

Chairman's Report

This year's weather continued to be odd and late and we had some of our best summer weather in September! Not a bad thing and ideal for our annual **House Tour**. It was Kathy Kobelski's first year as chairwoman of the House Tour Committee and I extend hearty congratulations to her, her Committee, all of the many volunteers and of course the homeowners who so generously opened up their houses to all of us making the tour possible. This year's tour was another spectacular success. I enjoyed spending the day meeting visitors — very many from out of town — and chatting with everyone involved.

I was also pleased to be able to speak at a Sunrise Rotary meeting, a group of dedicated entrepreneurs who rose early (hence 'sunrise') to hear me introduce the ACO. I hope those who attended found it interesting and will consider joining us.

Our new **Advocacy Committee** has been hard at work with several issues in town which you should be aware of and look out for. We continue to push for heritage recognition and protection of important buildings that may be subject to development pressure. This includes the historic Hospital on Ward St., the town's first hospital, which is now sitting empty and deteriorating. Another issue is the upcoming impact on both Lakeshore west of Ridout and King's Field on Victoria Street. This area was rezoned for development many years ago and the plans for development are now moving forward. This will dramatically alter the tree canopy on Lakeshore and could cost the Town several major trees including a 200-year-old oak tree on site. We should push for the final approval of the plans to reduce impact on this historic street and our natural heritage.

The ACO also continues its involvement in two other issues. Plans for the **Little Station** are progressing and I intend to make a presentation to the Municipality in January about a possible relocation initiated by the need for the Harbour clean up. We are also deeply concerned about the future of the historic **Opera House** in the former Royal Bank building and have had discussions about the importance of the building to the Municipality.

Finally, on a cheery note, our annual **Christmas Party** is rapidly approaching on the 30th of this month which, very many thanks to Ruth Redelmeier, will be held in her home, the beautiful Bluestone, and planning is well underway. More details about the party are on this page. I look forward to meeting many of you there. Hard to believe another year is near its end.

Respectfully submitted,
Phil Goldsmith



ACO Annual Christmas Party

LOCATION: The Bluestone House, home of Ruth Redelmeier,
21 Dorset Street East. Port Hope

DATE & TIME: Thursday, November 30th, 5:30 – 7:30pm

PRICE: \$30 per person, payable in advance.
Members only please



- **PLEASE NOTE** that attendance is limited to 100 guests. There will be NO admission without prior reservation and payment.
- **TO RESERVE:** reply by email to Anna Gray (anna.gray@sympatico.ca). Reservations will be accepted in the order received. An email confirmation will be sent to you
- Upon confirmation, please mail or deliver your cheque, payable to *ACO Port Hope*, to Anna Gray, 6 Baldwin Street, Port Hope. L1A 1S1
- Payment must be received by November 24th please.
- If you do not use email, your reservation request should be mailed to the above address.
- If you don't receive confirmation of your request, you will be placed on a waiting list and notified if there is a cancellation.

Please be aware that access to the Bluestone will be at the rear of the house involving uneven surfaces, sets of exterior steps and an interior staircase. Upon confirmation, please let us know if you have mobility issues so that alternate access can be arranged for you. There is very limited onsite parking; please car pool if possible. Having access to some of Port Hope's finest properties is a wonderful advantage of ACO membership. Because these are private homes, it is necessary to limit attendance. We hope you can join us at the Bluestone for a wonderful start to the holiday season.

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ACO Executive & Officers for 2017

Executive Committee

Chairman	Phil Goldsmith
Vice Chairman	Julie Mavis
Secretary	Jo Mathew
Treasurer	Hugh Parker

Directors

Peggy Bennett, Matt Desbarbieux, Anna Gray, Terry Hill, Dennis Hogarth, Trudy Lum, Moya McPhail, Joanne Marrison

Committee Chairs

Auction	Joan Tooke
Bus Tour, Newsletter, Evenings	Patsy Beeson
Communications	Jo Mathew
Garden Tour	Mary Shaw-Rimington
Governance	Charles Wickett
House Tour	Kathy Kobelski
Membership	Peggy Bennett
Projects/Downtown Task Force	Tom Cruickshank
Property	Ed Pamenter
Scholarship	Matt Desbarbieux
Events	Joanne Marrison

**PLACE AN AD IN
ACO MATTERS!**

Why not place an advertisement in the pages of ACO Matters? Our readership is naturally interested in buildings, their preservation, furnishing, their gardens, and everything else to do with them.

Ads are \$120 per year – a bargain spread over four issues

**Contact Patricia Beeson at
905.885.4416
or pbeeson@eagle.ca**

Any Nominees for the ACO Executive?

Our Annual General Meeting takes place on February 22nd 2018 — more details will be upcoming in our next issue. Should you be interested in serving on the ACO Executive or know of someone who might be, a Nominating Committee has been established and we recommend that you contact one of the following before the end of November, 2017:

- Julie Mavis at julie@catsmedia.ca;
- Peggy Bennett at margaretrbennett@gmail.com;
- Moya McPhail at moya@eagle.ca.

The Garland Awards are also presented at the AGM, honouring preservation and restoration achievements in Port Hope, so if you know of any worthy recipient, please contact Ed Pamenter at 905-885-2737.

Membership

Your membership in ACO-Port Hope is due for renewal on January 1, 2018, so herewith a friendly reminder for those of us off to warmer climes: PLEASE renew before you depart. For those members who generously offered their gardens and homes for the Garden Tour and the House Tour, your memberships have been paid for 2018 by a very grateful ACO - Port Hope Executive. The renewal process can be accomplished on line at www.ACOPortHope.ca or by using the convenient form on the back of this edition of ACO Matters.

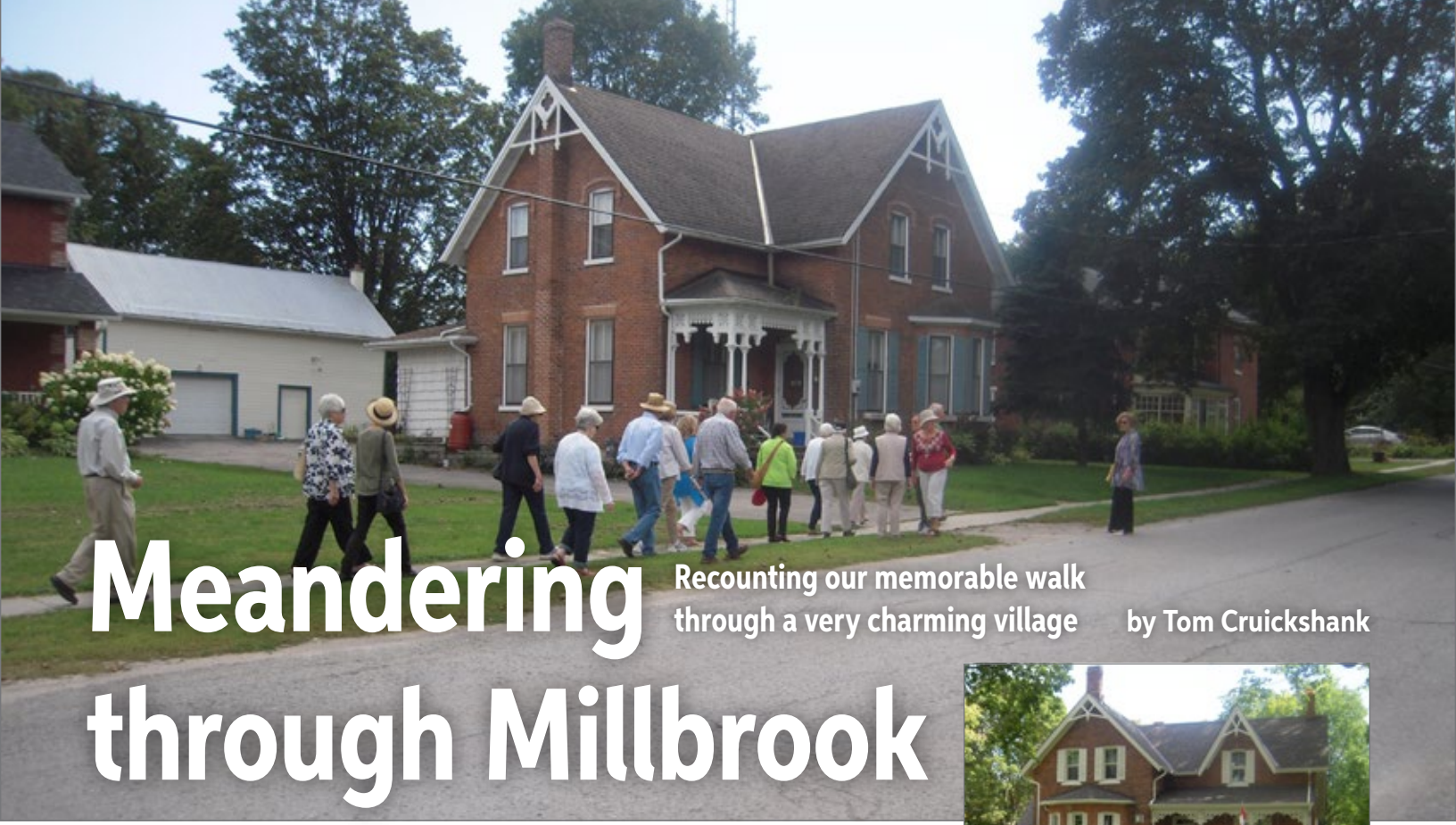
Any questions? Contact **Peggy Bennett** at 905-885-7802 or margaretrbennett@gmail.com

P.S. The Christmas Party is a great time to renew your membership!

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Meandering through Millbrook

Recounting our memorable walk through a very charming village by Tom Cruickshank

Nothing stirs the soul of an old-house enthusiast more than exploring a town you hardly know. That's why the ACO's late-summer walking tour of Millbrook was such a pleasure, although more than one participant was embarrassed to admit how little they knew about this handsome Victorian village only 20 minutes from Port Hope. Indeed, Millbrook is an architectural delight that deserves our praise and attention.

There was a time when connections between Port Hope and Millbrook were much closer than they are today. As the first sizable town north of us, Millbrook was an integral link in Port Hope's northbound railway venture in the 1850s. Indeed, it was there that our railway split in two, with one spur destined for Peterborough and a second to Lindsay and beyond. Of course, that rail link is long gone, although one of our tour-goers recalled making the trip between the two towns aboard the train in its final years. Nowadays, Millbrook's connections are more with Peterborough, while ours tend to reach along the 401.

As its name suggests, Millbrook began as a riverside milling village, blessed with a picturesque setting in the steep valley of Baxter Creek. The railway

inspired a building boom in the 1850s and '60s and even today—despite a devastating downtown fire in 1875—the town can be noted for the consistency of its architecture. Most of its heritage buildings are variations on Victorian themes and for ACO members, this makes the town all the more interesting for touring.

We began at the schoolhouse on the east side of town and strolled over the river and past the mill on our way west. We trudged up Anne Street and back down King, admiring the houses and gardens along the way. We saw an “M” pattern in the gingerbread on several houses, a carpenter's calling card. We took in the old mill and heard about the ongoing — and sometimes frustrated — efforts to restore it. Houses fit snugly into the streetscape and there were inviting porches and verandahs everywhere. You could just see the wheels turning as tour-goers made mental calculations about selling in Port Hope and moving to Millbrook.

Our group got the inside scoop, as the tour was presented by members of the Millbrook and Cavan Historical Society, who answered our questions along the way. We left better educated, and singing the praises of our neighbour to the north.



Anne and Prince Streets are an essay in Victorian manners, rarely overstated and often in a splendid state of preservation. In total, Millbrook has designated 44 buildings under the Ontario Heritage Act



6 Gravel Rd. This diminutive cottage dates to the 1850s or '60s. It is the only brick Regency cottage in town.



Nicely maintained behind a paling fence, the house at 8 Dufferin Street is typical Millbrook: proudly Victorian, but never pretentious.

52nd PORT HOPE HOUSE TOUR

It was a clear, crisp day, simply perfect for the 2017 House Tour on September 30th. Many thanks to the homeowners who offered their homes for the tour and to the dozens of volunteers who helped on the day. Here are some pictures from the day!

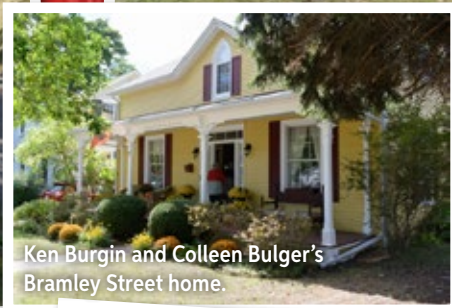
by Kathy Kobelski Photos by Ted Rouse



And so it begins — the line up!



Young Mee Kim takes tickets and welcomes guests.



Ken Burgin and Colleen Bulger's Bramley Street home.



Phil Goldsmith enjoying the tour.



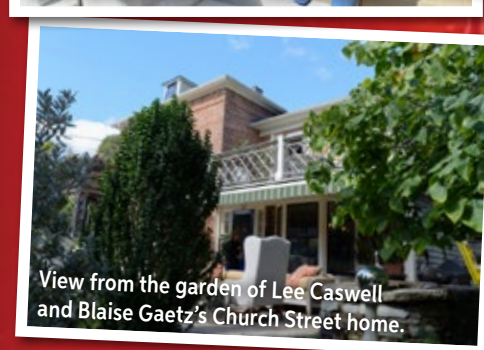
Happy House Tour guests entering the home of Scott DeWare and Scott Elson on Dorset Street.



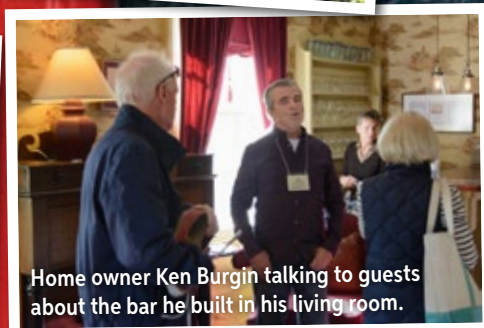
Lee Caswell pointing out elements on the lower level of his Church Street home.



The front porch of Colleen Bulger & Ken Burgin's Bramley Street house.



View from the garden of Lee Caswell and Blaise Gaetz's Church Street home.



Home owner Ken Burgin talking to guests about the bar he built in his living room.



Through the garden and into the home of Jennifer Cantello.



Andrea Patterson and Uwe Meyer's Strachan Street Ontario Cottage.



The long and winding road to the Nakamura's



Banri Nakamura speaking to a guest about the concept and design of his unique home.



Ticket Taker Catharine Ramsey greeting guests.



Rod Stewart welcomes you to the Nakamura's



Michiko Nakamura with guests in the lower level of their house set in the woods



View of sunroom from the garden of Andrea Patterson & Uwe Meyer's Strachan Street home.



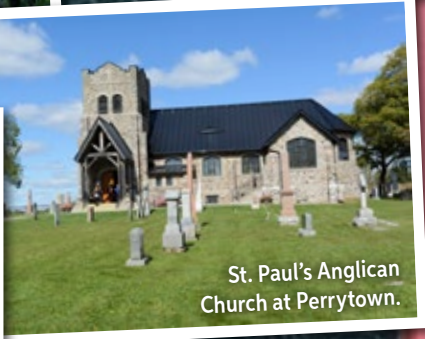
John & Debbie Doherty's Pine Street home with the steep climb of steps.



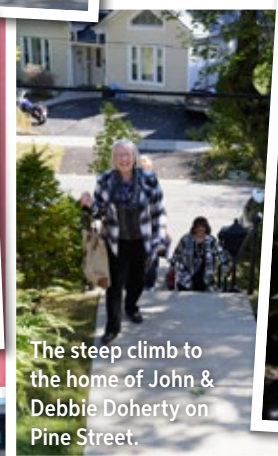
The dining room at the Doherty house.



Manja Horner & Erin Elliott along with congregation members George & Barb Billington at the altar of St. Paul's church with its beautiful stained glass.



St. Paul's Anglican Church at Perrytown.



The steep climb to the home of John & Debbie Doherty on Pine Street.



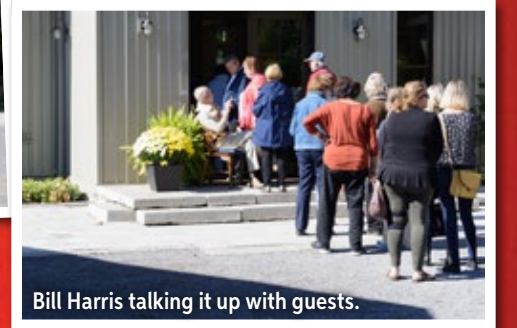
Home owner John Doherty discussing the points of interest about his first edition British music collection in that fabulous Art Deco room.



Laurie & Julie enjoying themselves on tour outside of Moya & Ralph's home.



The line up is starting at the home of Moya McPhail and Ralph Walker.



Bill Harris talking it up with guests.

The Barn Quilt Project



The barn quilt project is complete! This ACO project took more than a year to implement with many members, community sponsors, barn owners, artists, school children, bicyclists, and the Municipality involved. *The Barns | 150 Years of Agriculture, Immigration and Heritage* is part of a collective celebration for Canada 150. It is a legacy project – lasting beyond 2017 into 2020 and perhaps beyond.

It was energizing to work with so many enthusiastic people; researchers went to both the Archives and the farm owners, photographs were taken of all the barns, the committee encouraged sponsors, letters were sent out, designs were created. Watching the development of the creativity of local artists as they came up with ideas for the quilts was an exciting weekly event. In order to get a true representation of each farm, the artists went out to the barn owners to review the history of the family, the land, and the produce, often spanning more than one hundred years of accumulated information.

The Municipality made it possible to actually start the production of the boards with \$14000.00 and sponsorships came from around the community for the remaining amount needed. The total cost was estimated as between \$21000 and \$ 23000.00. With all expenses paid our committee now has enough to print more brochures. Pick one up at the Christmas party!

Home Hardware contributed materials at cost, Applitech Canada, Lee Caswell, Lang Construction and generous individuals paid for barn boards, and Ian Angus permitted the use of the Canton Mill from February to July for painting

and framing the boards. Once the boards were completed and proudly displayed against the walls of the Mill, on the stair landings and in the entry, we celebrated with a small gathering of the artists, sponsors and barn owners. It was their first time to see the finished boards and meet the other participants.

The final stage was accomplished with the help of ACO members and Steve Henderson who installed the boards onto the barn walls with a cherry picker. This last phase proved to be the most difficult with delays caused by wet barn yards, no access until all the animals were out in the field, posts that needed to be installed for free-standing boards, barns that had to be painted first, rain, rain and more rain, and just plain coordination!

We are now celebrating Canada's milestone anniversary and hope that all members and friends will visit the barns. Encourage people to visit, take them on the tour. We have already booked the ROMbus to visit next spring.

And thank you heartily to all the volunteers who designed, painted, hefted, climbed in and out of trucks, carried boards up two flights of stairs and went out to visit the barn owners on rainy days, who spent hours at the archives, donated drop cloths, put up posters, distributed rack cards, drove the route, spent weekends visiting owners, and planned maps, set up the brochure, corrected mistakes and corrected again! **THANK YOU!**

**Submitted by Moya McPhail and Julie Mavis,
co-chairs of the Barn Quilt Project**

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ACO Bus Tour, Kingston, Wednesday April 25, 2018

Mark your calendars. We're off to the Limestone City!

By 1841 Kingston had evolved from a military settlement to a thriving commercial centre. Because of its location and economic success it was chosen as the capital of the united Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada.



Kingston City Hall

By 1844 the grandest city hall in British North America had been built and it is here that our tour will begin.

We will be the guests of Mr. Paul Robertson, City Curator and head of the Cultural Services Department who will give us a tour and outline Kingston's heritage conservation victories and losses. This will be followed by a short walking tour of the surrounding commercial district.

Kingston has the best collection of public and domestic limestone buildings in Ontario and they await our visit! We will do a driving tour of the dignified Sydenham Ward, the Queen's University Campus and several of the "suburban" villas built by the city's gentry in the first half of the 19th century, and we'll lunch in an elegant 1830s Georgian chapel that has found new life as an "event venue".

The city has so much to offer and we'll do our utmost to see the best examples of both restored buildings and ones that have been adapted for new uses, such as the Tett Centre on the waterfront located in the ruins of an old brewery.

Those of you who came on the Amherst Island tour in 2015 will be glad to hear we've been invited back to the Ham House in Bath. Owner, Ron Tasker, has completed the exterior restoration of the 1819 tavern and is eager to show it off.

As a few things still need finalizing we are not at present accepting reservations. However, stay tuned for booking info early in the new year.

Des Conacher

ACO ANTIQUES & ARTIFACTS

**Sunday April 22, 2018
14th Annual Auction & Tag Sale
Preview and Tag Sale at 10 am
Expanded Gardens R Us Sale**

**Fall Fair Centre at 9:30 am,
Auction at 12:30 pm
Town Park Recreation Centre, Port Hope**

The 2018 Antiques & Artifacts collection will be exceptional judging by the items already received.

Given the timing of the event, Garden Treasures are most welcome. All items donated should be clean, in good repair, and accompanied by a list. To donate, please call Ed Pamerter at 905-885-2737 or Joan Tooke at 905-885-1116.

2017 Charitable Tax Receipts are currently being processed.
Many thanks to all for past and present support.



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Major Upcoming Events

Christmas Party

Thursday, November 30 (p. 1)

Annual General Meeting

Saturday, February 22 (p. 2)

Antiques & Artifacts Auction

Sunday, April 22 at the Town Park Recreation Centre (p. 7)

Bus Tour

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 (p. 7)



Membership Renewal Form

Please enroll me as a member of the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. I have indicated my/our applicable membership category below.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Individual Member – \$35: _____

Household Membership – \$40: _____

Organization – \$45: _____

Corporation – \$60: _____

Student Membership – \$12: _____

Tax Creditable Donation: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

I/we have an interest in volunteering for:

- House Tour Volunteer
- Garden Tour Volunteer
- Events Volunteer
- Advocacy Committee
- Communications Committee
- House Tour Committee
- Garden Tour Committee
- Events Committee
- Education & Outreach Committee
- Receiving **ACO Matters** by email

Please fill out this form and mail it with your cheque to:

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