

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

BRESAYLOR HERITAGE MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC 1994

Dear Supporters of Bresaylor Heritage...

Summer is coming all too quickly. And I am once more trying to hasten the dispatch of this another Newsletter. It was meant to arrive with Spring, but, sorry to say, it didn't.

The past year was a fairly quiet one at the Museum as we continued to mail out history books and to catch our wind in the wake of the previous year's frantic activities.

Speaking personally, I feel that this season will be a more productive one as far as improvements to displays and the upgrading of our archival area are concerned.

With the history book project behind us, we are now trying to make decisions about the future development of the Museum. Just what should our priorities be and what resources do we have to realize them. I welcome suggestions - and offers of assistance - from anyone interested in any aspect of the heritage of Bresaylor and area.

I hope that a visit to the Bresaylor Museum is on many of your agendas for this summer. We look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,
VELMA FOSTER

P.S. Next year is the 90th anniversary of the province. Should we plan something special?

CURRENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BRESAYLOR HERITAGE MUSEUM: Maggie Webb (chairperson); Margaret Currie (past chairperson); June Taylor (vice-chairperson); Helena Caplette (secretary); Velma Foster (curator/treasurer); Ross Currie; Yvonne Carpentier; Don Ferguson; John Guinan.



Some Highlights of the Past year: We continued to dispose of the history books; we served lunch at several special events; we provided a roast beef supper to the Barr Colonist Memorial Wagon Trek when they camped at the Ferguson Stock farm; we celebrated the final payment made to the printers for the history book, and were rained out - or rained in actually, as that's where we took cover to partake of our pot luck supper; we had a Threshing Bee on Thanksgiving Sunday; we continued to maintain the Bresaylor Campground and to cut grass at the Bresaylor Cemetery; and, of course, the Museum was open to the public on a regular basis during July and August and by request from June through October.

Some Plans for the Coming season: Re-roofing the Museum office building; upgrading some exhibits; setting up a reasonably accessible archive area; producing a brochure to promote the museum; starting work on a large outdoor map of the area. Perhaps some markers will be placed at the Cemetery. It will be a busy season.



Additions to the Museum Collection included the following:
Photo - Bresaylor store interior. Michael Lambert, of Victoria, B.C., donated a copy of a photo of the interior of what was later the Stephen's store and eventually Petty's Store in Bresaylor. The photo, purchased at auction, shows a cushion with the name Bresaylor clearly visible in the foreground and a calendar at the back of the store with the date, 1914. At that time Bill Pothier, married to Maggie Taylor, owned the store. Mr. Lambert (not connected to the early Bresaylor Lamberts apparently) is a collector of publications and paper items on prairie history, and we are happy that he contacted us about this photo.

Minute Books etc. donated by the Bowes family: 1) Bresaylor Ladies' Aid Society, Presbyterian - United Church; 2) Bresaylor Community Hall; and 3) The Snow Plow Club. These documents are a valuable addition to the collection.

HISTORY BOOK UPDATE - The Bresaylor history book is fast becoming history. There are a couple of dozen copies left, and that's it folks.

A bit of an update on the distribution of the books: Bernice McDonough donated a copy to the Regina branch of the Saskatchewan archives in memory of the Alex Taylor family. And the Donald Dobie family donated a copy to the Association of Manitoba Archives (who in turn placed it in the University of Manitoba archives) in memory of the late Muriel (Mrs. Donald) Dobie.

The gift of a history book to a public institution is a commendable way to honor ones loved ones, and at the same time, to make a book available to a larger audience of interested people - for all time. If anyone is interested in such a donation, let us know before all of the books are gone. One institution that should yet receive a copy is the Geneological Association of Alberta in Edmonton. Also, the Alberta archives should have a copy.

COMMEMORATIVE QUILT PROJECT UPDATE.

June Taylor has assembled all of the squares of family names received to date. This is the last call for contributions of a square, as June is anxious to have the project completed. So far the quilt looks just great. We should be able to display it next summer.

HERITAGE CROP. There will not be a heritage oat crop this year. We regret to report that Donald Innes, who was the one responsible for the threshing bee project coming to Bresaylor, is seriously ill. Our thoughts are with Donald who has been such a good friend of the Museum.

THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

STILL AVAILABLE

• "Footprints In the Dust" by Doug Light \$29.50

• "The Other Side of Rebellion. The Remarkable Story of Charles Bremner and his Furs." by Margaret R. Stobie \$10.50

• "The Sands of Time" a reprint of the Battleford Historical Society Publication "The Cree Rebellion of 1884" by Ross Innes \$18.50

• "Sayers Family RECIPES" \$9.

NEW ARRIVALS:

• "Haywire" by Jim Caplette "...a collection of stories by a natural born recycler, do-it-yourselfer, tinkerer and pack rat." In "Haywire" Jim Caplette (who is a grandson of Louis Caplette) recycles the stories of many of the people and events of his life into some very funny yarns. Anyone who doesn't enjoy a bit of colorful language and a lot of bellylaughs should stay away from this book. \$14.95

