

History
MILLBROOK AND CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



1950 Construction of the first indoor ice arena built next to Needler's Mill and the Millbrook Dam in downtown Millbrook.
Images, including cover photo, from the Homer Ouellette Collection,
Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society Archives.





**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.org 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.

2018-2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Celia Hunter	Treasurer	Kim McLeod
Director	Jeanette Allenbick	Director	Liz Avery
Director	Alex Bushell	Director	Bruce Lepper
Director	Peter Ramsay (to November 2018)	Director	Catriona Sinclair

**AGENDA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019**

1. Welcome
2. **Motion** to approve the Agenda as printed
3. **Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 24, 2018
4. **Motion** to appoint a Nominating Chair for the Meeting
5. President's Report
6. Indexing, Genealogy and Collection Management
7. Membership Report
8. Treasurer's Report:
 - Financial Review 2018-2019
 - Budget for 2019-2020**Motion** to approve the proposed budget for 2019-2020
9. Election of the Board of Directors for 2019-2020
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, Catriona Sinclair.

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 2019-2020.
10. Acknowledgements
11. **Motion** to adjourn Annual General Meeting.

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, May 24, 2018, Centennial Place

Members of the Board in Attendance: Liz Avery, Alex Bushell, Celia Hunter (President), Bruce Lepper, Kim McLeod (Treasurer), Peter Ramsay.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm.

- 1. Welcome** extended to all members and guests by president Celia Hunter.
- 2. Motion** to approve the Agenda as printed: Bruce Lepper; Bruce Gazley. Carried.
- 3. Motion** to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 25, 2017: Kim McLeod; Peter Ramsay. Carried.
- 4. Motion** to appoint Celia Hunter as Nominating Chair for the meeting: Kim McLeod; Liz Avery. Carried.
- 5. President's Report** – Celia Hunter reviewed highlights and Committee Reports as recorded in the Annual Report. Highlights included the completion of the agreement to purchase Needler's Mill from Otonabee Conservation and hosting the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario's Port Hope Branch for a guided walking tour of Millbrook.
- 6. Membership Report:** presented as printed in the Annual Report.
- 7. Newspaper Indexing Project and Genealogy:** presented as printed in the Annual Report.
- 8. Treasurer's Report** – Kim McLeod presented the Financial Report and proposed a Budget for the year 2017-2018. **Motion** to accept the Financial Report and approve the proposed budget: Bruce Lepper; Peter Ramsay. Carried.
- 9. Election of New Board of Directors for 2018-2019**
Celia Hunter, as nominating chair, presented the slate for the Board of Directors for 2018-2019: Jeanette Allenbick, Liz Avery, Alex Bushell, Celia Hunter, Bruce Lepper, Kim McLeod, Peter Ramsay, and called for additional nominations from the floor.
Motion to nominate Catriona Sinclair as a Board Director: Kim McLeod; Bruce Lepper. Carried.
Motion to close nominations: Glen Spurrell; Anne Ramsay. Carried.
Motion to accept the nominations for the Board of Directors as received from the Nominating Chair and with the addition of one Director: Lyn Lepper; Sharon Roffey. Carried.

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

11. Motion to adjourn: Kim McLeod; Anne Ramsay. Carried.
The Annual Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.



President's Report

Blocks and Blooms on Saturday, June 23, 2018 was a very successful one-day event that invited the public to stroll into some of Millbrook's beautiful residential gardens; to view and admire a kaleidoscope of quilts, both modern and traditional; and to focus on some of Millbrook's architectural treasures. Our records show that 189 tickets were sold, and that visitors came from Toronto and Scarborough, Cobourg, Port Hope, Bowmanville, Brighton, Lindsay, Peterborough and other towns and cities. There were also many Cavan Monaghan ticket holders.

Mary Preston, Peter Ramsay, Glen Spurrell and I made up the organizing committee, teaming up with Elaine Young and the Millbrook Needlers' Quilt Guild and with the Millbrook Downtown BIA. Thanks go also to Shelley Lambe and Nancy Robinson for coordinating musicians to enhance the experience of the day, and to Nexicom for hosting the Blocks and Blooms website, which was created and managed by Bruce Gazley. And a huge hank you to the gardeners, the quilters and the community that ensured that this event earned rave reviews.



The Historical Society's new website, millbrookcavanhs.org, was designed and created over the summer months by Bruce Gazley, and launched at the beginning of September. We thank our website host Nexicom for their support. The new website is easy to navigate and has many features that we have only just begun to explore. Bruce continues to volunteer his services, updating the site as program and project information is developed.

Fall events were promoted at the September Millbrook Farmers' Market in the parking lot of the Old Millbrook School where we hosted a booth. We also led a walking tour around part of Millbrook in September when we talked about the history of some of the homes and properties and of the village and surrounding area.



Jail Tales was perhaps the most successful gathering that the Historical Society has hosted to date, drawing a crowd of well over 100 people for an evening at the Millbrook Legion Hall in October. The brainchild of Board member Alex Bushell, the focus was on the Millbrook Correctional Centre, the maximum security provincial facility that operated from 1957 to 2003. Many former employees travelled from all over the province to attend and the audience was treated to many fascinating, often entertaining stories.

The Centenary of the Signing of the Armistice to end “the war to end all wars” was honoured in November by the Historical Society with an afternoon exhibit, reception and “show and tell” held in collaboration with Branch 402, Royal Canadian Legion in Millbrook, and the screening of the docudrama “Black Watch Snipers”, directed and produced by former Millbrook resident Robin Bicknell. The film was presented in collaboration with the Cavan Monaghan Libraries as part of their Toonie Tuesday Movie series.

Collaboration and community partnerships continue to play an important part in the Historical Society’s programming. We acknowledge with gratitude the support we enjoy from the Cavan Monaghan Libraries, whose staff host informal monthly workshops at the Millbrook branch to teach the basics of navigating the genealogy program Ancestry (Library Edition). The library also houses our display cabinet that features displays curated by Peter Ramsay. We thank the library staff for the help they give us by passing along to us inquiries they receive that relate to local history so that we can respond. We were also pleased to partner with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 402 for our November Armistice event and rent the Legion Hall for two other gatherings. Centennial Place continues to be a valued community partner, welcoming us to host gatherings in the Fireside Lounge, and we thank them for their hospitality and support.

Winter/Spring programming included our annual Tea at the Manor in January with a focus on how food was preserved in the past when produce was scarce in the winter months; a Friday evening gathering in March at the Millbrook Legion Hall to share stories about this area in the 1970s and 1980s; and in April, Peter Ramsay hosted an “antiques roadshow” style evening in the Fireside Lounge. Our guest speaker for the Annual General Meeting in May is Dr. Mark Peck, Manager of the Schad Gallery of Biodiversity and the ROM Director of the Environmental Visual Communications program with the ROM and Fleming College. His presentation addresses how climate change is affecting which birds we see and which ones we don't.



We note with sadness and respect the passing of two faithful and supportive members, **Lola Thexton** (September 3, 2018) and **Ben Olan** (March 13, 2019). 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.

In last year's Annual Report I suggested that we, as a Board, would be trying a few new and different approaches, and we have done just that this year. There have been satisfying accomplishments and it's been interesting and fun! Thank you to all – Board members, volunteers, supporters and friends – who have contributed to our success.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Celia Hunter.

Celia Hunter

Indexing, Genealogy and Collection Management

Report submitted by Kim McLeod

The Newspaper Indexing Project

Done!!! Over the past five years volunteers, most from outside the area, have been working to record more than 100,000 names appearing in nearly 750 issues of Millbrook's newspapers. The indexed papers come from the period between 1920 and 1962. The names have now been uploaded into TONI (the Ontario Name Index), a searchable site hosted by Ontario Ancestors and available worldwide to

genealogists and others interested in the area. TONI shows where information about a particular name can be found. The papers are available on a pay-per-view basis and will potentially provide future revenue to the Historical Society in the coming years.

A special shout out goes to Al Richards and Paul McKnight - two members of the indexing team who each plowed through several hundred papers.

Other Indexing Projects

In addition to the newspapers a searchable index has been created for both This Green and Pleasant Land and A Brief History of Millbrook and Cavan and submitted to TONI to aid those who are searching for their roots in this area.

Collection Additions

During the year our collection has grown through donations and acquisitions including:

- 1940's ticket register from the Cavan Station
- World War II memory book produced by the Royal Canadian Legion
- Copies of postcards sent home during the war
- Frontier Days memorabilia
- Local newspapers and collections of clippings
- School photos and memorabilia
- Millbrook jail memorabilia
- Needler's Mill cart



We also worked with other archives and the local community to provide a suitable home for other items that came our way. A teacher's desk salvaged by then principal Wayne Greenley when the Old Millbrook School was being cleaned out found its way back into one of the former classrooms there thanks to Mr. Greenley's generosity, and textbooks donated to the Historical Society are now part of the historic textbook collection of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

Our thanks go out to everyone who thought to keep local history local and offered us materials, and to Glenn Fallis and Jerry van Zeyl for their ongoing support in providing a home for the collection.

Genealogy and other inquires

We continue to provide support and research help to those looking for their ancestors in this area or have questions about local history. Notably this year, we searched our holdings to provide materials for the celebration of the 150th anniversary of St. John's Church at Ida, and helped the Peterborough Sports Hall of Fame solve the mystery of a jersey in their collection (see page 10).



Membership Report

Report submitted by Barb Fallis

Year ending April 30, 2019:

43 paid members* + 4 honorary members = 47 members

* 15 single memberships, 14 family memberships.

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



Treasurer's Report

Kim McLeod

**Millbrook Cavan Historical Society
Financial Report for the year ended April 30, 2019
Budget for 2019 -2020**

	2019 Budget	2019 YTD	2020 Budget
Income			
Donations	750	711	750
Book Sales	600	630	600
Memberships	800	475	600
Block and Blooms (see below)		(109)	
Other Income	-	171	-
	2,150	1,878	1,950
Expenditures			
Insurance	1,645	1,642	1,650
Collections Maintenance	200	24	200
Office Rent	3,650	3,618	3,900
Community Outreach	50	50	50
Newsletters and Office Supplies	100	5	100
Membership - OHS	55	60	60
Website and Facebook	350	22	350
Meeting Costs/Speakers	500	336	500
	6,550	5,756	6,810
Excess of Expenses Over Income	(\$4,400)	(\$3,878)	(\$4,860)

Cash on Hand

Opening Balance - May 1, 2018
Excess of Expenses over Income
Closing Balance - April 30, 2019

26,270
(3,878)
\$22,392

Blocks and Blooms

Income in 2018	1,500
Expenses	(109)
Project Profit	\$1,391

Acknowledgements

The Board of the Millbrook & Cavan Historical Society would like to express our sincere gratitude to the following:

- Glenn Fallis & Jerry Van Zeyl
- Royal Canadian Legion Br. 402
- Millbrook Manor
- Centennial Place
- Bear Essentials
- Crawford Copy
- Bruce Gazley
- Nexicom
- Cavan Monaghan Libraries
- Millbrook Downtown BIA
- Mary Preston
- Peter Ramsay

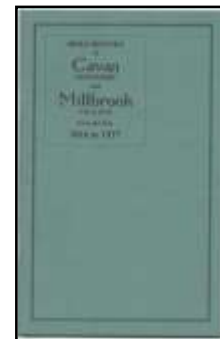
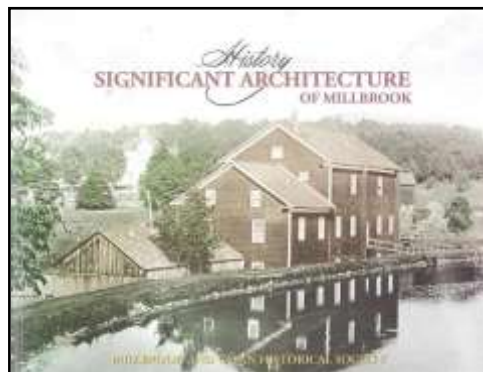
We also thank all those who contributed to the success of the Blocks and Blooms event in June 2018. It was an outstanding success because of the cooperation and effort of many volunteers – gardeners, quilters and property owners – along with the enthusiastic support of local businesses and community organizations.

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: these resources are available at our regular gatherings, or by emailing us at millbrookcavanhs@gmail.com



AND we invite you to support us by joining the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society: our Membership Form is attached. Thanks!

Peterborough Sports Hall of Fame asks MCHS to help trace the origin of a jersey in their collection

submitted by Kim McLeod



According to the account given in Mary Sloane Eakins' *Brief History of Cavan Township and Millbrook Village* (printed in 1937), the Millbrook Lacrosse team was well known in early days. As part of the celebration of the first Dominion Day in 1867, the home team won against Cornwall's Caughnawaughna team. The ladies of Millbrook presented each member of the Millbrook team with a silk flag worked in beads featuring the words "Presented to the Boys by the ladies of Millbrook". Eakins also cites another game played in Millbrook against Brantford's Ojibway team, which counted among its members the father of poet and performer Pauline Johnson. The Millbrook champion Lacrosse team of 1875 was composed of the following players: Samuel

Hughes (the late General Sir Samuel Hughes). Arthur McBain, Thomas Marshall, Albert Ball, John Dawson, Albert Hetherington, George Knowlson, J. B. Smith, John Beatty, George Armstrong, William Scott, George McCartney, R. H. Kells, Harry Mason, John Deyell. On July 1, 1881, Millbrook defeated the Victorias of Toronto. The home players were: Harry Richards, Wm. Breakey, Albert Ball, Johnston Brandon, Wm. Gautt, George Duncan, Robert McMahon, Albert Duncan, Wm. McBean, John Coombe, Frank Walsh, Robert Gautt, Richard Kells and Wm. Raper. In July 1887, the Plum Creek (Souris) Lacrosse team won the championship of Manitoba from the Winnipeg team. Eight members of the Plum Creek team were boys from Millbrook: Harry Smith, Wm. Foster, Henry Hunter, Sidney Smith, Wesley Sloan, Sidney Sloan, Fred Deyell, R. Hetherington.

"Millbrook has been a Lacrosse town for over sixty years. In 1929 Mr. Harold Nattress manager of the present Lacrosse team, with the assistance of Mr. Alfred Gautt of Toronto a former Millbrook boy in 1860, and enthusiastic Lacrosse player, organized the present team. Mr. Gautt assisted greatly in a material way by donating two dozen lacrosse sticks, a set of nets and fifteen sweaters for the players. First year Millbrook played home and home games with Peterborough, Port Hope and Cobourg, and since then playing in the Inter-County League. Teams all registered under the Ontario Amateur Lacrosse Association." - *from Brief History of Cavan Township and Millbrook Village from the year 1816 to 1937.*

MILLBROOK & CAVAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Annual Membership

2019 – 2020

Today's Date _____

Expiry Date: **August 31, 2020**

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
- 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: _____