

# Maryland Students Sail into the Age of Sail



The students from Maryland are shown beside large pile of brush they cleared. (Submitted)

By *Oralee O'Bryne*

Students from the Washington Waldorf School in Bethesda, Maryland took education to a new level this May when they sailed into Fox River Nova Scotia. The group of 8 senior high students arrived in Nova Scotia with chaperones Bonnie McClelland, high school co-ordinator and Gary Skowronski math, technology and chemistry teacher for a 6 day visit.

Senior students traditionally take a final trip together. Recent trips have been to Kauai, Hawaii, the southwest, and Puerto Rico. These trips are designed to include community service, nature, and cultural experiences. It is also a time for reflection together as a class in the time close to graduation.

The group rented The Beach House at Fox River, owned by Liz Yorke and took

day trips from there. Some of the sites visited were Lunenburg, Joggins and The Fundy Geological Center to name just a few.

On Monday May 18 the students visited the Age of Sail Museum in Port Greville for a full day of activities. The morning started at 10:30 with a full site tour by Curator Oralee O'Bryne. As well as a tour of the main display buildings students were taken into the blacksmith shop and other out buildings. Students at the Waldorf schools study traditional academics along with subjects such as art, drama, music, athletics, blacksmithing, woodworking, textiles and other subjects not just as electives but as an integral part of their curriculum so the various aspects of the museum such as woodworking tools and blacksmith tools

were of special interest. Students also got an opportunity to handle some of the tools and try their hand at crosscut sawing and hand auguring.

Another important component of the Waldorf schools educational system is a mandatory requirement for community service both individually and as a class. Part of the visit to the Age of Sail included some community service work. As a non-profit entity the museum relies heavily on volunteer work, as noted by the 3 local volunteers present the day of the visit, and the students jumped into help as well. 4 students took cameras and recording books to begin doing a photo archive of the museums artifacts while the other 4 students hit the woods to help clear alders from an area of the museum grounds.

Then Curator Oralee O'Bryne accompanied the students and chaperones to the nearby beach from Cochrane road to Merriam road for a short walk where the major shipyards once stood and the remnants of the wharf and shipyard barely tell of days gone by. The students enjoyed skipping stones and were amazed at the frigid

temperature of our bay.

"It was a wonderful opportunity to show off our history and area to the students." Said O'Bryne "Talking to the students about the history and learning about their unique school and education was a learning experience for us all. Considering some of the other areas they have gone (Hawaii, Puerto Rico) on senior trips its very flattering that they decided to come here of all places."

O'Bryne went on to say "As we have developed and grown over the years including enlarging our facilities for meals and workshop etc we hope to host more groups and tours such as this. We have moved from being just a small community museum to becoming a "must see" attraction and are hoping to continue to develop programs and tours in keeping with that image."

The students will continue their exploration of Nova Scotia's cultural and natural offerings over the week before heading back to Bethesda for their graduation. Hopefully the time spent here and at The Age of Sail will be a memory they will cherish as much as we cherished their visit.

## KEN'S CORNER

By *Ken Kennedy*

Here I sit on my 75th birthday a day late with my last epistle, from this location, for my baby - The Shoreline Journal! The next column will be written from our new apartment in Truro. Sincere congratulations to Maurice and his crew for all the awards he's been getting lately.

Olivia decided she was going to say home from playschool today so she could help me celebrate but she wanted to go to town to get me "cupcakes" and maybe go for a little drive. We started out for Peggy's Cove but it started to drizzle and we decided to turn around at Stewiacke and drive back the old highway and home for a rest. Velma is still having hip problems and is not looking forward to a possible replacement. I guess this is about a good place to tell you that because of this and my own health problems we have decided to put our house on the market and take an apartment in Truro. So, as of 1 June 2015 we will be moving to 100 Arthur Street and that is going to be a BIG adjustment.

Did you see the piece that Lyle Carter wrote about us in the Truro Daily News a while back? What a shock when he called us at the urging of Jon Wilson of Belmont to talk to Velma and I about our Christian walk and chaplain ministry. I was glad to see another journalist write about Lyle the next week and every word was true. He's an exceptional human being and should be nominated for the Order of Nova Scotia and/or Canada if he already hasn't.

It was my first time to visit the RECC and I was most impressed. Maybe now that we are moving to town we will be able to take more advantage of all that the facili-

ty has to offer. I was thinking while I was sitting there waiting for Lyle that the RECC management would do well to consider laying on a bus route down the shore so more rural families could take advantage of its services. The same goes for the Cougar Dome.

Olivia and I took advantage of the Cobequid Salmon Association's "Fisharma" at the Kiwanis Park in Truro on the weekend. Alas, we were not successful since there were more people than fish and after a few tangles with lines and hooks flying about we gave up and came out to MacElmond's Pond and caught a little brook trout on the first cast. At just four years old, Olivia's attention span - and my patience - ran out so we came back home for a rest and watch some of her favourite cartoons.

I was pleased to be asked by Maurice to speak to the situation with the county's purchase of the Palliser Property and I gave my two cents (more or less) worth but got a bit carried away when I got to thinking about all the other tourism ventures along the shore that could use some of that money.

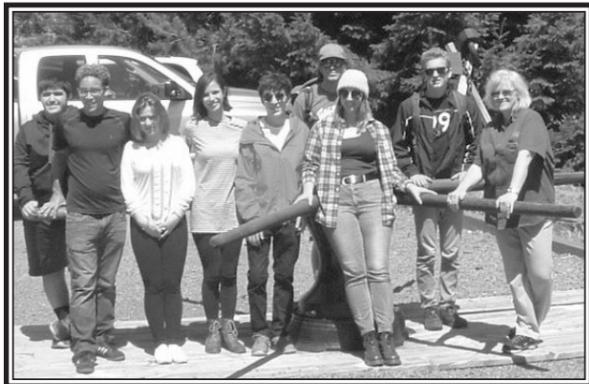
I notice also what seems like some fresh survey pegs along Plains Road in Debert so am wondering if the widening is going to take place after all.

In closing, I have a little Bible study for the people responsible for "walking on the bottom of the sea" project in the Five Islands area: Moses never walked across the Jordan River - Joshua did! God didn't allow him to cross over to the Promised Land because he disobeyed God with a temper-tantrum and struck the water-rock twice instead of once as he was commanded. (Numbers 20). A lesson for us all me thinks!

God Bless.



Maryland students clearing brush at Age of Sail Museum. (Submitted)



Age of Sail Curator, Oralee O'bryne far right, with the students from Maryland at the capstan at Age of Sail Museum, Port Greville. (Submitted)

## Masstown Refundable Drive May 30

By *Christine Urquhart*

There will be a Refundable Drive on May 30th. Items will be picked up early so please have your items at the end of your driveway by 9am at the latest. If you wish to have your items picked up at your house (or garage) please call either Irene 662-2863 or Chris 662-3550 and they will make sure that happens. Refundables can be taken to the Church at any time. Please remember that refundables are only those items on which you paid a deposit, such as pop, juice or liquor containers.

The Masstown Steward's &

Trustees thank you for saving these items for our Church. Funds raised will go towards some necessary repairs which occurred during our extensive snowy season! (leaking roof over basement for one).





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