

Parrsboro Band Day – July 24TH



Members of the Parrsboro Citizen's Band play at the 2010 event. This year Parrsboro's Band Day is scheduled for July 24th. (Submitted)

By David Towns

Mark your calendar for July 24th for a special day of music and fun. The Parrsboro Band Association will be holding its annual "Band Day" at the band shell in Parrsboro. Located right in front of Town Hall, at the corner where the highway turns this event has been held annually now for as long as most members can remember.

The day features performances by bands from all around the region including the Sackville Citizens Band, the Codiac Band of Moncton, the Parrsboro Citizens

Band and this year we are hoping for at least two other participants who, at time of writing have yet to confirm.

This annual celebration of band music is the culmination of performances by the Parrsboro Citizens' Band which take place every Sunday evening in the park during the month of July. It is a major fundraiser for the Band Association and includes food and beverages (most notably some of the finest strawberry shortcake in the county) and an opportunity to purchase tickets on a draw for 25# of lobster. Also being raffled off is

a limited edition print by Arlene Collins who donates a print a year in support of the efforts of the Band Association to revitalize "The Hall" through long term renovation plans and efforts to bring in more and more variety in the cultural life of Cumberland County.

Only once in the past 18 years has the event been forced indoors by weather so while sun is not guaranteed, the odds are a trip to Parrsboro on July 24th will require sun screen and lawn chairs. Come down, settle in and enjoy a fabulous day of music celebrating the musical heritage of the Maritimes.

Parrsboro Relay for Life Exceeds Expectations

By Lawrence R. Nicoll & Frank Hartman

The Parrsboro Relay for Life has exceeded expectations with almost \$39,000 committed so far. The event had a phenomenal evening thanks to an incredible organizing committee. Recruitment and Registration committee members did an outstanding job. There were 20 registered teams this year compared to nine teams in 2010.

The first-ever Honorary Chairperson, Stephen O'Regan, shared "his story" as he welcomed the teams and the public at the Opening Ceremony.

Entertainment and Activities committee members invited some of the finest entertainers in our area including hypnotist Rick Adshade and the one and only Steve Butler from Amherst who kept the teams rocking from 1 AM until sunrise.

Kim Harrison energized the teams with a Zumba workout and Charlene Smith relaxed the teams with a Yoga class at the Lions' Den. Other activities included a scavenger hunt, coloring contest, tug of war, and other team challenges. (I would like to list all the entertainers as they volunteered their time and talents but not sure you have the space for them; do you still have the program?)

The survivor's reception and dinner was a complete success with over 90 survivors and guests attending. The Luminary Ceremony was very moving as Judy Sargent lit the In Honour luminary while surrounded by her family and Lori Kyle and her sister Lisa Smith lit the In Memory luminary as they remembered their mother and two aunts who lost their lives to cancer.

For the first time, we had a team, Storm Keepers, reach the level of Bronze by raising a little over \$6900.00 and Cougars for the Cure reached the Rising Star level by raising close to \$5000.00. Madison Tennant again earned the individual youth award raising over \$2000.00. Frank Hartman received the adult individual award for raising close to \$1600.00. Kylee Smith was presented a ribbon for her individual fundraising effort of almost \$500.00.

Overall it was a tremendous success with Parrsboro and the surrounding communities and counties contributing over \$39,000.00 toward the research, awareness, and prevention of a disease that has in some way affected each and every one of us.

Frank Harman said, "As chair, I would like to thank our committee/team "Storm Keepers" (name we chose in memory of Phyllis Storm's mom Emily Storm who lost her battle to cancer just several days before relay) for their hard work, commitment and perseverance to make this year's Canadian Cancer Society Relay For Life event a memorable success.

A special thank you to the Parrsboro Lions Club for the use of the Den and Arena, all the volunteer Lions and the Parrsboro Leo Club. Also thanks to the newspaper, radio station and local businesses who helped to promote and support the Relay.

"I also want to thank the teams who believed in the cause and gathered pledges and held many fundraisers. Thanks to all the Provincial and local sponsors, performers and Zumba and Yoga instructors who volunteered their time and talents, Jennifer Harrison for taking pictures, the volunteers, those who pledged and supported the team fundraisers, those who purchased luminaries, the caregivers and the survivors who are living proof that cancer can be beaten," Hartman concluded.

Parrsboro Wharf Undergoes an Overhaul

By Maurice Rees and Lawrence Nicoll

This winter and spring has been an active one at Parrsboro Harbour, but not with ships coming and going. Actually, Arnold Wood Construction, Parrsboro has been busy bringing new life back into the wharf. Initially he was awarded a contract to remove thousands of tons of gravel from the Harbour channel as a result of turbulent tides filling in the channel.

When vessels had access to the wharf, they could seek protection from storms, but over time the channel had all but filled in. Then during the harshness of winter, things changed. Harsh storms with high tides caused extensive damage to the wharf structure, and also caused a silting and filling in of the harbour.

Instead of clearing the passage, Arnold Wood Construction was awarded contract in the \$50,000.00 range to repair the wharf's superstructure.

Once they started on the superstructure, damage was much more

extensive. Wood's construction team spent most of the winter repairing the wharf superstructure. Over the course of the job eight people were employed, repairing many of the timbers, braces and replaced many bolts. New ladders were installed. Well over 500 bolts, some as long as 42 inches were used to repair the wharf.

Now that the two contracts have been completed, boats can find protection from storms on the inside of the wharf. Boaters will no longer have to make their entry/exit at the highest tides.

Fishermen will no longer be confined to exposing their boats to potential damage by having to use the outside of the wharf where storms have the potential to cause damage. The inside section of the wharf is open and the silt has been artfully applied to the beach leaving once again a pleasing view of the harbour.



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Parrsboro Wharf Repairs

"Now that's a bolt!"

Arnold Wood holds special bolts used on the Parrsboro Wharf repair. Arnold and his crew used over 600 bolts ranging in size from 18" to 42"!

Additional work included removing tons of gravel from the harbour channel after storms had basically filled the channel.

The Parrsboro Wharf overhaul included the repair and replacement of many of the timbers, braces, decking and ladders following a severe winter storm.