

Outlook

VOLUME 42 ISSUE 1
APRIL 2011

Lunenburg County Historical Society
Fort Point Museum, PO Box 99, LaHave NS B0R 1C0

**Spring has Sprung and Summer is not far behind...
Fort Point Museum is getting ready for a busy spring & summer**

- **April 19 & May 17**—General meeting and pot-luck supper—6:30 pm
- **May 29**—4th Annual Lobster Dinner at Fort Point
- **June 5**—Opening—*Historic Views & Memories of Old Schoolhouses of our area*
 - **June 21**—*Volunteer Appreciation Supper*

OUR FLAX PROJECT SPINS AHEAD

If you visited Fort Point last summer you'll know that our flax grew and thrived. The previous year the flax just didn't make it, but last year in 2010 our garden guru, Marina Fregeau, found a more reliable flax seed and our flax flourished with beautiful blue blooms. After it bloomed it was harvested by pulling the plants, keeping all the seed pods in one direction and the roots in another. The flax was tied in bundles, called **stooks**, and left up-right to dry.

Now, this year, it is ready to be **retted**, which will be done in both the field and the pond. Flax stems con-

sist of a stiff inner core, like a thin stick, surrounded by fibre. The flax fibre is on the outside of the 'stick' a bit like the bark on a tree, which means flax is a **bast fibre**. The fibre is stuck together and to the core with a 'glue' formed of pectins and lignins. When you ret flax fibres, mould, warmth and humidity dissolve this 'glue' loosening the fibre. After the flax is retted, we'll have 2 weeks of turning the flax daily. Visitors can help with this process.

By the end of July we'll begin **dressing** flax. Dressing the flax is the term given to removing the straw

from the fibers. Dressing consists of three steps: **breaking, scutching, and heckling**. The breaking breaks up the straw, then some of the straw is scraped from the fibers in the scutching process, then the fiber is pulled through heckles to remove the last bits of straw.

And finally, it's ready for **spinning**. We will begin spinning the flax in early August, and this will be an ongoing process until we are done!

So take note – and plan to see all the phases of this fascinating process that was done in times gone by

First Potluck Supper of the 2011 Season Tuesday, April 19

Our first general members meeting of the season and pot-luck supper for members and guests will be on Tuesday, **April 19th** at the Fort Point Museum at 6:30 pm.—downstairs in the multi-purpose room (enter at the lower level). Remember to bring a plate and cutlery—we have tea, coffee and water, everyone brings a pot—main, salad, bread/rolls or dessert.

Johanna Rafuse will present

The People of Hiroshima Today

DATES to REMEMBER

May 17 Potluck Supper
Cruising South America—Kathy & Keith Sullivan

May 29 Lobster Dinner

June 1 Museum Opens

June 5 Schools Exhibit Opens

June 21 Supper
Volunteer Appreciation

July
Flax Exhibit & Spinning

July 19 Potluck Supper
Raising Service Puppies Mary Fulleman



CALLING ALL GIRL GUIDES

Guiding in Nova Scotia is 100 years old in 2011 – a century old! The first Girl Guide company was registered in La Have in 1929 – 82 years ago – and it was active for many years.

To commemorate the first century of Guiding in our

province the Fort Point Museum, will mount a special exhibit during the month of August that will feature the La Have Girl Guide Company, and we'd like your help. We would like to borrow any photos, memorabilia, uniforms or parts of uniforms - badges, pins,

hats—scrap books, notebooks, lists – anything you might have about guiding in our area. Please dig deep and go back into your memory bank and your boxes of old "stuff".

Please contact **Jean McHarg**, an archivist with Guide House in Halifax, at

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OUR SCHOOLS OF YORE—SPECIAL SUMMER EXHIBIT

On Sunday June 5 we will open our special summer exhibit in the main gallery of the museum. The Collections Management committee, chaired by Doris Wentzell and including members Joan Dawson, Edith Wolter, Jan and Marie Sundin, Marla Webber, Jan Rofhie, Mary Black, and Mary Fulleman have been meeting since February and this promises to be a very interesting exhibit this summer. Thirteen old schools of the area, from Conquerall

Bank to Petite and Crousetown, and Dayspring to Riverport, will be identified on a large map of the area; you'll see photos of the old schools as they looked 60-plus years ago and what they look like now. We'll also have old school scribblers and text books, student and teacher lists, old desks and a blackboard. And, there will be ongoing audio and video interviews with former teachers and students.

But...the committee knows that the "locals" are the best source of memories, both visual and spoken. If you went to school or taught in these rural areas please, please dig back into your school day memories and if you have anything – photos, report cards, scribblers, or memories you'd like to share, call us!

**Please Contact
Doris Wentzell at
688-2380 or**



*LCHS marks
42 years of
preserving the
history of the
shores of the
LaHave*

The Lunenburg County Historical Society was started in 1969 by a group of friends headed by Nancy Dunlop Creaser, wife of well-known LaHave resident Jamie Creaser. When Nancy moved to LaHave in 1964 she began to walk over to and around the old lighthouse station and cemetery and she became increasingly distressed at the condition of the old lighthouse property, its abject neglect, and felt it had been forgotten as a crucial pivot point in the history of Canada, and especially this historical area.

Nancy Creaser had lived in Bridgewater for ten years and had been very active in the IODE, both locally, provincially and nationally. She had many good friends in Bridgewater, knew a lot about the ins and outs of charitable groups, and so she elicited the help of her friends and went about forming a charitable organization called the Lunenburg County Historical Society.

Although the name of the society is not a true description of who we are, the LCHS has gone on to create the Fort Point Museum, rec-

ognizing the importance of Razilly's arrival and settlement here, which led to the settlement of the farmlands of Petite Riviere and Riverport area—and so on and so forth. The settlement of this unique and special area started right on the Fort Point site.

Today, thanks to Nancy Creaser's foresight, we have a wonderful museum for all to enjoy on a spectacular piece of land.

We hope you will come and enjoy it with us.

MEET THREE OF OUR BOARD MEMBERS



David L. Cook, BA, BEd, MEd, PhD (abd) joined the board in 2010 and he has ably taken on the responsibility of ways and means – which includes sourcing grant possibilities and chairing museum fundraising events. Retired educator; former history teacher, principal, department head with service at Chester High School, Park View Education Centre, the United World College of the Adriatic, and Saint Mary's University. He is co-author of the Nova Scotia high school history text, *Viewpoints*; co-founder of

Knowledge Festival, initiator of Atlantic Coast Conference celebrating the International Baccalaureate (ACCIB). Dave's retirement interests include golf, badminton, tennis, bridge, NCAA basketball, NY Yankees baseball, and history. He is married to Charlotte Brooks and they live in West LaHave with their family: Cayley the cat and Tasa, the golden retriever puppy. Many of you will recognize Dave as our local Ghost Specialist from some of our recent Pot Luck suppers. A man of many talents!

OTHER BUSY BOARD MEMBERS WEAR MANY HATS

Hank Middleton, Acadian descendent, and a member of our board for several years, retired educator, musician extraordinaire, writer and musician for Allswell Productions “*Glimpses*”, is also a Habitat for Humanity South Shore board member. Habitat for Humanity is an international, non-government, non-profit organization founded in 1973, devoted to building “simple, decent and affordable housing”. There are now five area offices around the world.

Habitat South Shore is in need of a donation of land in Lunenburg County for their third build on the South Shore. If you can help, or know anyone who can, please call Hank at 543-2349 or 521-5177.



Kathy Sullivan joined our Board in 2009, having been a member of LCHS for many years. Following their retirement in 2008, she and her husband Keith moved full-time from Halifax to Pentz. After 29 years with the Halifax Regional School Board where she worked as a teacher, administrator and consultant, Kathy is now happily retired, and among the other perks of retirement - she is enjoying being a grandmother. She

is currently the volunteer curator for the LaHave Islands Marine Museum, and hopes to forge some links between the two neighbouring community museums. Kathy is in charge of the LCHS Oral History Project and manages the website and other aspects of the museum's web presence. (As of this writing our server is down—back soon!)

Acadian Kitchen Party for Habitat SS

Sunday, April 17, 2011—3 to 7 pm

St Joseph's Parish Hall, 100 Queen St., Bridgewater



Featuring Live Music from 3 to 7 pm
(French, English & Instrumental)

Supper of Traditional Maritime &
Canadian Dishes—5 to 7 pm

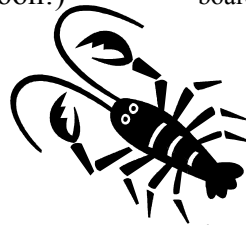
Entrance Fee: A Donation to Habitat—South Shore
(tax receipt for donations over \$10)

Meal Tickets: Adults \$8, Students \$5, Family \$20
(pre-schoolers free)

JUNE IS THE MONTH FOR KIDS

Our student staff will start on June 1 and we will be open to receive our guests. We're looking forward to a busy month as June is the time when teachers all over the area are looking for field trips for their students. The Fort Point Museum meets all the criteria as an educational field trip destination with its wealth of history of the area from 1632 onwards, including the arrival of the French, the German settlers, the Mi'qmaq and Acadian presence, and the more modern times of a busy thriving LaHave and surrounding villages and farmlands. Plus there are picnic grounds, a playing field and a beach! So if you're a teacher reading this, or a parent who can suggest things to a teacher, contact the museum at 688-1838 or email lchs-fortpoint@ns.sympatico.ca— or call our board member **Hank Middleton** at 543-2349 or 521-5177.

Lobster



Lobster

*Join us as we celebrate the end of the
South Shore Lobster Season and
the beginning of the 2011 season at
Fort Point Museum.*

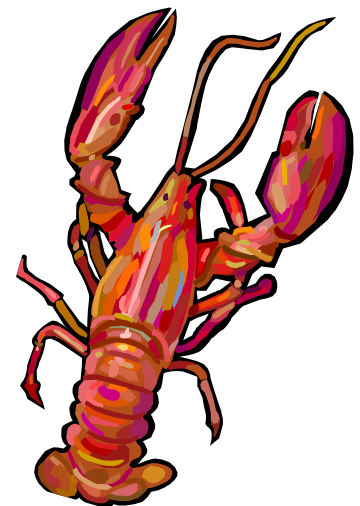
*Enjoy a pound and a half lobster,
homemade salads, rolls, dessert, cash bar.*

Sunday May 29, 2011

LCHS Members \$25

Non Members \$30

For reservations call Donna Malone at 688-1970

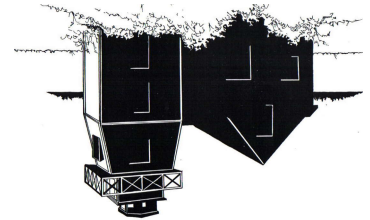


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LUNENBURG COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FORT POINT MUSEUM, PO
BOX 99, LAHAVE NS B0R 1C0



MEMBERSHIP IN LUNENBURG COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our membership year is June 1 to May 31. Our membership fees are \$10 for individuals, \$20 for families, \$30 for business/corporate. Your membership gives you access to all facilities at the museum, special rates for renting the facilities, (weddings, anniversaries, birthdays...), discounts in the gift shop, advance notice of special events, special discounts at some events and fundraisers.

We value you as a member If you're not a member, now is the time to join.

If you are a member, now is the time to renew!



Return this portion with your dues. Make your cheque payable to **LCHS** and mail to
PO Box 99, LaHave NS B0R 1C0.

Special gifts in any amount are appreciated.

Contributions are tax deductible in the amount allowed by law. A receipt will be sent upon request.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City/Town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____

- Individual \$10 _____
- Family \$20 _____
- Business \$30 _____
- Special Contribution _____
- Total Enclosed** _____

Please allocate this special contribution to:

- Grounds/Garden
- Building Maintenance/Improvement
- Special Events & Programs
- Collections Management
- Acadian—Mi'kmaq Heritage
- General Operations