

# WESTMORLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 43 ISSUE # 1 OCTOBER 2007 ISBN320813

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*For the first time in 30 years, our Newsletter will not be edited by Edith & Wayne Gillcash—a loss impossible for the Society to make good.*

To fully understand their contribution, I recommend that you take a few minutes and reread a sample of any of their Newsletters over the past 30 years to appreciate the tremendous amount of work and care put into their production. *It's a sobering exercise!* And its very difficult to see how the Society can ever adequately thank them.

However, as your President, I can formally thank them, *for their selfless dedication, and for their outstanding editorship of the Westmorland Historical Society Newsletter for the past 30 years.*

And, the good news? - the temporary 'rookie' editors (Judy & Cole Morrison) expect to receive on-going 'Gillcash' advice—and hopefully, submissions (Edith sent two for this issue), so we can retain the character of the WHS Newsletter. We hope to maintain the same level of quality and

we expect to continue to be published three times a year.

Before 'officially' resigning his editorship, Wayne put together a three-volume set of all the Newsletters from 1965 to 2007— which involved considerable work— resizing pages and finding rare issues. Thanks to him, we now have a complete set for our Library.

Annual General Meeting  
Saturday, October 13,  
5 p.m.

The Annual General Meeting and Dinner will be held at the Masonic Hall, 1 Harrop Ave., Dorchester, NB

Special Presentation:

'Wings over the Memramcook: A Photographer's Tale of Three Flights over Dorchester and the Memramcook Valley' by Marvel Keays & Gene Goodrich

Ham & Potato Scallop  
Supper

(Sandpiper Catering)

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Cost: \$18.00

RSVP by October 11th to

Alice at 379-6620

## KEILLOR HOUSE MUSEUM—SPECIAL EVENTS

### Haunted House Tour

Friday & Saturday, October 26, 27. 7:00-10:00 pm. Ghosts and Goblins of All Ages are welcome.

### Victorian Christmas Dinner

Saturday, December 8 & 15, 5:00 - 8:00 pm. Elegant Four - Course Dinner with

Entertainment and Special Christmas Decorations. Cost \$50.00. Book your ticket early—last year we had a waiting list! Contact Alice at 379-6620

### Volunteer Night

Date TBD. Celebrating our many Volunteers.

### Dorchester New Year's Levee

Tuesday, January 1, 2008  
1:00-3:00 pm. Enjoy a Crackling Hearth Fire, Homemade Soup, Rolls & More.

Cost: *gratis*

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# WITH AXE AND BIBLE - THE SCOTTISH PIONEERS OF NEW BRUNSWICK, 1784 -1874 LUCILLE H. CAMPEY

ISBN 978-1-897045-22-0 Printed 2007, Natural Heritage Books

"With the Axe and Bible" is the seventh in a series on Scottish emigration. Using wide-ranging documentary sources, including passenger lists and newspaper shipping reports, Lucille Campey traces the progress of Scottish colonization and its ramifications for New Brunswick's early development. Historians and genealogists will find this a good resource that includes charts, ships lists, extensive notes, a bibliography and an index.

The following is an excerpt (pps. 91-93) that refers to the settlement in Westmorland County with a table of settlers to Botsford Parish.

## WITH AXE AND BIBLE

"Historians and genealogists will find this a good resource that includes charts, ships lists, extensive notes, a bibliography and an index"

"Meanwhile, near the Nova Scotia border in Westmorland County, the province's most important agricultural district, Scots were once again establishing themselves along Northumberland Strait. One of the earliest arrivals was John MacDougal from Ayrshire, who, together with Scottish migrants from Prince Edward Island, founded the Macdougall Settlement (Shediac Parish) in 1818. It seems that he was also assisted by "settlers from the Highlands of Scotland," who were due to sail to Nova Scotia and New Brunswick on the *Maid of the Mill* that same year. Some even "had their relations and acquaintances there". Given that the Clyde shipowner had a New Brunswick agent at Petitcodiac (Westmorland County), it is likely that some in the group were intending to join the Macdougall Settlement. Later on, "the Scotch settlement" formed just to the south west of it as colonizers from the initial community extended their land holdings. Known initially as the "Bend of Petitcodiac," nearby Moncton blossomed into a thriving village once the railway linking it Shediac and Saint John was completed. By 1861 Scots constituted nearly a quarter of its population."

TABLE 12 **BOTSFORD PARISH (RICHIBUCTO) PETITIONERS OF 1826**  
[LAC (M-1352) Petition of Scottish settlers to Dr Scott of Greenock and the Rev. Burns of Paisley ,

Feb. 15, 1826]

Thomas Wood	David Murray	Alexander Simpson
Robert Anderson	Edward McKay	Joseph Anderson
John Anderson	John McGlashin	David Anderson
Andrew Murray	Anthony Fields	John Wright
Donald Taylor	Robert Amos	Thomas Smith
James Amos	William Robinson	John Mann
Thomas Simpson	Henry Langchester	Peter Robier
Alexander McKay	Joseph Murray	John Walton
John Murray	Edward Dalton	James Lamb
Stephen Franklin	Irving Sloane	James Reilly
William Peacock	Felix Mills	James Grant
John Trenholm	John Cadman	William Anderson
Alexander Boyce	John Grant	Richard Johnston
Peter Boyce	John Simpson	John McDougal
Archibald Boyce	Joseph Simpson	John Taylor
Robert Trenholm	James Smith	Daniel Davis
William Trenholm	Duncan McDougal	
Matthew Allen	George Tucker	

"Another group of emigrant Scots from Botsford Parish revealed themselves in 1826 when they petitioned the Glasgow Colonial Society for help in acquiring "a minister of the Gospel." These were 52 families (150 people) in "indigent circumstances" who could not afford "the full salary of a minister," but hoped that the Society might send a Presbyterian missionary to visit them occasionally (Table 12). In addition to the 52 families there were "about 12 families who seem to be a little inclined to either the Methodists or New Lights [Lichts], but who have made no open profession to any. They are, like ourselves, wandering like lost sheep without a shepherd." The Botsford Scots did acquire a Presbyterian church by 1840, but 20 years later they only accounted for 17 per cent of the total population."

*Submitted by Edith Gillcash*

### WORLD WAR I DIARY AVAILABLE

Anne Cure of Ottawa (a Taylor descendant) has forwarded a copy of George Taylor's diary kept in 1916 as he travelled from Taylor Village to Moncton—to England—to France.

Addresses at the front of the diary include:

Ray Bowes, 437 Gilmore St., Ottawa

Pte E. H. Taylor, # 427664

Miss J Turner, Maple Leaf Club, 13 Charles St., Berkley Square

Notes from the diary will be included in later issues of the Westmorland Historical Newsletter

*Edith Gillcash*

### *WHS Nominated for Prestigious AMNB Award*

The Society has been nominated for the 2007 AMNB Award of Merit for the 'Keillor House Wall Restoration Project'. Jack Lines, our Project Manager, will 'officially' represent the Society at the Award Ceremony.

The film 'These Stones Will Rise Again' will also be featured at a Luncheon Meeting during the Annual Conference, where Judy Morison, our Secretary, will be the Guest Speaker.

## THE WOOD LIBRARY AT THE KEILLOR HOUSE

In 1977 Dr. William Crawford, then President of Mount Allison University, donated some two hundred and fifty old volumes, together with some handsome mahogany bookcases, to Keillor House where they remained more or less unexamined until last year when I decided to prepare a descriptive catalogue of them. The nameplates read 'Herbert Mariner Wood and Ethel Sumner Wood', not surprising as the books came from Cranewood, the gracious Sackville mansion that Dr. Crawford purchased from the Wood family, but further investigation led to the conclusion that the main collector was Herbert Mariner's father, Josiah Wood (1843-1927), the outstanding merchant, industrialist, philanthropist and politician who, among many other accomplishments, was also the first graduate of Mount Allison College and the first mayor of the incorporated town of Sackville. This was the library, or rather a part of it, of one of the most important figures of our local history and it reveals a good deal about his educational level and intellectual interests. Many of the volumes are handsomely bound in leather, and quite a number of them were old, rare and expensive,

even in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The majority of them were printed in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> to the early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. A number of them date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century and several of them go all the way back to the 16<sup>th</sup> century, only about eighty years after the invention of printing itself! Unfortunately, time has not been kind to them, and many of the books are in poor condition today, but they would have made an impressive sight in the days when they graced the library shelves of "Cranewood".

However, although no doubt pleasing to look at, this was no mere random assembly of "fine old volumes" intended solely to impress guests with an expensive library. They were clearly collected with discernment and purpose, reflecting an impressive knowledge and a consistent set of interests. Nearly forty percent are works in Greek and Roman history and literature, much of it in the original languages. About twenty percent are works in Protestant theology, spirituality and moral instruction. Another eighteen percent comprises modern literature (meaning in this context works from the

## THE WOOD LIBRARY AT THE KEILLOR HOUSE (CONTINUED)

15<sup>th</sup> to early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries), much of it in French, some in Italian. About thirteen percent of them deal with modern history, especially British history of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the period of the great constitutional struggles between Crown and Parliament. Moral and political philosophy are also well represented at eleven percent, while science, especially of the kind relevant to "natural theology" which interprets nature in terms of "intelligent design", is also significant, at four percent. What is particularly striking is the advanced level of the collection. With few exceptions they are not simply textbooks left over from college days (and certainly not the textbooks that would have been available at that time). The historical and theological works, for example, are by major authors and authorities, while many of the Greek and Latin texts would be readable only by an advanced student of the ancient languages. Some of the Latin commentaries on the classical authors would have been of interest only to professional scholars. This was clearly the library of a well-educated man of refined sensibilities and staunch Protestant and liberal convictions who had an obvious interest in classics, theology, history, languages, literature, science and moral philosophy, as well as the means to indulge it.

Given the advanced, and by today's standards, rather esoteric, nature of the material, undertaking a descriptive catalogue has been an interesting and somewhat daunting task. Most of these works and their authors are not exactly household words today and, even with access to a major library, progress on such a project would have been glacial before the wonders of the Internet. Even with that marvel of modern technology, it is slow work, as I have undertaken not only to identify the books and their authors, but also to offer a brief background and profile of the contents, so that the reader will have a fairly concrete idea of what is in them, and, by extension, of what subjects interested a well educated man like Josiah Wood. Let me illustrate with an example. This is the entry for a didactic novel written by Hannah Maynard Thompson, wife of Humphrey Pickard, the first Principal of Mount Allison Wesleyan College:

**'Anonymous',** *Procrastination, or Maria Louisa Winslow. By a Lady* (Boston, 1840).

**Description:** Although officially authored only "by a Lady", this work was known to be by **Hannah Maynard Thompson** (1812-44) who soon after its publication married the Reverend Humphrey Pickard, then a student at Wesleyan University in Middleton, Connecticut and later the first Principal of the newly founded Wesleyan Academy in Sackville, New Brunswick, soon to become Mount Allison University. As might be expected from the pen of a deeply religious person, *Procrastination* is a moral, and frighteningly cautionary, tale: in it, a "fashionably educated" young Boston lady rather too fond of clothes, dancing and gay parties ignores the religious experiences of others and fails through thoughtless delays to bring comfort to her sick friend. Suddenly become ill herself, she dies without learning the dangers of "that evil most dangerous to the soul—procrastination."

The study also offers an introduction outlining Josiah Wood's family history, his education at Mount Allison University and the highlights of his career in business, politics and public service and some explanation of how the collection in the Keillor House relates to all that. I hope to complete it over the next several months.

Gene Goodrich

### THE TRAVELING MUSEUM

The 'Traveling Museum' Project is being developed to include a wider range of artifacts—toys, books and other items common to children during the Victorian Era.

And, it will be supported by other materials suitable for use by a classroom teacher as well as the museum staff.

The Shepody Chapter, IODE, and your Board have given financial

support to the project.

If you can help with an artifact or donation, please contact Cheryl Feindel at (506) 379-1816.

## SCHOOL & COMMUNITY OUTREACH—2007

"Out reach" - as defined by the concise OED, means to...  
'reach further than...an organization's [current] involvement  
with or influence in the community'

Like pebbles tossed into a pond "involvement" and "influence" reach outward from the core values of any institution into the community in which it is located. It is "commitment" to a community to increase the extent of an organization's role, involvement and influence. For 40 years – since its incorporation in 1965, the WHS has reached out into the community and 'taken the plunge into the pond'!

Thanks to our great volunteers, these outreach activities have made a difference in the lives of the children of the community.

-In June "The Station Road Project" inspired by the idea of "The Traveling Museum" reached out to the children at Dorchester Consolidated School who enjoyed exploring the history of Station Road when 'the circus came to the village', reading books from the library collection and excerpts from "The Dorchester I Remember" written by Curtis Crossman and prepared by his daughter, Edith Gillcash. Cheryl Feindel, helped by Diane and her Staff, prepared a 'traveling trunk' full of fascinating artifacts used to show the children about what life was like in the Victorian Era.

-In July, during the Sandpiper Festival, the costume collection was used to visually support the popular "Tea and Talks" presentations featuring Victorian fashion and culture

-In July and August, The Community Access Center, and The Dorchester Memorial Library brought children to the Keillor House and St. James Textile Museum for "A Teddy Bear Picnic" as part of the Summer Reading Club—an idea suggested by Cassandra Partridge. It was a hit with both children and adults who especially enjoyed acting out the children's story "Going on a Bear Hunt" in the backyard of the Keillor House. Many thanks to Denyse Milliken, Betty Adams, and to Diane and her Staff for preparing the material and making the day a great success.

-In September, the entire Dorchester School visited the museums for workshops and readings related to the "Hat Exhibit". Karen Mills, and Cheryl Feindel worked with the School – prepared all of the material, and delivered four different workshops for children of various ages. (Other WHS volunteers helped with supervision). Students and teachers were enthusiastic, and definitely want a return visit.

-In December the Museum will again welcome the Dorchester Access Centre to a special workshop involving seasonal museum activities.

Cheryl Feindel/The Editors

### NEWS FROM THE ST. JAMES CHURCH MUSEUM

This was an outstanding year at St. James with a new sign and a story-board featuring Pam Black and the Beachkirk Collection.

Thanks to Betty Adams, Denyse Milliken and our outstanding student—Stephanie Spence, visitor satisfaction has been very positive with attendance up 20% over 2006 and 150% over 2004.

An Exhibit Renewal Grant application to improve exhibits, traffic flow and lighting will be sent to Heritage Branch this October. (Judy & Alice are currently preparing the submission.)

Peter Laroque, Regina Mantin & the Outreach Team from the NB Museum, are providing excellent advice & guidance.

#### St. James Church Museum—Visitor

Profile			
Origin	2004	2006	2007
New Brunswick	119	237	255
Maritimes	74	30	46
Ontario	3	27	40
Quebec	6	16	16
Western Canada	1	10	13
New England	0	3	1
Other USA	0	12	16
Other Foreign	0	14	1

## LIBRARY AND GENEALOGY CENTRE NEWS

The Library Committee met in May and developed an action plan for the library/reading room which has been put into place over the past months.

### The Library

Considerable progress has been made over the summer. New shelving at very reasonable cost has been installed in the library and the genealogy room, which makes effective organization possible for the first time. All the books distributed through the museum have been inventoried, categorized and shelved. A large amount of new material—much of it donated by Ed Bowes, has also been catalogued or filed—but there is still a lot to come from the WHS files at Mount Allison. This is definitely a task which will take another season to complete, but we now have a usable library with a holdings list in digital format which can easily be sent out to other local history centres.

It should also be a valuable

resource for the student projects next summer; in fact, I discovered a couple of items that were used this summer by one of the students.

### The Wood Library

The study of this particular collection of the books has been described in the article 'The Wood Library at the Keillor House' (pp. 3-4)

### Publications

The Committee discussed the publication of several books and an updated inventory of the photo archives.

There is less progress to report on the publication front. Bob Cunningham has generously given WHS the rights to his manuscript 'At the Head of Fundy'. This is an interesting collage of geographical, historical, technical, and other information put together with style. But, the Committee agreed that it needs editing—and an capable editor, so we cannot proceed with publication at this time. WHS has also been given the rights of re-publishing John Belliveau's *The Splendid Life of Albert J. Smith and the Women He Left Behind* but we need to look more closely at how that might be done

### The Genealogy Centre

The Committee also drew up policies & procedures for the operation of the Genealogy Centre, covering hours of operation, fees, photocopying, responsibility for supervision, etc.

### New Research Project

Also started, a research project on the stagecoach and coaching inns in Dorchester. I have collected considerable material and am looking for more, but have shelved the writing up until some of these other projects are cleared away.

If you have information which might be of use for this project, it would be very welcome.

Gene Goodrich

*Gene has spent many, many days during the summer on all of this work, and personally financed the new shelving.*

The Editors

## A SPECIAL VOLUNTEER

A special thank you to Ritchie Folkins on behalf of the Westmorland Historical Society.

Ritchie volunteered *every* Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday *every week*—from June into September, supervising (*and helping*) workers from the Westmorland Institution doing lawn & garden maintenance on the WHS properties.

He paints, repairs & often does needed con-

struction jobs at the Keillor House or one of the other buildings.

As well, he assumes 'chef's duties' at many Keillor House events, after pitching in on the set-up! And, when there are serious problems at the properties, he is the first one volunteering to fix a furnace, roof, leaking pipe or air conditioner.

Our thanks to a great volunteer!

## KEILLOR HOUSE MUSEUM—2007

The Keillor House enjoyed a great year featuring the very popular 'Hats Off to You' Exhibit and offering an impressive calendar of Events and Activities.

### *'Hats Off to You'*

This Exhibit featuring hats from the costume collection (1830-1980) - and newer hats belonging to the former Lieutenant-Governor George Stanley and his wife Ruth Stanley, documents the changes in style, material, trim and profile in headdress design over the centuries. An unexpected bonus:- visits from the "Red Hat Ladies" who enthusiastically champion our cause!

### *Events and Activities (Special Events Calendar 2007)*

Eleven events/activities helped raise over three thousand dollars to support museum activities and programs

### *Museum Manager's Report*

In Diane's Report to the Board, she praised the staff's performance, and said that visitor's ranked the Keillor House staff '#1 in courtesy'. They provided...

'the best Canada Day activities ever, kept the museum and grounds well maintained, made posters for events, gave great tours, and took on special projects [i.e. re-

search projects] for the Board'

### *Research Projects*

This year our students undertook individual research projects as part of their 'official' job description. It stimulated their interest in local history, extended their knowledge and provided the museum with valuable information. (The projects are shelved in binders in the genealogy room.)

### *Updated Museum Inventory*

During the summer, Jarrod Baker, a summer student—and a senior in the History Department at Mt. Allison, undertook a 'room-by-room' inventory of museum artifacts. He documented all artifacts in a data base recording location, status & physical description, giving us an up-to-date inventory.

Jamie Milner, another summer staff member, worked with Jarrod packing the various artifacts in Mylar for safe storage.

Fortunately, we have secured Jarrod's services into the fall through a special grant.

*The Board congratulations Diane & her Staff for a job well done!*

### Keillor House Museum—Visitor Profile

<u>Origin</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
New Brunswick	921	1254	1003
Maritimes	145	80	60
Ontario	71	88	82
Quebec	40	73	36
Western Canada	51	49	40
New England	13	16	10
Other USA	33	39	27
Foreign	20	26	18

A Special Friend of the  
Keillor House  
The Society wishes to thank  
Mrs. Ruth Stanley  
for her generous donation to the  
Hat Exhibit  
and her contributions toward the  
purchase of  
new curtains and  
a new museum  
runner

### PRIVACY POLICY—DONATIONS

In the next issue of the Newsletter we would like to acknowledge our 2007 Donors for their generosity to the Society. However, since some Donors may wish anonymity, everyone who made a contribution in 2007 will be contacted for their permission, and no name will otherwise be published. The Privacy Policy of the Board also forbids the selling of the Society's Membership List or its circulation for purposes unrelated to Society activity in keeping with 'best practices' modeled in the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPED)* and recommended by the Office of the Privacy Commissioner.



Donations, Memberships and Newsletter  
Submissions to:  
4974 Main Street, Dorchester, NB  
E4L 2Z1

Keillor House Museum  
Manager: Diane Nicholson  
Tel.: (506) 379-6633  
Fax: (506) 379-3418  
E-mail: keillorhouse@nb.aibn.com  
www.keillorhousemuseum.com

### Museum Hours

After September 15th, 2007  
Open by appointment  
Tel. (506) 379-6633

## PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE

The Westmorland Historical Society is a non-profit charitable organization founded in 1965 with the mandate to collect, preserve and promote the rich cultural heritage of Westmorland County, NB. For four decades the WHS has worked with local partners to apply this mandate in a unique *entrepreneurial* way by encouraging *self-financing historic sites* attracting visitors from across North America. The historic Sir Pierre Landry House, the Bell Inn, and the Payzant & Card Building, contain apartments or businesses that help off-set the costs of preserving these historic buildings.

The Society's stellar museums—the Keillor House Museum (1813) housing the Graydon Milton Library and Genealogical Centre—and the St. James Textile Museum, contain remarkable collections attracting genealogists, researchers and visitors from across North America.

### How to become a WHS Member?

Contact Lorna Partridge, our Membership Secretary at 4974 Main Street, Dorchester, NB, E4L 2Z1. Tel: (506) 379-2747.

### Annual Fees (2007)

(Includes Newsletter)

Individual: \$7.00  
Couples: \$10.00  
Sustaining: \$25.00  
Life: \$100.00

### Board of Directors

President	Eugene Goodrich
Past President	Alice Folkins
Vice-President	Gerry Gillcash
Vice-President	Greg Partridge
Secretary	Judy Morison
Treasurer	Lorna Partridge
Vanessa Bass	Shirley Oliver
Genie Coates	Cole Morison
Joanne Corey	Susan Spence
Cheryl Feindel	Karen Trueman

## SALUTING OUR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the very backbone of an organization such as the WHS. Your on-going contributions—while not acknowledged enough, are not forgotten!

The Board wants to thank all our volunteers...

For acting as guides this fall: Mr. & Mrs. Eddie Bowes, Helen & Jean Cole, Di-enna Crossman, Darlene Dobson, Edith Gillcash, and Annie Henrikson

For volunteering for the whole summer at the St. James Church Museum: Betty Adams & Denyse

Milliken

For spending days cataloguing reference material at the new Library: Gene Goodrich

For making so many of our special events so successful: our pro—Amy Cormier; Betty Adams, Wendell Anderson, Joanne Corey, Maryann Crossman, Lori Crossthwaite, Cheryl Feindel, Alice & Ritchie Folkins, Wendy & Warren Folkins, Donna & Lloyd Folkins, Edith Gillcash, Moe Goguen, Joanne & Gene Goodrich, Mark & Ezra Istvanffy, Andy Partridge, Lorna & Greg Par-

tridge, Diane & Ted Nicholson, Jo-Jo Siviero, Susan Spence, Janet & Steven Ward, Cody Wheaton

For creating a super-scary dungeon for the Haunted House Tour: Wendy & Warren Folkins

For constructing the new railing for the back steps at the Keillor House: Ted Coombs & Ted Nicholson

For sewing costumes and our parlour curtains: Sheila Adshade

For planting & tending the Keillor House gardens: Bernie Melanson

### Why Not Become A WHS Volunteer?

To find the volunteer activity that is right for you, contact Alice at (506) 379-6620 or Judy at (506) 379-6682

### Newsletter Submissions or Comments Welcome!

Send comments, articles or items of historical interest to Judy Morison  
E-mail: morc@rogers.com.  
Tel: (506) 379-6682.