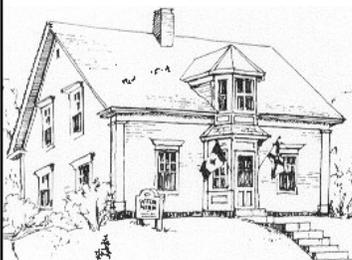


The Settler's Journal



The Team

Michael O'Connor
 Wilma Stewart-White
 Isobel Crossland
 Hilary Grant
 Ron Hall
 Sherry Hobson
 Aileen Lewis
 Roxanne Lindsay
 Barbara Miller
 Ray Morin
 Jean Ramsey
 Vaughan Renzo
 Philip Smeltzer
 Annette St-Onge

Mahone Bay Settlers Museum & Cultural Centre

A Word from the Chairman...

Summer 2004 is drawing to a close. I sense a sigh of relief and a burst of pride. The many plans for celebrating the 250th anniversary of European settlement have come to fruition. Meanwhile, the regular activities at the Settlers Museum have also met our Society's goals.

A special thank-you goes to Annette, Barbara and Wilma for helping keep the various celebration committees on track. The many citizens who volunteered made their tasks much easier. Don't miss the big wrap-up event on September 11th!

At the museum many visitors have been greeted and guided through our new displays and assisted in using our various research services. Wilma and her capable staff of Cheryl, Jenna, Kaleigh, Michelle and Victoria have made all visitors feel very welcome.

Each year our society tries to show our appreciation to our many volunteers by awarding certificates of appreciation to representative recipients. This year we honour Barbara Miller, a founding member, and Vaughan Renzo, a relative newcomer. Both persons typify the dedication that makes our Society successful. Congratulations!

Michael J O'Connor

YARD SALE

The Founders Society will be having their annual Scarecrow Festival Yard Sale on Saturday, October 2nd. Anyone with items to donate should call **Michael O'Connor** at **624-9293**. You can arrange a time for him to collect your donations.

THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our sincerest appreciation to all of our many hard-working volunteers. This year was especially challenging as we faced the immense task of organizing the 250th Anniversary in addition to our regular, busy summer load. As always, you rose to the challenge and conquered! We hope that you enjoy Volunteer Appreciation Night on August 24; you certainly deserve a party. Thank you so much for your many efforts and for making this season a success. We certainly couldn't have done it without you!



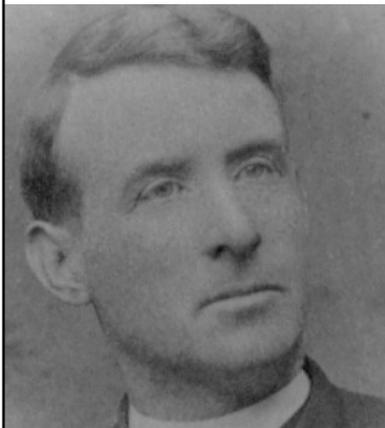
2004 Museum Highlights

NEW PUBLICATIONS: This year we were very pleased to add two new publications to our growing museum library. **Dear Old Mahone** is a must-have book for anyone with Mahone Bay roots or an interest in town history. It was produced by local historian, Joan Foran, with help from Wilma Stewart-White and Cheryl Sullivan. A big thank-you also goes to her son, Andrew Foran, for his assistance with the photographs. Our other new publication is the **250th Anniversary Cookbook**; the result of a superb effort by Barbara Feeney and Marg Hennigar. Both books are on sale at the museum. Get a head start on your Christmas shopping and buy a copy today!



NEW ENTRANCE: The opening of the front door has been very successful. People entering see the parlour from a new angle, a new shoe and boot collection on the front stairs, and the painted ceiling on the foyer. Many thanks to Michael and the Building & Maintenance Committee for all their hard work to make this happen.

NEW EXHIBITS: This year we featured a new exhibit entitled **Ned Harris: Early Years in Mahone Bay (1884-1889)**. It is based on letters and images from the Harris family archives that chronicle the years when Ned was the Curate and a key figure in building the new St. James' Anglican Church. The exhibit was officially launched on June 12th in the presence of family members and Father Ian Wissler. Many thanks go to Carole Collins, Isobel Crossland and the Harris/Tuck family (especially Robert Tuck) for their assistance and hard work on this project.



Another new exhibit this year was **The Mi'kmaq Presence in Mahone Bay**. Our friend April Hiltz put together this wonderful case of Mi'kmaq artifacts and traditional handwork. April also provided a great resource guide manual explaining the philosophies of the Mi'kmaq way of life and the meaning behind the symbols, colours and materials used to produce clothing and tools. We thank her for her willingness to be our guest curator for this exhibit.

NEW LOOK: You may notice our Foreign Protestant display is looking a little spiffier these days. Thanks to exhibit designer Jeff Cowling, phase one of our revised display is now in place. The second part of this project should be in place by next summer. By the way, Jeff also designed the three new town panels that were revealed during the Re-Enactment.

Also new this year is a revised version of the Inglis-Quinlan cabinet, which was redesigned by Margaret Busche and Jean Ramsey. We also have two new quilts on display: a story quilt in the Parlour and the 250th Anniversary Signature Quilt on the kitchen bed.

www.settlersmuseum.ns.ca

The Museum now has a new website address! Thank you to our new webmasters, Barbara and Gary Wuertz, for this new design.

250th Anniversary Highlights

We are pleased to announce the success of our 250th Anniversary Celebrations. The year began with a New Year's Day Levee, followed by a series of winter workshops and talks with seniors. This successful series has turned into a summer interview project and may even develop into a multi-media exhibit, pending grant funding.

JUNE 19th, RE-ENACTMENT DAY: It was such a joy to see so many descendants of founding families back in Mahone Bay... and in costume! The day began with a procession through town, as panels were unveiled at the Visitor Information Centre, Bank of Montreal and Government Wharf. The procession was led by the King's Orange Rangers contingent from Liverpool. Founding families came by land and sea to sign their names on the register of those who received land grants in Mahone Bay. Musical entertainment was provided by the Ernst Family Singers, performing Bach's "Now Thank We All Our God" (in German, of course!) and "Dear Old Mahone". Her Honour, Lt. Gov. Myra Freeman was able to attend the ceremonies, as well as many other Nova Scotian dignitaries. A new flagpole, donated by the Lions Club, was unveiled, as was the Canada Post commemorative envelope. Copies of the official photographs from this event can be ordered from Clas Larsson at the Blue Mussel gift shop on Main Street.

AUGUST 2nd - 7th, REUNION WEEK: Many families came together this week and we met lots of people who are interested in pursuing their Mahone Bay roots. Four highly informative and practical workshops were presented throughout this event. We were pleased to see and meet three generations of the Begin family. For some of them, this was their first opportunity to see their family "homestead" and their family history panel. This week also saw the unveiling of the commemorative stone and interpretative panels at the Bayview Cemetery. We were able to gather many names during this week and consequently will be creating a section on our new website for those searching for their Mahone Bay roots to post their name, contact information and research thread.

Vintage Sunday School Picnic

Our Vintage Sunday School Picnic took place on August 8th. The day began at St. James' with a service in the tradition of Canon Harris, as led by Father Wissler. From there participants, many of whom dressed in costume, walked from the church to the Mahone Bay Ball Field for a picnic. Children were invited to play organized games and all were welcomed to join in the singing of traditional hymns. Many came to the event to enjoy the fun, the atmosphere, and the blessing of such a beautiful day.

Ghosts and Gables

Our Ghosts and Gables Theatrical Walking Tour took place July 19 - 31 and August 3 - 5. Based on rum running in Mahone Bay during the 1920's, this summer's production of Ghosts and Gables was aptly titled "Temperance in a Teapot". The show entertained audiences each night with the town's history. The performance was written and directed by Reid Campbell, and was delivered by a cast of talented local actors. A **second group of performances** will be presented **October 1 - 3**, during Scarecrow Festival. Tickets are **\$12** each and will be available at the museum starting September 1st. **A must-see for all!**

September 11th, Grand Reception- A grand reception is being planned to wrap up the 250th Anniversary Celebrations. Stay tuned for details!

Full House!

Our office space was bursting at the seams this season, as we were blessed with an abundance of summer staff. We received 3 student grants to fund 3 positions.

Victoria Hirtle and Kaleigh Heide are our museum guides who also dabbled in research, exhibit design, theatrical production and event promotion. Jenna Hirtle is our research assistant who has been conducting interviews with seniors in our town and surrounding areas. Michelle Keddy returned part-time this summer as a curatorial assistant and parade float designer extraordinaire. Another blast from the past this season is Cheryl Sullivan, who has been working since November 2003 as our 250th Anniversary Researcher.



JENNA'S PROJECT: Through the summer I have had the honour to interview many seniors in Mahone Bay. I have discovered many fascinating personal stories relating to earlier times in the town and surrounding areas. These recorded oral histories will give students, historians, tourists and even town citizens a more interactive approach to exploring the rich history that lies within Mahone Bay. This information is in the process of being used to expand our website.

Retail Wonders! We are thrilled to brag about the success of our expanded and revamped Gift Shop nook. Jams, jellies, pickles, publications, 250th Anniversary merchandise and more have been flying off the shelves. The museum is now a great place for both town information *and* Christmas present ideas! Also very successful this year were the **Our Best to You Food Sale** and our booth at the **Lunenburg Craft Fair**. Once again, thank you to all the volunteers for making this happen.

House & Garden Tour and Paint Mahone Bay

Sadly, the House & Garden Tour attendance was disappointing this year, but those who took the tour gave us many positive comments. However, our first ever *Paint Mahone Bay* proved to be a success. Approximately 30 artists participated and painted all over town, selling 54 paintings. This event will be tried again next year.

FANNY ERNST

An exhibit of Fanny Ernst and her paintings, as suggested by Carole Collins, is being planned. Please let us know if you have any of Fanny's paintings that you wish to contribute. Your exhibit ideas help to keep the museum looking fresh every year!

STAY CONNECTED...

If you wish to receive e-mail updates, please let us know and we will add you to our mailing list.

mbsm@ns.sympatico.ca

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(902) 624-6263**

Fall Hours (after Labour Day): Wed- Sat 11am - 4pm, volunteers will be in some Saturdays. The museum will be closing for the season on October 2nd.

Don't forget to purchase your Ghost & Gables tickets, or your own copy of Dear Old Mahone and the 250th Anniversary Cookbook! Contact the Museum for details.