



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

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

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ENCAMPMENT 2008

This weekend past, the 25th, 26th and 27th of July, the Fortress of Louisbourg commemorated the siege of 1758 with a grand encampment. Organizers with Parks, with the Fortress Louisbourg Association, and with the Town of Louisbourg's 2008 committee had worked long and hard for a year to ready the Fortress to receive almost 900 re-enactors and over 10,000 visitors over the weekend. Alan Latourelle and his wife Josée were present, and in costume for most of the weekend.

From the grand tactical displays and fireworks to the memorial service on Rochefort Point, from presentations of Fortress of Louisbourg interpretation staff to the talks given in the Bigot theatre, from the modern and period artillery displays to the variety of music, dancing and dining experiences offered throughout the site, and finally with the smooth handling of registration, admissions and transportation for all of the re-enactors and visitors, everyone who participated showed their pride and dedication in the quality of their work and their unfailingly good sprits.

Our CEO was impressed, our visitors were delighted, and the re-enactors had an unforgettable experience.

Below are photos taken by Heidi Moses and Ian Harte, both employees of the Fortress of Louisbourg who were tasked with taking pictures throughout this weekend.



Chip with Horst Dressler, British Commander, Deborah Goodman, French Commander and Nick Westbrook from Fort Ticonderoga.





*Alan and Josée with John Sylliboy,
Interpreter at the Fortress of Louisbourg*



Modern Military firing their Howitzer



Sutlers Tents along the Quai



Saturday Night Tactical



Re-enactors were all ages!!



More Tactical Shots



Camp at the Queen's Place d'Arms



Our Own Soldiers!!



Spectacular 18th Century Fireworks



Closing Ceremonies in the Chapel

News from AGB

“Beinn Bhreagh startled today (July 27) by the arrival of two automobiles on the estate. These are the first automobiles that have ever appeared here so far as known. From a newspaper clipping it appears that these automobiles arrived at Baddeck July 26 from Sydney. The occupants were Mr. and Mrs. Jake Hall, Mr. M.C. Bezanson and two friends from Sydney.” (Excerpt from the Beinn Bhreagh Recorder Volume 1, page 27, 1909, July 30)

32nd Session of World Heritage

Heritage Presenter Madeline Harvey spent part of July in Quebec City as a Parks Canada ambassador during the 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee. Of her recent experience she writes:

“30 Parks Canada ‘ambassadors’ from across the Country came together in Quebec City to help in the implementation of the 32nd Session of the World Heritage Committee. The tasks were numerous and varied, but this group functioned very well as a team, helping each other out and supporting each other in much the same way we do at our individual sites every day. Many of us had opportunities to attend working sessions as well as the opening and closing ceremonies. It was great to have the chance to meet delegates from so many countries and learn a little bit about their country and culture. This learning opportunity was indeed a positive experience that left many lasting memories.....and just for the record, I was not the ‘oldest’ ambassador in attendance!”

In the accompanying photo you will find Madeline in the second row, third in from the right.



Centennial Celebrations - Baddeck

On July 1st, among the many activities in the Village of Baddeck (which was also in the midst of week-long celebrations of its centennial), was the unveiling of the Alexander Graham and Mabel Bell statue on the waterfront. The statue is placed overlooking Baddeck Bay, the wharf area and Beinn Bhreagh. The Bells are seated on a bench as you can see in the photograph with room for anyone to join them - great photo opportunity for visitors and residents alike.



Our float in the annual Canada Day parade was decked out in celebration of Bell’s work with kites and airplanes.

Work is underway at our 'Tea Room' building a deck where eventually our patrons will be able to savour their refreshments while enjoying the view of the lighthouse, Baddeck Bay and Beinn Bhreagh.

To honour Bell's Scottish heritage and add to Baddeck's centennial celebrations we hosted a milling frolic during the first week of July. The milling group Gaidhlig Agan filled the Orientation area with Gaelic song and the rhythm of their hands milling the woolen blanket on the table. Visitors of all ages joined in.

During the Baddeck anniversary celebrations we were also the venue for an art exhibit featuring the art of Caroline (Lena) Gardiner McCurdy (1857-1948). She was born in Cambridge Massachusetts the same month and within two blocks of her double cousin Mabel Hubbard Bell and like her cousin she became deaf in her youth. In 1885 while the Bells were discovering Baddeck Lena was in Paris studying art.

In 1892 she spent the summer at Beinn Bhreagh and she eventually bought a farm on the Shore Road along Baddeck Bay. The rambling house she and her sister built no longer exists but her studio still overlooks her pond as does the shed where she stored her paintings. While on Cape Breton she sketched and painted largely in watercolour but also in oils. Many of the paintings that were on display were from the collection of Martin Myers, AG Bell's great grandson, and others came from collections of Baddeck residents.

We had an unusual request from a prospective visitor this month. A helicopter was circling the area near the museum when the telephone rang. It was

the pilot/owner Scott Christie asking if it would be okay to land near our entrance so he and his 11 year old son Gabriel could visit. They made a flawless landing and visited for about 2 hours. Visitors enjoyed viewing the helicopter – AG Bell would have been impressed.



Anyone wishing to contribute to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye!, please contact Donna MacNeil at donna.macneil@pc.gc.ca or telephone 733-3551.

All newsletters since 1999 are available at <http://fortress.uccb.ns.ca/parksproject/nhscbnews.htm>