

# NEWSLETTER

LOCATED IN BRESAYLOR • SASK • CANADA •  
MAILING: Box 33, PAYNTON, SK. S0M-2J0

2010

MUSEUM HOURS: 1-5 P.M. SUNDAY & WED - FRI &  
BY REQUEST WHEN POSSIBLE MAY TO OCT (306)895-4813

Dear Friends and Supporters of Bresaylor Heritage,

Well, spring here kind of rushed at us - in March. Then it turned tail and flounced off again. And now we're hoping it might come back for another try. The good part is that in its wake we have been left with moisture in various forms and so conditions going into seeding time have improved some hereabouts. Now...another Museum season approaches and once again there is a lot to do.

It is a special year commemorating 125 years since the North West Rebellion. In a small way we'll try to do our own "Back to Bresaylor Too" take on the year. And welcome suggestions as to what that might be. The Bresaylor Settlement, after all, was, albeit

for the most part unwittingly, participant in the events of that time. So let's do some remembering.

We've been approved for another Young Canada Works grant. Which means that we can continue with projects started. For sure, this is the year when we will digitalize the history book. And set up a Web page. Wish us luck on all accounts.

Thank you so much for your letters and continuing support. We look forward to your visits if possible, and to being in touch. On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Museum, I am yours sincerely, Velma Foster.

**A CALL TO RECALL REMEMBRANCES.** IN THIS THE 125TH YEAR SINCE 1885 AND THE NORTHWEST UPRISING, WE ISSUE A SPECIAL REQUEST -- DO YOU HAVE RECOLLECTIONS PASSED ON TO YOU FROM SOMEONE WHO WAS IN THE BRESAYLOR SETTLEMENT AND ALIVE IN 1885. OR, NEXT BEST THING, DO YOU HAVE RECOLLECTIONS PASSED ALONG SECOND HAND FROM SOMEONE WHO KNEW SOMEONE... AND IF SO, WOULD YOU CARE TO SHARE THEM WITH US - BY WRITING OR WORD OF MOUTH - SO THAT WE CAN PERHAPS ASSEMBLE A UNIQUE BRESAYLOR PERSPECTIVE OF THAT TIME. THERE ARE SEVERAL SUCH RECOLLECTIONS IN "BRESAYLOR BETWEEN THE BATTLE AND THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS" BOOK AND THEY ARE SO INTERESTING. BUT, JUST MAYBE THERE ARE SOME THAT WEREN'T REPORTED, OR MIGHT BE SEEN FROM A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE. THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO SHARE ANY STORY OR STORIES YOU THINK MAY BE INTERESTING.

**2009 EARLY BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW WINNER - SONJA MARGERISON, PAYNTON, \$85.**

## **ANOTHER YEAR - SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF 2009.**

We were fortunate last year to once again have received a Young Canada Works grant and so were able to hire Amber Peterson as Curator's Assistant. She started work in early June and so by the time of our annual Pot Luck Supper, work was well advanced on the Museum sign, which stretches 32' along the front of the property. Hopefully the rest of the fence on either side of the sign will be completed this summer. At least now there is no question of where and who we are. Also, the Highway Department did correct the spelling on the Bresaylor Road sign, and now the Museum is very accessible. Yes.

## **POT-LUCK SUPPER AND QUILT RAFFLE**

The annual Pot-luck Supper took place on July 26. As usual a delicious meal was enjoyed by all, followed by the raffle of the "Planted Posies" Quilt. The lucky winner was **Naden Hewko** of Macklin. Winners of consolation prizes - Gift Certificates, books, prints - were Lorna Carter, Anne Stephenson, Yvonne Cote, Jean Stewart, Jack and Bonnie Miller, Don Selte, Margaret Currie and Christine Pike. Complimentary tickets on this Summer's Raffle will be entered for Enola Valiere, Jamie Bugg, Jean Armeter, Ray Sayers, Keith Simkins, Jenna Rhinehart, Todd & Pam Webb, M. McEachern, Hudson Stewart and Helena Caplette. The \$20. Gift Certificate to someone present at the Supper was won by Helena Caplette.

Thank you to all who took part in the raffles, which netted just over \$1000. for the Museum, plus, proceeds from tickets sold by the Paynton Library & Paynton Seniors went to those groups.

Special thanks to the quilters - Marie Ferguson, Margaret Currie, Faye Falcon and Irene Larmour.

The **WORD-SEARCH PUZZLE** created by Margaret Currie using words associated with Bresaylor, was offered in last year's Newsletter. Eight people solved the quotation - Grace Woodcock, Barbara Greig, Bev Davis, Nadine Parohl, Sharron Walker, Mona Bullock, Harold Bullock and Wallace Gregson. Sharron Walker's name was drawn to be the winner. She received a blow-up copy of the postcard plaque from which was taken the message, "They are swell dancers in Bresaylor".

## **SUMMER RAFFLES - 2010**

- The **Early-Bird HALF-THE-POT** draw will take place on **JULY 1**. A single **\$1**. ticket is enclosed. We will enter more at your request.
- This year's major **Summer Raffle prize** is a beautiful, hand-stitched "**Umbrella Quilt**" made and donated by **Marie Ferguson, Margaret Currie, Faye Falcon and Irene Larmour** [see photo]. A book of tickets is enclosed and if you would like more let us know and we will fill them out for you. The draw for the Quilt and consolation prizes will be made at the Pot Luck Supper, Sunday, July 25.
- **Purple Martin Bird house raffle.** We are grateful for a special raffle draw this year - a Martin Bird house - or should we say, a **Purple Martin Bird Church** - built by **Wallace Gregson** and kindly donated to the Museum. It too will be raffled at the Pot Luck Supper. The only stipulation is that the winner will have to be able to pick up the prize as it is just too bulky to mail. So, if you're from far away, you might consider buying a ticket for someone close-by. Just a thought.

**HAPPENINGS - COMING & GOING...**

• Ross and Margaret Currie and family celebrated the 100th anniversary of their farm n.w. of Bresaylor. Everyone they knew was invited so it was a great party - lots of music [at one point, five fiddlers no less], food and visiting, and later a fireworks display [Wow!] [photo]

• The Bresaylor Museum hosted the fall meeting of the North West Museums Association. The meeting was held at the Paynton Pioneers Centre and members of the Paynton Farmers Market group provided the lunch.

• Readers may recall that in the last newsletter, mention was made of a book being compiled by the NWMA, spearheaded by president Gwen Zweifel and titled "Saskatchewan Women of Influence". The Bresaylor Museum has submitted the story of Mary Rose (Pritchard) Sayers to the committee. Now they are hoping to raise the final funds needed to publish, and are asking museums and individuals to advance payment for a copy of the book, which might run to \$40. Our museum is committing to purchase one or two books, and individuals might be interested in doing so too. It will help the project along.

• We are a bit earlier with the newsletter this year, but didn't quite make it for Mothers' Day.

• Now our thoughts are with one special Mother who has always remembered our Museum, Mrs. Audrey Berg (Norland). Audrey has been wrestling with her own Cancer demon, as has her husband with his. Now, sadly, last Tuesday, April 27, she received news that her son, Rick Berg, had died suddenly - in his 48th year.

Audrey, we can only offer our meager condolences, however inadequate, to you and yours. [Paynton area residents will remember how Audrey raised her four school-aged boys on her own after the death of her young husband. Now, they have grown up to do her proud.]

• **Paynton Farmers Market** was active again during last summer. And once again the Museum displayed books and other items from our Gift Shop. We think it's a good idea to grow our own food as much as possible - and learn to "Put Food By" - and the Farmers Market offers an incentive to do that. We'll be there again this year.

• And, by next year we'll know more about a certain "Alien Invasion" taking place in Paynton as we go to press. . . .

**YOUR VISITS & LETTERS - OUR VERY OWN RECYCLING BIN**

The first visitors of the 2009 season - kindred spirits in interest in preserving the history of our area - were **Bob and Shirley Hendricks** of Heinzburg, AB [mentioned in the last Newsletter for having just published "William Bleasdel Cameron, A Life of Writing and Adventure"]. They were enroute to Battleford to arrange pick-up of millstones originally meant to be part of a flour mill and lumber operation at Frog Lake 125 years ago, but which were never installed there because of the Uprising of April 2, 1885. To make a long story short, the stones are currently reunited with the original turbine and on display at the **Vermilion Heritage Museum**.

• It's always nice to have former residents or the descendants of former residents visit the museum, as they often find something in the collection that relates to their own families. One such early visitor of last season was **Bill Dobie**, son of Fern and the late **Wallace (Fern) Dobie**.

This was Bill's first visit and, not only did he take great interest in the museum, but he has promised to return this July with his toolbag and to help with whatever needs doing. Now, that's the kind of visitor we like. I'm sure we'll have more to report in the next newsletter. • We also had visits from several Bremner descendants, those from furthest away being **Dan and Evelyn McIntyre** of Eugene, Oregon, descendants of Charles and Emily Bremner. • And late in the season we had a pleasant visit from **Larry Sayers** from Calgary where he works in family services. Larry is the son of Gerald Harvey and Violet Sayers, and grandson of "Little Walter" Sayers who, sadly, died in a Japanese prison-of-war camp in Hong Kong in 1942. • **Twila Gagne**, granddaughter of Tom Lenny paid a visit as well. Her family lived for a brief while in the hamlet - around 1980 - and she and her two sisters went to school in Paynton. • Last year we were contacted by **Marlene Lewis** for Marilda Hilda, Little Joe Sayer's daughter and his twin great grandsons, Richard and Robert Lewis. A month or so ago I received a call from another member of that family, **Cindy Brune-Chalmers**, also granddaughter of Miralda, great granddaughter of Joe. She was interested in her connection to the family and to Bresaylor. • **Jim and Janet Shimek** report enjoying their "new home in Airdrie, AB. • **Bertha Warner** suggests a Cemetery Map that can be sold by the Museum, taken I would think from the list and map still waiting to be erected [ahem].

• A correction, I think, re the Regnier family. Cheryl Dennis writes that she and Phyllis Kennedy were not children of a second marriage as suggested in the last newsletter, but their grandparents were **Harvey and Rose Regnier**. • **Anne Stephenson** reports that she and husband **Stan** "both have our licenses renewed at 84 & 86 years!" • We missed **Cathy Dryhorub** at the Potluck Supper as she is waiting for "total knee replacement on both knees. We hope by this year she had the replacements done and feeling up to a visit. **Azelia Tesolin** of Cut Knife also needs "a lot of joint replacements and the waiting list is long."

• And on a positive note, these words from Wynne Richards, "Life is good, and I'm fortunate to have a very caring family. We will be having a Richards-Hemsley Reunion July 18 as a niece gets married at Lashburn".

• Ray Sayers keeps in touch, but we haven't seen any photos of his lovely garden for some time now. • Vilda Laing passed along information from Pat Gilbert about her son-in-law, **Murray Leslie**, son of the late John Leslie, who is doing underwater photography with U. of Victoria. His wife, Anne Marie Gilbert, also at the U. of Victoria, teaches Kinesiology. • Then there was a cheeky letter from **Louise Millhouse** with instructions about delivering the quilt which she was sure she was going to win. • So sorry, Louise, but Margaret Currie and I did deliver the quilt, only it went to Machlin, SK, to **Naden Hewko**. We decided to drive it to her as it was as cheap as mailing it and saved wrapping. We were served a lively lunch and enjoyed a visit with Naden and husband. And it's always nice to see new country. • **Bert and Lois Sayers** express appreciation for the efforts of the Museum workers

=====

••• 2010 SUMMER RAFFLE •••

=====

**Umbrella Quilt**



YCW 2010 Summer Student, Amber Peterson, not minding outdoor tasks

▶ learning to work with the chop-saw. ▼

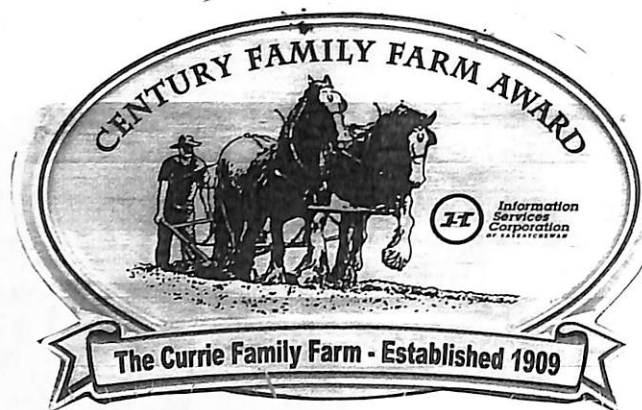


◀ building the structure for the sign

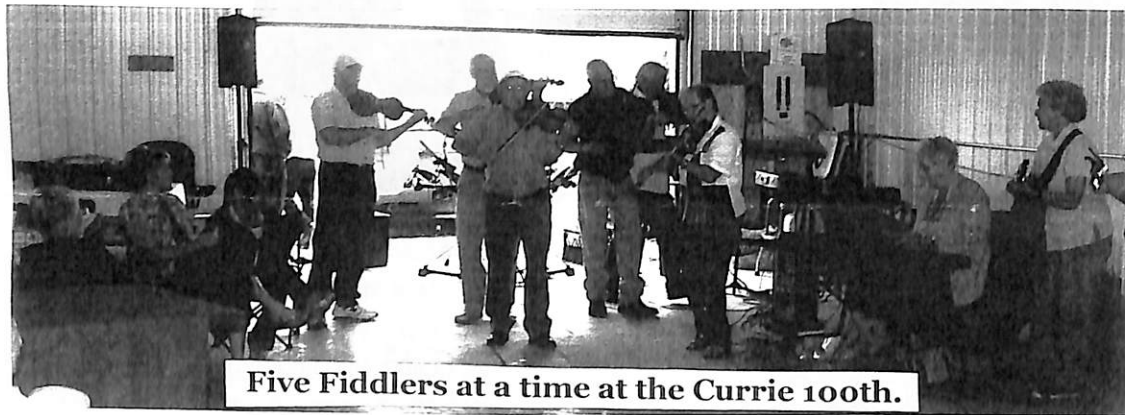


Sign structure taking shape along the ditch • Yellowhead Highway in front of the Museum ▶





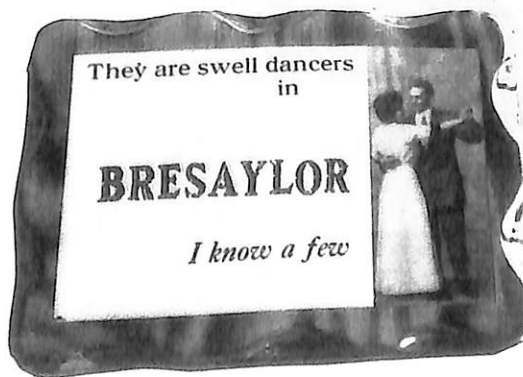
Currie Farm Commemorative 100 Year Marker.



Five Fiddlers at a time at the Currie 100th.



Last year's work-seek puzzle quote - "They are swell dancers in Bresaylor"



Velma and Margaret with Naden Hewko, quilt winner [centre], at her home in Macklin.



Lunch with Shirley Wishart in Victoria

and for the newsletter. Lois reports that Bert has fond memories of Bresaylor and "has vivid memories of Mary Rose Pritchard Sayers and is happy to see her honoured. . . Bert is in a battle against Cancer. . . Our family all say that Bert's strength and determination come from his strong Metis Ancestors." We wish him continued success in his struggle.

- **June Cote** now resides at Davidson Manor in North Battleford.
- **Doreen Sayers**, wife of the late Armie Sayers, writes, "I love getting the letter. I wish Armie was still here to enjoy it. Today, June 19, would have been his 85th birthday. • **Bev Davis**, Lashburn, SK, on June 22, after a much needed rain writes, "The rain has made me feel really good. It was so dry, with huge earth cracks on the tops of my hills. Some of them you could slide your hand right down into." • **Doreen Williams** wishes she lived closer so she could get to know where her Grandmother Ellen Harriett [Bremner] Miller, was from. Ellen was a daughter of James and Letitia [Fiddler] Bremner, the only surviving line of the James Bremner family. • **Barbara Housen** is "amazed...how many people you hear from and are in connection with." Yes, Barbara, and we enjoy hearing from all. • **Barbara Greig** of Winnipeg enjoyed solving the Word-seek puzzle and hopes they'll be a part of future newsletters. She also writes, "My husband and I are busier than ever and wondering how we ever thought retirement meant we would have leisure time." • **Vicki Reynolds** and daughter **Marie Taylor**, two of our Montana Taylors, still plan to come back and spend more time in the area. • **Sharron Walker** - loved the blow-up of the postcard - it fits in with her living room decor..."filled with stuff from my grandparents [Harry & Florence Bremner from Headingley] farm. It's like a little museum." [Maybe Sharron might send a few shots of her "museum" sometime.] • **Joyce Semenchuk** sent two clippings from 1962 newspapers for our files. Also, mentions that she lived beside Joe and Mary Rose Sayers in the late '50's. "I have a video of them riding in their buggy" . [ That would be wonderful to see.]

• And yours truly, at the behest of two wandering sisters, took a train trip to Vancouver, Salt Spring Island, and Victoria last fall. Between seeking out some relatives and long lost friends, I did spend a short visit with old friend **Shirley Wishart**. In spite of contending with too many health issues, she still has two - or is it three - books she wants to research. My best wishes are with her

• Some others who sent greetings include Marg Murray, Mary Siferd, Lorraine Fischer, Betty Nelson, Bob and Olga Halliday, Maisie Steele, Glenys Oliver, Doug and Shirley Phillips and more.

A few years ago a very nice person dropped by the museum and was, of course, ever after inundated with the annual Bresaylor Newsletter. She suffered it well and in fact became an interested and ardent museum supporter. She isn't connected to Bresaylor or area in any way except that she stopped in - once. I guess over the years we've become kind of a mutual admiration society. And after some flattering words coming from her way I thought it might be time to let others know that she deserves a few sent back to her. And the following quotation is why. It came in a letter last summer [She also asked that I save cancelled stamps for her - something I am pleased to do.] Her name is **Donna** and she lives in Slave Lake, AB. Here's what she wrote;

"For the past eight years I've led a student environmental club in the middle school where I work. With the money we've made from recycling drink containers we've bought huge shade and shelter trees for our school yard; they're the only trees on the property. We've also built and planted flower beds in our school yard, planted the community park in our downtown area, and ten! planters down mainstreet.

"We've never asked for a donation or discount on anything and are now making items for sale out of discarded items - bird houses are great sellers, made of old fence or barn board, construction off-cuts or driftwood. We are now preparing to make antiqued serving trays from construction off-cuts with bottoms decouped with stamps. We think tourists will like them."

Yea! Donna! You go girl!

OBITUARIES

+  
Guy Alan Lipsey  
May 30, 1938 - July 17, 2009

•  
Douglas Harris Sayers  
October 10, 1924 - August 1, 2009

•  
Sidney George Lewellyn Jones  
May 6, 1917 - October 20, 2009

•  
Barry John Boggust  
May 28, 1944 - October 22, 2009

•  
Anthony Joseph Chasse  
August 20, 1920 - November 18, 2009

•  
Edgar Alexander Morris Sayers  
December 18, 1920 - November 24, 2009

•  
Ethel Marian (Cave) Jamieson  
June 25, 1920 - December 24, 2009

•  
Avril [Sayers] Spence  
d. January 11, 2010

•  
Jessie Ann [MacAngus] Fitch  
March 29, 1913 - February 12, 2010

•  
Paul Valiere  
deceased March 7, 2010 @ 85 years

+  
And from the Maidstone area  
Thomas McClelland [who has researched and helped preserve Grand Cheviot history & records]  
deceased October 6, 2009 @ 90 years

POEM -

by Albert R. McGuire, Surrey, B.C.

I was raised by the banks of the Battle River,  
on an old Saskatchewan farm.  
The house was built from logs, sod, and mud -  
and so was the barn.  
It was there that I spent my best childhood days  
with Aunt Pearl and Uncle Fred.  
When the fall would come it was back home and  
to school - a time I did dread.  
It was here by the river my summers were spent.  
We drove and rode horses wherever we went.  
There were no automobiles to pollute the air.  
We were in no hurry, we always got to there.  
I have sailed the great oceans and rivers  
including the Rhine.  
Still the old Battle River will always seem fine.  
This was during the depression and most people  
were poor.  
And in a few short years I was off to the war.  
Then my childhood was over and Oh!  
What a shame.  
As the world forever after was never the same.  
These childhood places are all gone and I am an  
old man.  
I still dream of the Battle River and the "hole"  
where I swam.  
[thanks to Eva Inkster who submitted this poem]

**BRESAYLOR WORD-SEEK.**

Once again Margaret Currie has created a word-seek puzzle for our newsletter. There are lots of old time items on the list, the three names that make up Bresaylor and also some names that relate to 1885. Here is a clue. The saying is a Battleford's newspaper sports headline from 1913.

R	E	K	A	M	D	N	U	O	P	I	T	E	A
T	H	K	O	E	S	N	I	S	A	C	C	O	M
T	C	H	A	Y	K	N	I	F	E	S	B	K	S
I	O	D	L	L	C	B	A	R	G	E	R	E	E
P	T	E	W	A	K	C	K	N	F	Y	E	R	S
T	A	O	A	E	B	C	O	T	D	S	E	O	R
R	B	N	H	Y	O	T	U	L	O	O	P	S	O
O	W	A	S	N	E	B	I	D	K	S	E	E	H
F	A	C	N	C	R	A	L	S	E	T	E	N	T
W	E	A	I	E	R	L	T	E	A	R	T	E	E
O	B	R	M	T	H	A	W	Y	A	Y	R	W	G
C	K	N	R	U	H	C	L	G	U	J	E	E	O
S	E	F	I	R	E	O	X	E	N	L	K	R	L
R	P	I	C	K	R	R	A	E	B	G	I	B	S

The following words appear in the puzzle - horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Circle the letters. The leftover words spell the quotation - some letters are in place and the word divisions given.

Fort Pitt, Sod, Big Bear, Trail, Poundmaker, Tent, Log, Bremner, Teepee, Jug, Brew, Moccasins, Sayers, Oxen, Horse, Saw, Pick, Taylor, Canoe, Barge, Duck Lake, Ice tongs, Churn, Shawl, Batoche, Scow, Hay knife, Kerosene, Bannock, Tea, Fire, Trek, Lye, Thaw, Cot (2).

\_\_ e \_ a \_ \_ o \_ \_ e \_ e a \_ e \_ \_ y \_ o \_ a \_ \_ i \_ \_ e \_ s .

**Good luck!** A winner will be drawn for a prize of some sort -- **July 25** at the Potluck.

# gift shop

**SOME BOOKS:**

- RECIPES & REMEMBRANCES, June's Family & Friends Cookbook (June Taylor, that is) 20.00
- WILLIAM BLEASDELL CAMERON, A Life of Writing and Adventure by Robert W. Hendricks 20.00
- WHAT LIES BEHIND THE PICTURE? A Personal Journey into Cree Ancestry by Vernon R. Wishart 24.95
- SAYERS FAMILY COOK BOOK 14.00
- TWO MONTHS IN THE CAMP OF BIG BEAR by Theresa Delaney & Theresa Gowanlock, with a new introduction by Sarah Carter. 19.95

[ASK FOR COMPLETE LIST]

*Not handy to use your Gift Certificates in our Gift Shop? - Cash them in on any of our Raffle Tickets!*

**DONATIONS TO THE BRESAYLOR HERITAGEMUSEUM ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. A DONATION OF \$5. OR MORE ENTITLES YOU TO BECOME A CARD-CARRYING SUPPORTER OF BRESAYLOR HERITAGE AND TO RECEIVE THE NEWSLETTER.**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE \_\_\_\_\_



**PURPLE MARTIN CHURCH-HOUSE RAFFLE**  
an 8 suite unit made by Wallace Gregson  
**TICKETS \$1.00 DRAW JULY 25, 2010**  
• Proceeds to Bresaylor Heritage Museum •