PETERBOROUH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Peterborough Historical Society Bulletin

UPCOMING EVENTS

WW I Event on July 26, at Del Crary Park to commemorate the anniversary of the First and Second World War, a mixture of songs, music and dramatic readings based on letters, diaries, etc from the war years. Should be a wonderful evening and something our members would enjoy.

Visit Hutchison House for tea and a tour Tuesday to Sunday from 1:00 to 4:pm in July and August

Peach Tea, August 14-Advance orckets \$8:00. At the door \$9:00

PHS Monthly Meeting, -September 16 Speaker TBD

Peterborough Museum & Archives—Freemasonry, A History Hidden in Plain Sight-until Sept 21.

Issue 408th June 2014

New Storage Shed is Officially Opened

On June 26 major donors, PHS members and museum volunteers gathered on the west side of Hutchison House to officially declare the new "storage shed" finished.

This project marks the end of a series of major capital projects undertaken at the museum over the past four years. In 2011, an accessible parking lot, ramp system and washroom was installed to meet provincial requirements. A new up-graded kitchen was also completed. A new roof was put on in 2012 and a new front porch and other exterior up-grades were completed in 2013. The new storage shed replaces a 1940s garage and includes a special section at the back exclusively for garden tools and supplies.

The shed was made possible through a number of generous donations of time, expertise and funding. David and Enid Mitchell contributed a major part by generously paying for most of the construction materials. Dave also played a key role in designing the shed. Mike Davenport of Davenport and Associates donated his time and expertise to produce the engineering and architectural plans that were required by the City for the building permit. PHS received a grant of \$4,500 from The Peterborough Foundation. Finally, Paul Lumsden, a member of the Hutchison House Management Committee and the project manager for all of our capital projects over the past four years, again completed the project on budget. Paul also ensured that the surrounding garden was restored with new topsoil before the plants were replaced.



"On behalf of the Board of Directors, our staff and our volunteers, I extend our sincere thanks to all who have contributed to this project." said PHS President Barb McIntosh. "Without this generous support, we could not have undertaken the project."

Ribbon-cutting ceremony: Mike Davenport, Paul Lumsden, David and Enid Mitchell, Barb McIntosh, Dennis Carter-Edwards.

From the President

On May 29, Bill Carson, Dennis Carter-Edwards, Gale Fewings and I met with Ken Doherty, Director of Community Services and Becky Rogers in her new position as Manager of Arts, Culture and Heritage. This is an informal meeting held annually with City officials to review our achievements, discuss concerns and advise us of our municipal funding.

The City is committed to maintaining a strong and supportive relationship with PHS. It will again this year provide funding for the museum's operations through the Municipal Capital Facilities Fund, with a two percent increase for inflation. It will also continue to wave property taxes, which is a considerable savings to us. This meeting also alerted us to a number of initiatives of interest to us. For example, the Jackson Creek Diversion Project scheduled to begin in 2015, will result in major changes to our surrounding neighbourhood. This multi-year project will construct an underground trench down Bethune Street to the waterfront to control access water when flooding is an issue. At the same time, Bethune Street will get a make-over with walking and cycling trails and landscaping. Although over the short-term, this may cause us some access problems, eventually it should offer new opportunities to attract visitors to the museum.

As a key component of the Municipal Cultural Plan, the City has undertaken a Cultural Mapping project that will identify cultural attractions and activities throughout Peterborough. It will include Hutchison House Museum and the locations of our more than 40 PHS historical plaques commemorating local history. It is also participating in initiatives to increase tourism to the City and promote a country-wide tourism approach.

Barb McIntosh

Museum Memories Presented by Ken Armstrong

Ken Armstrong was guest speaker at the PHS Public Meeting on May 20th. As May is Museum Month in Ontario, it was an ideal time for Ken to share his thoughts on the history of museums and his experiences in visiting museums around the world. For over 100 years, museums have been the place to show the world our past. Over the years, these museums have changed from the traditional museum that displays artifacts under glass, to living history museums with interactive displays, as well as museums dedicated to specific topics such as shoes, canoes, science and technology.

Ken highlighted some interesting features of several museums he has visited. For example, The Israel Museum which houses the Dead Sea scrolls, has a unique white dome that replicates the lids of jars in which the scrolls were originally found. The Holocaust Museum of Jerusalem is hidden within the Mount of Remembrance. Each gallery hidden in the mountain tells the story of the Holocaust chapter by chapter. Most visitors find the experience of visiting this museum profound. He also talked about a small museum, the Winnipegosis Museum, which like Hutchison House is self-supporting. This museum was originally a Canadian National Railway Station built in 1897. The museum is supported by volunteers from a small community of 650 residents. who are determined to keep it open. Even though the building was purchased for one dollar, it is in urgent need of repair and its future may be threatened if a new source of funds isn't found.

In order to remain relevant, the role of both large and small museums is changing. For example, the Peterborough Museum now works closely with Fleming College in its museum studies programs (as does Hutchison House) and The New Jersey Science Centre has students using its facilities for education and research.

Marilyn MacNaughton

From the Curator

There is no doubt that the summer season is now fully upon us. The gardens are looking luscious, the junior volunteers have been assigned their summer schedules (not an easy task!) and we've added 3 new students to our staff. Erin and I are very pleased to welcome Kara Haemel, Summer Programming Coordinator (she now knows what it's like to develop the above mentioned schedules), Erin McLaughlin, Historic Garden Interpreter (who is learning more about the plant world bloom by bloom), and Kostia Arlouski, Historic Garden Caretaker (there's plenty of work to go around). All three seem eager and enthusiastic about learning more about the history of our community as well as meeting and greeting our summer visitors. It promises to be an interesting summer indeed.

There are always so many people to thank for their hard work and dedication to Hutchison House. It takes a lot to keep this old house humming and everyone who contributes to make the museum a special place deserves a tremendous round of applause. Our volunteers are the backbone of the organization. On Thursday, June 26 we hosted our annual Volunteer Appreciation Tea, and while not all of the volunteers were able to make it, we did have a wonderful turn out for the event. There's nothing like fresh, local strawberries shared among good friends. The Baby Photo contest was a real hit. Linda Lumsden was the winner with 11 people identified correctly. John Fewings was the runner up with 10 correct answers. I've said it before, and I'll say it again, we really could not do it without you. Thanks a million!

Again this year the museum will offer a number of children's workshops throughout the season. All programs are geared to children 6-12 years of age. The cost

is \$15 per program and pre-registration is required.

Mark your calendars now for the annual Peach Tea on Thursday, August 14th from noon to 4pm. Tickets for Peach Tea may be purchased in advance at a reduced rate .of \$8.00 for adults/\$5.00 for children. Tickets will also be available at the door for the price of \$9.00 for adults/\$6.00 for children. For information on any of our programs and events please call the museum office at (705) 743-9710 or visit the website at www.hutchisonhouse.ca

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy and safe summer!

Gale Fewings & Erin Panepinto

Summer Students: Kostia Arlouski, Historic Garden Caretaker, Erin McLaughlin, Historic Garden Interpreter and Kara Haemel, Summer Programming Coordinator





PETERBOROUH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Submissions for the September Issue due by Wednesday, August 20, 2014. We welcome articles of historical interest and Letters to the Editor.

The Bulletin
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Congratulations Elwood Jones

The PHS would like to congratulate Professor Emeritus Elwood Jones for his recent heritage award presented at the Annual General Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society. The PHS nominated Dr. Jones for the Janet Carnochan Award to recognize his outstanding contribution to the commemoration of the rich heritage of this area. The PHS assembled letters of support that acknowledged the outstanding work that Elwood has contributed over the many years - his regular newspaper column, the various tours, his work at Trent Valley Archives and his numerous publications.

The prestigious award from the OHS is a fitting tribute to Elwood. In accepting his award at the AGM, Elwood pointed out that the venue for the ceremony - the restored home of Senator O'Connor was a fitting locale as he was yet another Peterborough resident who helped make Toronto famous - in



O'Connor's case being the founder of Laura Secord Chocolate. Only Elwood could come up with such a connection. Congratulations on welldeserved recognition from PHS.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

Elwood Jones was presented with the Janet Carnochan Award by OHS Director Allan Macdonell'



Plant and Bake Sale Volunteers , May 24, 2014: Susan Jewell, David Barkley, Edith Butler, Linda Chandler, Betty Hinton, Barbara Barkley, Barb McIntosh, Dennis Carter-Edwards, Doreen Jones, Loretta Terry, Annette, Diamond.