President’s Message

Fellow members of the museum world,

We just had a wonderful experience during our annual conference in Saint John. I hope that your time was memorable and that you made lots of new acquaintances and friendships. I must thank our organizing committee for this conference and congratulate our winners. These have been moments worth cherishing.

Provincial elections have also been held, and we now have a new minister, Trevor Holder. The AMNB would like to congratulate Honourable Minister Holder on his appointment. A meeting will take place as soon as possible between your association and Minister Holder.

On another note, as you surely know, pre-budget conferences will soon be held in several locations around the province. The AMNB invites you to exercise your rights by making yourself heard during those conferences. Make your needs known and, if applicable, your recommendations. Our needs are all different, but they intersect at some important points.

Very soon, you will receive requests for proposals to present an exhibition at the Legislative Assembly Building. We strongly encourage you to respond in order to publicize your region and museums through this partnership project between the New Brunswick Provincial Capital Commission and your association.

In closing, along with the board of directors and our administrative assistant, as the holiday season closes in upon us, I would like to send you our sincerest warm wishes. Let’s seize this opportunity to share special moments with our families and friends. Let’s recharge our batteries for 2011 in order to return with vitality and strength to continue conveying our common passion for our heritage in all its forms.

We wish you well and hope that 2011 brings Joy, Health, Happiness and Prosperity for you and yours, as well as your institution! Until next year…

Lyne Bard

From Wayne Burley

President Lyne Bard

Madame la Presidente, please accept my sincere thanks, and pass this along to the members of the Board and to the entire membership of the Association Museums New Brunswick, for the special honour bestowed on me at your Annual Meeting in Saint John on October 14, 2010. I was so happy to be at the New Brunswick Museum/Musée du Nouveau-Brunswick to see so many museum friends and to share in a special ceremony that also honoured a number of our most esteemed museum professionals and volunteers. I was pleased to be mentioned in Jane Fullerton's opening remarks and so grateful to Jane for her tribute to our dear colleague, Wendy Martindale.

As I mentioned to those present in Saint John, it was an honour for me to work closely, for so many years, with the incredible members of our museum community, all over our province. I enjoyed meeting with you and visiting your museums and sites to work on how the province could better serve you and collaborate towards the conservation of our material culture and our unique stories. You taught me so much, especially your dedication to your community and to our collective identity. I want to mention and pay tribute to the role of my government colleagues, both provincial, federal and municipal, and to their acceptance and support over the 18 years that I spent as Director of the Heritage Branch.

Finally, I want to congratulate the AMNB for its long standing contribution to our Province. The effort of so many, for many years has been substantial. Despite challenges, your organization has successful engaged the museum community and continues to bring people together to advance a common good. All New Brunswickers should be proud of the work of the AMNB and I personally wish you much future success.

Please accept my thanks for the lovely gift you presented me in Saint John. The wood carving of the American Woodcock/Becasse d’Amerique by Luc Cyr and Paula Lentz of Baker Brook, NB is a beautiful piece of work that will occupy a special place of honour on a shelf of my new home office!

Many thanks to all those who sent tributes that appeared in the last edition of Alerte. They were greatly appreciated.

All the best and thanks again/merci beaucoup.
Sincerely Wayne Burley

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Thursday-Saturday
14-16 October
Saint John

Photos courtesy Bill Clarke and Gerry Gillcash
2010 AGM & Conference

Photos courtesy
Bill Clarke and
Gerry Gillcash
Quarter Century Award to Wayne and Edith Gillcash

2010 AMNB Awards

We are very pleased to announce the co-winner(s) of this year’s “Quarter Century Award” from our area as Mr. Wayne Gillcash and his wife Mrs. Edith Gillcash. Wayne and Edith have been so deeply involved with both the Westmorland Historical Society and the Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation that we felt it only appropriate to collaborate on the nomination. As such, the following is part of that nomination process:

Just as in marriage so in life Edith and Wayne have shared many joys, teaching, responsibilities and volunteer work. This is why we could not nominate one without the other. Their volunteer work was a shared thing and so should this award.

Both teachers, they enjoyed the many years sharing their knowledge with their students and it is evident neither could stand idle and watch the world go by, they jumped in with both feet and made everyone’s life better for the contact.

Through the many years as members of the Westmorland Historical Society, if one was not the editor of our newsletter the other one was. They felt the need to share their findings about our rich heritage with others and many times both worked together with the collecting of information, the writing of the articles and their distribution.

Through their work they were able to provide a network to let everyone know what was going on in the historic Westmorland County and throughout the province of New Brunswick. If not for their dedication over the years (since 1967) we feel the society would not have been able to survive or be as successful. Not only did they dedicate over a quarter century to the newsletter, Wayne steered us right when it came time for nominations for new Directors and in the area of genealogical research.

Edith also gave her time as our resident hooker of mats, always ready to teach this craft; every fund raiser would also see Edith providing something and coming as a willing volunteer.

Wayne and Edith have been members of the Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation since 1976 and Edith became a Director in 1985 and has served in many capacities throughout these past 25 years.

Her love for things historical and her ability, willingness and eagerness to share these facts have greatly enhanced our society and the museum community. Together with Wayne they have supported the museum, our genealogy efforts and they are always available to volunteer at social functions and fundraising events. When they spoke at functions, whether the topic be museums, artifacts, or of a genealogical nature, they always leave us better informed and more enthusiastic about our heritage.

We, at the Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation Inc., wholeheartedly endorse the nomination of Wayne and Edith Gillcash for the “Quarter Century Award”.

There are further accolades in the nomination process by the President of the Westmorland Historical Society, Mr. Eugene Goodrich and by another 30 year member of their society, Elizabeth Adams. So from all of us involved with the Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation Inc. and the Westmorland Historical Society and our Communities, we wish to extend our sincere congratulations in the winning of this “Quarter Century Award”. It is most deserving and we thank you for all you have contributed to make our society a much better place.

Editor’s Note: Wayne and Edith were unable to join us for the Awards Reception and Banquet in October so we honour their many years of service here. Congratulations, Wayne and Edith from the AMNB!
News from Bathurst Heritage Trust

This past year has been an exciting one and it goes on and on. In July 2009 we launched our Virtual Museum Exhibition on the Pulp and Paper Industry in Bathurst entitled, “A Tale to Tell”. Over the fall and winter we started a campaign to collect funds to have this project translated to the french language. There is no reason to explain the necessity of this endeavour but it took a lot of convincing and letter writing and speaking events to finally come up with the funds. By May we were well on our way and by August we sent the translated copy to CHIN and we expect that by October the schools will have access to the story in both languages. There were over 33,000 words to be translated from english to french and now it is done and we are very proud.

During the summer Gallery 360 hosted the incredible art of Cynthia DeCoste, selected by her peers in 2009 as one of NB's “Emerging Artists”. After her show, the New Brunswick Museum moved in with a fantastic exhibition of the history of 20th century nursing in NB entitled, “The Lamp & The Union”. Within days of opening the number of visits was extraordinary. With two University Schools of Nursing and the Community College School for LPN's in the local area, this is to be expected. In addition, we included the history of nursing and nursing schools in Gloucester County to the exhibit as well as displays of nursing in the community out of hospital. For example, parish nursing; palliative care in the home; extra mural hospital; UNB and U de M posters; the first midwife Mrs. Pinet, and a little about northern nursing by local nurses. On Sunday, 26 September 2010 from 2 to 5pm there was an Open House. So the Museum is ever becoming an important part of the lives of people in our communities. Jessica Ryan

New Brunswick Mat Registry

Creation of a New Brunswick Mat Registry to document hooked mats of more than 25 years.

New Brunswick mat hookers have talked for years about the importance of documenting the hooked mats that cover the floors of New Brunswick homes. A network of volunteers from all regions of the province have created a New Brunswick Mat Registry to document hooked mats made by grandmothers, mothers and friends and to preserve the stories behind them. Renowned New Brunswick artists Viola Leger and Susan Vida Judah have lent their support as Honorary Chairpersons. This initiative will result in the development of a database documenting mats hooked in New Brunswick more than 25 years ago.

A pilot project has so far ensured the documentation of more than 100 mats, some as old as 100 years. These mats were photographed, examined in detail and the owners were interviewed to capture the individual histories behind them. This project will now be extended with registries taking place in various parts of the province. Everyone who owns a mat made more than 25 years ago in New Brunswick or by someone born in the province is invited to share this heritage with the NB Mat Registry.

Two additional Registries were held in 2010, one at Government House in Fredericton (October 23) and the other at Musée acadien de l’Université de Moncton (November 6). The public was invited to meet with volunteers between 9:00 and 4:00 and receive information on how to register a mat. A brochure outlining the objectives of the Registry is available. For more information, please contact Judy Morison (379-6682) or Line Godbout (532-4681).
On Wednesday August 26, 2009 the New Brunswick Internment Camp Museum of Minto, New Brunswick received a visit from Hans Reichenfeld; a former Jewish prisoner at the Ripples Internment Camp.

Hans was born in Austria but left the country in 1938 when it joined with Germany. At this time many Jewish people began to realize that there would be no future for them in Germany, therefore, they took refuge in any country that would accept them. At the age of fifteen Hans’ family sent him to England so that he could get an education. While Hans’ family was still in Austria, Hans studied at Yorkford University in England. A year later, Hans’ family moved to England and there they attended an old scholar’s reunion. When Hans went to visit his parents at the reunion he was taken from his family and sent to Canada along with 40,000 other refugees.

Hans arrived at the Ripples Internment Camp in 1940, at the age of seventeen. Rather than being scared like most would assume, Hans said that like any other seventeen year old, he thought of his experience as an adventure. Hans was interned from June 1940 to February 1941. While at the camp, he said that he enjoyed cutting lumber and he also enjoyed socializing with some of the prominent political refugees and the Austrian communist leaders.

In 1941, the Canadian Government decided that Hans was not a threat to the war effort, therefore, he was released. Upon release he joined the air force and stayed in the military for three and a half years. After the military, he went back to university in the UK to become a doctor and after receiving his degree he worked alongside his father for a year. Later, he became a general practitioner in Birmingham, England, and in 1966 Hans moved to Canada and became a psychiatric doctor.

Hans is still living in Canada, and during his visit to the museum he commented that "the museum helped revisit parts of his past internment at Camp B." and also that the museum is an "excellent and well organized and instructive museum of our recent past."

Dr. Hans Reichenfeld, Ed Caissie Museum Curator, Dr. Michael McGowan, St. Thomas University. Dr McGowan arranged for Dr. Reichenfelds visit. One photo at the original site of the camp; the other taken at the Museum.

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**The Lamp and the Union**

19 November 2010 to 17 February 2011, New Brunswick Museum

This showcase exhibition presents a brief overview of the story of nursing in New Brunswick and features a sampling of artifacts from the NBM’s New Brunswick Nursing History Collection. It highlights the dramatic changes which occurred in the profession from the time when the first nursing schools were established in New Brunswick in the late nineteenth century to the emergence of a more activist and specialized profession. This travelling exhibition was produced in cooperation with the Nurses Association of New Brunswick and the New Brunswick Nurses Union.

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**Tilley House, Gagetown**

Christmas Open House
27-28 November 2010

Christmas Floral Fantasy
“Du Réel au Miniature” Railroad Interpretation Centre

In the fall of 2010, the report card for the current year has been a favourable one.

Our website, www.dureelauminiature.com, keeps growing. It is becoming an essential tool that meets people’s need to get to know us better. A weekly electronic evaluation indicates that the number of visitors is always growing.

This summer, we doubled the number of visitors during this busy period.

Among the pieces donated in 2010, two really got our attention:

A velocipede dating from 1910 (a tricycle used for rail inspection)

A brass gas lamp (lamp suspended in a passenger car that fell into Long Lake due to a derailment in 1918).

Because our 2010 theme was the passenger train, we built a small village station façade. It is an 1850s replica.

Next to the station, we created a completely recycled garden that allows people to leave a temporary mark of the time they spent with us. It is comprised of house foundation scrap, stoneware drainage pipes used as flower pots, plants that have been transplanted and hand-crushed stone.

In order to assist our boutique clientele, an access ramp was added to the already existing front steps. It was the only location at the site that had not received that accommodation.

An honour roll was also created. It provides special recognition to our generous donors of pieces and financial contributors and to those who help us with our can-recycling fundraising project. It features more than 180 plaques representing more than 225 people.

Until next time!
The Mission of the Association Museums

New Brunswick shall be to preserve the history and heritage of the province of New Brunswick by uniting, promoting and advancing the aspirations of all workers in the heritage and cultural fields in the province of New Brunswick both voluntary and professional, their supporters and other heritage and cultural organizations.

Upcoming Events

18 December 2010 – 10 January 2011: A Blizzard of Fun! New Brunswick Museum
Interactive learning adventures from 50s fun to nature discoveries are guaranteed to take the chill out of winter and add in lots of fun! Regular admission.

29, 30, 31 December 12-5 pm: Our Gift to You! New Brunswick Museum
Free admission to the NBM! Bring your friends and family for heritage story-telling, creative activities, films and music for all ages! Feature Film: Carleton Martello Tower: Sentinel of Saint John (recent award winning short film). Happy Holidays from the New Brunswick Museum!

14-21 February 2011 Heritage Week 2011
In recognition of the International Year of Forests, the theme will be Celebrating Forests for People.

Until 20 March 2011