

Bass River Notes

By Joyce Starratt

We've had some up and down weather, haven't we? A week of heavy rain and very strong winds. It sure was a serious situation with very bad flooding in the Yarmouth area. Other areas suffered flooding, but it was not as severe.

After the rain stopped, we had some days, which was just like spring. New, it's back to normal. Snow will be flying before we know it.

Margie taggart is home from the hospital and is doing quite well. Glad you are home, Margie. The John Sands concert was wonderful, as usual. He played a number of familiar tunes. The UCW had a social after the concert. The Remembrance Day Service at Veteran's Memorial Park was well attended. Many wreaths we laid in memory of loves ones. After the service, we went to the high school for refreshments. The students sup-

plied the food. They did a great job and should be congratulated. Thanks to Dr. Karen Ewing and the committee for a wonderful service. Also another vote of thanks to Dr. Ewing, because we now have a place to have a Remembrance Day service and a wonderful park, which attracts thousands of people each year. Economy held their Remembrance Day service on the 7th at the Rec Centre. Church was held there as well. The power was off for repairs. Not too much going on right now, but Christmas is coming.

Great Village Historical Society Notes

By Linda Shears

Copies of "History of Great Village" are still available and make great Christmas gifts for anyone on your Christmas list who enjoys history. Copies are available at the Great Village Antiques Shop, from the Colchester Museum and Archives and from Historical Society members, Logan Spencer, Meredith Layton and Linda Shears.

A great-great-grand-daughter of Archibald Woodbury MacLelan travelled from British Columbia to spend a few days this month visiting Great Village. Born in this area in 1824, A.W. MacLelan was a shipbuilder, ship-owner and politician. In partnership with his brother-in-law, John M. Blaikie, he constructed four large sailing vessels: the Cleo, the Wave King, the Wave Queen and the Monarch.

As a member of the Legislative Assembly for Colchester County, MacLelan worked with Joseph Howe to oppose Confederation. The union occurred in spite of their efforts and MacLelan turned his energy to seeking an improved position for Nova Scotia.

Macdonad's cabinet and later accepted a seat in the Senate. He also served as an overseer of the construction of the Intercolonial Railway. He gave up his Senate seat to return to his position as Member of Parliament and, in 1882, became minister of marine and fisheries. He proved to be both knowledgeable and hardworking in this post. He went on to serve as minister of finance and as postmaster general. In the latter position, he introduced the parcel post system to Canada. In 1888, he accepted the position of Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia. "His faintly bucolic style of living was more endearing than otherwise. His constituents from Colchester presented him with a fine Jersey cow, which was duly put to graze in a field at Government House and milked by the coachman; Mrs. McLelan churned the butter herself since the cook refused." McLelan appreciated a sense of humour in others, even when it was at his own expense. When he returned to Ottawa in 1886 after an unsuccessful attempt to defeat provincial candidate William Stevens

Fielding, he came to a cabinet meeting newly barbered, with his hair slicked down, and Sir John A. observed, "Why, McLelan, you look as if you had had a good licking!" (Information from the Dictionary of Canadian Biography Online by the University of Toronto.) There's a brief account of A.W. McLelan's life in the History of Great Village. The Historical Society meets again on December 1 at 7:00 PM at the Legion Hall. New members are always welcome.

A few words about your neighbours - Crows

By Chris Urquhart

Here is some information on crows that I thought you might enjoy knowing: Crows are among the most intelligent and adaptable birds in our yards and neighborhoods. Crows (along with jays) descend from Australian ancestors that moved north and apparently first evolved in Asia millions of years ago, and have since migrated across the world split into many different species.

All crows have a unique ability to solve problems, and some even use tools - perhaps you've seen the video of New Caledonian Crow using a tool to get food. So what do you do when one of these incredibly smart birds figures out that your house or yard provides something it wants and starts becoming a nuisance?

Perhaps they have learned that they can tear into your garbage bags to get rotten goodies, or that there may be bugs on your roof? At that point crows go from being amazing creature for us to admire, into a problem for you and your property.

First it is important to realize you probably are not dealing with just one individual rogue crow. Crows usually live in family

groups that includes parents, young birds hatched that year, and sometimes older helper siblings or other relatives. Crows are also territorial, so this family group living in your neighborhood really are your neighbors. They aren't going anywhere, so you have to deal with them with this in mind.

Bird sonic devices can work to keep crows away temporarily, but may not work to address the daily movements and actions of your local family of crows. Your local crow family will be very smart about figuring out what are real threats and not real threats in their territory, so it is usually only a matter of time before they figure out if a sonic system or other deterrent really isn't a threat. The same thing holds true for visual deterrents that might scare the crows initially, but may not work over the long term.

To keep crows from being a problem in your yard, try to figure out what it is that the birds are attracted to and try to get rid of that. If the birds are ripping into your garbage bags, see if you can use a garbage dumpster or bin that the birds can't open. If crows are picking at your roof, it may indicate that you already have a hole up there that the

crows have spotted and are now pecking at to see if there are bugs underneath. So get your roof checked and fixed. If you can't figure out what the birds are being attracted to, or otherwise can't get rid of what the crows are coming to, you may be able to keep the birds away with some psychological warfare - some folks have luck deterring crows by getting a fake crow from a craft, holiday (Hallowe'en), or costume store and hanging it upside down with wings extended as if it were dead. That is a king of macabre anti-crow terrorism tactic, but it sometimes works to scare the crows away. If these suggestions don't work, or if you just want to learn more about your neighborhood crows, here are some additional thoughts: Do your homework, read up on your crow neighbors, and do what you have to so that you can be a good neighbor to your local crow family while protecting your property. If you continue to struggle with your crow neighbors, you may need to look for a company that specializes in crow removal. First, try to live with the crows in your neighborhood, after all they do serve a purpose in this world!

Parrsboro Band Association Subscription Fund Raiser

SUBSCRIPTION DEADLINE: December 3, 2010

The Parrsboro Band Association is conducting Phase One of a multi-year Fund Raiser to raise funds to continue with improvements to the Band Hall, and to provide additional support for the Parrsboro Town Band.

From now until December 3rd, the Parrsboro Band Association is soliciting subscriptions to the Shoreline Journal for the areas of Advocate Harbour, Port Greville, Diligent River, Southampton, Five Islands, Lower Five Islands, Town of Parrsboro and adjacent rural routes. Approximately 2,100 homes and businesses are contained within the catchment area of the Fund Raising Drive.

The Parrsboro Band Association will receive a handsome commission on all new or renewal subscriptions from these areas. The fund raiser will be held each fall, so the association will receive commissions when subscriptions are renewed each year.

With expanded readership in the above areas, editorial space will be provided in each issue for local area news and for community groups to submit notices of meetings, articles and photos about each group's activities.



Local residents who wish to volunteer to assist the Parrsboro Band Association, please call the Band Hall at 902-254-3674. Please leave a message.

For those who decide to purchase "gift subscriptions" for relatives and friends, the Shoreline Journal will send a "gift card" announcing you have purchased a "gift subscription" on their behalf. Please make cheques payable to: Parrsboro Band Association, Box 712, Parrsboro, NS B0M 1S0. For information call: 902-254-3674.

Please send this Personal Gift Subscription to:

Name: _____
Street: _____
Town: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____
If RENEWAL: Sub # _____ New: _____ Gift: _____
Country/Special Mail Instructions: _____

This Personal Gift Subscription comes from:

Name: _____
Street: _____
Town: _____ Prov: _____ Postal Code: _____
Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please make cheques payable to: Parrsboro Band Association

MAIL TO: Parrsboro Band Association, P.O. Box 712, Parrsboro, NS B0M 1S0

Shoreline
Journal

LOCAL SUBSCRIPTIONS: B0M, B2N and B6L - \$23.00, plus HST = \$26.45 • ALL PARTS OF NS: \$26.00 plus HST = \$29.90
ALL OTHER AREAS OF CANADA: \$28.00, plus HST = \$32.20 • USA SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$40.00


And, thank you for supporting the

Parrsboro Band Association

DEVELOPING A CENTRE FOR CULTURE AND WELL BEING

GLOOSCAP

Restaurant & Lounge



**758 Upper Main Street
Parrsboro, NS
B0M 1S0**

**Ph: 902-254-3488
Fax: 902-254-3631**

**Your Hosts
Ken & Pam Haley**

Rosebuds & Petals

FLOWER SHOPPE



163 Main Street Parrsboro

Now taking orders for Christmas Centerpieces

Inquire within to participate in our Christmas Centerpiece Workshop.

- NEW Christmas scented soy candles
- Christmas flowers - Wreaths
- Beautiful Christmas plants - Gift and Fruit Baskets
- Helium Balloons

Call 254-2301 or go to our website at:
www.rosebudsandpetals.com