



The Lac du Bonnet and District Historical Society Inc.
ldbhistorical.ca

Working in the present while preserving the past for now and the future.

Heritage Happenings Fall and Winter 2011

Greetings:

The Historical Society is pleased to report that the Lac du Bonnet District Museum will open to the public on the May long weekend. Hundreds of volunteer hours were logged in 2011 and the Society is most appreciative of the workers who came out day after day to complete the restoration. Here is a summary of the work done this past year in order to accomplish this goal: Drywall and pine on the interior of addition, vinyl flooring in washroom and storage room, plumbing, electrical, interior and exterior staining and painting, cabinetry and display cases, ramp, deck, security system, landscaping.

On June 25 the Society held an open house to show off the newly restored log cabin and express appreciation for the community's support for this project. A temporary display was created for this event. Approximately 300 people showed up to tour the cabin and enjoy a free pork dinner and entertainment by the Kitchen Band.

During the summer, funding was secured for the construction of a storage building. In October the race was on to complete the structure before winter set in. Mother nature cooperated and the volunteer construction crew job got done. A grant was obtained to buy a riding lawn mower. A huge tent has also been purchased for rental for events on the museum grounds.

The Society wishes to thank the donors of the artifacts that have been collected and catalogued during the past few months. This work is ongoing as displays will change and special artifacts will be needed for special events.

"A Swedish Christmas on the Prairies" was held during the day on November 30, with Grades one and two from Centennial School taking part in an interactive presentation. In the evening, adult guests listened to seasonal songs and readings on the history and Christmas customs of the local Swedish community. The history of Riverland was featured with displays of Swedish artifacts and pictures.

The annual Wine and Cheese took place December 9 at the Lac du Bonnet Community Centre. As usual the food was outstanding and there was lots of great prizes in the auctions. The community and the businesses are to be commended for their ongoing support for this fund raising event. Other fund raising activities were working at Mrs. Lucci's, Club Regent bingo, and Granite Hills putting tournament.

Now that the construction is almost completed, the board has adopted a strategic plan which will move the organization into the next phase of operation and development. Plans are being made for a come and go tea at the museum, an old fashioned picnic, and more theme events.

The Society sends a huge thank you to Miriam and Leo Simoens for their vision and years of hard work to make the Lac du Bonnet Museum a reality. We wish them well in their new home in Winnipeg and look forward to seeing them at future museum events.