

Past



Present

Future



Summer 2016

Members' Quarterly Newsletter



Welcome to the week of both Canada's 149th birthday and the United States 240th Independence Day – both cause for celebration and both

special to what takes place at Country Heritage Park. As I write this, I can assure you that after 28 heat-searing, soul-sucking days, the edge of the escarpment huddled beside the 401 managed to get about an inch of rain, a near instant reprieve from yellow grass and dusty roads. And just in time because it is time to get growing – and many areas throughout southern Ontario have been hit with the same oppressive heat, although the strawberries, where available, were dynamite.

But as someone who enjoys the cold, getting through the months of May and June were very tough – and not just because of the uncooperative fashion that is Mother Nature. CHP's family was setback because of a medical illness to Helen Kennedy, who is not only a staff member for the park, but a member of many of the clubs and seemingly related to virtually everyone in Milton. This unexpected situation appears to have been caught in time – and now comes the long process of getting better. Helen (and her husband, Carl) have endured tough battles before and always come out on top – and she assures me that she will be back. I know she will.



Board of Directors

- Bruce Christie
- Brad Clements
- Linda Hruska
- Bev Hughes
- Russ Kidd
- Liz Lambrick
- Wes Lane
- Carolyn McDonell
- Jan Mowbray
- Kellie Paquette
- Don Rickard
- Jan Robertson
- Maurice Rutherford
- Bruce Saunders
- Frank Tousaw
- Rick Upfold

Staff

- Jamie Reaume, CEO
- Richard Broadwith, Business Development
- Doug Self, Accounts
- Mariette Haras, Weddings
- Lorraine Fiset, Education
- Wayne Canning, Operations
- Helen Kennedy, (on leave) Admin & Volunteer Coordinator
- Isabelle Camp - Summer Receptionist

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When tickets come on sale for the **Theatre in the Gambrel Grand Ole Opry Nite on November 11.**

It will be well worth everyone's while to attend – with a special intermission planned.



www.countryheritagepark.com



In case you missed it . . .

Country Heritage Agricultural Society brings in new board members; welcomes new President

MILTON, ON. – Another year, another contested election for positions on the board of directors for the Country Heritage Park Agricultural Society, and with it, the announcement of a new President to lead the not-for-profit organization as it looks ahead to its 10th year in 2017.

The society welcomed three new board members: Kellie Paquette (who was also elected as Vice-President), Russ Kidd, Maurice Rutherford, and returning board member Jan Robertson – and elected a new President in Bev Hughes, who has been on the board for a few years and replaces Bruce Saunders, who will now act as Past President. Previous board members Liz Lambrick and Jan Robertson round out the executive of the agricultural society as its members at large.

“This has been an unprecedented year for Country Heritage Park, and we have shown that people are very interested in what we are now doing, and we intend to make the most of this,” said Bev Hughes following the Annual General Meeting. “Every week it seems there are some new changes being made, some new event happening within our community, and this is what we have been hoping for over the past few years – and are now seeing it realized.”

Hughes said that Saunders was to be commended for leading the organization over the past few years during some very trying times, and admitted that the work was not yet done but the determination to make Country Heritage Park a destination of choice for schools and residents is greater than ever. However, with change, comes the inevitable good-byes to board members who retired when their terms came up, in this case, long-time board members Phil Brett, Bert Andrews, and Brian Little.

“One of the oldest lines about change is attributed to Heraclitus, a Greek Philosopher, who said “There is nothing permanent except change” and when it comes to Country Heritage Park, that is what we are striving towards,” Hughes, a former educator, said. “Folks should be aware that there are going to be more changes coming as we reconnect our urban brethren with the food and farming aspects in a way that only our theme park to yesteryear can provide.”

One new change that will be instantly recognized is the development of a website that fits all platforms – from tablets and phones to desktops; offering a complete calendar for events, weddings, private functions – and all geared at helping to ensure people know of all the activities taking place at the facility. The new website (www.countryheritagepark.com) was developed in full partnership with FARMS.com, one of the province’s premier agricultural companies, and CHP is proud to have worked with them to improve the facility’s communications and boost its web presence.

“This is a year-long partnership that has produced an incredible result,” added Hughes. “We need more partnerships like this with our fellow food and farming compatriots so that we can help them showcase to the rest of the province the innovation and experiences from field to fork in a hands-on way.”

Country Heritage Park is an 80-acre site depicting a rural crossroads community reflective of the past 185 years, complete with historic buildings, fairgrounds, and a story built into the fabric of the innovators and entrepreneurs who built the foundations of modern food and farming, and guide its future even today. Nestled in the shadow of the Niagara Escarpment, and on the western frontier of the fastest growing community in Canada (being Milton), CHP provides a unique rural-urban bridge to the more than seven-million residents of the GTA. With a number of events and specialty shows, there is always time to stop in for a visit and see a renewed CHP.

Changes to website – ongoing but . . .

Some of us are in the whole school grade system again, relearning technology that is way beyond some of the innovative designs that dot Country Heritage Park. As such, there are still some things that are not completely right with the website – even though it is 95 per cent good to go, it is that last five per cent that is still the tricky part. For that, staff at CHP do apologize for not getting it all correct the first time out. We are still learning the tricks of the craft and it will likely be sometime in the mastery of it. In the meantime, if you see something that is not “right” to you, take the time to send an e-mail to jamie@countryheritagepark.com or do what most of you do – just tell'em.

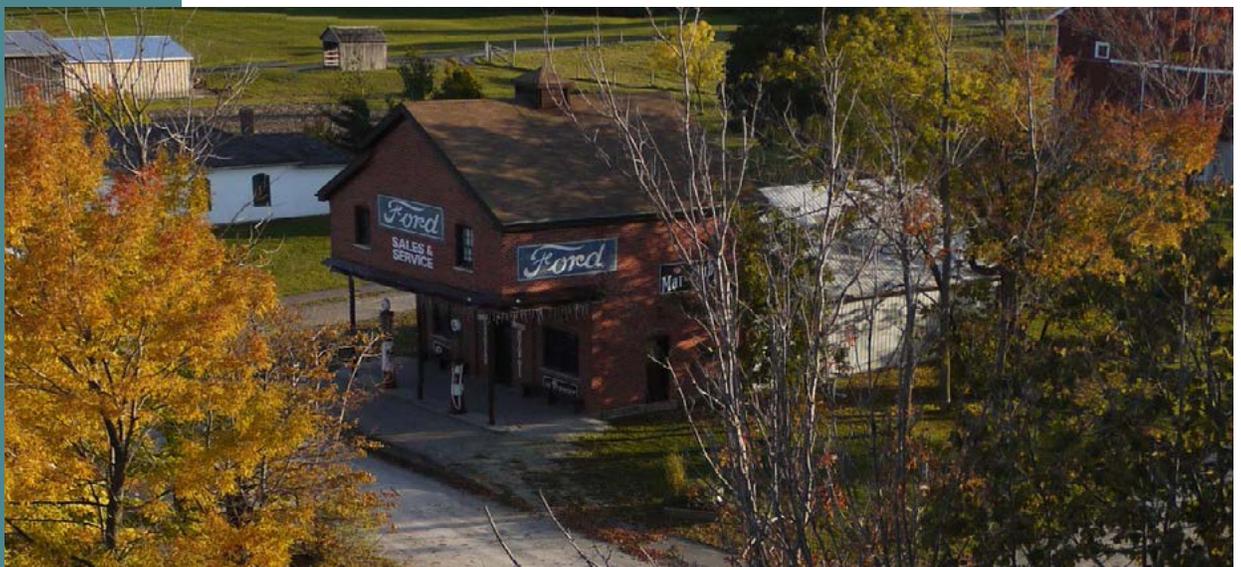




Fords in the Park 2016

Imagine a time when Model A's roamed the dusty back streets of rural Ontario to the gravel and bumpy barely passable roads that were part of Toronto before it became the free-flowing mecca governments have fought valiantly to transform; now, you can see a wide array of prestigious and beautified Fords – without encountering the GTA's roadway version of Used Car Lot. Fords in the Park offers something for more than just the car buff, it allows visitors to interact throughout CHP – touching pieces of history and learning how it ties in with today's marketplaces. We bring history to life – show the innovation that makes today's versions yearn for more in the future, and it won't disappoint anyone looking for a rare part or two as CHP will be offering up a swap meet specifically established for gear heads and collectors. Don't miss out on a fun-filled day.

That was the introduction to the Fords in the Park 2016 – and it was a good show, despite that overwhelming theme: hot as Hades. The Ford Club did themselves proud, particularly with the absence of key members – Helen and Carl Kennedy – who are huge boosters of the event and contributors were made from all members in the club. A big thank you goes out to all of you, particularly a couple of you – but then, you know who you are. Even with the odd rumbling of a very minor few, it was a pleasure to have more than 300 Fords of various ages spread throughout CHP – and the crowds were larger than last year. And a big thank you to the other clubs for helping out to get the facility ready and being there in the buildings that are open. I am sure that it meant a great deal to the members of the Ford Club but it was also a good indication that the best interests of CHP come first. Thank you.





Events

What's ahead . . .

July 15 to 17
**Summer Fair & Farm Expo featuring
the 17th Annual All Colours Show**

www.countryheritagepark.com

Going into its 17th year, the former All Colour Show has now become the Summer Fair and Farm Expo – and a number of new features have been added for the family: the heavy horse pull – taking place on July 15 and is quite a feat to behold; the lawn tractor pulls and pedal pulls for children; the mid-afternoon glory ride with this year's featured Odds and Sods – and therefore, open to each and everyone with a tractor and car; the Saturday night tractor and truck pulls; a full midway and carnival; a fully enclosed swap and parts meet (for all ages); a Classic Car Cruiser Afternoon (I keep wanting to do a cruiser night); and a new display about Agriculture and Food Awareness. This is a weekend filled with fun, food, and festivities for the entire family. Whatever your fancy, it will likely be found here.

July 16
**Summer Fair & Farm Expo featuring
The Antique Tractor and Truck Super Pull**

www.countryheritagepark.com

Noise, energy, muscle, competition, crowds, vendors, entertainment, fun – all part of this year's 4th annual wrestle-mania of Tractor and Truck Super Pull, part of the Summer Fair and Farm Expo event at Country Heritage Park in Milton - one of the best venues in Southern Ontario. Ground-shaking, reverberating off the escarpment walls, this is a thrill-a-minute and is not to be missed by families who like their action right here, right now.

July 24
Golden Horseshoe Mustang Show

<http://ghma.on.ca/wp/>

Another car event – this time for the Mustang folks who, to quote, “We drive them, race them, restore them, preserve them and just plain enjoy them; we’re the Golden Horseshoe Mustang Association, a people driven car club”. This one is just plain ol’ good times – and all are welcome to see the “pony” that made Ford what it is today.

July 30 to 31
Dog Lovers Days

<http://www.dogloversdays.com/index.html>

This is one for our BF (best friend) ever – the family dog – and CHP remembers the days when dogs meant more for the family than just someone to cuddle with. Dogs worked side-by-side with farmers throughout the countryside, keeping a calming pace on everything going on. This weekend is the time when you can relax and watch YOUR dog be the star. This weekend is a complete interactive “dog” festival where the family dog has fun running agility and speed tracks and much more. If it's called a dog festival, it should be “all about the dog”. Your dog can have a ball running a lure course, get the star treatment in the Pamper Zone, have some fun in the Doggie Play Zone, or visit a Holistic Healer at the Health and Wellness Centre. There are also numerous vendors and lots to see.



Events

August 21
Art in the Park

www.countryheritagepark.com

This inaugural event features local and regional artists from all media, who will be throughout the park, showcasing and selling their artwork in the park's various buildings and scenic fields. Stroll, ride, take the people wagon mover to where you want – it is entirely up to you – or maybe it is a combination of all three. All mediums, from oils to photography to sculpture to . . . well, art is endless and in the eye of the beholder, and this event will highlight the truth behind that statement.

August 27
Northern Showdown Charity Car Show

<http://fipala.com/northern-showdown/2618446>

<https://www.facebook.com/Northernshowdown>

Northern Showdown is a car show open to any vehicle. Custom, classic, showroom condition, everything is welcome. Awards will be given to the top 50 vehicles, along with 10 Specialty Best Of awards. There will be games again, for individuals and clubs to compete against each other. It is a rain or shine event.

September 2 to 5
Steam Era Show

<http://www.steam-era.com/>

With a 2016 theme related to all things steam and vintage lawn and garden equipment, Steam Era comes back for its 56th Annual Labour Day exhibition, as members of the Ontario Steam & Antique Preservers Association exhibit and demonstrate their collections of equipment, models, cars and trucks, along with crafts, entertainment, vendors and other displays pertaining to our rural agricultural heritage.



**Don't forget to
mark the dates on
your calendar!**





Consignment Auction means exactly what it says

To avoid future confusion and questions, although, undoubtedly, anything in writing will continue to confuse and muddy the waters anyways, we at Country Heritage Park wanted to let all know what is happening with the September auction.

We are the host for the event given our size and location and logistical ease for many on the countryside who have always wanted the opportunity to put an item or two in an auction but, of course, have been unable to do so unless they were running a full auction on their own – which doesn't happen unless they are leaving everything behind for brighter pastures.

It was the idea behind doing something for the larger community – because there is always something that someone wants to move but e-Bay seems foreign for most and Kijiji doesn't seem to cut it on price at all. And using internet auction sites just feels so . . . unauctionlike since you can't bid up your dreaded neighbour who outbid you \$10 on that classic hay rake 18 years ago because, like Khan – "revenge is a dish best served cold".

Here is the information – Country Heritage Park is offering itself as a location for this consignment auction, working with The Guild of Automotive Restorers (and David Grainger of Restoration Garage television fame). The website for the auction items will be found at www.guildclassiccars.com, the telephone number to get your consignment offer to them is 905-775-0499, and the catalogue will be done through them. As a location of a large classic and antique farm equipment and a wide array of smaller items, Country Heritage Park is likely the ideal location to garner some much needed publicity – and manage to generate some necessary dollars as well as open up the venue and its buildings so that people from all walks of life can visit and tour the 80-acre site. It makes sense to have food and drink available, on site, and have folks enjoy their time – even if they don't sell or buy anything. It makes sense to put this out to all locals in order to have more interest in what is here at the park. And if the park manages to sell a few of its surplus and more items, than so be it.

That last line is important, since the park is only a participant in that, with more than 25,000 artifacts, there will not be that many going – and would not given the magnitude of the role it is already playing. If you have visited this facility, you do know that each building has unique items and artifacts that make up for the larger picture of a farm and food picture that assists in the education process. All items at the park with Ontario, Canada, and unique are here and have relevance to what the role Country Heritage Park plays in the farm and food world. And given that the very small staff has not been able to go through as many of the buildings (39 on site) as would be required, there are still more mysteries, more gems, more of everything that will likely be available. As well, given that this is the eighth auction, including government days, there is really no surprise to what can and can't be done – just a matter of making sure that we are doing what is in the best interests of Country Heritage Park now and into the future.

But this is not a going out of business sale, and clearly does not state that anywhere – rumours and misinformation aside. We are doing this so that the countryside has an opportunity – while most are somewhat young – to move some items that they have wanted to do so but have been unable to find a location to get the right price. Well, the time is right, the business will be brisk, and anyone wanting to join in just needs to get in touch through the information above to be a player. At Country Heritage Park, we do think of our brethren and how we can return the time and favour back to them. Offering our grounds for their sales – with no cost to them being returned back to the park except the admission fee – is a small way of saying thank you.

Volunteer and Membership – A reminder . . .

Membership forms and information about membership at CHP are available from Jamie (jamie@countryheritagepark.com) in the absence of Helen or online. In fact, we are getting a number of online requests for volunteers that we are responding to as they come in. If there is something that we haven't thought of that would be a nice project for our volunteers, make sure that you mention it to someone at the park. We are trying to get things in order throughout the facility, which takes time and resources, but we have moved a number of things along.

And with the Summer Fair and Farm Expo, your time helps CHP with the little things, like safety folks for wagon rides, directing and helping with parking, registration, admissions, the list of opportunities is as long as the weekend itself, and we thank all that assist in making this a bigger event for all.

A reminder to volunteers as well that the Volunteer Sheet all the new folks are signing states the following – and is a reminder for those coming and going with respect to CHP:

- Volunteers must obtain prior approval to work on-site outside normal office hours Monday to Friday 8:30-5:00. There will be no weekend opportunities unless otherwise approved by the CEO.
- All work must to be approved by CHAS management.
- NOTE TO ALL VOLUNTEERS that any financial costs must be pre-approved by CHAS management.
- CHAS safety policies and procedures shall apply to all Volunteers.
- No property of CHAS shall be removed from Country Heritage Park unless a Loan Agreement has been signed by CHAS management and the Volunteer.

“And hey, let’s be careful out there.”

