



Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

National Historic Sites on Cape Breton
Lieux Historiques Nationaux du Cap-Breton
Vol 9, No 8, August - Août, 2007

Donation of Book

On 10 August 2007 Pat Pelham donated a rare book on French gardens to Carol Whitfield, Field Unit Superintendent of the Cape Breton Field Unit, who gratefully accepted the gift on behalf of Parks Canada. Pat has a deep affection for Louisbourg, especially the gardens, and thus it is most appropriate that he has decided to donate such a valuable resource to the Louisbourg archives. Published in Paris in 1737, the book is entitled: *Le Me'nage Des Champs et De La Ville Ou Le Nouveau Jardinier François Accomode Ou Goust Du Tems.*



C. Whitfield with P. Pelham

Gerrard Theatre Review

The Gerrard Theatre Review has named the Fortress of Louisbourg Murder Mystery Play the best of its kind in Canada. Each year, the organization's Board chooses a different genre of theatre to review. This year's review category was "Mystery." Of the twenty-two mystery productions selected from across Canada, ten finalists were chosen and a panel of four critics attended a performance of each play. Based on the collected reviews of the panelists, the top ten were ranked, with the Louisbourg production being awarded first place overall.



Shown here is Nicholas Whelan, one of the players in the Murder Mystery



***Fortress of Louisbourg 18th Century
Evening of Food & Wine, Summer
2007***

The Fortress of Louisbourg's wine event had another successful summer, after getting off to a slow start. Two well-attended events were held in August and a third, scheduled for September 8 is sold out already. We are planning to schedule a fourth for September 9th if needed.

This event allows visitors to explore the history, the culture and the tastes of eighteenth-century Louisbourg through a private visit to the Governor's apartments, this year with a special emphasis on the art there, and a guided visit to the archaeology exhibit in the King's Bastion Barracks. The approach aims to show visitors how we understand daily life through material culture and how wide the world of French trade was in the eighteenth-century. Visitors are always impressed by the range of objects found here and find this opportunity to learn about Louisbourg culture, followed by the chance to experience its best cuisine and wine, stimulating and a pleasure. The evening combines in depth tours of a part of the site, the opportunity for a brief outdoor walk, weather permitting, and a four-course restaurant meal.

Anne Marie Lane Jonah and Ruby Fougère provide the tours and history. Susan Lane once again planned the wine menu, with many new wines this year and a couple of favourites from last year, and leads the wine tasting part of the evening. The menu, developed with the staff at Grandchamps, and lots of help from Ann Pitcher, incorporates old favourites and several new recipes from

our visiting chef, Chantal Véchambres. The food has received rave reviews from all diners. It is a privilege for those involved to put together such a special event at Louisbourg and a testament to the skill of all involved, particularly the restaurant kitchen staff, that the event goes so well every time it is held. One or two volunteers would greatly help our evenings go more smoothly, in terms of guiding visitors as they move around the site. If anyone associated with Louisbourg would care to help out on the 8th or 9th (the evening is from 5-9 roughly) it would be greatly appreciated. Anyone interested could leave a message with Anne Marie at 733-3535, I will be out of the office until next Thursday, I will reply then.

News from AGB

Excerpt from a letter to Mrs. A.G. Bell from J.A.D. McCurdy written from Hammondsport, N.Y., Aug. 30, 1908 (AEA Bulletin No. 9 page 10):

"You ask me in your letter why we thought of the "Silver-Dart" as a name for aerodrome No. 4. Well the surfaces are silvered on one side, that suggested "Silver", and the word "Dart" will explain itself. Also the combination of the two words sounded rather attractive to me. You didn't criticise but we understood Mr. Bell's telegram to mean that the name was quite agreeable to you all.

She certainly is a beauty. At present the four wings are assembled and all the wiring done. The truck with three wheels is all ready to secure in place to-morrow ...

We have been having quite interesting flights with the old June Bug the last few days ...

Please ask Mr. Bell if we are to enter for the Scientific American Trophy game on September 7. We may not have the new engine ready, but yet there is a chance.”

Aviation Day

On Sunday, August 19th the AGBNHSC annual Aviation Day activities took place from 2 – 4 p.m. with tetrahedral kite-making, rocket launching, experiments, a model airplane display, live Celtic music, and cake and punch was served to almost 200 people in record time.

International Kite Fliers Celebrate Cygnet 1 Centennial

The first 40 international kite enthusiasts to register for an event hosted by the Canadian Kite Federation and the Drachen Foundation, gathered at AGBNHSC on Monday, August 20th for the start of a 2 day celebration of the centennial of the flight of Bell’s man carrying kite Cygnet 1. (Cygnet 1 carried Aerial Experiment Association member Lt. Thomas Selfridge into the air over Baddeck Bay on December 6th, 1907.)

As part of their itinerary, the kite flyers visited the museum and then enjoyed a staff presentation on Bell’s work with kites and airplanes plus a guest speaker who spoke about how Bell’s very innovative and groundbreaking tetrahedral kites opened new avenues for kite makers and flyers. Then at closing time, the Orientation area of the museum was transformed into a dining room where the group enjoyed a buffet dinner/reception catered by the Silver Dart Lodge.

The next day was a very special one indeed as the kite flyers, under blue skies with favourable winds, made their way to Beinn Bhreagh to fly their kites in the field where Bell flew his over a century ago. Kites of all shapes and colours filled the sky for more than an hour. An artist from Toronto who had designed a huge tetrahedral kite in the shape of a telephone was so pleased to have lots of expert assistance to help him launch it successfully. All of this brought lots of news coverage – Global TV; CBC Newsworld; CBC Radio (Mainstreet – Sydney; Information Morning – Halifax; and Maritime Noon); CTV/ATV; the Cape Breton Post and The Victoria Standard.

Many beautiful kites with delightful colours graced the sky on the shoreline of Baddeck Bay. Check out our photos (last page of newsletter).

Student staff, EQ project, training & Canso and Marconi

Our student staff members are heading back to school bringing an end to this year’s Young Canada Works and FSWEP job placements.

This year’s phase of the Explorer Quotient Demonstration Project at AGB draws to a close on September 2nd.

Most staff have had the opportunity to attend the “Harassment in the Workplace” training session.

Marconi and Canso Islands National Historic Sites are nearing the end of their seasons with their last day of service being September 15th.

Security Screenings/Pardon Information

At times, Human Resources has experienced delays in receiving security clearances for a variety of reasons. One of the reasons could be a person was convicted of a federal offence as an adult. If a person was, they can apply for a 'Pardon' if, of course, they meet all the requirements. Anyone wishing to know more about this please contact Terri Dunphy at Local 3503.

Job Well Done!

Debra Chew, A/Supervisor, Cleaning Staff was recently vacuuming what she thought was mud off the floor in the DuHaget House when she unexpectedly heard a "clunk". She stopped the vacuum and went searching for the cause of the noise. She found a piece of metal which turned out to be a part of an artifact. She immediately informed Ruby Powell and then proceeded to check the central vacuum system for other pieces. She found several other pieces of the artifact. Debra is to be commended for her dedication to her job and to Parks Canada.

Congratulations!

Ken and Barb Donovan are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful granddaughter, Maria Del Mar, who was born on 22 July 2007 in Mexico. Maria weighed 7 pounds 4 ounces.



Condolences

Our sincere condolences to Joan MacKay and her family on the death of her sister, Doreen Clements on August 22nd.

Anyone wishing to submit an article to the Hear Ye! Hear Ye! please contact Donna MacNeil at Local 3551.

Kites flown at Beinn Bhreagh Aug. 21

