

9th Grey County Black History Event and Launch of *Northern Terminus*, Vol. 8

Terri Jackson and Karin Noble



Alan Barfoot, Mayor of Georgian Bluffs,
and Event organizer, Terri Jackson

In the past, the Grey County Black History Event has always been held in the spring, but in 2011, for the first time, the Event was held on Saturday February 12, in order that it could mark the occasion of Black History Month. The launch of Volume 8 of the *Northern Terminus Journal* occurred immediately following the Event at 2:30 p.m. that afternoon. All of the day's proceedings took place at Grey Roots Museum & Archives, located south of Owen Sound in the Municipality of Georgian Bluffs.

The morning of February 12 proved to be especially snowy and windswept, but organizers and attendees soldiered on with the schedule as planned. The day began with greetings from MC and Event organizer, Terri Jackson (Blaine Courtney also coordinated the Event, with the Event Committee being a sub-committee of the Emancipation Celebration Festival). VIP greetings were also delivered by Arlene Wright, Grey County Warden; Alan Barfoot, Municipality of Georgian Bluffs Mayor; and Colleen Purdon, City Councillor for Owen Sound on behalf of City Mayor, Deb Haswell.

Rev. Bill Harris of Owen Sound's British Methodist Episcopal Church had warmly accepted the organizing committee's invitation to begin the day with prayer, and it was with regret that the committee learned of his passing only a few days before the Event took place. Rev. Heather McCarrel and Rev. David Steed offered prayers on behalf of "Rev. Bill".

By 11:30 a.m., the sun had popped out and the skies cleared to a frosty blue, dotted with a few fluffy clouds. Wanting to have their insides warmed up, our attendees were curious about the lunch menu on this blustery day in Grey County. Terri announced rolls and cold cuts, and following an apple theme pertinent to Black History, a soup called "Mulligatawny" made from apples, bananas and curried chicken. Although some attendees were puzzled by such a



Colleen Purdon, City Councillor
for Owen Sound

concoction, they were soon smiling at the taste. To top off the menu, apples were served for dessert, donated by Binkley's Orchards of Thornbury.

Presenters:

Les MacKinnon presented on the topic of the Old Durham Road, also giving a wider historical context.

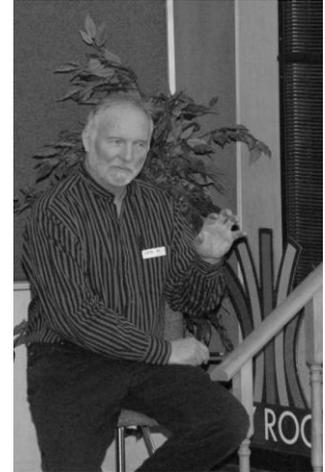
Peter Meyler spoke of his interest in uncovering local pioneer era interactions between Aboriginal people/groups and Black settlers.

Taya Kendall and her mom, **Rebecca Kendall**, read from the Robert Munsch book *Braids* via Skype. This book was published by Taya and illustrated by students at her school as a fundraising project for Kenyan relief. Taya is the grand-daughter of the late musician and Owen Sound resident, Jimmy Wayner.

Janie Cooper-Wilson – discussed her new book, *Echoes in the Hills: My Eighteen-Month Search for John Brown's Legacy*, to be launched in April 2011.

Terri Jackson spoke on the topic of "My Adventures in Grey County's Black History".

Following the formal presentations, attendees, as well as other visitors to Grey Roots, had an opportunity to enjoy the *Northern Terminus* Journal Launch celebratory cake, coffee, tea and juice, while listening to the beautiful music of Roselyn Brown and company.



Les MacKinnon



Peter Meyler



Celebratory Cake



Janie Cooper-Wilson