

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:

In spite of a very challenging season our hard working staff and volunteers came through to make this another successful year. In fact I have some impressive

numbers to report. In 2017 despite weeks of relentless heat, destructive wind storms and insidious smoke the Village welcomed 15,940 visitors, an increase of 16%. Considering local tourism numbers were down according to the official count we are very pleased with our increase. Numbers for dinner theatre were down a bit but that is mostly attributed to the smoke for this popular outdoor event. Many of the 2,280 guests who came said it was the best show so far.

The season at the Village starts in May with a well-attended cleanup day. Over 70 volunteers came out to spruce up the park for the season. Over 198.5 hours were contributed on this one day. Unfortunately the first wind storm a short time later undid much of the work and forced us to close due to fallen trees. Our amazing volunteers and staff came out and put in the hours so we could open the next day. The first event is the ever popular High Tea which is a sell out every year. In July we held our Montebello opening which was a great big community party and in August the Vintage Car show was very well attended even though it rained in the morning. Our season ended with the 22nd running of the Spooktacular Halloween event. Three weeks of staff and volunteer times goes in to getting ready for the two night event. The cold and rain impacted the numbers on the first night but we made up for it the second night.

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Past President's Update:

These are exciting times for the RJ Haney Heritage Village and Museum. The Association is now just in the final stages of completing the incredibly successful Montebello Project, creating an innovative and beautiful new Museum.

However this was just Phase I of our strategic plan adopted by the Association. Now the Board and Advisory Committee members are turning their attention to Phase 2 and 3 of that plan. Phase 2 encompasses moving our tearoom into the "old" museum building and developing a larger and more functional dining room. As we depend so much on the many volunteers the plan is for an expanded kitchen to keep up to our ever growing demand for food and beverage services.

Phase 3 involves creating a Children's Museum in the "old" tearoom space in the basement of the Broadview School house. Museums are moving to create more exhibit space aimed at children to attract families and offer new educational facilities for younger patrons.

After study and consultation we plan to move to a gate admission type of entrance rather than the "admission by donation."

All of these aspects of our development will be crucial to future sustainability and create employment opportunities for our youth in the community.

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President continued from page 1

Over 648 volunteer hours go into setting up and running the event for the two nights and then it takes another week to get it all cleaned up and stored away.

I would like to thank General Manager Susan Mackie and her dedicated staff for keeping things running smoothly all year. They were a great team as always and we are very grateful for their efforts. We have 330 volunteers on our list and they contributed 7,111 hours this year. We could not operate without them. They are the best without a doubt.

In the museum there are 47,888 artefacts catalogued, up 2.16 percent this year. The archives were open 900 hours and curator Deborah Chapman has a dedicated group of nine regular volunteers. They keep things running even when she is busy working on the Montebello, writing grant applications, or newspaper articles.

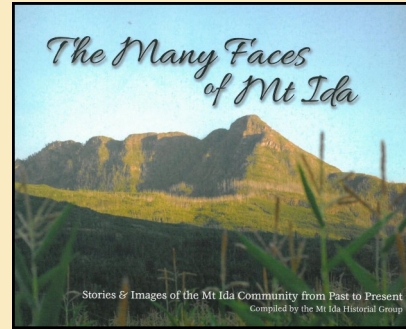
Work continued on the Montebello Museum and Deborah is busy planning the displays in the dioramas and her first exhibit in the new Gallery. We hope to complete the administration area, offices, and archive work space, so we can move everyone into the Montebello early next year.

I joined this organization in 1987 and I am very proud of everything we have accomplished. I look forward to the next 30 years. It is the people who make it happen and I thank everyone involved for all their hard work whether it is in planning, operations, maintenance or construction, it is all appreciated very much.

Norma Harisch, President



Need a great Christmas gift for someone special?



Purchase your copy of *the Many Faces of Mt. Ida* at the Village gift shop for \$25 (includes taxes).

Proceeds from the sale of the book generously donated to support RJ Haney Heritage Village and Museum. Thank you Mt. Ida Historical Group!

Past President continued from page 1

We have been successful in obtaining a grant from the BC Rural Dividend fund to facilitate the strategic planning for Phase 2 and 3 and the new admission initiative. Their mission is to assist communities under 25,000 residents in meeting the demands of the future and they assessed projects as follows:

Projects were assessed and approved based on the following criteria-

- Rural communities most in need.
- Improved community resiliency and economic strength.
- Partnership building and enhanced shared prosperity.
- Project feasibility and sustainability.
- Economic impact on rural communities.
- Attracting and retaining youth.
- Innovation in economic development.

Please get involved in our planning. We welcome any comments or suggestions to help us continue making a positive contribution to the Community. Contact our General Manager Susan Mackie or Curator Deborah Chapman. Thank you.

*Doug Adams
Director*





Dates to Remember

- Heritage Week—Feb 19th-24th
- Village & Marjorie’s Tea Room Opens – May 16th
- Pancake Breakfast—May 19th & 20th
- High Tea—May 27^h
- Father’s Day—June 17th
- Dinner Theatre—July 4st –Aug 26th
- Pioneer Day—July 8th Montebello Opening!
- Soiree— TBA— 9th Annual
- Classic/Antique Car Show—Aug 12th
- Harvest Celebration — Sept 9th
- Tea Room closes — Sept. 15th
- Village closes —Sept. 22rd
- Cemetery Tour—Oct. 14th
- Spooktacular—Oct 20 & 21

See the website www.salmonarmmuseum.org for event admission and details

Like us on facebook!
facebook.com/haneyheritage



Members and Volunteers:

*Join us for
an Edwardian Christmas Party*

Sunday, December 10, 2017

2:00 pm—Marjorie's Tea Room

Bring your favourite dessert or savory dish

For further information phone:

250-832-5243

R.J. Haney
Heritage Village & Museum



Donation and/or Membership Form

Please fill out the information below and return it with your cheque payable to

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Donation: \$ _____

Also enclosed is my membership fee of \$10: Yes No

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Phone Number: _____

City & Province: _____

E-mail: _____

Project: _____

Date: _____

**Please mail to Box 1642, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4P7. Tax receipts for monetary gifts available upon request.
Thank you for your generous support!**



The Beginning of a Great Adventure



April 10, 2017. My first day as Heritage Program Assistant at R.J. Haney Heritage Village & the Salmon Arm Museum. I had no clue what to do, I didn't know anyone on the staff. I was nervous. I knew I'd do well, but I was still anxious to be starting all over again.

My family and I had recently moved home to the Okanagan from Calgary. I had spent over 20 years away from home, total. I only knew a few people still, and those were just acquaintances. I'd been through a marriage, kids, a divorce and was now remarried. I left a great, secure job at Sun Life Financial in Calgary to move home to be closer to the rest of our families. Kyle and I both grew up here, and wanted to be near our relatives, so we packed up my two boys and moved back home.

I remember spending the first few months barely looking for work. I was enjoying being home for the boys and Kyle, and we were making it on Kyle's wage from the mill. I saw the ad for the Heritage Program Assistant position on the Work BC job board. I thought, "why not?" So, I sent in my resume and cover letter.

It was a week or so until I got a phone call from Susan. She invited me into the Museum for an interview. It went really well, but I wasn't sure if this was the job for me. It was seasonal, and it didn't pay as much as I had hoped. I walked away wondering what I would do if she offered me the job. I thought about it over a few days. If she called, I was going to decline. I needed more money. And then she called. And I accepted, much to my surprise.

It was hard at first, starting a new job, meeting new people, and not knowing what the heck I was getting myself into. But sure enough, I began to really love it. I had such a wonderful time all year. The events were spectacular, the school programs were so much fun and I learned so much about Salmon Arm! I grew up in

Adventure cont.....

Enderby, and never knew any of the local history in the area. Now I go downtown, and I see McGuire Lake. I wonder what Agnes McGuire would have been like. I wonder about how she came up with the idea to sell pieces of her property to the town. If it hadn't been for her business savvy, our downtown core would probably be in a different location. My family is probably getting tired of hearing me talk about the history as well. I always start with "did you know..." and then I dazzle them with a little tidbit about some random Salmon Arm fact or story.

I spent my summer setting up for events, tearing down events, taking reservations for dinner theatre, conducting house and village tours. I worked alongside our amazing staff and some of the most dedicated volunteers I have ever seen. Towards the end of the season, Susan and I sat down to lunch and she said "So do you think...." I interrupted her, saying "I've already decided to come back next year."

Over the next month, for the remainder of the season, Susan continued to give me more responsibility. It started with: "I would like you to run both school programs." "I think we should change your title to Heritage Program Coordinator, since you will be running the school programs." "I'd like you to take over memberships." "With your new title, I think we should give you a business card."

I am so excited to be on this journey. I see myself having a long, great career with Haney, all the while having the best time I've ever had at any job.

Rebecca Whitehead
Heritage Program Coordinator



We at R.J. Haney Heritage Village & Museum wish to thank the City of Salmon Arm, the British Columbia Arts Council and the Province of British Columbia for their generous support.



Warm toes!



The Montebello building is toasty warm these days. When Board member Garry Landers was unloading a truckload of recycled work stations for use in the Montebello's collections management area a few days ago, he grinned as he came in from the snow.

“Just think of that heat all coming from the earth. It’s pretty fantastic,” Landers added.

Thanks to a grant from the Shuswap Community Foundation and the BC Arts Council, we’re making as small a footprint as possible in the newly constructed Montebello.

The difference between the cost of installing a traditional system and a geothermal heating and cooling system was significant. A test hole was drilled to figure out if the site was viable. A bill for \$3,150 started the project. Over \$40,000 was needed to drill the wells that would service the 6,000 square foot building.



The bean counters were called upon to figure out how long it would take to recover the cost of drilling: several years.

But not relying on fossil fuels was very important to several museum board members. Some had geothermal heat in their homes already and supported the technology. Others just wanted to feel they were making a difference.

Younger museum members like Christina Harisch and Devon Tompkins were vocal at meetings. A more environmentally friendly heating system was going to

be an investment in the future. Their future.

Christina was passionate about the clean choice. She is the youngest museum board member. In the early stages of planning for the new museum building, she measured the pros and cons of the types of heating



systems available.

“I question whether spending money on a heating system that is not as clean as geothermal, has a larger carbon footprint than geothermal, and has a consistently rising cost would be considered a wise investment.”

“We have a responsibility to the future of this organization and the environment. The Montebello Museum is a legacy project that will expand the scope of our museum and our ability to tell the story of Salmon Arm. I believe that part of that legacy is choosing to ensure that our impact to the environment is as minimal as possible.”

When Garry Landers and the crew of volunteers unloading the work stations came in from the cold that November day, they might have agreed that the extra \$40,000 needed was money well spent. The artefacts were going to be well taken care of.

Deborah Chapman
Curator/Archivist

Thank you also Canada Summer Jobs, Get Youth Working, Work BC and Young Canada Works for providing much needed financial support that allows us to hire our wonderful student cast and crew.





1967: Taking the past and holding it for the future

Museum President Jennie Nancollas and MLA Isabel Dawson, cut the ribbon.



1990: Movin' out to Haney Mayor Dick Smith, MLA Cliff Michaels, and Ev Sonne.

Remembering....

This year Canada's 150+ celebration and the Salmon Arm Museum's agenda to preserve and collect the history of the region were naturally linked. Past President Doug Adams is fond of saying that deadlines are important. They make things happen. The Association's Board, staff and dedicated volunteers set sights on opening a new museum, the Montebello building, on the organization's 54th anniversary, July 9th, 2017. Over 900 people showed up to mark the event. We were making history.

This Association has come a long way since the first Salmon Arm Museum opened in 1967. The membership had been planning a building for five years. Opportunity knocked. Leading up to the centennial, the Federal Government put aside \$1 per Canadian for construction projects. Partnering with provincial and municipal governments, federal money was matched dollar for dollar. Museums were built in Salmon Arm, Prince George, Kelowna, Langley, Kitimat, and Victoria. The Salmon Arm Museum's grant totaled \$18,000!

The little museum opened Saturday, July 29th, 1967 as part of the Shuswap Regatta celebration, but was overshadowed by a bigger event that week - the burning of a community landmark, the 59 year old Montebello Hotel. Started by cigarette butts dumped down a garbage chute, the fire had two casualties – hotel guests Amy Topping and Herbert George Slape. The million dollar blaze destroyed the 37 room hotel and nine other businesses. Four more suffered extensive smoke and water damage. Two firemen were injured.

Reporters were busy with the fire threatening most of downtown Salmon Arm. No one was thinking about the opening of the Museum building two blocks to the south of the Montebello at press deadline.



Over the next decade, the Association was governed by a hands-on board of directors who were aided by summer students. The collection grew until off site storage was needed.

Then the Association “acquired” Haney Park thanks in no small part to board member Helenita Harvey. Helenita’s friend, Marjorie Fulton, had offered her the Haney property as a gift. Something about the offer didn’t sit right with Helenita. She told Marjorie that she’d rather the house and grounds be operated as a heritage attraction. A lawyer was called, a will drafted, and, on Marjorie’s death, the City received the house and 40 acres on the condition that the Salmon Arm Museum and Heritage Association manage the property.

When Museum Manager Dave Harper was hired in 1987 there were two properties, the downtown museum on Alexander and the Haney acreage at Larch Hill Corner. It was a time of development. Two log buildings came to the parking lot. Signage was placed at the gate to the property and business, marketing and development plans evolved. A good day saw 12-24 visitors.

In 1990 a second community museum opened. This one, five kilometres east, was built to centralize operations at the emerging Village at Haney Heritage Park. Manager Brad Campbell offered free hot dogs and an overwhelming crowd appeared. His marketing ploy worked. Cars lined the highway outside the gate. Unfortunately, there weren’t any parking attendants to direct traffic.



Twenty-seven years later, the museum was literally bursting at the seams. A new plan for a 6000 square foot museum has become a reality.

General Manager Susan Mackie smiles when she talks about the party she threw in July. There were no free hotdogs, but attendance set records all the same and it was a day neither of us will ever forget. It was a true community celebration with professional musicians, costumed interpreters, demonstrations, really good food, and the Community Band playing CA-NA-DA. Luckily there was no community catastrophe competing for attention!



2017: It takes a community to raise a village.

*Deborah Chapman
Curator/Archivist*



A round of applause for the Friends of Haney...

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Adams, Doug and Donna
Ainsworth, Cliff and Adele
Ambil, Diane
Anderson, Boyd
Anderson, Susan and Bell, Robin
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Chapman, Deborah
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We couldn't have built the Montebello without you.

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YOU made the difference...

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Jones, Jerry and Debbie
Kassa, Bryan and Patti

and helped us finish a dream.

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Kline, Gabi
Krull Mervyn and Prosser, Loretta
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Paterson, Dr. Donald and Doreen



Our thanks.....

and gratitude



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