Heritage Update

To keep you informed about current heritage news and events, we bring to you this season’s Heritage Update. We hope you will find this periodic newsletter both useful and entertaining. Your feedback is welcome!

President’s Report:

Although June 7 was a little rainy, it was a fantastic day for R. J. Haney Heritage Village and Museum. Members of the Shuswap Chapter of the Vintage Car Club delivered a 1925 Model T Ford Coupe to a very happy and appreciative audience in front of the Meek’s Filling Station.

It has been my dream of ten years to have a permanent vintage car or truck in the Village. Gary Cruikshank had approached the Vintage Car Club a couple of years ago to help find a vehicle that would be true to the pre 1930s era of the Village. Through the leadership of the then-President Brian Keith, the Club members began the task of finding a vehicle. Being enthusiasts of that field, they did not want to bring just any old vehicle back to the property. This spring, they found a car that all eight members of the Vintage Car Club agreed on: the Model T.

And what a beautiful black vintage car it is! It fits so well with the Village and looks just like it belongs. Everyone must go out and take a look, or a picture.

Deborah Chapman, the Curator, also points out that the car is very much like the coupe painted in A. A. Brooke’s introductory painting from *The Story of Ruth*. What a nice tie in to that exhibition at the Museum!

As I pointed out on the day of the Model T’s unveiling, Haney Heritage Village has had many exceptional and successful partnerships in the Shuswap Community. One example of this is with the Vintage Car Club. The members have had so many well attended Vintage Car shows out at Haney—one of the Village’s favorite and most successful events—and have worked long and hard to move, build, and create Meek’s Filling Station and the Lester and Thomson Garage out at the Village.

Thanks guys for all these wonderful contributions and for your continued support.

Doug Adams
General Manager’s Update:

Ahoy me hearties! On Sunday, July 1st, the Village is raising the curtain for the new SASCU Presents Haney Theatre. This season we are celebrating the nineteenth year of the Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre Production. It is sure to be a thrilling one in the new amphitheatre, set in a natural bowl just a short stroll from the Village.

This summer you will be entertained with the story of “Captain Billie Louie and the Pirate of the Shuswap”, a historical tale of Billie Louie, the last paddle boat captain on the Shuswap as well as the adventures of a Buccaneer. Written and directed by Peter Blacklock, this tale will amuse and entertain audiences of all ages. This is Peter’s third year with Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre Production and he is well-known for his original musical scores and humorous storytelling, which shares the history of Salmon Arm and area.

This entertaining production has a cast of talented local actors, which include Alaura Bibby, Hannah Gomme, Caleb Makortoff, and Aidan Sparks. They are sure to charm you with this merry yarn.

Enjoy a home cooked dinner with all the pioneer fixings served from Marjorie’s Tea Room. The performance is followed by a dessert of homemade rhubarb crisp and ice cream. Opening night is Sunday, July 1st with shows every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday evening until August 24th. Partake in some noontime grub on Thursday August 2nd during a special matinee performance.

**Reservations are a must!** Ticket prices include HST: adults $24, seniors $21, children 5 to 12 $14, and children 4 and under are free. For more information call 250-832-5243. You can also visit our website online at www.salmonarmmuseum.org or like us on facebook at facebook.com/Haneyheritage

Yo, Ho, Ho, it is sure to be a highlight of Salmon Arm’s summer entertainment!

Susan Mackie
Notes from the Curator:
Running Water and a Kitchen Sink!

When the Shuswap Community Foundation awarded $3000 to the Salmon Arm Museum, from the Lloyd and Dorothy Askew Fund, it was disbursing money to one of many charities in the Shuswap. The Kitchen Project was going to make one museum staff member very happy.

The funded project addressed a long time desire. This curator wanted Mrs. Haney to have a comfortable kitchen to work in. The original kitchen had been replaced in the 1950s. Everything was modernized. When the Museum took up restoration of the Haney House, the sink and cupboard didn't fit with the era but it wasn't removed until 1993. Although the bedrooms, original bathroom, living room, and dining room were all stripped of their not-so-original paint colours and wallpaper, the problem in the kitchen was never addressed. Other projects took precedence. In 1993, the main floor had its fir floors refinished and there was enough money left over to put Battleship Marmoleum in the kitchen. The new flooring in the kitchen was period appropriate and a lovely shade of green.

With JCP and Heritage Legacy of BC funding secured, a new roof went on Haney House in 2011. The City of Salmon Arm stepped forward with the funding to remove the asbestos in the attic. The Shuswap Quilters Guild and Glass Protect installed UV Film to protect the artefacts in the house.

Still Mrs. Haney had no kitchen sink to do her dishes in.

Fortunately, the Shuswap Foundation awarded the Museum Association with a grant to build the kitchen sink cupboard and restore three chairs from the Montebello Hotel. This spring Pea-Oui Contracting installed a reproduction 1910 sink cupboard. A donated antique cast iron sink and sink taps completed the picture.

Staff members know that both Mr. and Mrs. Haney would be pleased. Maggie Haney has somewhere to prepare tea for her visitors on her "at home" day. RJ Haney has an all-too-familiar seat that came from the much loved hotel and public house that burned down in 1967.

Deborah Chapman

Bottom right: Construction and Maintenance Manager Ted McTaggart tells Shuswap Community Foundation President Karen Angove a "fishing story" in one of the three reupholstered chairs from the Montebello Hotel.

Karen's parents, Lloyd and Dorothy Askew, started an endowment fund with the Foundation and the interest earned paid for the new kitchen sink cabinet for Mrs. Haney and the restoration of the Montebello chairs. The Curator promises that the bottles are artefacts.
Exhibit DIY: The Making of a Museum

It is safe to say that the Salmon Arm Museum had humble beginnings. Even though twenty years ago staff members were few, and funds were limited, Deborah Chapman’s vision of a “big museum exhibit” in a small town was not quelled. In fact she was more determined than ever to make this museum the success that it is today. However, the devil is in the details, and without the dedicated labor contributions of Ted McTaggart, Haney Heritage Village’s Maintenance and Construction Manager, Deborah’s vision may have turned out very differently.

In a joint interview with Deborah Chapman and Ted McTaggart, both recall the challenges of creating the museum’s first exhibits. One sentence sums it up for the both of them: “This is nuts.” Unsure of how to undertake the daunting task of recreating history in a professional quality exhibit, both Ted and Deborah had to learn to scavenge anything and salvage everything in order to make their vision a success. That included, as Ted remembers, the time when they had to “beg Dr. Chu for fifty dollars for [one of] the exhibit[s]” because, as Deborah says, “it’s easy to find money for the big things rather than the nuts and bolts.”

Yet, it is those nuts and bolts that can make or break an exhibit. Those fine details, complex and barely noticeable to the public eye, are what set one museum apart from another. That is what Deborah appreciates and that is what Ted prides himself in. Details such as creating a continuous wood grain on the exhibit walls, considering the height of the walls in response to where the light hits a visitor’s eyes, or installing light switches in hidden places for easy access. Those details are the signs of professionalism and dedication.

There are always things to improve, and Ted can name quite a few. “But,” he says, “each time [Deborah and I] do it, we’re improving and working with the resources that we have . . . and I’m satisfied. I get satisfaction from that.”

Twenty years have passed since those humble beginnings and, as they say, with age, comes wisdom. Through trial and error, a little bit of skill, and “a whole lot of dumb luck”, Deborah and Ted have created illusions; stories pieced together as living photographs in a small museum room.

The measure of their joint success can be found simply in a recent visitor’s comment to the Billie Louie exhibit: “Somebody’s gotta do something with that story.” Visitors are inspired, “because,” says Deborah, “they realize that we’re different.”

Janelle Lessard, Archives Assistant

Please fill out the information below and return it with your cheque payable to R.J. Haney Heritage Village and the Salmon Arm Museum

Name: _________________________________________________________
Address: _________________________________________________________
Postal Code: __________________ Phone: __________________________
Donation: $_________  Yes ☐ No ☐
Also enclosed is my membership fee: $10.00  yes ☐ no ☐
Total enclosed: $_________

Please mail to Box 1642, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P7. All monetary gifts receive a tax receipt. Thank you for your generous support!
Volunteer and Membership Update

So far this season we have had seven events at the Village, including the Spring Cleanup and Pot Luck, with approximately 100 volunteers taking part. The dedication of our volunteers is incredible and it always amazes me when I get a “Yes, I can come on Sunday” from someone who has just finished putting in ‘x’ number of hours.

I confess to being a little behind in this, but as the Volunteer Co-coordinator, I want to honour our Volunteer of the Month. It has been difficult trying to determine who should be the monthly winner. It would seem logical to base the ‘top’ volunteer on how many hours he or she has put in, but our archive volunteers have put in a large amount of time, while others have put in vast amounts to build the Amphitheatre.

So, I’ve decided to go a slightly different route. After looking at where all the volunteer hours were being added, I have decided to focus on the person who has stood out while volunteering for events. Honourable mentions will be given to all those who have put in large amounts on a regular basis.

With these criteria in mind, the Volunteer of the Month for May is Kathy Walker. Kathy works primarily in the kitchen helping with prep and dishwashing. She always shows up on time with a positive attitude.

Honourable mentions go to Gary Cruikshank, who has put in an unbelievable amount of hours to get the Amphitheatre operational, as well as Neil Sutcliffe, Rosemary Wilson, and Lise Ouimet, who have all put in fifty plus hours each. It should be noted that the number of hours that Gary volunteered in May was more than Neil’s, Lise’s, and Kathy’s put together.

I would also like to talk about the benefits of becoming a SAMHA member. At $10 per year it’s an inexpensive way to help support the Village and Museum, and we also add in some bonuses. Members receive our informative newsletter, and have the right to vote at the Annual General Meeting. Present your membership card in the Gift Shop and we’ll give you 15% off anything you buy. We also provide you with a little booklet of coupons that can be used at various events at Haney Heritage Village during the season.

As a member, you can take advantage of the Membership Reciprocal Program, which is a collaboration of over twenty-five cultural institutions that offers benefits to Members. Last but not least, in September, we’ll be making a draw. The winner will be treated with five of his or her friends to dinner, at Haney House, served by the R.J. Haney Staff.

Jeanette Clement

Past Events of the 2012 Season

High Tea
May 27th, 2012

Quilting Show
June 9th, 2012

Father’s Day
June 17th, 2012
Learning on the Job: Visitor Services Assistant

As a university student, finding the right summer job to fit your needs can be stressful. I sure lucked out. I was drawn to the Visitor’s Services Assistant position for many reasons: the events, the opportunity to work with people, and, of course, the promise of homemade ice cream. Who could resist? Now that I am knee deep into my work term, however, I can see that working here at Haney Heritage Village is so much more.

One of the goals I had set myself for this summer work term was to improve my interpersonal skills. Through this position I have had numerous opportunities, with many more to come. One event where I found the best opportunity to practice was during our Pioneer School program. I enjoyed this program immensely, as kids are the best audience that can be used to gauge how well a tour is being delivered. They are not afraid to say when they do not understand, or show when a story excites them. The children that attended Pioneer School taught me about as much as I taught them! Also, being able to share the history of Salmon Arm with the younger generation is something I feel good about doing. As I have grown up here, I am proud to be able to share the heritage of my hometown with others.

Pioneer School was only one of the many great experiences I have had already this summer. As there are many other events planned, it is sure to be a fun-filled experience. I am looking forward to spending the rest of my summer here at Haney Heritage Village with this amazing team of staff and volunteers. It’s sure to be hard work, and difficult at times, but the experience and the people are well worth it. And the ice cream too, of course.

Emily Moen,
Visitor Services Assistant

Villains and Vittles Dinner Theatre Presents…

His & Hers Raffle!

Purchase a raffle ticket for your chance to win a prize worth $1,750.00! This prize includes a one night getaway and other perks from each of the Inn at the Ninth Hole, Podollan Inn, and Quaaout Lodge, 14K gold hoop earrings from Gem Set Studio, a spa package from Destination Hair Design and Spa, a handmade afghan by Rosemary Wilson, and golf and cart from Club Shuswap.

Tickets are only 2 for $5.00 and 5 for $10.00, so get yours today!
Available from the actors or at the museum.