

June, 2016



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Below: Baseball game with the Dartmouth Arrows at "Little Brooklyn." According to Harry Chapman from *In the Wake of the Alderney*, The Dartmouth Arrows were a hometown favourite who operated from 1948 to 1959. They won several league championships and titles and players including Zeke Bella, Ty Cline and Wilson Parsons made it to the major leagues.

DHM 1994.019.001



Dartmouth in the '40s

by Frank C. Leaman

What was it like to spend my younger years in Dartmouth? Very interesting, as I always found exciting places to live the life of a young boy and man. My father, Frank M. Leaman kept his horses and a team of oxen in a barn at the north end of Slater Street. It was during that period that my dad in a negotiation with the Stair family bought most of the land north of Slater Street as far as the DND fence where Highfield Park now stands. We began developing large subdivisions like Woodland Park, etc. and we opened a lumber yard and a sawmill on Albro Lake. Dartmouth blossomed, as a new shopping centre opened at the

Bridgehead area. The MacDonald Bridge, opened in 1955, gave a burst of new growth for Dartmouth with 24 hour access to Halifax hospitals and amenities. We no longer had to drive around the Basin in an emergency after ferry service shut down for the night. Men were separated from women on the ferry back then, so it was not a very romantic cruise! At the Bridgehead area a ball park was created called "Little Brooklyn." You could go and watch our team, the Dartmouth Arrows and have a hot dog and pop, just like at the big leagues.

For those interested we had ships of all kinds along our waterfront: sealing ships like the *North Star*, and the *Arctic Prowler*; pulp boats and even the world famous Arctic survey ship, the *Old Bear*. I went through three cape boats over the years with many adventures. Up until the Bridge opened we even had a North End ferry called *HalDart* along with her sisters, under the competent command of Captain Dauphinee. The

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Above: The sealing ship the **Arctic Proowler**, right, is berthed behind the **Peary** at the slips in Dartmouth Cove. DHM 1974.043.030

Bottom: Natal Day Parade looking up Portland Street from Commercial Street you can see the Harbor Café and Jacobson's Clothing Store on the right. On the left is Carl Merson's Men's Shop.

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Dartmouth ship yards were in full operation as many of our ships were wooden hulls. We hauled many loads of timber to the shipyards and even provided special West Coast Douglas fir logs for the only raft to cross the Atlantic. Launched in April, 1956 from Halifax, the raft's crew and 4 kittens successfully crossed to a huge welcome in England in August, and a member of the royal family adopted the kittens.

Our downtown had many a treasure. L.G. Lloyd's store, packed so full of merchandise he hung it from the ceiling, provided endless amusement. Then we had Simmond's Hardware, Bargain House (my family's store), The

Metropolitan, Hiltz's Shoe Store, Western Furniture Store, Carl Merson's Men's Shop, the Five Cents to a Dollar Store, Trider's Dry Goods, Solomon's Store, Jacobson's and Chisling's Clothing. If that was not enough, we had Myber's Sport Store, Nick's Restaurant and many more. Bell's buses had a big depot downtown with Chaison's Barbour Shop. Warner Brothers always had lots of

radios, TVs and more and the Melforth Furniture Store is still ready to serve.

The Natal Day parades showed Dartmouth pride. I would enter with my

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The Director's Desk

Bonnie Elliott

As we witness the full moon of June and the equinox the promise of summer is before us. Our summer staff are hard at work offering tours and assorted other projects. We are rolling out new exhibits and displays and weekly summer teas have begun. Regarding the latter, we have partnered with the Dartmouth Seniors Service Centre who are providing sandwiches and sweets, and have opened up the Green Parlour so that visitors can enjoy the remarkable view of the harbor while sipping tea. Board member Karen Colter has brought out of storage what can only be termed as a charming group array of toys from our permanent collection. Local photographer Dale Wilson is volunteering with us to help transform the Carriage room into an exhibit area and studio where you will learn about the history of photography through exquisite examples from our collection and be able to see and do hands on photography “the old fashioned way”. (Please read more about what really excites Dale regarding this new venture on page 8.)



Above: Heritage Interpreters Meaghan Bartlett and Laurie Fleet stand in the front room of Quaker House where the eight new interpretive panels hang on the walls.

Right: Courtney Mrazek and Liam Caswell pose in the red parlour at Evergreen House wearing period costume in anticipation of a visit of Grade Three classes from the Crichton School



Working on a new exhibit “ Edgemere & Rosenberg” has been a joy because it is a wonderful story worth telling and retelling. Ever since I first heard the story and was introduced to Rosenberg’s artworks, I have been intrigued by Rosenberg’s artistry, the story of the Scarfe family and the building of Edgemere. Fortunately Mr. Glen Pierce will be kindly loaning seven of his works to add to the nine works we will display.

By putting up eight new interpretive panels at Quaker house we have expanded on the history of the Quakers. Please come to our open-house on Thursday, July 7th to learn ‘Who are the

Quakers?’

Last but not least, our Gift Shop is being re-stocked and if it’s a book or a locally made product you are after, I am sure you’ll find something to please. After a 6 month hiatus we are pleased to be back at Alderney Market so if I don’t see you at the museum this summer, I hope to see you there.

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grandfather, Captain Crowell, as he was doing floats for the Dartmouth Fish and Game Association. It is interesting as this group promoted conservation early with concern over wetlands, forest safety and the like. Grandfather Crowell was presented with a gold banded engraved cane for his efforts. I still have this and I remember the effect it had on me in later years when talk of the environment came up.

We had so many bands and local groups in the parade in those days along with the large crowds, canoe races, tug-of-war, Bill Lynch shows by the Micmac and Beeswangers Root Beer. You could set on Silver's Hill where my family used to have a dairy farm and watch the fireworks over the lake. If you wanted more entertainment, you could go to the outskirts of the town. There was the Canoe Club on Locks Road or you could head the other way to what we called The Dyke. A beautiful beach awaited you along with an exciting establishment. This canteen and dance hall was a left-over from World War II. It had a juke box and other fine amenities for young men and women's enjoyment.



Above: 1948 marked the first year of Dartmouth having a Natal Day Queen. Seeing above is Miss Elinor Teasdale, the first queen, smiling at the crowds. DHM. 1984.013.020

Below: Fireworks light up the sky during Natal Day in 1948. DHM. X.304.001

If you wanted more you could go a short way to Silver Sands Beach and keep company with the giant concrete Moose enshrined there. How many declarations of love and endearments and future plans were made by this moose, no one knows!

We had such delicacies in the Chezzetcooks nearby that we took back to Dartmouth things such as clams, lobsters and mussels. I could only ask the reader "Wasn't Dartmouth a wonderful exciting, delightful place"? I well recall as a lad going to the Dartmouth Railway yard to watch a box car loading new cars for Dartmouth auto dealers. There were

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usually three new vehicles in a box car. Today there are football fields of new vehicles.

Dartmouth has grown. We no longer have ox teams pulling carts down the street. But we still have sights to amaze us. Hundreds of Dartmouthians came out in 2015 to see the start of The Big Lift - the repairing of the MacDonald Bridge by installing new segments of roadway at night, and letting the traffic through in the day. The Sealing ships may be gone, but super container ships now stop at our port, filling the view between Dartmouth and Halifax. Yes, there will always be some excitement in our busy port.

*Brought up in Dartmouth, **Frank Crowell Leaman** has always been involved with Dartmouth's happenings. From land development, tourism, cable television and many more activities, Frank now enjoys writing for local papers and has published his book, *The Roar of the Sea* based on his grandfather's, Captain Crowell's experiences sailing old-time ships. Frank is a member of the Evergreen Writers' Group, and a member of various local organizations, including a member of the United Empire Loyalists. Many people will remember him from his place in Chester, "Buccaneer Lodge & Cottages" which hosted many events, weddings, group picnics, reunions as well as fishing and diving tours on his cruiser, "Buccaneer Lady".*



Looking down Portland Street in the 1940's.
How many stores and businesses do you recognize?

Email us at museum@bellaliant.com




EVENTS & EXHIBITS




It's Teatime Again!



Evergreen house is bringing back its signature Victorian Afternoon Teas!

Now every Friday this summer, you can enjoy the classic Victorian pastime, complete with sandwiches, sweets, and a guided tour of the beautiful Evergreen heritage house. For \$12 a person, party like its 1867! Teatime is between 1:30-4:30 pm. Bookings are advised. Please note that we now accept debit.

EVENTS

Quaker House Open House. 1-4 pm Thursday, July 7th. Come visit our new displays and interpretive panels donated by The Eastern Shore Quakers.

Evergreen Writing Group will resume meeting on Wednesday, July 6th, 10:15 a.m. to Noon! Evergreen Writers' Group welcomes newcomers to our meetings at Evergreen House located at 26 Newcastle Street in Dartmouth. We get together the first Wednesday of each month for discussion, encouragement, providing feedback to each other on works in progress, guest speakers and workshops. For more information, call 463-5612 or email evergreen_writers@yahoo.ca

EXHIBITS

Coming Soon – June 30th

Lower Level – The Carriage Room Studio of Photography. Come and visit our recreation of a 19th century Photographic Studio for the chance to learn how photography has developed through the years. Peer into the past through the lenses of select antique cameras, and witness the process of creating wet-plate photographs.



Main Level – Toys & Games from the Past:

We are bringing the fun back to Evergreen! Our new exhibit in the 'old dining room' features a charming selection of pieces from our extensive collection, guaranteed to make you smile.



Opening July 21st

Upper Level – Edgemere & Rosenberg: Featuring paintings and photographs by the man himself, our new exhibit tells the story of American-born artist Henry M. Rosenberg. Learn about his marriage to Emily Scarfe, daughter of the influential Frederick Scarfe, mayor of Dartmouth, and the building of the Edgemere home.



H.M. Rosenberg, Coming Storm in Chezzetcook, NS, Oil on board, N.D.

DHM 1977.010.001

\$5.00 Admission. Members and children under 12 are free.

Tuesday - Sunday 10am – 5pm. Saturday & Sunday Closed for lunch between 1pm & 2pm

Evergreen House, 26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth

Phone 902-464-2300 www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca

From Old to Vogue: A Photography Renaissance at Evergreen

Dale Wilson

Never in my wildest imagination did I think or imagine that my career as a commercial and editorial photographer would lead me to exploring, learning and practising the historical processes used at the time Evergreen House was constructed in 1864. Yet, here I am.

Just last week I was sitting alone in the carriage house at Evergreen, looking at an incredible stone wall. The space is a blank canvas and I am left to muse. I imagine I hear the heavy hand of Joseph Howe's walking stick striking the front door or hear the steady tap, tap, tap of typewriter keys striking paper as the First Lady of Canadian Folklore transcribes the lyrics from her recently recorded interview.



This portrait of Walter. J. Symonds was photographed in New York in 1880 and is an example of a Tintype.

DHM 1968.090.001

I was invited by the Executive Director to visit the warehouse holdings and more specifically the collection of photography artefacts and visual library. To suggest I was in the equivalent of a photographer's candy store would be an understatement of massive proportion. I was surrounded by Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes, Ferrotypes and gelatin negatives. I had only ever seen one 'Dag' previously and then I was surrounded by photographs that originate from the earliest form of photography. I was gobsmacked by the breadth of this collection that tells the entire history of the process that "paints with light."

Today, display cases are being readied to showcase those artefacts that deserve to be seen. Furniture is being moved, and moved, and no doubt moved some more as a time period photographer's studio is being arranged—as a movie set might—in order to transport the guest to a different time and place. What is truly unique is that this space will become a working studio where guests can view static displays and observe as I go about doing and making time period correct photography.

Throughout June and well into July, I will be developing a 'small hands-on' program whereby guests can participate in an activity of the day – I am leaning toward making salt prints from existing negatives. Visitors will then have the opportunity to take that piece home with them as a unique and lasting

memento of their visit to Evergreen.

What will be rolling out at Evergreen House over the summer months will be an extensive photography exhibit. The net goal will be to 'grow the excitement' in these processes and have folks continue to return to "see what we are up to." I look forward to meeting you, and sharing in that excitement.

Dale Wilson has been making photographs around the planet for 30 years. His award-winning images have been reproduced on more than 125 book covers and his work has made appearances in most major magazines in North America, Europe and Asia. He has produced six coffee table books, four using his own images that have resulted in two national best sellers. Despite having travelled the world, Dale Wilson prefers to work in Atlantic Canada—it is his home, and a landscape he knows best.

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 !



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Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society

26 Newcastle Street



*Protecting, Preserving
& Promoting our
Heritage*

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

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Just a reminder to please pay your membership dues for 2016-2017

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: _____ Date _____

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Membership and Donation Level (please check):

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