

June 2013



GAZETTE

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DHM Gazette

Hi, I am the new editor for the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Gazette. I have been involved in various aspects of writing and publishing since the late eighties in Ottawa, the South Shore and HRM. Currently I teach Creative Fiction during the fall and winter at Evergreen House. You are invited to send in articles for the newsletter. We have set an August 30th deadline for the fall newsletter. Email your submissions to <asr@eastlink.ca> or drop them off at the Evergreen House. The hours of opera-

tion are between 10 am and 5pm, Tuesday to Sunday.

We seek to publish anecdotes or articles of three to four hundred words that tell a Dartmouth story. Articles about; family tales, diary entries, businesses, characters, buildings, customs, adventures, schools, old writings etc., are welcome.

We would love to have anecdotes about Evergreen House and the estate that it once stood on and stories about a business or a public institution that operated in Dartmouth at any time during its existence.

Articles providing historical

insights will be greatly appreciated. There may even be a couple of pre-Dartmouth incorporation stories that relate to the geographical area now known of as Dartmouth.

Along with your story feel free to submit relevant photos or illustrations, snap an item that has significance and include it with your story. Photos, illustrations and articles will be given due credit whenever possible. We will be happy...

See page 3

In this Newsletter:

- Learn about the Heritage House Tours
- Meet our new summer staff as well as our grade 11 co-op student.
- Read about Seth Coleman, one of Nova Scotia's Quakers.
- Come join us for one of our wonderful summer teas .
- Dartmouth Heritage Museum Wishes all its visitors a pleasant summer!



46 Tulip Street was featured in the 2009 House Heritage Tours

"We shape our dwellings and afterwards our dwellings shape us." – Winston Churchill.

The Heritage House Tour committee is hard at work preparing for the 2013 Heritage House Tour. In addition to Evergreen and Quaker House, the committee has lined

Heritage House Tours

up five houses for the tour. Research on them is underway, and the committee is actively seeking sponsors. This year's tour promises to reveal little-known aspects of Dartmouth's history, showcasing houses that tell more about the architecture of Dartmouth homes and the people who built and lived in them.

There is, of course, still more work to be done before the tour takes place on September 28 and 29. For example, we could use additional help with publicity and ticket sales (are you interested?).

We will be calling on the museum's cadre of volunteers to help at the houses on the weekend of the tour. Training will be provided.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Don Chard, the committee chair, by phone at 463-5810, or by email dfchard@hotmail.com

"A building does not have to be an important work of architecture to become a first-rate landmark.... The essential feature of a landmark is not its design but the place it holds in a city's memory."

– Herbert Muschamp.

Don Chard

The Director's Desk

Bonnie Elliott

Summer is slowly rolling in with some sunny days along with the fog and the rain drops. As the season slowly unfolds the museum is coming alive with the presence of new staff, new activities and some pretty exciting events ahead.

This past year I have been working alongside the staff of HRM to help bring about 2 major projects; the Warehouse Project and the "New Home". There is a plan underfoot to have the collection that is currently stored in a warehouse in Burnside, inventoried, cleaned and re-stored. By September we should have some further news about our 'new home'. These two items have begun to generate excitement and rejuvenate especially those who have waited a long time to hear some positive news. In the meantime, DHM is hard at work getting Evergreen and

Quaker House fully staffed and ship shape for our summer visitors.

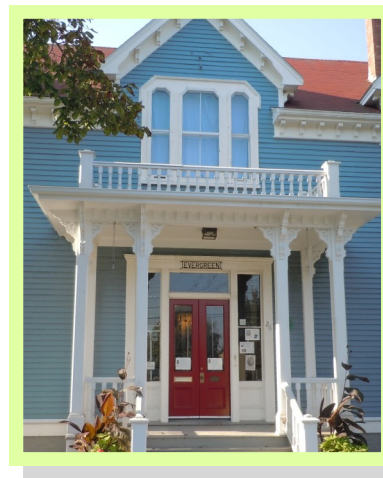
To help us kick off the summer season, we held a barbecue on Thursday, June 13th to say thank you to our many volunteers who make an extraordinary contribution to the smooth running of the Museum.

Once again, back by popular demand, we are planning to hold our summer bi-weekly summer teas beginning on June 27th. (see page 4) This year we are introducing a new twist by transforming the sun room on the main level into Helen's Tea Room. This will be in addition to the space on the lower level, and will give us an opportunity to put the spotlight on Helen and the folklore she collected.

Our annual Calendar fundraising effort this year focuses on postcards of old Dartmouth. We are aiming for a launch in July. The Heritage

House Tour Committee is planning a very special tour with some new heritage gems and great stories to go with them.

I'm saving the best 'til last- The AGM is coming up on June 26th. I hope as many members as possible are able to attend. Come and meet the new Board Members, or take this opportunity to join the Society.



Evergreen House

Summer Students



Liam Caswell, Laura Hennebury, Annamarie Million and Emily Murphy at Evergreen House Orientation.

This year we are pleased to report that grants have made it possible to hire 4 students from the local area to work at Evergreen House and Quaker House.

Laura Hennebury is going into her final year of Anthropology at Saint Mary's University. She is hired as the Screen Arts Assistant /Heritage

Interpreter and will be creating video content to provide stories for the museum. Annamarie Million who is entering her second year of Costume Studies at Dalhousie University has been hired as the Period Clothing Fabricator. She will be working on updating the costumes and creating new ones especially for Quaker House. Liam

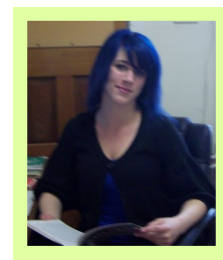
Caswell has been hired as a Heritage Interpreter. He has a background in theatre and history from Mount Saint Vincent University. Emily Murphy is a familiar face as she has volunteered at Evergreen for the past year and a half. She majors in Chemistry at Dalhousie University. However, she shares a passion for history like the rest of us.

My name is Meg Brand. I am a grade 11 student attending Dartmouth High school. In 2013 I became eligible to take a course called Cooperative Education. To pass the course I must complete one hundred hours of volunteer work outside of school to gain experience in a job field that I am interested in. Since I am a history lover, I decided to do complete my volunteer hours at the Evergreen House/

Grade 11 Co-op

Dartmouth Heritage Museum because I love learning of the historical facts and events that occurred in the area I'm from.

So, I'll be here over the summer, helping out and such. Hopefully I'll get a chance to meet you.



Curator's Corner



Postcard from the past.

"Wish you were here to go to the theatre with us" (1910, Boston, MA – Dartmouth, NS), *"Wishing Miss Settle a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year"* (1907, Cole Harbour, NS - Cole Harbour, NS) and *"Arrived here safely Wednesday morning, without any mishaps. Our party came off fine that night, they were surprised sure enough when we went in, and more so when we presented the chairs."* (1918, ? – Dartmouth, NS)

The decline of the "Golden Age" of postcards can be contributed to several factors, including World War One and the decline of tourism, as well as the introduction of new media such as the telegraph and telephone. Today the practice of postcard collection is known as "deltiology" and is considered the third largest hobby next to stamp and coin collecting.

Over the past few months museum staff and volunteers have been busy inventorying a collection of close to 500 postcards. They have all been given records in the computer database and volunteers have now started to scan them. The collection includes postcards from Dartmouth, Halifax, Cape Breton and across Nova Scotia, as well as Boston, Massachusetts and other parts of the United States, along with different parts of Canada, Bermuda and Europe. There is also a "Miscellaneous" collection, including war, portrait, holiday and cartoon postcards.

Many of the postcards were sent to Miss Gertrude Settle and track her as she moved around from approximately 1905-1930. Her location of residence included Cole Harbour Road, Dartmouth, NS; Woodlawn, Halifax County, NS; Edmon-

ton, Alberta; Mill Cove, Lunenburg County, NS; Dorchester, Massachusetts, USA and Dundas Street, Toronto, Ontario. There are also postcards addressed to a Mrs. Gertrude Morton of Halifax, NS. A little research may show that this is the same Gertrude, only after she was married.

Postcards were invented in the late 1860s and remained government issued "Private Mailing Cards" until the improvement of printing technology. Improved technology, along with the rise of the middle class consumer, saw the birth of the "Golden Age" of postcards. During this era, c.1895-1915, the US Postal Service estimated that a billion penny postcards were mailed each year, with many more sent in letters or purchased as souvenirs.

Postcards curbed the curiosity and desire to see faraway places, and collecting them became very popular. In the days before easy transportation, telephones, text messages and email, if you wanted to send someone a little note or greeting, you'd send a postcard. Most of them were very casual. For example, postcards addressed to Miss Gertrude Settle include messages such as

Crystal Martin



Postcard of Portland Street. (Date unknown)

Editor's note from page 1 continued.

to return photos or artefacts at your request. Articles providing insights such as the techniques used to preserve one hundred year old window frames or the methodology used in genealogical research will be welcome.

Please send us your ideas as to what else we could present in the newsletter; perhaps a contest, we might show a photo from the HRM archives and ask residents if they

can identify it or recall an event related to it. A resident may wish to write a piece that is humorous or send in an op-ed type article, etc.

Anyway, I look forward to reading and publishing in this newsletter what you send in.

Russ Barton



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DARMOUTH VISUAL ART SOCIETY'S (DVAS) ART SHOW

The DVAS ART summer show and sale is now open at Evergreen House! The show features an eclectic mix of themes, styles and forms all coming together in a colourful display sure to brighten your day. DVAS (Dartmouth Visual Art Society) was formed in 1987 by local artists to

support and promote visual arts in the community. For more information on this group please visit <http://dartmouthvisualarts.ca/gallery-shows/>.

Exhibit runs until August 3rd.



At the opening of the DVAS art show



Volunteer Star Pets

We'd thought you'd like to meet some of the loveable pets that keep our volunteers company. Do you have a picture of your special canine or feline that you'd care to share?

Meet Roxy P, who is a Chihuahua mix originating from California. She likes Cookies (preferably cheese flavor) and her toys. This California Girl dislikes nasty weather.

Summer Teas

Sittings at 2 pm and 3 pm

Once again and back by popular demand, Evergreen House will be serving afternoon teas beginning June 27th and for every two weeks after. This year we've re-vamped the sun porch on the main level to create Helen's Tea Room in honour of famed folklorist Helen Creighton who lived and worked at Evergreen House. The tea room will be in addition to the lower level room which can get very busy. Being on the main level, this room will be more accessible.

June 27

August 8

July 11

August 22

July 25

The menu includes freshly baked scones prepared by *Karyn's Cookies & Treats* offered with ginger cream cheese and served with homemade jams made by *Muriel's Jams*. The jams will also be available for sale in our gift shop.

The cost is \$8.00 per person and includes a tour of the museum.

Advanced bookings are recommended.

Call DHM at : 464-2300



Fine china tea cups donated by Members await visitors

Seth Coleman : Early Settler and a Dartmouth Nantucket Whaler

Seth Coleman was one of the Nantucket Quaker Whalers who came to Nova Scotia. He was granted land in Dartmouth to establish a whale fishery.

Seth was a boat builder, building and repairing the small whaling boats that were taken aboard the large square rigged whaling ships. These vessels sailed thousands of miles to the South Seas, where, when a whale was sighted, the whale boats would be

The oarsmen would pull close enough to the whale for the harpooners to hurl their harpoons. In the ensuing battle, the whalers and the whale fought for their lives, the whale sometimes destroying the whaleboat and the men in it. If the whalers were successful, the dead whale would be towed back to the ship, cut up and processed for its oil and whale-bone

By 1790 the Dartmouth Whale Fishery was thriving,

and Seth Coleman petitioned Lt. Governor Parr for more land to build a second boat-building shop. In the petition Seth cites his very large family. Indeed, he and his wife Deborah, became the parents of 14 children, eight born in Nantucket, and another six added after the Coleman's arrived in Dartmouth.

The text of Coleman's petition is shown below, the original being in the Public Archives of Nova Scotia.

Maida Follini



Summer student Liam Caswell is standing in the backyard at the Quaker House.

Seth Coleman – Petition for Land

To John Parr, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief in and over the government of Nova Scotia, the Islands of St. John, Cape Breton and their Dependencies,

The Petition of Seth Coleman of Dartmouth humbly shews

That your petitioner is an inhabitant settled at Dartmouth with a very large family and his principle living is building and repairing boats for the shipping employed in the Whale Fishery and as the Whale Fishery increases very fast your petitioner therefore prays the Governor to grant him a certain tract of land in said Dartmouth beginning at the North line at the town plot of Dartmouth as now laid out on the shore, and to run upon that line until it ranges with the Western side of West Street in said town plot, thence turning northerly on said line four hundred and fifteen feet, from thence westerly on a parallel line with the streets in Dartmouth town plot to shore.

And your petitioner as in duty bound shall pray.

Dartmouth 12th. March 1790

[Signed] Seth Coleman

Approved 12 March 1790

TO MEET YOU.

Our exhibits, The Heritage House Tour and the yearly Calendar are all special fundraising efforts that are due in large part to our Advertisers and Sponsors

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
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| Marilyn More, MLA | Andrew Younger, MLA | Killam Properties |
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| Downtown Dartmouth DDBC | Michael Napier Architects | Remax |
| Genivar | Dartmouth Funeral Home | O'Regan's |



A snapshot from our Volunteer Barbeque, that was held to show our appreciation for the wonderful help from everyone who made this past year so successful!

DHM Society Donors:

Each year Society Members give over and above the membership fees to help us run our programs at the Museum.

Hats off to their ongoing generosity !

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Len Atkinson | Jean Wagener | Joan Payzant |
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| Karen Munroe | John, Valerie, Mark Osborne | Betty Pitt |
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| Catherine Harrison | Alice Hale | Suzanne & Michael Lewis |
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Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

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<http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca/>

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DARTMOUTH HERITAGE MUSEUM SOCIETY

Wednesday, June 26, 2013

7:00 pm

Christ Church, Lower Hall

50 Wentworth Street, Dartmouth

DHMS Membership Form

Individual Membership - \$20

A \$10 tax receipt will be issued, you will receive our newsletter by mail, and membership will entitle you to free admission to museums (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card.

Family Membership - \$30

A \$15 tax receipt will be issued, you will receive our newsletter by mail, and membership will entitle you to free admission to museums (Evergreen and Quaker House) upon presentation of your card.

Please also consider the following levels of giving ...

\$50 Donor - Your name will appear in the newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$100 Friend - You will help sponsor one of our exhibits, your name will appear in the exhibit, the newsletter and a full tax receipt will be issued.

\$500 Benefactor - Your name will appear in our annual calendar, your name will appear in our newsletter, and a full tax receipt will be issued.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership and Donation Level (please check):

Membership \$20(individual) \$30(family)

Donation \$50(donor) \$100(friend) \$500(benefactor)

Please make cheques payable to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society and send to:

Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth N.S., B2Y 3M5