



Optimist Youth In Education Program Speaker Series 2010

Dave Woodman

Mariner, Author & Explorer

Bio - Presentations – Web & Book Reference

On a childhood family visit to the beach at Port Stanley, Dave Woodman threw a piece of wood into Lake Erie and watched it float away. His dad told him that that piece of wood could now go anywhere in the world, since all the waters were connected. Almost since that day Dave has pursued a career on and under the water, sailing and scuba diving as a teenager on the Great Lakes, serving as a Navigation Officer, diver and Submariner in the Canadian Navy, and currently serving as a Senior Master with BC Ferries.

Dave's other passions included ancient history and archaeology, and particularly the verification of historical events as portrayed in pre-literate societies and through oral traditions. Here his interests included the Trojan War, pre-Columbian Atlantic crossings, and First Nations history. Woodman attended the Universities of Toronto and Manitoba, and, although distracted by his Naval Career and raising a family, he received his degree in history in 1998, being by far the last to graduate from the class of '75.

As a young wreck diver it was natural for Dave to want to discover a "virgin" wreck, and he soon began to focus on the ships abandoned by the nineteenth century British explorers of the Arctic in the hopes that he could locate and dive on a significant historical vessel preserved from normal attack by shipworm in the cold water. It was perhaps also natural that he was soon led to the conclusion that the only way to locate one of these wrecks was to incorporate the traditional oral histories of the Inuit. He soon concentrated on the famous and tragic Third Franklin Expedition of 1845, and after fifteen years of research and writing he published his findings in two books, offering not only original ideas as to the locations of the wrecks of Sir John Franklin's ships, but as to the course of events that led to this greatest disaster in arctic exploration history.

Since publication Dave has been fortunate enough to lead or participate in ten expeditions to the arctic to investigate various aspects of his conclusions. Although the wrecks and gravesites remain elusive these expeditions have brought back valuable clues as to their locations and largely served to engender new interest in the Franklin expedition worldwide.

Optimist Youth In Education Program

C/O Museum of Ontario Archaeology – Affiliate of the University of Western Ontario
1600 Attawandaron Road, London, Ontario, Canada N6G 3M6
www.optimismwo.on.ca



Optimist Youth In Education Program Speaker Series 2010

Thursday April 8 at the Thames Valley District Ed Centre 1250 Dundas Street, London
Community Outreach Program

“Sir John Franklin in Literature & Popular Culture”

Traces the portrayal of Franklin and his expeditions through popular culture and the impact of current bias.

Friday April 8, 9:00 AM at Banting Secondary School, London
Secondary School Students

“Real CSI: Unraveling the Franklin Disaster”

Highlights the technical nature of modern forensic research and how it has been applied to solving this great mystery.

Friday April 8, 1:00 PM at Banting Secondary School, London
Elementary School Students

“Living in the Arctic”

Is a discussion of Inuit strategies for living in the Arctic intertwined with information about Sir John Franklin’s disaster in his quest for the Northwest Passage.

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Web Reference Material for Further Student Education

Arctic Exploration – Historica

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0000295>

Arctic Institute of North America

<http://www.arctic.ucalgary.ca/index.php>

Discovery and Exploration of Canada

<http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/quebechistory/encyclopedia/DiscoveryandexplorationofCanada.htm>

Canadian Geographic

<http://travel.canadiangeographic.ca/magazine/nd00/insidestory.asp?f=l#>

Franklin Society

G:\Museum\Franklin - April 2010\Franklin - Champlain Society - Pg 18 Route 1819-1822.mht

CanWest MediaWorks Publications Inc.

<http://www.canada.com/topics/news/story.html?id=d7b7cf20-a033-458b-a0cd-ba63f4d24c56>

Champlain Society

<http://www.champlainsociety.ca/publications>

University of Toronto – Franklin Journals

http://link.library.utoronto.ca/champlain/item_record.cfm?ldno=9_96852&lang=eng&query=Sir%20AND%20John%20AND%20Franklin's%20AND%20Journals%20AND%20Correspondence&searchtype=Fulltext&startrow=1&Limit=All

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The Star - Hunt turns up Franklin expedition relics

<http://www.thestar.com/News/Canada/article/486142>

Nine Mile Heritage Trail - Barrie

<http://www.barrie.ca/Content.cfm?C=4465&SC=1&SCM=0&MI=1828&L1M=4>

Reuters - Probe finds signs of doomed Franklin expedition

<http://www.canada.com/vancouversun/story.html?id=8311bb3e-fd17-4844-ac45-9022b4295068>

Robert Grenier – Parks Canada - Franklin Ship Search

http://www.zoominfo.com/people/Grenier_Robert_16436901.aspx?PersonID=16436901&last Name=Grenier&firstName=Robert&id=16436901&searchSource=page&page=2

Canadian Encyclopedia

<http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0003029>

International Polar Year Canada

www.ipycanada.ca

CanWest News Service – August 15 2008

Parks Canada to lead new search for Franklin ships

Sir John Franklin Web Site

<http://www.sirjohnfranklin.com/pages/framea.html>

University of Toronto - Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online

[Sir John Franklin](#)

Northwest Passage Park

<http://www.gjoahaven.com/northwest-passage-historical-park.htm>

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Sir John Franklin Book References

AUTHOR: Woodman, David C.

Unravelling the Franklin mystery : Inuit testimony / David C. Woodman.

CALL NO: 971.9901 Woo

David Woodman

<http://mqup.mcgill.ca/book.php?bookid=1439>

<http://members.shaw.ca/seafire/DCWoodman.htm>

AUTHOR: McGoogan, Kenneth

Fatal passage : the untold story of Franklin

CALL NO: 917.19 RaeM

AUTHOR: McGoogan, Kenneth

Lady Franklin's revenge : a true story

CALL NO: 941.081092 FraM

AUTHOR: McGoogan, Kenneth

Race to the Polar Sea : the heroic expedition

CALL NO: 910.92 KanM

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