

NEWSLETTER

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

1998

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

DEAR SUPPORTERS OF BRESAYLOR HERITAGE:

Finally we're getting the Newsletter together...and GREETINGS to all! After a very mild winter, spring arrived early here. When May is as warm as July, one feels obliged to do the yard and garden work. The inside tasks (like Newsletter writing) get set aside. Now, June has brought some much needed rain. But, alas, it also brought frost - for several nights now. So much for putting those bedding plants out early!

How nice to have heard from so many this past year. I know that some of you are tending ailing loved ones, perhaps spending time at the bedside of partners who may not be able to communicate as they once did. It's rewarding to imagine that the Newsletter might offer something to share, reminiscences of old friends and acquaintances, some recollections of good and bad days gone by.

This year has brought us closer to the twinning of the Yellowhead Highway. When that takes place, the edge of the highway will come right up to the Museum. Because of this closeness, we have the choice of having the buildings moved or not. Likely we will choose to remain where we are because of the tremendous disruption of a move. Access to Bresaylor will eventually be from where the campground entrance is now. Once again we are discussing future directions for the museum. Will the museum eventually have to leave Bresaylor? Where should it go? Perhaps you have thoughts on these matters?

For now, we look forward to another Museum season. We aren't planning anything special this year. There is painting and other repairs that need attending to. If you are in the area July 26, drop in for our annual Pot Luck Supper.

Meanwhile, thank you for your continued interest in the Museum and support of Bresaylor Heritage. We look forward to hearing from many of you, and, perhaps, to a visit? Sincerely, Velma Foster

P.S. Each year visitors with connections to Bresaylor visit the Museum. Last summer brought a James Bremner descendant in the person of Archie Early from Terrace, BC, grandson of Angus and Ellen (Bremner) Miller, daughter of James and Letitia. Also, a visit from a Cairns family descendant - Mrs. Blair Art of St. Albert, AB. A personal acquaintance of mine from years ago in Calgary, Shirley Wishart, spent a couple of days here checking out her connection to the Spence family. Howard and May (Kamp) Wakelin have often visited the Museum. This past summer we also had a visit from May's brother, Len Kamp. And, on the Thanksgiving weekend, Leonard Sayers and son, Macky and family from Ottawa, and daughter Wendy from Vancouver paid a visit - on a rather blustery day, as I recall.

on behalf of the Board of Directors, who are June Taylor, Margaret Currie, Helena Caplette, Don Ferguson, Ross Currie, Velma Foster, and new member Marian McDougall, who we welcome to our cause.

SOME OF YOUR LETTERS - Excerpts & assumptions:

Katie (Leslie) Mitchell reports that she looks after Genevieve Neufeld, who is 96 years old...and in a home in Surrey. "I see her quite often." (Henry Neufeld was the Pool agent at Bresaylor from 1932 - 1937.) "Mrs. Neufeld was a relative of the Regnier family... I see Agnes (Sayers) Smith at the Legion every Saturday afternoon. She still dances and looks very well. So I give her my Newsletter to read, which she enjoys."

Irene (Nichols) Huffman wrote that Katie had visited her - they hadn't seen each other for over 50 years. Bud Regnier (from England): "...got the last Newsletter and the flood of memories it brought back....Evelyn certainly took me down memory lane from the first crocus in the spring, hardly before the snow had left the ground to the cold and frosty days of late autumn when we used to pick and eat the dark red rose hips. I can remember the times I used to ramble along the railroad or sometimes having a horse back ride through the sandhills, many a Tiger Lily I picked and I also came across the wild orchid. We used to call it the Lady's Slipper. A favorite spot to find it was along the railroad when picking the wild strawberries.....I read with sadness about the passing of Artie Taylor, Kenneth Taylor, and John Nichols. Artie and I started school together. We were 6 years old. We sat together and Miss Endicott was our teacher.....John Nichols came to Federal School about two or three years after. I can remember it as if it were yesterday. John had broken his elbow and the doctor made him carry a 3 lb. lead pail filled with small stones so it would straighten and strengthen his arm."

(Note to Bud: Yes Katie Mitchell is the Katie Leslie who was in your grade at Federal. Also, Evelyn Platt's maiden name was Mack.)

Cont'd>>>>>



MUSEUM GIFT SHOP

SEND FOR A LIST OF ITEMS (AND PRICES) AVAILABLE IN OUR MUSEUM GIFT SHOP... BOOKS, PRINTS, T-SHIRTS, CARDS AND LOCALLY MADE CRAFT ITEMS.

◀ NOW AVAILABLE>>>Note Cards featuring the main Museum bldg. Pkg. of 10/\$6. or single cd.-\$1.

Charles D. Denney: "I hope that the present area can be preserved as a memorial to the original inhabitants....Perhaps some of the original buildings could be replicated. The livery barn, and feed lot. The railway station etc. Have you a plan on which you have marked all the buildings?"

"Look who's making suggestions--for someone else to carry out.

"I'm still here, however, and I can still tickle a type-writer. And be political. And be interested in who is who. Wish I could be more involved."
(Mr. Denney is a young 97 years.)

Bert & Lois Sayers: "We really enjoy the newsletter, keep up the great work"

Yvonne Carpentier: "Say Hello to everybody for me...thinking of you all often, as always".....

Ray Sayers with a reminder that we neglected to mention that **Whilma Hall** passed away September 6, 1996. Also, a correction for the history book, page 404, 4th line down should read: "Whilma Hall informs us that **Mrs. Alex Sayers** was the first president of the W.A." (She was president for 25 years). Ray goes on to add, "As a youngster, I can remember how much work and effort my mother put in to help St. Anne's Anglican Church meet expenses. Chicken Suppers at the Bresaylor Hotel and later the Community Hall. Teas in Andy Taylor's Store. Mother used to write to Eaton's & Simpson's Dept. Store for donations of materials and stamped runners, table cloths etc. The ladies would do all of the fancy work and then have a sale.I have many fond memories of Bresaylor as a child and as a young man. It was a great community full of wonderful people."

Margie Rumbell writes that she enjoys "reading the news of Bresaylor and Paynton districts....As a child I spent many summers at 'The Old Homestead' - home of my grandparents, **Canon W.H. & Anne English**, s.w. of Bresaylor. My mother, **Norah (English) Gray** took me, my sister and brother from Regina to our grandparents' home where we spent delightful summers."

Edith Land: "Have received our History Book...Have been able to spend some time on re-reading the stories and have enjoyed it immensely."

Elaine Brooks: "For some reason, I did not know earlier on that the book was being assembled (or I would have ordered it at first printing) and would have written up on my father "**Harry**" Sayers (page 287). He graduated from Saskatoon Normal School in 1915, taught in Saskatchewan for about three years, then went to Edmonton to study law at the University of Alberta. He graduated in 1922, set up his practice in the hamlet of Killam, Alberta, and he and my mother (Laura Hammill of P.E.I.) were married in December 1922. My two brothers and I were born in Killam and in 1936 we moved to Edmonton where my mother died in 1951 and later my father in 1972. Both are buried in Edmonton."

Donald Dobie: "...will try to get my old friend in Duncan, **Sid White**, who spent a couple of falls working in Bresaylor, around 1933, to give us his recollections of working in the area, mostly at harvest time, I believe."

Florence (Inman) Jones: "I realize a great deal of work went into compiling this book and all who participated deserve a great deal of credit."

[Ed. note: Years ago, when we were first collecting material for the history book, Florence Jones sent in the Inman story. Then we didn't hear from her again. Until, a couple of weeks ago, a pleasant surprise! She phoned to say she had finally seen the history book and wanted copies. As it turned out her life in the intervening years had been tied up in several moves necessitated by the Vancouver "rotting building" syndrome - which most will have heard of by now.]



SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PAST YEAR

The Museum got off to an ambitious start with a visit from the **Paynton School students**. Thanks to help from teachers and parents things went fairly smoothly.

Our Museum people took charge of activities in which the children participated. June Taylor did wool carding; Helena Caplette supervised butter-making; Margaret Currie made rhubarb jam and baked buns on the wood stove; Margaret Webb had the older children build an outdoor fire, make bannock, and cut sticks for weiner and bannock roasting. Velma gave each group a tour of the Museum. Vince and Noelle Sayers were special guests.

By lunch time there were fresh buns and jam, home made butter and bannock. Weiners and juice were the only part of the meal not prepared by the children.

We hope the visit was worthwhile for the students, and that we can do something similar again soon.

DONATIONS TO THE BRESAYLOR HERITAGE MUSEUM 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.



Diana Rubidge demonstrating wool carding

The **Wool Workshop**, planned for June, ended up taking place in conjunction with our Heritage Day, Aug. 3.

There were a dozen participants and Diana Rubidge tried to teach us the basics of carding and spinning.

Visitors to the Museum were welcome to participate. Harold and May Wakelin's granddaughter, **Jessica Wakelin**, visiting from Iowa, took the opportunity to try the spinning wheel, and she was a natural at it - could hardly be dragged away for supper. Let's hope she has found a long-lasting hobby.

The 1997 **Heritage Day** ended with the usual **Pot Luck Supper and Summer Raffle Draw**.

Winners of the draw were: **Stewart Lane** - \$50. cash; **Bev Davis** - \$25. cash; **Leo Valliere** - \$25. cash; **Jean Ammeter** - Hand-painted T-shirt; **Gift Certificates** - to Mildred Roberts, Rose Ramsay, Wayne Cameron, Jack Miller and Ed Ness. **Complimentary tickets** for this Summer's Raffle will be entered for Mary Steele, Louise Shermerhorn, Betty Prince, Bert Taylor, Lynette Ferguson, Walter Steele, Gabriel Spence, Ellis Taylor, Diane Blake, Azelia Tesolin, and Jean Ammeter.

HISTORY BOOK REPRINT - "BRESAYLOR BETWEEN the Battle and the North Saskatchewan Rivers". There are a half dozen copies of the second printing left. If interested, this is your last chance to get a copy.

Also, the WESTERN DEVELOPMENT MUSEUM in Saskatoon is compiling a collection of history books. If anyone would be interested in donating a copy of the Bresaylor book to the WDM that would be appreciative.

Accessions: Some additional artifacts were donated to the Museum this past year. We were pleased to receive Air Force uniforms used by John Tobin. Another item of interest was a carriage used for all three children of Mrs. Lizzie (Topp) Jones.

"RED RIVER WEST"
a celebration of Metis culture
in Duncan, B.C., July 11, 12, 13
For information contact
Frank Camp, Box 165, Ucluelet, BC,
V0R-3A0 Ph 604 726-4207

SOME THANK-YOUS ARE IN ORDER

Once again we are appreciative of the generosity of many people who helped out in one way or another:

- For the generosity of our All of our **Supporters** - for donations and for participating in our annual Raffle.
- To **Marcel Lacoursiere** who cut the grass at the Campground and helped cut the grass at the Cemetery last summer.
- To the many ladies of the Bresaylor and Paynton area who supplied pies and sandwiches for catering at the Tobin auction.
- Now, already this season, to **Ron and Jean (Bugg) Leitner** for cutting grass and tidying up at the Bresaylor Cemetery.

SOME UPCOMING EVENTS:

The **Bresaylor Museum's Annual Pot Luck Supper** will take place on Sunday, July 26, 1998, at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and take part. After supper the draws will be made for the winners of **The 1998 SUMMER RAFFLE** - Once again the Raffle will be for Cash Prizes & Gift Certificates and other miscellaneous prizes. A book of tickets is included with this Newsletter for those who wish to participate.

CRAFT SALE/FLEA MARKET
at Bresaylor - August long weekend.
Watch for more details Let us know
if you would like to participate 895-4813

NEW AT THE MUSEUM GIFT SHOP - Publications.

- "Wheat Province Diamonds - a Story of Saskatchewan Baseball" by David Shury and Paul Hack. (David Shury is the founder of the Sask. Baseball Hall of Fame located in the historic Gardiner Church, Battleford. \$25. (404 pp. 208 photos).
- "Gully Farm" A story of homesteading, of Barr Colonists by Mary (Pinder) Hiemstra now available in paperback. \$12.95.
- "The Moccasin Goalie" written and illustrated by William Roy Brownridge. A really fine children's book based on his own experience on the Vawn (SK) Cougars hockey team of 1952. \$14.95

"KNITTING MACHINE PROJECT"

Several years ago a Knitting Machine was donated to the Bresaylor Museum. It sat in its box waiting for someone to put it together. Meanwhile, at the Lashburn Museum, Paul Metherell was pondering a Knitting Machine in their collection which had one of its components in shattered pieces. It turned out that these machines matched. So, Paul spent this past winter putting the two together to make one working machine. He also managed to make the temperamental contraction, with its mega-needles, work - it now can knit a sock.

As it happens, the knitting machine from our Museum once belonged to Mrs. Estella Holmes. She knit socks for overseas during the First World War. She could knit a pair of socks in a half hour.

NEW PUBLISHED BY THE BATTLEFORDS
NORTH WEST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"Now & Then"
BATTLEFORD HISTORIC RESOURCES

compiled by Ross Innes, Don & Doug Light
with photos from their collections, plus
new photographs by Alan Nelson.

● 76 pages ● 340 photos ●

\$19.95 + \$5. mailing - from B.N.W.H.SOC.
Box 2065, Battleford, SK, S0M-2J0

**THE LATE
HILBERT & IRENE FERGUSON
INDUCTED INTO THE 4-H
HALL OF FAME**

[This excerpt from an item in the
Maidstone Mirror, Apr 23, 1998]

" District 35 4-H council recently
announced this year's Hall of Fame
Inductees. "

" The late Hilbert and Irene Ferguson
were both involved in the Paynton
and Bresaylor 4-H Clubs. Hilbert
was a Beef leader for many years
then in the early 1970s turned his
attention to Woodworking for a total
of 21 years as a leader. Irene gave
her expertise to the Sewing and
Home Decorating projects. She was
a general leader from 1971-78 for a
total of 15 years of leadership.

The Fergusons stongly believed
that if a community was going to be
a good placè to live, it would be
because its members supported it
wholeheartedly. That they did, from
serving on boards to helping with
threshing demonstrations.

Hilbert enjoyed the younger
generation and wanted them to have
a glimpse of and gain an
understanding of agriculture as it
had once been. They were both
supportive of their children's 4-H
endeavours as well as that of their
grandchildren's in later years. The
community is thankful to have had
two such exemplary role models.

District 35 Council is pleased to be
able to honour these people for their
dedication and contributions to 4-
H. "

The Fergusons contributed a great deal to
the Museum as well as many other community
activities.

JUNE 1 - JULY 1
is Saskatchewan Museum Appreciation Month.
You might like to enter the
Genuine Saskatchewan Story Spotting Contest
sponsored by Museums Association of Saskatchewan,
CBC, Tourism Sask., and Moose Jaw's Temple Gardens.
Pick a story from a Sask. MAS Museum, write it up and
enter. For more details, entry forms, prizes, write
the Bresaylor Museum (or any MAS museum).

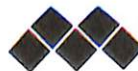
THE MIDWEST ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
is currently collecting information on the
Fort Pitt Trail with the intention of marking
remaining remnants of the trail and also com-
piling written & visual material for possible
publication later. Any information is welcome -
maps, references in publications, anectodes,
etc Contact Velma Foster at the Bresaylor Mus.

OBITUARIES

**Heartfelt condolences to all who
have lost loved ones this past year.
We remember here some who have
passed away -**

- +
- + John Orville Nichols - Aug. 14, 1996
 - + Whilma Hall - Sept 1996
 - + Alvin Bowes - Dec 6, 1996
 - + Mrs. Eddie (Florence) Spence - Dec 1996
- +
- + Irene Antoinette Ferguson - May 27, 1997
- The visit to Bresaylor by Alan and Susan (Land) Head
was cut short by the news of the death of their son,
- + Michael Head - Aug 16, 1997
 - + Arthur Edward Pope - Oct 29, 1997
- Fred and Bev Davis of Lashburn, SK, who have so
generously supported the Museum & the history
book project, lost their son, 17 yrs
- + Asel Davis - Dec 5, 1997
 - + Marjorie (Gregson) McKee - Jan 13, 1998
 - + Vivian Jean (Churchman) Bertrand - Feb 7, 1998
(daughter of Betty Churchman)
 - + Margaret "Bessie" (Taylor) Rogers - Feb 24, 1998
 - + Jack Currie - April 1998
 - + Charles Tarleton - May 1998

Our condolences to the Village of Delmas on the loss
of Delmas Manufacturing, May 9, 1998.....especially
to Mr. and Mrs. Tony Lacoursiere, who lost their
business and their son, Michael, and whose son,
Gordon, was very seriously injured.



MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION OF SASKATCHEWAN