

History
MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY



ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018

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Remembering Jean



Please join us for tea and treats as we fondly remember Jean Olan. All friends of Jean are especially welcomed to come and share reminiscences.

When: Thursday January 25th, from 2-4 pm

Where: Common Room, Millbrook Manor, 2

Members: No charge. **Non-members:** Duff



Sharing memories of longtime Historical Society member and friend, Jean Olan.

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MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

INCORPORATED JUNE 12, 1987
AFFILIATED MEMBER # 2668, THE ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

5 KING STREET WEST, P.O. BOX 334, MILLBROOK, ON L0A 1G0
www.millbrookcavanhs.com millbrookcavanhs@gmail.com

MANDATE:

The purpose of the Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society is to bring together individuals interested in the diverse historical aspects of Cavan Monaghan and to research, record, retain, preserve and present historical information pertaining to the area.

The objectives of the Society include:

- Recalling the past and preserving the present.
- Maintaining a community repository for artifacts and written records of historical interest to Cavan Monaghan.
- Encouraging the study and research of the history of Cavan Monaghan and heritage-based learning, and developing volunteer opportunities for individuals.
- Securing and preserving an accurate account of the historical, architectural and archaeological heritage of Millbrook and Cavan.
- Advancing education by improving the public's understanding and awareness of the history of Cavan Monaghan by hosting events, displays, exhibitions and performances, supporting programs offered by the society, and by producing educational material.
- Preserving objects and structures of historical significance.

2017-2018 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Celia Hunter
Treasurer	Kim McLeod
Director	Liz Avery
Director	Alex Bushell
Director	Bruce Lepper
Director	Peter Ramsay

**AGENDA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2018**

1. Welcome
2. **Motion** to approve the Agenda as printed
3. **Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 25, 2017
4. **Motion** to appoint a Nominating Chair for the Meeting
5. President's Report
6. Membership Report
7. Newspaper Indexing Project and Genealogy
8. Treasurer's Report:
 - Financial Review 2017-2018
 - Budget for 2018-2019**Motion** to approve the proposed budget for 2018-2019
9. Election of the Board of Directors for 2018-2019
Note: There are to be a maximum of 10 members on the Board of Directors

Nominations to the Board of Directors from the Nominating Chair:
Jeanette Allenbick, Liz Avery, Alex Bushell, Celia Hunter,
Bruce Lepper, Kim McLeod, Peter Ramsay

Nominations from the floor, with a mover and seconder for each
Motion to close nominations
Motion to approve the nominations to the Board of Directors for 2018-2019.
10. Acknowledgements
11. **Motion** to adjourn Annual General Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, May 25, 2017, Centennial Place

Members of the Board in Attendance: Liz Avery, Celia Hunter (President), Shelley Lambe (Minute-taker), Bruce Lepper, Kim McLeod (Treasurer), Mary Preston, Peter Ramsay.

Regrets: Alex Bushell.

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 pm.

- 1. Welcome** extended to all members and guests by president Celia Hunter.
- 2. Motion** to approve the Agenda as printed: Ric Wilson; Ken Roffey. Carried.
- 3. Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 10, 2016: Bruce Lepper; Ken Roffey. Carried.
- 4. President's Report** – Celia Hunter reviewed highlights and Committee Reports as recorded in the Annual Report. The update with regard to Needler's Mill included news of the recent receipt from Otonabee Conservation of a lease agreement that is currently being reviewed. Once signed, ownership of Needler's Mill will be transferred to the Historical Society. The community will be invited to join in painting the mill on a designated day, with professionals looking after the upper reaches. Once the mill is ready, the Historical Society will host a community celebration.
- 5. Treasurer's Report** – Kim McLeod presented the Financial Report and proposed a Budget for the year 2016-2017. Kim highlighted the \$2500 donation received from the Kiani Foundation for the reprint of Mary Sloane Eakins' 'Brief History' booklet, and the \$6,192 raised at the March Masquerade fundraising event. She also noted the \$20,000 balance left in the Mill account, \$15,00 of which is designated for mill repairs and painting, plaques, and insurance, with the remainder to be reserved to pay for insurance over the next five years. **Motion** to accept the Financial Report and approve the proposed budget: Mary Preston; Dave Preston. Carried.
- 6. Election of New Board of Directors for 2017-2018**
Kim McLeod, as nominating chair, thanked retiring Board members Shelley Lambe and Mary Preston for their service, and presented the slate for the Board of Directors for 2017-2018: Liz Avery, Alex Bushell, Celia Hunter, Bruce Lepper, Kim McLeod, Peter Ramsay, and called for additional nominations from the floor.
Motion to close nominations: Glen Spurrell; Mary Preston. Carried.
Motion to accept the nominations for the Board of Directors as received from the Nominating Chair: Glen Spurrell; Mary Preston. Carried.

7. Acknowledgements as printed in the Annual Report were expressed by Celia Hunter.

8. Motion to adjourn: Glen Spurrell; Bruce Lepper. Carried.
The Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:21 pm.



President's Report

The Historical Society Programming Committee, Liz Avery and Glen Spurrell (pictured at right), organized a diverse series of gatherings from September through to March. These included presentations by Millbrook author Geoff Taylor on his first novel Tom Thomson's Last Bonfire (September 28); The Northwest Passage: An Arctic Quest by Michel St. Jean (October 26); and Saving History: the art of preparing old books by John Burbidge (November 23). Our annual January afternoon Tea at the Manor was



dedicated to remembering longtime member and friend Jean Olan, who passed away on November 8. Our February Fireside Chat focused on entertainment before the electronic revolution: Before Radio, Television, Computers and the Internet. In March, we participated in the KAIROS Blanket Exercise hosted by St. Thomas' Anglican Church and facilitated by Frank Tyrrell. The speaker booked for the April gathering was unfortunately unable to come, called away at the last moment to receive an award. For our May 24 Annual General Meeting, accomplished quilter Elaine Young is the guest speaker.

Thank you to Liz and Glen for organizing and hosting the gatherings for the past six years (at least)! Thanks also to Mary Preston for designing and producing the program posters and to Barb Fallis for sending notifications to members.

This past September, a team of Historical Society members including Liz Avery, Bruce Lepper, Peter Ramsay and myself organized and hosted **a walking tour of Millbrook for the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario's Port Hope Branch**. The weather was perfect for a leisurely stroll from the Old Millbrook School to Needler's Mill, along Anne and Prince Streets to King Street West via Cavan Street, and then through the downtown and back up to Gravel Road and Dufferin Street. Architectural features of more than 35 properties were highlighted along the route.

Our 28 visitors were then treated to a well-earned formal tea in the Harry Williams Room. Thanks go to Liz Avery, Lyn Lepper, Anne Ramsay and their helpers, as well as librarians Karla Buckborough and Erin Stewart, for hosting the tea, and to Peter and Bruce for their expertise and gracious guiding.

We are grateful for the partnering we enjoy with the **Cavan Monaghan Library**. This year the library co-hosted the September presentation by author Geoff Taylor, and assisted with the ACO Tour tea. We also work together on some of the genealogy inquiries we receive. The Millbrook branch at the Old Millbrook School is where our display cabinet, that was once part of the furnishings at Fowler's Menswear in downtown Millbrook, is located.

The display cabinet was restored by Peter Ramsay who now curates the exhibits it holds. This past year, Peter has installed the following displays: Westclox collection 1928-1960; shoes, stretchers, lasts, cleaning and repair materials; kitchen utensils and supplies; children's toys for all ages; vintage and collector dolls, on loan by members; Christmas themes – mechanical display; card games and board games. At our gatherings, Peter often brings a mysterious gadget or two that intrigues the audience and sparks some animated discussion. Thank you, Peter!

Mission accomplished: last summer and in early September, the finishing touches were made to the exterior of Needler's Mill, thanks to Oak Springs Construction and John Spencer and Son. These final steps fulfilled our obligation to both the municipality and the conservation authority. Through the summer, discussions with the Otonabee Region Conservation Authority (ORCA) allowed for revisions to the lease agreement for the land on which the mill sits, that would be officially signed in February, 2018. The signing of the lease was celebrated at a public event held at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, Branch 402, and ownership of Needler's Mill was officially transferred to the Historical Society. A plaque recognizing the generosity of the Cowan Foundation in the fundraising drive to save Needler's Mill was unveiled at the event, and presented to Daniel Cowan, along with a framed limited edition print by Shirley Stark of the mill. The plaque will be mounted on the mill later this spring. In April, Ministry approval for the lease to extend through to 2038 was received. The community's success in preserving Needler's Mill was recognized with the presentation of a Heritage Preservation Award from the municipality at the March 5 meeting of Council.



The lease for the land on which Needler's Mill sits is signed by (from left) ORCA CAO Dan Marinigh, ORCA Board vice-chair Sherry Senis, MCHS president Celia Hunter and Board representative for the Mill Committee, Alex Bushell.

Genealogy inquiries frequently arrive in both the Historical Society's Inbox and post office mailbox. Kim McLeod is the go-to person for genealogy research, and in addition to her role as Treasurer, takes the lead in indexing records and documents in the collection. Kim's report is printed below.

We note with sadness and respect the passing of two faithful and supportive members, **Betty Brown** (February 12, 2018) and **Jean Olan** (November 8, 2017). They each contributed much to the community and had so many stories to tell. We were honoured to know them, and they are both much missed.

We have enjoyed the hospitality of **Centennial Place** over the past few years, and thank the staff and residents for their generosity and warm welcome. The facilities and technology have been much appreciated. By holding our regular monthly gatherings in the Fireside Lounge, it was our hope that our program would be of interest to some of the Centennial Place residents. Now, it's time for a change. For the coming season, the Board has proposed that we "mix things up a bit".

Ahead: Blocks and Blooms, Saturday, June 23, 10am-4pm: with the generous financial support of the Millbrook Downtown BIA and Nexicom, this fund-raising event by the Historical Society will feature a dozen distinctive gardens, heritage properties and the Airing of the Quilts. Thank you, Mary Preston, Peter Ramsay and Glen Spurrell for your extraordinary efforts over the past year to prepare and plan for this event. To Bruce Gazley, Elaine Young, and to all the gardeners and quilters involved, the volunteer hosts and guides, ticket sellers, supporters and promoters – thank you!

This fall: we'll be at the **Millbrook Farmers Market on Sunday, September 23**, 10am-1pm to kick off our 2018-19 season. It could be we'll be making cider, and showing off a few other old-fashioned skills!

In October: The Millbrook Correctional Centre – what it meant for Millbrook and area – share memories. Friday, October 26, 7-9pm, at the Millbrook Legion Hall.

In November: Marking the Centenary. This November marks 100 years since the Armistice was signed to end "the war to end all wars". Join us for a special showing of the documentary *Black Watch Snipers*, nominated for two Canadian Screen awards including Best Direction by former Millbrook resident Robin Bicknell. This film will be presented in partnership with the Millbrook Branch of the Cavan Monaghan Library on November 6. Then come share stories and family memories of war experiences in the Millbrook Legion on November 10.

In 2017-18, the Historical Society has accomplished much on many fronts as it continues to fulfill its mandate and achieve its objectives. Thank you to all – Board members, volunteers, supporters and friends – who have contributed to our success.

Respectfully submitted,



Celia Hunter

Membership Report

Report submitted by Barb Fallis

Year ending April 30, 2018:

33 paid members* + 4 honorary members = 37 members

* 9 single memberships, 12 family memberships.

Fees: single \$15 p.a. Family \$25 p.a. Student membership \$5 p.a.



Genealogy and Indexing Report

Report submitted by Kim McLeod

Again this year we helped people from around the world trace their roots in Cavan Monaghan Township and answer questions about local history using the records in our archives. Requests have come from Europe, the US and all across Canada. Our newspaper collection helped provide the location of a grandfather's store and answer questions about the last trains out of Millbrook. Our maps helped make the link between branches of a family and our land documents helped flesh out the tale of a widow who lost the family farm to a step son in a dispute that went before the Governor of Upper Canada.



From our scrapbooks we provided a photo of William Oscar Kerr who was born November 6, 1921 in Strathroy, resided in Millbrook most of his life and died September 24, 1944 in France. There is an ongoing project to provide photos and family details for information on overseas war graves and we have now contributed to that project.

The work of indexing the records and documents in the collection is ongoing. This year we created electronic indices for both This Green and Pleasant Land and the recently reprinted Brief History of Millbrook, which will be added to the searchable online resources at the Ontario Genealogical Society. An index to the HS photo collection is a work in process as is an index of the land documents that were saved when the Irvine law office closed. Both will be welcome finding aids for the collection.

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**Millbrook Cavan Historical Society
Financial Report for the year ended April 30, 2018
Budget for 2018-2019**

	2018 Budget	2018 Actual	2019 Budget
General Operations			
Income			
Donations	750	1,034	750
Book Sales	600	500	600
Memberships	800	480	800
Millbrook Walk		190	-
Block and Blooms		1,500	
Other Income	-	13	-
	<u>2,150</u>	<u>3,717</u>	<u>2,150</u>
Expenditures			
Insurance	525	521	525
Collections Maintenance	200	142	200
Office Rent	3,600	3,618	3,650
Community Outreach	50	50	50
Newsletters and Office Supplies	100	80	100
Membership - OHS	55	60	55
Website and Facebook	350	81	350
Meeting Costs/Speakers	500	150	500
	<u>5,380</u>	<u>4,702</u>	<u>5,430</u>
Excess of Operating Income over Expenditures	<u><u>(\$3,230)</u></u>	<u><u>(\$985)</u></u>	<u><u>(\$3,280)</u></u>
Mill			
Income			
Generator Sale		200	
		<u>200</u>	
Expenditures			
Fundraising		1,774	
Insurance		1,003	
Relocation Costs		1,154	
		<u>3,931</u>	
Excess of Mill Income over Expenditures		<u><u>(3,731)</u></u>	
Allocation of Funds at April 30, 2018			
	Millpond	Operations	Bank Balance
Opening Balance - May 1, 2017	20,039	10,947	
Excess of Income over Expenditures ytd	(3,731)	(985)	
Closing Balance - April 30, 2018	<u>\$16,308</u>	<u>\$9,962</u>	<u>\$26,270</u>

Acknowledgements

Our thanks to Glenn Fallis, Centennial Place, Millbrook Manor (January Tea), St. Thomas Anglican Church (March event), and the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 402, Millbrook. For their work on the Needler's Mill project, thank you Alex Bushell, David Hobson and John Spencer, along with the SavetheDamMillPond Group.

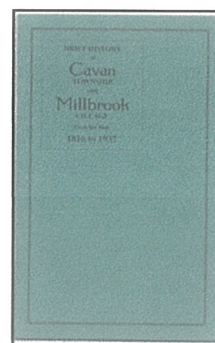
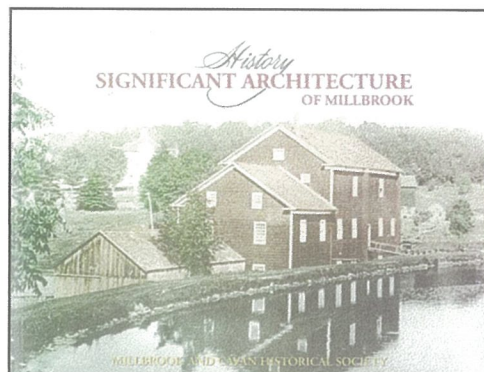
We are grateful for the good relationships we value and enjoy with the Cavan Monaghan Library, Otonabee Conservation and the Township of Cavan Monaghan.

Thank you to all those who have donated to the archived collection of the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society this past year, and to everyone who has volunteered time and talents, contributing to our mandate and objectives.

We acknowledge the work of our neighbouring Historical Societies, particularly in Manvers and Otonabee-South Monaghan. We congratulate them on their achievements, and look forward to strengthening our relationships.



We invite you to find out more about our history:
resources available at our regular gatherings,
at Bear Essentials in Millbrook,
and by emailing us at millbrookcavanhs@gmail.com



AND we invite you to support us in bringing together individuals interested in the diverse historical aspects of Cavan Monaghan and researching, recording, retaining, preserving and presenting historical information pertaining to the area by joining the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society: our Membership Form is attached. Thanks!

MILLBROOK & CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Membership

2018 – 2019

Today's Date _____

Expiry Date: August 31, 2019

Family Membership \$25.00 ☐ Single Membership \$15.00 ☐ Student Membership \$5 ☐

Supporting Gift \$ _____

Charitable Reg. # 89276 0802 RR0001

Name _____

Address _____

P.O Box /R.R. _____ City/Town/Village _____

Postal Code _____ Phone _____

E-mail (please print legibly!) _____

☐ I/we consent to receiving e-mail newsletters and notices of coming events from MCHS

Please make cheques payable to: Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society

Mail to: Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society
Box 334
Millbrook, ON, Canada L0A 1G0

We invite you to let us know which of our committees or activities suit your interests.

- ☐ Collection Committee: archiving and cataloguing records, objects and memorabilia significant to the history of Cavan Monaghan Township
- ☐ Indexing Project: The Millbrook Newspaper Collection – data entry
- ☐ Program Committee: programming, events, guest speakers
- ☐ Oral Histories Project; recording the memories of those with stories to tell
- ☐ Needler's Mill Committee
- ☐ Communications & Publicity: newsletters, web site and Facebook updates
- ☐ Financial Development: fund-raising events and initiatives
- ☐ Membership Development
- ☐ Hospitality Committee: refreshments and welcoming at events

For office use:

Originator: _____ Treasurer: _____ Membership Coordinator: _____