

Museum/Heritage Report – September 9, 2015 – submitted by Shirley Blackstaff

LMS was fortunate to have a summer student, Jennika Erickson to assist with the Maritime Museum and Harbour Heritage work. Jennika greeted visitors making them feel welcome, shared our harbour's history and assisted with our educational and heritage programs by creating educational booklets and materials, doing research on the internet and at archives and museums, making new displays and working with groups of school students attending our new field trip program.

The Maritime Museum was open daily from 10 am – 5 pm. Volunteer, Bev Cottrell enthusiastically greeted visitors on Sundays. There is now a new marine safety display on the museum wall which has been designed to be interactive with visitors and will be useful with groups of students. We have prepared new slide shows and have display drawers in place for future nautical exhibits. Outboard motor research and excellent signs were designed by Jim McPhalen. Much needed carpentry work and repairs were accomplished by Bill Cottrell. Memorial benches for Harry Erickson and Bob Bossons were made by Harry B. and installed near the museum by Steve Janssen.

The Harbour Heritage Centre was open daily from 1 am – 4 pm, thanks to Jennika and these reliable volunteers: Jim McKinley, Mary Dolan, John Monaghan, Pat Samson, Anne Wary and Peggy and Barrie McDonald. Barrie's research, written text and choice of heritage photos for the new signage for the Long Wharf Coal diorama and the Ladysmith Log Dump diorama was greatly appreciated. The signs enrich the understanding of each diorama's visual presentation. Also, we have enjoyed many slide shows on our Harbour industries created by John Rodall.

Our school program volunteers were wonderful with children ranging from 3 years to 11 years old and they added much to make the program interactive and suited to the children's learning levels. Thanks to Cecilia Grimstead, Charlene Lee, Marnie Craig, Mary Anne Hajer, Gail Robb, Hilda McDonald, Bonnie Cruickshank and Tricia Pinkerton for their help with the educational program. Thanks to Rick Greenhorn for cutting out the fishing boat pieces for the hands-on-project and to Bev Cottrell for making finger puppets to encourage student participation in the Purple Martin play and song that Jennika created. Our "Maritimer" tour boat organizer, David Grimstead and the skippers who took the students out were most appreciated: Michel Talbot, Ian Waymark and Moria Ryan. It was also great to have Debbie's assistance with processing the Booking Forms. The teachers, parent helpers and children were awesome. It was a rewarding experience for all. The teachers sent in helpful feedback and notes of appreciation. I know next year we will have many more groups.

We had some fine donations: a ship's compass, model ship, photographs, tools, books and charts. Thank you cards were sent to donors who filled in the Donation Forms and provided contact information. We received positive comments from our many visitors and enjoyed getting to know some very interesting people.

We have some exciting plans for 2015-2016: new exhibits and displays, completion of educational booklets, more interactive educational experiences involving sound effects and visual technology, cooperative work with our schools, Stz'uminus First Nation, LDHS, Rotary and other community and heritage groups. **We appreciate our volunteers immensely but could certainly use the help of more people to accomplish our goals. Thank you.**



SFN pre-school group



Cecilia teaching a song



Enjoying a tour boat trip



Dick Gill donates his model