

# ATLANTIC ANCHOR

Vol. 17

October 2010

**Shelburne Historical Society**  
P. O. Box 39  
Shelburne, Nova Scotia B0T 1W0  
Phone: 902-875-3219  
Fax: 902-875-4141



Email:

[shelburne.museum@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:shelburne.museum@ns.sympatico.ca)

Website: [www.historicshelburne.com](http://www.historicshelburne.com)

*The Shelburne Historical Society (Society) is a non-profit organization incorporated 20 December 1976. Along with the Province it facilitated the creation of the Ross-Thomson House and the J. C. Williams Dory Shop and is also responsible for the Shelburne County Museum, the Coyle House, the Muir-Cox Shipbuilding Interpretive Centre, and Cox's Warehouse. The Society has a three year plan and we see ourselves as one of the economic drivers of the community, not just by attracting tourists, but most importantly, by manifesting the pride in the community's heritage and natural assets which will attract people to come, stay and create jobs for the young people of Shelburne.*

## Historical Society Board 2010/2011

**President** – Gloria Beuree

**Vice President** – Elizabeth Rhuland

**Treasurer** – Paul Richardson

**Recording Secretary** – Alison Stanton

**Corresponding Secretary** – Alison Stanton

**Board Members at Large:**

Dave Alexander

Elizabeth Cromwell

Cathy Holmes

Sharon Johnson

Louise Lindsay

John Oswell

Howard Roszel

**William Cox -**

*Honourary Lifetime Board Member*

*Betty Stoddard/Complex Bookkeeper/Office Manager*

*Finn Bower/Curator*

*Kim Truchan/Site Manager*

## **Shelburne Historical Society Vision, Mission, Mandate**

### Vision

The Shelburne Historical Society is an essential and integral part of life in Shelburne County, serving community members and visitors of all ages. Through collaborations and partnerships, we make our heritage vital, relevant, and widely accessible. We are financially and environmentally sustainable, and support our community in its social, economic and cultural development.

### Mission

The Shelburne Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation and promotion of the rich and continually evolving heritage of Shelburne County. We operate and sustain the Shelburne Museum Complex to serve the local community, our province and visitors from around the world. We work to promote an interest in our past, facilitate research, and provide programs that stimulate interest, satisfy curiosity and

encourage public participation. We are an integral part of our community and a focal point and gathering place where we celebrate our heritage and special community events.

We play an important role in the economic, cultural and social life of our community, working with business, cultural and tourism groups to promote our area and establish our complex as a vibrant local attraction.

### **Mandate**

To ensure the **preservation and collection** of important artifacts and objects, data and records relating to:

- Shelburne County and its social, cultural and economic history, its diverse communities and their inhabitants and way of life;
- The Loyalist families of Shelburne County, their history and relationship to other communities throughout Canada and the world, establishing Shelburne as a centre of Loyalist history;
- Our links to other diverse cultures and groups which have been part of our County's history, including but not limited to our Aboriginal communities, the Acadians, the Welsh, the Planters, and African Nova Scotian post loyalist settlements;
- Our rich shipbuilding history, as the birthplace of the yacht, a key builder of boats for northern exploration and trade, and a specialist in the building of dories.

To establish, **maintain and operate** in the Town of Shelburne a public museum and archival complex to house our

collections and ensure their preservation, conservation and interpretation.

- To maintain and operate the Shelburne County Museum and its annexes and associated properties;
- To manage the operations of the Nova Scotia Museum Dory Shop and Ross Thomson House Branch Museums;
- To maintain other heritage properties owned by the Shelburne Historical Society.

To direct and encourage **research** aimed at improving the interpretation of our holdings, and to facilitate access to the collection for other researchers.

To undertake **interpretation, animation, education and programming** activities for our community residents, and visiting tourists:

- To present and display a changing selection of our collection;
- To host selected traveling exhibitions;
- To develop electronic tools to promote and share our heritage and culture;
- To provide information, technical support, and collaborative opportunities;
- To provide professional development and build professional resource;
- To pass on lessons of the past that can assist our citizens in their planning for the future.
- To **support and encourage development of strong partnerships** with:
  - Museums and archival sites throughout Shelburne County;

- Local heritage, cultural, educational and community organizations and societies;
- Municipal, provincial, and federal governments, departments, and agencies;
- Peer heritage associations;
- Our corporate and business communities.
- To **generate revenue** to support our activities and operations.

Through our new Board Workshop we have in place five Committees with Chairs as follows:

Finance Committee – Paul Richardson  
 Governance - Howard Roszel  
 Facilities - Gloria Beuree  
 Human Resources - Louise Lindsay  
 Communications - Kim Truchan

I believe if you look through previous fall newsletters you will find the statement “can you believe it, fall is here again and three of our museums are locked up solid and tight”. The Dory Shop and Muir-Cox Shipbuilding Interpretive Centre closed on 30 September and the Ross-Thomson House & Store Museum just closed its doors to the public on 15 October. With all of these closures the Shelburne County Museum has gone to its winter hours that are: closed weekends and holidays, open Monday through Friday 9:30 – 12:00, 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Highlights gleaned from the July 2010 report of Kim Truchan, Site Manager are:

- our grant request of \$1000 from the Municipality of Barrington was rejected;
- that she and Joan Preston are working on assessing the OHS

needs and requirements of the Shelburne Museum Complex (SMC) and have developed a list of priorities and future goals. Joan has considerable experience in this area and Kim acknowledges her work and ongoing commitment towards improving the OHS of the Complex for staff and visitors. She notes that this is a part of the HR Committee mandate and she and Joan have been reporting directly to the Committee of which Louise Lindsay is Chair;

➤ that she, under the encouragement of Paul Collins and with the blessings of the Board, joined one of the CMAP evaluation teams as the evaluation process of community museums covers all aspects of museum management and operations. Kim found this a great learning experience which will assist her, Board and staff in getting prepared for the 2011 evaluation of the Shelburne County Museum;

➤ that each of the Complex museums 360 virtual tours are complete and can be seen at <http://www.novascotiamuseum.com/vtours.html>;

➤ that the costumes at the Ross-Thomson House & Store Museum have been inventoried and work is in progress to have them cleaned;

➤ that she extends thanks to Mary Lee Gonzaga for her help in determining which costumes could be washed and which dry cleaned and for her help in the actual washing of some.

Highlights gleaned from the September report of Kim Truchan, Site Manager are:

- that she conducted interviews and gave the departing summer staff a brief questionnaire to fill out with very positive results from both
- that 22 people attended the opening reception for the exhibit of mosaics by Real Lachance and that Real's 'Guild Hall' piece sold at the opening and his 'Still Life – Vegetable Basket' sold a couple of days later;
- that this exhibit will be up at the Shelburne County Museum until 10 November;
- that this season from the Dory Shop one dory, one dory skiff and two dory coffee tables were sold;
- that she acknowledged the efforts of all of the staff in the days that preceded and followed the hurricane and closures of the museums on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> along with thanks extended for the dedicated help of Mick Fearn who was a new volunteer working with Milford Buchanan;
- that Paul Richardson, Treasurer, Christine Curry, and Kim have been working towards the goal of revising the chart of accounts and means of financial reporting.

### **Shelburne County Museum:**

**Below note the artifacts taken in by Finn Bower, Curator, since 2 June 2010:**

- < black wool frockcoat ca 1890's from Maxine Dorey, Welshtown

< document dated 1850 from Judith Hasen, Round Bay Ferry Road

< two publications 'Crowns' – Jacklyn O'Connell, Shelburne 'Quilts of Gee's Bend'

< one publication dated 1846 – Kay Bower, Lower Ohio

< Doll Carriage, blackboard with picture roll display & child's roll top desk – Barbara Robertson, Shelburne & Halifax

< Publication 'Donald McKay's Family' – Paul Hamilton, North Attleboro, Ma.

< Ironstone dish – Bob & Wanda Guay

< Several tin noisemakers ca 1950 – Robert Enslow

< Souvenir teacup – Sheila Feakes

< 25 items from circa 1770's through 1895 of Gideon White Family – includes Gideon White wallet, shoe buckle, brass coin, verification scale, sterling silver & coral baby rattle – Evelyn Aulenback, Liverpool, NS

< 26 items includes scrapbooks, publications, etc. kept by Olive Wessel – Ursula Veinotte, Lunenburg, NS

< Photo of – Shelb. Girl's Group 'Miss Canada Girls'

- Receipt Book
- Bridge Cloth with names of members of Bridge Club embroidered on cloth

All from Lillian (Atkinson) Blakeney, Winnipeg, Man.

< Publication – Blue Jacket Manual – Larry Seaboyer, Shelburne, NS

< Publication 'Mason's Division'  
stories of Jordan Bay & Jordan  
Ferry – Gerald MacAlpine

< Souvenir China Dish – Mary  
Lee Gonzaga

< 2 white woolen blankets – W.  
S. Shaw, Pleasantville,  
Lunenburg Co., NS

< 16 iron items – originally  
donated by Roy Smith

Visitor Comparisons for June, July &  
August of 2010 as compared to 2009:

Dory Shop 2010-2609 2009-3369  
down 23%

RTH 2010-1736 2009-1969  
Down 12%

Muir-Cox 2010-1575 2009-2130  
Down 26%

SCM 2010-2624 2009-3164  
Down 17%

**Photo of – Shelb. Girl's Group  
'Miss Canada Girls'**



*If interested this picture can be viewed  
at the Shelburne County Museum*

**Rear: Lillian Atkinson, Ann Ryer,  
Margie Sutherland, Iva Acker, Valerie  
MacKay, Gertrude Howard, Pauline  
Gosbee**

**Front: Joan MacAlpine, Marion  
Wolfe (Hogg), Irene Bellerby, Patty  
Robertson, Kay Ryer, Ann Marie  
Kennedy, Claire Robertson**

*The two Ryer girls are sisters of Beverly  
Huddleston for those of you who are  
'from away'.*

*Memories of Marion Wolfe (Hogg), 2<sup>nd</sup>  
from the left, front row.*

If I remember correctly we were part of  
a nationwide effort to sell war saving  
stamps to help in the Second World War.  
This picture would have been taken in  
1943 when I was in Grade VII in the old  
Shelburne Academy. I remember that  
Miss Laura Zwicker was my teacher.

Our aprons were red, I believe, with big  
pockets in the front for holding our  
stamps and the money collected every  
week or month. We each had a certain  
route and mine was on George Street &  
Elliott Street where I lived at that time.  
The stamps were twenty-five cents each  
I believe and the 'customer' would put  
these in this folder until it was full and  
then after the war they could be cashed  
in. At least I think that was the theory  
behind it.

I had just moved to Shelburne from  
Yarmouth in 1943 so it was quite an  
experience for me to be able to go into  
all these neighbour's homes and to get to  
know them. I remember Jenny Scott's  
Mother always gave me a cookie and  
Mrs. Nickerson would always go to her  
jar of coins in the pantry and give me the  
quarter (or 50 cent piece for two  
stamps). As young as I was I realized  
what a hardship this was for her to part  
with that money, but she always had it  
ready.

I think I remember we had small 'air  
force' style caps to go with our aprons.

It made us all feel very grown-up and  
important to be helping the war effort in  
this way, and we learned many other  
valuable lesson; a very worthwhile cause  
indeed.

*Here is one of many thanks received by Finn and devoted volunteer, Shirley Greenwood for their great work at the Shelburne County Museum along with a donation of \$90.00.*

8/8/10

Dear Finn and Shirley:

Thank you both so much for the great and generous work you did with me during my recent trip. In just four working days I hit pretty much all my goals – actually, it wildly exceeded expectations – because of all the work that other family and local historians had done. It was all there, ready for the taking.

I'll be in touch as any additional questions come up, but I think most of the research is already one and here with me. So, over the next year, I hope to write it up in book form and I will get the results back to you, my friends and fellow historians in Nova Scotia. Thanks so much!!

Signed:

Warm regards, Bill

William Thomas McDonald  
18 Ingersoll Road  
Billerica, MA

*A great job as always ladies!*

**Charitable Tax Receipts are available for all donations**

**For more information about our Museums and what they offer please visit our website at**

**[www.historicshelburne.com](http://www.historicshelburne.com)**

**ESTATE PLANNING**

The work of the Shelburne Historical Society relies heavily on the generous donation of our members and

benefactors. When considering estate planning please consider bequests to the Shelburne Historical Society. In Memoriam donations may be made to the Shelburne Historical Society or the Shelburne County Museum in memory of your loved one. This is a continuing way to honour friends or relatives, and is a much-appreciated assistance to either of the above noted

**Editor's Remarks:**

**PLEASE REMEMBER** – WE BUILD DORIES TO ORDER AND IN 2008 WE BEGAN A WOODEN BOAT RESTORATION PROGRAM.

Our Master Dory Builder will take your old but beloved boat and restore it to brand new!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

The Christmas Crawl will take place this year on Saturday, 13 November from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Taking part in the Crawl are the Shelburne County Museum, Totties Crafts, the Bean Dock, Charlotte Lane Café and the Whirligig Book Store. Each place will have special treats for those who drop in.

Have your card stamped by all five places for a chance to win a goodie filled basket. The basket will be on display at the Whirligig on Water Street.

What a great chance to start your Christmas shopping or perhaps finish up.

Speaking of Christmas our Historical Society Christmas party will be held on 12 December 2010 at the Shelburne County Museum. More details will follow closer to the date.

***SEE YOU IN THE SPRING  
HAVE A WONDERFUL WINTER***