

Museum News

Issue fourteen - Fall 2017

Enderby Museum & Archives

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Opening Hours: 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Tuesday – Saturday

Letter from the President

Over the past few months your board has been very active. The new Springbend Hall roof was installed by mid-August. It was funded by "British Columbia/Canada 150: celebrating B.C. Communities and their contribution to Canada" program under its category of Developing Infrastructure. We are seeking approval to use some of the excess grant funds to install an interpretative sign, giving its history, on the Highway 97A side of the building.

The board hired Joani Cowan in early September as interim curator to work on several projects until early December, with an option to renew for a further three months. Once the board has determined the future curator/administrator's duties and a suitable contract, we will be advertising this position.

Our general meeting of September 22 saw the proposed new bylaws amended and then passed. They were then filed with the Societies' Registrar in Victoria. We will be conducting our upcoming elections and business at the November 24th Annual General Meeting under these new bylaws. A big thank you to the

committee who drew them up: Bob Cowan, Margo Ludwig and Marcy Peel, and to the 31 members who came out to the September general meeting to offer their suggestions to, and their approval of, the final bylaws.

We have received our 2017 funding from the Enderby & District Services Commission. One of our fundraising initiatives will be a silent auction from December 1-15th in the museum, and a bake sale December 1-2. See elsewhere in the newsletter for more details.

We are always looking for new volunteers to assist with the many ongoing projects. Please contact me at 44diana@telus.net or 838-2141 if you are interested. Also, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Diana Inselberg

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

This newsletter constitutes formal notice to members of the Enderby and District Museum Society of the 2017 Annual General Meeting to be held at 7 pm in the museum on Friday, November 24th. Business will include reports from the directors and an election of officers for 2017-2018. Written or e-mailed nominations for directors, to be elected for a one or two year term, will be accepted by the Society up to Monday, November 20.

Guest speakers will talk about the past and present of the Enderby Branch 98 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Memberships for 2017-2018 are now due - \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family (2 voting members). You can pay in the museum before the AGM or mail to the above address.

Christmas Time Fund Raisers

December 1 will mark the beginning of many Christmas-related activities in the Community starting with Enderby's Christmas Light Up/Parade on Friday night December 1st. The Museum will be open that night until 8 pm.

December 1st is also the first day of our traditional bake sale. Members, please bring in your best – preferably during the day on Friday so the crowds visiting that evening will be able to purchase when they visit. On Saturday Dec. 2nd the museum will be open from 10 am to 4 pm, continuing the bake sale. The Toonie tree will be up until December 20th.

December 1st also starts a two-week Silent Auction Fundraiser. There will be many quality items donated by members, ranging from a large handmade Father Christmas, an original watercolor by local artist Kathi King, a large antique Swedish trough, an old stoneware bowl, and collectible Christmas decorations by Lena Liu, to a handmade braided rug, and many other items too numerous to mention.

Pictures of some items and a write up will be in our local papers prior to December 1st.

Donations

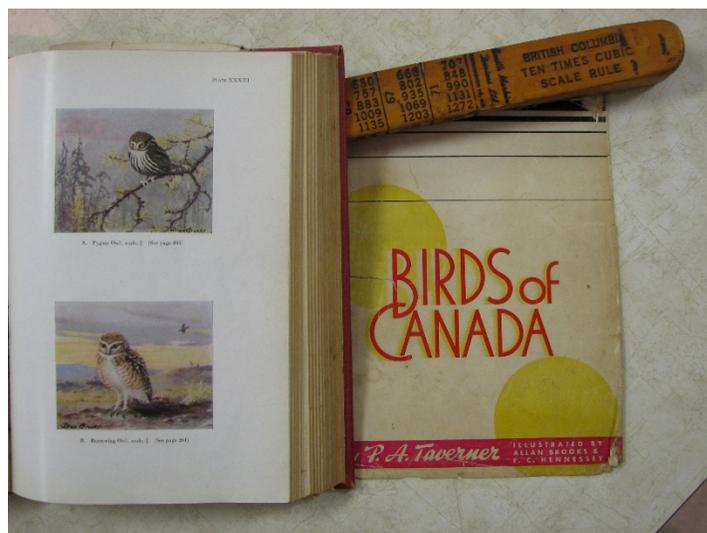
Thank you to **Bruce and Eleanore Bolton** and **Geordie Roberts** for their donation in memory of Peter Roberts.

Eric Hudson has donated a computer and a significant amount of his time in the setting up of our new website, which has been totally redone – Thank you!

Many thanks to **Dave Crozier** for donating office furniture from the office of the Partners in the Horn of Africa, including some desk chairs, filing cabinets and a desk.

Art Norlan donated a three-person bobsled hand-made by Buster Heitman. It has been put on exhibit in our outdoor museum "Musebo". Thank you Art!

North Enderby's **Larry Pound** is a long time Museum member who drops in fairly frequently. This summer he came by to donate two very interesting items. The first is a log scaling stick, It joins a larger one donated in 1988 by Keith Johnston, as well as a smaller one, in our collection. Next time we have a logging presentation we'll ask Larry to demonstrate how it works. (He did at the time but we did not take notes).



Larry also donated a bird book from his collection, "Birds of Canada" by Percy Taverner, one of Canada's most politically active ornithologists. The book was published in 1934.

The local connection? Many, if not most of the illustrations in the book are by Allan Brooks. Brooks, ornithologist and bird artist (and incidentally a decorated WWI sharpshooter) resided in Okanagan Landing for a time, and did a lot of his painting on the Vernon Commonage, where the Allan Brooks Nature Centre is located.

Thank you Larry!

PS for those of you who wonder how the front of a dust cover can be photographed behind the book – the cover was in pieces. But it will not be for long – check the next item.

Volunteers

Most museum volunteers work at the front or side desk, or on one of the computers when they are not showing visitors around. Not **Pauline Kubiny**. She works on the big table in the back as you can see.



Pauline does not like dirt or dust. When she came to the museum last summer, first she cleaned the barred window hidden behind the flower bed on Cliff -inside and out. Then, usually on Fridays, she came, vacuum in hand, to capture dust bunnies and spiders, and later took to dusting the publications in our archives. That led to her taking on the challenge of restoring archive items, including the two in the picture above.



That “job” has become somewhat routine, but recently she was surprised. Inside “Western Canadian Dictionary and Phrase Book” (don’t ask -we’ve not yet researched it) she found a rarity as you can see. Not sure if Pauline has won the lottery.

Activities this summer and fall

However, Pauline was not the only one who cleaned and improved things to museum “stuff”. Dirt and dust accumulated over the winter in our covered outdoor display building Museum Gazebo in the Park (often called the **Musebo**)

received some attention from Herb Higginbottom and Peter and Faith Hudson this spring.

In September Art Norlan donated a three-person bobsled hand-made by Buster Heitman. Bobsledding in Enderby was popular in the 1970s when most of the local roads were not cleared of snow. The sled was taken to the Musebo while the gazebo was cleaned up and exhibited items re-arranged to make it easier to see some of the smaller artifacts.

Digitization Project

Two students from UBC Okanagan spent three days in the museum to work on the digitization project, which aims to make valuable archival material more easily accessible to an audience beyond the material's location.

They scanned photographs and text from albums held by the museum that were created by Erskine Burnett, a Coldstream farmer. He included descriptions of the area, people and places in the Okanagan and west to Kamloops.

More information on this project was published in the October 20th, 2017 issue of Enderby's RiverTalk newspaper.

Attendance and Research

Since early October 2016, volunteers have continued to perform all their regular tasks related to the operation of the museum such as cataloguing, cleaning, and repairing artifacts, and clipping, filing, updating, copying, collecting, typing, indexing, and updating records.

Nearly 800 visitors were hosted over the summer (June-mid September), the largest numbers on July 1, a pre-schoolers visit July 28 and during the car show on August 25.

Many of the **over 40 research requests** received from June to mid-September came from individuals. Requests from organizations included the City of Enderby, the R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum in Salmon Arm, the Kingfisher History Committee, the Splatstin Nation, Community Futures North Okanagan, and the Regional District of North Okanagan.

New displays.....

.... this past year included a case display of the different flags that have been in use in Canada to mark **Canada 150** in July, and a board display showing **Enderby Lions** activities to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the chartering of their branch in October.

To commemorate Remembrance Day in this, the 100th anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge, Margo Ludwig, museum director, is working with the Legion to create shadow boxes in honour of family members who have served our country. They will be showcased in the Legion on Remembrance Day, and later photographed for the Museum Archives.

Margo has created a shadow box to highlight her father-in-law's service in the second world war, and the MacPherson family created one in memory of Ron Smiley. Stop by the museum to see them.

Springbend Hall

Vice president John Brennan was the go-to man for the **Springbend Hall re-roofing project**. It's agreed that owner Dan Schultz of the Calibre Roofing & Sheet Metal in Armstrong did a great job, and much more than simply the re-roofing called for in his contract. He also removed the chimney, and did significant repairs to the substrate (roof structure). All for a reasonable fee. Painting of the new wood will have to wait until the weather warms in spring.



80% of the funds for the repairs came from "British Columbia/Canada 150: celebrating B.C. Communities and their contribution to Canada program" under its category of "Developing Infrastructure". The 20% which the museum paid was taken from a legacy from the Jean Emeny Schubert Estate.

In time for Christmas giving

Okanagan Historical Society (OHS) Report 81 is now available. It being the 100th Anniversary of the battle of Vimy Ridge, many articles related to World War I. Articles by local authors include Bob Cowan's about soldiers from Enderby who served, and the "Trench Comfort Club", the organization in town that sent parcels to soldiers. Joan Cowan's article talks about the Mara Internment camp, where prisoners of war and "enemy aliens", (those of German or Austro-Hungarian descent) were imprisoned during the war.

Ken Oyama's matter-of-fact article about his family's being shipped to a work camp in the Kootenays and later the Okanagan during World War II because of their Japanese Ancestry struck a chord with me. It proves that history can repeat itself.

Articles of local interest in **OHS Report 80, still available**, include one by Helen Brandt about the large Large family and another about the Common Good Co-op in the Mabel Lake/Hupel area. Both of these stories, and many more, are contained in the "**Flowing through Time – Stories of Kingfisher and Mabel Lake**" published by the Kingfisher History Committee, which is also available at the museum.

Thank you ..

.. to Faith Hudson, Herb Higginbottom, Diana Inselberg, Joan Cowan, Bob Cowan, Sue Weiss, and Jackie Pearase for contributing ideas and words for this newsletter.

Peter Vander Sar, Editor.