FOGUS St. John Council for Ontario





Focus

St. John Council for Ontario



IN MEMORIAM

Harry Hammond



Harry
Hammond,
holding his
book,
Yesteryears,
with former
Lt.-Gov.
Lincoln
Alexander

The passing of Harry Hammond, at the age of 80, in February of this year marks the end of a remarkable life devoted to serving both St. John and the community as a whole. Harry had been a member of the Toronto Brigade (now Community Services) for a total of 59 years and was still actively performing duties as recently as one month prior to his passing.

Harry served St. John both as an employee and volunteer, building up a solid reputation throughout the province for his reliability and professionalism. One of his most memorable experiences was duty at the famous 1964 Beatles concert at Maple Leaf Gardens where he helped hysterical teens recover from the effects of Beatlemania. Other highlights were the Maple Leafs' Stanley Cup event and Billy Graham Crusades, also in the 60s.

Throughout the years, Harry maintained a terrific sense of humour and was always ready with an anecdote designed to bring a smile to everyone's face. In recent years, he continued to support Toronto Branch activities including the construction of the muchheralded Heritage Room at 46 Wellesley Street East. In 2001, Harry built the bicycles now used in our recently formed Bicycle Unit and continued to perform duties on a regular basis for the branch. Harry's most recent labour of love was the creation of *Yesteryears*, a book that provides a moving history of our roots in Ontario.

Although we all feel a deep sense of loss over Harry's passing, we at St. John will always remember the contribution Harry made to our organization. His commitment to St. John never faltered and the memories left behind will be treasured by all of us who knew him.

John Gleason

John Gleason, Chair of the London Branch, died unexpectedly and suddenly on October 30, in his 48th year.

"The recurring and unequivocal comment from those who knew John was that he was truly an extraordinary leader and kindhearted man," says London Frie Chief, David Hodgins who served with John on the branch board. "During his eulogy John was described as a giver and a cheerleader, as a quiet giant with a great sense of compassion, justice and fairness. For me, he was a bona fide leader and he did make a difference."

John's wife, Britta and parents, Molly and Amold received John's posthumous admission into the Order of St. John from the Lord Prior at Notre Dame Basilica in Ottawa on November 14.



St. John Council for Ontario Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal Recipients

Congratulations to the following volunteers and staff who were recipients of the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, from St. John Council for Ontario. We would also like to congratulate those members of St. John who received this honour from other national and provincial organizations.

William	Alexander	River Drive Park	Jim	Lai	Toronto
Thomas	Allan	Hamilton	Royal	Lawrence	Huntsville
Sarah	Band	Toronto	Anthony	Lea	Waterloo
Debbie	Bath-Morrison	Elora	Ron	Lebel	Sudbury
Ben	Bebee	London	Patsy	Lebel	Sudbury
Richard	Bochenek	Georgetown	Gerry	Lougheed	Sudbury
Bob	Brathwaite	Toronto	Geoffrey	Lougheed	Sudbury
Hugh	Brennan	North York	Carl	Mason	Barrie
Michael	Bull	London	Carmie	McCormack	Mississauga
Adam	Carter	Fenwick	Roderick	McLeod	Thunder Bay
David	Chilton	Islington	Crick	Merry	Collingwood
Lorne	Clark	Toronto	Ernie	Mierau	Kingston
Brian	Cole	Stoney Creek	Les	Morrison	Elora
Sharon	Cole	Stoney Creek	Esther	Nicholas	Brantford
Chris	Coles	Komoka	Rock	Nolet	North Bay
Ralph	Congdon	Barrie	Gail	Opaleychuk	Scarborough
Donald	Cook	South Porcupine	Alex	Percy	Hamilton
Wayne	Cotnam	Pembroke	Keith	Perron	Guelph
Robert	Douglas	Toronto	Bernice	Price	Hamilton
Eamonn	Doyle	Oshawa	Ric	Rangel-Bron	Toronto
Dave	Emmons	Trenton	Dianne	Rende	Mississauga
Bud	Eyre	Brockville	Richard	Rotherham	Newmarket
Wayne	Faithfull	Mississauga	Gordon	Sheppard	Atikokan
David	Fretz	Guelph	Paul	Sims	Markham
Jason	Goodfellow*	Burlington	Donald	Smith	Markham
John	Goudreau	Sudbury	Samantha	Smith	Markham
Barbara	Graham	Willowdale	Terrence	Wardrop*	Burlington
Colleen	Greer	Scarborough	Lee	Watchorn	Toronto
John	Hayter	Barrie	Lil	Waters	Belleville
Walter	Ireson	Elmira	Carl	Weber	Walkerton
Brian	Jarrett	Sudbury	Alaric	Woodrow	Hamilton
Gary	Johnson	Thunder Bay	Geoff	Wybrew	Hamilton
Art	Jordan	Kingston	Robert	Young	Fort Frances
Ron	Kelusky	Markham	Anne	Young	Thunder Bay
Sandra	Ladd*	West Lyn			

^{*} by the President of Council through the prerogative of the Lieutenant Governor of Ontario

Exciting Mix of Topics Planned for Annual Conference

Success Through Learning is the theme of the 2003 St. John Ambulance Conference at Humber College, Toronto, May 2-4.

Delegates will have an opportunity to:

- Pick up tips, techniques and ideas from today's experts
- Meet and share insights with peers from across the province
- Design their own curriculum to meet their personal needs
- Refresh and recharge by taking a weekend away from their regular routine

New this year are the conference site; extended workshop hours; an all inclusive registration fee (covering workshops, handouts, exhibits, meals, accommodation, welcome reception and gala dinner) and a closing session to answer any remaining questions.

Delegates can choose from sessions specifically designed for branch managers and other branch staff, community services members, instructors, and Branch Board members.

For more registration information contact Registration Co-ordinator, Paula Anglin at (416) 923-8411 ext. 237 or 1-800-268-7581.

FOCUS St. John Council for Ontario



Ontario First to Pilot Youth Leaders' Course

Twenty Youth Leaders from across Ontario were the first students to pilot the new St. John National Youth Leaders' Course in Toronto in February.

Students were selected to represent all stages of

leadership development. "We were fortunate enough to gather participants ranging from young people with a basic understanding of our youth program to those with a great deal of experience," savs Provincial Cadet Officer Don Smith. "We hope to address the needs of all of our youth leaders taking the course."



Youth Leaders review materials during pilot training session

Ontario is the first of three provinces to pilot the training session. Funded by a grant from La Fondation J. Armand Bombardier, the National office has been developing the course with the help of youth leaders from across Canada since the fall of 2001. It is the second phase of a project to develop a common curriculum and set of tools for youth leaders across the country. The first phase was the development of a Youth

Leaders' Manual, released in the fall of 2000, to be used as a textbook for the course.

The 16-hour, two-day course, is designed to be taught in five modules; providing organizers with the flexibility to run it as an evening course

> over a period of time, or as a concentrated weekend course; which is likely to be the model for Ontario. "We expect to see the final youth leaders course delivered throughout our province in a similar fashion to our provincially developed Volunteer Administration Development and Volunteer Management Development courses," says Don. "

He says the course may

become a requirement for future youth leader officer appointments throughout Canada. "With the feedback obtained from our Ontario participants; along with feedback from Alberta and New Brunswick, we hope that National will be prepared to deliver this course in a controlled, accredited fashion to improve and strengthen our youth program for the future."

Hundreds Expected at Youth Rally

It's time for St. John Youth to clear their calendars and make room for Rally 2003. This year's rally, now named ICE'03, is slated to return to the University of Waterloo, August 2

The John Youth Rallies have become an anticipated tri-annual tradition in Ontario since the mid-eighties. In recent years, RAP'94, JAM'97 and R2K (Rally 2000) rewarded hundreds of our cadets and crusaders, from across Ontario, with a memorable experience. CadetsOnline (www.cadetsonline.ca), one of our most successful online resources, was conceived from discussions held at JAM'97.

Past rallies have attracted between 300 to 500 participants. Our youth (11 - 18 years) have the opportunity to exercise leadership, gain self-confidence and develop teambuilding skills through physical, intellectual and artistic events. Our older youth, adult and youth leaders gain the opportunity to plan, organize and execute an event of this size.

We expect further details to be released monthly via our JUST THE FACTS Monthly Youth Newsletter. Registration Packages should be available online and through bunk mail by April with advanced registrations required before June 30.



SAMANTHA MAKES 500TH VISIT

Extended Care Unit resident Claude Moote and Jill Cappa, Executive Director of the United Way of South Niagara help Samantha to celebrate a Therapy Dog Milestone in October. Jill presented a 500th visit tag and plaque to Samantha at the Welland County General Hospital. The nine-year-old Cocker Spaniel, owned by Virginia Davies, is the first dog in the Niagara Region to earn this award. Samantha has been visiting hospitals and other facilities since 1995. Virginia, the founding member and Past Superintendent of the program, has completed over 1,000 visits with her three Cocker Spaniels.
PHOTO: WAYNE CREIGHTON, WELLAND TRIBUNE.

Cover Story

When a CN freight train left the track east of Woodstock on the morning of Thursday, February 13, the Emergency Response Team of the St. John London-Middlesex Corps was on the scene within hours.

As the 123-car train de-railed, 30 cars, some containing hazardous material, fell on their sides. While there was no leakage, 30 families were evacuated from their homes as a precaution.

The St. John team braved freezing temperatures to provide light generators and canteen services to members of Oxford's Emergency Services and CN workers until noon the following Sunday.

Twenty Corps members worked around the clock, in shifts, for four days and three nights, supplying soup, hot drinks and snacks. Their four units provided lighting on the track and at the entrance to the work site. Corps Superintendent Peter Harding estimates they served 3,013 servings of food and drink while their generator light towers provided 468,000 watts of light. "None of the events we'd booked for the weekend were interrupted," he says. Corps members also attended a hockey tournament, road race and an RV show.



St. John Council for Ontario



New Emergency Team for U of T

The University of Toronto has introduced a campus response team at its Erindale Campus in Mississauga.

The Erindale College Special Response Team (ECSpeRT) resulted from over four years of planning and training and is now ready to begin a volunteer patient care service for students. The team, which currently has 11 members, is embarking on a recruitment drive and received official recognition as a St. John Ambulance Patient Care Division in a Charter Ceremony at Council Chambers on January 24.

"Although the Campus Police are fully trained and equipped to deal with medical emergencies, students who need first aid can be reluctant to call them when engaged in activities that could result in disciplinary action," says Dianne Rende, Mississauga Branch Manager. "Students benefit from having an impartial, non-judgmental and non-regulatory group to call on when first aid is required."

Erindale student Michael Thomas, an experienced lifeguard and first aider, recognized the need for a student-operated first aid service on campus about five years ago. He approached St. John Ambulance to assist him with the process.

"I was immediately impressed by Mike's background and knowledge of first aid and the dedication and leadership that he displayed," says Dianne. "We are very excited to support this initiative and partner with Erindale College to enhance health and safety services for the university population.'

Mike says that having patient care volunteers located throughout the campus, adds to the current response network, increasing the probability of a quick response to an emergency. "I see this as a beginning. We hope that the team will continue to grow in size, as well as in the scope of its responsibility, as the years progress.'

He says the college or university atmosphere is the perfect setting for this type of volunteer work. "It can serve as a launching pad into so many different careers. Teams have already begun forming at the other two U of T campuses, and I hope that all three will be permanent fixtures at the University of Toronto.'

St. John Ambulance campus response teams currently exist in six colleges and universities in Ontario, making Erindale's team number seven. Queen's University, the University of Guelph, Georgian College, Confederation College, the Royal Military College and Carleton University all have St. John Ambulance Campus Response

St. John Helping Families Quarantined for SARS



HELP FOR QUARANTINED FAMILIES

Two masked volunteers help deliver isolation kits to families quarantined by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS). St. John volunteers from across Ontario, in cooperation with the Canadian Red Cross and Salvation Army, have been delivering kits to quarantined households within the City of Toronto and the Regional Municipality of York. By the beginning of April, more than 1,000 kits had been distributed. Working with Toronto Emergency Medical Services St. John volunteers have also been assisting with the transfer of non-SARS patients from hospitals within the City of Toronto to other hospitals and private residences. In addition, volunteers have been assisting hospitals in Toronto and Guelph to screen staff and visitors for SARS. have been assisting hospitals in Toronto and Guelph to screen staff and visitors for SARS.

\$120,000 Trillium Grant Expands K.W. Volunteer Base

A Trillium grant of \$120,000 has enabled the Kitchener-Waterloo Branch to hire a volunteer co-ordinator to organize and expand the branch's volunteer base. The funding will be received over a three-year period.

Hired in September, co-ordinator, Kim Lester, has had a busy few months. "As expected our patient care program has taken off," says Branch Manager, Tony Lea. The Branch now has 25 volunteers active in its patient care program, 14 recruited since September. Another 15 volunteers are going through the orientation and training program.

Kim says she's put in place a structure for recruiting, screening, training and evaluating volunteers. "Since I'm here full-time, I have the

time to follow every contact lead...guide potential volunteers in the right direction and keep an eye out for future leaders. She's is also developing a calendar to give volunteers a year at a glance review of upcoming events.

"It's been an exciting few months," says Kim.



BIG CHEQUE

BIG CHEQUE
Shown following the presentation of a \$120,000 Trillium
Foundation cheque to the Kitchener-Waterloo Branch are
(I to r) Wayne Wettlaufer, MPP, Kitchener Centre; Hajra Wilson,
Trillium Foundation; Gerry Martiniuk, MPP, Cambridge;
Elizabeth Witmer, Deputy Premier, Tony Lea, Executive Director,
Kitchener-Waterloo Branch; Ted Arnott, MPP, WaterlooWellington.; Minister of Education, and MPP KitchenerWaterloo and John Howard, Chairman, Grant Review Team.

St. John Council for Ontario



Burlington Branch Wins Provincial First Aid Title

There was much to celebrate at the Burlington Branch last fall. The Branch's team of instructors not only brought home the provincial title at the Ontario First Aid Open Competitions but also obtained top marks for mixed pairs.

"We just couldn't believe it when we heard our name announced as the overall winner," says team member Gary Jack who won the category for mixed pairs with partner Nathalie Lalumiere. "We beat 42 teams for the provincial title people who make their living doing first aid.." Other members of the Burlington Band Aids team were Gary's wife Leslie who is Branch Manager and instructor Brian Lowe.

The annual event, on October 26, attracted over 100 individual competitors from across the province to the Ontario Science Centre, Toronto. Teams representing industry, mining, the police, and others groups competed in realistic scenarios.

In the senior mixed competition, Gary and Nathalie treated a "casualty", a woman made up to look as though she'd fallen from a balcony and received multiple injuries. "The make-up looked pretty realistic with fluid coming from the ears, signifying spinal injury, and protruding bones," says Gary.

The duo received high marks for putting the woman in a neck collar and taping her head to the floor. "Some of the other pairs had one per-

son hold the casualty's head, but by taping her head we were both free to treat other injuries," says Gary.

Gary admits he became a little too enthusiastic when he covered the casualty's mouth and nose to

breathe air through the stoma (hole) in her throat. "A judge told me to let go of her face or else she wouldn't be able to breathe," he laughs.

The judges gave the twosome top marks for a quick and accurate assessment, their communication skills, first aid treatments and compiling a patient care record within the 15-minute time

The Burlington team was coached by Patti Somersett, a caseworker with Ontario Works in



WINNING SAVE Gary Jack and Nathalie Lalumiere of the Burlington Band Aids treat a "casualty" during the Ontario First Aid Open Competitions. Their efforts earned the duo top marks in the category for mixed pairs, helping their team win the provincial title.

"The competitions are a great opportunity for St. John to demonstrate its life-saving capabilities and motivate others to increase first aid competency," says Brian Cole, provincial Manager of Community Service. "All scenarios reflect an integration of the knowledge and skills of first aid and CPR that are part of St. John core training, products and services.

St. John Winners

Congratulations to the following members of St. John for their success in the 2002 Provincial Open First Aid Competitions on October 26.

The Leonard Trophy - Junior

Winner - Y0150 Belleville Junior Team - Yo Yo Yo

The Edgar J. Stone Trophy -Intermediate

Winner - St. John Ambulance Agincourt 1037

The Vice President's Trophy -Senior Mixed (Male/Female)

Winner - St. John Ambulance Burlington Branch - Burlington Band-Aids

The Provincial Open Senior Women's Trophy

2nd Place - Y0790 Brockville Senior Team

The Provincial Open Senior Men's

Winner - Domtar Espanola Mill

T.S. Jones Challenge Trophy -Individual 18 years of age and

Winner - Sandra Ladd

The Ross B. Elliott Centennial Trophy - individual 17 years of age and under

Winner - Rosanna Chui

The Earle C. Morgan Trophy -**Overall Winner**

Winner - St. John Ambulance Burlington Branch - Burlington



CHEQUE FOR FIRST AID UNIT Bruce Pearce, Chairman of the St. John Brigade Committee for the Sault Ste Marie Branch receives a cheque for \$10,000 in support of e Mobile First Aid Post Unit from Gwen Dinsdale, arilyn Patterson, Royal Canadian Branch 25 Presi ancy Mancuso, St. John District Cadet Officer.The



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Therapy Dogs in School Safety Program

Ruby, a canine member of the St. Andrew's York Region Therapy Dogs, has been expanding her career horizons. Over the past couple years, in addition to her weekly visit to a retirement home, the nine-pound dog has been visiting local schools to help teach dog safety.

The little Papillon (a breed named for its large butterfly ears) is one of 20 dogs taking part in the I Play It Safe With Dogs program. The program is based on a partnership between St. John Ambulance Therapy Dogs, the Ontario SPCA and the Town of Aurora. The dogs are being used to help teach children how to act around strange dogs, with and without the dog's owner. "The Therapy Dogs had to be specially tested," says Ruby's owner Vivian Hould who co-ordinates the region's Therapy Dog Program. "Dogs that work well with sick and elderly people, may not be able to cope so easily with a room full of excited children."

A mandate from the Town of Aurora requires that all the

Aurora schools, grades 1 to 3, participate in the Program. "Aurora has had a high incidence of dog bites," says Vivian. "There's a lot of new houses and new homeowners often buy dogs for

Dog Safety Quiz

Do you know how to prevent dog bites? True or false?

1) If you are approached by a stray dog, just stand still.

True False

2) It is safe to pet a sleeping dog.

True False

3) Neutering or spaying will make a dog less aggressive.

True False

4) Puppies should be allowed play biting, as it is harmless

True False

5) Youths aged 12 to 19 have the highest rate of serious dog bites.

True False

Check the correct answers. (Solution on back

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security or as a pet. Unfortunately, they don't always find the time or have the knowledge to train the new dogs or teach their children the proper way to treat dogs."

Following an OSPCA presentation and video, the



Therapy Dogs are regular visitors to Aurora classrooms.

children practice on the Therapy Dogs. Students are then given a work sheet that they must complete to earn an I Play it Safe with Dogs button. The Program has now been expanded to visit

Dog Bites on the Increase

Although Canada has no national data on dogrelated deaths and injuries, dog bites appear to be on the increase.

In the U.S. dog bites requiring medical attention rose from 585,000 in 1986 to 800,000 in 1994. According to the Canada Safety Council, a coroner's report on a six-year-old girl killed by dogs in Quebec found that 117,000 people in that province claimed to have been bitten by a dog between 1997 and 1998. Of these, 75 per cent were under the age of 10 and half were bitten by their own dogs. Extrapolating these numbers, the Council estimates that dogs bite 460,000 Canadians annually. According to the Council, problem is probably every bit as bad as that of our neighbours to the south where many people say there's a "dog bite epidemic."

Beavers, Brownies, Cubs and other special interest groups.

"We teach the children that if they see a dog running loose without its owner, they should 'stand like a tree'. If they're knocked over or believe

> the dog is about to bite them, they should 'lie like a log' to protect their vital organs and cover the backs of their neck with their hands," Vivian explains. "If they're bitten they must tell an adult, wash the wound with soap and water and get to a doctor or emergency. We also use the Therapy Dogs to teach them how to meet a dog on a leash with its owner."

> Vivian feels the program is making children in the area a lot safer. "The Town of Aurora has said that the number of dog bites has been significantly lowered since the program was introduced in the schools'

Treating Bites

- 1. Start Emergency Scene Management do a scene survey. Protect yourself and others from further injury. Wear gloves when giving first aid or handling a dog that may be infected.
- 2. Do a primary survey and give first aid for any life-threatening conditions.
- 3. Examine the wound to see if the skin was broken.
- 4. If there is bleeding, allow moderate bleeding of the wound - this helps to cleanse it.
- 5. Wash the wound with an antiseptic soap or detergent. Apply a dressing and bandage.
- 6. If the skin was broken, get medical help as soon as possible. Bites that break the skin should be seen by a doctor. If you're taking the injured person for treatment and the dog's owner is at the scene, find out if the dog has had a rabies shot so you can pass this information on to the medical professional.
- 7. Scrub your hands thoroughly after contact to reduce the risk of infection.

St. John Council for Ontario



Toronto Teacher Finds Link to Past Through St. John

Toronto high school teacher Ahmed Rafi Mian recently discovered a coincidence that links him, through St. John, with his late grandfather in Pakistan.

When Ahmed received his Safety Oriented First Aid certificate from St. John last year, he thought it would be interesting to compare it with the St. John certificate his grandfather received in India during World War II. When he contrasted the two documents, he couldn't believe his eyes. His grandfather, Muhammed Rafi Mian, had received his First Aid to the Injured certificate on January 19, 1943, exactly 59 years ago to the day that his grandson had received his certificate in Toronto.

Muhammed lived in Kasur, a suburb of Lahore (now part of Pakistan) when India was under British rule and underwent first aid training as a member of the National Guard of India, a division of the British army. As a prominent landowner and one of the few men in his village who could read and write in English, he also served as a district representative, "The position is similar to that of a city councillor in Canada," Ahmed explains. Muhammed's first aid certificate was issued by the Indian Branch of the Grand Priory in the British Realm whose President was the Viceroy and Governor-General of India.

Ahmed, who now teaches science at his former high school Weston Collegiate, where he leads the Friday Prayer for Muslim students and coaches soccer, badminton, and weight training.

"I took the training because I feel responsible for the students. Anything could happen at anytime, so you must be prepared." His parents, Tanvir

and Shamim, and sister. Nosheen have also been certified by St. John.

"I find it amazing that my grandfather

was certified on the same day as me, nearly

60 years ago, way before me and in a completely different era, culture, and country," says Ahmed. "It's a testimony to the caring and international life-saving tradition of St. John."



THREE GENERATIONS TRAINED BY ST. JOHN Ahmed Rafi Mian holds a frame containing his St. John first aid certificate and the certificate earned by his grandfather Muhammed Rafi Mian (insert) in 1943. His father, Tanvir (left), mother Shamim (right) and sister Nosheen (front) have also been certified by St. John.

has attended a Course of Instruction under the Indian Branch of

First Aid Tips While You Wait

You can now pick up first aid tips while waiting to see your doctor. Following an agreement with National, the Healthy Canadian Medical Group (HCMG) is distributing first aid treatment information from St. John through its PatientDirect TV network in family medical clinics across Canada.

The service combines closed circuit television and digital computer technology to deliver educational content and advertising messages to waiting rooms of Canadian healthcare facilities. Using computer graphics, animation and motion video, information is displayed on a large screen TV, in a looped format, repeating every 20-30 minutes. Programming at each site consists of health information focused around monthly features, health hints, FAOs and news and weather updates. HCMG estimates its service reaches about 9 million people each year.

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Lambton Solves Costly Building Dilemma

Last year, the Lambton Branch faced a serious problem. The building they'd owned since 1995 was becoming more and more costly to maintain. "Ownership of a large building is expensive and these expenses are never ending, especially as the building gets older," says Branch Manager

naces to maintain and we were responsible for everything from snow-plowing to lawn care." But while the facility's upkeep was making an ever-increasing hole in the budget, there was a downside to putting it on the market. The St. John building, housing offices and classrooms, gave the organization a strong presence in the Sarnia area "It really created a high level of awareness" says Susan. "In a small community, if people hear you're is selling building, they think you're leaving." Finally, the Branch found a solution. They sold the building to Local 530 Electricians Union and

negotiated a leaseback agreement

union was very generous," Susan

to rent classroom space. "The

Susan Pearson. "We had two fur-

explains. "They put a St. John sign on the road and allowed us to put our own sign on our rented section of the L-shaped building."

An up-to-date database and the contact with local media enabled the Branch to advise customers of the building sale.

Rather than retain offices in the facility, Susan and Administrative Assistant, Penny Jakobowski now work offsite. Keeping the same phone number, they were able to move on August 1 with little interruption in service. "We didn't miss a beat," says Susan. "We've developed a user-

friendly website to promote our training schedule and services We meet the needs of people who don't have access to the internet by phone or personal sales calls. Our customers like the personal relationship they have with use."

The Branch maintains close contact with the local media. "Our ongoing goal is to be creative so we can work in a cost effective manner. We continuously promote the quality of our programs and increase their availability in the community, says Susan. "We can't go the way of big business with a large advertising budget. We have to be imaginative to do more with



PROMOTING OUR NAME

Displaying the St. John name on the building where it leases space, has enabled the Lambton Branch to promote its presence in the Sarnia area.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

May 2 - 4

Annual Conference and Awards Ceremonies

Humber College Toronto

Annual General Meeting

National Club, Toronto

Investiture

Legislative Building, Queen's Park

Dinner/Dance Cruise, Toronto Harbour

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Coronation of Queen of Queen Elizabeth II, organized by the Loyal Societies in Canada. Information: Muriel Cairns (416) 979-3148.

August 2 - 5 **Rally 2003**

St. John Youth Rally, University of Waterloo

Answers to Dog Safety Quiz

(Questions page 6)

1. True

Stand still and let the dog sniff you. Do not stare at the dog or turn your back and run. If the dog is barking or growling, slowly walk away, backwards or sideways, keeping the dog in view.

"Let sleeping dogs lie." Even a friendly dog that is unexpectedly disturbed may feel threatened and bite, perhaps by mistake.

Sterilizing a dog reduces its aggressive tendencies significantly. In a US survey of over 200 fatal dog attacks, all but two cases involved unneutered or unspayed dogs.

Discourage all biting, even play biting. It could lead to problems later.

5. False

Children under nine are the most common victims because they lack judgement or don't recognize the dog's warning signs, and are more likely to act in a way the dog considers threatening.

Managing Editor: Daniel Eustace Editor: Gillian Kearney

Focus is the official newsletter of St. John Council for Ontario. Submissions, comments and requests to reprint information should be sent to: Phil Griffiths

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