

Outlook

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Lunenburg County Historical Society
Fort Point Museum, PO Box 99, LaHave NS B0R 1C0
www.fortpointmuseum.com

ANTICIPATING OUR 42ND YEAR AT FORT POINT...THE YEAR OF THE IDEAS

After the business part of the Society's AGM last October was over there was an informal discussion and Q&A about things we could be doing to inspire more interest in Fort Point Museum. A lot of this discussion was related to money and raising it. But there is more to it than money. With our membership dues— though considerably down this past year— our few fund raisers and modest NS and MODL grants we manage to pay our expenses and our share of summer student salaries. But there isn't any extra to enhance the museum and the grounds.

What we need are ideas for meaningful projects that will create public interest and give us some real meat in applying for grants. There is a lot of grant money out there but to get a grant you must have a good project. And to have a good project you have to have good ideas.

And that's where You come in. What can we do to make Fort Point an interesting place that will inspire the local Lunenburg County folks to want to visit and bring their summer visitors, or just come themselves simply to see what's new—what can we do to make us a destination? So...



THE BOARD CAME UP WITH AN IDEA

"FOOD FOR THOUGHT"

FOOD FOR THOUGHT is the theme of our first general meeting & pot-luck of the season on Tuesday April 15. It's a pot-luck just like usual except that it's different. A good fairy is providing dessert so you're on for a salad, a main, bread or rolls but no dessert. That's the food part.

The thought part is also a pot-luck as you're going to be bringing your ideas for going forward.

LCHS Board of Directors

President

Martha Saunders

Vice President

Marla Webber

Secretary

Ruth Seamone

Treasurer

Diana Dines

Directors

Hank Middleton

Alden Darville

First Potluck Supper of the 2014 Season Tuesday, April 15

Our first general meeting of the 2014 season and pot-luck supper for members and guests will be on Tuesday, **April 15th** at the Fort Point Museum at 6:30 pm.— downstairs in the multi-purpose room (enter at the lower level). Remember to bring a plate and cutlery—we have tea, coffee and water, everyone brings a dish—main, salad, bread/.

April 15

Ruth Seamone

Facilitator

Food for Thought

May 20

Leif Helmer

NSCC Faculty &

Environmental Planner

June 17

Volunteer Appreciation

Dinner



THE MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL SUNDAY AUGUST 17—1 PM TO 6 PM

It's new this year—a slightly different take on the Acadian-Mi'kmaq Festival

Watch for more information



*SOME THINGS
CHANGE AND SOME
THINGS STAY THE
SAME*



After a few years of being a bit unclear as to who actually owns the building known as Fort Point Museum it has finally been concluded that the Province of Nova Scotia actually does own the land and the building and LCHS operates a museum on this site. There are numerous structure related things that must be remedied before we can open the 3rd floor and in the meantime our talented and hardworking board member & museum manager, Marla Webber, has managed to make it all work and the museum is looking great and refreshed and different — inside.

But outside nothing has changed and the old building needs paint and we all know that the Province doesn't have any money and Fort Point Museum isn't on anyone's priority list anyway (except ours) and so we really need a paint party. So if you can paint, hold up your hand. Not only will we pay you in lobster, but wine too!

PLEASE READ THIS—MAYBE YOU CAN HELP

One of our members took on a truly interesting task this winter—she volunteered to be on the “peer review committee” for *Young Canada Works—Canada Heritage* to evaluate and grade applications for student summer employment grants. She was sent a box of 55 grant applications from museums throughout British Columbia, ranging in size from the Royal Museum of BC in Victoria, which is probably comparable to our NS Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax to a very small all-volunteer museum in Peach River BC, probably comparable to our Fort Point Museum. Not only did she learn how to write the “perfect” grant for student summer employee grants, she also learned what sort of projects other museums plan for their summer students. One museum stated that they had produced a walking tour book of their town and this summer they were planning that their students would produce a “guided walking tour script” that would include information that was not in the basic book—personal anecdotes about the families or businesses that had once lived in/occupied a particular house or operated a particular business. And then they could offer guided walking tours. Another small museum will have their summer students complete the photographing of all items in their collection, scan photos and file the copies in binders with all ID numbers noted so originals can be easily located. Another museum is having their students assist in the refurbishment of an old boat that has been given to them.

The peer review evaluators of the student grants are mindful that the main goal of YCW and their partner, Canada Heritage is to ensure that the students have a meaningful and educational summer job and a salary that will provide most of their university tuition for the coming year. We can employ these students for 16 weeks—May 1 to August 31—and the grant pays 75% of their salary. But, we have to ensure that their jobs are meaningful and they will pick up some employable skills.

We not only need our student staff to keep our museum open during the year; there are myriad of things that can be done to make our museum special and to contribute to our mandate to preserve the hiSTORY of the area.

Please think about more than suggesting projects we should tackle but how you can help in mentoring.

June is the month for kids at Fort Point



Our student staff will start on June 1 and we will be open to receive our guests. We're looking forward to a busy month as June is the time when teachers all over the area are looking for field trips for their students. Fort Point Museum meets all the criteria as an educational field trip destination with its wealth of history of the area from 1632 onwards, including the arrival of the French, the German settlers, the Mi'kmaq and Acadian presence, and the more modern times of a busy thriving LaHave and surrounding villages and farmlands. Plus there are picnic grounds, a playing field and a beach! So if you're a teacher reading this, or a parent who can suggest things to a teacher, contact the museum at 688-1632 or email lchs-fortpoint@gmail.com— or if it is before we open in June, call our board member **Hank Middleton** at 543-2349 or 521-5177 .

*“LaHave River and Beyond...”
Saturday July 19, 10 am to 5 pm*

2014 is the summer for our semi-annual home tour when wonderful folks open their homes as a benefit for Fort Point Museum. The committee is working hard to line up another group of interesting houses so save the date and tell your friends. (And, as usual, we can always use your help with hosting homes or serving tea at the museum. Also, if you know of a wonderful home we should include on the tour, call Mary Fulleman at 688-1838.)

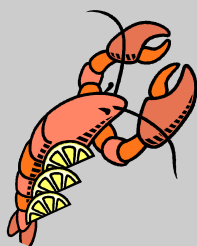


*Believe it or
Not—It's time to enjoy our
traditional*

*First-Sunday-in-June Lobster Supper**

**(Sometimes the Last-Sunday-in May L.S.)*

*Join us as we celebrate the end of the
South Shore Lobster Season and
the beginning of the 2014
summer season at
Fort Point Museum.*



*Enjoy a pound and a half lobster,
homemade salads, rolls, dessert.
Cash bar.*

*Sunday June 1, 2014**

LCHS Members \$25—Non Members \$30

For reservations call Donna Malone at 521-8953

***Lobster Supper** Help Wanted: KP, scullery, servers, cooking lobster, parking, set-up, decorations, clean-up, waste management, pre-event ticket delivery, membership renewals, cashier, hosts...etcetera etcetera. Good pay. Call Donna to sign-up.

FLEMING COLLEGE STUDENT PROJECT AT FORT POINT

Museum study program students from Fleming College will be going over a few* of our records on the database and they will be graded on their work. It is a nice collaboration, and we get some free editing. Each student will be responsible for reviewing a select number of database records and ensuring that the information is entered according to professional standards, in the appropriate field, does not contain spelling or grammatical errors, etc. After they have completed the initial cleaning up of data, they will select one or two objects to research and will add this enriched information to the record. Seems like a win-win project!

(* "a few" = 31)

SOME OF THE PROJECTS OUR STUDENTS WILL TAKE ON THIS SUMMER



- Accessioning and de-accessioning
- Learning proper care and handling techniques of artifacts
- Designing & interpreting museum displays
- Developing and implementing the "Back in the Days" Saturdays
- Developing and supervising historical themed parties for kids
- Promoting museum activities in various media
- Learning how to do such old-fashioned skills as spinning

And of course

- Meeting & greeting and giving tours

Volunteer Appreciation—Tuesday June 17

This is a special dinner when the LCHS Board thank the many volunteers that make the Fort Point Museum work, and we hope you will attend. There are people who volunteer at the Lobster Supper, the Acadian-Mi'kmaq Festival, the Home Tour, the Folk Festival, the Special Events; people who do the gardens, who arrange the programs, do the clean-up, the decorating, the exhibits; people who buy the supplies, who supervise summer staff—and then there are the people who had the vision, and who made Fort Point Museum happen, and who will be honoured on June 17 with their names inscribed on our Memorial Bench. Please plan to attend.

Back in the Day...

...when people wrote in cursive script (when cursive was taught in schools) our ancestors also hand-washed their clothes using a scrub board, with water from the river or the pond, using soap they had made from wood ashes, animal fat and water; they churned their own butter in a wooden churn from cream from their cows, (and later they graduated to shaking the cream in a glass bottle until it turned to butter). To build their houses and their barns they had to cut the growing trees at the right time of year (after “mud” season to mid summer) so that the bark would be easy to peel away. And, in the mid 19th century the ice cream churn was invented and people could make their own ice cream by churning a delectable custard of cream, eggs and sugar in a metal pail fitted with wooden paddles, which was placed in a wooden barrel with a mixture of ice and salt surrounding it. This was like nirvana!. (My mother, who came to consider ice cream her favourite food asked to have her serving heated the first time she tasted it on her fifth birthday in 1915.)

Each Saturday afternoon in July, from 1 pm to 4 pm, Fort Point Museum will offer a hands-on **Back in the Day** experience when we, and you, will actually do some of the daily living tasks that we all take so much for granted today, and learn a little about how our ancestors managed to run a household and feed their families. So be sure to mark your calendar for July 5,12,19 and 26 at Fort Point.

OUR WISH LIST

The next time you visit Fort Point Museum you’ll notice quite a few changes, one of which is the position of our wonderful old pump organ, which looks somewhat like this one. We have found in our archives the sheet music for a lovely song “*WHEN IT’S MOONLIGHT On LaHave*” by Laura A Allen. We have also found a volunteer who will play this song on our organ as we record it and have it playing for our visitors—sort of like a player piano without the keys moving.



What **we wish for** to complete the picture is a stool or bench. Do you have one, do you know someone who has one or a suggestion where we can find one? Maybe you’ve been in an antique shop or a junque shop that you could suggest. Please call **Marla Webber** at **688-1620**.

MEMBERSHIP IN LUNENBURG COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Our membership year is June 1 to May 31. **We value you as a member**
If you’re not a member, now is the time to join. If you are a member, now is the time to renew!

Return this portion with your dues. Make your cheque payable to **LCHS** and mail to
PO Box 99, LaHave NS B0R 1C0.

Special gifts in any amount are appreciated. Please include your email address if you would like to receive Outlook electronically.
Contributions are tax deductible in the amount allowed by law. A receipt will be sent upon request.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City/Town _____ Prov _____ Postal Code _____

- Individual \$10 _____
- Family \$20 _____
- Business \$30 _____
- Special Contribution _____
- Total Enclosed** _____

Please allocate this special contribution to:

- Grounds/Garden
- Building Maintenance/Improvement
- Special Exhibits & Programs
- Acadian—Mi’kmaq Heritage
- General Expense