

*Peterborough Historical Society**374th Bulletin**February 2011*

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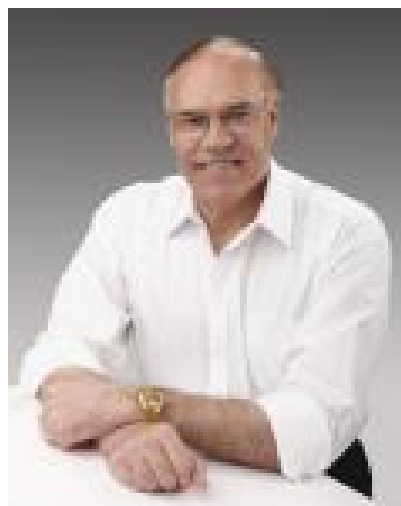
**PHS Annual General Meeting,****GALA TURKEY DINNER****Tuesday February 15, 2011****The Atrium of Princess Gardens,****Charlotte Street, Peterborough****6:00 pm to 9:00 pm****Dinner served at 6:30 pm****8:15 pm Keynote Address****Arts, Culture & Heritage in the Future****Development of our Community****– Mayor Daryl Bennett**

The Atrium of Princess Gardens, Charlotte Street, Peterborough, will be the location of the Peterborough Historical Society's Annual event. A sumptuous turkey dinner, accompanied by a cash bar, will be served at 6:30 pm followed by a brief Annual General Meeting. The newly revised PHS By-law #3 will be voted upon during the AGM.

As Keynote Speaker, Daryl Bennett, newly elected Mayor of Peterborough, will give his view of "Arts, Culture and Heritage in the Future Development of our Community". A life-long resident of Peterborough area. Mr. Bennett's view spans a heritage of family of several generations and their experiences. We look forward to his insight into our community's future

A Raffle and cash bar will begin at 6:00 pm and continue throughout the evening.

Tickets, at \$30.00 will be on sale at Hutchison House and the PHS office. A message and payment (cash, cheques or VISA) may be left at PHS office – 740-2600 - and arrangements will be made for your required number of tickets. All tickets must be pre-paid by cash, cheques or VISA before being picked up.

**Mary Lavery**

Daryl Bennett

Photo Credit:
Mayor's office, City
of Peterborough

**T.H.B. Symons Appointed Honorary President
of Peterborough Historical Society**

T.H.B. Symons has recently accepted the position of Honorary President of the Peterborough Historical Society. This is the second such appointment since the Society's inception in 1896.

Catharine Parr Traill was appointed first honorary president of the Peterborough Historical Society on December 7, 1896 as Lt. Col H. C. Rogers was elected president of the Society.

The Peterborough Historical Society is indeed honoured that Tom Symons has accepted this position. As a longstanding member of the Society he is constantly promoting its merits.

Dennis Carter-Edwrds

President's message.....

Mayor Daryl Bennett will be our keynote speaker on the roll of Arts, Culture and Heritage in the future development of our Community at the PHS Annual General Meeting on February 15th. Mayor Bennett will speaker after our turkey dinner at Princess Gardens. We are indeed excited to welcome him.

After three years I am finally stepping down as President and becoming Past-President and Chair of Hutchison House's Management Committee. Dennis Carter-Edwards will become the President with a capable group of nominees filling the roll of the Board of Directors.

I urge you to attend the PHS AGM and cast your vote in favour of the revised By-Law #3. It will be a busy and important evening. Tickets are on sale at the PHS office and Hutchison House.

Mary Lavery

**Peterborough Historic Society
Notice of Annual Meeting of Members**

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Peterborough Historic Society will be held at Princess Gardens in Peterborough on the 15th day of February, 2010 at the hour of 8:30 pm in the evening, (Dinner and Registration will at 6:00 pm) for the following purpose:

- 1.) Receiving and considering the Annual Report of the Directors, and the Financial Statements for the year ending December 31st, 2010 and the report of the Auditors thereon;
- 2.) Confirmation of any By-Law Amendments passed by the Board of Directors;
- 3.) To confirm the election of Directors
- 4.) To appoint or re-appoint Auditors of the Corporation and authorizing the Board of Directors to fix their remuneration.
- 5.) Transacting such further business as may be properly come before the Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Only Members of record at the close of business as of January 31st, 2011 will be entitled to Notice and to vote at the Meeting or adjournment thereof.

Some Explanation of the Revised PHS By-Laws to be voted on at the AGM on Feb.15, 2011

For some time now we have been working on revisions to PHS By-laws and in 2007 circulated a draft copy to the then Directors. As my Presidency draws to a close this issue needs resolution. Therefore every member of PHS was sent, either by mail or email, the proposed revision to the By-laws entitled By-Law number 3 in December 2010. The changes have been underlined in the text.

The original draft was reviewed in 2007 with our legal counsel, Gary Rishor, and the changes suggested by him have been included in the attached draft. In addition the attached draft includes minor changes suggested by Gary at a meeting of Peter Darling and me which took place in November.

Some may ask why we need to make changes?

The original By-laws were drawn up and passed in June 1977. Much has changed since that time. There are new methods of communication i.e. e-mail and fax. There have been vast changes in the laws surrounding liability. Situations concerning membership and directorship have arisen which were not covered in By-Law No.1. There was no provision for defining the process by which amendments could be made to the existing By-laws. Provision has now been made to define what would happen if the Society should decide to wind up its operations.

On the advice of legal counsel we have decided to issue the revised By-law as By-Law No.3 rather than revise By-Law No.1. By-Law No.2, which deals with "The Borrowing of Money by the Company", continues in force.

At one point, a document was issued dealing with the formation of the Hutchinson House Management Board. This was described as an Addendum to By-Law No.1. Again we have been advised by our legal counsel that as the existing and the revised By-law gives the Board power to form whatever committees seem appropriate at the time, that this Addendum need not be part of By-Law No.3. It will be revised as required along with the other Board committees, and presented to the Board for approval in 2011.

As a matter of process a vote of approval of the By-Law #3 occurred at the December 2010 Board meeting. The mailing or emailing of the Bulletin to the members in December included the notice of the Annual General Meeting on February 15, 2011 as well as a copy of the revised By-laws which will then be voted upon.

As the above proposals are in the best interest of the Society I ask for your interest and approval. Thank you.

Mary Lavery, President

New Website is Up and Running

Hutchison House and PHS now have new websites – www.hutchisonhouse.ca and www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca. The sites are linked and share a common calendar of events.

This is just a beginning and there is much more that can be added in the future. Please have a look and let us know what you think.

Barbara McIntosh

E-mail Brings Colour to your Bulletin

By agreeing to accept the Bulletin by e-mail you can enjoy all the photographs in colour. You can also print it out in colour if you have access to a colour printer.

With postage costs going up again in February, we encourage you to consider the e-mail version as a cost-saving option. Of course, we will still continue to mail the Bulletin to PHS members who prefer to receive the printed copy.

Plans for 2011 include more historical content, book reviews and a heritage recipes column. We welcome submission froms members. Please contact the Editor, Linda Lumsden at 742-7157 if you have story ideas.

Barbara McIntosh

SHOW AND TELL



The “What-Not” pictured has an early Peterborough connection.

Aaron Comstock moved to Peterborough to work for the Poole Brothers, Edwin and Thomas, in their cabinetry shop. In 1853 he became the owner of the business and had a furniture store on George Street for many years.

Eventually the Comstock family added the funeral home.

The What-Not is a Comstock piece bought by Sam Keyes (my mother’s uncle) when he was principal of the Peterborough Normal School (probably before 1920). When he became principal of the Ottawa Normal School he took the What-Not to Ottawa. His wife and my mother shared the name, Mildred; on the death of Mildred Keyes, she left the What-Not to my mother, Mildred Swerdfeger so it moved to Glen Stewart south of Ottawa.

After my mother died, my father moved to Peterborough and the What-Not came with him, then to me. So it has circled back to its beginnings.

Do you have a piece of furniture, a painting, a book, a letter, a lamp, a curio, a piece of china, a sword, an interesting tool or an anecdote which will reveal a bit of Peterborough history? Would you like to share it – Show and Tell – at one of our meetings? Help bring some Peterborough history to life. Phone Kathy Hooke at 705-745-3515 or Dennis Carter-Edwards at 705-743-4220.

Enid Mallory

Hutchison House Report

Staff and volunteers have had a busy start to 2011 with another successful Hogmanay. Despite the rainy weather over 330 people attended this traditional Scottish event. Hutchison House staff would like to thank Kevan Leahy for his fiddle, Bill Simpson for his address to the Haggis, Colin Campbell for his piping, Iain Steele for being our First Footer, the Hastings and Prince Edward Regiment Pipe Band (all 12 of them), and the Ard-Mohr School of Highland Dancers under Lynn Mooney for helping us to create another memorable event. We would also like to thank Deputy Mayor Henry Clarke, PHS president Mary Lavery, Dennis Carter-Edwards, Bill Carson and Linda Lumsden for acting as greeters for our visitors. And of course, it goes without saying, our wonderful, dedicated team of Hutchison House Volunteers!

We were delighted to host another event this year in conjunction with the Snofest Peterborough gang. Our Fireside Tea and Dessert event was well attended with 55 people coming out to enjoy 'sweet apple buckle' by the hearth.

If you're getting tired of winter and would like to spend a cozy hour by the keeping room fire we have a Heritage Luncheon on Wednesday, March 2nd. There will be two sittings as usual, one at noon and a second sitting at 1:30pm. Tickets are \$12 each and must be ordered in advance.

The museum is developing an exciting new list of programs for children ages 6 to 13 to be offered throughout March Break. For further details contact the museum office or check out the new Hutchison House website.

With thanks to generous funding from Fednor and the Community Futures Development Corporation, Hutchison House now has a virtual tour of the museum on DVD and a wide screen LCD television. This will allow visitors with limited mobility to have the opportunity to learn about the house, including the upper levels. In addition, the tour may be used for outreach programming as well as a valuable training tool for newer volunteers and summer staff. Our new website and that of the Peterborough Historical Society were also funded through Fednor and CFDC. We are very grateful

for the funding and proud of the outcome. Anyone wishing to view the DVD is welcome to visit the house to see it in person.

Once again Erin and I would like to thank the volunteers for all you do for Hutchison House. We really couldn't do it without you!

Gale Fewings

Hogmanay January 1, 2011



George Albertus Cox



George A. Cox arrived at the Peterborough Historical Society meeting in full fan fare. He was boisterously led in by musicians playing a tuba and a flute, followed by two banners promoting the Temperance League of Peterborough, fellow supporters, and his wife. After taking his place at the podium, he led the assembled group in the singing of the national anthem "God Save the King". Mr Cox then told us of his many accomplishments in Peterborough - president/ manger of several businesses such as Canada Life, Montreal Telegraph, Midland Railway, and Bank of Commerce and his real estate holdings such as the Terrace on Rubidge Street, Morrow Building and Bank of Commerce. He talked of his influence on the Peterborough economy as he said he was instrumental in bringing both Quaker Oats and General Electric to Peterborough. He spoke of his concern for the welfare of his family, his church and his community, so he decided to run for mayor and he had five successful terms - 1872 to 1874 and 1885 to 1886. (At this time elections were annual). In 1875 he decided to run as a Liberal in the Provincial election. When he tried to explain his loss by one vote, both his lawyer James Dennistoun (at that time) and W.R. Scott, successful Conservative candidate, (who were in the audience) interrupted him to clarify the facts about scandal of buying votes. Then Mr Cox told us of how he and Joseph Wesley Flavelle, another local business man, successfully brought the Scott Act of 1885 to Peterborough, making Peterborough was "dry" for 2 years. Mr Cox was very surprised at the reaction of the citizens of Peterborough to the closing of taverns. Another member of the audience Henry Calcutt, a local brewer, explained why Peterborough did not appreciate the damaging effect of temperance on the economic and social life of the community. Mr Cox also ran unsuccessfully in the federal election in 1887. He lost by eleven votes. Soon after, because of business reasons, George Cox moved to Toronto. He was president of 43 companies and one of the richest men in Canada. But through his philanthropy and business connections, he remained loyal to Peterborough. Mr Cox, to end his presentation, led us all in the singing of the hymn "What a Friend we have in Jesus".

Marilyn MacNaughton

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**

**Curator: Gale Fewings
Management Committee:
Members: Edith Butler
Bill Carson
Bill Corbett
Barb Earle
Betty Hinton
Barb McIntosh
Michael Peterman
Debra Taylor**

Board of Directors

**President: Mary Lavery
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Bob Green
Linda Lumsden
Enid Mallory
Barbara McIntosh**

**The Trust Funds Trustees:
Chairperson: David Bate
Peter Darling
Lois Davidson
Don Earle
Marilyn MacNaughton**

Mark your Calendars

PHS General Meetings

Tuesday March 15, 2011, our guest speaker Don Willcock. His topic will be John Kelleher.

Tuesday April 19, 2011 our guest speaker Gale Fewings. Her topic will be Dr Hutchison's Life.

Hutchison House

Heritage Luncheon on Wednesday, March 2, 2011. Call the office at 743-9710 for details and to book tickets. Tickets are \$12 each

March Break

-exciting list of programs for children ages 6 to 13

contact the museum office or check out the new Hutchison House website.

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The Bulletin

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ADVERTISE HERE

A business card size advertisement can be placed in The Bulletin. For more information, please contact PHS.

Bulletin submissions for the March issue due by Wednesday, February 16, 2011 (day after meeting)

Website:

www.peterboroughhistoricalsociety.ca