



North Shuswap Historical Society

Happy New Year 2012

Dear Members of the North Shuswap Historical Society,

This newsletter is an attempt to keep all members, especially those who support us but cannot attend the various meetings throughout the year, informed about the various activities that have transpired during 2011 and what we are looking forward to in 2012.

On March 13th, we held our sixth successful Photographic Presentation at the Community Hall. This is an event where our Shuswap Chronicles and Calendars are on display as well as various display boards showing our activities. We encourage new members to join. We also show a 40 minute presentation of photographs with a brief history of the area or about the photo. Tea, coffee and goodies are provided. It proves to be well appreciated. We will be holding another one this year in March.

Phyllis Mader and I represented the Society at the British Columbia Historical Federation Conference this spring in Powell River. The Conference is always interesting and informative. We are presently on the steering committee for the 2013 Conference which will be held in Kamloops. The North Shuswap Historical Society has offered to help with this endeavour.

Our monthly meetings often have a person giving some history on a particular topic. Lou & Betty Etcheverry gave an interesting talk and photo show on the History of the Crowfoot Snowmobile Club. At another meeting Phyllis Mader gave the history of Camp Grafton. At another meeting Joanne Prigmore gave us an historical trivia quiz.

Last year we wrote letters requesting that new roads be named after the original homesteaders in the area.. So far I have contacted one developer who is considering our request. Hopefully we will be able to make more progress in preserving the history. If there is a developer near you please let me know or better yet if you know them please talk to them about naming roads after the pioneer homesteaders. I have a list of road names which we cannot use because they have already been used within the CSRD. I also have a fairly comprehensive map outlining the date the homestead was taken out, the description of the land and by whom.

The Society has decided to spend some of the money donated in Tom's memory to purchase a bench and place it in the North Shuswap Cemetery.

The Historical Society decided to become involved with Geocaching. (Basically this is a modern day treasure hunt using a GPS.) Melanie Riley and myself set out to learn the ropes and then after discovering several caches took those members who were interested on a field trip in June to discover the process. All who came thoroughly enjoyed the exercise and managed to visit places in our own community which they hadn't been to before. Melanie and I then proceeded to set up four caches in Historic Sites in the North Shuswap to encourage people to visit these sites. In each cache we have written a paragraph giving the history of that spot and why it is important to the history of the area. The comments we have received so far have been very positive. We may expand the number of sites this coming year.

A June Potluck meeting and dinner was held at the Florence Harrison's home in Scotch Creek. Everyone who came enjoyed the short meeting and the social. The food at these events always proves to be incredibly good.

We were very sorry to hear of the fire at the Chase Museum and offered our support. We also made a small donation towards helping them clean up and preserve their archives.

We are slowly working on Volume #10 of the Shuswap Chronicles. As always we are looking for anyone who will send us events, stories or just an anecdote that they remember or have heard about the North Shuswap. Although the focus will be about sports and entertainments we always include a variety of articles to keep everyone's interests.

We applied for and received a Grant from the CSRD to help pay for more Driving Tour Signs. This will increase the number of signs to 36 and will span the area from Squilax to St. Ives. The comments I have received about the Driving Tour which gives a brief description or history of various historic buildings or sites in the area have all been very positive.

We have once again published a 2012 Calendar which features Images of the Past in the North Shuswap. This can be purchased for \$10.00. If anyone is interested in previous Calendars for their photographs please contact me as we have some left from previous years and would sell them at a reduced rate. We have been producing the Calendar for six years now.

Our November meeting ended with a Photographic presentation honouring the Veterans from the North Shuswap who were in the W.W. I and W.W. II.

Members of the Historical Society have displayed some interest in helping to preserve another old log home, specifically Ed & Dorothy Riley's log cabin. There will be a number of legal hoops to jump through (as well as some expense), but the encouragement for me is there and we hope it can be done during 2012. Tom and I had been planning on doing this, but I personally could not do it without a commitment of help. The original cabin would be an addition to the present museum.

Our Christmas Pot Luck was also held at Florence Harrison's home. Although December is an extremely busy month and a number of people had other commitments, the twenty people who showed up all thoroughly enjoyed the food and the social. Thanks again Florence.

Throughout the year we are collecting photographs and scanning them and adding them to our archives. If you have any of your family or other people who lived in the North Shuswap they are always of interest. We are also looking for more recent photographs – the ones taken in the 50's, 60's, 70's, 80's and 90's.

Remember our Annual General Meeting will be held in January at which time the new executive will be elected. If you are interested in holding a position or would like to remain in a position please let me know.

Our membership is important to a healthy society. Even though you may not be able to make our regular meetings your support and membership is vital. This helps us both financially as well as when we write letters and apply for grants. It is also very encouraging! If you know of other people who may be interested in joining or supporting the N.S. Historical Society please encourage them to do so.

At this time I would like to remind you that your 2012 membership fee of \$5.00 per person is now due. Our mailing address is North Shuswap Historical Society, 5055 Squilax – Anglemont Rd., Celista, B.C. V0E-1M6 **(Please note the change of mailing address! Please make any cheques out to the North Shuswap Historical Society.)**

Thank you to all those members who have already renewed their 2012 membership.

Remember – short stories or memories of the North Shuswap are always happily accepted to be kept on file for another Chronicle.

Finally if you have any suggestions, ideas or comments for the Society please contact me at 955-6431 or email greenough@airspeedwireless.ca

All the very best in 2012.

Yours truly,
Loretta Greenough
President
North Shuswap Historical Society