



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

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

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DG-National Historic Sites Visit

Dr. Larry Ostola, Director General, National Historic Sites, visited Louisbourg on the weekend of August 23rd to take part in the festivities of the Fête de St. Louis. A long time friend of the Fortress, Larry first participated as a re-enactor at Louisbourg during the encampments of 1995 and 1999. Many of his long time friends were thrilled that he was able to return and once again take on the persona of an eighteenth century Louisbourg resident for the grand procession to the chapel.

While in Louisbourg he also took the opportunity to experience some local theatre at the Playhouse, visit a number of siege sites and participate in the very popular wine and food paring.

Below are pictures of Larry in both costume and meeting other costumed employees.





Pictured below are some of these photos taken by Ian Harte.



Fete De St. Louis

The Fete de St. Louis was held on Sunday August 24th. Over 900 visitors toured the site that day and all were very impressed with it. From face painting at the Visitor Centre to the presentations in the Bigot, the Quay came alive with activity from the Militia, firing demonstrations, music and dance and the Gardeners market stall.

The parades and activities through the streets were magnificent. The drums and fifes, the flags and the large numbers of people in costume were truly amazing. The dancing in the Engineer's residence, along with the procession to the chapel and canon firings provided many opportunities for spectacular photos.



New Fire/ Security Staff Members

There are two recent additions to the FOLNHSC Fire and Security Service.

Many of you will recognize Mike Hussey from the nine seasons he spent working with the Fortress of Louisbourg Association. Mike joined the FOLNHSC Fire and Security Unit in June of this year. He has been a volunteer firefighter for 11 years and brings with him a National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Level 1 Firefighter Certification and Level 1 and 2 Fire Instructors Certifications. Mike also has a strong background in the medical and security fields. He has two boys, MJ and William.



Mike Hussey

Darren Lavin has been a Louisbourg resident for the past 19 years, a member of the Louisbourg Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD) for 12 years and currently acts as the LVFD Deputy Fire Chief. He started with the Fire and Security Unit in July. He is an NFPA Certified Firefighter as well as an NFPA Level 1 Instructor. Darren is also a licensed Practical Nurse and has worked with the Cape Breton Metro VON and the Eskasoni Health Centre. He has two children, Brooke and Brady.



Darren Lavin

Both bring a tremendous amount of knowledge, skill and enthusiasm to their work and are valued additions to the FOLNHSC Fire and Security Service.

News from AGB

“Bell and His System” of Education.
Excerpt from a long interview published in
The Chicago Evening Post for March 5,
1896:

“I first came to this side of the ocean to die ... Two of my brothers died of consumption and the doctors gave me six months of life, provided I spent that six months mostly in the open air. For my sake my father sold all he had in England and came to Canada with me. And I thought I might as well die in Canada as anywhere. My father bought a farm of ten (13) acres and hired a man to saw wood, etc. I was to take care of the horses and work in the ground. I did so for a month and then I went into town one day and hired a boy. After that I lay around (on) the grass all day long and grew into the robust man I am now. I had at this time no idea of teaching the deaf; instead I expected to follow my father’s calling and teach elocution. My father was a great student of speech ...

His researches into the mechanism of speech led him to believe that an alphabet could be made which would represent the sounds of any language under the sun. And he proceeded to invent it. Neither he nor I dreamed of the use to which it might be finally put ... in teaching the deaf to speak and read..."
(Letterbook Binder 170)

Ocean TV

Ocean Television from Montreal was on site Thursday, August 7th to film footage for a series called "Travelling in an RV". Interviewing was provided in French, as their goal is to demonstrate "that Nova Scotia is available to all Quebecers who feel insecure to travel in a province that speaks mostly English." The broadcaster is Canal Évasion, the Travel Channel of Quebec, and reaches 1.5 million people every week. The Nova Scotia segment of the 13 episode series is expected to air this fall with re-runs for 3 years.

Silver Dart Centennial Association

The Silver Dart Centennial Association (SDCA) held their Media Launch here on the morning of Friday, August 15th. They launched their new poster and website www.flightofthesilverdart.ca. Around 100 people attended the launch including members of the press such as CBC radio, CTV, the *Cape Breton Post* and *The Victoria Standard*. The SDCA is the community based group that is planning the local events for the 2009 centennial of Canada's first controlled powered flight by Bell's AEA's Silver Dart airplane on February 23rd, 1909.



Bruce Morrison, Chair of the Silver Dart Centennial Association unveils the Association's new poster with Alexander Graham Bell's great granddaughter Joan Sullivan at their Media Launch.

Aviation Day

We celebrated our annual Aviation Day on Sunday, August 17th with a special presentation on the Silver Dart followed by tetrahedral kite and party hat making, rocket launching, Celtic music and more. Visitors enjoyed George Haliburton's model airplane display and his son Jim's radio controlled airplane demonstrations that included a camera onboard which took some aerial photos of our Site.



George Haliburton is pictured with his airplane model display while his son Jim talks with visitors on Aviation Day.

Explorer Quotient

Our Explorer Quotient quiz is expected to wrap up after Labour Day and the VIP survey ends September 19th. Visitors have been very receptive to both.

Communities in Bloom

“Communities in Bloom” judges (one from Ottawa and one from Alberta) were on site on Monday, August 11th to view our grounds and the museum. Kathy Kerr led the tour and answered questions about recycling practices, gardening practices and grounds keeping.

Baddeck has been participating in this competition at the provincial level for a few years and its favourable showing earned the Village the opportunity to participate at the national level which it decided to do this year. We look forward to the results of our assessment later in the season and the Village’s overall assessment. The judges had an extensive tour of the Village including the water treatment plant, the waste transfer and recycling station, cultural amenities, and streetscapes.

Around the Village

Work is underway on the addition of a deck to the Tea Room which will add greatly to the visitor experience of our Site’s view of the Baddeck Bay and Beinn Bhreagh. Plans are underway for our annual Harvest Home event on Saturday, September 20th.

Canso & Marconi Sites

It’s business as usual at the Canso Islands and Marconi NHSC’s. Both sites will close for the season on September 15th.



Volunteer Bill Appleton of the Sydney Amateur Radio Operators at Marconi NHSC.



Pictured L-R are AGBNHSC Heritage Presenters Amanda MacQuarrie and Jeff Garland (learning more about our Field Unit) with Tom Kavanaugh, Boat Operator at Canso Islands NHSC.

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.ucch.ns.ca/parksproject/nhscbnews.htm>