



Society Newsletter

Christmas Ice Storm 2013

(BEAUTY & THE BEAST)



Photo: Courtesy Jon Foster

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Preserving the past for future generations

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Port Hope, Ontario

The devastation and destruction that hit the United States and Canada during the Christmas festive season is almost impossible to describe.

The "Polar Vortex" made its' terrible footprint here in the Municipality of Port Hope and left many residents not just out in the cold, but cold in their homes as well, some for almost a week. The only redeeming aspect of it all was the appearance of beauty in much of the surrounding areas. Unfortunately, there is no shining prince in this story unless it is the hydro crews who worked long hours 24/7 to remove fallen trees, broken limbs and reconnect hydro wires. It is estimated that the whole clean up will run in the thousands of dollars. The picture above is Ward Street, Port Hope, after the skies cleared and the sun shone. We thought this picture captured the prettier side of the storm's aftermath and would be suitable for our first 2014 Newsletter and preserve something of that event for future generations and for our current readers.

President's report



PHDHS [former EDHS] is pleased to have the support of the following business members

Happy New Year to all.

Our trip to Florida was very successful. We were able to keep ahead of the terrible storm that the north received during the end of 2013. We do hope that everyone got through the ice, snow, cold and rain storms in spite of the damage of downed trees, bad roads and no hydro for days!

The Port Hope and District Historical Society display at the Port Hope Fall fair attracted much attention in September 2013. The theme was "B" thus the appearance of objects and displays beginning with the letter B. Among the objects in our display was a **Barn**.

A special thank you to all the volunteers who took time out to help during the fair weekend. It was very much appreciated.

On behalf of the PHDHS Rod and Joan Parrott and John Dietz attended the special unveiling of a plaque by the Save Ontario Shipwrecks [SOS] in memory of the P.B. Locke, a ship that sank off Port Hope in a fierce storm. See opposite page for more coverage.

In keeping with the Ontario's Heritage Program we are holding our event on Sunday, May 4, 2014, at the Port Hope Lion's Recreation Centre. The Board has decided to charge \$5.00 for vendors that want to sell their products. Other groups or individuals — **NO CHARGE** — for tables set up for display only. For those who want to display *only*, please contact Cal Morgan at cmorgan@eagle.ca and I will get in touch with you when I return from Florida.

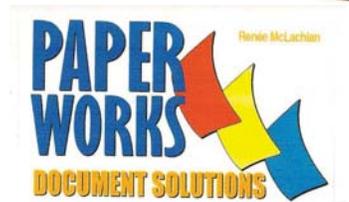
Please don't forget the Annual General Meeting and "Show and Tell" scheduled for May 21, 2014, at the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. It is very important for all PHDHS members to try and make it to this meeting. A new board of directors must be elected or current members re-elected for the coming year.

We are planning a Fundraiser Yard Sale in support of DHM in June. If anyone has items to donate please let me know.

Looking forward to seeing you at DHM in Garden Hill.

Sincerely,

Joan Ashby Parrott
President



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Unveiling of Commemorative Plaque for Historic Shipwreck of the P.B. Locke, October 23, 2013 at Navy League of Canada Building



The P.B. Locke was built in Ohio in 1873, and the 136 foot, three-masted wooden schooner served for many years in the Great Lakes before being repurposed as a barge for Point Anne Quarries Ltd. out of the Bay of Quinte. She eventually sank during a fierce storm in 1912 while carrying a cargo of stone. Now lying in 80 feet of water on the sandy bottom of Lake Ontario, she was discovered by Alan Bird, Robert Johns, and Ron Johns from the Nautilus Scuba Club of Cobourg and Port Hope in 2000, after a lengthy search. The P.B. Locke is the first historical shipwreck in Northumberland County to be moored by Save Ontario Shipwrecks (Toronto Chapter), with the generous support of the Municipality of Port Hope, the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, & Sport, the

Canadian Coast Guard, and the greater Ontario scuba diving community. They successfully placed an SOS mooring system on the historical shipwreck of the P.B. Locke, September 7, 2013.

According to a media release, “The operation involved the lowering of two 2-ton concrete blocks and the installation of a Canadian Coast Guard-approved mooring buoy equipped with radar reflector, flasher and tagline. The mooring system will help promote, protect and preserve this piece of Port Hope’s maritime history for all Ontarians and, in particular, those who participate in the sport of scuba diving.”

The unveiling of the plaque took place at the Navy League Building in Port Hope, October 23, 2013 with the following invited guests:

Linda Thompson, Mayor of the Municipality of Port Hope [Pictured above far left]

Joan Parrott, President, Port Hope and District Historical Society [Pictured above far right]

Rod Parrott, Director, Port Hope and District Historical Society

John Dietz, Secretary-Treasurer, Port Hope and District Historical Society

Deputy mayor Jeff Gilmour & Councillor Mary Lou Ellis

Alan Bird, Secretary, Nautilus Scuba Club of Cobourg – Port Hope, and co-discoverer of the P.B. Locke

Cam Christie, Vice President, Nautilus Scuba Club of Cobourg – Port Hope

Terry Bell, Past President, Nautilus Scuba Club of Cobourg – Port Hope

Chris Phinney, President, Save Ontario Shipwrecks

Darlene Spray, Chair, Save Ontario Shipwrecks, Toronto Chapter

Raimund Krob, Chair, Shipwreck Mooring Program, Save Ontario Shipwrecks

Paul Rellinger, Reporter, *Northumberland News*.

The SOS mooring system will serve multiple services, including but not limited to:

- protecting the shipwreck from damage by anchors (and as Port Hope is a renowned sport-fishing location, preventing fishing equipment entanglement / loss in the shipwreck)
- preserving the collective heritage that the shipwreck and its many artifacts represent, and facilitating future underwater archaeological work on the site
- promoting the shipwreck as a diving-tourism destination to the local, national, and international scuba diving community

The commemorative plaque was transported to the site after the ceremony, bolted to a 300lb concrete slab, lowered 80 feet to the bottom, and then placed next to the shipwreck to inform all visitors to the site.

Information provided by Raimund J. Krob, Chair, Shipwreck Mooring Program, SOS Provincial and Coordinator, Ship Mooring Program, SOS Toronto Chapter .

The best cure for hypochondria is to forget about your body and get interested in somebody else’s. Goodman Ace (1899-1982)

Post Office, Dale, Ontario

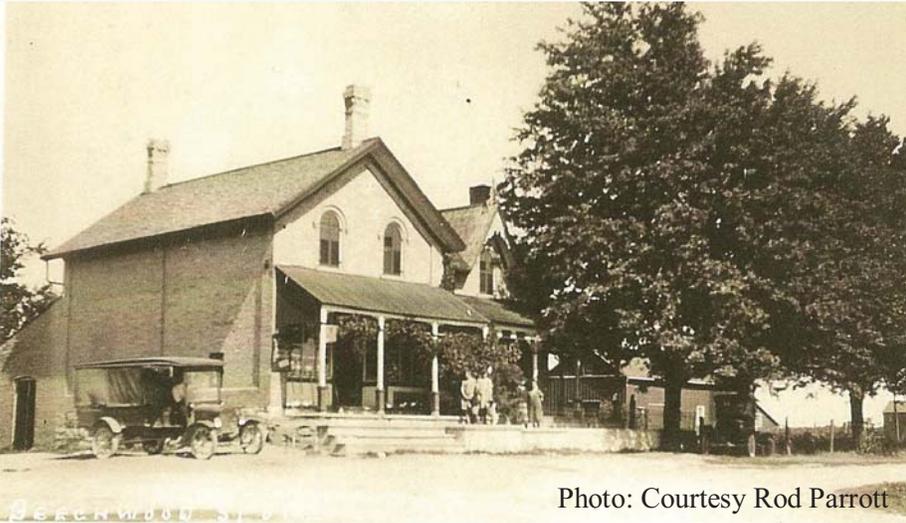


Photo: Courtesy Rod Parrott

The picture above is from a post card provided by Rod Parrott. Apparently, the post office was situated somewhere in the vicinity of what is now known as Dale Corners. The address at the time in question was known as Beechwood Street, Dale, Ontario, Hope Township, Durham County. According to a map* published in 1878 the building was located in the north east corner of what is now Dale Road and Highway 28. If anyone reading this has further information we would appreciate hearing from you.

The Post Office was in operation from October 1, 1874 to November 1, 1889. We have no specific reasons why it was closed. However, it opened again December 1, 1905 and remained open until February 27, 1909 when it was closed again.

Ontario Heritage Trust Theme for 2014 Remembering First World War

The Ontario Heritage Trust has recently developed a multi-year interpretative plan. Starting this year the Trust will be reorganizing its public programming and educational activities, including Heritage Week, according to annual interpretative themes. The theme for 2014 is remembering the First World War: Ontario in Transition. Ontario, along with the rest of Canada went through many changes during the First World War. More info at: www.heritagetrust.on.ca

*Belden's Atlas 1878: Courtesy Port Hope Archives

Events Calendar 2013

Public meetings will be scheduled on basis of opportunity and when needed. Such meetings will be held at the Ganaraska Conservation Authority Meeting Room, 2216 Hwy 28 North, Port Hope, ON

Sunday, May 4, 2014

Heritage Fair --Port Hope Lion's Centre, Thomas St., Port Hope

Wed., May 21, 2014

Annual General Meeting [AGM] Show & Tell at GRCA Meeting Room, Hwy #28, Port Hope, ON

Sat & Sun., June 21 & 22

Fundraiser & Giant Yard Sale at Dorothy's House Museum Garden Hill, ON

Sat & Sun., June 28 & 29

DHM opens for the season

Contact Information

PHDHS

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Web: www.porthopehistorical.ca

Joan Ashby Parrott

President

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Membership Rates

Single \$15.00

Couple \$25.00

Business \$40.00

Lifetime \$75.00

Stories, or story ideas, are always welcome. Email: cmorgan@eagle.ca