



HISTORIGRAM

June, 2008

Volume 8 Issue 5

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are, June 2008, and watching another summer blossom around us. Nature has such an inviting array of color and changes right before our eyes. We are looking forward to the blooming of a new season within our museum and encourage each one to be a part of this great time of year.

There is never a lot of time to sit back because there is always something to do inside and outside our museum walls. There are things to be moved, things to be mowed, things to be set up, things to be taken down as well as gathering historical information from people in our communities. Never a dull moment, we are proud of what we can offer to our visitors. It is so rewarding to see the smiles on their faces as they stroll among the many artifacts around them. Many visitors also have gathered useful information from our Archives where they might not have found it otherwise. Come and visit or drop us a line, see us bloom as you support your local Yarmouth County Museum and Archives.

Just a note regarding the Heritage Fair held on May 1st, this was a great success. There were projects based on people, places, trades, lighthouses, fur trapping, old cooking recipes and so much more. Although all these projects were winners, the top winning project of the day was The Wreck Wood Chair presented by Ashley Nickerson from Barrington Municipal High School. We wish to thank all the judges for their time and efforts. Those who attended in support of this great event were very proud of these participants and their projects. Good job everyone.

At our May society meeting we were pleased to have a Hall Tree talk - a barrister's coat and vest worn by Lewis Chipmarn, K.C., a 1930's spring hat and a beautifully beaded jacket from Saudi Arabia.

We were excited to have Gary Gaudet from the Wartime Heritage Association as our guest speaker at our May society meeting. Gary's twin brother, Glen, attended as well and also contributed some interesting facts. The Wartime Heritage Association is a volunteer non-profit organization. They are dedicated to remembering the wartime heritage and history of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Canada along with other Commonwealth Nations and Allied Countries during World War 1, World War 11 and other conflicts. You might be interested in visiting their website at, <http://www.wartimeheritage.com/index.htm> as well as their display at the Yarmouth Mall.

Gary spoke about the small training airplane, called the Swordfish, that was used for training pilots during war time. He mentioned that there were only two places in the world where these planes were used for training, Yarmouth being one and England being the other. Gary also talked of some of the brave men and women who were a part of these war times and fought for our country. We look forward to having Gary back at another time.

(Continued on Page 2)



COMMERCIAL JOB PRINTERS
Celebrating 40 Years
Serving the
Tri-Counties!

8 Collins Street,
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
Tel: (902) 742-7321
Fax: (902) 742-4223
Toll Free: 1-888-33ELLIS
E-Mail: ellisprint@eastlink.ca

COMPLETE
BUSINESS PRINTING

Proud to support the
Yarmouth County
Historical Society
by Designing
and Printing the
Historigram.

- GRAPHIC DESIGN
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICE
- ON-TIME DELIVERY
- BEST PRICING

Please call Ilona
to discuss your needs!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Date Change.....	2
Youth Visual Arts Festival.....	2
Walking Tours	2
A Note From Nadine	3
Council of Nova Scotia Archives Conference 2008 ...	3
From The Archives.	4
A History Question ..	5
Book Launch.....	5

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT (continued)

For our June museum society meeting we have tentatively booked Barrie MacGregor as the guest speaker for our program. Barrie is with the YMCA here in Yarmouth and will be speaking on the 100th year celebration for the YMCA. We look forward to having Barrie with us.

*President
Charles R. Winship*

DATE CHANGE - ANNUAL MUSEUM GARDEN SALE

*Please note the **date change** for our upcoming **Annual Museum Garden Sale**. This had to be moved ahead one week making this event fall on **July 19th 2008**. If you have any items you would like to donate to our garden sale, please bring them to the Yarmouth County Museum or call and someone will pick them up.*

We set up tables for a garden section for plants or garden items, an Antique section, tables for flea market things, book tables, bake tables for baked goods as well as a table for costume jewellery.

If you can't find anything to donate, perhaps you would like to make a donation of a few coins to this great museum fund raiser.

Thank you all.

YOUTH VISUAL ARTS FESTIVAL

The Yarmouth County Museum & Archives in partnership with the Western Counties Regional Library, the Yarmouth Branch of the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, TH'YARC and the Yarmouth Art Society are pleased to announce the first **Youth Visual Arts Festival beginning June 1st -22nd, 2008**. This exhibit gives students in the Arts Program in the Yarmouth County area an opportunity to showcase their talents. Please drop by the museum and partnering venues to see the art of today and the artists of tomorrow.

WALKING TOURS OF YARMOUTH MOUNTAIN CEMETERY

Society member, John Wainwright, will be leading a walking tour of Yarmouth Mountain Cemetery on the **July 7th, 8th, and 9th at 6:30 pm**. All are welcome. **Tickets for this free tour will only be available at the Yarmouth County Museum.**

A Note From Nadine

Recently Jamie Serran, our archivist, and I had the opportunity to take part in a 2 day Familiarization Tour put on by the South West Shore Development Authority. This was part of a program that the museum and archives have taken part in over the last year. The purpose of this tour was to acquaint staff with what we have to offer visitors along the Yarmouth and Acadian Shores. In order to better promote our area we need to know what we have to promote.

Our adventure began at 7:15 am when we met with everyone at a parking lot in Yarmouth. After boarding two buses, we were off to Baie Ste. Marie to begin our tour. From there we proceeded to visit various Bed & Breakfasts, restaurants, a historic church, art studios and special places along the shore. Under sunny skies we stopped to enjoy our lunch outside at beautiful Mavillette Beach. As we made our way towards Yarmouth, we made stops at the Sandford drawbridge, the Lost to the Sea Monument, Cape Forchu Lightstation, W.L. Sweeney Fisheries Museum, Lovitt House Treasures, Guest Lovitt House B & B, and various other accommodations. The first day's trip was not complete without a visit to Rudders Seafood Restaurant and Brew Pub, Th'YARC, the Mariner's Centre and last but not least the nicest place of all (yes, I'm very biased) the Yarmouth County Museum & Archives. This whirlwind day was filled with ooh's and ah's as each familiar place was made new again.

The second day saw us meet at the same lot, at the same time, on the same buses and off we went to the Shelburne area to begin our tour. Working our way back towards Yarmouth, we made a lot of stops at various B & B's, golf courses, restaurants, Le Musée Acadien and le Village Historique Acadien de la Nouvelle- Écosse where we stopped for lunch. After lunch we boarded the buses again and continued to make our way towards Yarmouth. Stops at the Stan O'Brian Interpretive Trail, the historic church in Ste. Anne du Ruisseau were made along the way. Our tour continued to Town Point Cemetery where we were greeted by Wilfred Allan (and Roscoe) who talked about the Marble Lady and who pointed out interesting headstones and history of the cemetery. Back on the buses we went and off to Sunday Point Beach, the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia (where we have six Forshaw Day paintings included in an exhibit featuring this artist), Tooie's Country Crafts, Captain Kelly's and The Mermaid Motel. All these places in two days! And we only visited fellow participating sites!

I think both Jamie and I were surprised at how tired we both were by the end of the second day and stunned with the knowledge that we had not even scratched the tip of the iceberg as far as places to see and things to do in this area.

There really is adventure in your own back yard!

Nadine Gates, Curator

COUNCIL OF NOVA SCOTIA ARCHIVES CONFERENCE 2008

The 2008 Council of Nova Scotia Archives (CNSA) Conference was held at the Provincial Archives of Nova Scotia in Halifax on May 14th and 15th. Approximately thirty participants were in attendance from museums and archives across the province. We began early on Wednesday morning with a session from John MacLeod (from Nova Scotia Archives and Records Management) and Catherine Arsenault (from the Beaton Institute at Cape Breton University) on how they catalogue and describe non-textual records in their archives. We then had a session from Marilyn Bowlby and Chris Judge from the CNIB on accessibility issues for clients with vision loss. Marilyn gave us tips on making our documents and websites more accessible, and Chris demonstrated some software that reads scanned pages from documents as well as pages from the internet, making it possible for users with vision impairments to access written materials quickly and easily. The Annual General Meeting was held over lunch and was followed by a presentation on digital tools by two government archivists. The Member Show and Tell allowed conference participants to share the latest activities and achievements from their facilities, and the day concluded with dinner at a local restaurant and a movie night featuring clips of archival footage from various institutions (and, of course, popcorn!).

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 3)

Day two focused on photography and audio-visual material and began with a talk on archiving photographs from Susan McEachern, a professor at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. She gave us a good overview of common types of photos and how to store and preserve them. The second presentation was by Erik Boutilier-Brown, a freelance photographer, who spoke about digital images, the technology behind them and how to store them. The afternoon sessions consisted of a talk on “intangible” material – including oral histories, folklore, traditional music and crafts – by Dr. Richard MacKinnon of the Centre for Cape Breton Studies, and a talk on motion picture clips in archives by videographer Richard Lawrence. The day ended with a closing reception and Award Presentation, which unfortunately I had to miss so that I could catch the shuttle back home! However, I returned with a greater knowledge of the archival institutions around the province, a group of new contacts, and a wealth of new information that I know will be extremely beneficial to my work here in the archives.

Jamie Serran
Archivist

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Hello everyone:

I feel as though I've barely seen the first of May, and here we are suddenly at mid-month! The spring rush continues in the archives, which surprises me because I thought the sunny weather might keep people away – however, that hasn't been the case so far. Spring seems to have brought out the genealogists in full force, so although we've had fewer total visitors to the archives since last month, we have had more genealogy requests, both in-person and via mail and email. And they show no sign of slowing down!

On May 6th and 7th, Nadine and I participated in the very valuable (and very tiring!) TMR Fam Tour hosted by the South West Shore Development Authority. We had two amazing days of visits to 40 tourist destinations around Yarmouth and the Acadian Shores. I won't say any more about this trip, because Nadine has written a report about it – please see her report in this issue for further details of our adventure! We have complete information on all of the places that we visited here at the Museum and Archives if anyone is interested in finding out more.

After being back at work for only a few days last week, I left again for Halifax for the Council of Nova Scotia Archives conference, which was held on May 14th and 15th. It was a very valuable conference, especially because it gave me the opportunity to meet my colleagues from around the province and to attend some very interesting sessions – you can read all about it in the separate report I've written for this issue.

I've slowly begun accessioning some of the many, many items that have come in since I began in March. This is the important first step to making all of these materials accessible for visitors. There are always many more items than there is time to catalogue them, but it is important to record them so that they can be located and used, even if the proper cataloguing comes later.

Our longer summer hours have begun, and longer hours mean more time for visitors and a greater need for help! I need more volunteers in the archives reading room this summer to assist researchers – if you are interested in helping out, please let me know. Shifts are available in the morning or afternoon, from Tuesday to Saturday, and training will be provided.

Happy summer, everyone – please stop by and visit sometime. You have mornings AND afternoons to choose from now!

Jamie Serran
Archivist

A HISTORY QUESTION!....

(Of particular interest to our Historical Society members in the U. S.?)

BETWEEN 1891-93, WHO HELPED BUILD THE RECTORY THAT STANDS BESIDE ST. AMBROSE CHURCH, YARMOUTH?

(To help answer, the following obituary copied by **The Yarmouth Herald** in 1939 from a Baltimore, Md. newspaper was recently brought to my attention at the Yarmouth County Museum by archives assistant Janice Stelma. **Note:** St. Ambrose church had been built in 1889 under the direction of the then pastor, Father Edward McCarthy, who later became archbishop of Halifax. – (Contributed by Peter Eldridge)

Yarmouth Herald, January 24, 1939, p. 3, col. 5.

Obituary: **Joseph G. Bent**

Baltimore, Md.—Joseph Grant Bent, construction engineer and executive of the New York firm George A. Fuller Company, was stricken with a heart attack at his residence, 2007 Homewood Ave., Baltimore, Maryland, and died at the Mercy Hospital in that city, Jan. 1.

Funeral services were conducted at St. Ann's Catholic Church, Baltimore, and burial was in Hollyhood cemetery, Brookline, Mass.

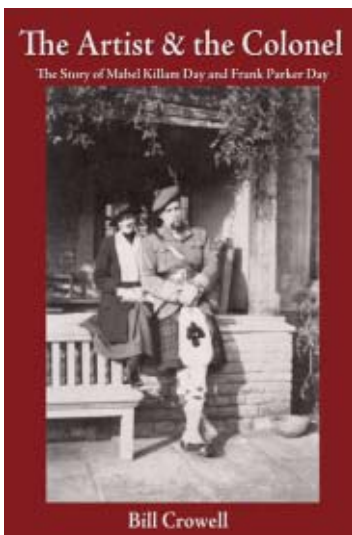
The active pall-bearers were five Fuller Co. superintendents (named).

Mr. Bent was the eldest son of Captain George Bent and Mary Grant Bent. He was born in Brooklyn, New York, March 24, 1870. At the age of three his mother died and his father took him to Yarmouth, N.S. where he made his home for many years. He attended the Yarmouth schools. Father McCarthy, then the parish priest, recognized Mr. Bent's natural ability and for a number of years taught him. Father McCarthy had studied civil engineering before he became a priest. It was from these books that he taught Mr. Bent.

At the age of 21, Mr. Bent drew the plans and directed the building of the priest's house in Yarmouth. Soon after that he moved to Boston. In 1901 he secured a position with the Fuller Company in Boston. In 1904, following the Baltimore fire, he was sent to Baltimore to superintend the construction of several buildings. He then went to Washington, D.C. where as an executive of the Fuller Company he has maintained an office for many years and directed the construction of many outstanding private and government-owned buildings. Among them the Arlington Amphitheatre, Lincoln Memorial, National Cathedral, Archives building, Supreme Court Building, Freer Art Gallery, Federal Reserve Building, Department of Justice, New Department of the Interior Building, and many many more. One of his most famous accomplishments was the designing of the equipment and the superintending of the erection of the First Division Monument in Washington.

Mr. Bent is survived by his wife, the former Elizabeth Slattery of Louisburg, Cape Breton, Yarmouth, and Boston, now living at 2007 Homeward Ave., Balt. Maryland; a daughter, Mrs. C. Carter Anderson wife of Lieut. C. Carter Anderson, U.S. Navy; a daughter, Miss Elizabeth Bent of Balto; a son, Joseph Grant Bent, Jr. Boston, Mass., and brothers James and John Bent, Boston, and George Bent, Washington, D.C.

(**Note:** The Fuller Construction Company (not to be confused with the Fuller Brush Company!) is considered by many to have been the most prominent construction company in the U.S. during the first half of the 20th century. Their offices were located in the triangular 'Flatiron Building', the first steel-girded building in the world, which the company had built in downtown New York. 'The First Division Monument' was constructed to commemorate the First Division of the U. S. Army in WWI. **If any reader has additional information about Joseph Bent, or Fuller Construction, please let us know!**) Thanks, Peter.



The Artist & the Colonel

The Story of Mabel Killam Day & Frank Parker Day

Author: **Bill Crowell**

BOOK LAUNCH

Saturday June 14th @ 2 p.m.

@ the museum

Reading, Discussion & Book Signing

Book Price \$24.95

Members unable to attend can order a book by emailing or calling the museum.

Email: ycmuseum@eastlink.ca Phone: 742-5539

YARMOUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

22 COLLINS STREET
YARMOUTH, NOVA SCOTIA B5A 3C8
Phone: 902-742-5539 Fax: 902-749-1120

PRESIDENT

Charles R. Winship

DIRECTOR

MUSEUM CURATOR

Nadine Gates

ARCHIVIST

Jamie Serran

E-mail

Museum - ycmuseum@eastlink.ca

Archives - ycarchives@eastlink.ca

Historigram - ycmhistorigram@eastlink.ca

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

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

HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer Hours

Museum

Monday – Saturday 9am - 5pm,

Sunday 1pm – 5pm

Pelton Fuller House

June 15th - October 15th - Monday – Saturday

9am – 4:30pm – Sunday by request

Killam Brothers Shipping Office

Open most days 10am- 4:30pm

Archives

Monday – Saturday 9am - 5pm

(closed for lunch daily 12 – 1pm)

(our hours change after the Canadian Thanksgiving Weekend)

JULY HISTORIGRAM DEADLINE: FRIDAY JUNE 13TH

Membership Report

Beatrice A. Bain - deceased April 28/08

As members are aware, *postal costs have again increased*. If you are interested in receiving your newsletter by email, (in Adobe pdf format) email us at the following:
ycmhistorigram@eastlink.ca

Membership Fees

Membership fees to the society are for a calendar year. Dues and membership for 2008 are currently being accepted.

Single.....\$25.00

Family.....\$40.00

Life (single).....\$400.00

Life (family).....\$550.00

**Please make payment to:
Yarmouth County Historical Society**