

NEWSLETTER

LOCATED IN BRESAYLOR • SASKATCHEWAN • CANADA
(306) 895-4813 • MAILING - PO Box 33, Paynton, SK, S0M-2J0

2015

OPEN JULY & AUGUST • SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY • 1-4 pm
& BY REQUEST WHEN POSSIBLE - MAY to OCTOBER

Dear Supporters of
Bresaylor Heritage. . .

Another "season's promise" is in the ground, and we are watching the sky for another season's hope - i.e. rain.

Briefly, last year we were pleased to welcomed Margaret Webb, Vicki Dutton, and Vinessa Currie-Foster to our Museum Board of Directors. In September Vinessa organized the construction of a Clay Oven at the Museum and was planning activities around the oven come this May.

Activities relating to canoeing - her passion - and interactive voyageur and fur trade programming. Vinessa shared those plans with us at our April meeting.

Alas. On the early morn of April 25 Vinessa's life was taken from her in an accident which left her husband, twin boys and baby to cope with their terrible loss. And so many of us to grieve the untimely loss of such a shining light



We dedicate this edition of the Newsletter to our special friend and colleague, the late Vinessa Currie-Foster.

This was one of those springs when the museum finds itself host to early visitors, who, unwittingly, help to hurry us along at getting things ready for the season. Special visitors this year were members of the team of The Long Way Home. They are walking (and riding) to raise awareness about Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in the Armed Services and other risk-prone Services. Our campground served them and their horses well for the night of May 12. Marianne Taubensee, partner with Vinessa in the Clay Oven project, invited everyone to bring goodies to be baked in the oven, to bring pot luck dishes, and to contribute to The LongWalkHome.

The museum was open for the occasion. The guests enjoyed touring the museum, visiting and hearty eating thanks to a fine assortment of food. In all, it was a pleasant event, a good way to use the oven, and it helped us all feel encouraged to carrying on.

Ellery Russell wrote a tribute to Vinessa, and also a fine article for the NewsOptimist covering Kate McKeachem and her team. Part of those items are included on the next page.

Now, we do plan to have special events which make use of the Clay Oven. One will be at our annual PotLuck Supper July 26. So bring something to bake in the oven. And plan to take part in brainstorming the future of the Museum (see below)

A heartfelt thankyou to all for your continued support of Bresaylor heritage. We wish you a safe and happy summer. On behalf of the Museum Board of Directors - Marie Ferguson, Margaret Currie, Helena Caplette, Marian McDougall, Don Ferguson, Ross Currie, Margaret Webb and Vicki Dutton, I am Sincerely, Velma Foster

Brainstorming at Bresaylor

2014 Early-Bird Half-the-Pot DRAW WINNER - JANET/KEN McDONALD - \$80.

... LAST SUMMER'S POT LUCK SUPPER AND RAFFLES ... JULY 27, 2014 ...

• SUMMER QUILT RAFFLE: "Owls" won by Margaret Peterson & "Wheels of Mystery" won by Faye Falcon. Consolation prizes - Gift Certificates went to Louise Blais, Margaret Currie, Naden Hewko and Mary Ann Jones (\$20.) & Helena Caplette, Laurie Dutton, Joyce Ford and Louise Blais (\$10.).

Complementary tickets on next year's Quilt Raffle went to Helena Caplette, Leanne Huard, Lottie Tebb, Joyce Ford, Tyler Gust, Ronald Jobin, Peggy Fiddler, Kathy Fleet, Elsa Ferguson and Shawn Sproule.

• THANK YOU TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE RAFFLES.

The WORD-SEARCH PUZZLE solution for last summer was a quote by Anne Frank - "Laziness may look inviting, but only work gives you true satisfaction."

Those who solved the puzzle included Katherine Finn, Nadine Parohl, Bev Davis, Sharon Walker, Jack and Sharon Inkster, Christine Pike/Maureen Bexson, and Joan Currie. A name was drawn for a winner and so Christine and Maureen won the prize of garden gloves



• MORE THAN SUPPER THIS SUMMER •

POTLUCK IDEAS POTLUCK SUPPERS SUNDAY
----- July 26 -----

PLEASE JOIN US AT BRESAYLOR ON JULY 26
• COME IN THE AFTERSOON • 2 PM • FOR
A BRAINSTORMING SESSION ON THE
FUTURE OF THE BRESAYLOR MUSEUM.
• STAY FOR POTLUCK SUPPER at 6pm.
and the "BRIGHT SONGS" QUILT RAFFLE.

BRAINSTORMING - -

• YES, LET'S BRAINSTORM. EVERYONE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN BRESAYLOR HERITAGE. JOIN US TO HELP DETERMINE THE BEST FUTURE OF THE MUSEUM

• HISTORIANS ACKNOWLEDGE BRESAYLOR'S SPECIAL HISTORY. WE HOPE THEY WILL JOIN US FOR THIS DISCUSSION

• BUT, ESPECIALLY, WE WANT DESCENDANTS OF THE EARLY BRESAYLOR SETTLEMENT TO INDICATE THEIR SUPPORT - OR NOT - OF THEIR HISTORY, AND IF THEY SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE MUSEUM IN THAT HISTORY, OR NOT

* OF COURSE, ALL DESCENDANTS OF ALL BRESAYLOR SETTLERS ARE URGED TO JOIN THIS DISCUSSION. THOSE AMONG THE MOST SUPPORTIVE, OFTEN THE MOST ACTIVE, IN THE PRESERVATION OF THAT HISTORY.

• ENCLOSED IS A FORM WHICH WE URGE YOU TO FILL OUT & RETURN TO US. EVEN IF YOU CANNOT ATTEND, YOUR THOUGHTS ARE IMPORTANT SO PLEASE ADD AS MUCH COMMENTARY AS YOU LIKE

• WE WILL KEEP IN TOUCH REGARDING ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS
• Personally, I know I have written, perhaps too often, about this issue. It has been on my mind for a long time. It's time to get serious, to make a decision. Velma

• **2015 EarlyBird Half-the-Pot Draw will take place on July 1.**

A single \$1. ticket is enclosed with the Newsletter. More can be entered at your request.

Summer QUILT RAFFLE

"Bright Songs"

& Consolation Prizes •

• The draw will take place at the

Bresaylor Annual

Pot Luck Supper

July 26, 2015

[A book of tickets is enclosed.

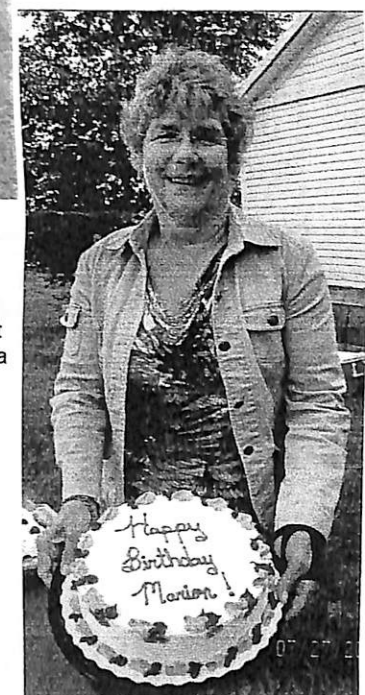
More will be entered for you at your request.]



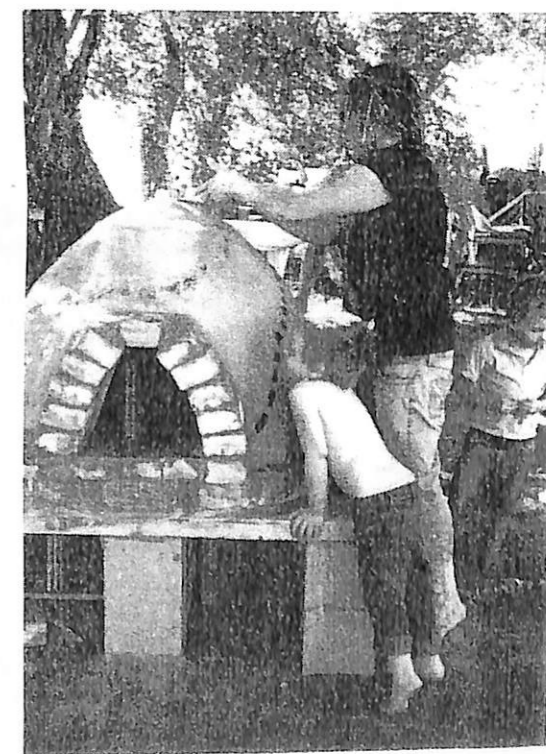
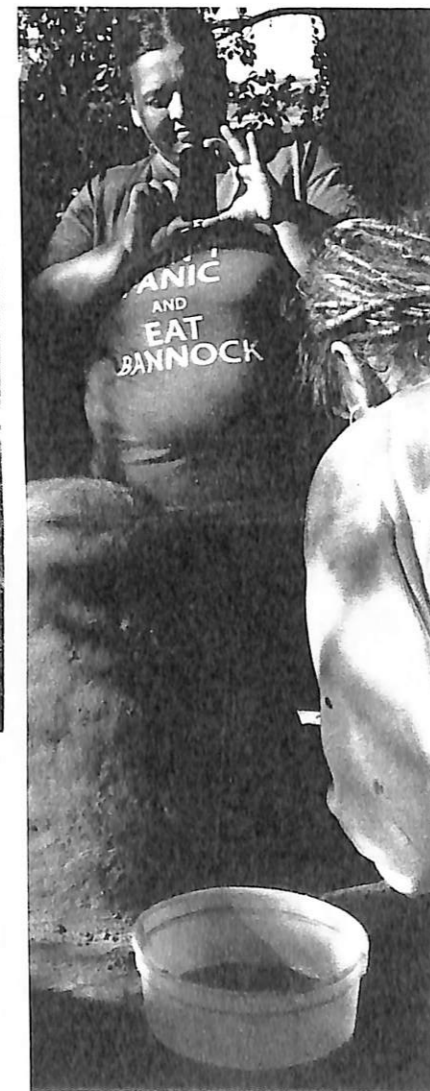
Last August 2014 the Milton & Rose Dobie descendants got together for a fun filled weekend of visiting, song singing, story telling and of course lots of refreshments. This event was held at Bill Dobies farm in Choiceland Saskatchewan. In attendance were the families (or parts of families) of Donald Dobie, Wallace Dobie, Doug Dobie, Grace (Dobie) Woodcock and Jean (Dobie) Gee. Missing was Ross McLeod son of Isobel (Dobie) McLeod. Aunt Graces family was represented the most with cousin Bill (eldest son) providing most of the entertainment. He drove all the way from Ontario which was a story in itself. Cousin Wayne (son of Doug Dobie) had his transmission blow up on the way but not even a \$4000 bill would stop him as he arrived one day late with his trusty companion Murphy and a new transmission. It was so nice of Velma to drive all the way from Bresaylor to say hello to the gang. Can't wait for the next one. by Bill Dobie

GIFT CERTIFICATES

Can be used For GIFT SHOP Purchases Or For RAFFLE TICKET Purchases



Building A Clay Oven at Bresaylor



Tribute . . .

"Vinessa was a loving wife, mother, sister, daughter and friend to so many people. Vinessa was a well known member and friend of this community. "Before becoming a mother, Vinessa was a member of the Village of Paynton council for several years and a volunteer fire fighter. "Her infectious laugh always lit up the room and her zest for life inspired those around her to do more. A few years ago Vinessa started her own business called Clearwater Canoeing. It was a natural fit as Vinessa was passionate about the environment, history and tourism in Saskatchewan and was a member or director on many boards. She seemed to know people all across Saskatchewan and beyond. She was also a huge supporter of local artists and was always thinking up ways to help others. "She took care of her dad for several years after an oilfield accident put him in a wheelchair. Her father had many health issues, but Vinny was always on top of the most natural and safest ways to treat him, sometimes teaching medical staff a thing or two with her tireless research. "Vinessa's time here was far too short, but her laugh and smile shall remain with us forever. God bless her." -- by Ellery Russell, Paynton

The Long Way Home - Kate MacEachern's walk, by Ellery Russell. "Kate started in Nipawin and travelling through Alberta she will finish at Chilliwack, B.C. The crew, including MacEachern's 12-year-old son Tyler, stopped in Bresaylor for the night May 12. The Long Way Home team members were treated to a potluck supper hosted by Velma Foster of Bresaylor. In the morning Tish Boychuck, one of the supper guests and a Paynton village councillor, joined Kate on her walk from Bresaylor to Paynton. Kate is a brisk walker, so even with a break, the crew covered 13.6 kilometres in just under three hours. "I was honoured to break bread with the group at The Purple Palace in Paynton for lunch. I was able to learn more about why these people are walking and advocating for this cause and how wide spread the PTSD issue is. "PTSD is as old as time, but a stigma has been put onto mental health issues making people feel weak for seeking help or even admitting that they have a problem in the first place. In many cases, when left untreated, PTSD can lead to suicide as the effects are so powerful.

"The timing couldn't have been more poignant as Paynton and area have recently lost a special member of our community to a tragic motor vehicle accident leaving behind her family who were in the van with her at the time of the accident. "Vinessa Currie-Foster will always be remembered by our community and her loss has been felt far and wide as she was an amazing force to be reckoned with. Vinessa would have been there to support Kate and the walkers, but in a way, she did at Bresaylor on May 12. Vinessa was the driving force behind building a clay oven to help increase tourism at Bresaylor Museum. She also planned to have school trips come through to use the oven when visiting the museum. This oven was lit in Vinessa's honour and cooked food for The Long Way Home crew along with their supporters, proving Vinessa's legacy lives on and will continue to do so for some time. Please go to Kate 's website, Facebook or Twitter page to find out more about how you can support this dedicated team."

THE LONG WAY HOME LEAVING BRESAYLOR •



"PRAIRIE BIRDS"

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

- WARBLER
- GOLDFINCH
- BLUEBIRD
- SWALLOW
- MEADOWLARK
- CHICKADEE
- WOODPECKER
- REDPOLL
- SPARROW
- MAGPIE
- PIGEON
- ORIOLE
- HERON
- EAGLE
- RAVEN
- ROBIN
- GULL
- LOON
- OWL
- CROW
- JAY

Here is another word-seek challenge by Margaret Currie. Seek out the Prairie Bird names, which may appear in the puzzle horizontally, vertically, diagonally, backwards. Circle the letters as you find each word. Words might overlap by a letter. Then all the leftover letters will be needed to complete the quote below. Some letters are in place, with spaces for the missing. Good Luck!

"A _ I _ _ _ O E _ _ ' _ I _ _ _ E _ A U S _ E
 I _ _ A _ A _ A _ _ E _ , I _ _ I _ _ _
 _ E _ A U _ E I _ _ A _ A _ O _ _ ."
 JOAN WALSH ANGLUND

Upcoming...

• **BRESAYLOR MUSEUM ANNUAL MEETING -**
 JUNE 10, 8 pm at the Museum.
 Everyone welcome.

• THE FAMILY OF ADRIEN & JUNE COTE INVITE YOU TO A CELEBRATION OF THE LIVES OF JUNE AND JOANNE • June 27. [Private Family burial at the Bresaylor Cemetery] 3 pm • Everyone Welcome • Picnic BarBQ/Campfire • George Cote farm Bring chairs, drinks. Please drop a line so we can plan for numbers: <Westernvicki@gmail.com> George Cote 1306 441 4930 Vicki Dutton 1306 441 6699
 • CELEBRATION OF LIVES OF EARL AND JOY (MAXWELL) SHIMEK August 22 Interment at Radisson Cemetery, 11:00 followed by catered lunch at Radisson Community Hall, 12 noon. Please respond by July 1, 2015 by email to Diane at dtobin@island.net or 250 954-2023.

SOME THANKYOUs ARE IN ORDER •

• To the Clay Oven construction project instigated by the late **Vinessa Currie-Foster** and **Mariann Taubensee**, Paynton artist, and directed by **Jay Kimball**, potter from Mervin. And to participants **Holly Schneider**, **Donna Schneider** and **Kim Gardner**; assisted by many helpers to arrange cement blocks, bricks and bottles for the base, then to tramp clay, mix and mold cogs to form the oven, and many other details. Always present and assisting were Vinessa's family - husband **Les Foster** and twin sons **Ben and Jack** - and **Ellery Russell**, **Karen Ryan** and visitors who happened by.
 • To our constant quilters for providing another special prize to Summer Raffle: **Margaret Currie**, **Marie Ferguson**, **Faye Falcon** and **Irene Larmour**.
 • To the Bresaylor Cemetery repair crew - **Ross Currie**, **Ted Bugg**, **Bill Caplette**, **Lyle Currie** and **John Bugg** - for straightening gravestones. Also, for providing equipment, tools and materials required to do the job. The cemetery looks so much better.



THE LONG WAY HOME HEADING TO PAYNTON



- To the RM of Paynton for doing such a good job of grass-cutting at the Bresaylor cemetery.
- To Ross Currie for helping arrange the burial of Jason Lee Graden in late 2014.
- To grass cutters and weed wackers of grounds around the museum ahead of the Potluck supper.
- To **Bill** and **Helena Caplette** for repairs to the picnic tables.
- To **Ross** and **Lyle Currie** for providing lively entertainment at the Potluck supper. Those guys are good.
- To **Maggie Webb**, who has come onto our Board again, for helping with spring cleaning at the Museum. And also for seeing to replacing the blinds, and then to inviting Wendland Ag Services to pay for them.
- To Wendland Ag Services for agreeing to sponsor replacement of the blinds.

NEWS, LETTERS, VISITS, WORD EXCHANGE ...

The **Paynton History Book** is progressing nicely. **Marie Ferguson** and **Roxanne Valiere** and a small crew of very organized, hard workers are assembling volumes, so to speak. If you haven't done so, get your story in as soon as possible. Mentioned before were early visitors to the Museum. Almost overlapping that visit was a quick stop by **Reg** and **Kate Wearley** from Montana. Reg is wanting to find out more about his ancestor, **Cleophas Sayers**, brother of Henry Sayers. They had to hurry off home, but perhaps will make another trip up this way. Does anyone know anything about Cleophas Sayers? We received many letters indicating disappointment at the Parks Canada decision to NOT designate the Bresaylor Settlement a National Historic Event. Instead, they decided to enhance Fort Battleford's coverage of events involving the Bresaylor people during the Riel Rebellion by commissioning a series of paintings on the subject by a Metis artist. **Ray Heighley** was chosen to do the paintings. A good choice as he has done some fine works on Metis History. A grand opening is to take place this summer. Which is all fine. Hopefully, the survival of the museum at Bresaylor will also be seen as worthwhile. Support for which we hope to quantify at our July 26 Brainstorming. [Put another way, Who Cares.] I was honoured to have been invited to the **Milton/Rose Dobie** family reunion. I only caught the end of it but it seemed like everyone had a great time. **Bill**, with the help of his wife, **Charline**, did a super job. We were pleased to have visits to the Museum from several of those travelling to or from the **Dobie** reunion, including Bill's mother **Fern** and brother **Jim**, who bypassed us the year before. It was also nice to have visits from several **Foulds** descendants last season. **Susan Shacter** is one very interested in her ancestor's connection to Bresaylor history. In September she was "about to return to school as a third year student studying Sociology, Computer Science and Native Studies at the U. of S." And I believe it was **Neil Foulds**

whose father lived in Bresaylor, but I've forgotten his name. **Heather Pollock** writes about **Doreen Williams**, descendant of James Bremner, who visited us in 2012. "Doreen loved the entire trip but I think the visit with you folks topped it off." Doreen has just sent word that **Jim Caplette** has died. Jim was a true character of many talents who authored two very funny books, "Haywire" and "Older Than Dirt".

Sadly, the middle daughter of Peter and June Taylor - **Beverly Jean Wood** - has lost her battle with brain cancer. Beverly was instrumental in publishing the "Recipes and Remembrances" collection in memory of June Taylor; the family gave copies to the museum to sell. Her cousin, **Cecille (Webb) Tuttosi** also passed away, the last of the George and Molly Webb family. From the youngest of **Marcel** and **Robertine (Lavoie) Durupt**, **Jeanne Karlenzig**, "Our family is spread far and wide across Canada, Europe and China. Everyone of us is grateful for your drive in preserving the heritage of the area that my mother and father always spoke fondly of. Whether we lived there or not, we feel that it is a piece of our heritage".

And from **Bob Kendriks** (who with wife **Shirley** assembled an extensive archive and book on **William Bleasdel Cameron**), some pithy comments re: Parks Canada. "Forget... Parks Canada... Look to Big Oil who is always willing to look good in the public eye and will shell out big bucks for projects such as yours." He went on to mention a recent project, helping Paul Sutherland hunt for the old HBC south trail between Ft. Pitt and Ft. Edmonton. Bob also mentioned the DocZone video

"**Mystery of the Bell**", a good story about what happened to the Bell of Batoche. **Kay Critchley** sent an item about a donation of \$1m. to the Bruce Peel Special Collections Library (U. of A) to establish "The Prairie Roots Endowment Fund" dedicated to preserving Prairie history. **Karen (Churchman) Krein**, reports that her mother **Betty (Currie) Churchman** will be 95 this fall. **May Wakelin**, declares that she "really can't do much anymore but sit and knit, crochet and sew." Seems like that's a fair amount to do at that. Others that we heard from this past year include Martha (Davis) Meikle, Merrill Taylor, Waverley Ollenberger, Vivian Metherell, Marg Murray, Doreen Sayers, Phyllis Milligan, Leah Cossguns, Ray Sayers and many more. Your letters are always treasured.

Finally, from **Vilda Laing**: "**Best Wishes to all who struggle to keep the memories alive.**"

DONATIONS
To the
BRESAYLOR
HERITAGE MUSEUM
Are Tax deductible.



Peter St. John and Barbara Huck continue to produce beautiful looking as well as interesting, informative books through their publishing company Heartland Associates. We've just received their latest, "In Search of Canada's Ancient Heartland" by Barbara Huck and Doug Whiteway. Check their website for many more. *429 57*

*We're looking for volunteers
for Curator's Assistant
- Treasurer
- Co-editor - 2016 Newsletter*

OBITUARIES

Lawrence Joseph Regnier
d. August 16, 2013

Dora Omilon
October 20, 1913 - August 24, 2013

Roseline Alvina (Sayers) Haryett
d. October 9, 2013

Merle (Sayers) Andersen
June 20, 1922 - May 19, 2014

Burnia Edna (Lennie) Colwell
September 30, 1922 - June 21, 2014

Jason Lee Graden
May 14, 1970 - September 4, 2014

Beverly Jean (Taylor) Wood
January 10, 1951 - October 1, 2014

John "Jack" Dale Tokle
March 20, 1946 - November 21, 2014

Hugh Logan Critchley
d. January 18, 2015

Mary Edith June (Sayers) Cote
November 23, 1923 - March 1, 2015

Joy Shimek
November 11, 1920 - March 8, 2015

Cora Alice (Cote) Douville
November 11, 1933 - March 22, 2015

Vivian Alberta (Dutton) Whitney
September 9, 1920 - March 23, 2015

Cecil McTaggart
May 13, 1927 - March 27, 2015

Carl Rolsted
d. March 10, 2015 at 78 years

Vinessa Barbara Anastasia Currie-Foster
April 3, 1980 - April 25, 2015

Cecille (Webb) Tuttosi
1936 - April 26, 2015

James Roderick "Jim" Caplette
September 16, 1924 - April 28, 2015

