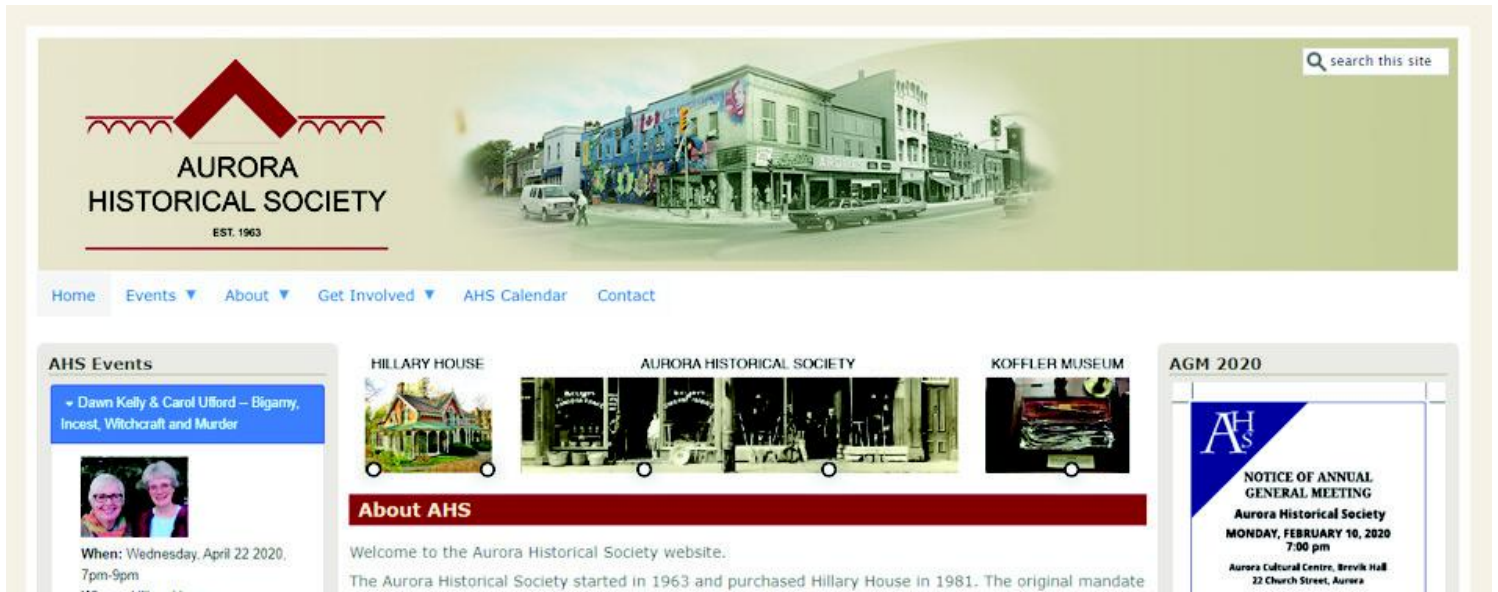


New Decade / New Look



❖ Did you notice our new hat? It's actually our new logo! We are excited to refresh and rebrand. This new design better identifies and differentiates our organization from others.

❖ **NEW WEBSITE!** Thanks to our talented volunteer Ronen Grunberg, the new AHS website is more compact and easier to navigate. We are working on adding additional features, interesting heritage information and an e-commerce function. Take a look for yourself and learn about our events, history, and much more! Be sure to explore and give us your feedback: www.aurorahs.com

❖ The AHS office has been given a new look as well. Thanks to the vision and work of volunteer Wendy Browne and the kind donation of the Aurora Rotary Club, new filing cabinets and a new layout make for much more efficient work space. Not an easy task in a 150-year old house!

❖ We are happy to share a new opportunity for volunteers: the Facility Maintenance Committee. This committee, chaired by James Hoyes, will assist with general repair and maintenance inside Hillary House. No long-term commitment or committee meetings required. Would you like to help maintain this over 150-year-old National Historic Site? Then please contact us for this and further volunteer opportunities at community@aurorahs.com

In This Issue

- Message from the President
- From the Bookshelf
- What is a Geocache?
- Gift Shop News
- Hillary House Ball Recap
- In Memoriam
- Recipes from Hillary House Collection

President's Message

Patricia Wallace, AHS President

UNPRECEDENTED TIMES



As we put the finishing touches on this edition of The Attic, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is changing the world we live in at a rapid pace. Like you, we are concerned for our families, friends and the economy. History gives us indications that we will recover from this and hopefully learn valuable lessons.

On a more hopeful note, I was thrilled (and a little nervous) to be elected AHS President at the AGM in February, where we also welcomed four new Board members who bring a diverse skill set. This new Board is committed to making sound business decisions, investigating innovative opportunities for collaboration and bolstering the governance foundation of the Society by updating the Bylaws and the Strategic Plan. I'm excited to be working with this great team.

In the last year, we have said so-long to some key staff members and volunteers. They truly deserve our gratitude for their dedication and hard work. Thank you to Len Bulmer, Treasurer; Anne Byerly, Bookkeeper; Erika Baird, Executive Director/Curator; Leigha Cooney, Education & Programs Coordinator; Mary Beth Hess, Membership & Administration Coordinator; Peter McKenzie, Executive Director/Curator.

We hope this edition of The Attic provides even a momentary distraction as we strive to keep positive and healthy, both mentally and physically. Our thoughts are with you, dear Readers; with hope we can congregate together again soon to share the stories of our history.

Patricia

Board of directors 2020

- President**..... Patricia Wallace
- Vice President**..... John Green
- Treasurer**Geoffrey Dawe
- Secretary**Anna Kroeplin
- Director**Peter Styrmo
- Director** Ronen Grunberg
- Director** Paul Martin
- Director**Jeffrey Thom
- Director**Stan Neal
- Director** Alan Lambert

Committees

- Landscaping Chair**Dr. John Bare
- Facility Maintenance Committee Chair**James Hoyes
- Hillary House Ball Chair** Patricia Wallace
- Fundraising Committee Chair**TBA

Staff

- Administrative Assistant** Julie Preston
- Newsletter Production**..... Julie Preston
- Newsletter Editor, Volunteer**.....Christine McLure
- Newsletter Layout, Volunteer**..... Brenda Snape



Board Members from left to right: Peter Styrmo, Alan Lambert, Paul Martin, Jeffery Thom, Geoffrey Dawe, Patricia Wallace, Anna Kroeplin, Ronen Grunberg, John Green. Absent: Stan Neal

From the Bookshelf

Need something different to read? Try these! And, you are supporting local authors.

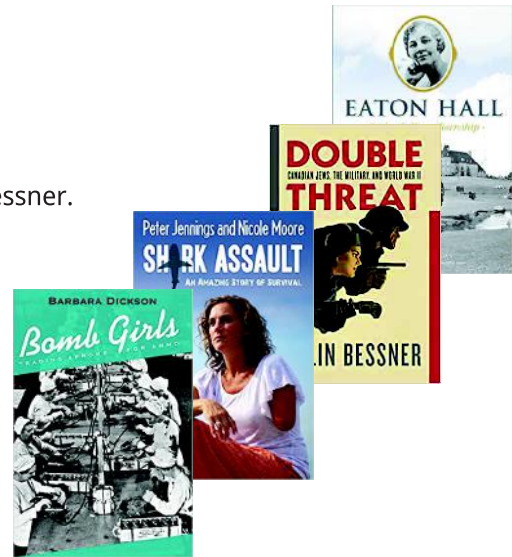
From our Speaker Series:

Eaton Hall: Pride of King Township by Kelly Mathews.
Limited signed copies available in our Gift Shop.

Double Threat: Canadian Jews, the Military, and World War II by Ellin Bessner.
Available www.ellinbessner.com

Shark Assault: An Amazing Story of Survival by Peter Jennings.
Available at www.sharkassault.com

Bomb Girls: Trading Aprons for Ammo by Barbara Dickson.
Available at www.barbaradickson.ca



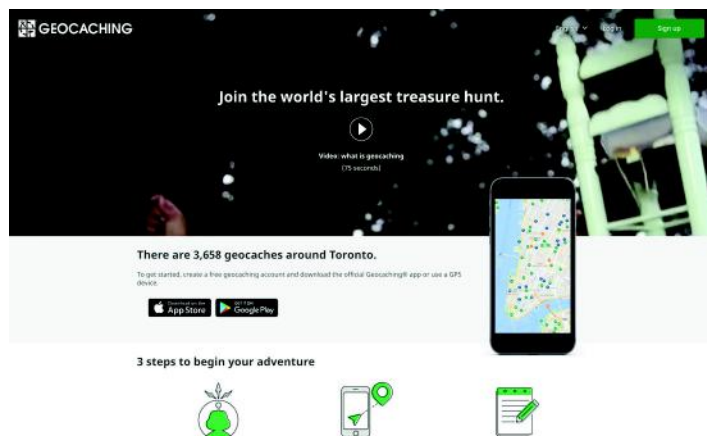
Geocaching?

Did you know that Hillary House is the site of a geocache? What is a geocache, you ask?

Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Participants navigate to a specific set of GPS coordinates and then attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location.

In its simplest form, a cache always contains a logbook or log sheet for you to log your find. Larger caches may contain a logbook and any number of items. These items turn the adventure into a true treasure hunt. You never know what the cache owner or visitors to the cache may have left for you to enjoy.

Our cache includes a map of the grounds, guiding you to interesting features of the landscape. We are also including a gift for first time finders. This is a large cache, perfect for beginner geocachers.



For more information on Geocaching, go to www.geocaching.com.

Here's what a recent finder had to say about the Hillary House cache:

“wow thank you

how often I've seen this house and always wondered.

But then my shifts are ridiculous.

Going like crazy since 3:45 this morning.

Goal was to find a special cache to celebrate my 500th cache

But by now, 2100. Too tired to drive or dig, or look.

Saw this one again in screen,
but it would be closed and where do I park, until I read available 24/7

Rested on the little bench and wrote my cache, how picturesque. Back in time for a while.

A peaceful end on a crazy awesome day

Nice and easy find

Definitely need to come back and check it out on the inside”

– March 2020

Gift Shop

Even though Hillary House is not open YET, we are getting ready to welcome you back to browse in our gift shop. We will gladly accept donations of new and gently used items such as giftware, jewellery, home décor and other household items. Unusual items are always popular! We have a no-contact/after-hours drop off area available for your convenience. Call for details. (Thank you, but we cannot accept books, clothing, or cracked/broken items.) PLUS, watch our website for featured items and news of a special sale coming in the summer / fall.



Facility Maintenance

James Hoyes, Facility Maintenance Committee Chair

As spring is here, and we sadly can't be open to the public yet, we look forward to using this downtime for some much-needed repairs and refresh to the interior of the house.

The Aurora Historical Society is not just an organization, it encompasses people who desire to see the history of Aurora come to life. Every one of our members has a specific skill set and strength that can benefit the Aurora Historical Society, and we would welcome your passions and skills to help strengthen the organization.

Do you have a passion or talent for gardening, maintenance work, painting, carpentry, or any other handyman skill? If you have an hour to spare, an afternoon or maybe some time on the weekend, please consider sharing it with us.

If you are interested in volunteering please send an email to me at facmaintenance@aurorahs.com



The Hillary House Black & White Ball

AHS President and Hillary House Ball Chair, Patricia Wallace

Wow! What an exciting and elegant evening it was!

The Hillary House Black and White Ball was held on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at the Royal Venetian Mansion. Attended by 160 guests dressed in stunning black and white gowns and suits, the theme was carried throughout the room with ostrich feather centerpieces and an occasional splash of red.

The event featured a silent auction with over 80 items, a Pop-a-Balloon prize draw (everyone was a winner), the ever-popular Heads or Tails game and dancing to the music of Soul Benefit. Also included was the live auction of two private evenings at Hillary House in the Ballroom.

The event could not have happened without an amazing group of volunteers. Allison Halls, Christine Zarebski, Helen and Wayne Burlanette, Vikki Mikkola, Lori and James Hoyes, Alison Collins-Mrakas, Hoda Soliman and of course Tim Jones as our Master of Ceremonies. With a special mention to staff members who worked on the

arrangements in the early planning days; Erika Baird, Mary Beth Hess and Rita Surman.

A big thank-you to the businesses and private donors for stepping up with items for our silent auction, in addition to a huge thank-you to our major sponsors.

Sadly, we have had to make the decision to delay the next Ball until 2021 due to the risks associated with the Covid-19 pandemic. This will have a large impact on our financial situation. Please consider a donation in lieu of the purchase of a ticket or a silent auction purchase. Your continued support is important.



Thank you to our Sponsors





In Memoriam

Marvelle Koffler – (January 14, 2020) A passionate supporter of the arts and steadfast advocate for women's health and humanitarian causes. Wife of the late Murray Koffler. Together Murray and Marvelle Koffler were extraordinary philanthropists. Due to their generous donation to Hillary House many years ago, our medical collection is known as the Koffler Museum of Medicine. AHS had the honour of their attendance at the inaugural Hillary House Ball in 2012.
<https://nationalpost.remembering.ca/obituary/marvelle-koffler-1078262762>

Peter Van Nostrand – (January 29, 2020) Peter van Nostrand was a key player in the work of the Aurora Historical Society through five decades as we worked to preserve Hillary House and open it to the public as a museum. For a full article about Peter, written by historian John McIntyre, please visit our website. <https://aurorahs.com/remembering-dr-peter-van-nostrand-1933-2020>

Judith Lynne McGuckin (April 22, 2020) - Lynne McGuckin (nee Hillary) of Mt. Albert. Beloved Wife of Jim McGuckin. As a Hillary descendent, Lynne enjoyed visiting Hillary House, even as recently as December. Lynne was an avid supporter and donor of Hillary artifacts of the museum.
<https://skwarchukfuneralhome.com/tribute/details/5793/Judith-Lynne-McGuckin/obituary.html>



Membership Update

Julie Preston, Administrative Assistant

Membership with the Aurora Historical Society continues to be very important to our ongoing operations.

Memberships not only help AHS maintain and restore Hillary House, they also help us bring you interesting and informative heritage programming.

Strong membership numbers are important to the success of grant applications. These grants are critical in allowing us to hire summer students, keep the museum open to the public and develop exhibit and heritage programming.

Please help us in 2020 by renewing your annual membership.

Thank you to all who are Life Members - your continued support is appreciated.

For more information contact community@aurorahs.com, call 905 727-8991 or mail in the membership/donation card on page 7 of this newsletter.

Are you receiving our monthly e-newsletters?

If not, please email us at community@aurorahs.com or call 905-727-8991 with your updated contact information.

Guess The Artifact



Do you know what this is?

These days, we are constantly thinking of washing our hands. Is this what happens when you wash them too often?

Look for the answer on another page in this newsletter.

Ask us about our ADOPT AN ARTIFACT PROGRAM!

Individuals, groups, schools can sponsor an artifact from The Hillary House collection

The Aurora Historical Society gratefully acknowledges the financial support of:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

Annual Fees (January 1 to December 31)

AURORA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
EST. 1963

<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>Town: _____</p> <p>Postal Code: _____</p> <p>Telephone: _____</p> <p>Email*: _____</p>	<p>MEMBERSHIP FEES: Please make cheques payable to the Aurora Historical Society.</p> <p>Payment can also be made by cash, Visa Card, Mastercard, Discover, American Express, or debit at Hillary House.</p> <p>**If membership is for family, please include individual family member's names.</p> <p>I would like to donate \$ _____</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">1 Year</th> <th style="text-align: center;">2 Years</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Student (under 19)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$10.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Individual</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$30.00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$50.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Family</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$40.00</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$70.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Corporate</td> <td style="text-align: center;">\$125.00</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		1 Year	2 Years	<input type="checkbox"/> Student (under 19)	\$10.00		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$30.00	\$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$40.00	\$70.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$125.00	
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Aurora Historical Society

15372 Yonge Street, Aurora, Ontario L4G 1N8
email: community@aurorahs.com

Telephone: 905 727-8991
www.aurorahs.com

Recipe Corner

From the Hillary House Collection

We all seem to be baking these days, so here is an "old favourite" from the Hillary House collection.

Cherry Cobbler

Ingredients

1 can sour red cherries
(equals 2-1/2 cups + juice)
1/2 cup sugar
1 tbsp. cornstarch

1/2 cup sugar
1 tsp. butter
1/2 cup milk
1 cup flour
2 tsp. baking powder
Pinch salt

Method

- Mix cherries, sugar, cornstarch in a saucepan
- Bringing to a boil, boil for 1 minute
- Stir constantly
- Pour into a 1-1/2 quart baking dish
- Mix the last six ingredients in a bowl in the order given
- Pour over fruit
- Bake 25-30 minutes at 400°F



French Dressing

Ingredients

1/3 cup sugar
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. paprika
Juice of 1 orange
Juice of 1 lemon
1 tbsp. vinegar
1 cup vegetable oil
1 tsp. grated onion
1 clove garlic minced

Method

Put all in jar. Shake well. Refrigerate until ready to use.



My contribution will allow the Society to operate and restore Hillary House National Historic Site and is a critical resource to the preservation of our community history for the education, enrichment and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Aurora Historical Society Donations

Heritage matters to us!

All donations \$20.00 and over will receive an income tax receipt

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

Please make cheques payable to the Aurora Historical Society.

Aurora Historical Society

15372 Yonge Street, Aurora, ON L4G 1N8

Donations at Hillary House may also be made via cash or debit card. Credit cards are accepted over the phone or in person.

Or,



I would like to remain anonymous and not be acknowledged in any publications

Charitable Registration Number: 132003849 RR0001