

Fall 2010

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The Newfoundland Historical Society

1905-2010



Newsletter

CUPIDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cupids Historical Society Incorporated was formed in 1982 and currently has forty active members. The Society executive for 2010 are: President Harold Akerman, Past President Sylvia Potter, Vice-President John Lawlor, Secretary Lloyd Kane, Treasurer Ross Dawe.

Notable achievements include: reconstruction of 1910 flag site; inviting Baccalieu Trail Heritage Corp. to conduct an Archaeology survey which resulted in locating Cupids Cove Plantation Site; developing heritage walking trails in abandoned areas of the community; establishment (in partnership with MUN Botanical Garden) of a Heritage Garden with interpretive panels on various plants and shrubs; and developing Cupids Heritage Master Plan (1999) which resulted in formation of Cupids400 Inc. The Society is particularly proud of opening Cupids Museum in 1995 and partnering with Cupids400 Inc in construction of Cupids Legacy Centre and developing Cupids 400th Anniversary Celebrations and Events.



Members of Cupids Historical Society and Cupids400 INC purchase first admission tickets for new Cupids Legacy Centre, June 14, 2010.

l-r Ross Dawe, CHS Treasurer; Lloyd Kane, Cupids400 Vice-Chair; Peter Laracy, C400 Capital Works Manager; Roy Dawe, C400 Chair; Harold Akerman, CHS President; Linda Kane, Curator, Cupids Legacy Centre.

Cupids Historical Society on-going activities are the operation of Cupids Museum, flying giant Canadian and British flags on special occasions, operating Mill Brook Garden, maintaining heritage walking trails, judging heritage fairs, annual variety show, annual Canada Day Breakfast, old picture shows, family history program, Stamp Design Contest, and fundraising.

Plans for the future include expansion of Mill Brook Garden; directing the operations of Cupids Legacy Centre; participation in management committee for Cupids Cove Plantation Provincial Historic Site. Cupids Historical Society has published a cookbook, containing approximately 200 recipes, as an anniversary souvenir. Also, a book entitled "Present, Miss" will be published October, 2010 to re-visit Cupids Museum award winning exhibit of that title. Immediate plans are rest and recovery after successful completion of 400th Anniversary Celebrations.

Lloyd Kane, Secretary, Cupids Historical Society

Editor's note: In our last issue we promised to begin a series of short items on a variety of historical associations around the province. This is the first of that series.

"Bristol, Cabot and the New Found Land, 1496-1500" by Dr. Evan Jones from the University of Bristol.

The NHS's joint lecture with the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology, held at the Battery Hotel on June 16, turned into a rare night. Evan Jones, Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Bristol spoke about his investigations into the research done by the late Alwyn Ruddock, on John Cabot and the 1490s-early 16th century Bristol voyages. The assembled listeners, a combination of archaeologists attending the SPMA conference and NHS members, learned of new discoveries in the field of Cabot Studies. Over the centuries, primary information about Cabot had been limited to references in a small number of circa 1497-1498 documents. Now research has revealed several other places where he is mentioned. They contain astonishing proof that Cabot survived the 1498 voyage and was in London in 1500, for example; and other information such as a likely answer as to the origin of the place name "Carbonear" and evidence that a group of friars built some sort of a church structure there in 1499. There was much excitement in the room over these revelations and the possibility of more, should the Ruddock sources be found. Information about Jones's work is available on the Cabot Project website: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/history/research/cabot.html>



Joan Ritcey

Riddle Fence issue #6

The sixth issue of *Riddle Fence*, hitting newsstands now, takes an in-depth, eloquent and not always easy look at John Guy's colony as the Cupids settlement celebrates its 400th birthday. Launched recently as part of the province's Cupids 400 celebrations, this issue includes a fascinating and detailed essay by archaeologist Bill Gilbert on written records of the colony's early days.

Also in this issue, we offer saucy samplings in our Fanelore (as in "fake folklore") series, including artwork by Jackie Alcock and Robin McGrath's homegrown version of Grey's Anatomy. Meanwhile, 17th century Newfoundland comes alive as Patrick Warner takes a peek at Robert Hayman's Quodlibets, believed to have been the first book of English verse written in the so-called New World. See www.riddlefence.com for details.



Sandra Clarke (centre), our April 2010 Story lecturer



Our 2010 AGM (held in conjunction with the Story lecture)

FAIRE WOODS AND FRESHE RIVERS*: Settling Cupids 1610-2010 - Symposium

*Source: Henry Crout's weather diary 'Occurrences in Newfoundland' for September 4, 1612 – "In the morning we proceeded Farther through verie faire woodes passing faire lakes and freshe rivers"

Friday, September 24

8:00 pm at The Rooms: Reception - Newfoundland Historical Society

Peter Pope: "***The Consumer Revolution of the Late 16th Century and the Beginnings of European Colonisation in North America***"

Saturday, September 25

8:45 am Bus departs Churchill Square, St. John's for Cupids (*ticket required - \$20 for the round trip*)

9:30 am Legacy Centre opens in Cupids

Morning Session

Coffee/tea and Symposium Programs will be available for attendees.

Proclamation delivered by John Guy (Clarence Barnes)

10:30 – 10:45 am Greetings
- Newfoundland Historical Society
- Cupids Historical Society

10:45 – 12:05 pm Two papers: 35 minutes each with 10 minutes Qs/As at end

William Gilbert: "***To dwell in this Country and Live here: Historical Archaeology in Cupids, Newfoundland***"

Gordon Handcock & Chesley Sanger: "***John Guy of Bristol and Newfoundland***"

12:05 – 1:15 pm LUNCH (*ticket required*)
Lunch at the nearby Community Center, with pre-purchased tickets (\$15)
Greetings from Cupids 400 (Roy Dawe) & Cupids Mayor (Ron Laracy)



Cupids 1910 tercentenary stamp

Afternoon Session

1:15 – 2:40 pm Two papers: 35 minutes each with 15 minutes Qs/A's at end

Laurie McLean: "***Beothuk – European Interactions: Acknowledging the Good Within the Bad***"

Robert Cuff: "***Date of this Entry***" – John Guy, George Dawe, Charles Garland and the Conception Bay Plantations Book of 1806"

2:40 – 3:15 pm Refreshment break

3:40 – 4:50 pm Two papers: 35 minutes each with 15 minutes Qs/As at end

Philip Hiscock: "***The Legend of Sheila Na Geira: The 20th Century Looking Back***"

Hans Rollman: "***A Tale of Two Cities: The 1910 John Guy Tercentenary at Cupids in the Crossfire of Harbour Grace and St. John's***"

4:50 – 6:00 pm Speaker's Corner at the nearby Cupids Community Centre

6:00 pm for 6:30 pm BANQUET (buffet) (*ticket required, \$38*)

Patrick O'Flaherty

Cupids Men at the National Convention

9:30 pm Bus departs Cupids for St. John's

A free symposium open to the general public co-hosted by the Newfoundland Historical Society and the Cupids Historical Society with a funding grant from CUPIDS 400

Please contact the Newfoundland Historical Society for bus, lunch and banquet tickets – phone: 722-3191 or email: nhs@nf.aibn.com

2010 - 2011 Lecture Series

Fall 2010

- 24-25 September:** Cupids Symposium (see program above). This replaces the monthly lecture.
- 28 October:** Bruce Ryan, *Buried Treasure: Newfoundland's Pre-Confederation Mining History as Captured in Postage Stamps, Picture Postcards, Stock Certificates and Other Ephemera*
- 25 November:** Christopher Pratt, *The Newfoundland flag - 30th anniversary* [Higgins Lecture]

Winter 2011

- 27 January:** Mekaela Mahoney, *A Reflection of Ourselves: Nationalistic Theatre in Newfoundland, 1965 – 1983*
- 24 February:** TBA
- 31 March:** TBA
- 28 April:** TBA (Story Lecture and AGM)

Lectures will be in Hampton Hall at the Marine Institute on Ridge Road at 8.00 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

Weather cancellations: if the weather is bad, please consult the Storm Centre at cbc.ca/nl; cancellations will be announced there.

A note of appreciation

The NHS is delighted and extremely grateful to acknowledge the most generous gift of \$500 recently made by the Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy to the NHS to mark the 90th birthday this August of Aidan Maloney, who has for many years been a supporter of both the Sisters of Mercy and the NHS. We extend him our congratulations and very best wishes on reaching this important milestone.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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Membership Fees: Regular \$28 / Life \$400 / Institutional \$24 / Student (no *Quarterly*) \$15 / Joint NHS-Heritage Canada Foundation \$50
Donations are always welcome!

Fee _____ Donation _____ Total _____

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Payment may be made by VISA, cheque or money order to the Newfoundland Historical Society. Please send this form with your payment to the address on the front page. US subscribers please pay in US funds to cover postage. International subscribers please pay 18 pounds sterling or Canadian equivalent.

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