



UPCOMING EVENTS

**March Break Programs
for children
Hutchison House
March 15,16,17,&18**

**PHS Annual General
Meeting & Dinner
Princess Gardens
March 22**

**Heritage Luncheons
March 2, April 6, May 4
12:00 and 1:30 p.m.
Advance tickets
required**

**PHS Monthly Lecture
Wednesday, April 20
NEW LOCATION
The Parlour
Trinity United Church**

A Chance to Explore History in the Making at the Annual General Meeting, March 22

The guest speaker at the PHS Annual General Meeting will be Dr. Ray March, internationally recognized for his work on mass spectrometry. Dr. March played a key role in the Rosetta Project – a robotic space probe that successfully landed on a comet in 2014, after travelling more than 6.4 billion kilometres for over 10 years in space.

Mass Spectrometry is a technique by which chemical substances are identified by sorting ions in electric and magnetic fields. Dr. March provided key information on how to construct the equipment that is being used to collect data from the surface of the comet.

While the Rosetta is already making history as the first spacecraft to orbit with a comet, collecting information from it will also be ground-breaking. Since this comet is believed to be around 4,600 million years old, the new data will help to explain the origins of the solar system as well as life on earth. The Rosetta project was to have ended its mission in December 2015, but it is still functioning.

Dr. March is a Professor Emeritus in Chemistry from Trent University. Although he officially retired in 1999, he continued to teach a graduate course. He was contacted over a decade ago to help with the Rosetta Project.

PHS is honoured to have him as keynote speaker at the AGM. This is truly a unique opportunity for all of us to get a first hand account of space-age history in the making.



The Rosetta's lander, Philae, was deployed from the spacecraft to make the first controlled landing on a comet, using harpoons to anchor itself. After travelling 6.4 billion kilometres, it reached the comet in August 2014.

From the President

The Annual General Meeting is coming up on March 22nd. Along with the usual business items that require annual approval by the membership, we will be electing a new Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee has put forward a full slate of candidates, including some new recruits. I will be stepping down and the new President will be elected by the Board at its first meeting in April.

We are delighted to have Dr. Ray March as our keynote speaker. As a major contributor to the groundbreaking Rosetta Project, he will be giving us an insiders look at this space age project. .

This year's Occasional Paper entitled *John Craig , Stories From His Kawartha Past* written by Michael Peterman, will be launched at the AGM. This is the 36th annual paper to be produced by the PHS Publication Committee. Michael will be there to autograph the publication for members.

Again this year, we will be presenting the PHS Heritage Awards at the AGM. These awards recognize outstanding contributions to heritage preservation in the community by individuals and groups. The awards program was introduced in 1998. Now in its 18th year, it remains one of the Society's most significant outreach programs. More than 60 awards have been presented over the years for a wide variety of contributions to the community. I encourage all members to attend this important meeting.

Barbara McIntosh



Peterborough Historical Society 2016 Annual Heritage Awards

Call for Nominations Deadline: Friday, March 4, 2016

PHS Annual General Meeting & Dinner

Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Guest Speaker: Dr. Raymond March Professor Emeritus, Chemistry Trent University
Project Rosetta: Trapping Ions on Comets

Princess Gardens

PHS Business Meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Cash Bar: 6:30 p.m.

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

PHS Heritage Awards will be presented after dinner

\$40.00 for Members \$45.00 for non-members

The dinner is open to the public

Tickets are available at PHS office

From the Curator

The first official Family Day in Ontario was introduced on February 18, 2008. Just one year later Ann Baker convinced her family members to roll up their sleeves, get down on their knees and painstakingly hand scrub the keeping room floor at Hutchison House. That was seven years ago now and the Baker family are continuing their tradition.

Over the years I have had the opportunity to watch Ann's own children grow and mature as each in their turn has taken the time to help us out in so many ways. This past Family Day, 2 younger members of the clan took part in the floor cleaning ritual. Ann's niece Hannah (6) and nephew Isaac (4) joined Ann's team which also included her parents Walter and Donna, husband Joe, brothers Cory and Jamie, sister-in-law Jenny, and daughter Lily.

It may seem odd to some, but there is a great deal of satisfaction derived from what may be considered such a mundane task. For those of us who cherish the House recognize the exquisite beauty of the wooden floor divest of the traces left behind by all who tread on it. As a result the keeping room seems to emit a sense of renewal that adds to its infinite charm.

Thank you to the Bakers and especially to Ann who is not only dedicated to Hutchison House, she is also a very dear friend.

Of course the biggest challenge now will be trying to keep the floor relatively clean for the next few months of muddy boots! In March alone we have another heritage luncheon, four March Break programs, a luncheon and tour for the Probus Club of Trent Hills, a film shoot involving local talent including one of our own talented volunteers, children's birthday parties as well as school programming on an on-going basis.

For more information on any of our events or programs please visit our website at www.hutchisonhouse.ca or call the museum office. You can also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Hutchison-House-Museum-120961071272046/>. Kudos to Erin Panepinto for keeping Hutchison House Museum in the cyber loop!

To learn more about what we've accomplished in the past year be sure to pick up a copy of the Hutchison House Annual Report 2015 at the up-coming PHS Annual General Meeting on March 22 at Princess Gardens.

Gale Fewings

The Baker Clan



Baker senior & juniors



Isaac & Walter Baker



**PETERBOROUGH
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Phone: 705-740-2600
info@peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

**Hutchison House
Museum**

270 Brock Street
Peterborough Ontario
K9H 2P9

Phone 705-743-9710
info@hutchisonhouse.ca

Websites:
hutchisonhouse.ca

peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca

The Bulletin

Editor: **Barb McIntosh**
Publisher: **Marilyn
MacNaughton**
Distribution: **Linda Lumsden**

Bulletin (ISSN 1484-5983)

The Message from the Mount.

Andi van Koeverden, Director of Strategic Advancement for the Mount Community Centre, presented an informative talk on the history and future development of the former Mount St. Joseph's complex. This significant historic building dates to the 1860s when it was the private residence, according to the Romaine atlas, belonging to D.G. Hatton. The property was acquired by the Catholic Diocese in 1895 and converted to residence for the 12 Sisters of St. Joseph who were brought to Peterborough to support a Catholic hospital. As additional Sisters arrived new wings were added to the complex.

With the use of very detailed period photographs, Andi highlighted the various changes to the Mount during the 20th century. The last addition came in 1969. With the declining population of nuns, the property was sold to private developers in 2009 but the downturn in the economy hindered redevelopment and the property was again on the market in 2013.

The Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network, originally formed by Past Mayor Paul Ayotte was looking for a suitable property to create affordable housing and a food centre. With thanks to generous donations and a few miracles, the PPRN acquired the property and turned it over to a newly formed non-profit organization called "The Mount Community Centre."

Today, the 10 member Board of Directors have ambitious plans to repurpose the facility for complementary "hubs": Housing, Food, Health and Social Services and Arts and Culture. Work is well underway on 43 new apartment units. The building is designated under the Ontario Heritage Act for both exterior and interior heritage features. This has posed a challenge to the renovations that need to respect the historic character of the building. The Board has engaged with numerous partners from students at Lakefield College to the Victorian Order of Nurses, to Trent University and Sir Sandford Fleming College.

Andi's presentation was enhanced with remarks by Sister Joan Driscoll who lived at the Mount and has served as a valuable source of oral history on the property. Society members wishing to find out more about this important community project can check their website.

Dennis Carter-Edwards



Andi van Koeverden (left) and Sister Joan Driscoll with photo of the Mount, currently being renovated.