

Peterborough Historical Society

389th Bulletin September 2012



HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Honourary President T.H.B. Symons

Past Honourary President Catharine Parr Traill



PHS Meeting, Tuesday September 18, at 7:30 pm **Peterborough Public Library Aylmer Street, Peterborough**

"Historical Peterborough as Inspiration"

Presented by Peer Christensen

Peer Christensen donated his original oil painting to the Peterborough Historical Society, to be raffled in support of upgrading

and maintenance of the Society's Hutchison House. The draw will take place at the lecture on September 18.

Peer Christensen was born in Copenhagen in 1953. He immigrated to Canada in 1959 -- and subsequently to Peterborough in 1985. Along with his wife Lori, Peer opened the Williamson House Gallery with exhibition space to show the work of contemporary Canadian artists. In 1995 the business moved downtown under the name Hunter West Gallery.

Peer's generosity in the community is well known and appreciated.

Raffle tickets at \$20 each may be purchased at Hutchison House and Hunter West Gallery. Get yours before September 18.



... from the President

As the fall of 2012 approaches, I hope that members have enjoyed a great summer and took in the many heritage activities locally and across the province. Special War of 1812 events have been a highlight and I was fortunate to participate in the War of 1812 Bicentennial celebrations in Amherstburg, the site of Fort Malden. Presented on the August long weekend, the "Roots to Boots" celebrations featured historic plays, musicals, a parade, a military encampment, period costumes and various historic talks. Over 40,000 people took in the festivities. Here in Peterborough, our Museum staff and volunteers have had a busy but successful summer presenting a wide range of programs to mark Hutchison House's 175th anniversary including our new historic garden initiative and our continued fund raising efforts in support of a new roof and repairs to the building. Our regular Fall – Winter lecture series begins with a presentation in September by Peer Christensen and the draw for his striking painting of Hutchison House. Your executive is organizing a special Strategic Planning session to help us better serve our members and position the society to meet the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Stay tuned for more details.

This fall the Peterborough region has an ambitious line up of special heritage events including the Stone House Tour, "Rock the Locks" - the 125th anniversary commemoration of the opening of the Buckhorn, Lovesick and Burleigh locks, and a TVO documentary on the Trent Severn Waterway called "The Land Between". These initiatives demonstrate that interest in preserving and presenting the rich heritage of the area is alive and well.

This fall, the Society will begin planning for the 35th anniversary of the opening of Hutchison House Living History Museum.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

PHS Awarded Grant For Organizational Development Workshop

The Community Foundation of Greater Peterborough has awarded PHS a \$1,700 grant to hold a one-day workshop on organizational development. The entire organization will be invited to participate: Board members, the Hutchison House Management Committee, volunteers, museum staff and PHS members at large.

This workshop is both timely and important. Our current strategic plan is in its final year and while we have achieved most of our objectives in that plan, there are still some challenges to be addressed and new issues to resolve.

It is anticipated that this workshop experience will help to identify areas that are not functioning as effectively as they might, define future priorities and build consensus on how to move the organization forward. Topics of discussion will include roles and responsibilities, organizational issues, current challenges and future opportunities. The goal will be to begin the process of developing a new strategic plan for the next five years.

The grant will be used to hire a consultant with experience and expertise in museum management and to cover the cost of renting a suitable venue. This workshop will take place in October or November. If you are interested in joining the organizing committee, please contact Barb McIntosh.

Barbara McIntosh

Options for Giving to PHS

A bequest to the Peterborough Historical Society in your will is the simplest way to arrange a planned gift. By including a bequest in your will you can have the satisfaction of knowing that you will be helping the society in future and ensure tax benefits for your estate.

You can also take steps now to provide support to the Society over the long-term, while enjoying immediate tax benefits.

Gifts of Cash

Bequests of cash are always welcomed. They can be given unconditionally to meet the greatest immediate needs of the organization or to a specific fund or program.

Gifts of Securities

Publicly traded securities include stocks, bonds and mutual funds (containing stocks listed on approved stock exchanges) make excellent charitable gifts. By donating your gift prior to your death, you can reduce the size of your estate and thereby reduce probate costs. You will receive a tax receipt for the full fair market value of the donated securities.

Barbara McIntosh

Gwenneth Helen Morawetz

After a sudden stroke our beloved Gwen Morawetz died peacefully at Baptiste Lake on her 85th Birthday. Gwen, the cherished wife of Bruno Morawetz, together were the founders of Camp Ponacka for boys on Baptiste Lake.

Gwen was a dedicated Board Member of Peterborough Historical Society -always eager to support the Society's committee and fund raising efforts. Gwen was one of the members who initiated the location and funding of the Sextant for Hutchison House. Gwen faithfully attended the monthly public lectures presented by the Peterborough Historical Society. We will miss her dazzling smile and cheery support. A public celebration of her life will be held at Trinity United Church, Peterborough on Saturday September 22 at 2 PM.

Martha Ann Kidd

Martha Kidd, shown here at the 20th Anniversary celebration of Hutchison House Museum in 1998, was a major force for the preservation of architectural heritage in Peterborough. Soon after moving here in 1964, she became involved with PHS and played a significant role in the restoration of Hutchison House. She was instrumental in establishing Peterborough's Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) and was a founding member of the Trent Valley Archives. Martha died at age 94, on July 30th. A memorial service is being planned for September.



MORAWTZ, Gwen



Steaming Up the Scugog and a visit to Scugog Shores Museum and Heritage Village Wednesday June 20, 2012





As the country became more fully cleared, short excursions were made. Pretty spots were discovered, generally near the lake side, suitable for holding picnics. The whole community would be invited, and generally speaking every person who could be there was present.

A little while ago Rev. Jas. Miller brought us a bill advertising an excursion on the Crandella [steamer] to Sturgeon Falls. The fare was fifty cents, and some four hundred "Sons of Temperance" and their friends took advantage of the opportunity to go on this excursion. It couldn't be done to-day – first because the Crandella and all the other boats are gone; secondly because the water is far too low; and thirdly because we don't want to go on such a trip anyway: it isn't far enough. Cement highways keep us pretty well to the beaten path, and the sideroads with their beauty spots, rippling brooks, and quiet, are for the present neglected. "Hot dogs", pop, and ice cream are now our food on the road, autos our travelling home, and "cabins" our resting place.

"The Social Life of the People" from *On The Shores of Scugog*, Samuel Farmer 1934 p. 47







Peterborough Historical Society

Historical Stone House Tour



Page 5

Proceeds will Support Hutchison House:

On September 15th, Hutchison House Museum is participating in a unique public tour of old stone houses, built in Peterborough between 1837 and 1851. All of the proceeds from this tour will go towards the on-going maintenance of the museum.

The tour is sponsored by the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

This is an excellent opportunity to visit seven of Peterborough's other early stone houses, some of them open to the public for the first time: Smithtown Hill House, 269 Edinburgh Street; the William Dixon House, 661 Park Street North; the Eastland House, 273 Hunter Street; and the Peck House, 183 Mark Street. Three other houses are included on the tour as drive-bys: Grover-Nicholls House, 415 Rubidge Street; The Stone Brewery, 468 Stewart Street; and Merino, 17 Merino Road.

A free shuttle bus will operate between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., starting at Louis Street near the municipal parking lot, making stops at all houses in a continuous loop.

As an added bonus, ticket holders are invited to attend a lecture by Andrew Elliott on Friday night, September 14 at Trinity United Church.

Purchase your 16-page full - colour catalogue and ticket for \$25.00 single or \$40.00 couple, at the following locations:

- Hutchison House Museum
- City Hall, Recreation Reception, Carnegie Wing
- Peterborough Museum and Archives
- Sport & Wellness Centre
- The Avant-Garden Shop

Get your tickets early.

Volunteers Needed for Tour

A number of volunteers are needed to assist with the Stone House Tour at the various sites and on the shuttle bus. Morning 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or afternoon 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or all day if you can. Please call Barb McIntosh to confirm your participation at 705 748-3040 or e-mail mcintoshbl@sympatico.ca.



Lida Arlouskaya Scottish Tea r Coordinator, Julia Russell Program Cordinator Singin' in the rain Hannah & Alissa with Maureen



Hutchison House Report

What a fabulous summer season we had a Hutchison House. It began with the 175th Anniversary of the house in June and built from there. Overall the number of visitors to the museum was up this year. There were very few 'quiet' days, in spite of the heat.

Erin and I couldn't have managed without the able support of our summer staff and volunteers. Lida kept the kitchen humming, Julia kept the children smiling, and Maureen kept the garden growing. The junior volunteers shone through with sweetness, charm and youthful exuberance, while the adult volunteers gave visitors an informed and enthusiastic history lesson. Thank you one and all!

Peach Tea, one of our most popular events, was very well attended. The weather proved to be perfect for 170 guests.

All too quickly another summer season has come and gone. The leaves are already beginning to turn. The dog days of summer are winding down and the first day of school is just around the corner. A new season is about to unfold. One might be tempted to say "things are getting back to normal" but for those of us in the museum field there is no 'normal'. We're looking forward to a new season with new exciting challenges. We wouldn't have it any other way!

Cheers, Gale Fewings

PS: On a personal note:

Thank you to all of my friends for helping to make one of my wishes come true. It all started a few years ago when David Bate told me about a fabulous play that he and Libby had seen in London, England.

This spring I learned the same play was being mounted in Toronto. Immediately I began searching the internet and telling folks about it.

You can imagine my great surprise when my good friend, Ann Baker, rallied the troops and threw me a birthday party. (For those in the know..... no telling my age please) Everyone contributed to the pot and at the end of June, John and I made our way to T.O. to see "Warhorse". It was even more spectacular that I had expected. It was a real treat and I thank you all from the very bottom of my heart!

Love Gale



Maureen Callaghan, Historic Garden Interpreter Lida Arlouskaya



Lida & Julia with Morgan & Marika



This year our museum vegetable patch is producing giant tomatoes, thanks to a donation of heirloom plants from local gardener Manfred Heckie. Some tomatoes are up to 6" across. While they start off green with dark stripes, they ripen into a range of colours, including purple, pink, orange and red. They are soon to become chili sauce for sale in the gift shop or for the enjoyment of guests at our heritage lunches this winter.

Perennials Needed for Gardens

Fall is an ideal time to divide and re-locate many perennials. Although, there will not be a Fall Plant Sale this year, the Gardening Committee welcomes donations of suitable perennials for the museum gardens.

We are endeavouring to use only plants that were available in Peterborough up until 1860.

On our preferred list: Asters (purple); Bergamot; Cardinal Flower; Chrysanthemum (yellow); Hollyhock (red, pink white); Hydrangea (white); Iris; Larkspur, Lemon Lily; Lupin; Phlox; Poppy; Rose of Sharon(red purple, violet); Rudbeckia.

Please - no Hostas.

Barbara McIntosh Chair, Garden Committee

New Roof for Hutchison House

Thanks to a generous capital allocation from the City, Hutchison House will be getting a new cedar-shingled roof this year.

Under the leadership of Paul Lumsden and Bill Carson, the HH Management Committee has been exploring options for improving the roof for the past several months.

A grant of \$5,000 toward the roof project, awarded to PHS by the Peterborough Foundation in 2011, was used to hire the services of Ronald Awde Architect, to develop recommendations and prepare the specifications for the project. With City funding in place, the tender process has now been completed for the contractor and work is expected to begin in late September.

Barbara McIntosh

Peterborough Historical Society

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WEBSITES:

www.hutchisonhouse.ca

www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca



Mark Your Calendars PHS General Meetings

Tuesday October 16, 2012 - *Kathryn McLeod* from the Ontario Heritage Trust speaking about the successful Premiers' Gravesite Programme.

Tuesday, November 20, 2012 *Don Willcock* will talk about the Canadian Siberian Expeditionary Force

Hutchison House Museum

Historical Stone House Tour Saturday, September 15, 2012 Heritage Luncheons: Wednesday October 3, 2012 Wednesday November 7, 2012 Wednesday December 5, 2012

The BulletinEditorLinda LumsdenPublisherMarilyn MacNaughtonPhotographersDoug Lavery,
Erin Panepinto et al

Bulletin submissions for the September issue due by Wednesday, September 19, 2012.

We welcome articles of historical interest.

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Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for Peer Christensen's painting "A Winter Afternoon, Brock Street, 2011" Tickets are \$20 each and only 500 will be available for sale. Hurry and get yours.

Correction: Bulletin Numbering Please note that the numbering of April, May and June was incorrect. They should be April 2012 – #386, May 2012 - #387, June 2012 - #388