

SOUTH FRONTENAC MUSEUM

Bringing our history, art, and culture to life
www.southfrontenacmuseum.ca



Thank you, John McDougall

After many years of dedicated service, John McDougall is once again stepping into retirement – this time, it might just stick! From leading countless grant applications to supporting events, mentoring students, and always stepping in wherever needed, John has been an invaluable part of the Museum’s success.

On behalf of the Museum Society and the Township of South Frontenac, we extend our sincere thanks to John for his commitment, leadership, and lasting contributions. We wish him all the very best as he begins this next chapter.



John pictured with Miriam Clavir

Museum Executive Board

At the first meeting of the Board of Directors for 2026, the following were elected as the Museum Executive:

Past President: Wilma Kenny (Ex-Officio)

President: Laurie Gordon

Vice-President: Michael Payne

Treasurer: John Sherbino

Secretary: Janet Revell

Member-at-Large (Curator): Denise Tipton

Member-at-Large: Mary Lou Quenneville

South Frontenac Township, Council Representative: Councillor Ray Leonard

South Frontenac Township, Manager of Facilities and Recreation: Tim Laprade

South Frontenac Township, Recreation and Events Coordinator: Amanda Pantrey

Honorary Life Member: Ken Brown

Are you interested in being a docent?

Can you spare a couple of afternoons to join our docent team this summer? A docent is a trained volunteer who welcomes visitors to South Frontenac Museum.

A training session will be held on Thursday, April 23. For more information, please contact Lynne Hutcheson at 613-374-1470.

Welcome to our new Board Members!

Michael Payne – Vice President



Michael Payne

Michael studied Canadian history at Queen's, the University of Manitoba, and Carleton before pursuing a career as a research historian with Parks Canada and the Alberta Historic Sites Service. He also worked as the City of Edmonton Archivist and is the author of numerous books and articles, primarily on western Canadian history. He now works part-time as a freelance historian and editor with a particular interest in community history. In addition to

serving on the South Frontenac Heritage Advisory Committee, he is an active member of the Ottawa Civic Hospital Neighborhood (CHNA) History and Heritage Committee and is currently working on a history of the evolution of that community from the late 19th century to the 1980s.

Janet Revell – Secretary



Janet Revell

Janet (née McDougall) retired as an administrator from the Limestone District School Board. She and her husband, Tom, were both raised in South Frontenac and continue to live in the Verona area where they raised their twins, Jack and Alex. Her father has been an active member on the board and sought her help in updating the historical walk and inputting data on donated artifacts, which spurred an interest in becoming more involved. Janet is looking forward to learning more about the rich history of our area from the very knowledgeable members and our community.

Mary Lou Quenneville – Member at Large



Mary Lou Quenneville

Mary Lou retired from Sun Life as a Rehabilitation Consultant. She has two daughters and two granddaughters who are currently being raised in the family home in Piccadilly/Godfrey. Mary-Lou (née Daley) was raised on a century farm outside Ottawa that has been in her family since 1832. Her father, Michael Daley, was a co-founder of the Osgoode Township Historical Society in Vernon, Ontario. Mary-Lou is pleased to be part of the South Frontenac Museum and has a strong interest in ancestry and history.

Treasurer's report and an invitation to join us...

New members are always welcome to join the South Frontenac Museum Society. If you're interested in becoming a member, please contact John Sherbino, Treasurer, at southfrontenacmuseum@gmail.com.

Membership plays an important role in supporting the Museum, as our

provincial grant funding is based on the number of active members. We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has recently renewed or joined – Your \$20 annual membership helps support the events, programs, and activities we offer throughout the year.

If you have not yet renewed, you can do so by mailing a cheque (payable to *The South Frontenac Museum*) to:
5595 Road 38, Hartington, ON K0H 1W0.

We also encourage you to help spread the word – Whether by sharing our exhibits or inviting others to attend upcoming events. Your support helps our museum continue to grow and thrive.

2026 operating hours

We are excited to welcome visitors back to the museum starting on Saturday, May 16th. From then on, the Museum will be open every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday throughout the summer all the way until Saturday, September 5th.

Our hours are from 1pm – 4pm, or by appointment by emailing southfrontenacmuseum@gmail.com.



The Museum in the summer

2026 schedule at a glance

- Thursday, April 23rd, 10am – Docent training
- Saturday, May 16th, 1pm – Opening day
- Saturday, May 16th, 2pm – The Village Blacksmith 2026 Presentation
- Saturday, June 13th, 10am- 2pm – Treasures in the Attic
- Saturday, July 4th, 10am- 4pm – Museum display, Bedford Historical Society Event at Glendower Hall
- Saturday, September 5th, 9am- 2pm – Verona Lions' Garlic Farmer's Market
- Saturday, October 3rd, 10am- 4pm – Battersea Pumpkin Festival

Condolences to the Osborne Family

The Museum Society was sorry to read of the death of Dr. Brian Osborne. This remarkable historian was a deeply appreciated mentor of our museum in the early planning years and a source of pride and respect as a preservation advocate in the broader Canadian community.



The late Dr. Brian Osborne

The Village Blacksmith in 2026: Stefan Duerst

Although the tools created by the blacksmith in the mid 1800s are no longer as much in demand, blacksmith skills are still valued today. Join us at the museum on **Saturday, May 16 at 2:00 pm** to learn how traditional techniques have evolved into metal fabrication practices that produce practical and ornamental items for the modern world.

After completing an apprenticeship in metal design, fabrication and blacksmithing, Stefan Duerst worked under a Master Blacksmith before earning his Masters of Metalwork. From his studio in South Frontenac, he produces work that has garnered international praise. His sculptures are displayed in highly regarded galleries in Canada and beyond.



Stefan Duerst with one of his beautiful art pieces

Treasures in the Attic

Its back! Treasures in the Attic will be hosted at the Museum on Saturday, June 13th from 10am – 2pm.

Appraisers Michael Gemmell (Furniture and Fine Art), Wilma Kenny (Lighting and Primitive Items), Sarah Hale (Visual Arts) and Reg Peterson (Farm Equipment) will be on hand to share their expertise.

Spectators welcome!



Treasures in the Attic poster

The Bedford Historical Society Presents: Surrounding History – Bedford Opportunities

Join the Museum and the Bedford Historical Society for a three-part Open House event at Glendower Hall, 1381

Westport Road, on Saturday, July 4th, 1:00pm to 4:00 pm. The open house will feature:

- 1pm – 2pm – Posters, Displays and Authors Book Corner
- 2pm – 3pm – Keynote presentation “The Tetts and Chaffey’s – Bedford Townships’ Earliest Entrepreneurs”, by Dr. John Gray, great-great-great grandson of Benjamin Tett Sr.
- 3pm – 4pm – Posters, Displays and Authors Book Corner

For more information, contact: bedfordhistoricalsociety2019@gmail.com

Seasons Greetings from the Museum Team

Wishing everyone a very happy spring, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to the Museum in May!



An Easter themed postcard from Wilma Kenny's collection