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Scott Manor News

August 2017

Summer programming at Scott Manor House ends and the tea room closes on August 30th, 2017. I hope you have had a chance to visit and enjoy the new exhibits, the music, as well as our very popular oatcakes.

We have had many comments on how lovely the Scott Manor House grounds looked this summer! Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who work to make Scott Manor House the wonderful community resource it is.

Jean MacLeod Chair, Fort Sackville Foundation

Glimpses of Summer at Scott Manor



Staff Reflections

Summer at Scott Manor by the Numbers

- Busiest Day in the Tea Room: July 1st (59 people)
- Busiest Week in the Tea Room: August 21st to August 27th (128 people)
- Instagram Followers: 67
- Most “Likes” on an Instagram Post: 23 (Dartmouth Concert Band)
- Number of Visitors Who Signed Guest Book: 1417
- Number of Groups Given a Tour: 118 groups
- Farthest Away a Visitor Has Come: New Zealand
- Website Visits per Month:
 - June: 3325
 - July: 4083
 - August: 3403
- We had visitors from 10 of Canada’s 13 provinces and territories!

Annaka Merrick

As the summer comes to a close, Annaka is grateful she had the opportunity to spend it at the Scott Manor House. A lifelong resident of Bedford, she has enjoyed learning the history of her community. Annaka has most enjoyed interacting with visitors and passing along her knowledge of Bedford’s past and the history of the house. As she returns to Queen’s University in the fall, she will take with her the various skills learned during her time at the Manor House. For Annaka, coming into work every day was made enjoyable by the wonderful volunteers of the Fort Sackville Foundation as well as her fellow staff. Although she is sad to see the summer go, Annaka is thankful she was able to play a role in one of Bedford’s local treasures. Working at the Scott Manor House has made Annaka proud to be from an area with such a rich and diverse past.

Carrie Cottreau

After two successful summers at the Scott Manor House, Carrie is sad to see the summer go. Having learned new skills and a lot of history, she is nonetheless excited to carry all that she’s learned into her studies at Carleton University, and beyond, to wherever her path may take her. Carrie is grateful for the opportunities she’s had with the Fort Sackville Foundation, such as researching some Bedford family histories in her first summer, to composing a piece of music entitled The Fort (for Fort Sackville) in her second. She will never forget the memories and friends she’s made while working at the Manor House.

Erin Weatherbee

With the summer season nearly over, Erin is thankful for the time she got to spend at Scott Manor House. As a non-Bedford resident, Erin still felt part of the community from working here and often found herself speaking of Bedford as if she lived here her whole life. For someone who loves to read, this was the perfect place for Erin, who so often found herself picking up one of the various monographs in our collection. She has learned so much history and met many wonderful people this summer. As Erin returns to Acadia University in the fall, she will be sad to say goodbye to the numerous Fort Sackville Foundation volunteers and fellow staff that made Scott Manor House a home this summer.

Margaret Embree

– An Extraordinary Summer Volunteer

Tea Room Thanks

Another busy summer season in our Tea Room has come to an end.

The Fort Sackville Foundation heartily thanks Barbara Macey and Penny St. Amand for being the overall coordinators.

Special thanks also go to the following weekly coordinators:

Ann MacVicar

Elaine Loney and Joan Thompkins

Barbara Macey

Jeanette MacLean and Shelia Broussard

Grandmothers for Grandmothers

Cherie Winters

Girl Guides - Gail Dean

CWL – Penny St. Amand

ACW – Marilyn Sangster

Thank you to the 120 people who took time to serve tea to over 940 guests at the Scott Manor House.



No member of the Fort Sackville Foundation spends more time, during July and August, volunteering at Scott Manor House than Margaret Embree. Since 2011, Margaret has spent about 20 hours per week at Scott Manor House during the summer open period. That is over 900 hours in the past six years!

You must be wondering what Margaret has been doing with these 900+ hours. The majority of this time is used in keeping the Christie scrapbooks up to date. The Christie scrapbooks were started in 1906 by Margaret's grandfather, carried on by Margaret's mother, Marion Christie, and now are in the very capable hands of Margaret. This means Margaret reads 4 to 5 newspapers/publications and clips articles related to Bedford and adds them to the scrapbooks. Maintaining the index to these articles is an ongoing job.

Margaret keeps a binder of obituaries, making sure the master list has all the names included, so it can be searched by name. Names are always kept in alphabetical order making searches easily and quickly done.

Both the scrapbooks and the obituary binder are often checked for information by visitors as well as other Fort Sackville Foundation volunteers.

If Margaret has any extra minutes she organizes the Fort Sackville Foundation family files. But, most importantly, she is always available to answer questions about Bedford places, people and events.

Margaret was co-ordinator of the Scott Manor House tea room, retiring from that position in 2014 after more than 10 years of service. She still knits tea cozies for use in the tea room or for sale.

The Fort Sackville Foundation is not the only organization that benefits from Margaret's energy and dedication. She knits prayer shawls for both Port Wallace United Church and Bedford United Church, and men's socks and mittens for the seniors group of the Bedford Leisure Club. Margaret is an active member of the Dartmouth Trefoil Guild. She is secretary of the Bedford Volunteer Awards Committee, as well as secretary of the Scottish Federation of Nova Scotia.

Margaret is a lifelong community-minded Bedford resident. The Fort Sackville Foundation is very appreciative of the time she willingly spends to support the work of preserving and promoting the history of Bedford.



A Little Bit of History

Short Notes

- HMCS Harry DeWolf, the first of six Arctic Offshore Patrol Ships, being built at Irving Shipyard, Halifax is nearing completion and on schedule to be launched in 2018. HMCS Harry DeWolf will be assembled with three separate “mega-blocks”, two of which are completed. This ship was named after Bedford’s own Vice-Admiral Harry DeWolf, a naval wartime hero who served as a Commander in the Second World War.
- The Fort Sackville Foundation now has a new high-resolution computer in the Christie Room. This will allow for easier access to the Fort Sackville Foundation photograph collection. Thank you to Ken Dodsworth for looking after this project and to “100 Bedford Men Who Care” for providing the funding. Visitors would be welcome to use this computer from October through May the first and third Mondays of each month from 9:30 am to 11:30 am.

A noteworthy tennis player

In the early part of the 1900’s tennis was one the main summer activities in Bedford along with swimming and boating. George Christie states in *The Story of the Bedford Club*, that tennis was without a doubt the main activity of the Bedford Club, which dates from 1900 to 1959.

Tennis attracted players of all ages, and often there were players lined up waiting to play, trying to get as much out of a short season as possible. Bedford players always wore white and annually participated in regular tournaments with other clubs.

One noteworthy Bedford tennis player was Jimmy Butler. George Christie tells us in *Jimmy Butler Bedford’s Tennis Star* that Jimmy had a short, but brilliant tennis career in the 1920’s. Jimmy’s skill and ability were a result of a natural talent. The force with which he could hit the ball was the result of perfect co-ordination of eye and muscle. Jimmy played with so much enjoyment and good sportsmanship that he was a great favourite with the spectators and sports writers.

Between 1920 and 1928 Jimmy Butler’s name often appeared in any sports story that covered tennis. Jimmy played in men’s singles, men’s doubles and mixed doubles. Often Jimmy’s name was listed as the winner in Halifax County Tournaments, Nova Scotia Tournaments and Maritime Tournaments.

Unfortunately, Jimmy was killed in a traffic accident in 1930.

The Fort Sackville Foundation has 20 tennis trophies in its archival collection. The one pictured here (left) is the J. H. Butler Trophy. It was given to the Bedford Tennis and Boat Club (later just the Bedford Club) by Jimmy Butler as the cup for the Men’s Singles Championship.



Summer Programming

Thank you to Ann MacVicar and members of the Reading, Resource and Research and Acquisitions and Archives committees for telling the story of Bedford's 150 years since Confederation in such an attractive and engaging manner. The display generated interesting conversations, questions and comments from Scott Manor House visitors.

Special features, relating to the history of Bedford, were very popular and the Fort Sackville Foundation thanks the following people for hosting:

Bedford School Pictures – Joan Lively

Bedford Vintage Postcards- Jean MacLeod

Historic Bedford Maps – Warren Ervine, Robert Tennent, John MacDonald, Linda Wydham

Fort Sackville Press Monographs – Karen Louise Dickie

A BIG HIT this summer was Gail Meagher's Lego display, that included several Bedford landmarks. The program room was continually full of visitors. Children really enjoyed finding all the familiar characters, but adults were intrigued as well. We thank Gail for setting up and manning the Lego display. In particular the Fort Sackville Foundation thanks June Boswell for organizing this event and providing drives to and from Halifax.

The Arthur Lismer's Art exhibit has attracted much attention! It drew visitors from many communities to Scott Manor House, explicitly to see Lismer's art. The Fort Sackville Foundation thanks Peter Dykhuis for his very informative talk and Freda Hemeon for leading an interactive session. Both were so popular they had to be repeated. The Fort Sackville Foundation appreciates that Peter and Freda were so willing to give so generously of their time. This wonderful exhibit was planned by Terry Gordon with the help of June Boswell, Valerie Ivy and Patricia Leader. Thank you for a wonderful ending to our summer programming.

Many people were entertained by five outdoor evening band concerts: Bedford Brass Quintet, Chebucto Big Band, Dartmouth Concert Band, Second Chances Community Band and Second Chances Community Jazz Band. The fine summer weather encouraged people to bring lawn chairs and enjoy a variety of music and the beautiful Scott Manor House property. The music of Georges Hebert on guitar and Marta Lewis Law on piano was appreciated during afternoon performances. The Fort Sackville Foundation thanks Marie Corkum for organizing the summer music program.

Visitors to Scott Manor House were welcomed by beautiful floral arrangements in our front entrance. The Fort Sackville Foundation thanks Bernice Hartnett for these lovely arrangements. Even the downstairs bathroom was graced with some small vases of flowers.

Looking Forward

Please keep an eye on our roadside sign and our website (scottmanor.ca) for upcoming fall and winter programming.

Our annual historic graveyard walk will take place on September 19th at 7:30 pm.

Other possible programming includes:

- Bedford goes to Court
- George Scott, brother of Joseph
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HALIFAX EXPLOSION – The Bedford Connection

- With the financial assistance of HRM Halifax Explosion 100th Anniversary Advisory Grant, I have been able to piece together how Bedford residents were affected by the explosion. Although the community of just over 500 was not in the initial area of impact, Bedford residents were truly affected. Through the stories and reports of several residents, including Evelyn Richardson, I am preparing a video and a monograph recording their personal stories. I look forward to sharing those stories at the December meeting of Fort Sackville Foundation. Should you have pictures or written records of that disaster as recorded by Bedford residents, FSF would appreciate adding them to the archives.
June Boswell

We are always looking for new ideas for programming. If you have suggestions, please forward them to scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca or call Jean MacLeod at (902) 835-8076.

Cobequid Past & Future Project

The Antique Story Show

Bring a photo or artifact along with a story to share with others at this special show-and-tell event. Staff will record your stories (optional) for our Cobequid Past and Future web portal. Your item can be anything significant to you that recalls a memory of life in Bedford/Waverley/Sackville. If you don't want to share a story, come hear others and enjoy refreshments and music in the Scott Manor House tea room. Supported by the Province of Nova Scotia in partnership with the Department of Communities, Culture, and Heritage.

Saturday, September 16, 2-4pm

The Fort Sackville Foundation encourages our membership to support this event. We know you have many wonderful Bedford memories to share.

Fort Sackville Foundation Directors – 2017

June Boswell

Marie Corkum

Ken Dodsworth

Graeme Duffus

Warren Ervine

Terry Gordon

Brenton Haliburton

Diana Haydon

Valerie Ivy

Michael Kennedy

Jean MacLeod

Ann MacVicar

Debbie Miller

Dave Selig

Cherie (Tolson) Winters

Chairs of Committees & Coordinators

Archives: Warren Ervine

House: Dave Selig

Grounds: Pat Branton

Program: Marie Corkum

Reading/Resource/Research: Ann
MacVicar

Tearoom: Barb Macey

Technology: Ken Dodsworth

Curator: Francene Cosman

Communications: Sandra Winters

Members at Large:

June Boswell

Elaine Loney

Lew Turner