

# **Hammonds Plains Historical Society Newsletter**

Web Site: [www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.hammondsplainshistoricalsociety.ca)

Facebook: Hammonds Plains Historical Society

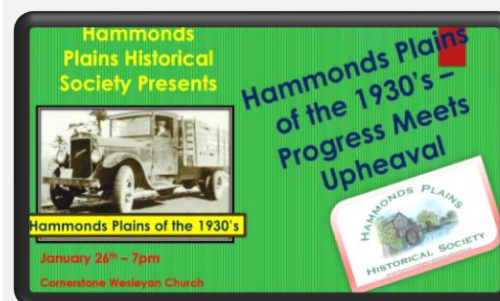
## **HPHS Board of Directors January Update**

Welcome to 2026, everyone! After the holiday break, the BOD is once again busy planning for a busy winter and spring. Here is the latest news from the Board of Directors:

- **Our January General meeting is upcoming on January 26th.** It will take place at the Cornerstone Wesleyan Church, beginning at 7pm. The presentation for the meeting will explore the 1930's, in Hammonds Plains, portraying the highlights of the decade. See ad on the right-hand side of the page for more information. **In case of inclement weather, a switch will be made to an online meeting on January 26th.**
- There will be a special Hammonds Plains Historical Society presentation on Thursday January 29th, sponsored by the Bedford Library, beginning at **6:15pm, to be held at the library.** The presentation will be entitled 'The History of the Hammonds Plains Road – The Ups & Downs of HRM's Yellow Brick Highway'. The presentation will explore the complex history of the Hammonds Plains Road, including updated information from our previous historical presentations about the road.
- **'Did You Know?' Facebook Series:** Each week, we put out a historical fact related to Hammonds Plains. Go to Facebook (Hammonds Plains Historical Society) to check out some of the history of the community.
- **2025-26 Memberships:** Memberships are now open and being accepted for the 2025-26 year. As per previous years, the membership fee is \$10 for the coming year. (See page 2 for details).
- Planning continues on our special Picture Trivia Night to be held at the **Hammonds Plains Community Center on March 30th.** A nice mix of photos have been selected for the event and we will be busy mounting them on display boards in the coming month. Be prepared to see all kinds of photos from places during the 1900's that Hammonds Plains residents had connections with, whether through work, shopping or entertainment. **How many of the photos will you be able to identify?**



## **January 26<sup>th</sup> General Meeting – 7pm at Cornerstone Wesleyan Church**



## **Hammonds Plains of the 1930's – Progress Meets Upheaval**

*As with most of the world, the 1930's were a decade of extreme economic challenges in Hammonds Plains. However, it was also one of new beginnings with several exciting possibilities developing. Come and learn what life was like during the so-called Dirty 30's in Hammonds Plains, where the upheaval of the great depression and beginning of WW2 were superseded by the coming of electricity, trucks and the building of a new school.*

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## Becoming a 2025-26 HPHS Member:

You can become a new member of the Hammonds Plains Historical Society by filling out a registration form and e-mailing it to [haverstockdave@gmail.com](mailto:haverstockdave@gmail.com). Annual fee is \$10.

If you have been a member in the past, no need to fill out a new registration form. Registration forms are available by copying from our web site for new members only.

An e-transfer can be sent to the above e-mail address as payment for membership fees.

Donations will also be graciously accepted.

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## New Additions to Our Photo Collection



This is very rare photo taken in Kemptown between 1910 and 1920. It is believed to show members of the Little and Green families, who lived in Kemptown, at the time. The family members are standing in front of what is thought to be a lumber camp located in Kemptown. The barrels shown in the photo can be assumed were made in Kemptown.

## A Hammonds Plains Heritage Flash



Hammonds Plains is named after British Naval Officer and Colonial Administrator, **Sir Andrew Snape Hamond**.

From 1780 until 1784, Hamond was the Resident Commissioner of the Royal Navy for Nova Scotia, having been appointed by the King of England. He was additionally appointed Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia in 1781.

In his role of Commissioner of the Navy, he oversaw the Ship Yards in Halifax. When the original Hammonds Plains land grants were issued in 1786, to 46 business folks from Halifax, they named the grants after Hamond. Most of the original grantees had connections with the Ship Yards, so when it was time to give the new land grants a name, they were given permission to name it after the respected previous Commissioner of the Ship Yards.

Interesting to note, that at the time of the naming of the grants, Hamond had moved on, and was back in England. It is believed that Hamond never returned to Nova Scotia, after he left in 1784.

## Special Presentation

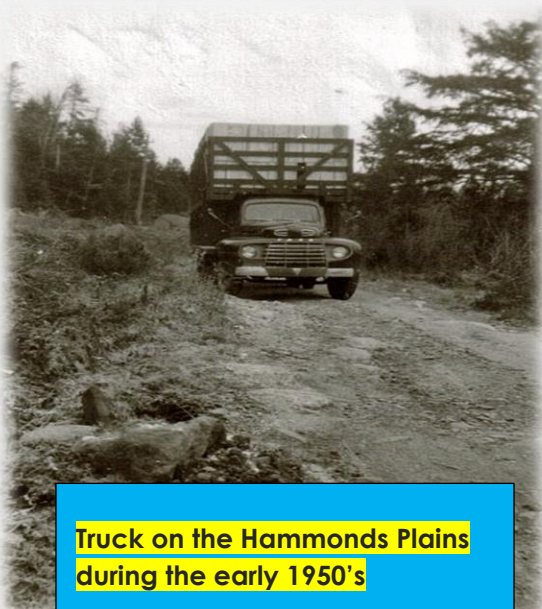
**January 31st – 6:15pm – Bedford Library**

### The History of the Hammonds Plains Road - The Ups & Downs of HRM's Yellow Brick Road



**Hammonds Plains Road in 1955 (showing Voyager Lakes entrance area)**

There is nothing like discussing the Hammonds Plains Road to start an emotional debate in the community. Everyone seems to have an opinion. But ... how many know the full history of the road. The Hammonds Plains Historical Society will present a nostalgic look at the history of the road, highlighting it's long 230+ year journey of both immense promise and bitter disappointment. Come and hear how the highway truly symbolizes the yellow brick road of OZ fame.



**Truck on the Hammonds Plains during the early 1950's**

## Don't Miss Our March Event

On March 30<sup>th</sup> we will be hosting a special **Photo History Trivia Night**. During the meeting, a series of photos, of common visiting places for Hammonds Plains residents for purposes of work, shopping or fun during the middle part of the 1900's will be shown. Each of the photos represent a special place for many residents of Hammonds Plains during the 1900's. Some of the places look the same as they do today, but others have long disappeared. Participants will get a chance to identify as many of the place as they can. It promises to be a fun event! The event will take place at the Hammonds Plains Community Center (at 7pm).

Sample photos: Can you name these places?



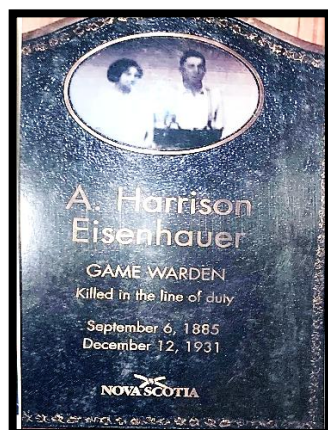


# A Hammonds Plains Murder Trial – 1930's Style

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, 1931, Hammonds Plains resident Harrison Eisenhauer was critically injured after being attacked by deer poachers, while investigating a complaint in his role as a Halifax County Forest Ranger. Eisenhauer was hit with a rifle butt end in the facial area, when he and a colleague came upon four individuals who had firearms in their possession. He would remain in hospital after the attack for two weeks, and sadly died there on December 12<sup>th</sup> from septic poisoning, related to his injuries. The incident made headline news in the Halifax area. For example, the following is the front page of the Halifax Chronicle dated December 14<sup>th</sup>, 1931, which shows the interest in the case.



Upon his death, three individuals were arraigned in court and charged with murder, as the result of the incident. After the preliminary court hearing in December 1931, the Crown Prosecutor decided to downgrade the charges to manslaughter, based on the evidence of the case. At the court case in 1932, the charged individuals were found not guilty, as the court ruled that the death was the result of infection, as opposed to the initial injury.



Harrison Eisenhauer's death has been honored with his name appearing on several Peace Officer Monuments, including the National Peace Officers Memorial on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. The photo on the left is of the plaque that appears at Shubenacadie Wildlife Park in Eisenhauer's memory.