

*Peterborough Historical Society**365th Bulletin**February 2010*

ISSN 1494-5983



**PHS Annual General Meeting,
GALA TURKEY DINNER
& SILENT AUCTION
Tuesday, February 16, 2010
The Atrium of Princess Gardens,
Charlotte Street, Peterborough
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Dinner served at 6:30 pm**

The Atrium of Princess Gardens, Charlotte Street, Peterborough, will again be the location of the Peterborough Historical Society's Gala event. A sumptuous roast beef dinner, accompanied by a cash bar, will be served at 6:30 pm followed by a brief Annual General Meeting.

The Silent Auction will begin at 6:00 pm and continue throughout the evening. The auction will feature show tickets, food and wine gift baskets and vouchers for local restaurants as well as local books and objects.

Tickets, at \$25 for PHS members and \$30 for non-members can be purchased from Hutchison House (Tuesday to Friday) or by calling 740-2600 - and arrangements will be made for your required number of tickets.

Mary Lavery

**The Peterborough Historical Society
welcomes nominations
for its annual Heritage Awards
from now until March 8**

Nominees can be individuals, businesses, institutions, organizations, members of the media or the initiator of the project. The recipients are chosen by an awards committee composed of three citizens who are independent from the Peterborough Historical Society.



Elwood Jones and Gwen Morawetz looking over items at the silent auction at last year's Annual General Meeting

In order to accommodate the winners, their friends and families, the Awards Certificates **will be presented at the Heritage Awards Ceremony taking place on Wednesday April 21 beginning at 7:30PM at Empress Gardens, Charlotte Street, Peterborough.**

The five awards are named in honour of former citizens of Peterborough who made significant contributions to the Peterborough area, are listed below:

The **F. H. Dobbin Award** which acknowledges exceptional coverage of historical events, articles, photos or videos.

The **Charlotte Nichols Award** which is awarded to individuals or groups who make substantial financial donations for the preservation and/or recognition of historic sites, artifacts etc.

The **Samuel Armour Award** recognizing the involvement and exposure of students to local historical opportunities, programs and/or development of curriculum based on local history.

The George Cox Award is given for historical restoration and/or preservation of Peterborough properties i.e. artifacts, structures, gardens, parks etc.

The J. Hampden Burnham Award is given to individuals or groups for establishing venues for public awareness of historical events, places or people.

Applications may be obtained by telephoning the Peterborough Historical Society office at 740-2600, by visiting Hutchison House at 270 Brock Street, at Peterborough Museum and Archives, Peterborough City Hall Reception desk or Trent Valley Archives.

Mary Lavery

.....from the president

Brighten your day by joining us in the beautiful and airy atrium at Princess Gardens on Tuesday Feb.16th at 6:00 pm!

We'll have a scrumptious roast beef dinner together and, if you wish, a glass or two of wine. You'll have fun perusing and bidding on the interesting and coveted items at the Silent Auction. I'll see you there

Mary Lavery

Doug Hooper extolling the virtues of malt whiskey at the Whiskey Nosing last year



Look Up Peterborough Poster

The Peterborough Historical Society and the Peterborough Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (PACAC) working in partnership on a joint project have produced a beautiful full-colour poster, 18 by 24 inches in size, called "**Look Up Peterborough**" with pictures of unique and beautiful features on interesting buildings in Peterborough.

All the images challenge us to look above street level. **The posters are \$10.00 each and are printed on high quality paper.** Only 500 have been printed (limited edition). These can be framed or plaqued and make a beautiful gift or a personal keepsake. Proceeds from the sale of posters support the many activities of Peterborough Historical Society, including Hutchison House Museum, Awards and Recognitions, and Special Events.

Posters are available for sale at Titles Bookstore on George Street, Peterborough and Kawartha Tourism, Hutchison House, Peterborough City Hall (Recreation Department) and at the Peterborough Historical Society Office. For more information contact the PHS office at 740-2600.

Mary Lavery

WHISKY NOSING EVENT

Mark Wednesday April 28, 2010 on your calendar for the Peterborough Historical Society's Whisky Nosing event. Join us at 7:00 p.m. at Hutchison House for hot mulled cider before our piper leads the parade of kilts up the hill to St. Andrews United Church where the fun will begin!

The Peterborough Scottish Country Dancers will be performing some demonstration dances (you too can join in), followed by our Whisky Nosing experts from the An Quaich Society who will present three unique and distinct single malt whiskys for your appreciation. For those who are not whisky fans, wine will be available. The evening will finish off with servings of delicious Scottish fare.

Tickets are \$40.00 for PHS members and \$45.00 for non-members and can be purchased at Hutchison House or by calling Peterborough Historical Society at 740-2600

Get your tickets early as there are limited numbers available and you don't want to miss this great event.

Mary Lavery

WHAT'S OLD IS NEW

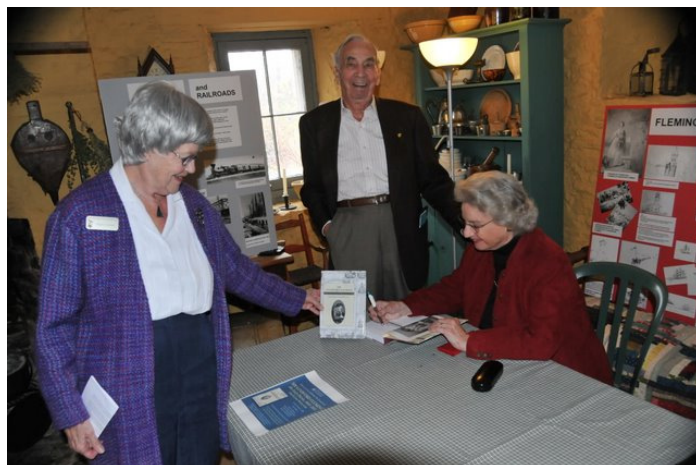
The Peterborough Historical Society has introduced a new feature to their regular monthly meetings, the "Artifact of the Month" presentation. Members are invited to bring along a family heirloom, personal artifact or object that has an interesting history associated with it. This could be a story about the varied routes the object has travelled, perhaps from the "Old Country" or some special memory or sentimental value attached to it. In some cases, the audience is invited to guess what the object might be. While the Peterborough Historical Society is not about to embark on an Antique Road Show we are interested in seeing and sharing the rich material history of our community. So look through you attic, basement or drawers and see if you have an item that might be of interest to our members.

Our next regular monthly meeting will be in March 16.

Dennis Carter-Edwards

Our Last Meeting

Jean Murray Cole, long-time member of PHS, intrepid researcher and a particular admirer of Sandford Fleming, took the audience on a fascinating tour of Fleming's first eight years in Canada. As Michael Peterman noted in his introduction "a writer is always a writer" and Jean is a fine example of an historical writer who brings the past alive. Twenty years ago she wrote the Society's second occasional paper *Sandford Fleming: No Better Inheritance*, but always felt he deserved a deeper study. Transcribing his diaries was a lengthy process but there is a consistency in his style and handwriting. Jean researched the names of numerous individuals (usually noted only by surname) and added an useful appendix of who's who in the diaries. Jean read the original diaries at the National Archives and wondered whether Fleming foresaw their future publication. His biography by Lawrence Burpee, *Sandford Fleming: Empire Builder*, was written before Fleming's



Mary Lavery and Jim Lilico with Jean Cole and her new book on Sandford Fleming

Death in 1915. It is likely the diaries were examined for details. No diaries exist for 1847, the year Sandford's parents and the younger six children emigrated to Canada.

Jean read excerpts from the diaries which capture the extraordinary interest Fleming took in his surroundings. The lengthy sea passage in late April 1845 is a fascinating picture of the uncomfortable conditions of a sailing ship in rough seas and winds, as passengers and household goods slipped and slid from port to starboard. Fleming's engineer's eye catches the essence of the moment whether it is passengers racked with seasickness or the awesome beauty of icebergs rising out of the fog. Only 18 when he and his brother David left Scotland, Sandford had been apprenticed at 14, was a keen student and skilled artist. His diaries include many watercolour and pen and ink sketches.

It was mid-June when the Fleming brothers reached Dr Hutchison's house in Peterborough, a town of about 2,000. Sandford aimed to be a surveyor but jobs were scarce at first. David turned to furniture making and found work in Toronto quite quickly.

The diaries are much more than a daily record of jobs done and people seen. We see an eager, curious young man, full of many enthusiasms and considerable energy. Sandford travels with Dr Hutchison, works on the gardens, meets local families like the James Halls, sketches and draws maps.

His mind is constantly considering inventions.

When the Fleming family settled in Toronto in 1847, Sandford met several architects, William Leather, John Howard, and Frederick Cumberland. Edward Ellice, member of the Hudson's Bay Company, introduced Fleming to Toronto Canada Company officials.

Fleming depicts land and water travel in the 1840s so effectively one becomes immersed in the era of sailing ships, early steamships, buggies, winter sleighs, snowshoes and the earliest rail travel. It was an era of invention, learning and exploration leading to formation of the Mechanics Institute and the Canadian Institute of which Fleming was a founding member. In August 1852, Fleming was appointed assistant engineer for the Ontario Simcoe and Huron Railway, Ontario's first railway. His diary notations are often sparse at first glance, but the details are illuminating Fleming was a remarkable man who embraced all that life had to offer. When asked what was most revealing about his character, Jean Cole answered "he didn't wait for other people to push him". Jean's introductory essays for the nine chapters in *Sir Sandford Fleming: His Early Diaries 1845-1853* and Fleming's writings give a vivid picture of an enterprising young Scot in Upper Canada

Kathy Hooke

Hutchison House Report

Hogmanay is always a terrific celebration and our 2010 event was no exception. There were about 200 visitors again this year as well as approximately 50 volunteers including the entertainers, their families, the PHS board members, and, of course, the fabulous Hutchison House volunteers. Many thanks to everyone for helping to make the occasion such a success.

The House also participated in the annual Peterborough **Snofest** for the third year running in mid-January. We offered guests a lovely dessert and beverage by the crackling fire in the keeping room and tours of the museum. Three sittings were held during the afternoon with a total of 65 people in attendance for the event. I am very grateful to Erin Panepinto, Bob Laing, Jamie Cole, Linda

Chandler, Deb Taylor, Carol Koeslag, Heather Barker, Nicole Payne, and Laura Stein for stepping up to the plate and running this event in my absence. From what I've heard it went off without a hitch!

Over the past several months visitors have enjoyed the temporary exhibit mounted by the **Peterborough Handweavers and Spinners Guild**. It was a very interesting and attractive addition to the house. The exhibit was designed and mounted by Guild member Faye Jacobs with the assistance of fellow member Carole Irwin. I was very impressed with the outcome and look forward to working with the Guild again in future.

We are currently planning our next temporary exhibit which will feature homemade quilts and the stories that go with them. This exhibit will probably be on display for the next two months only as we anticipate the museum will undergo some construction projects in early spring. As a result some of our activities may be rather limited during the month of April.

Throughout the month of March, however, the museum will conduct business as usual. We will host another **Heritage Luncheon on Wednesday, March 3rd**. Tickets at \$12 per person are on sale now for 2 sitting times (12:00pm and 1:30pm). Space is limited and tickets sell quickly, so if you're interested in booking please call the office at 743-9710.

March Break programs are scheduled for the week of March 15 through 19. The museum will offer four different morning programs, and in partnership with the **Embroiderer's Guild of Peterborough**, one afternoon program will be held. Each 'hands-on' workshop is geared to children ages 6 to 12 years at a cost of \$15 per person. Pre-registration is required. For details please call the museum office or pick up the latest edition of **Peterborough Kids** magazine to see our ad and program listings.

Again, thank you to the volunteers for helping to make the House a home.

Gale Fewings

Snow Fest January 14



Toward a Peterborough Chapter of the Ontario Archaeological Society

At the January 19 meeting of the PHS, speaking as the new Director of Heritage Advocacy for the sixty-year-old Ontario Archaeological Society, I announced the first steps to form a Peterborough Chapter of the OAS. When I asked how many present were already in the OAS, only one person raised her hand - Martha Kidd - a founding member of the society! At our January Board meeting, I offered to contact members in the area to initiate and guide the formation process for the eighth OAS chapter. With no chapters between Toronto and Ottawa, Peterborough would also serve the broader region of east central Ontario. There are already about 50 members in the area.

The Ontario Archaeological Society brings together people interested in archaeology, particularly in Ontario. We encourage the proper, informed and ethical practice of archaeology, exchange knowledge through educational programs, publish archaeological research and stimulate public interest in archaeology.

Annual Individual membership is \$34, Families pay \$38 and Students \$23. Members receive our bi-monthly newsletter, *Arch Notes*, and may also subscribe to the society's professional journal, *Ontario Archaeology*, at the reduced rate of \$12.

The Society holds an Annual Business Meeting and Symposium on a particular archaeological theme in October at different Ontario venues. Each chapter sets and collects its own dues and organizes monthly meetings, featuring talks by archaeologists and other heritage specialists. Some chapters conduct archaeological excavations and laboratory analysis under the supervision of qualified licensed archaeologists.

To learn more about the OAS access our web site at: www.ontarioarchaeology.on.ca or consult our publications at Trent University's Bata Library. If you are interested in joining or want to help start up a Peterborough Chapter, please contact me at: mtamplin@trentu.ca or heritage@ontarioarchaeology.on.ca.

Morgan J. Tamplin, Research Fellow

Hutchison House Museum

**Owned & operated by the
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Mark your Calendars

PHS General Meetings

Tuesday March 16, 2010, our guest speaker Jon Oldham. His topic will be Vaudeville in Canada.

Tuesday April 20, 2010 our guest speaker Robert Winslow. His topic will be how local history makes it to the 4th Line Theatre.

Hutchison House

Heritage Luncheons are on Wednesday, March 3, April 7, and May 5. Call the office at 743-9710 for details and to book tickets.

March Break

- Teddy Bears - Tues. March 16 (9:30 – noon)
- Needlepoint Scissors Pouch (includes folding scissors) Tues March 16 (1-4pm)
- Dream Catchers – Wed. March 17 (9:30 – noon)
- Kaleidoscopes – Thur. March 18 (9:30 – noon)
- Book Binding – Fri. March 19 (9:30 – noon)

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Publisher **Marilyn MacNaughton**
Photographer **Doug Lavery**

Bulletin submissions for the March issue due by February 17, 2010 (day after meeting).

www.nexicom.net/~history