, The Lillian and Leroy Page Foundation, and The Anna and Edward C. Churchill Foundation.

October 12-14: Homecoming Weekend

The Museum offered tours all three days of Queen's University's traditional homecoming from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday through Sunday. The Museum does so, no doubt, since it occupies an historic building on campus that formerly housed Nursing students.

October 15: Health Care in Early Kingston

Museum staff made special presentations--with Museum artifacts included as needed—as part of the Fall Free Queen's University Lecture Series.

October 18: Annual Margaret Angus Research Evening

This free presentation, given by the Museum's research scholar for 2007, Andrea Terry, concentrated on the life and work of the late local artist Marjorie Winslow, who had created wax medical sculptures in the 1940's for Queen's University's Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology.

New and Ongoing Exhibits

New Exhibit on “Portraying the Profession”

Beginning in September, Museum visitors could view an exhibit about medical portraiture. Featured in the exhibit is an oil portrait of Thomas W. Reynolds (1820-1859), the great grandfather of the donor's late husband. Although the Museum of Health Care has on loan a number of paintings of early Canadian doctors, this particular one, by as yet an unidentified artist, is one of the first and earliest in the Museum's permanent collection.

Portraits have served the medical profession for a considerable period of time, beyond merely capturing a good likeness of the individual, also as powerful symbols. They do so as a form of collective self-definition and as a record of changing values in the field. Portraits, such as that of Dr. Reynolds of Brockville, Canada West, should provide a better understanding of the practice of portraiture, as well as medicine, and the meaningful relationship between the two.



Postcard, Rockwood Asylum, circa 1907, Museum of Health Care, 999.037.001

Rockwood Asylum: Refuge and Renewal, 1877-1905

A new Museum of Health Care outreach gallery opened in March at the Providence Continuing Care Centre (recently renamed “Providence Care”) Mental Health Services site. The new gallery houses a long-term exhibit exploring the dynamic era at the end of the 19th century when the treatment of the mentally ill was transformed from one of hiding the afflicted from society to one of treatment and rehabilitation. The exhibit is open during the building’s public hours, in the Westwood Building, 752 King Street West.

Museum Hours

During the Fall and winter, the Museum of Health Care is open Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is by donation. For the location on the grounds of the Kingston General Hospital, see below. Street and underground parking are available nearby.

Fall/Winter Tours

The “Astonishing Past of Kingston General Hospital” Walking Tour and Exhibit Tours at the Museum are available by appointment throughout the fall and winter. Arrangements may be made by calling (613) 548-2419 or via e-mail at: museum@kgh.kari.net

Museum Memberships

Museum memberships are available at a modest \$25 for individuals; \$35 for a family; and \$15 for students and seniors. Members receive copies of the Museum's newsletter, *The Bailliewick*, twice a year; invitations to special events and openings; and discounts on some programs. See the item above for contact information.

For more information about the Museum of Health Care, see: www.museumofhealthcare.ca

The Museum of Health Care at Kingston
Ann Baillie Building National Historic Site
32 George Street
Kingston, ON, K7L 2V7



Trade Card, Dr. Dennis' System Renovator & Blood Purifying Syrup, before 1906, Museum of Health Care, 996.001.670

The Niagara Apothecary Museum

The Niagara Apothecary Museum in Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario is pleased to report attendance of more than 89,000 visitors during the season from May (Mother's Day weekend) daily to Labour Day, then weekends to Canadian Thanksgiving and "Doors Open Niagara" (on both sides of the border). Attendance was down slightly from previous years, but helped considerably by approximately 2,400 visitors for the "Doors Open" weekend alone.

The Museum is also able to report some 3,300 hits on the Apothecary's presence on the OCP website for the period April through September. The easiest

access to what is a new edition remains: www.niagaraapothecary.ca However, those inclined to a more complicated access may now use: <http://www.ocpinfo.com/client/ocp/OCPHome.nsf/web/The+Niagara+Apothecary> The latter provides access to the former as part of a broader view of the activities of the Ontario College of Pharmacists, the licensing body for the province.

Future Issues of this CCHMA Newsletter

We welcome information about the activities of any of our members, institutional or individual. One convenient way for you to keep us informed is by putting us on your mailing list for your own newsletters, annual reports, news releases (both e-mail and hard copy), and anything else you may wish CCHMA members to know. Perhaps you have recently visited other health-care museums or other notable exhibits of interest and would like to share your impressions with other members. We would be happy to have them. We would also appreciate any comments, good or bad, you may have about this newsletter.

Thank you, Ernie

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