

BEDFORD - PAST AND PRESENT



Welcome to the first bi-monthly newsletter from Scott Manor House and the Fort Sackville Foundation of 2024. It's been awhile since we shared our news so we hope you will find this useful. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know by emailing scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca)

THE FORT SACKVILLE FOUNDATION CHAIR

A longtime Bedford resident, Debbie Miller got involved with Scott Manor House and the Fort Sackville Foundation many years ago with the help of her mother, Veronica Parker. Serving in the tea room and making cookies for the Georgian Social were the highlights of the summer. "The house is such a special place, so unique and full of history. And the members are so enthusiastic and hard working. We are very lucky to have such wonderful volunteers" she says. "Covid of course restricted our projects and programs but we have bounced back with the help of many dedicated members and we are working hard to make this year a success too."

Debbie is the current chair of the Fort Sackville Foundation and she encourages anyone with a love of the great history of Bedford to come visit the house this summer, and maybe to become a member now and help contribute to our wonderful community.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you are interested in helping out at the Fort Sackville Foundation/Scott Manor House in 2024, we have a number of volunteer opportunities available.

Members of the Board of Directors for the Fort Sackville Foundation - the Board meets about 4 times a year, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

All folks interested in joining the Board should contact Scott Manor House (scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca) with their email address and phone number by February 29. To be elected by the membership at our AGM on March 14, at 7:00 pm at Scott Manor House, potential Board Members must be in attendance.

- Co-ordinators, serving volunteers and oatcake bakers for the Tea Room
- For those interested in the Tea Room or Committees, please email us at scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca with your name and contact information and where you would like to volunteer - someone will be in touch.

Thank you!

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

KATHIE BEVAN

Why did you decide to volunteer at Scott Manor House/Fort Sackville Foundation and how long have you been volunteering ?

I grew up in Bedford and knew of the Manor House since my childhood. At some point in time, it was purchased by the Fort Sackville Foundation and became a museum. I have been attending events at the Manor House since 2014 and also the meetings. Shortly after I became a member. The idea of learning more of the history of Bedford was intriguing to me, and it morphed into volunteering. I started volunteering after I retired in 2018.



What types of things have you done as a volunteer for SMS/FSF?

I have made the famous oatcakes for Tea Room and The Georgian Social. In 2019, I started working with the summer programming committee. Booking music venues and indoor display events. I would attend the music events to greet the musicians and make sure everything ran smoothly. I also greeted the groups who would be in the North Room with their displays, I helped set up their displays and helped break the displays down. I also completed the paperwork required for the use of the North Room for each Group.

I joined the History Group at the Manor House after receiving a call from Ann MacVicar in April 2022. I enjoy meeting with the group twice a month on Mondays. In 2020, I helped Terry Gordon & Valerie Ivy get ready for the Group of Seven art show for the Manor. We had to mount all the copies of the paintings on white board. Unfortunately, due to Covid the event was postponed, as the Museum did not open to the public for the 2020 season. Happily, in 2021, we set up the Group of Seven display and it ran for July & August in the North Room. I was at the Manor House for the two months rotating days with Terry Gordon, greeting guests and discussing the artists and their work with visitors to the display.

What are the best things about volunteering with FSF/SMS?

The best things about volunteering at the Manor House are meeting new people, seeing old friends and acquaintances, and making new friends. Learning the History of the House and the surrounding areas of Bedford and beyond. The books in the library Reading Room hold fascinating facts and stories. I especially love reading about history. I enjoy learning the wisdom of other History Group members. Hearing about the information they have researched and seeing & reading the end result of their research. The Monographs compiled by members, nonmembers or students holds a vast array of historical data. And we have some copies for sale.

Where would we be without the commitment of volunteers like you? Thank you, Kathie for all the time and effort you have donated to us.

What would you like to know about our organization? Email us with your comments, complaints or praise.

We are a community museum so hearing from you is important to us ! scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca

FROM THE SCOTT MANOR HOUSE RESEARCH ROOM AND LIBRARY

Each February in recognition of Heritage Day, the Research Group presents a copy of it's latest monographs to the Bedford Library. At a small reception on February 12th, we presented to Diane Faulkner of the Bedford Library a copy of "Firefighting Memories", written by Eric Sheppard, former Assistant District Chief, Bedford Fire Department and District Chief (retired). Eric, a long-time Bedford resident, served as both a volunteer and a career firefighter in the Bedford Department for most of his 40-year career. Pictured here with Diane and Eric is Elaine Loney (on the left) who edited the monograph.



SUMMER PROGRAM NEWS

Things are just getting started with planning for summer programs. We would love to hear what you enjoyed from last year's schedule and what you might like to see in 2024. Email us at scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca.

It's hard to imagine spring right now but the Bedford Horticultural Society has already booked their annual plant sale at Scott Manor House. Mark you calendars for June 1st with a rain date of June 2nd. Watch for an announcement about start time as the date gets closer. Bedford Horticultural Society always has lots of great plants and advice for your garden. Plans are also underway for the Georgian Social scheduled for June 29th. This will be our first open week at Scott Manor for 2024 and we are excited to see some familiar faces and hopefully some new ones as well !

We are looking for short term volunteers to help run our summer events. Short term means a few hours at an event , workshop or band concert. Volunteer positions at band concerts including accepting donations (requires standing), and serving cookies and lemonade at the end of the evening. For workshops, we are seeking individuals willing to be a Scott Manor House host. The duties for these positions include greeting the workshop provider and helping them set up, being available if issues arise and working with the students/executive members to address them, welcoming workshop participants. Volunteers are also needed for events like the Georgian Social and exhibits. If you only have a few hours to spare, we would be happy for you to spend them volunteering with us. We hope to recruit lots of volunteers so no one person or few people will be asked to do more than they feel comfortable with. Please let us know if you have a few hours to donate this summer.

scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca.



SUMMER STUDENT POSITIONS

Scott Manor House is once again recruiting for 3 students to work with us for the upcoming summer season :
2 Heritage Interpreters/Archival Assistant/and 1 Heritage Interpreter/Communications

Qualifications:

- Must be accepted at or currently attending university, and returning to university in the fall.
- Applicants must be enrolled in one of the following fields of study: history, museum studies, library science, education, journalism or humanities/social sciences.
- All positions will require working at Scott Manor House
- Employment period: 12 Weeks, June 10 - August 30th
- Wage: \$15.50/per hour, 40 hours a week
- Closing date for applications: April 12th by noon

For a detailed job description, please click this link:

[We are Hiring for the Summer – Scott Manor](#)

To apply directly, please email your CV with a covering letter to scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca by April 12th.



NEW TO OUR COLLECTION

A recent addition to the Scott Manor House collection reminds us of the beauty and memories attached to everyday objects, like antique tableware, that are passed down in families. The Fort Sackville Foundation recently received a donation of dishes from Lloyd Mitchell, whose family settled in Bedford in the early 1800s. As a youth in the mid-1950s, Lloyd often helped his great aunt Lillian with chores at the original Mitchell family home where his grandfather Malcolm grew up in the 1880s. The house, no longer standing, was constructed in the 1830s on Mitchell Hill in the approximate location of today's 15 Meadowbrook Drive.

Filled with antiques, the home was left to Lloyd's aunt Lillian by her father Thomas Mitchell. Lloyd recalls seeing these beautiful blue and white semi-porcelain dishes displayed in his great aunt Lillian's china cabinet. As time went on, the dishes were carefully passed to other Mitchell family members, until they were last displayed in one of Lloyd and Lynda Mitchell's residences. Preservation by family members has meant that now others can enjoy the striking beauty of these dishes when they visit Scott Manor House this summer. The dishes will be catalogued (photographed and information details recorded) for inclusion in our Collections database, which [can be accessed online at NovaMuse \(novamuse.ca\)](http://novamuse.ca), a [searchable database of Nova Scotia museums](#).

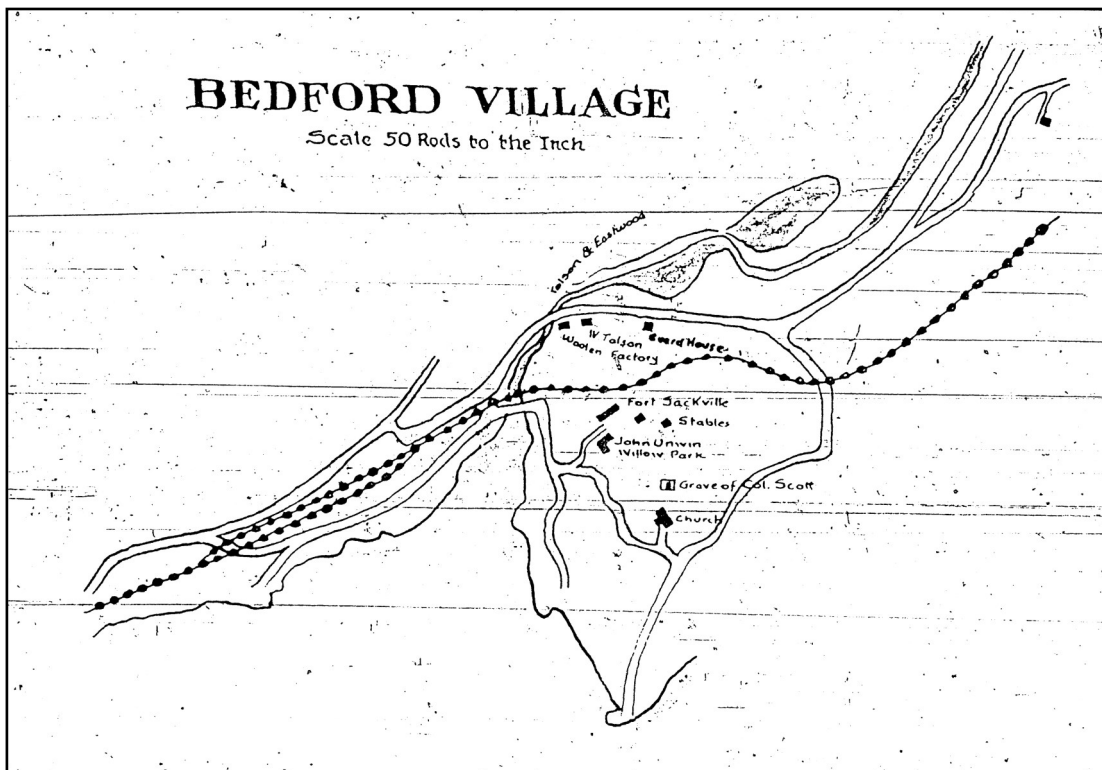


DID YOU KNOW ?

On our website, there is a list of all the monographs Scott Manor House has in its Research and Reading Room. Monograph topics include: Organizations, Schools, Churches and Cemeteries, Land Development, Leisure Activities, People, and Historic Bedford. Whether you are doing a school project, researching your family tree or just interested in learning more about Bedford History, we are the place to start looking. Check it out [Publications from the Fort Sackville Press – Scott Manor](#)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting of the Fort Sackville Foundation will take place on March 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Scott Manor House. If you wish to vote at the meeting, you must be a member of the Foundation. Annual membership fee is \$10 or \$100 for a life membership. Your membership support goes to help fund the operations at Scott Manor House. Thank you for your support.



This map of a section of the Village of Bedford in 1865 is part of the A.F. Church map collection. In 1864, Ambrose F. Church was commissioned by the Nova Scotia legislature to create a series of maps, one for each of Nova Scotia's 18 counties. Each shows the locations of towns and villages, basic topographic features and the names of residents. In many cases, the occupation of prominent townsfolk (clergy, blacksmith, merchant) is also included. Visit Scott Manor House to view its map collection.

You can also follow us on:

The Scott Manor House website (<https://scottmanor.ca/>), Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/ScottManorHouse>), Instagram ([@ScottManorHouse](https://www.instagram.com/ScottManorHouse)) and Twitter (<https://twitter.com/scottmanorhouse>)