

Elizabeth Bishop Centenary Writing Competition Launch



Speakers at the official launch of "In the Village": The Elizabeth Bishop Centenary Writing Competition were Sandra Barry, Emily Fahey, John Barnstead, Joy Snihur Wyatt Laking, Claire Miller, MLA Karen Casey and Paul Zann (left to right). The Joy Laking "In the Village" serigraph, displayed in the photo, will be awarded as first prize for the competition. (Harrington Photo)

By Linda Harrington

February 8th, 2011 marks the 100th birthday of Pulitzer Prize winning poet Elizabeth Bishop, who spent her earlier years with her maternal grandparents in Great Village. She died in 1979, but her poetry, stories, letters and paintings continued to be admired.

The Elizabeth Bishop Society of Nova Scotia is committed to raising awareness about Elizabeth Bishop's connection to Nova Scotia and with the approach of her 100th birthday it was decided to sponsor a Writing Competition.

The official launch for the Elizabeth Bishop Centenary Writing Competition was held at the Elizabeth Bishop House in Great Village on Sept. 22nd.

John Barnstead, President of the Elizabeth Bishop Society welcomed everyone to the gathering and thanked all the sponsors of the Writing Competition.

Guest speakers included MLA Karen Casey, Paul Zann, Emily Fahey, Joy Snihur Wyatt Laking and Claire Miller.

The Honourable Karen Casey thanked the volunteers for the countless hours they

have put into the upkeep of the beautiful Elizabeth Bishop home and the organization of this new Writing Competition. She said as an educator she sees the great value in literacy as well as the great value in encouraging young and old to be creative.

Sandra Barry, Secretary of the EB Society of NS, reflected on how one of the goals of the Committee was to prompt and inspire a new legacy of writers. "Elizabeth Bishop learned to read and write in this house, in the kitchen with her grandmother. We are really excited to have a program and project of increasing literacy in the schools," says Sandra.

Emily Fahey, Literacy Coordinator for Central Colchester Regional School Board, was very pleased "this competition will allow our children to know our authors live among us". She congratulated the organizers for creating a theme for the competition which allowed the writers to draw on their everyday experiences which have helped to shape who they are.

Author and educator Paul Zann brought greetings on behalf of the Writer's Federation of NS. He felt the

Elizabeth Bishop Society had been "devilishly clever" in their effective way to publicize the 100th birthday of Elizabeth Bishop. "You have found a way to involve youth, their teachers, they parents and on and on," he said. "I feel you can expect to be astounded by the quality of work you will receive." Mr. Zann then read excerpts from the Elizabeth Bishop poem "Squatter's Children".

Local artist Joy Snihur Wyatt Laking has donated a beautiful print of Great Village as the 1st Place Prize. She says she is very pleased to be one of the board members and is very excited about a three day Arts Festival being

held next August 19th to 21st. "We hope to have all prize winning authors read their work, there will be wagon rides with an actress reenacting Elizabeth Bishop in the Village, an art exhibit, talented musicians and much more. This will be a jam packed festival."

The "In the Village" Competition launch came to a close with a reading by Claire Miller of Elizabeth Bishop's "In the Village". The excerpt described what the author saw as a little girl walking her cow through the village to pasture. A recording of Claire reading "In the Village" can be heard on the website at www.elizabethbishopns.org.

"In The Village" EXCITING NEW WRITING COMPETITION

By Linda Harrington

"In The Village": The Elizabeth Bishop Centenary Writing Competition, 2011, is a one-time, short prose writing competition sponsored by the Elizabeth Bishop Society of NS to celebrate her 100th birthday. Participants are asked to write about their own sense of place and identity, to tap experience, memory and imagination, the sources of art.

Entries can be autobiographical or fictional, prose stories. The idea is for each writer to explore or describe feelings, things, people or events about home and family, place and time, which have affected the writer's life and connect him/her to the world.

There is no entrance fee for the competition. Only one submission per person, post-marked no later than March 15, 2011.

Categories: Elementary (Grades 4-6)- 500 words max.; Junior High (Grades 7-9)- 1000 words max.; Senior High (Grades 10-12)- 1500 words max.; Post Secondary- 2000 words max., Open (19 years and older)- 2000 words max.

Guidelines, prize lists and forms can be found on the EBNS website at: www.elizabethbishopns.org

For more information about the competition contact: Laurie Gunn at ebwritingcomp@gmail.com or 902-893-7164.

Great Village & Area Notes

By Florence Adams

Jack and Judi Leeman accompanied by Robert and Natalie Adams enjoyed a brief visit to Tiverton recently. Noreen Jones and Verna Storey of New Brunswick visited their brother-in-law, Dale MacNutt and family earlier in September.

Wheels to Meals has started up again in the Legion Hall. The price is now six dollars, and is well worth it. The Farmer's market is flourishing on Saturday mornings.

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to Carrie and Vernon McCully on their 50th anniversary celebrated with an open house at their home on August 28th.

Between showers, Jack Leeman assisted by a number of friends and relatives shingled the roof of their house last week. It's ironic the weather was so dry until then, when it turned so wet. Margaret Stevens accompanied a group of her friends to visit Maine on the weekend of September 9th. Margaret reports an interesting and fun weekend.

Alan Peppard returned to Alberta the last of August, after spending two months with his parents, Jack and Marie Peppard. School buses have replaced the tourist cars on the highways, since school reopened in early September.

Debert Legion Notes

By Danny Martell

On Saturday, September 18th, Branch 106 took their barbequing skills to the Shannex, Debert Court and treated the resident's and staff to a very nice BBQ.

It was a beautiful warm and sunny fall day and the menu for the afternoon had George Cooke, Aubrey Woodworth and Evelyn Gill providing the entertainment. It was a very nice trip down memory lane, George, Aubrey and Evelyn, thank you.

Along with hamburgers and hot dogs, there were salads and dessert and plenty for everybody. Marcia out did herself with the dessert for the day, simply scrumptious.

To Marcia and Norm Eastcott, Charlie Borden(Jr.), Dan Martell, Sharon Kyle, Dave MacPhee, Earl Harvey, Chris Turner, Kimberley (Howdy Doody) Cruikshank, Leora Lewis, Amanda Slack and Samantha (Sammy) Higgins, thank you for your help. It is greatly appreciated.

The Debert Legion held its annual Golf Tournament on Saturday, August 7th and it was a huge success. There was an awesome turnout with 41 golf players (??) participating.

First place honours went to the team of Ron (Easy) Eastcott, Bob Pash and Owen Gormley. They finished with a two under par. The longest drive of the day was recorded by Jay. A (sorry I do not have his last name). Closest to the hole was Aubrey Gratto. Every player received a prize and a very nice ham and salad supper.

A big thank you is passed along to the ladies in the kitchen, namely Marcia, Linda and Sharon. If I missed anybody a belated thank you is passed along.

A special thank you is passed along to everyone who showed their support by donating prizes. Without your generosity we could not make our Tournament the success it was. The prizes were donated by; Buck, MacKay's Volvo, D.C. Trucking, Barnhill's Superette, Cobequid Pass, Debert Gold Course, Permissions Hair Studio, Keith's Brewery, Kent Homes and Debert Quick Mart.

Aubrey dropped in to let me know that he ran roughshod over the Legion golf players on his way to taking home the beautiful jacket for closest to the hole. The only problem with it, it is an XXL size. Now I ask you, could you see Aubrey in an XXL? Did Ron "Easy" really fly his good buddy "Owen" in especially for the Tournament? (A ringer from Upper Canada).

With fishing season quickly coming to an end for another season and Mother Nature putting on a dazzling show with her fall colours our thoughts turn to hunting and hockey and other fall activities.

On Monday, the 13th of September (opening day of bear season), Brandon and Doug Harvey along with Fred Blenkhorn dropped in to show me a black bear that Brandon had shot.

My first words were "Oh My God, its huge!" and it tipped the scales at 496 pounds. The first scale they used to weigh it broke and they had to track down a second one. From the tip of the nose to the tip of its (button) tail it measured 5 feet, 6 inches. It was a whopper.

The only thing bigger than the bear was Brandon's smile. Brandon and Fred said they would be trying a steak of two. Doug shook his head and said, "not me". The boys took the big fellow at 5:10PM in the afternoon and they have it all on video.

Owen Dykens also scored with a nice bear on opening day. I understand Owen and his buddy got their bruin around lunch time. Both animals were shot from stands on the Reid Road. Congratulations to all five hunters.

Branch 106 is still in need of a Bingo caller, anyone interested, please give the Branch a call. There are still tickets available on the beautiful double size bed quilt. Tickets are \$2.

Members are reminded with the fall season upon us, that the General Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of every month, starting in September and going through until July.

The meetings start at 8:00PM sharp, and all members are urged to attend. It is your Legion. Come on out and voice your opinion.

Did Iris and the girls really sneak off under the cover of darkness, so not to take "The Bear" on their trip to the States?

Do you realize that the only time on our lives when we like to get old is when we are kids?

Happy Birthday wishes for September are passed along to Marcia Eastcott.

Happy Anniversary wishes for September are passed along to Jeanie and Everett McCully, Debbie and Darrell Cock, Paula and Bill Wood, Diane and Carmen Milner, Wendy and David Totten.

Please say a prayer for our troops in Afghanistan and their families. It is because of their sacrifices that we are able to enjoy our freedom and our country.



Paul Zann reads excerpts from Elizabeth Bishop's "Squatter's Children", as John Barnstead and Sandra Barry look on. The official launch of "In the Village": The Elizabeth Bishop Centenary Writing Competition was held on Sept. 22nd in Great Village. (Harrington Photo)

Calling For Wellness Project Proposals! Along The Shore Community Health Board

If your organization is trying to launch a new program and need some financial support, please contact the **ATS CHB**.

No project is too small!
We have funded many groups in Five Islands, Economy, Bass River and Portauquique.

Proposal deadline is October 31st.

Please contact Sarah at 728-2053 or alongshorechb@hotmail.com for more information.

If you are interested in joining the **ATS CHB**, we meet monthly in Bass River. Please join us! Thanks, Sarah Gatti-Yorke

NOTE: Mobile Breast Screening Program will be in Bass River December 6 & 7, 2010
Please Call 1-800-565-0548 to book your appointment

MASSTOWN

Hardware

Complete Line of Hardware and Building Supplies

Highway # 2 Masstown
Tel: 662-3262 Fax: 662-2707

HOURS: MON - FRI 8am - 5 pm
SATURDAY 8 am - 4 pm

WHEN YOU NEED TO KNOW - ASK A PRO!