F-JEJJ SELETTER

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2011

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...

As this Newsletter is nearing completion so April is giving way to May. And although spring hereabouts is approaching reluctantly, it seems downright warm and friendly compared to its treatment of our neighbours in southern Saskatchewan and Manitoba. They are just now being overwhelmed with a blizzard beating down on already flooded miles of rivers and farmland. We can only wish them luck in the days ahead with what they're having to deal with.

Last year's museum season went well for us. Once again we had Amber Peterson for Curator's assistant. And then Bill Dobie gave of his time to do major roof work. Ross Currie built a support for the Cemetery marker and it got put in place with the help of Ted Bugg and Rosemary Currie. Amber built a section of decorative fence so heavy that we had to call on Ted and Ross to help heave it into place. So much

rain meant that the grass got ahead of the mowers and the sheep. So we're grateful for the help of the R.M. of Paynton with cemetery grass cutting. Now we plan another season of continuing to get things done. And we will continue to be grateful for any help that comes our way. Finally, the Bresaylor history book is going to be digitized. We will be having DVDs and soft cover printed copies available. See the enclosed form and let us know if interested.

We look forward to another museum season and to your visits. If those aren't possible, we do cherish your letters. And your support is our lifeblood and deeply appreciated.

Do have a safe and happy summer. On behalf of our Board of Directors, who are Ross Currie, Margaret Currie, Don Ferguson, Marie Ferguson, Helena Caplette, Ted Bugg and Marion McDougall, I am yours Sincerely, Velma Foster.

2010 EARLY BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW WINNER - MARY ANN JONES - \$91.

POT LUCK SUPPER AND SUMMER RAFFLES - JULY 25, 2010

A nice sized crowd gathered at Bresaylor for the Annual Pot Luck Supper last July. As always there was a bountiful supply of food, thanks to all present. Weather was agreeable, allowing for lots of visiting before and after the meal.

The lucky winner of the "Umbrella Quilt" was Helena Caplette. Gift Certificates to the Museum Gift Shop went to Ryan Phillips, Ron Sulz, Brenn Currie, Harold Bullock, Waverly Ollenberger and Lorraine McDonald. Complimentary tickets on the 2011 Quilt Raffle will be entered for Jenna Marynowski, Jill Bugg, Gerry Waterhouse, Glenys Oliver, Cherryl Dennis, Doreen Sayers, Jay & Donna Box, Penny Cholowski, Helena Caplette and Rose James.

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

The winner of the draw for the Purple Martin Bird-Church, made and donated by Wallace Gregson, was Tahnayah Bear.

The solution to the Word-Search Puzzle, created by Margaret Currie, was a quotation from a 1913 Battleford newspaper about a football game between Bresaylor and Battleford, played in Battleford. The headline quoted - "Bresaylor Defeated By Local Kickers" - can be found on page 448 of the Bresaylor history book (also on display in the Museum). Those who entered a solution to the puzzle were Bev Davis, Maisie Steele, Katherine Finn, Wallace Gregson, Barbara Greig, Betty Martin, Lottie Tebb, Harold Bullock, Mona Bullock, Kay Ness, Nadine Parohl, Marcel Lacoursier and Eileen Lacoursier. A draw was made, and Katherine Finn's name picked to win the prize, a Saskatchewan Roughriders 100th Anniversary T-shirt, somewhat fitting for a year when the province paid special attention to its beloved football (you know, that other kind of football) team.



FOR THE FIRST TIME
SINCE WE'VE HAD
QUILT RAFFLES SOMEONE
PRESENT AT THE
POT LUCK SUPPER
WON THE QUILT.
IN 2010 THAT WAS
HELENA CAPLETTE.



Finally, Door Prizes were drawn from names of those present at the supper. The \$20. Gift Certificate went to Marcel Lacoursier; other prizes to Thelma Pope, Anita Peterson, Roxanne Sjogren, Shiela Spence and Debbie Veit.

THANK YOU to all who participated in the Museum raffles, an important part of our funding. Last season's raffles netted over \$1000. for the Museum, and proceeds from tickets sold by the Library and Seniors went to those organizations.

SUMMER RAFFLES - 2011

- The Early-Bird HALF-THE-POT draw will take place on July 1. A single \$1. ticket is enclosed with this Newsletter. We will enter more for you at your request.
- Once again Quilters Margaret Currie, Faye Falcon, Marie Ferguson and Irene Larmour have made and donated another special hand-stitched masterpiece this time it's a "Kool Kats Quilt" (see photo). A book of tickets is enclosed. 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 at Bresalylor on July 24.

The 2010 season got off to a good start with our receiving a grant from Young Canada Works In Heritage Institutions. Once again Amber Peterson was hired as Curator's Assistant. She was able to continue sign and fence work started the year before; also, to help with painting, flower beds, window repair and, inside, recording the book and magazine collections to our Library File and starting recording the general Museum collection to digital. As well, minding Museum tours as needed.

Bill Dobie. A highlight of the summer was the arrival of Bill Dobie from Vancouver (and from fly-fishing) ready to go to work repairing and fixing. Remember, in the last Newsletter I mentioned his promise to return, toolkit in hand, to help us out. He was as good as his word. He braved the high roof of the main Museum building to put a cap (a rather fancy creation it is too) atop the chimney. That put an end to leakage down onto the artifacts. We were impressed with Bill's agility and daring, to learn later that he needed a knee replacement - which he has since had done. He also did major structural work on the porch roof and reshingled it. But that was a lot closer to the ground. All in all, it was fun to have Bill here for a week and we are grateful for all that he did in that time. Bill suggested he might come back this summer. That would be nice.

While Bill was here, Don and Marie Ferguson offered to show him where his father (Wallace) and uncles and aunts had spent their school years. Amber and I went along for one marvelous, if bumpy, ride through the pastureland - now part of Ferguson's Stock Farm - and Don was able to point out where farmyards and buildings had been. In fact, the house where the Dobie family spent the winters - close to Battlebank School - was in what is now Ferguson's yard. Bill's uncle, the late Doug Dobie, kept a diary of the years 1936-7 when he was 13-14 years old. It included a map of the area which helped locate where the Dobie neighbours lived - in the Battlebank School District. Many of their stories are in the Bresaylor book.

YOUR VISITS/LETTERS/CONTRIBUTIONS...

We are grateful to Margaret Wilson for her words of encouragement "Thank you for another year of work in preserving the area's heritage and fostering the many friendships between all generations proud of their Bresaylor heritage". . The Museum was closed and no one at home when Don Rahrick called in last July, but he left a note - "I had a good visit with your dog." So, it seems that Boomer can be a friendly host. (woof) . Judy Winzoski wrote about a visit of two years ago "that will remain with our family" - that is, the family of Minnie (Taylor) Inman. · Barbara Housen sends "Sympathy to all who have lost loved ones recently." Many of those losses are shared by all of us. Friends of the museum included. She mentions the loss of Averil Spence and adds, "Rod and Avril's daughter Bonnie was a wonderful light in the lives of my parents Hugh and Vera Petty. She shared her love and talents so generously with them." Bonnie (Spence) Schimschock was at the Charles Sayers Reunion last summer and we're pleased that she also paid a visit to the museum. • Sadly, Lois Sayers has bid farewell to her life partner, Bert, who "lost his battle with cancer...just over a month after his eldest brother Edgar (2010 Obit.)." • Mary (McDonald) Sifert too lost her partner Harold after a lengthy illness. • Peter Taylor is now resident at Pine Island Lodge in Maidstone. It was nice that he attended the Pot Luck supper with daughter Karen Bulloch. . Our neighbour and friend Sadie (Dutton) Bugg has also taken up residence at Pine Island Lodge. At 94 years it was no longer possible for her to live in her own home. She seems fairly content and comfortable in her Lodge lodgings. • Word comes from Karen Krein. that her mother Betty (Currie) Churchman too has settled in nicely - at the Cut Knife Special Care Home. She is in good health but having some difficulty with short term memory. • Edna Marynowski writes that "All is quite well with me - still independent and in my home..involved with church, bible study and Tai Chi twice a week." •

Joyce (Millard) Semenchuk - wrote to introduce herself and sent a DVD made from an 8 mm film taken by her father, Walter Millard, when he was the Pool Agent here in the late '50s. It includes a tiny segment

of Joe and Mary Rose Sayers in their horse drawn buggy. Those who caught a glimpse of it on the little screen at the Pot Luck supper we delighted. Later Joyce dropped by and we had a chance to meet in person. • Other items contributed to our archive/library include a memorial book put together by the family of Samuel Douglas

McCready and donated to the Museum by Kay (McCready) Critchley.

• And Alvin Myhre brought a copy of his book of "Family Memories and Ties" - a Story of the Taylor family, that is, the original Bresaylor Taylor family. Both of these publications will be available to anyone interested in having a look at them.

•We don't see Bob and Gerry Waterhouse very often anymore since the late Mable Waterhouse is no longer with us, so it was nice to hear from them, that they still think of us. As do many old and new friends of Bresaylor heritage, some who this past year wrote encouraging words - Clara (Bowes) Sulz, Anne (Chilibecki) Stephenson, Cherryl Dennis, Maisie Steele, Jay and Donna Box, Peggy (Fidler) Zaraska, Kelly and Shirley Rowland, Clara White, Leah A. Crossguns, Lorna Carter and many many others.

Ray Sayers, "Community Pillar". Last year when doing the Newsletter I had misplaced an item from the Meridian Booster, paying tribute to Lloydminster "Community Pillars" of years past. I had intended to include mention of it then and will do so now. It acknowledged Ray Sayers as a Lloydminster "Community Pillar" and gave a summary of his career. Since Ray only received a sentence of two in the Bresaylor history book, here's a bit of fill-in.

After finishing high school he took correspondence courses in typing, bookkeeping, business management and commercial law. He arrived in Lloydminster in 1948 and trained as a grain buyer. Then served wheat Pool Elevators in Borden, St. Walburg, Northminster and Aberfeldy. The dust was starting to bother him, so he was glad when the opportunity came to become assistant Credit Union manager in Lloydminster. He became full manager 6 months later and all in all spent 37 years as General Manager of Credit Unions in Alberta, Saskatchewan and B.C. Since retirement in Abbotsford, BC, he keeps a beautiful yard and we always post a few of the photographs of his flowers for viewing when he sends them. When returning to Bresaylor, Ray always visits in the area of his old home, now farmed by Ross Currie. The memories mean a lot to Ray. How nice to have had him and his son present for the Pot Luck Supper.

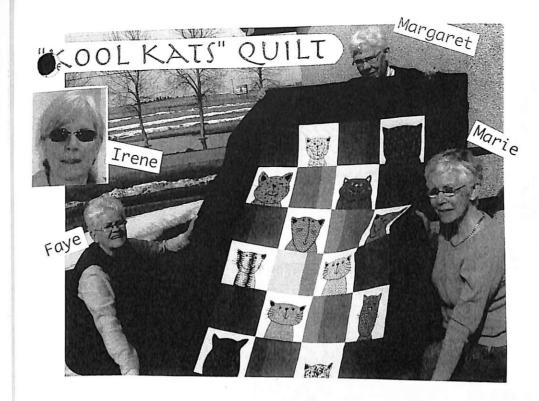
We were pleased, in late October, to have a visit from the Saskatchewan Archaeological Society, as part of their special 2010 Bus Tour of Sites relevant to 1885

 Word from Gwen Zweifel regarding the "Saskatchewan Women of Influence" book is that it is well on its way with some delays regarding copyright issues. She couldn't give us a definitive date for publishing, so we'll just have to wait.

In last year's Newsletter we made mention of an ALIEN INVASION about to take place in Paynton. Now Paynton has its own spaceship, courtesy of the ReArtCycle Group Inc assembled from scrap metal gathered from area farmyards. Mariann Taubensee and Ellery.

Russell, Paynton artists, were part of the Invasion, which also brough for weekend of other activities to town, including a Junk Jam Workshop for children of all ages. It was a fun event!







AMBER - STILL DOING CHOP-SAW





FIXER ON THE OTHER ROOF



WITH DON AND MARIE FERGUSON







VERNON, SHIRLEY AND BILL WISHART CLIMBING TO PIKE'S PEAK



HONORED ANCESTORS

ISAAC BATT 1725 -1791 & HIS CREE WIFE, - NAME & AGE LONG SERVING HBC TRADER KILLED ON THIS SITE BY TWO GROS VENT INDIANS

UNKNOWN • WHO MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED AT THE SAME TIME.

 MAY THEY REST IN PEACE FROM HISTORICAL RECORDS - PLACED BY DESCENDANTS .



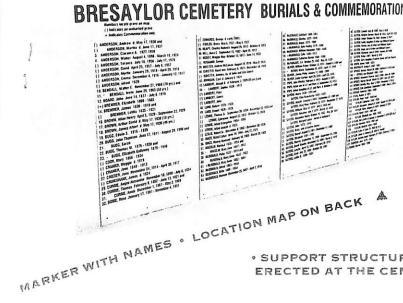
WHAT'S ON PLAQUE

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Can be used For **GIFT SHOP** Purchases \mathbf{Or} For RAFFLE TICKET Purchases

BRESAYLOR CEMETERY

BRESAYLOR CEMETERY BURIALS & COMMEMORATIONS





· SUPPORT STRUCTURE FOR CEMETERY MARKER - BUILT BY ROSS CURRIE · ERECTED AT THE CEMETERY BY TED BUGG, ROSEMARY AND ROSS CURRIE.

2010 - REMEMBERINGS

leing the 125th year since the Riel Rebellion made 2010 special. Events were held to mark that time - at the Fort in Battleford, at Poundmaker Reserve and other historic sites in the area. At the Bresaylor Museum we assembled a temporary exhibit of photos and information about the Bresaylor Settlement in 1885 & effects the uprising had on the community. The photos are of some of the residents alive at that time. Recollections of descendants written into the Bresaylor history book were displayed, and we invited further personal stories from that time. [This exhibit will be left up for another season].

Descendants of Charles Sayers Sr. held a family reunion at Delmas in July. The recent passing of Averil (Spence) leaves June (Cote) the only remaining member of that generation of the family. We were pleased that several of the guests from the reunion were able to visit the

Some of the Bernard Sr. Blais family also had a reunion. Those who paid a visit to the museum surprised me with the information that they had spent their early childhood years on their farm across the tracks south of Bresaylor. I thought they had always lived in Delmas only. So that's a chapter missing from the Bresaylor history book and we apologize for the oversight.

Fortunately, their family story is in the Delmas history book.

In response to our request for stories of the Rebellion passed down to family members, Cliff Spence wrote that his grandfather Edwin Spence was a member of the Home Guard while in the barracks at Battleford, where the Spence family sought protection when trouble broke out in 1885. Edwin told about delivering a message from Battleford to Fort Pitt - likely to Supt. Francis <u>Dickens</u>, who was in charge there at the time. Cliff writes that when Edwin started his return trip "he was chased into the North Saskatchewan River by some Indians. He got into the river with his horse, grabbed the horse's tail and reached the safety of the other side. He said the Indians shot some arrows at him and had a big laugh at having chased him into the river but did not come after him."

A follow-up note to this recollection: As I write this we are at that time of year when the N. Saskatchewan River is breaking up - April 20 this year actually. In "Footprints In The Dust" Doug Light records that in 1885 Supt. Dickens and his men left Fort Pitt for Battleford on April 15, just after break-up when there was still ice the river, a treacherous journey down-river - and in an open scow. So, likely Edwin Spence too was dging ice flows as well arrows on his way back to the south side of the river. Treacherous indeed, but being on horseback he would have made it back to Battleford long before Dickens and his men did - they arrived on April 22, almost a week after embarking.

Cliff Spence's great grandparents came with the family to the Bresaylor Settlement in 1883. His grandfather Edwin Spence was a young man at the time. He later married Margaret Sayers and eventually they settled north of Maidstone and raised a large family. Cliff grew up north of Maidstone as well. The Spence family story is in the Bresaylor history book.

Commemorative Plaque.

And that brings us to another interesting event that took place - last September. Descendants of Spences and Wisharts (Shirley Wishart has often been mentioned in these dispatches) placed a commemorative plaque at Pike's Peak n.w. of Maidstone. The event being thus remembered took place almost 200 years before, in 1791, when Isaac Batt, a trader for the HBC out of Manchester House on Pine Island, was murdered by two Gros Vent Indians. Isaac Batt and his native wife, likely also killed with him, had a daughter, Nestichio, who married James Spence Sr. and from that union descended most if not all of the Spences who later came to the Bresaylor Settlement. Also, proud descendants of this same couple are the Wisharts - Vernon, William Settlement. William and Shirley. Their family story is recorded in "What Lies Behind The Picture?" Sharing this common ancestory - of being descendants of James Spence and Nestichio - brought the Wisharts - of being descendants of James Spence and Nestichio - brought from P Wisharts and Spences together. They made an exploration of the area reaching south from Pine Island and concluded that it is possible that their ancestors were killed in the vicinity of what is now known as Pike's Peak, on land homesteaded by Gus Kenderdine and still belonging to his grandeen Pale (Seekarthewan's pivotal grandson Bob Kenderdine. A memorial to Gus Kenderdine, one of Saskatchewan's pivotal painters and art teachers, was erected on top of the peak some years ago by his family. And, on a very wind. on a very windy Sunday last September, another small marker was placed on the hill as a memorial to the second sec

memorial to Isaac Batt and his wife. (see photos) After much detailed research, Cliff Spence has made the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush and the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case for Isaac Batt's wife having been with her bush as a case with the case of case with the case of case with the case of case with the case with the case of case with the case with the case of case with the case with the case of case with the case with with her husband when he was killed. It was generally the custom of early traders to have their native wives with them when they travelled. Indeed, the women were often the reason that the raders supplied the control of the reason that the raders survived at all, and certainly helped to make life on the trail more amenable. Cliff has written several pages wherein he creates a possible scenario of how events might have occurred on that follows: on that fateful day of now over 200 years ago. I'd be pleased to make a photocopy of his narrative available to anyone who might be interested.

OBITUARIES

Marie Pidwerbeski April 10, 1919 - June15, 2008

Marion (Gregson) Waldegger March 2, 1926 - September 21, 2009

Harold Siferd deceased November 21, 2009 at 92 years

> Thomas T. Smith 1925 - December 29, 2009

Bert Savers deceased January 5, 2010 at 78 years

> **Tim Morris** d. January 19, 2010

Craig Massie June 16, 1933 - March 21, 2010

Averil (Savers) Spence June 23, 1914 - January 12, 2010

> Infant Ruby McMannis March 13 - March 13, 2010

Sharlaine (Carpentier) Boddy April 24, 1945 - August 3, 2010

George Miller Dobie June 30, 1935 - August 13, 2010

Audrey Dorland January 4, 1935 - August 16, 2010

Alvin Travis Anderson March 9, 1960 - January 22, 2011

Harriet Josephine (Massie) Tayler September 4, 1915 - March 21, 2011

> Colleen Carol Marie Cote June 5, 1959 - March 4, 2011

John Peterson 1928 - March 11, 2011



What I find compelling about the Wishart family and Cliff Spence is their sense of intense pride in their ancestors. Pride in the bold young men - many originally from the Orkney Islands - who built the Fur Trade, and in their Native wives who made the Fur Trade possible. Vernon Wishart's book, "What Lies Behind The Picture?", speaks to the celebration of the awakening of knowing of that dual heritage and what a powerful force the knowing can be in lives so touched. These are true descendants of the Fur Trade, no less.

Doreen Williams too is a Fur Trade descendant - of James and Letitia (Fidler) Bremner, original Bresaylor settlers. She sends these words, written in a reflective frame of mind, "Re - Louis Riel Rebellion which was only 125 years ago. One realizes what a young country we live in. We've accomplished and contributed so much. I love my country dearly. Every part of Canada has its own beauty."

These are appreciative words with which most of us would concur, I'm sure.

BRESAYLOR WORD-SEEK by Margaret Currie

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

Rush Lake, bell, flag, ink, Boyko, recess, water pail, lunch kit, swings, Joe Wilson, horse, chalk, toilet, barn, S.D., Federal, Arbor Hill, H.English, Lily Taylor, Topp, discipline, Bryn Thomas, Battlebank, Nellie Green.

e _a A. _o_ _e_ _ _e_e__e_ _ _e_a_ _o_' _ _i_ _o_ _. CONGRATULATIONS
VINESSA (CURRIE) & LES FOSTER
ON THE BIRTH OF TWIN BOYS
JACK RONALD & BEN GARY FOSTER
JULY 15, 2010



BRESAYLOR HERITAGE MUSEUM

<u>gift shop</u>

BOOKS: [partial list only]

- RECIPES & REMEMBRANCES, June's Family & Friends Cookbook (June Taylor, that is)
 20.00
- WHAT LIES BEHIND THE PICTURE? A Personal Journey into Cree Ancestry by Vernon R. Wishart.
- SAYERS FAMILY COOK BOOK 14.00 • THE 4 RIVER TRIPS(1988,1989,1990
- a 1992) by Donald Dobie 10.00
 THE PALLISER EXPEDITION: The Dramatic
- THE PALLISER EXPEDITION: The Dramatic Story of Western Canadian Exploration, 1857-1860, by Irene M. Spry 16.95 TWO MONTHS IN THE CAMP OF BIG
- TWO MONTHS IN THE CAMP OF BIG BEAR by Theresa Detaney & Theresa Gowanlock, with a new introduction by Sarah Carter.
 19.95
- A PRAIRIE MEMOIR, The Life and Times of James Clinkskill, 1853-1936 by S.D. Hanson 19.95
 THE KELSEY PAPERS with a new introduction by John Warkentin
 25.00
- PEQUIS, A Noble Friend, by Donna Sutherland.
- GREAT STORIES FROM THE PRAIRIES,
- edited by Birk Sproxton 22.95

 THE PLAINS CREE, an Ethnographic, Historical
 Comparative Study by David G. Mandelbaum
- A PEOPLE ON THE MOVE: The Melis of the Western Plain by Irene Temier Gordon. 10.

2 <u>New fun Reads -</u>

- SASKATCHEWAN BOOK OF MUSTS, THE 101 PLACES EVERY SASKATCHEWANIAN MUST SEE
 \$13.95
- SASKATCHEWAN BOOK OF EVERYTHING EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT SASKATCHEWAN AND WERE GOING TO ASK ANYWAY
 \$14.95

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NEWSLETTER