

# **Yarmouth County Historical Society**

## **Annual Report 2008**



### **Yarmouth County Museum & Archives**

**22 Collins Street, Yarmouth Nova Scotia B5A 3C8**

**Phone: 742-5539, Fax 749-1120**

**Email: [ycmuseum@eastlink.ca](mailto:ycmuseum@eastlink.ca) (Director); [ycmcurator@eastlink.ca](mailto:ycmcurator@eastlink.ca) (Curator);  
[ycarchives@eastlink.ca](mailto:ycarchives@eastlink.ca) (Archivist)**

**Website: <http://yarmouthcountymuseum.ednet.ns.ca>**

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## **PRESIDENT**

As we began the year 2008 our Historical Society was under the direction of Derek Kowalchuk up to the first part of April. It was in mid-June; following interviews and acceptance by the societies' Board of Directors that Bruce Bishop was invited to join the staff as Director for the Yarmouth County Museum and Archives. I want to thank our past and present museum & archives directors for their commitment of time and effort put into the work of this institution. Bruce has been very busy learning the many necessary functional operations of this museum along with his daily office duties and he is handling his job very well. Keep up the good work.

I want to also thank Nadine Gates, (Curator), Jamie Serran (Archivist), and Art Johnson (Maintenance) for the great work each of them has accomplished over the past year. It is easy to see the love for their job, through their commitment to the museum each day.

Of course, how would a place like the Yarmouth County Museum and Archives even accomplish the things they do, if it weren't for our volunteers? The genuine willingness of putting in hours and hours of time and energy throughout the year by our volunteers is truly appreciated. This involves many people in so many ways. Thank you all.

For our members from away you do not go unnoticed. We appreciate your support through your correspondence, donations for special projects along with your visits to our museum as you can. We also thank you for sharing this museum with others.

Through the committee chair reports, you will feel the enthusiasm and sense the commitment of our staff and many volunteers that carry out a large variety of duties and tasks within our Society. From our maintenance workers to our director, it is so important to have willing workers to keep any organization growing in the right direction. My hat goes off to you all. Great job everyone.

For all our sponsors and promoters within the town and counties, I want to thank you for all you have done for the Yarmouth County Museum and Archives throughout the past year. We all have a part to do and we all do a part, to make it work.

*Charles Winship*

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## **DIRECTOR**

Unfortunately, I cannot report on the first six months of 2008, as this was a transition period for the Society, and I did not begin my current position until June 30.

Upon being hired, I felt that some fresh, fast, noticeable (albeit minor) changes should be implemented to make the facility a bit more welcoming to visitors. Summer students had just been hired, tourists were beginning to visit, and I began by installing soft music playing in the background throughout the day in the main Museum area, and having fresh flowers on display, compliments of the rose garden at the Pelton-Fuller House (or, on occasion, "recycled" floral arrangements from Sweeney's Funeral Home).

The Yard Sale was a tremendous success in mid-July, and the same day, I had asked two of our summer students to get into costume (circa 1958) and accompany an antique red pickup truck to walk in the SeaFest Parade. This was to distribute brochures and candies along the way. It was the first time the Museum had participated in the Parade in a number of years. Magnetized signs on opposite sides of the truck advertised the Museum's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday. It is my belief that when local people realize that they can "come back" to the Museum – their museum – at any time, attendance will naturally increase. It is as much their home as it is that of the Historical Society.

## **Public Relations, Publicity & Events**

The Museum and Archives achieved a tremendous amount of editorial coverage in the last six months of 2008, thanks to a very willing local newspaper (*The Yarmouth County Vanguard*) that is a big supporter of community non-profits. The Museum's activities and events were also discussed on *CBC Radio Morning*, *CJLS-FM* and on CTV's *Breakfast Television* in Halifax. Local cable broadcaster *Eastlink* also interviewed me twice on two different programs at two different times (September and December). *EastLink* Television also tapes many of our monthly programs for inclusion in their *Podium TV* series.

It is very important to note that the advertising value of all articles and photographs that appeared in *The Vanguard* only since July 1, 2008 amounted to \$5,283.00. This is what the Historical Society would have had to pay in ad space if it was not a not-for-profit association. (The value was worked out using a formula devised by the Canadian Tourism Commission and supplied to me by N.S. Tourism, Culture & Heritage.) Ad value of the Museum being mentioned in *Yahoo News* online, *The Chronicle Herald*, *Lobster Bay Shopper*, and *The Seniors' Advocate* was not determined.

I arranged for a local computer company to film and install a "Virtual Tour" on the Museum's website so everyone might be able to feel the scope of the facility prior to coming to Yarmouth. Since its inclusion on the site in August, the Virtual Tour has been watched 515 times.

The Historigram, now under the helm of Editor Peter Eldridge, continues to be a welcome and informative monthly newsletter for all Society members.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper held a press conference in our Education Wing in October, during the federal election. While the Historical Society does not allow political or religious groups to hold meetings or rallies in our buildings, a press conference is a different matter. It brings publicity (on a national level, in this instance) to our facility, and a substantial room rental.

The first wine tasting in many years was also held in October, and while not a big moneymaker, it was a sold-out event with much positive feedback, virtually cementing another to be planned in 2009. On a PR level, this kind of event also supports local and provincial business (in this instance, *Domaine de Grand Pré* and *IMO Foods*) and shows the Museum as being a supportive corporate citizen.

In 2008, four book launches, a magazine launch, several (and varied) art exhibits, and a sold-out concert featuring a well-known soprano also helps keep the Museum's name in the public eye on a continuing basis, ensuring repeat visitation and new visitors to the facility.

## **Fundraising**

Another handmade quite was raffled in 2008, and there were several events throughout the year which added to the fundraising coffers: the Mammoth Yard Sale (\$4,100), the Heritage Ham Dinner, A Date with Dessert (\$650), the Coin & Currency Road Show (\$1,500), and the Edwardian Christmas Party. All were very popular events and the latter raised \$12,500 net for the Museum and Archives, securing its place for another themed late-year party in 2009.

On another 'giving' level, and very much appreciated, was the donation of a family cottage by John & Dorothy Goudey in Lake Annis, which is currently for sale.

## **Physical Plant**

From July to December, there were no major changes made to the Museum and Archives' properties except for the exterior paint job done on the Pelton-Fuller House in the summer. The whole facility did not sustain any damage during the wind and snowstorms of December, although the power was off for a relatively brief length of time. Early in the year, the C.E. Dyke jeweller's handmade cabinets arrived and now occupy a prime location near the entrance of the Museum.

## Volunteers

What would the Yarmouth County Museum and Archives and its paid staff do without these wonderful people? Over the past six months, I have worked closely with the Front Desk staff, the Board of Directors, and the Ways & Means and Finance Committees. I have enjoyed their company and their expertise. Thank you all very much for your committed dedication to this enterprise.

## Events

### January

- Laurent d'Entremont discussed his book, *Stories to Remember, Volume II*, during the Society meeting
- Watercolours by W.W. Cowell were exhibited.
- Artworks by Bruce Jacquard were featured.

### February

- Sharon Robart-Johnson delivered a talk on her manuscript, *Africa's Children: A History of Blacks in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia*.
- Heritage Ham Dinner was a success.
- Annual Meeting held, complete with a slide show of 2007 events.

### March

- Darrin Smith presented a PowerPoint presentation of vintage Yarmouth and Yarmouth County photographs

### April

- Michael Tavares spoke on at the society meeting on the Re-Use of old buildings.

### May

- Gary Gaudet from the Wartime Heritage Assoc. spoke at the Society meeting.

### June

- Bill Crowell launched his book, "The Artist & the Colonel"
- Barrie MacGregor from the local YMCA spoke about the Y's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*I began my position on June 30, 2008, and below is what has happened within my office and my duties in the following six months ending December 31, 2008.*

### July

- SeaFest Week: Garden Sale
- The Museum participated in the SeaFest parade.
- Also in the Education Wing during SeaFest week: *The Shantymen* (singing), "The Life of a Wife at Sea" (Nadine & Susan, lecture), "Costume Talk from the 1950s" (Susan), "Loyalist Refugees" (Jenny Stewart).
- Bill Crowell paintings exhibit
- 'Pairings': a joint show of paintings and prose from the Yarmouth Art Society and the Write-Away Group
- The YARC performers staged scenes from Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* for the Society meeting

### August

- Angela Collier spoke on the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Yarmouth Branch, during the Society meeting
- "Date with Dessert" fundraiser.



## Heritage Grants

- N.S. Dept. of Tourism, Culture & Heritage, Heritage Properties Division - \$1000 towards Pelton-Fuller House paint job, summer '08

## Sponsorships

- Throughout the year – Ellis Print (Historigram newsletter)
- January – Cook's Dairy Farm Ltd. – \$500 towards free admission
- February – Register.com – \$500 towards free admission
- March – Spears & Macleod Pharmasave – \$500 towards free Admission
- July & November – L & N Signs - signage for Museum's 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday and photo posters for Edwardian Event
- July – Antique Car Club – complimentary use of 1948 pick-up truck for SeaFest Parade
- October – Domaine de Grand Pré – complimentary wines for wine tasting
- October – IMO / Kersen Foods – complimentary snacks at wine tasting
- November – Novi Boat Brokers – complimentary lobster for Edwardian Event
- November – Thousand Hills Farm – complimentary turkey for Edwardian Event
- November – Germain Mechanical & Electrical Ltd. – cash donation to Edwardian Event
- November – Macdonald Chisholm Trask Insurance – cash donation to Edwardian Event

*Bruce Bishop*

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## ARCHIVES

It has been an extremely busy and rewarding year in the archives. Volunteers contributed their time to a wide variety of projects; summer students and grant workers completed shorter tasks and assisted with day-to-day operations during busy seasons; new acquisitions made their way into our collection; and several new projects were undertaken while others were maintained successfully throughout the year.

I would like to thank the many volunteers, both regular and intermittent, who perform a variety of tasks with great dedication and willingness: Gail O'Sullivan, who volunteers in the reading room and indexes newspapers for several different projects; Dottie English, who volunteers in the reading room and spearheaded the update to *Past & Present*; Florence Manning, who indexes and types anything we send her way; Virginia Stoddard, who cleaned and organized the library, catalogues books, and updates the library database and catalogue; Bob Brown, who assists Gail in indexing Vital Stats from our newspapers; Aurel Mooney, who volunteers in the reading room and undertakes any research or indexing project that comes up; David Nicholson-Muise, who carefully sorted a very large collection of material from Guest's Hardware; Dermott O'Sullivan, who has begun a large indexing project of historical news clippings; Barbara Hinckley, who added descriptions of catalogued material to the ArchWay Database; Susan Brown, who indexed a book of Vital Stats clippings over the summer; Bruce Ross, who catalogued a large portion of YMS-2 material over the summer; Chelsea Stevens, a high school student who drops in whenever she can and helps with any project that is available at the time; Helen Hall, who collects clippings from the Halifax newspapers; Hubert Hall, who creates indexes for many of our shipping-related books and registers; Vaughn Bullerwell, who took on several research requests and provided reading room and technical assistance; and Peter Eldridge, who provides reading room assistance and constant education on Yarmouth's history. Recorded volunteer time amounted to almost 1500 hours this year, which has made a tremendous difference in the work we were able to accomplish. Thanks to each one of you for your contributions and the commitment and spirit you bring to every task, and thanks to anyone I may have forgotten who helped in any way this year. I am very grateful to the *Yarmouth Vanguard* for supplying

complimentary copies of the paper each week, and to the *Lobster Bay/Clare Shopper* for reprinting copies of our historical photos.

We were very lucky to receive grants to hire two summer students in the archives, as well as a contract worker in the fall and winter. Donovan Bain began in May and very quickly proved to be a great asset to me. In addition to managing visitors in the reading room all summer (including on his own on Mondays), he handled many of the research-by-mail requests, did an inventory of our backlogged items in storage, assisted with the summer yard sale, and helped to clean and organize the reading room and storage rooms. Nicole Wallace began later in the summer but accomplished a great deal in her short time with us, including an index of our scrapbooks and an inventory of our maps. She also assisted visitors in the reading room and helped with the yard sale and other assorted projects. In the fall, we applied for and received a grant under the Hudson's Bay Company's Local History Program. Edward Hincklin was hired to create a series of educational modules on local history topics. He found an eclectic range of subjects to research, and the result is a fun, age-appropriate introduction to local history for students (and just in time for the next Historica Heritage Fair!).

Some of our acquisitions from the year include records and books from the Jewish synagogue; several boxes of papers and photographs from the YMCA; an updated copy of our Mountain Cemetery database (updated to 2007) from the Mountain Cemetery Board; several published books of local interest for our library; unpublished family genealogies; D.A.R. materials; Yarmouth postcards; East Camp reunion papers; framed photos and posters; East Chebogue post office records; lighthouse photos and information; business ledgers, papers and catalogues (notably several ledgers belonging to Lebanese merchants who emigrated to Yarmouth in the early 1900s). Thank you to all donors for adding to our collection this year; it is greatly appreciated!

### **Activities, projects and partnerships**

- With the help of my summer students, I sorted and priced all the books for the book table at the annual summer yard sale.
- Throughout the year, I participated in visits from local schools and tour groups, offering short, informal tours of the archives.
- I assisted groups of students preparing projects for the Historica Heritage Fair.
- Nadine and I participated in the Southwest Shore Development Authority's two-day "Fam Tour", as part of the Total Market Readiness project (May 2008).
- I assisted with museum fundraisers throughout the year, like "A Date with Dessert" and the Edwardian Christmas party in November.
- Hosted Karen White, Archives Advisor for the CNSA, for a free mentorship session in July 2008.
- Participated in "Take Your Child To Work Day" and brought a high school volunteer into the archives for a day.

### **Conferences, committees and other events**

- The Yarmouth County Archives partnered with the Western Counties Regional Library on an oral history project, which will be undertaken over the coming year.
- In May 2008, I attended the Council of Nova Scotia Archives Spring Conference in Halifax, which included workshops, talks and an archival movie night.
- Active member of the Council of Nova Scotia Archives Preservation and Education Committees.
- The Library Committee was reestablished and met once to begin sorting through archival donations.
- Attended the Gathering of Loyalist Descendants in Digby, NS, where I had a booth with Loyalist information from the archives and attended several talks.

- Acted as an adjudicator for the National Archival Development Program grant applications from Nova Scotia archival institutions.
- Member of planning committee for the Nova Scotia Library Association conference, to be held this year and hosted by the Western Counties Regional Library.

### Statistics

	Total Visitors	Donations	Admissions	Copier	Research by mail	Photos	Sales	Total
January	23	\$30.00		\$30.00	\$446.11	\$5.00		\$511.11
February	32		\$10.00	\$1.25	\$180.00	\$0.00		\$191.25
March	40	\$16.00	\$25.00	\$153.00	\$287.40	\$0.00		\$481.40
April	50	\$50.00	\$15.00	\$32.00	\$5.00	\$0.00		\$102.00
May	26	\$38.75	\$20.00	\$78.85	\$100.00	\$0.00		\$237.60
June	28	\$1,013.25	\$70.00	\$141.95	\$60.00	\$0.00		\$1,285.20
July	59	\$45.60	\$75.00	\$85.75	\$112.50	\$65.75		\$384.60
August	72	\$57.00	\$70.00	\$197.15	\$0.00	\$295.00	\$15.00	\$634.15
September	45	\$95.80	\$35.00	\$122.75	\$100.00	\$51.50		\$405.05
October	61	\$23.10	\$110.00	\$119.90	\$323.26	\$15.00		\$591.26
November	30		\$40.00	\$7.00	\$272.00	\$10.00		\$329.00
December	16		\$20.00	\$8.25	\$50.00	\$20.00		\$98.25
		\$1,369.50	\$490.00	\$977.85	\$1,936.27	\$462.25	\$15.00	
							<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,250.87</b>

*Jamie Serran*

### CURATOR

2008 proved to be a very busy year in my department. Positive change calls for decisive steps to be taken. Our new director, Bruce Bishop, joined us July 1st and we have been moving forward ever since. Before Bruce joined us, I looked after the administration duties and between Jamie and me, we kept the museum and archives on an even keel. (Ship reference for Eric Ruff!) Between attending meetings, grant applications for summer students and the day to day management of the museum and archives, I managed to change a few of the exhibits in the museum. The following is a list of exhibits that have been on display at the museum over the last year:

#### Museum Exhibits

- Hooked Rugs by the Rugg Bees and the Carpet Baggers
- Painting Exhibit of work done by W.W. Cowell
- Artist Bruce Jacquard
- The 1st Annual Youth Visual Arts Festival Exhibit
- Paintings exhibit of work done by Bill Crowell

- A combined exhibit by the Yarmouth Art Society and the Write Away Group
- Paintings exhibit of work done by artist Jennie Morrow
- Stitches Through Time

### **Library Exhibits**

With the help of Virginia Stoddard, we have had the following exhibits off site at the Isaac Walton Killam Memorial Library. Thank you Virginia for all the help and wonderful ideas:-

- Love Is In The Air
- Easter Bonnets
- The Cotton Mill
- Celebrating the Y.M.C.A.'s 150th Anniversary
- Milton Corner
- Remembering WWI
- A Doll's House Christmas

### **Seasonal Exhibits**

Killam Brothers Shipping Office on Water Street was supplemented this summer by additional artifacts donated by the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Killam. Many thanks for their generosity.

We continue to have two small seasonal display cases at the Nova Scotia Tourist Bureau.

### **Loans**

Over the last year we had out on loan to other organizations the following artifacts:-

- Two chests from the ship Saladin were loaned to the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic for their Pirate exhibit.
- The museum's six Forshaw Day paintings were loaned to the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Halifax for their exhibit featuring this artist. The paintings were moved to exhibit at the Yarmouth Branch of the Art Gallery for local exhibit.
- Several steel engravings and one painting were loaned to the Yarmouth branch of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia for a special demonstration during the Craft Splash event in October.

**Happenings and Events** that I took part in during the year included (these are not in chronological order)

- In celebration of Aboriginal Day 2008, organizing Mi'kmaq Elder Elsie Basque to speak at the museum on June 21st and Jennie Stewart to speak on Loyalist Fashion during Seafest week. Seafest also had Susan Winship and I, Eric Ruff, and the Shantymen presenting during the week.
- Planning and organizing "A Date with Dessert" fundraiser with the help of the summer students, Rielle Gates and Jamie Serran.
- Organizing the Yarmouth Heritage Hunt for the Rock Around The Clock School Reunion and our 50th Anniversary.
- Took part in judging the Historica Fair in May.
- Participated in the Natal Day Quiz as a "runner".
- We hosted the South West Nova Scotia Curators Group in April (I was ill that day and Jamie acted as host and did a wonderful job) as well as chaired the fall meeting of this group in Kentville in November.
- Attended the Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Nova Scotian Heritage now the Association of Nova Scotia Museums in April in Shelburne.
- Attended a conservation workshop September 26th in Truro hosted by Canadian Conservation Institute.

- Attended a Volunteer Recruiting Workshop in Halifax with Dottie English in March.
- Attended a workshop/discussion session on Loyalist dress.
- Attended two workshops entitled “Basic Interpretive Planning” and “Museums and Schools-A Look at the Museum’s Potential as a Place of Learning” in Truro in March.
- We were privileged to host researcher and curator Andrea Kirkpatrick from the New Brunswick Museum who was doing research on oceanic artifacts in the Maritimes.

*Nadine Gates*

## FINANCE

### Pelton Fuller House

<u>Pelton Fuller House</u>					
<u>Statement for 2008</u>	<u>December 31</u>		<b>2008</b>		<b>2009</b>
			<b>Budget</b>		<b>Budget</b>
<b><u>Revenues</u></b>					
Transfer from endowment	17,000.00		20,000.00		18,202
Donations	244.85		200.00		200
Bank interest, HST rebate	<u>183.10</u>		<u>3.50</u>		<u>4</u>
Total revenues	17,427.95		20,203.50		18,406
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>					
Fuel	6,531.46		4,000.00		6,000
Power	479.20		700.00		700
Water	257.05		450.00		450
Repairs and Maintenance	11,728.30		10,000.00		2,100
Garden	1,284.44		1,500.00		1,500
Insurance	1,221.00		1,250.00		1,250
Special projects	463.53		2,000.00		1,700
Salary--summer employee			3,000.00		3,330
Supplies/Miscellaneous	<u>50.00</u>		<u>200.00</u>		<u>200</u>
Total expenses	22,014.98		23,100.00		17,230
Net Income	(4,587.03)		(2,896.50)		1,176

## Society Operating Statement

YARMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY		January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008		
<b>OPERATING STATEMENT</b>				
	<b>Budget 2008</b>	<b>Actual 2008</b>		<b>2007</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Admissions	10,000	9,093.13		9,485.22
Dues	6,500	5,585.00		5,756.00
Donations	8,000	10,859.77		7,511.96
Giftshop	5,000	17,006.83		10,684.73
Library/Archives	4,000	3,080.10		3,698.47
Fundraising	15,000	25,033.29		11,109.47
Photocopier	800	964.85		700.36
Grants: Operating	51,000	51,020.00		51,020.00
Work Projects	14,000	16,535.47		13,197.43
Municipal	7,000	5,570.00		7,000.00
Other	6,000	18,448.03		10,548.07
Income from endowment	53,841	53,841.00		52,899.00
Interest	500	622.20		823.61
Miscellaneous	3,500	2,751.94		5,657.48
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>185,141</b>	<b>220,411.61</b>		<b>190,091.80</b>
<b>Transfer from Capital Assets</b>	<b>29,273</b>	<b>16,159.00</b>		<b>29,932.00</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214,414</b>	<b>236,570.61</b>		<b>220,023.80</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>				
Payroll expenses	106,000	115,137.66		112,700.24
Benefits	500	446.15		513.81
Grant expenses	3,500	3,525.39		3,281.87
Repairs and Maintenance	16,000	11,771.14		14,529.67
Fuel	31,000	36,669.29		29,069.40
Power	22,000	17,988.25		19,080.70
Water and Sewer	800	508.51		781.20
Insurance	8,700	9,599.00		8,453.00
Office supplies, equipment	3,500	3,312.06		3,939.88
Telephone, Postage, Internet	3,400	3,191.72		3,398.89
Photocopier servicing	600	356.67		549.96
Archives	1,000	226.97		672.08
Advertising, promotions	7,000	6,467.39		3,299.66
Travel and conference	1,200	1,329.20		211.24
Collection/conservation-museum	500	358.76		343.03
-archives	1,000			929.62
Exhibits	2,500	833.43		2,396.05
Giftshop purchases		8,124.38		5,729.04
Historigram	1,264	1,050.59		1,118.07
Society committees	1,400	1,031.11		1,288.95
Staff and volunteer recognition		190.59		
Professional and Banking fees	1,550	1,707.79		1,518.16
Fundraising expenses	500	2,415.31		232.13
Goudey cottage		2,077.32		
Miscellaneous	500	3,144.49		1,661.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>214,414</b>	<b>231,463.17</b>		<b>215,697.79</b>
Transfer to capital repair fund		5,000.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>236,463.17</b>		
<b>Balance</b>		<b>107.44</b>		<b>4,326.01</b>

Mary Eldridge

## HOUSE

I attempted to look after any routine matters brought to my attention. Paint lockers were acquired during the year. This allows for safe paint storage and better organization of the shop area. Ken Dennis must be thanked for his work and time spent lawn mowing during the spring and fall.

Much of the gray painted wood on the outside of the building becomes covered with mold. The removal of the mold should become an almost annual event.

*Milton Fraser*

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## HISTORIGRAM

In late 2008, I was asked to become editor of the Historigram. In doing so, I have appreciated the interest and assistance of staff, board members, and Don and Ilona Smith of ELLIS PRINT.

Following the mandate of the Historical Society, and of the Board of Directors, that the Historigram serve to inform members regarding Historical Society news and events, it seems reasonable to consider the importance of increasing membership in the Society, so that additional members of Yarmouth Town and County can be served by means of the Historigram and by other benefits of membership, and hopefully become personally involved with the Society as well.

Submissions of information—as well as suggestions for enhancement of the Historigram—are always welcome!

*Peter Eldridge*

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## MAST HEAD GIFT SHOP

Last year the gift shop was moved to give it more exposure when you enter the museum. This continues to be beneficial for the shop, as does all of the functions held at the museum that increase the number of people who “walk through our doors.”

In 2008 our profits were \$8,882.45 (up 80% from 2007), - 2007 profits were \$4,955.69 and 2006 profits were \$3,843.97. July, August and September continue to be our biggest sales period, followed by November and December.

One contributing factor for the stronger revenues this year has been the launching of three local books: Bill Crowell's *The Artist and the Colonel*, Fraser Mooney Jr.'s *Jerome*, and Craig Marshall Smith's *The Ultimate African Heritage Quiz Book*.

Books continue to represent approximately 70% of our revenues, with our Amos Pewter collection contributing another 15%. The remainder is made up of craft and general merchandising items. We are fortunate to have many “friends” of the gift shop, who give many craft items for free to the shop for sale.

I would like to thank Margaret Wright for all of her help and advice throughout the year and Barb Nichols for her assistance in tracking sales during the year.

In 2009, our focus on Local and Atlantic Canadian books will continue. With our shop being one of the few now located in downtown Yarmouth, I expect the demand will continue to rise as we noticed it did last fall with the closing of R.H. Davis' on Main Street. Our working relationship with Amos Pewter has been very good and their advice helpful. They produce a quality Nova Scotian product which we have been very fortunate to be able to carry in our shop.

*Vaughn Bullerwell*

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## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership for the end of 2008 was over 335. This included single and family – both annual and life memberships.

Very grateful thanks must go to Faye Perry whose involvement in the membership committee has been invaluable over the past year. Faye has retired from the membership committee. Barbara Nichol has taken on her responsibilities. Thanks must go to Barb for her patience and support.

We regret the passing of the following members throughout 2008: Beatrice Bain, Kay Killam, Mary Clulee, and Kay Redding .

*Steen W. Gates*

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## **PELTON-FULLER HOUSE**

The Committee met each Tuesday morning at 9:30. The first order of business was to change the Costume and Fuller Brush Exhibit Rooms.

The old Costume Room was emptied of furniture and on March 1, Daniel Jacquard repaired and painted the plaster ceiling. Judi Archibald painted the woodwork and repasted some loose edges of wallpaper. The Fuller Brush exhibit was then moved to the new room. An old table from the basement was put in the middle of the room to display the first brush making machine and materials used such as boar bristles and sisal. More photographs were framed and hung.

The new Costume Room at the back of the House was set up as a small sitting room with a mannequin and clothing exhibits.

Mould was found in the basement during routine house checks.

Milton Fraser removed the bags of old coal dust and clinkers, washed the entire floor with a Javex solution and put the remaining good coal bags on pallets in a dry area of the basement.

Gerald Moses Construction replaced two windows on the east side of the House, one attic and one basement. The sides of the front steps were replaced with new pine v-joint.

Daniel Jacquard and his men began the huge task of repainting the exterior of the House when the weather permitted in May. All storm windows were removed, broken window panes replaced and the House painted in the same colours. There were several places where repair work will have to be done in the near future. All windows were cleaned before the storm windows were put back on. The House was ready for summer opening and we are very pleased with the job.

Germain's Electrical and Plumbing relocated the outside water tap. The old one was enclosed by the wheelchair ramp which made it very inconvenient to get at. The new one is on the east side near the back. The back bathroom sink and toilet were disconnected as a severe leak was found in the piping. This was the best solution rather than tear up the bathroom floor.

Christian Surette planted bridal wreath spirea on the west side of the property. This will provide cover between the two properties. Three rosebushes were replaced in the rose garden.

Attendance was down this summer, 864 compared to 995 in 2007. Visitors were very appreciative, asking many questions about the architecture, the Fuller Company and the artifacts. They found the House very inviting, very comfortable and homey and half expected to see the Fullers come into a room.

The students took turns at the House throughout the season. They removed the books by the fireplace in the living room. Mould was found there so the books were taken outside, brushed thoroughly and left in the sun for a time.

This seems to be an ongoing problem in the living room

All artifacts were inventoried by room. The rooms have now been numbered which will make it easier if rooms are changed. Eighty artifacts were catalogued. A volunteer, Mary Bethune began entering our inventory into the computer. This work is ongoing.

The House closed for the season on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The Committee prepared the House for its winter rest. Milton Fraser put on the storm doors and secured the outside cellar entrance.

Many thanks to the House Committee, Audrey Kenney, Barb Smith, Eleanor Loomer, Judi Archibald and Ann Winkels. We miss Beatti Bain, one of our original Committee members who passed way this year.

*Susan Winship*

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## **VOLUNTEER**

2008 was a bad year for me having to leave to go back home due to illness in my family, I was away from the end of March until the beginning of August of 2008, but the coordination of the Volunteers was left in the wonderful hands of Mary Louise Killam. Mary Louise is an asset to the Volunteer Committee and to the museum. She is always ready to help out whenever I get in touch her. Thank you Mary Louise.

Our Volunteer of the Year was Barb Nichols who is another awesome volunteer who is there whenever you need her to fill-in. Congratulations once again Barb for being our Volunteer of the Year.

Prior to leaving for New Jersey I was able to participate in a workshop in Halifax for the recruitment of volunteers. I learned a lot from the workshop and attended it with Nadine Gates. I had hoped to put what I had learned into work during 2008, but look forward to putting it to work in 2009 as we start looking for more volunteers to join our ranks.

We have the most awesome volunteers I have ever met in any organization. They are there when I call on them, and there are some that call me to see if they can help in anyway. We are blessed to have them and I am honored to be able to work with them.

They are the backbone of this museum and I thank them for their help and support.

In September a Volunteer Meet and Greet was held on two days for our volunteers to meet our new Director, Bruce Bishop. The turn-outs were good. Thank you to Bruce, Nadine and Jamie for providing the refreshments and to those that attended to speak and/or participate. I hope we will be able to have more in the upcoming year.

December saw the Volunteer/Staff Christmas Party. The turnout was very good – refreshments and snacks were served. Mary Louise Killam provided music and games for all those in attendance. Everyone was asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the Food Bank. Thank you to Don White, my boyfriend for making sure that the food items got where they were needed to go following our Christmas party. Thank you to all who brought in food items, they were much appreciated.

During the year our volunteers not only manned the front desk, several of them now volunteer in the archives as well. They can be found on the front desk for special events on days the museum is open and on days that it would normally be closed. They can be found volunteering in other areas of the museum, baking cakes, pies and cookies, working at the Yard Sale, helping out at a private tea, helping with the Edwardian Dinner, etc. But all of them are volunteers and each and everyone of you that volunteer are a treasure. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for all that you do.

*Dottie English*

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## EDUCATION

As always, the Tri-County regional School Board is an important partner for the education committee. They are the normal channel for contacting and coordinating with all target schools, and greatly appreciate any support we can provide to their activities.

Visits from school classes continued to be an important activity. Visits of particular note in 2007 include: (a) a Black Heritage Day visit by the Yarmouth Junior High Grade 9's March 18; (b) a treasure hunt for Junior High non-finalists at the Historica Heritage fair May 1, (c) a sketching exercise by Joe Bishara's Grade 11 Modified class, and (d) the annual visit by Tammy Cleveland's high school tourism class. June, traditionally a busy month, was quiet in 2007, and the high cost of bus fuel led to cancellation of a visit by the Leisure Services Day Camp.

We should encourage teachers, through the School Board, to consider combining trips to the Museum with other trips to town, in order to get the greatest benefit from the expense.

The use of the Archives by students is increasing, particularly for preparing Historica Heritage fair projects. This is very welcome, but we have encouraged teachers and students to book ahead, and advise us on numbers of students and selected topics in advance.

Liana is organizing a visit by international students, jointly with school board staff and Dottie has been developing kits on the Mik'maq and transportation.

Participants at a retired teachers' tea last March greatly appreciated the visit, and three joined the Society.

We participated in the Historica Heritage fair, organized by the Tri-County Regional School Board and held May 1, in many ways: planning, judging, archival support for projects, contacting Archives Canada for prizes, providing our own prizes, providing touchable artifacts and recruiting volunteers for workshops, and providing a venue for a treasure hunt.

We coordinated the Culture Creations activity, facilitated by Linda Coakley, with financial support from the Nova Scotia department of Tourism, Heritage, and Culture, for a second year. This project invited Grades 4 to 6 students to consider what a culture is, and then each of four groups developed its own culture, which was presented to the public late in May. The enthusiastic participation of the Western Satellite of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia is gratefully acknowledged.

The government funds these projects for only two years, so we have proposed two different projects this year, wherein students would interview knowledgeable local seniors about Yarmouth in days gone by or immigrants for illustrative stories from their native cultures, then present to the public.

We hope to develop and publish a colouring and activity book, illustrated with sketches from museum artifacts. This would promote awareness of the Museum among the young, educate local young folks about life in days gone by, and generate some revenue for the Society. Financial support from the Province is anticipated.

With other local Museums, we developed the "Yarmouth Heritage Hunt" for the "Rock Around the Clock" high school reunion held last summer.

In honour of the Museum's fiftieth anniversary, a list of "Fifty Things to do at the Museum" was put in the September Historigram.

Plans in 2009:

- Continue to encourage visits by school classes from all levels to the Museum and Archives.
- Participate in one or both of Linda Coakley's projects, should they be approved.
- Remember to provide the School Board with a schedule of museum/archives events and exhibits every six months

- Get in touch with CSAP (Conseil Scolaire Acadien) for Clare&Argyle. Our services and resources should be of use to their students.
- Review the social studies curricula, to see how we can support the “Anticipated Learning Outcomes” and “Essential Graduate Learnings” specified in the curricula.
- Continued development of kits, PowerPoint (or other) presentations, and the Historical Society website
- Continued participation in and support for teachers’ in-services, Black Heritage Day, and the Historica Heritage Fair
- Apply for funding for the Colouring/Activity book
- Other activities, as appropriate and possible.

*John Sollows.*

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## **PERSONNEL**

There is not much to report other than the committee has had a full year. In June, we welcomed a new director, Bruce Bishop. We have met with him every month to support him, and fine tune his position. Jamie Serran, archivist, has been doing a splendid job recruiting new volunteers. Her ability to plan for the future is very encouraging. Nadine Gates, curator is most capable. Her willingness to fill in while we were without a director was appreciated. Presently, we have an excellent staff who are working well together.

The Personnel Committee has certainly had its challenges in the past few years, but things seem to be working well at this point. Committee members are Mary Eldridge, Dottie English, Aurel Mooney, Bill MacConnell, Ken Rodney, and Charles Winship. Their support and their decisions have been greatly appreciated.

*Bill MacConnell*

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## **PROMOTIONS**

During 2008, Promotions was focused especially on editing an updated brochure of general information about the Museum and Archives, as a means of tourism advertising, and for use by our local visitors. With the active involvement of several board members, staff, and others, the new brochure was approved by the Board, and printed. In updating the brochure, a concerted effort was made to follow guidelines suggested by the Total Market Readiness (T.M.R.) Program of the Southwest Shore Development Authority. The usual widespread annual distribution of the brochure across the local area and the provincial southwest region was carried out.

Promotions also designed and arranged to produce a new, updated commercial advertisement, which was published in both local and tourism publications, including publication in a new high-quality golf promotional magazine in southwest N.S. Director Bruce Bishop has assisted with the enhancement of the new ad.

Bruce has shown a particular interest and expertise in design and distribution of promotional material, and is working actively with Promotions in this area of responsibility.

Regarding the other responsibility of Promotions, recommendations were submitted to the Board regarding hours of operation of the Museum and Archives.

I wish to thank all those who assisted so actively in both the production and distribution of the new brochure, and in any other way regarding Promotions!

*Peter Eldridge*

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## **WAYS & MEANS**

Since becoming chair of this challenging and exciting committee in February of last year many hours have been spent in discussion, research and at meetings. Development and implementation is the description given in our Bylaws in reference to the duties of this committee.

We assisted with the Wine Sampling event, Ham Scallop Luncheon and the Annual Garden Sale held this year. The sale of Quilt Tickets realized \$625.00 with Ken Rodney the happy winner. Our major event, the Edwardian Christmas Party, was well received and supported and netted \$12,500.

For the coming year we will be supporting the Pelton-Fuller committee as they plan their summer tea. We will be holding a Dinner/Dance and Silent Auction with a “Swingin’ Sixties – 40 Years since Woodstock” theme on November 7, 2009. The Christmas House Tour and Tea will return with four houses in the offering at the moment. We will be using three houses with the teas here at the museum. This year there will two types of tickets – one for the Tour and Tea and the other just for the tea. We are in the planning stage for a once-a-month, middle of the week lunch, made up of sandwich, soup and dessert for \$10. A four month test is being proposed to determine if this project would be feasible.

There is no limit to the ideas this hardworking and talented committee is capable of. Members are Anne Winkels, Liana Hood, Gay Klieber, Susan Moores, Susan Winship, Barb Smith, Bruce Bishop, Nadine Gates and Jamie Serran.

We expect the year 2009 to be an especially challenging year for fund raising. The hostile economic times and high competition from other not-for-profit groups will combine to make our job a challenge. This is another reason why our plans have been made early and will be publicized. We also believe it is to our benefit to partner with other groups and organizations to raise the profile of the museum and expose new people to our unique facility.

Many thanks to those who have supported all the fundraising projects in the past year and to the best committee people I have ever had the privilege working with. Thank you!

One strong recommendation is that the kitchen gets some immediate attention to bring it an approved status. The kitchen will continue to be a crucial fundraising tool

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*Ann Winkels*

## **NOMINATING**

<b>President</b>	Charles Winship
<b>1st. Vice President</b>	Aurel Mooney
<b>2nd. Vice President</b>	Ann Winkels
<b>Past President</b>	Vaughn Bullerwell
<b>Secretary</b>	Barbara Hinckley
<b>Assistant Secretary</b>	Susan Moores
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mary Eldridge
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	Ken Rodney
<b>Education</b>	John Sollows
<b>Finance</b>	Brian Rodney
<b>Gift Shop</b>	Vaughn Bullerwell
<b>Historic Sites</b>	Bruce Hinckley
<b>Historigram</b>	Peter Eldridge
<b>Hospitality</b>	Carolyn Richardson
<b>House</b>	Milton Fraser
<b>Membership</b>	Steen Gates
<b>Nominating</b>	Vaughn Bullerwell
<b>Pelton Fuller House</b>	Susan Winship
<b>Personnel</b>	Bill MacConnell
<b>Program</b>	Aurel Mooney
<b>Promotions</b>	Peter Eldridge
<b>Publications</b>	Sharon Robart-Johnson
<b>Publicity</b>	Carolyn Richardson
<b>Volunteers</b>	Dottie English
<b>Ways and Means</b>	Ann Winkels
<b>Member at Large</b>	Ken Dennis
<b>Member at Large</b>	Cerliana Hood
<b>Honorary Director</b>	Audrey Kenney

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*Vaughn Bullerwell*