



# HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES ON CAPE BRETON ISLAND  
LIEUX HISTORIQUES NATIONAUX DU CAP-BRETON

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## *Retirement Gathering*

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, staff gathered together at the Bigot Theatre to honor several employees who had retired during the past year. Pictured below with Carol Whitfield are Chuck Blanchard, Kathleen Lahey, Bill Leslie, Angele MacDonald and Carter Stevens.



There was a combined total of 154 years of service with this group with one having 24 years and another 37 years of service.

We would like to wish them all a very happy and long retirement!

## *Georgina Leslie*

Farewell and good wishes were given to Georgina Leslie this past month as she embarks on a leave of absence. Georgina will be heading back out West where she will be closer to family. We wish her all the best in her journey.

## *Colonial Chocolate Society Meeting*

The 10th meeting of the Colonial Chocolate Society was held in the Rockefeller Room at the Williamsburg Inn in Colonial Williamsburg on 12-13 October 2007. Those in attendance included staff from Colonial Williamsburg, Fort Ticonderoga, Historic Deerfield, University of California Davis & associated researchers, Mars Incorporated, and Ruby Fougère from the Fortress of Louisbourg. The purpose of the meeting was to present a report on the programs created and tested at the historic sites, to exchange ideas on what worked and what could change, get an update on where the book is with regards to publishing, look at chocolate products of what worked well, what didn't, new package refresh, the name, and discuss future possibilities.



The presentation of Louisbourg's Historic Chocolate pilot program in Canada began with Parks Canada's and the CEO's vision of creating and facilitating authentic, memorable visitor experiences for the public. It was followed by the investment of Parks Canada into this project and the marketing initiatives highlighting the tradeshows of the marketing team at the national, regional and local levels, the media attention surrounding the chocolate program, how it was integrated into the current program offerings on site, and of the role of the Fortress of Louisbourg Association with presenting heritage chocolate in the restaurants with the Salon de Chocolate and sales in the gift shops.

The presentation went very well and Louisbourg was considered to be a huge success for the pilot year to the point where Mr. Forrest Mars kindly asked for a three-page report on our initiatives, and kindly asked Ruby Fougère of Louisbourg and Nick Westbrook of Fort Ticonderoga to put together a case study of the two historic sites for presentation at the next Colonial Chocolate Society meeting in February 2008.

Doctor Howard Shapiro reviewed progress on the book. The book has 46 contributing authors (Louisbourg has a large chapter in this book and the authors are: Anne Marie Lane-Jonah, Ruby Fougère (Powell), and Heidi Moses) and is being edited by Doctor Louis Grivetti and Doctor Howard Shapiro. The book release is planned to coincide with a symposium on November 15, 2008 at the Smithsonian in Washington DC. The tentative title of the book is Heritage of the Americas.

The hosts of Williamsburg provided a tour of Historic Jamestown followed later that

evening with a chocolate dinner at One Shields Tavern.

*Ruby Fougère*

### ***News from AGB***

We would like to share with you this recently received letter of appreciation from visitors who hailed from Parks Canada National Office:

*Dear Administration:*

*Recently our family took the tour of Canso Island. We were ferried over to the island by the Captain, Tom Kavanough. Mr. Kavanough was very professional and safety conscious. He was thorough in his explanation of the emergency procedures for the boat as well as answering any questions related to the history of the island or the actual boat journey. Our grandson Sean was with us and was thrilled to have all of his questions answered so enthusiastically.*

*The highlight for our trip, however, was the excitement of our grandson as he interacted with Captain Kavanough. This very patient man allowed our grandson to sit with him in the main cabin and "assist" in the operation of the boat. This attention and time spent with Sean was the highlight of his trip.*

*Please pass on our appreciation to Mr. Kavanough for a job well done. This gentleman is professional, thorough, safety conscious and very responsive to his clients. He is an excellent ambassador for Parks Canada and a credit to your staff.*

*Regards,*

*Ted Underwood and Marlene Irwin-Underwood*

## *Aerial Experiment Association*

A sunny and warm October 1<sup>st</sup> brought a memorable day of celebrations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the formation of Alexander Graham Bell's Aerial Experiment Association. Over 800 Grade 6 students from across the Island joined together at Baddeck Academy to enjoy guest speakers Hugh Muller (a great grandson of AGB) and Roberta Bondar, Canada's first female astronaut who also has the distinction of being the first neurologist in space.



This event was followed by a fly past of two CF18s and afternoon activities that included the unveiling of Judith Tulloch's new book, *The Aerial Experiment Association: Aviation Pioneers*.



CBC Mainstreet did their afternoon broadcast from this Site and a special media event was hosted by the Bell descendants at Beinn Bhreagh. CTV, CBC TV and Global television were here – lots of press coverage.

As it turned out there was more to celebrate on October 1<sup>st</sup> than the AEA's formation. Behind the scenes between events, Carol Whitfield did a presentation in recognition of Jess Fraser's 25 years of service and Joyce Hill's 15 years of service.



Carol Whitfield shown with Joyce Hill



Carol Whitfield shown with Jess Fraser

### *Celtic Colours*

As part of the Celtic Colours International Festival we hosted the Bell Series in the hydrofoil exhibit area where the acoustics are excellent. More than 500 visitors enjoyed festival performers as they gave talk/demonstrations from 1 – 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. The guitar, harp, wooden flute, jaw harp and voice filled the air during the week.

One of the musicians did foot percussion while seated and playing his fiddle. He placed a wooden board at the base of his chair to pick up the sound of his foot work. To improve the sound he proceeded to apply duct tape to the soles of his shoes thereby giving the audience a lesson in the fine art of ‘tuning your shoes’.



### *Condolences*

Our sincere condolences to Harry Kennedy and his family on the death of their brother, Dennis Kennedy on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Anyone wishing to submit an article to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at [donna.macneil@pc.gc.a](mailto:donna.macneil@pc.gc.a) or by telephone at 733-3551.