

Heritage Day Presentations in Great Village

By Maurice Rees

Thanks to a Canada 150 Grant, the Great Village Community Association was able to host three presentations on local history at the Great Village Elementary School gym on Monday, August 7th. Under the leadership of Steve Mazur, now in his second year, the association has become more active and has held a number of events this year.

Upwards of sixty people attended the four hour event which included presentations by Jason Gloade speaking on Mi'kmaw History in Debert; Bill Casey, MP, speaking on his passion topic, the Acadian Expulsion and how it affected areas along the shore from Moose River to Great Village and Masstown then on to Tatamagouche in 1755.

Casey's presentation on the Acadian Expulsion started with the establishment of Fort Beaubassin, how it was moved, across the river, then a replacement settlement built on the same foundations by the English became the starting point of soldiers toward Tatamagouche to expel the Acadians and

burn the homes of Acadians as they retraced their steps back to Amherst area.

He detailed how a flight to test infra-red photography in the Amherst area in the 60's produced a map/photo which showed a detailed pattern that 37 years later exposed the location of the 1750 dwellings of the Acadians at Fort Beaubassin.

In the past 15 years archeological digs at the site have turned up over 700 artifacts; foundations for 53 buildings. The site is now a Parks Canada Historical Site and construction is underway to construction temporary infrastructure.

Final speaker of the day was local historian, Dick Akerman, who presented an interesting account of the formation of the Londonderry Iron Works in the late 1800's and its impact on the Great Village area. He started his presentation detailing the founding of Great Village, by the MacLellan family and how they split apart, but were instrumental in establishment of several successful businesses in the area.



Great Village historian, Dick Akerman, presented an interesting account of the Londonderry Iron Works and how its operation impacted the Great Village economy in the late 1800's. (Rees Photo)



Jason Gloade during his presentation on Mi'kmaw History in Debert. (Rees Photo)



Jim Wyatt, far right, and Janet Maybee, to his left, listen to Bill Casey's presentation on the Acadian Expulsion and how it affected Great Village. (Rees Photo)



Logan Spencer, President Great Village Legion, explains some of the heritage photos on display. (Rees Photo)



Funding for the Heritage Day event was provided by a Canada 150 Grant. Lunch of soup and sandwiches was catered by Masstown Market. (Rees Photo)



Approximately 60 people attended Great Village Heritage Day presentation to listen to three presenters. This studious group are listening to Jason Gloade. (Rees Photo)



Long time Great Village resident, Art Chisholm, left waits to chat with Bill Casey after he's finished a discussion with another of the almost 60 people who attended the August 7th Heritage Day presentations sponsored by the Great Village Community Association. (Rees Photo)

Lawrence R. Nicoll
NOVA SCOTIA LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHER
Parrsboro - Nova Scotia
902-254-3334 or LRN@ns.sympatico.ca

Local Landscape photographs make wonderful gifts for birthdays, Christmas and retirement.

Choose from samples at:
www.LRNphotographic.ca

LRN PHOTOGRAPHIC SERVICES

DAN WESLEY INSTALLATIONS
garage doors

976 Station Road
Londonderry, Nova Scotia
B0M 1M0

Residential
Commercial
Agricultural

REPLACE • INSTALL • REPAIR

CALL TODAY FOR YOUR FREE ESTIMATE
902-899-6294 - 902-668-2202 - dswesley@hotmail.com

DON TURNER
and
2341323 Nova Scotia Ltd.

Excavating Dozer Backhoe Culverts
QP2 Septic installer Driveway gravel, fill, topsoil
Snow removal, sand and salt - Truck mounted spreading

662-2699, 662-2419 Belmont

"THE FARM GATE"

7693 Highway No. 2 OPEN DAILY 902-668-2494

Enjoy The Thrill of the Grill!
Try our new products.
Maple Bacon Sausage, & Donaire Patties.

Bass River United Baptist Church
5692, Hwy 2 - Bass River NS - B0M 1B0

Sunday Worship Service 11 a.m.
Bible Study - Mondays 10 a.m.

Gospel Coffee House
4th Saturday every month ... 7 p.m.

Lic. Larry Tirrell - Pastor
Church: 902-647-2567 Home: 902-843-5941