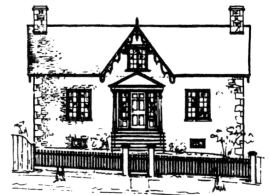




Peterborough Historical Society
39th Bulletin
June 2013



HUTCHISON HOUSE
*35 Years of
 Living History*

Honorary President T.H.B. Symons

Past Honorary President Catharine Parr Traill

**Hutchison House
 Open House
 Sunday May 26, 2013**



Sabrina Armstrong-Peden and Norm Savage
 at the plaque commemorating the gift of
 Hutchison House by Jeanette Brown.



Heather Barker, Loretta Terry, Peter
 Stokes,
 Erin Panepinto. Betty Hinton



Members of the Embroiderers' Guild of Peterborough
 and the Kawartha Rug Hookers' Guild

from the President

Since becoming President at the AGM in February, it has been a marathon of activity.

In April, close to 50 PHS members and Hutchison House volunteers participated in our one-day Strategic Directions workshop. Many excellent recommendations came out of that meeting and the next challenge will be to keep up the momentum and complete the work on our next Strategic Five Year Plan to be implemented in 2014. The next plan will include a shared vision and mission statement for the organization as a whole, with specific strategic goals for PHS and Hutchison House Museum.

This year, the province is requiring that we review and update all of our museum policies, as a condition of our grant. For the past couple of months, a committee of Board members and members of the HH Management Committee have spent hours, reviewing and up-dating these policies to meet the June 30th deadline.

On May 24, we had our annual meeting with Ken Doherty at City Hall. We reported on the completion of the new cedar shingled roof and front porch, which were largely funded by the City. Ken reaffirmed his strong support for PHS and Hutchison House as one of Peterborough's most valuable heritage resources. He was also pleased to hear that during our Strategic Directions workshop, we had a session on the Municipal Culture Plan and how we can support it. At the request of participants, we will be organizing another session this fall to further discuss the plan.

So, while it may seem like PHS is taking the summer off, there is still a lot of planning and organizational work to be done behind the scenes.

Barb McIntosh

Preserving and Protecting Your Precious Photos and Documents

It is an old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words. However, that only applies if the picture is in good shape – something that is not necessarily the case with many of our own personal items. As Basia Baklinski, the speaker at the May meeting of the Society, illustrated through a informative and entertaining presentation, Many of the photos that we treasure are at risk from the elements, improper storage or just the natural aging process associated with some of the chemicals and developing techniques used for such items as Polaroid photos. Sunlight, fluctuations in temperature

and humidity, insects, improper handling can all take their toll on paper documents and photographs. Even with the best of intentions, sealing images or documents in material that is not acid free, can accelerate the deterioration process to a point where the damage done is irreversible. Using examples from her own personal collection, Basia showed the kind of damage that can result when documents and photos are not looked after. Pages chewed away by insects, photos faded and newspaper clippings yellowed from exposure to light were telling examples of what can happen to these important markers in our own life if not properly stored. Even something as simple as a paper clip to hold important papers together can be destructive if it is exposed to moisture and begins to rust. As she noted, even plastic clips are not fully sealed on the ends so only all plastic clips are preferable. Judging from the

number of questions, the session was timely. As we all start to look over family albums or personal archives. And it is important to seek ways to preserve them for our families, and maybe, just maybe, for future historians to mine for insights on life during the twentieth century.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

from the Bulletin June 1969

The Annual Trip 1956

One of the articles not used in the "Shining Waters" was an account of the Historical Society's Annual Outing in 1956 written by the late Mrs Langley. As this is the Outing Season we thought you would enjoy this light-hearted reminiscence about "An Historical Trip on the Maggie".

On June 4th, 1956, the following notice appeared in the Peterborough Examiner

Society on Maggie

The first chartered trip of the season which the 'Maggie' will make over the Lift Lock and along the canal is Tuesday evening when the Peterborough Historical Society boards 'Maggie' and holds its monthly meeting thereon.

It is fortunate that this notice appeared, for the Captain and the First Mate of the Maggie happened to see and to read the notice, and with some curiosity they betook themselves to George Street wharf on the evening of the fifth, to --as they expressed it-- 'see what it was all about'.

The season had been cool -- very cool- with remarkable little sunshine. But the evening of June the fifth was glorious, and Little Lake sparkled in the beautiful light of the early evening.

At 6:45 P.M., about 25 of the more venturesome members of the Historical Society gathered for the adventure. The same expectant jollity seemed to pervade the group that had been evident in the good old days, as a Sunday School picnic used to set put on the Empress or the S.S. Stony Lake to spend the day cruising down the Otonabee. Nobody seemed to mind particularly when he or she discovered that due to some unfathomable misunderstanding, a sail around Little lake was to take place of the expected trip over the Lift Lock. (Some may have been inwardly relieved who knows?). Gay spirits prevailed, and cameras clicked at a great rate.

The ladies were suitably dressed in kerchiefs and warm coats. Those who owned English caps proudly wore them. Many wore gay sport jackets. But the Magistrate Philp out-classed everyone by wearing a most becoming naval cap, borrowed from the Skipper. All looked so manly smoking their pipes, which pipes, by the way, were the only ones used too pipe Admiral Philp aboard.

Well—we were off to a good start. Most of the ladies, hardy souls that they were, sat up on the top deck. They had an excellent view of Burnham's Point. It did look beautiful. One delight quickly followed another. We next headed towards the cemetery, and everybody remarked how attractive it looked. Just then a fresh little breeze sprang up and the Maggie rocked ever so slightly. But there was nothing to fear. The Maggie boated one life-belt and a half-inflated inner tube. One lady solemnly announced she was not a good sailor. Mrs Harris suggested that we sing "Throw out the Life-line."

It was then that the little man who was both the First Mate and Purser arrived to collect the fares. And everyone was put into a happy frame of mind when it was discovered that the charge was reduced from 75 cents to 50 cents because of the curtailed trip.

Well, there wasn't a dull moment. It seemed as though we had just started when the first (and only) stop was announced. This was at the Mark Street wharf where the monthly meeting was held, the President Miss Heideman presiding as she stood alongside the Maggie and addressed the members. Mr Tom Allen then told us that there would be time to alight and write postcards. One lady suggested

that might go into the old Peck house and telephone long distance to any of our relatives who might be anxious, to assure them of our safety.

Mrs Maniece, who missed the ship, and so had chased the Maggie around the shore by car, arrived just in time to exchange greetings with those on board.

All too soon the signal was given, the mooring ropes were cast off and we were away again. As we left Mark Street wharf, one of those horrid little speed boats, known as "sea fleas", circled the Maggie in a most imprudent manner. Some of the more timid souls on the top deck, feared the force of the waves thus created, but the good ship Maggie rode them nicely.

The sun was still shining brightly as we sailed by the Marble Works on our return journey. We had been aboard all of three-quarters of an hour and the journey was almost at an end. Some on the forward deck remarked on the lovely "Sea Breeze" but others with more discerning noses classed it as C.P.C. breeze.

Quite a sizeable crowd had collected on the George Street wharf to greet our safe return. As we disembarked someone remarked on the ability and speed with which most of the travellers regained their land legs. Especially noticeable in this respect were those recently return from more extensive ocean crossings, such as Magistrate and Mrs Philp, Dr and Mrs Honey, Miss McCulloch, Miss Howson and others.

Those who had travelled on the upper deck heaved sighs of relief when they reached the wharf, for those steep steps were difficult to negotiate successfully, especially if one came down face forward.

Well, the trip was over. The square mile of Little Lake had been covered in its entirety.
HISTORY HAD BEEN MADE.

PHS Annual Excursion
Planned for September

Instead of our usual excursion at the end of June, this year the trip will take place in September. Tentative plans include a visit to historic Proctor House Museum in Brighton, with lunch on Brighton Bay and stops at sites of interest along the way. Details will be available in August.

Hutchison House Report

There are a myriad of people to thank, for so many reasons, when it comes to Hutchison House. The adult volunteers who toil from season to season on our behalf. The junior volunteers who give up precious summer days to spend time 'in the olden days'. Rest assured the deeds of young and older do not go unheeded nor unappreciated. So 'thank you' to all of you for your continued dedication and support!

In this, our 35th year of 'living history' we celebrate the accomplishments of those who came before us with a renewed promise to share our collective past with future generations to come. Our Open House on May 26th was well attended. Many friends, old and new, showed up at our event. The speeches by MP Jeff Leal, City Councilor Bill Juby, Peter John Stokes and Tom Symons were filled with thoughtful memories and high praise. Visitors enjoyed seeing the work of members of the Embroiderers' Guild of Peterborough, the Kawartha Rug Hookers' Guild in addition to spinning on behalf of the Handweavers and Spinners Guild of Peterborough.

One highlight of the day was the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the gift of Hutchison House to the Peterborough Historical Society by Jeanette (nee Connal) Brown in 1969. Hers was a truly remarkable gift. The plaque was very generously donated to the museum by Norman and Muriel Savage. It was therefore fitting that Norman, accompanied by his little sidekick, Sabrina, revealed the monument to the visitors. It is located on the garden terrace.

In recognition of his dedication and commitment to maintaining the structure of Hutchison House, Paul Lumsden was recently recognized with a Community Betterment Award from the City of Peterborough. Paul has devoted many hours to numerous building and maintenance projects at the museum over the course of the last couple of years. In addition to the many, and varied, maintenance issues inherent in an historic building, last year Paul's help was invaluable in organizing and overseeing all the work associated with the replacement of the cedar shake roof.



Without Paul's expertise, knowledge, and contacts in the community, this project would not have happened as efficiently. Most recent work includes, but is not limited to, the construction of a new front porch, window replacements, and insulation in the attic. Further projects are slated for the fall and we look forward to have Paul guide us all through the process. Congratulations Paul, you are certainly well deserving of this award.

The gardens too are looking spectacular, especially with all of the spring rain we've been having. This year we are able to purchase a variety of shrubs and perennials with the assistance of a generous grant of \$500 from the Peterborough Historical Society. The Hutchison House garden committee members are a dedicated group of hardworking volunteers and the funding will assist them in creating a welcoming environment to the community through our garden spaces.

Members of the Historical Society are welcome to come out to one of our Scottish Teas this summer and meet our summer students and junior volunteers, visit the gardens, and enjoy a tour of the facility. Our annual Peach Tea will be held on Thursday, August 15th. Book early and save.

Cheers Gale and Erin

2013 LAKEFIELD LITERARY FESTIVAL Sunday July 14th 2:30 p.m.

Sunday afternoon's session will take place in the barn on the property of Dr. R. J. Whatley at the end of Casement Lane on the northern boundary of the Village of Lakefield. The Whatley family is musical, and the barn was altered some time ago to make it suitable for events and concerts of various kinds. It has been used several times for the Literary Festival and makes for a venue of particularly fine ambiance.

Michael Epp, of Trent University, will host this afternoon's session bringing his knowledge and enthusiasm to the discussions following the readings.

John Boyko, of Lakefield College School, will read from his recent work, *Blood and Daring: How Canada Fought the American Civil War and Forged a Nation*. Boyko teaches history at Lakefield College School, and is well known as a local historian and musician, who has written several books on Canadian history. His most recent success has been a biography of R. B. Bennett, which has won him praise in many quarters. He has been noted for his "encyclopedic knowledge" of Canadian history and engaging writing style. *Blood and Daring* was just launched in late May to good reviews.

John Bell is also a historian who has written extensively on various aspects of Canadian history and culture, including *How Canada Conquered the Comic Book Universe*. His topic for this afternoon has been taken from his history of warfare on the Great Lakes, *Rebels on the Great Lakes*. He is recently retired from his position a senior archivist at the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa, and now lives in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.

This promises to be an excellent session, especially for those interested in some of the lesser known and therefore more intriguing aspects of Canadian history, entangled as it almost always been

with that of our American cousins. So come out to Lakefield on July 14 and enjoy an afternoon of readings and historical discoveries at The Barn.

Tickets are available either on-line or by mail. Please visit <http://www.lakefieldliteraryfestival.com> for more information on the entire festival, July 12 -14 2013 or pick up a brochure.

A few tickets may be available at the door on the day of the event as well.

Stephanie Ford Forrester

Upcoming Events

July and August Scottish Teas will begin Tuesday July 3 and will be offered Tues-Sun from 1-4pm., costs \$7 for adults and \$4 for children.

Annual Peach Tea –Thursday, August 15 Sitzings will be 12pm, 1pm, 2pm, and 3pm with tickets selling for \$7 in advance and \$9 at the door for adults and \$5 in advance and \$6 at the door for young children

Bulletin submissions for the September issue due by Wednesday, August 21, 2013. We welcome articles of historical interest.

The Bulletin

Editor **Linda Lumsden**

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Marilyn MacNaughton

Photographers **Doug Lavery, Erin Panepinto et al**

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Peterborough Historical Society

270 Brock Street

Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P9

Phone: 705-740-2600

Email: info@peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

Hutchison House Museum

Owned & operated by the
Peterborough Historical Society

270 Brock Street

Peterborough Ontario K9H 2P9

Phone 705-743-9710

email: info@hutchisonhouse.ca

WEBSITES:

www.hutchisonhouse.ca

www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

PHS Memberships:

Individual: \$35.00

Family: \$45.00

Student: \$15.00