

80 attend Wentworth Tree Lighting Ceremony



Kerri Mattatall, President of the Wentworth Valley Garden Club, conducted the Tree Lighting Ceremony held recently at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. She was aided during the course of the program by other members of the volunteer group. (Bridgewater Photo)

By Hope Bridgewater

The Wentworth Valley Garden Club held its annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at the Wentworth Recreation Centre. Over 80 people attended, and many of them were school students from the community, as one of the primary goals of the event originally organized by former WVGC President James Bagnell was to further acquaint young people with the meaning of Christmas and its celebrations.

For the purpose of the annual tree lighting, there are two permanent trees planted in the yard featuring the Recreation Centre and the Fire Hall. Members of the Wentworth Volunteer Fire Department decorated the tree in front of their Hall in honour of the community, and members of the Recreation Centre decorated the tree in front of the Centre in honour of James Bagnell.

Along with the younger crowd attending, older teens and adults came to the tree lighting as a way of thanking the Wentworth Valley Garden Club for the hours of volunteer work which its members do by tending gardens at the Recreation Centre, the

Cenotaph and the Community Cemetery. The Garden Club also spends many hours decorating the Recreation Centre for the craft fair and for Christmas.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony began outside on the grounds before the large community tree near the Fire Hall. President Kerri Mattatall introduced the program to the crowd as a light rain drizzle fell. After her introduction, Mattatall asked everyone to sing "Jingle Bells" and then, after the crowd verbally counted down from 10 to one, an electrical switch was touched to light both trees simultaneously. Nothing happened but continuing darkness! This caused some laughter but, the next time the switch was touched, the decorated tree lights gave out a beautiful colour and glow. These two trees will stay lighted for all the Christmas season.

Then, President Mattatall invited everyone into the Recreation Centre. At the entrance the Garden Club had decorated a beautiful Christmas tree and other items, and once inside there was another very tall decorated Christmas tree on the stage, wreaths on windows

and twig decorations on tables. What made the children chatter with excitement were the long tables up front covered with gingerbread cookies, other sweets and, especially noticeable, three beautiful gingerbread houses.

After President Kerri Mattatall finished the story, "Bear Stays Up For Christmas", she gave out gifts of candy and announced that the three school children who had received a candy wrapped in red foil would each win a prize of one of the lovely gingerbread houses. The lucky winners were Brooke Lynds, Megumi Ozawa and Makoto Ozawa. Then Makoto Ozawa became a hero and a representative of the true meaning of Christmas. Makoto went up to President Kerri Mattatall and said: "I am the brother of Megumi and it is not fair to have two gingerbread houses in our one home. I would like to give my gingerbread house to my friend David Ripley." Then, because of Makoto's kindness, David Ripley received a gingerbread house to take home. A second story of the gingerbread houses is another example of the true Christmas spirit. The gingerbread houses were made and then donated as gifts by Todd Seymour, Sonya Seymour and Kim Shand.

Then, it came time to eat all the treats on the tables and have a choice of drinking hot chocolate or apple cider. Members of the WVGC had made all of these treats and drinks themselves. Once again this distinguished volunteer group, the Wentworth Valley Garden Club, showed its good work at Christmas time in the Tree Lighting Ceremony. In addition to President Kerri Mattatall, there are the Treasurer, her husband, Ian Mattatall, the Secretary Pearl McCabe and, of course, all the other volunteer members.

Bass River Fire Brigade Celebrates 50th

By Peter Christensen

This year has been something to remember and now that it is almost over. Guess it is time to look to the future and start a new year.

However, the last year has been busy and a lot of new things have been going on at the hall. The hall has been painted, two newer trucks have been purchased, a memorial for past members has been started and it was our fifty year anniversary as well.

We had our anniversary dinner last week - a fine night of memories and a lovely dinner, put on by the ladies of the church. I got to try horse radish for the first time, different but good.

I would like to send a grateful thank you to the people on the committee who did all the hard work in this past year, arranging every detail of the agenda that was put forth for the past years events, which includes the past dinner, two dances, archery day, July Fun Day, the Pancake Brunch, the Wooden boat Race, Fishing Derby, Santa Clause at the Hall and lots of other smaller events which though not on the radar, are no less important than the others. Thank you folks, you know who you are. You are all one of a kind.

It has been a great winter so far for burning wood in the stoves. The wood piles have not been used to much yet. Just be safe with your upcoming disposal of wrapping paper and boxes, etc. Burning is not a good idea. Perhaps sending it all in your recycle bags would be a better alternative.

Thanks to everyone who came to the anniversary supper. It was a great turnout of former firefighters and their spouses. It was an evening to cherish, with loads of memories to be shared and old friends to see again. The anniversary dinner was also a chance to meet and greet the newest members of the brigade.

Hope everyone has a safe and happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Fireman Pete signing off for 2010.



Artie Dickie and Gordon Lewis took a few minutes from the Bass River Fire Brigade's 50th Anniversary Banquet to check out a water pump. Both Dickie and Lewis are original members of the Brigade. (Christensen Photo)



Alfred Grue, Chief Bass River Fire Brigade receives a certificate for 50 years service to the brigade from Karen Casey, MLA, at the brigade's 50th anniversary banquet. (Christensen Photo)

Waste Reduction Tips for a Greener Holiday Season

By Jeff Myrick

It's the time of year when we join in the spirit of giving and celebrate the season with friends and family, but it's also a time of year that contributes to a surge in waste materials at your local landfill. In an effort to reduce Nova Scotia's waste disposal rate to 300kg/person/year by 2015, RRFB Nova Scotia and your local municipality have developed tips to help you plan for a greener holiday season and get a head start on some New Year's resolutions.

Here are some ways to get started:

Recycled materials make great gifts - Whether it's a door mat made from old tires or clothing made of recycled plastic bottles, you are prolonging the life cycle of the original material and keeping it out of our landfills.

Reduce gift wrapping - Most Christmas wrapping paper cannot be recycled. To

avoid having unrecyclable paper going in the landfill, try placing your gifts in reusable bags, boxes or stockings. Better still, consider giving a gift certificate or gift card - no wrapping required!

Reduce and/or compost left-over food - Prepare only what you need and be sure to eat your leftovers the next day or freeze them for a future meal. Once it is past the best before date, be sure to throw food waste into your organics green cart or your backyard composter.

Reuse packaging - When you purchase products, save the foam peanuts and/or bubble wrap so you can reuse the packaging when mailing or shipping gifts to others. Saving boxes and bows are also a great idea.

Think rechargeable -Using rechargeable batteries in electronics reduces the need to purchase and dispose of old batteries. RRFB Nova Scotia encourages proper disposal

of ALL batteries through appropriate methods.

High quality, durable goods - While lower prices are always attractive, consider how durable the product is and how long it will last before you buy it. Quality products (i.e. longer-lasting) can help reduce the amount of material that eventually enters the landfill.

Promote a lifestyle change - Your gift could be the first step for family or friends to start reducing their waste. Maybe a refillable coffee mug or water bottle, cloth napkins and matching tablecloth or reusable shopping bags are the just right gift idea to help make for a greener holiday season and form habits that can last a lifetime.

For more information visit www.reduceyourwaste.ca or contact your local municipality.

Jeff Myrick is Manager, Communications for RRFB Nova Scotia

TRAINING

Transport Training
Centres of Canada Inc.

HEAVY EQUIPMENT
OPERATOR

TRUCK DRIVER

Canada's LARGEST

Government Grants &
Tuition Refund Programs

Miramichi & Sussex

1-800-805-0662 Ext 601

www.ttcc.ca

Community
CLASSIFIEDS

Your best value
for classified ads!

BEST REACH
BEST READ
BEST RESULTS

Advertise
across Canada
or just your
province!

www.communityclassifieds.ca

PARA

Benjamin Moore

The Colour Experts®

For all your
painting projects . . .
Two great brands of paint, one
great downtown store!

May you and your family enjoy a
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Downtown Truro's Paint & Wallpaper Centre

895-4678

897 Prince Street, Truro

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year

2011 Event Dates

Atlantic Horse FairApril 23 and 24
Atlantic Grand Circuit WeekJuly 24 - 31
Dutch Mason Blues FestivalAug 12, 13 and 14
Nova Scotia Provincial ExhibitionAug. 23 -27

HOME OF
TRURO RACEWAY

NOVA SCOTIA PROVINCIAL
EXHIBITION

P.O. Box 192, Truro, Nova Scotia B2N 5C1
PH: (902) 893-9222 Fax: 902) 897-0069
E-MAIL: nspe@eastlink.ca