

Wolfville Historical Society Newsletter

Founded in 1941



VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

DATE MAY 12, 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From Influenza to the Poor House- Dr. Alan Marble

At the next WHS meeting on 18 May, Dr. Allan Marble will present a talk on "Poor Houses in Nova Scotia". He will trace for us the development of policies by municipal and provincial governments to provide assistance for poor people, as well as those considered to be mentally insane (since

there were uncharitable perceptions regarding both). This led to the development of county poorhouses, as well as asylums, which were a feature of Nova Scotia society for over a hundred years.

You will find the story fascinating. Dr. Marble has been researching this subject for some time,

and those of you who heard his talk on the Spanish Flu that followed the Great War will recall his well-prepared and enthusiastic delivery.

The talk will be held at 2 pm at St. John's Anglican Parish Hall, 341 Main Street, Wolfville church hall.



Curator's Nook

Every year when the water gets turned on and the storm doors are replaced by screen ones, I am reminded that the winter is behind us and time get busy with museum preparations. May is a very busy month—trying to put all in order before our summer visitors arrive.

This year we have something very special planned—a Gallery of Fashion intalled in the

upstairs North East bedroom. The room has been transformed to accommodate mannequins displaying Wolfville fashions dating from 1850–1900. To go along with the exhibit, we are working on a coloured catalogue that will be available for purchase.

Mid July will usher in an exhibit on Mi'Kmaq crafts including quill and beadwork on display in the temporary exhibit

room.

The biggest change will be where visitors will enter the museum. Admissions will now be located in the back porch and gift shop. No more demanding stairs to climb up and we'll greet you with a fine Maritime 'backdoor' welcome! With a little nudging you may be tempted by some of the gifts including books and jewelry in the gift shop.

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Staff News | 2 |
| Passage | 2 |
| Exhibit Poster | 3 |
| Bulletin Board | 4 |
| Membership form | 4 |

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Until June, have a good spring and we'll be looking forward to talking to you soon.

News from Summer Staff



Hi all, my name is Katie Titus and I will be one of your summer students this year. I had the opportunity to work at the Randall House on a part-time basis last year and I am thrilled to be back. I come to you with a bachelor of music and half of an education degree from Acadia University and am heading to Kingstec in the fall for the Early Childhood Education program. One of my projects this summer will be to research and perhaps conserve some of the musical instruments that are currently stored in the attic and I am very excited about that. Hope to see you around this summer!

Passage PROJECT UPDATE

Jan Baldwin and I (your WHS Passage team) are excited about the new Collections Management software from Collective Access which we have been testing for ANSM the past couple of months. We are now beyond the beta stage and doing lasting entries into the new system. This web-based open source database tool has many functional advantages over our previous program which will make

entering our records easier. We will, for example, be able to have two people entering records to the database at the same time and from any computer with internet connections which has the potential to speed the entering process significantly. I will be continuing to get familiar with the system myself and at the same time training our student helpers this summer.

Down the road this will make our collection much more accessible to the public which is our ultimate aim. We will have to be patient however as ANSM tells me that the public online face will not be ready until Fall 2012!

However, we are still uploading records and images to CHIN so more and more of our collection is visible online at *Artefacts Canada*.. Also planned this summer is a push to photograph more of the artefacts in our collection to add to our digital records. This past winter we have already made good progress in entering and scanning our photograph archive. Most recently I scanned photographs from the album of E. Sydney Crawley. Here is one of the photos from that collection:



Mystery Photo! Can anyone identify the school, year and any students ?

Please contact Heather Watts or the museum if you can

Gallery of Fashion



Wolfville Dress 1850-1900

A display of Men's and Women's attire from
the permanent collection



June 1 – September 15, 2011

Randall House Museum

Catalogue available

Wolfville Historical Society
Randall House Museum

259 Main Street
Wolfville, Nova Scotia

Phone: 902-542-9775
E-mail: randallhouse@live.ca

*"We are the
community's collective
memory"*

**We're on the web and in
colour!**

<http://wolfvillehs.ednet.ns.ca>

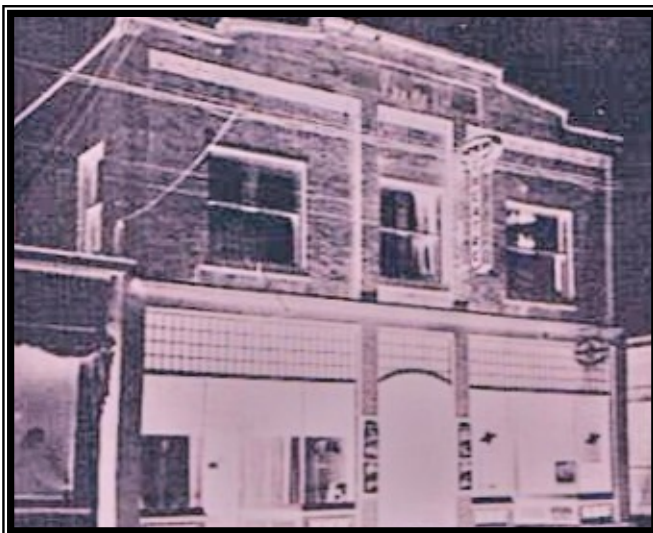


Wolfville Historical Society



Bulletin Board

- ◇ Museum Opens Wednesday, June 1
- ◇ Don't forget your 2011 dues
- ◇ Cotton drop sheets are needed for the museum— Anyone having old sheets to give away please drop them off at the museum
- ◇ The Wolfville Historical Society will meet on May 18th at 2 p.m. St. John's Anglican Parish Hall, 341 Main Street. Dr. Alan Marble on the topic of 'Poor Houses of Nova Scotia'.
- ◇ Congratulations to Derek Watts who was elected President of ANSM !! (Association of Nova Scotia Museums)



Congratulations to Acadia Cinema Co-Operative!!

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the Acadia Cinema's continued use of a landmark building as an arts venue!

Wolfville Historical Society

Annual and Sustaining Membership Application Form for 2011

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Town: _____ **Prov.:** _____ **P. Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Do you wish to receive your newsletter by e-mail? Y or N

Annual Membership: Individual - \$20.00; Family - \$30.00

Annual Sustaining Membership: Individual or Couple—\$100.00

A receipt for income tax purposes will be issued.

Please fill out the above form and send it along with payment to:

**Wolfville Historical Society
259 Main Street, Wolfville N.S.
B4P 1C6**