

DesBrisay
museum

Walk Into Our Past



The Judge's Journal

Director's Diatribe



The ice in the river is melting, our magnolia is budding and the birds are making a racket. Spring is on the way! We at the Museum are offering a wide array of activities and programs for your historic pleasure.

We recently installed an exhibit of DesBrisay's nine quilts from the collection, full of color and warmth. Thinking that this would be an easy



exhibit for the transition from our move back (because of new flooring)

to our spring school artwork exhibit; we pulled out our quilt collection and hung them for your viewing.

Little did I know how much I would learn from this exhibit! I learned that a quilt could not be made in 1945 if the maker died in 1931 (in other words, check your facts); that a small scrap of fabric could be made into a work of art and yet be utilitarian, (in other words, find another use for the piece of plastic that you were about to throw away); and that a 10 cent quilt block can help build a church, (in other words working together can accomplish a lasting legacy). Great lessons don't you think?

We could use your help with collec-

tion work, with help at the front desk on Sundays, and with receptions. Give me a call at 543-4033 if you have a little time to spare.

Thanks to Robyn and Alex of Kati-mavik who will be leaving us the end of March, and thanks to all of you for your ongoing support.



Join us for the opening of our Student Art Exhibit on April 15, 7 pm and at your Volunteer Appreciation Supper on April 28, 5 pm. See you at the museum!

Barb Thompson

Hand Applique Workshop

with Anna Davison

Saturday March 27

10:00am to 4:00pm

Fee \$30 includes all materials

A minimum of 8 participants is required to hold the class, and a maximum of 15. Registration cut-off is Monday March 22.

Contact Kendra at 543-4033 to register. More information is on our website at www.desbrisaymuseum.ca

Can you Help?

We are looking for volunteers interested in helping us sew velcro on the back of our quilts to make them easier to hang during exhibits. Perhaps a group of friends want to come for an afternoon of sewing and chatting?



Also, we are short on volunteers for Sunday reception shifts, 1-5pm. If you can help, please call Linda Bedford at 543-4033.

Under the Covers



Quilts from our Collection

Runs until March 28, 2010

WE'RE GLAD TO BE BACK !



We're glad to be back in the Museum after being away for a month so the new flooring could be installed. The new ceramic tile is lovely, clean and bright, and much easier for Doug to look after!



However, our first few days back were pretty tiring!



Washing walls, dusting, painting, then dusting again !



Then it was unpacking, and hanging quilts for our next exhibit, Under the Covers.



There's never a dull moment at DesBrisay Museum!

March Break at the Museum

Saturday, March 13 - Spa Day, 2-4pm. Girls, ages 8-12. Girls will learn how to give each other facials, mini pedicures and manicures! All materials supplied. Girl fun at its best! Instructor - Cheryl Pickens, Fee - \$20



Tuesday, March 16, 2-4pm Ages 8-12. Sew a cool pouch for your iPad or DS or cell phone. All materials supplied. Instructor - Sue Fraellec. Fee - \$15



Wednesday, March 17, 2-4pm Ages 8-12. Join Museum staff and decoupage a keepsake box for all of your treasures! All materials supplied. Fee - \$15

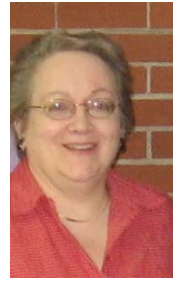
Thursday, March 18 - 2-4pm Ages 8-12. Sew a hat or vest...All materials supplied. Instructor - Sue Fraellec. Fee - \$20



Friday, March 19 - 2-4pm Ages 8-12. Creative Card Making for Kids. All materials supplied. Instructor - Sandy Weaver, Fee - \$15

All programs are limited to 10 participants, so call early to register!

Curator's Corner



Did your family member work at a local business in Bridgewater, and were you wondering what to do with all of their old photographs or business papers?

The Museum is looking for historical photographs, scrapbooks, yearbooks, and documents from Bridgewater to fill in the gaps in our Museum's archival collection.

Please contact me at 543-4033 if you have something you wish to donate to the Museum.

Linda Bedford

Women's Work Project Celebrating our Story!



Tuesday, March 23, 2:00pm

Women of all ages will enjoy hearing Anna Davison, respected quilter, designer and teacher from Mahone Bay, who was the inspiration behind this project which celebrates, validates, encourages and motivates women in pursuit of their dreams - in the home, in business and in the community. The project launched in 2008, and Anna has spoken to a number of groups across the Province since then.

Anna's motivational presentation includes a slide show, scrapbooks of women's stories, theme music, inspirational quotes, and a display of quilted wall hangings depicting the work of many women both in traditional roles and today's modern world, including textiles made by native women in Canada, Thailand, Laos and Africa.

Mahone Bay potter, Pam Birdsall, designed the clay version of the Womens Work Project logo, and the resulting line of jewelry is being sold as a fundraiser for the far-reaching project. Visit <http://www.womensworkprojectquilt.com> for more details on the jewelry line. Anna will have jewelry available for purchase at the end of her presentation! Please call 543-4033 to reserve your seat.

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future.

A word from the Museum Commission Chair



As you may know, January was a rather difficult month for both the Commission and the Museum.

Rumours have been swirling in the community to the effect that Town officials were planning a restructuring of the Commission, although no official discussions had taken place. I am pleased to be able to report that I have been assured that no such plans are in the works and that Town officials share the Commission's view that it is working well and the level of cooperation among Town, Commission and museum staff is all that it could be.

Meanwhile, what began as a good-news story turned into a real problem when the replacement of the Museum's forty-year old tile floor, a project expected to take two weeks, actually resulted in the Museum being closed for a month because of unanticipated delays. The work is finally done, however, and the new floor looks wonderful.

The installation of this new floor generated an enormous amount of work for the museum staff, incidentally, because the area concerned – virtually the whole museum except the permanent gallery – had to be cleared of furniture, shelving and what was on the shelving. Then, after the job was done, everything had to be moved back into place but additionally the staff had to clean the building,

which was now covered in fine white dust.

I am pleased to be able to report that, as always, the staff pitched in and cheerfully did what had to be done and the Commission expressed its very real appreciation by treating the staff to lunch one day last week.



The Commission is delighted to have a new member. David Weagle was appointed by Town Council a couple of weeks ago and attended his first meeting on the 18th. David grew up in Bridgewater before going off to pursue his career in the banking industry. Happily, he has now returned and his great interest in history and heritage, combined with his understanding of balance sheets, should prove to be of great value to both the Commission and the Museum.

Meanwhile, budget time is rapidly approaching and again this year it promises to be a difficult exercise. I urge you to encourage members of Town Council to do their best to support the important on-going work of the Museum as the flagship of public cultural activity in Bridgewater.

Brian Tennyson

Mark Your Calendar !!

We have lots of events planned over the next few weeks—Mark your calendars!

- Sunday, March 21- Friends' Annual General Meeting, 2-4pm
- Tuesday, March 23 - Women's Work Project presentation by Anna Davison, 2-4pm
- Saturday, March 27—Hand Applique Workshop, 10am-4pm
- Sunday, April 11 - Old time sing-a-long with South Shore Ukelele Group, 2-4pm
- Thursday, April 15—Opening reception, Lunenburg County Elementary Art Fair, 7pm
- Wednesday, April 21-Shipwrecks and Treasure, with John Wesley Chisholm, 7pm.

Shipwrecks: perfectly preserved time capsules from hundreds of years ago. But what should happen to these prizes? Nova Scotia is the only province that allows treasure hunting. Mr. Chisholm likens treasure hunters to privateers.

- Wednesday, April 28 - DesBrisay Museum Volunteer Appreciation Night - 5-7pm
- Wednesday, May 5 - Wreck Hunter, Terry Dwyer, 7pm. *Learn about local shipping history, anecdotal stories of shipwrecks, and the skills, techniques and technology used by the modern day wreck hunter to find and bring home the treasure.*
- Sunday, May 23, Opening of summer exhibit, DesBrisay's Curiosities





A word to Friends

Days are getting longer. Temperatures are rising. Grass is showing through the snow. Moods are becoming friendlier.



Does this mean that spring is quickly approaching? Yes it does. And with the approach of spring it also marks the arrival of another special event. The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the DesBrisay Museum. Of course there will be some boring business conducted but there is a very strong rumour concerning wine and possibly cheese being around. With some entertainment thrown in.

So mark Sunday, March the 21st, 2 till 4 on your calendar to come and interact with your fellow Friends and have some fun to boot.

Chris Bedford

We value your membership! If you haven't renewed, please do so as soon as possible! Thanks!



2010 Exhibit Schedule

February 22-March 28
*Under the Covers,
Quilts from our collection*

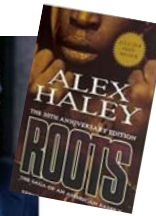
April 15-May 2
Elementary School Art Fair

May 24-Sept. 12
DesBrisay's Curiosities

Sept. 26-November 7
100th Anniversary of Canadian Girl Guides

Nov. 28-Jan.1
Christmas Exhibit

Words of Wisdom



In every conceivable manner, the family is link to our past, bridge to our future.

~ Alex Haley

History never looks like history when you are living through it. ~John W. Gardner

DesBrisay Museum

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Bridgewater Museum Commission 2009/10

Dr. Brian Tennyson, Chair
Susan Beazley, Vice Chair
Jim Reid, Friends' Rep
Greg Ritcey, Town Rep
Jean McHarg
Joan Fillmore
David Weagle

Friends of DesBrisay Museum Society

Chris Bedford, Chair
Greg Ritcey, Vice Chair
Jim Reid, Secretary
Carolyn Colbourne
Judy Corkum
Ken Wootten

DesBrisay Museum Staff

Barb Thompson, *Director*
Linda Bedford, *Curator*
Kendra Power, *Program Officer*
Doug George,
Maintenance Technician
Katimavik Volunteers
Robyn Clark
Alex Livernoche