

## NEWS from the Margaret Fawcett Norrie Heritage Centre

Autumn 2018

Mi'kmaq, Acadian and Montbéliard display – After three years of hard work, extensive planning and grueling fundraising, an exciting new display was officially opened on June 16, 2018. Shirley Brinkhurst and Rémi Lemoine cut the ribbon, following a brief history of the project presented by Floyd Tucker. Visitors were delighted to see the greatly expanded visuals and information about these three important groups of early settlers in Tatamagouche. Thank you very much to all those who served on the committee: Shirley Brinkhurst, Rémi Lemoine, Michael Martin, Ashley Sutherland and Maralyn Driver.









Summer of 2018 – The Heritage Centre opened on Victoria Day weekend and closed on Thanksgiving Day weekend. Our summer students, Hannah Nicholson, Brianna Cameron, Siena Hammermeister and George Buchanan Gibb were kept very busy greeting over 3,000 visitors in July and August. As well as giving tours to our visitors and doing activities with children, the students were also responsible for verifying information on our artifacts and recording them online with the Nova Scotia Museums' Collective Access Program. "Thank you!" to Hannah, Brianna, Siena and George for all the fine work and "Good Luck with your studies this year!"

The total number of summer visitors to the Heritage Centre from May to October was close to 5,000!

**July 1** - On Canada Day, visitors to Creamery Square enjoyed cake, crafts and a free concert by Eric Fresia...all provided by a grant from Heritage Canada. The Heritage Centre summer students supervised games for children outside on the Senator's Stage. The Heritage Centre, Farmers' Market and Arts Centre welcomed many tourists and local residents, who all celebrated July 1<sup>st</sup> on a rather hot day!









**The Gift Shop** – The Heritage Centre Gift Shop continues to be an essential source of revenue for the Heritage Centre. Visitors enjoyed the unique selection of books and toys for children. For adults, there were cookbooks and novels by local authors. We also sold genealogical books and items made by local craftspeople. The wooden toys made by Andrew MacDonald were very popular items!

In 2018, two new books about Nova Scotia giants were published. *The True Tale of a Giantess* and *A Giant Man from a Tiny Town* will both be available in the shop next summer.





Cider Tasting and Silent Auction – On September 22, we held a fund raising event at the Brule Community Centre. Bella Vista Farm in Malagash provided four kinds of cider to tempt our guests' taste buds. Marie-Christine Halliday and Maralyn Driver made hors-d'oeuvres; Anne MacKeen, Mary Toombs and Maralyn made apple pies. The three wonderful volunteers in the kitchen were Ans, Joe and Wil Tolboom. A huge "Thank you!" to everyone who attended, sipped some cider, made donations and participated in the Silent Auction.



Elizabeth Spence, Wil Tolboom



Patricia Campbell



Joe, Ans, Marie-Christine, Wil

**Church plates** – Joyce Ferguson created a temporary display of historic church plates. She gathered pieces from the North Shore Archives, the Heritage Centre, Barb Baird, Gail Matheson and from her own collection. Thank you, Joyce!



## Recent acquisitions -







Cream Can: A Tatamagouche Creamery cream can was donated by Eric Bonnyman.

Post Office desk: This desk, which was used by the postmistress in Earltown, was donated by Lee Sutherland.

**Baby shoes**: These shoes were worn by Mary Nelson, who was born in 1896. The heels have charming star-shaped nails. From the estate of Phyllis Halverson, they were donated by her daughter, Joan.







Box: A Tatamagouche Creamery cardboard box was donated by Jim Nicholson of Pictou.

Mi'kmaq basket: This basket, which belonged to Mrs. Elizabeth A. Bell, was donated by Beth Carruthers.

**Doll**: This 1930 Eaton's Beauty Doll, which belonged to Margaret (Bell) Carruthers, was donated by Beth Carruthers.

**Mrs. Stewart's Bluing**: Liquid bluing adds a slight tinge of blue to white items during laundry which makes them appear whiter. The dye is a colloid of ferric ferrocyanide (Prussian blue -  $C_{18}Fe_7N_{18}$ ).

The company was founded by Al Stewart, and the product was first sold in Minneapolis in 1883. The picture on the label is a portrait of Al Stewart's mother-in-law. The company once tried to change the photo on the label, but customers demanded the return of the stern-faced Mrs. Stewart.

Other uses: Dyeing hair, cleaning windows, additive to swimming pools.

Donated by Phil Hansen of Georgetown, Ontario.



**Volunteers** – The Heritage Centre relies upon a large number of devoted volunteers who keep the museum open during the months of June and September. Thank you to our many enthusiastic volunteers! We couldn't operate during these months without you...and look forward to your help again next year!

**Friends** – The Heritage Centre is very fortunate to have many Friends who continue to support us financially each year. We truly appreciate your interest, your generosity and your contribution to the success of the museum. A huge and heartfelt **"Thank you!"** to all our Friends.

Photos contributed by George Klass, Beth Carruthers and Ian Glass