



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

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

VOL 11, NO 3, MARCH - MARS, 2009

Lighthouse Trail Update

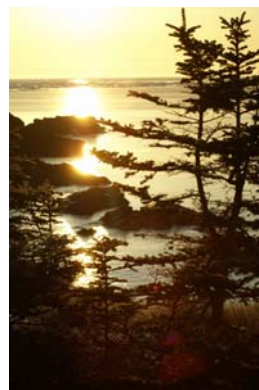
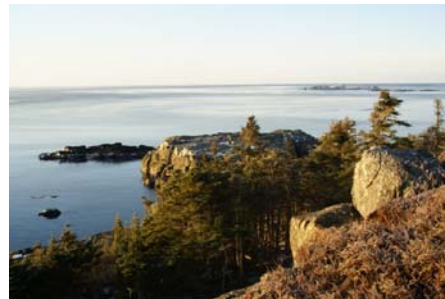
As the second year of construction winds down, the trail is taking shape. The main surface from the Lighthouse to Gun Landing Cove is complete and the passage to Wolfe's Cove should be cleared before this year's phase of the project is complete.



Despite the winter weather, Doug Wrathall, project foreman, and his crew are making great progress. Interpretive panels have been developed and the crew hopes to have them installed soon. The panels will depict both the cultural and ecological significance of the area. A plan for the parking lot is being developed and it is hoped to be ready for the spring. There are also plans for benches along the trail as well as a pit privy.

The committee appreciates the cooperation they have received from the park. Both Asset Management, and Cultural Resources have been instrumental in the success of the trail. Although the final surface of "crushed fines" has not been laid, the trail is accessible. The scenery along the route is magnificent and well worth a visit.

Pictured below is just some of the scenery you will encounter along this trail. Pictures taken by Ian Harte.



Office Safety

An office fire can be devastating, resulting in the loss of life, business interruption or permanent closure, jobs, property and information. Offices are loaded with combustibles: carpeting, draperies, papers, books, wood and upholstered furniture, plastic laminate, vinyl-fabric-covered furniture, wood panelling, as well as electrically powered toasters, microwave ovens, kettles, computers and other appliances. Combine these with the human element and the stage is set for a potentially devastating fire.

Keep the combustible load - carpeting, upholstered furniture - to a minimum.

Keep exits clear of combustibles e.g. discarded paper and empty cartons.

In designated areas where smoking is permitted, provide the proper disposal of smoking materials, like an outdoor cigarette receptacle.

Provide adequate clearance and circulation of air between combustible material and hot surfaces or heat sources such as copy machines, word processors and computers.

Unplug electrical appliances - coffee makers, space heaters and hot plates - when not in use.

Restrict and monitor the use of heaters and hot plates.

To ensure they meet code requirements, a professional/certified electrician should check all electrical distribution systems.

Perform regularly scheduled and recorded maintenance of electrical equipment.

Prevent access to the office by unauthorized personnel.

Keep flammables properly stored and secured.

News from AGB

It took awhile but we're back to earth now that the Silver Dart replica has left town for Greenwood, Shearwater and other locations.

The February 20th-23rd weekend of events was just the beginning of the 2009 Centennial of Flight celebrations. We will continue to work with the Silver Dart Centennial Association (SDCA) throughout the year as events and activities continue.

Next is Youth in Aviation Week from June 14-20. The CF18 cockpit will return to Baddeck as will the Sky Hawks. The Silver Dart Centennial Air Show on June 17th will feature the Snowbirds and many other airplanes and there will be a spectacular fireworks display in the evening. For more info visit www.flightofthesilverdart.ca

“The Sky’s the Limit” –A Musical Youth Education Project

Friday, April 3rd marks the beginning of an exciting centennial of flight youth education project. We are pleased to be partnering with the SDCA on this project.

“The Sky’s the Limit” will bring together 20 junior and senior high students and their teachers from schools across the Island.

Under the mentorship of renowned Nova Scotia composer/musician, Scott Macmillan, the students will participate in a ‘Creation Day’ workshop here at AGB and at Beinn Bhreagh on April 3rd. In the morning they will be immersed in an exploration of Alexander Graham Bell, the Aerial Experiment Association and the flight of the Silver Dart. In the afternoon they will be challenged to be creative and inventive.

Mr. Macmillan will then arrange and orchestrate the resulting musical inventions for the youth to perform as part of a Celtic Colours International Festival 2009 concert

celebrating AGB and the 100th anniversary of the Silver Dart's 1909 flight.

This same Celtic Colours concert (to be performed twice) will also feature newly composed music, "Suite Silver Dart", created by Mr. Macmillan and commissioned by the SDCA, Baddeck's Centre Bras d'Or and Celtic Colours. As well, musical selections reflecting Bell's Scottish heritage and his own love of music will be featured in this concert.

Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada Events

Preparations are underway for 2 Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada plaque unveiling ceremonies that were postponed last year. One plaque commemorates "The Building of the Canso Causeway"; an event of national historic significance and the other commemorates "Stanley Thompson", a person of national historic. The Canso Causeway ceremony will take place in Pt. Hastings and the Stanley Thompson ceremony will take place at Highlands Links.

Tea Room

Renovations in the tea room (former Superintendent's residence) to improve the wiring and remove some wall areas to open up the dining space are nearing completion.



Gary (Grampie) and Sean at work on the renovations

Field Unit at the Mayflower Mall

Staff from AGB, FOL and CBH set up a Parks Canada display with information pieces, activities and demonstrations on March 26th & 27th at the Mayflower Mall.



Anne MacRae and Linda Watson speak with a visitor



Visitors enjoyed the displays and demonstrations



Samantha Gascoyne (r), Mayflower Mall Marketing Director, just completed the Explorer Quotient quiz and discovered that she's a Cultural Explorer. She is pictured with Troy Allen, FOL and her nephew Caelin Allen.

Marconi NHSC

Preparations are underway for International Marconi Day (IMD). IMD is a 24-hour amateur radio event held annually to celebrate the birth of Guglielmo Marconi on April 25th, 1874. It is an opportunity for amateurs around the world to make point-to-point contact with historic Marconi sites using HF communications similar to those used by Marconi and to gain an Award for achieving the requisite number of Marconi stations worked.

IMD is usually held on the Saturday closest to Marconi's birth date. 2009 marks the 23rd year that Sydney Amateur Radio Club has set up at Marconi NHSC to participate in IMD. They stayed over in trailers when all that marked the Site was a monument. Since the site opened in 1989 they have made the visitor centre their headquarters on this special day.

Based on 'Universal Co-ordinated Time' the event will begin at 9 p.m. on Friday, April 24th and continue through until 9 p.m. on Saturday, April 25th.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Gary & Trish Pierrard on the arrival of their first grandchild Khloe Amari Rose Pierrard who was born on Saturday, March 21st in Grand Prairie, Alberta to proud parents Matthew Pierrard and Catherine Peters.

Happy Retirement!!

Wendy Bryan, Administrative Assistant in the Asset Management Unit recently retired after 37 years of service!

She began her career in the public service with the RCMP where she worked in a civilian position for 10 years. In 1983, she was hired by Parks Canada, Fortress of Louisbourg in the Asset Management Unit.

Wendy is one of the few people still working in Louisbourg that could take shorthand and she was called upon on many occasions to do so. She will be missed for many other reasons as well. A social was held in Wendy's honour on February 16th where gifts and congratulations were given to her.



Wendy with her favourite little man, her grandson, Braden



Wendy showing Braden one of her gifts.

Condolences

Condolences are extended to Aynsley MacFarlane on the loss of her brother Donald "Donnie" John, 64, who died in Cape Breton Regional Hospital on Friday, March 13th.

Condolences are extended to John Cann and his family on the death of his mother, Shirley Cann that occurred in Ontario earlier this month.

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