

BEDFORD - PAST AND PRESENT



SCOTT MANOR HOUSE
FORT SACKVILLE FOUNDATION

SPRING #255

That's how many springs Scott Manor has seen in its long life, and we are getting ready to enjoy summer #255 as well. We have our first big event, the Georgian Social, all set for Saturday June 28 from 2 to 4pm. Come early to hear our Town Crier open the event and stay to experience the rousing pipes and drums of the Clan Farquharson. Lemonade and our famous oatcake cookies will be served and the house will be open for tours as well!

More exciting activities are planned for the summer too, arts and crafts and music - and don't forget the Tea Room. Our volunteers are busy getting ready to open on July 1 and you can drop by all summer long from 2-4 pm any day of the week to enjoy pretty cups of steaming tea with crunchy cookies made from our secret recipe. Sorry, cash only!!

So stay tuned to our website, scottmanor.ca and keep an eye on our highway sign for more details on our busy summer schedule.

See you all soon!

Debbie Miller, Chair

WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER STUDENTS

Please join us in giving a warm welcome to the Scott Manor House hires for 2025. We are happy to have Renee Marshall returning this year and are looking forward to getting to know our two new recruits, Ailyth Juby and Lavanya Prakash better.

They begin their term with us on Monday, June 9th, and will be spending a few weeks learning more about our events and artifacts as well as helping us get the Museum shipshape for your visits when we open on July 1st.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: ANN MACVICAR

Those of you who know Ann are aware that she is a force to be reckoned with. In the past, I have managed to corral other volunteers into a certain format for their profile, Ann however has done it her way. Why ? Because being Ann, she wanted to ensure that other volunteers also received credit for their contributions.

I have been involved with the Fort Sackville Foundation for a long time, even before the Scott Manor House was opened to the public in 1995. Initially, I was asked to join the group by Alan Duffus, along with some other volunteers in the Foundation who I greatly admired, including Nelson Kennedy, Marion Christie and George Christie.

Through work with the Foundation I have made many friends, worked beside wonderful people and learned so much about community ! I enjoy people and working with others. I enjoy team work, whether it's raking the lawn, putting on storm windows, recording stories about community, hosting events, organizing the tea room, supervising the summer employees or acting as Chair of the Fort Sackville Foundation. I enjoy community and believe that "we" have built a centre at the Scott Manor for our community and its heritage.

One of the biggest moments I have had as Chair was working with Sackville Community Development Association in 1999 to host the 250th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of Fort Sackville. The Tolson Gates were refurbished by volunteer Fred Repp and a ribbon was cut by The Honorable Lt. Gov. James J. Kinley who opened the gates and let the reenactors for John Gorham and his aide come through. The C.P. Allen High School band played, speeches were made, and a time capsule was buried on the grounds.

Other memories are of our volunteers designing, siting and arranging for the replacement of the Tolson garage following the collapse of its roof during a winter storm. The replacement followed the architectural lines of the House, had electricity and a concrete floor. We asked Jetco Contracting of Bedford for help and they built the current structure without taking any profit.



Cont'd on next page

Cont'd from previous page

We received an unexpected cash bequest from Gwyn Tolson Calder's Estate, because "she loved what we as volunteers had done with her home." We cleared an area between the Scott Manor House and garage and made a small park in her memory, with a bench, walk-way and planted lilac bushes. We hosted a small reception for the family from California and Quebec and toasted her memory with a small glass of champagne.

Another great service we as volunteers have provided is the inviting Tea Room at Scott Manor which was the first public offering in the house in 1995. We opened while custodians were living in the building. They unlocked the door at two to let us in and locked the door again at four. It was a difficult arrangement but we opened the house for tea and oatcakes! I was involved then and have served/organized the schedule every summer since that time.

We signed a formal lease with the Town of Bedford just before the town was being amalgamated into a greater municipality. This lease provided the continuation of a relationship between Fort Sackville Foundation and the Municipal Government, and the public ownership of the house.

There are other highlights, but too many to mention here. Come to the second floor of the Scott Manor and spend an afternoon looking at pictures or browsing the collection of community stories in our reading room.

Barbara Koppernaes was one of our first program committee members and introduced artisans and the wider community to Scott Manor. Ken Dodsworth and Norman Fenerty saved and scanned all the wonderful photos from both the Bedford Heritage Collection and our own Fort Sackville Foundation. In recent years, Lew Turner added his photos and community memories to our heritage collections. There are newer volunteers who have taken many leadership roles at Scott Manor, with three serving terms as Chair of the Foundation, including Jean McLeod, Judy White and our current Chair, Debbie Miller.

I have only mentioned a few volunteers. There are also many truly wonderful people who have contributed so much to making the Scott Manor a place to visit in Bedford. I believe that volunteers make COMMUNITY happen, and community holds us together. It is a pleasure to have volunteered with such a wonderful team over the years.

Thank you, Ann for all you do!

SCOTT MANOR HOUSE TEA ROOM - 30 YEARS SERVING OUR VISITORS



Our little tea room in the Scott Manor will open its doors for the summer on July 1st. Please come and support the volunteers, and enjoy homemade oatcakes, with raspberry jam, tea, lemonade and vanilla ice cream. The Tea Room will be open every day from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m., until the end of August. Prices are very reasonable ! Cash only, please!

Enjoy yourself while supporting the Fort Sackville Foundation. This year marks the 30th year of service in the Summer Tea Room at Scott Manor. Thank you volunteers!!!

COMMUNITY MUSEUM GRANT PROJECT

In 2024, the Fort Sackville Foundation received a grant from the Halifax Regional Municipality for the care and preservation of some of our art collection. The grant enabled us to work with 28 pieces from our collection. The committee was composed of three persons, Francene Cosman, Graham Lindsay and Valerie Ivy. We worked with Conservator Michelle Gallinger on the project and utilized her professional qualifications in the repair and restoration.

We embarked on an exhaustive review of the framed and unframed works of art, a combination of oils, acrylics, watercolours, pastels, and vintage framed photographs. This involved the lengthy process of pulling dozens of pieces from storage to assess and determine what state the object was in, followed by the determination of what work would be done, and what maintenance would be necessary going forward to keep the collection in as good a state as possible. Protection from light, daily monitoring of heat and moisture conditions in the house, proper storage of the art when not on display, were all considered when looking at how to best protect the collection. We made numerous trips to Michaels, carefully managing the transport of the art, lengthy discussions with staff, and the review of the finished work at the store before carefully returning the art to the Manor.



The grant allowed us to select acid free matts, non-glare glass, and new frames where needed. A total of 28 works were completed in this manner.

One piece, a hand painted Shield representing the Bedford Home and School Association, was found to be badly damaged. It was chosen to undergo complete professional restoration, which was conducted under contract by Michelle Gallinger.

The Scott Manor House Museum will exhibit all the restored works in early July when the house opens for the season. Many of the paintings, as well as the Shield, have never been on display due to their previously poor condition.

Submitted by Francene Cosman, Volunteer Curator.

SCOTT MANOR HOUSE SUMMER SCHEDULE

* Scott Manor House is open daily June 23rd - August 28th from 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

* Tea Room is open daily July 1st - August 28th from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

* Yoga with Maureen - Mondays starting July 14th and ending Aug 25th; Time 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. on the lawn at Scott Manor House. No class if it rains.

| Event | Date | Time | Rain Date |
|--|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Georgian Social | June 28th | 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Workshop - Create a decorative Driftwood Fish with Kat from <i>The Restless Mind</i> | July 3rd | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Chebucto Big Band Concert | July 3rd | 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | July 10th |
| Lakeview Jam Band Concert | July 16th | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | July 23rd |
| Workshop - Paint your own Stone Art Tile with Kat from <i>The Restless Mind</i> | July 27th | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Beginner Rug Hooking Workshop | August 5th-6th | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Palettes and Pigments Long Brush Event | August 10th-15th | Every day/All day | N/A |
| Palettes and Pigments Plein Art workshops | August 10th-11th | 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | August 11th-12th |
| Workshop - Paint your own lobster barrel top with Kat from <i>The Restless Mind</i> | August 13th | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | |
| Lakeview Jam Band Concert | August 13th | 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | August 20th |
| Palettes and Pigments Quick Draw Event | August 16th | 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Palettes and Pigments Art Show and Sale | August 17th - 23rd | 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. | N/A |
| Second Chances Community Band | August 21st | 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | August 28th |
| Workshop - "Print" your own set of decorative dish towels with stamps of art work by Kat from <i>The Restless Mind</i> | August 27th | 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | N/A |

Some of the above information is already available on our website and Facebook pages. Updates and new information will be added over the next few weeks. If you have any questions, please contact us at

scott.manor@ns.sympatico.ca

PHOTO FLASHBACK: CUTTING ICE ON THE BEDFORD BASIN



It may be hard to imagine but there was a time when Halifax Harbour and the Bedford Basin froze over in the winter. This not only provided opportunities for recreational activities such as skating and horse racing on the Basin, it also offered enterprising individuals an opportunity to harvest another crop, ice!

Ice harvesting generally involved waiting until approximately a foot of ice had built up on the water surface in the winter. The ice

would then be cut with either a handsaw or a powered saw blade into long continuous strips and then cut into large individual blocks for transport by horse and wagon as shown here. Workers also used specialized tools like hooks, ice picks and snow scrapers to extract the ice. Properly insulated, ventilated and drained, the ice could be kept cold, potentially until the following winter. In her remembrances of growing up in Bedford, Marion Christie recalls the large barn on their property that had a big ice house at the back where blocks of ice were stored in sawdust. If anyone is interested in reading more about Marion's memories, a copy of *Growing up in Bedford 1914-1930* is available for viewing in the Scott Manor House Library.

CANNON BALLS

Have you ever noticed the cannon balls in the hall on the main floor at Scott Manor House - see them in the photo on the next page. Originally cannon balls were made of stone however in the mid 1400s, the French developed a process to make them from cast iron. Cast Iron cannon balls became the main stay of militaries until the mid 1800s when they were replaced by exploding shells. The weight and size of the Manor cannon balls were recently measured by one of our volunteers who is a metallurgist and were found to match the caliber sizes of 18, 24 and 32 pounds listed in historical British Navy records. If only they could tell us what ship they came from!

SCOTT MANOR HOUSE SUMMER EXHIBITS

Refreshed and new exhibits await you at the Scott Manor and we look forward to seeing you. The tea room location has a beautiful silver tea service to gaze at, with lovely engraving and details on each piece.

My imagination goes wild when I look at it; who owned it originally? Was it used only for special occasions? Who were the ladies who poured from it, and how were they dressed? Shades of Downton Abbey come to mind when I recall the Dowager Duchess making tea and serving to Lady Mary. Well, we don't have the Duchess but we sure have a beautiful tea service! Beautiful summer time paintings are now hung in the room to make your visual experience even more relaxed and enjoyable.

A historic camera display is in the main hall, where you can look at very old cameras and be thankful that today we do not have to haul around big boxes and flash powders to take a photo. The cameras are quite old and date back to early Bedford residents who possessed great talent with their picture taking. Did you know that famous Group of Seven artists took photos as well as painted in Bedford?

As well, in times of rising food prices, look in the display case in the hall, which exhibits ration cards for essential food supplies during the Second World War. This display is thought provoking as we look back to what our great grandparents dealt with as they shopped for groceries.

On exhibit in the Old Kitchen you will see mixing bowls, hand carved rolling pins and wooden bowls, and storage crocks that were a part of every day kitchen use at the start of the previous century. Metal dishes were common and the labour of cooking without all the gadgets we take for granted today makes one realize that cooking was a labour of love. The exposed brick oven from the 1700's is a case in point. Large quantities of food were prepared in the oven, as well as bread was baked in large amounts in the side oven. New display lighting helps you appreciate the construction of the ovens.

Look at the Lorenzen mushrooms and be amazed at the artistry that went into their craft. There is so much to see in the old kitchen in addition to what you are reading here.



Cont'd on next page

Cont'd from previous page

SCOTT MANOR HOUSE SUMMER EXHIBITS

The North room holds a special display of framed art and photos, many of which have not been seen before. HRM provided a Project Grant so that 28 works received special care with new frames, acid free matting and non glare glass. This exhibit runs until the end of July.

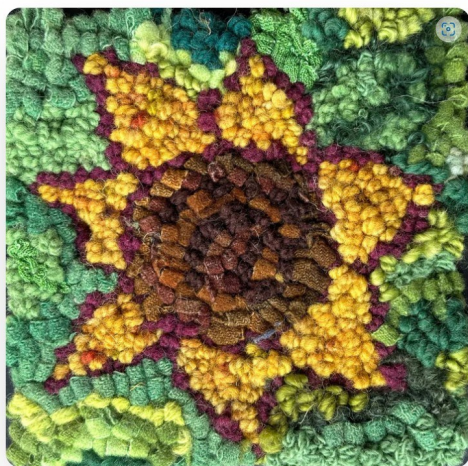
On the second floor of the house, the Bedford room has a special new addition on loan from HRM. It is the sterling silver chain of office crafted by local jeweller Don Bell in a walnut display case built by Roslyn Duffus. Mannequins wear the clothing pertinent to the era of the Town of Bedford.

The third floor holds special dolls and books, plus toys and furniture used by little ones. Of note are several hand made doll clothes that a very loved little girl would have played with. There are other remarkable items on the top floor, plus the opportunity to glance out the windows located in the wishbone chimneys.

You are invited to take your time when visiting the House. So much to see, so much to learn, and so much to enjoy.

Francene Cosman, Volunteer Curator

BEGINNER RUG HOOKING WORKSHOP WITH JENN SCHMALZ



Following up on interest from last year's successful rug hooking exhibit and sale in the North Room, Jenn Schmalz will be offering a beginners rug hooking workshop. It will run August 5th and 6th from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Beginners will bring their own rug hooking kits and receive advice and direction from Jen. There is no fee for the workshop but space will be limited. To register and for more information contact Jenn at jenn.schmalz55@gmail.com



or see the event page [Beginner Rug Hooking | Facebook](#) .

If you are already a rug hooker, feel free to drop by during the workshop hours with your current project and spend some time with Jenn and the beginners.

PALETTES AND PIGMENTS PLEIN AIR

Scott Manor House is once again hosting our Palettes and Pigments Plein Air fundraiser in August. Participants have the option of participating in:

- 1) The Long Brush - 5 days of self scheduled painting in the environs of Paper Mill Lake (Aug 10th -15th) and/or
- 2) The Quick Draw - a Saturday morning paint out at Fish Hatchery Park (August 16th)



To learn more or to register for the Long Brush and/or Quick Draw, visit <https://forms.gle/hzGhJpeABRgnYKvH8>

This year, the event also includes the opportunity to attend a two day painting workshop (either watercolour or acrylics/oil) taught by local artists Anne and Edward Wedler. The cost of the workshop is in addition to the fee to participate in the Long Brush/Quick Draw portions of Palettes and Pigments.

To learn more or to register for a Plein Air workshop, visit <https://forms.gle/kNFgn67W3oMaA3VL6>

From August 17th to 23rd., works created during the Plein Air week will be featured in an exhibit and sale in the North Room at Scott Manor House 11:00 am - 4:00 pm daily.

WORKSHOPS WITH KAT FROM THE RESTLESS MIND

We are happy to announce the Kat from The Restless Mind will be hosting workshops for us again this summer. Many of you may remember Kat's "Painting a Crazy Chicken" and "Driftwood Tree" workshops from last year. Her workshops are always fun and fill up quickly.

This year she will be bring you the following:

- * July 3rd - **Driftwood Fish** - Create your own Driftwood Fish. Different designs available. Combining different elements to create a beautiful decor piece. About 2 hours. \$28 per person. Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- * July 27th - **Paint your own Stone Art Tile** - You will be painting a maritime motif on a 4x4 stone tile. Will be cured with Modge podge to make a nice piece of art work. Comes with an easel for display. About 2 hours. \$25 per person, Time: 10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
- * August 13th - **Paint your own lobster barrel top**. Nothing says Maritimes more than a lobster. Let's create a fun decor piece. About 2 hours. \$28 per person Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- * August 27th - **"Print" your own set of decorative dish towels** with stamps of Kat's art work. Maritime inspired. About 2.5 hours. \$30 per person. Time: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Registration for these workshops should be open by June 9th so check our website or our Facebook event pages for more info then!



The Fort Sackville Foundation is a voluntary association and registered charity (No. 885410548RR0001) located at Scott Manor House, a Registered Provincial and Municipal Heritage property.

MISSION: to collect, protect, preserve and promote the history and cultural heritage of Bedford

MANDATE:

1. Collect, preserve, and interpret artifacts, archival material and intangible forms of heritage
2. Undertake research related to the people, places, organizations and events, and the built and natural environment of Bedford
3. Cultivate and promote greater understanding of the heritage of Bedford, by production of monographs, exhibits, public programs and other activities
4. Maintain and promote Scott Manor House and the Fort Sackville site
5. Advocate for heritage preservation

The Fort Sackville Foundation operates under a Board of Directors and an Executive Committee, holding regular public meetings. We depend on our members and other volunteers to accomplish our mission and mandate. Join us and help support our community heritage.

I'd like to become a member: Annual Membership \$10.00 Life Membership \$100.00

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

I'd like to volunteer for:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grounds/gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Programs, events |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tea Room | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Research | <input type="checkbox"/> Resource Development |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Archives and acquisitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sharing practical skills (e.g. Carpentry, baking, etc.) _____ | |

Please return this form with payment to:
Fort Sackville Foundation, 15 Fort Sackville Road, Bedford, NS B4A 2G6

YOU CAN ALSO FOLLOW US ON:

[The Scott Manor House website](#)

