



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

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

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Louisbourg Lighthouse Day

On Saturday August 22, the Louisbourg Lighthouse Society and the Coastal Connections Trail Association hosted Lighthouse Day marking the 275th anniversary of the first lighthouse going into operation. Parks Canada co-operated with these societies to provide an interesting round of activities. The societies also received support from the CBRM Recreation Association and the Louisbourg Fire Department.

Senator Mike MacDonald, MLA Alfie MacLeod and Councillor Brian Lahey attended and gave greetings. Jean Bagnell for the Lighthouse Society and Mike Hunter for the Trail Association spoke to their organizations' goals and future plans.

Activities included a barbeque and live music, talks on the history of the lighthouse and navigation in the 18th and 20th centuries, cannon firings, drumming demonstrations, a siege tour of Lighthouse Point and a geo-caching demonstration.

There were also reproductions of the plans of the first lighthouse, the original lead plaque from that lighthouse and Marmon Smith's models of the lighthouses on

boats as well. Parking and traffic regulation were well in hand with excellent co-operation from CBRM Police.

Improvements had also been made to the physical presentation of the site. The ruins of the first, and particularly the second lighthouse, were worked on and looked the best they have for years. The Historic Sites and Monuments Boards plaques on the current lighthouse were also refurbished. Grass and alder cutting were also done and much appreciated.

Thanks to all Parks Staff who provided support, especially to Heritage Presentation and Cultural Resources for the presentations, demonstrations, HSMBC plaques and traffic control and to Asset Management for improved preservation and presentation of the lighthouse ruins and general appearance of roads and facilities.

Pictured below is staff of Parks Canada involved in this event and a cannon firing.





New Appointment

Lillian Nicholson, General Manager for the Fortress Louisbourg Association (FLA) is pleased to welcome Sandra MacDonald to the FLA staff as program manager. Sandra brings over 20 years of tourism experience, knowledge, contacts and enthusiasm with her. She is looking forward to meeting everyone personally and working with the FLA, Parks Canada and the Town of Louisbourg as well as the Cape Breton and Nova Scotia tourism industries.

Since her arrival Sandra has been working on the following initiatives:

“Town Ambassadors” - two individuals in full costume are passing out information on the fortress, menus, and activities happening in the town and at the fortress.

“ 18th Century Children meet the Modern Town ” - wherein one day a week the children in the children’s program are taken to the town hall for a picnic and games on the lawn,

bringing an atmosphere to the town and a taste of what can be seen at the Fortress.

Mannequins have been placed in key visitor information centers dressed in period costume promoting the Association and in turn the Fortress, they are on display at Port Hastings, St. Peters, Sydney and Louisbourg centers.

A radio promotion has started on 101.9 the Giant and will run for 40 days each morning giving away a piece of the Jingdezhen porcelain.

Information gathering for the development of a database of people interested in the fortress is in progress. We will be disseminating information on FLA, town and fortress activities (as required) through a regular newsletter.

The FLA has opened a satellite office in the Town Hall.

These programs will continue to run and Sandra is investigating some new initiatives which may include the developing a small group package that will be available for purchase on the new FLA website, a wedding package will be developed and we will attend an Atlantic Canada bridal exposition.

Thank you to all those who have helped make these initiatives possible. Sandra is looking forward to working with everyone and she invites you to call her at 902-733-2960 or to visit her office on the upper floor of the Louisbourg Town Hall. *Lillian Hamilton*

News from AGB

Aviation Week

Aviation Day was enjoyed by many visitors on Sunday, August 16th and was the starter event for Aviation Week as the Silver Dart Centennial celebrations continue. The week included star parties and movie nights on the rooftop garden. Among the highlights of

Aviation Week was the Silver Centennial Kite Fly event with kite-makers and kite flyers from across North America who had just been part of the International Kite Festival in Dieppe, New Brunswick. The event took place on the Bell Bay Golf Club driving range. The Silver Dart Centennial Association hosted an evening reception and dinner of appreciation at AGB for the group.



Amazing kites at Bell Bay Golf Club driving range.



A Silver Dart Centennial Kite Fly kite in the air over Beinn Bhreagh with Baddeck in the background.

RCF Time Capsule Centennial of Flight Project

Members of the Rockcliffe Flying Club in Ottawa assembled 3 “Centenary of Flight Time Capsules” as an ongoing legacy to future Club members. Each time capsule will be held in trust for 50 years. One of the time capsules was flown to Baddeck by members of the Club and presented to AGBNHSC on

Aviation Day. It will be held in trust and opened by members of the Club in 2059 and replaced with a new time capsule to be held in trust for the next fifty years. It is of note that among those who did the presenting was an 18 year old who hopefully will be here for the opening the capsule in fifty years and will call us from time to time for updates between now and then on its safekeeping. Another of the time capsules will be held in trust at the Rockcliffe Flying Club and another will be held in trust at the Canada Aviation Museum.



Members of the Rockcliffe Flying Club present their "Centenary of Flight Time Capsule" to Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site

Communities in Bloom National Competition

Baddeck and Area Business and Tourism Association hosted the Communities in Bloom national competition judges Ted Zarudny, Orangeville, Ontario and Diane Clasen, Cincinnati, Ohio on August 12th as they toured and assessed various aspects of the Village.

AGBNHSC was on their itinerary and we were pleased to be able to note improvements since last year including the refurbished rooftop gardens, the new Afternoon Garden Social program, (see picture below) the Silver Dart ‘carpet bed’ planting and landscaping in place of a recently removed oil tank on the walkway down from the upper parking area. Baddeck will know its standing later in the fall.



The Afternoon Garden Social girls are dressed in their finest apparel. Can you figure out why this photo is called 'modified garden tea'?

Rokkaku Kite-making Workshop

In celebration of Canada's centennial of flight, this once in 100 years 2 day kite-making workshop is being offered to a limited number of participants on a first come, first served basis on Thursday, September 17th & Friday, September 18th.

AGBNHSC is delighted to offer this unique Silver Dart Centennial experience in collaboration with the Silver Dart Centennial Association. Kite-maker Bill Wilson and fabric artist Anne Morrell will guide this workshop providing the inspiration and expertise required for each participant to design and construct a Rokkaku kite. Rokkaku kites originated in Japan. The size of the Rokkaku is 6ft tall by 5ft wide. about 24 sq. ft. when you subtract the triangles at the top. A very capable kite, that can fly in as gentle as 5 km/h up to 30 km/h (but gloves are recommended).

Harvest Home - Planning is underway for our annual Harvest Home celebration which this year will have a very special Silver Dart Centennial feature in that it will take place at Beinn Bhreagh. Approximately 500 visitors will have the opportunity for this experience on Saturday, September 19th on a first come, first served basis. This year we will host the same line up of activities twice – 250 can participate in the morning and 250 can participate in the afternoon. Activities will include old style games like sack race, tug of war and potato race, facepainting, Bubbles the

Clown, RAZZMATAZZ, kite flying and more.

Marconi NHSC - A PowerPoint presentation on Guglielmo Marconi's life and work focussing on his 1902 wireless transmission was prepared and delivered by Marconi staff at Mira Provincial Park Marconi as part of the Department of Natural Resources education program to educate visitors as well as community members on local history.

Canso Islands NHSC - The Site participated in the parade during the annual Canso Regatta celebrations with BOOMER on board the Parks Canada truck. The Site's wharf was the starting point for the annual boat and swim races.

Sandy Balcom, Rob Ferguson & Dave Britton met with staff and spent time on Grassy Island looking at information on the fort and blockhouse to clear up details on the chronology and construction.



Pictured at Canso are l-r Tiffany Peitzsche, Sandy Balcom, Anne MacRae, Rob Ferguson, Martha Kavanaugh and Dave Britton.

St. Peters Canal NHSC - Staff were pleased to provide an Evening Presentation on the history of St. Peters Canal to visitors at adjacent Battery Provincial Park as part of the Department of Natural Resources education program to educate visitors as well as community members on local history.

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>