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## Summer Staff

The summer season is here and Manager Deborah Trask has things well underway! The Settlers Museum is proud to have returning staff member Kody Dagley from Fauxburg, a recent history graduate of Mount St. Vincent University filling the position of Museum Assistant.



Heritage Interpreter Heather Emeneau and Museum Assistant Kody Dagley

# MAHONE BAY SETTLERS MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

MAY 2008

**The Mahone Bay Settlers Museum is a community-based museum and resource centre operated by the Mahone Bay Founders Society.**

**The Mission is to provide educational and recreational experiences that celebrate and preserve the history, culture and traditions of the Mahone Bay area.**

The museum welcomes new Heritage Interpreter Heather Emeneau from Lunenburg, a film and fine arts student at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

## “Our Best to You”



**Congratulations** to the museum volunteers for putting on yet another successful (29th annual) “Our Best to You” food sale to help raise money for the museum!!

## Opening

The Settlers Museum is open to the public for the 2008 summer from May 31<sup>st</sup> until September. Open hours are 10-5, Tuesday to Saturday and 1-5 on Sundays.

## Annual General Meeting

**June 9th**

The Settlers Museum will be hosting their Annual General Meeting on June 9th at 7pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Community Room. The featured speaker for meeting will be Rebecca Kennedy, Manager, Nova Scotia Historic Places Initiative, who will give an illustrated talk on “Canada’s culture of heritage conservation”.

Historic Places Initiative is an innovative program and public resource that offers guidance for decision making when using historic places. Rebecca will discuss effective approaches for citizens of a historic town to take action and conserve the historic places that they value.

We look forward to having Rebecca educate and enlighten us, and we hope to see you there!

## Summer Exhibits

This summer the Museum is proud to once again offer exciting, locally focused historical exhibits!

**“Mrs. Millett’s Hats”** shows hats from as far back as the early 1900’s from Mahone Bay’s former Millett’s Millinery Store.



Ladies wearing hats on an outing in Mahone Bay, 1910

Janet Croft Millett (1861 - 1948) started a hat shop in Mahone Bay in the 1880’s and continued in the Millinery business on into the 1940’s.



Janet Miller standing in the store front of her millinery shop in about 1890.

In the exhibit we have combined a wide range of hats from as early as the 1910’s to the 1950’s. Along with a wide range of exquisite hat pins, accessories and historical photographs, such as a photograph of Mrs. Janet Millett herself as a young woman at the peek of her hat making career.

## Historic Bed Linens

The Settlers Museum recently received a remarkable donation of bed linen, including a heavy linen ‘tick’ intended to be stuffed with straw to serve as a mattress. These came from the attic of an old house in Clearland associated with the Lantz family. There was a time in the mid-1800s when every farm in Lunenburg County grew some flax and produced their own linen but by the 1870s commercially produced cotton became more available and people put their heavy grey home-spun and woven linen to other uses, or, as in the case of the Lantzs, in the attic. Ordinary functional items generally get used up and so the survival of these lovely pristine bed linens is quite remarkable! They are on display for this summer.

## Vanishing Schools of the Mahone Bay Area

We have done a small display on the many schools of the area to complement the newly published



Founders Society Life Member, Isobel Crossland (centre) with her 1931 class on the steps of the Mahone Bay School.

“History of the Mahone Bay School” which will be for sale in the museum shop.

## Paint Mahone Bay 2008 July 11, 12 & 13



The Settlers Museum is very excited about this year’s Paint Mahone Bay Festival!

The festival this year is **July 11, 12 & 13** with everything taking place at the Mahone Bay Centre. Join us this summer when artists come together to create works on site reflecting the timeless enchantment of one of Canada’s oldest and most beautiful towns. There could be an artist or a costumed model (or both!) around any corner, in any garden.

Visit our headquarters at the Mahone Bay Centre, 45 School Street, have a lemonade, visit with the artists, and join in on one of our informative workshops.

We hope to see you there to support the Museum and pick up some fabulous art!

See the web page for up-to-date info.  
[www.settlersmuseum.ns.ca](http://www.settlersmuseum.ns.ca)

**July and August** we will be continuing a special research project, funded through Canada Summer Jobs, (Service Canada) on native stories from the area.