



Sociology on the Rock

Editor: Stephen Harold Riggins

Webmaster: Zbigniew Roguszka

8 years ago

Sociology on the Rock, Issue 13

Issue 13 in [PDF](#)

8 years ago

This issue

Gloria Johnston: [Bonding Through Rituals](#)

Marilyn Porter: [The Great Wave of History Rolls On](#)

Ian Whitaker: [The Sociological Background of Newfoundland Personality](#)

Stephen Harold Riggins: [The Fine Arts at Memorial University: Between a Rock and a Hard Place](#)

Stephen Harold Riggins: [The Clipboard](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

“None of us and none of our ‘schools’ is about to save the world single-handedly. After all, if Marx could not even manage it with a chorus of Engels to support him, and if Weber and Durkheim hardly affected the course of history in their own times, I shall probably fail myself – and your chances are likely not much better. A science becomes important to the world when it has begun to contribute not to debate but to enduring knowledge.”

MUN anthropologist George Park (1985)



Petty Harbour, 1957, photo by Donald Willmott.

8 years ago

BONDING THROUGH RITUALS

By **Gloria Johnston**

***Editor’s note:** Emile Durkheim, an agnostic who had aspired to be a rabbi in his youth, emphasized the continuing influence of religion in modern secular societies. He thought that the social solidarity which healthy societies required had originated in*

group rituals. Repetitive group rituals are necessary in order to keep alive the notion of the sacred and the spirit of a community. Most rituals are done with a spirit of joy, confidence, and enthusiasm. Physical artifacts are also selected as symbols of this supra-individual state of mind.

[Read More »](#)

8 years ago

THE GREAT WAVE OF HISTORY ROLLS ON

By **Marilyn Porter**

On 30 August 2010, I received an e-mail from the Office of Human Resources with the header “Marilyn Porter termination.” A copy was sent to the Department of Sociology. I had momentary visions of hordes of Harry Potter’s terminators streaming out from the bottom of the Arts and Administration Building before realising that the reality was less romantic. I was now a non-person; invisible as the great wave of history rolls on. I was a retiree. Retirement affects people in many ways, and we are not adequately forewarned about what it really feels like. Whatever else, it is a quantum shift in our conditions of life and, more importantly, our sense of identity and value.

[Read More »](#)

8 years ago

THE SOCIOLOGICAL BACKGROUND OF NEWFOUNDLAND PERSONALITY

By **Ian Whitaker**

Editor’s Note. This is the first publication of Ian Whitaker’s paper “The Sociological Background of Newfoundland Personality.” Read on 11 April 1964 at a meeting of the St. John’s Branch of the Humanities Association of Canada, it was the last public lecture which Professor Whitaker gave at Memorial. There is a more scholarly version of these ideas, which can be found in W.E. Mann’s edited collection of readings for sociology students, Canada: A Sociological Profile. But the 1964 lecture is more entertaining,

personal, and anecdotal. For that reason I think it merits publication in *Sociology on the Rock*.

[Read More »](#)

8 years ago

THE FINE ARTS AT MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY: Between a Rock and a Hard Place

By **Stephen Harold Riggins**

*This article is published in *Sociology on the Rock* as a tribute to anthropologist George Park (1925-2015), one of the most distinguished members of the Department of Anthropology.*

[Read More »](#)

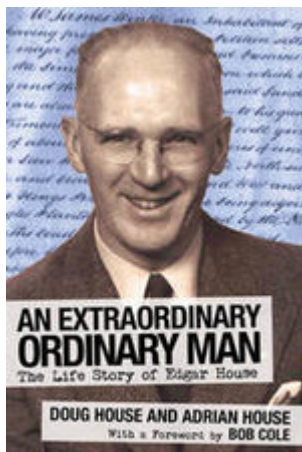
8 years ago

THE CLIPBOARD

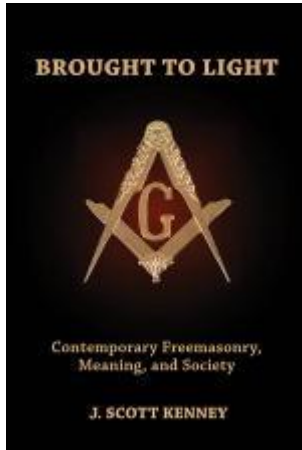
By **Stephen Harold Riggins**

Books

House, Douglas and Adrian House (2015) *An Extraordinary Ordinary Man: The Life Story of Edgar House*. St. John's: ISER Books.



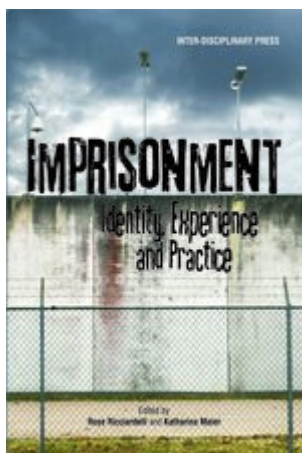
Kenney, Scott (forthcoming) *Contemporary Freemasonry, Meaning, and Society*.
Waterloo, ON: Wilfred Laurier Press.



Meja, Volker and Nico Stehr (Eds.) (2015) *Knowledge and Politics* (RTL Social Theory).
London: Routledge.



Ricciardelli, Rose and Katharina Maier (Eds.) (2015) *Imprisonment: Identity, Experience and Practice*. Oxford: Inter-disciplinary Press.



[Read More »](#)

8 years ago

PHOTO GALLERY

McCallum and Petty Harbour in 1957: Unpublished Photographs by Sociologist Donald Willmott

Donald Willmott, Memorial University's first sociologist, taught in St. John's from 1956 to 1959. He is a Canadian who was born in 1925 in China where his parents were educational missionaries for the United Church. In the summer of 1957 Donald traveled around Newfoundland in order to become more familiar with social conditions on the island. Donald and his wife Elizabeth now live in Owen Sound, Ontario. The spring 2014 issue of *Newfoundland and Labrador Studies* includes a long article about the early years of Donald's career.

Here are eight of Donald's unpublished photographs of McCallum and Petty Harbour which were taken during his travels in the summer of 1957.



Children in McCallum, 1957, photo by Donald Willmott.

[Read More »](#)

8 years ago

Sociology on the Rock, [Issue 12](#)

Sociology on the Rock, [Issue 11](#)

Sociology on the Rock [ARCHIVE](#)

9 years ago

[« Previous](#)

12/15

[Next »](#)