

The Heritage Gazette is a publication of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society and is circulated to its members and volunteers as well as other interested members of our community. We provide this complimentary newsletter with pride to promote the history, heritage and culture of Dartmouth.



The Dartmouth Heritage Museum currently resides in "Evergreen" House on Newcastle Street which is open to the public year-round. We welcome your input and suggestions as well as your time! If you wish to become a volunteer or for more information, please read this newsletter for contact information.

Autumn

OLD NEWS IS GOOD NEWS

2008

## Quaker House Goes Green

-by Chris Parsons & Lisa O'Neill

Over the years, Museum volunteers and staff have helped to keep the Quaker garden looking its best with historic plants, new fences, flagstones, lawn mowing and weeding.

This summer, visitors to Quaker House were treated to a new, organic exhibit in the backyard - an historically accurate garden. "The Quakers were some of the first horticulturalists with structured gardens in Dartmouth, and in Nova Scotia. The historical garden at the Quaker Whaler House provides a more authentic and complete experience for visitors to the museum and to the city of Dartmouth," says volunteer Daniel Wolfe.

Wolfe and Randy Breckenridge have put in countless hours on Ochterloney Street since June building eight raised beds, planting vegetables and herbs, and tending to the garden;

but the work began in May when late 18th century gardening techniques and plants were researched, ensuring that the plants and layout were historically



accurate. "We hope that people will gain a greater knowledge of the historical elements and functions of the plants in the Quaker garden," Breckenridge told

us, "and of just how vital these plants were to the people in the days when there were no stores or pharmacies to purchase medicines, sundries or spices."



Dan and Randy weren't alone in planning the garden. Curator Crystal Martin and volunteer Sally King helped research and plan the Quaker garden and all the staff and volunteers received a little help from Mother Nature. "There is no fountain or statuary typical of many backyard gardens, and with no outdoor plumbing for watering," Wolfe told us, "we volunteers must rely on Mother

Nature for the most part, as the Quaker Whalers would have."

## From the Giftshop

All items available at Evergreen House

Many new items have appeared in our gift shop from new Helen Creighton books to folksong CD's, and now also memorabilia to celebrate your visit to the Museum...

It is wonderful to hear Evergreen House filled with folkmusic again when you play the demos from these new CD's:

**Melanie Ross:** 2 new CD's - Miramichi & The River Song

**Drumlin:**

Mackerel Skies (pictures on their website [www.drumlin.ca](http://www.drumlin.ca) and on their newest CD were taken at Evergreen House!)

**Tote Bags:**

You can roll these little beauties into such a small size, you can fit them into the smallest of purses and be ready for those unexpected purchases (and of course, they are the perfect size for all the great historical books found in the Museum bookstore!).



**Leather Jewellery:**

Hand crafted by local Jenny Stewart (owner of Viking Leather) who uses traditional methods of hand-dying and hard-curling the leather to make these handsome pieces.



**Notecards:**

Images of Quaker and Evergreen Houses and the artifacts within.

**and Ye Olde Favourite:**

Stick candy...we encourage consumption AFTER the tour!



*DRUMLIN is a family band from Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. The members of DRUMLIN specialize in song writing and also have a passion for adapting, arranging and restoring heritage folk song fragments into a cutting edge fusion of traditional and modern music. This riveting young band has been performing together for almost a decade, and their unforgettable musical presence heartens the audience and celebrates life. Here they are at Evergreen House - home to Helen Creighton and headquarters to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum!*





## Volunteer Gotcha!

Hal Oare



*Hal Oare, our collection accessioning volunteer, is here having fun with some of the new school programming props donated recently. Thanks for not wearing the dress Hal!*

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## Street Names of Dartmouth

### Queen Street

Queen Street was Quarrell Street until 1915. Colonel William D. Quarrell came with the Maroons from Jamaica in 1796. The Maroons were employed on the Citadel fortifications. The street's name was changed in 1915 to commemorate Queen Victoria who ruled from 1837 to 1901.

Hallowe'en  
at Helen's  
House



Oct. 28 - Nov. 1, 2008  
Mon-Fri 10-5  
Sat 10-1 & 2-5

Helen Creighton was the author of "Bluenose Ghosts" and was a firm believer in the supernatural. Evergreen House was Helen's family home and where she had many "experiences" of her own! Join us for a week-long celebration of Hallowe'en and traditions. Figure out the illusions, smelly-smellers, and learn the history of this holiday.



## Congratulations!

*...to our Curator Crystal Martin on her engagement to Tim Gregory (of Halifax, NS). The wedding is to take place on August 15, 2009 at the Fairbairn Church, Kawartha Settlers Village, in Bobcaygeon, Ontario. Bobcaygeon is Crystal's hometown and the Settlers Village was her first museum-related summer job. Serving as a rural country church from 1885 until 1963, the Fairbairn Church functioned as a chicken coop for a local farmer until it was acquired by the Settlers Village and restored in 1996.*

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## Recipes from the Archives

### Highland Scones

To 1 lb flour allow from 2 to 4 oz of butter or lard, as much hot water as will make a dough of flour, and two beaten eggs, if the cakes are wished to rise. Handle quickly, and roll out and cut in any shape or size wanted. Bake on the griddle or on a thick-bottomed frying pan. Must be served hot and eaten fresh.

## Can You Help?

### Snow Shovelling

We are looking for someone to help us with snow removal this winter at Evergreen House. We have a 3 car parking lot, and a set of stairs to shovel.

### Front Desk Volunteers

Do you have half a day a month to help us answer phones and greet visitors to Evergreen? We are in urgent need of front desk volunteers.

### Garden Maintenance

Both Evergreen House and Quaker House could use some help with pruning and maintenance of the gardens.

### Heritage House Tour Volunteers

Help us on October 4 & 5 at our annual fundraiser by greeting and monitoring the public within one of the houses or museums on the tour.

**Anyone have a screwdriver set, cordless drill or a glue gun they don't want anymore? We could really use them here at the Museum.**

**THE UNHINGED DOOR:**  
Delightfully  
Spine-chilling Tales

**Thursday, October 30th**  
**7 pm**

"Evergreen House"  
**\$8.00**

Adults and Young Adults (12+)

*Dare to step through the unhinged door between the real & unreal and listen to tales of ghoulish encounters, historical haunts, forerunners by the fireside, superstitions and folklore magic. Featuring storytellers Liz Newkirk, Nancy Muzzatti, Linda Winham and Cindy Campbell of the Storytellers Circle of Halifax.*

## Stories of Dartmouth's Past

- Margaret Macdonald

Watching Ruby Keeler tap-dance in *Ready, Willing and Able*, it's easy to see why the number is called *Too Marvelous for Words*. Keeler hops from key to key of a typewriter, dancing her way to stardom. Ruby raised the bar for all dancers after her and became a film legend in the process. Who would guess that her story began in Dartmouth?

On August 25, 1910, Ralph and Elnora Keeler gave birth to a daughter named Ethel Keeler. The family lived on Oak Street in Dartmouth until 1914, when they moved to New York City. Ethel Keeler took dance lessons and began performing in nightclubs under the name Ruby Keeler. She performed on Broadway, starring in *Bye-Bye Bonnie*, *Lucky* and *The Sidewalks of New York*. Her first movie was *42nd Street* in 1933. Ruby then moved to Hollywood after marrying a fellow actor, Al Jolson, who was twenty-five years her senior. The couple adopted a son but soon divorced. Ruby remarried a broker named John Lowe and the couple had three daughters together. In the 1940s she retired and virtually disappeared from public life, happy to focus on her family. Ruby was never forgotten and was asked to retake the stage in 1971's *No, No, Nanette*. Ruby received mass acclaim and popularity once again, achieving her goals of a successful career and quiet personal life.

Though she didn't live in Dartmouth for long, Ruby Keeler is certainly one of the most exciting Dartmouthians. To appreciate this chapter of Dartmouth history, rent *42nd Street*, or watch *Too Marvelous for Words* on YouTube. Just a few minutes will convert you to a Ruby Keeler fan.



Ruby Keeler, Al Jolson and their son, Al Junior - image from the collection of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum



# George H. Craig

## Painter, Photographer & Visual Pioneer

an exhibit from the collection of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum

Sponsored by:



Over 100 paintings and photographs, including portraits of Joseph Howe and Angus McAskill, the Bedford residence of the Duke of Kent, Sam Slick, and many more unique and unusual photographs of people and places from 1800s Dartmouth, Halifax, Nova Scotia and beyond!

Dartmouth Heritage Museum

26 Newcastle Street, Dartmouth

Sept. 30 - Dec. 30, 2008

Mon-Fri 10-5 / Sat 10-1 & 2-5

464-2300

[www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca)

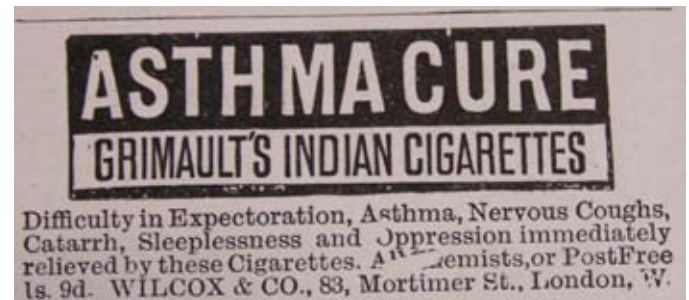
### What Is It?

(check your answer on bottom of page 6)



### Ads from the Past

Wow, have times ever changed! Our summer staff found this little beauty in the London Illustrated Times published in 1900...





by Crystal Martin  
- Curator

## Dartmouth's Connection to Benjamin Franklin & A Great World Discovery

It was in 1785 that Timothy Folger, along with Samuel Starbuck Sr., led the Quaker Whalers up from Nantucket to settle in Dartmouth, NS. However, it was only a few years earlier that Folger played an even bigger part in world history. You see, Timothy Folger and Benjamin Franklin were first cousins, and while out on whaling expeditions Folger would often stop in to visit Franklin. During the 1760s Franklin was living in England and was the postmaster general for the American Colonies. It was during such a visit that Franklin happened to mention to Folger how long it seemed to take the mail to cross the Atlantic Ocean from England to America. Shocked that the English were unaware of the Gulf Stream, Folger proceeded to map its first accurate depiction in 1769. This map was then printed and given to English mail captains up until the American War of Independence began in 1775. Franklin then gave a copy of the map to the French in 1776, when he went to Paris to negotiate a treaty with the French Government.

Now, for those of you who would like a refresher in Geography, the Gulf Stream is basically a river that flows through the Atlantic Ocean. It runs from the Gulf of Mexico, around the tip of Florida, and up along the east coast of North America. More water (by volume) flows through the Gulf Stream than all of the rivers in the world combined. Although the Gulf stream was known to Westerners for over 200 years, it was never actually mapped until 1769.

The original Folger charts, considered lost for almost two centuries, were discovered in the Bibilothèque

Nationale in Paris in 1978. Despite not having the luxury of today's technology (such as satellites and high-tech cameras), the Folger chart, when compared to modern maps, is remarkably accurate. This summer we were lucky to have a reproduction of Folger's "A Chart of the Gulf Stream" given to us to be displayed at Quaker House.



## Who Is It?

Our *What Is It?* section was so popular, we have now started *Who Is It?* See if you can guess who this is (answer on page 7 of newsletter):



What Is It? Answer - Candle Making Mould

## Evergreen Artifact Hunt Winners



Recently, our curator, Crystal Martin started an exciting new game for children when they come to visit Evergreen House. They have to find certain artifacts on display and then enter their answers on the sheet, which is then drawn for a monthly prize.

June - Tristin Brown of Dartmouth

July - Tracy of Dartmouth

August - Shannon MacLeod of Eastern Passage

Prize: bronze medallion, 2008 calendar and 4 candy sticks, all in a stylish tote bag (see From the Gift Shop)

## A New Way to Donate

For those who surf the internet with ease, CanadaHelps.org is an organization set up many years ago to help non-profits receive digital donations. We have been registered with them and have been receiving donations for several years now.

1. Go to [www.canadahelps.org](http://www.canadahelps.org)
2. Search for Dartmouth Heritage Museum
3. Follow the instructions
4. They provide immediate tax receipts.



*Wilfrid Warner. 1952. Also congratulations to Wilfrid and his wife on the celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary this month!*



### Benefactor (\$500 +)

Homburg Charitable Foundation  
O'Regans  
WHW Architects  
Marilyn More

### Friend (\$100-499)

Brendan Chard  
Conrad Brothers  
Crowther & Brayley  
Catherine Harrison  
Lorna Huestis  
Carl Keddy  
Betty Montgomery  
A.P. Reid  
Rodney Simpson & Christina Dadford  
Bruce Smith Realty  
Jean Wagener

### Donor (\$50-99)

Atlantis Realty  
Kathleen Dyer  
Ernest Fisher  
Linda Forbes  
Loreena Forbrigger  
Margaret Hayward  
Anne Hillis  
Ellen Venner-Hiltz  
Sally King  
Mabou Gardens  
Barbara O'Connor

& all the wonderful people who have enjoyed their visit to the museum and put a little something in the donation box!



**Come and see...**

- **Victorian Decorations**
- **Real Victorian toys**
- **Evergreen in her splendour!**

**Guided tour starts at 3:00 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.**  
**During other museum hours, tour booklets will be available.**

**Learn from our guide how the trimmings were made and  
 hear how our community celebrated the season over a  
 hundred years ago!**

# Victorian Christmas at Evergreen House

home of the Dartmouth Heritage Museum

26 Newcastle St.  
 Dartmouth, N.S.  
 B2Y 3M5  
 Phone: 464-2300



**Admission  
 \$2**

**November 21 - December 18, 2008**

Bring your recyclables in to



at 365 Portland St., Dartmouth

and all proceeds will go towards  
 programming and events at the  
 Dartmouth Heritage Museum

## Further Information

Dartmouth Heritage Museum

"Evergreen" House

26 Newcastle Street

Dartmouth, N.S.

B2Y 3M5

Phone: (902) 464-2300

Fax: (902) 464-8210

E-Mail: [dhmuseum@ednet.ns.ca](mailto:dhmuseum@ednet.ns.ca)

Web: [www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca](http://www.dartmouthheritagemuseum.ns.ca)



## Do You Know This Man?

Recently, one of our neighbours on Pleasant Street removed a painting from a frame and was amazed to discover an original charcoal drawing of this man underneath. No one knows who he is and there is no signature. We thought we would publish the picture just in case anyone just might recognize him. Contact Lisa O'Neill if you have any information at 464-2300.



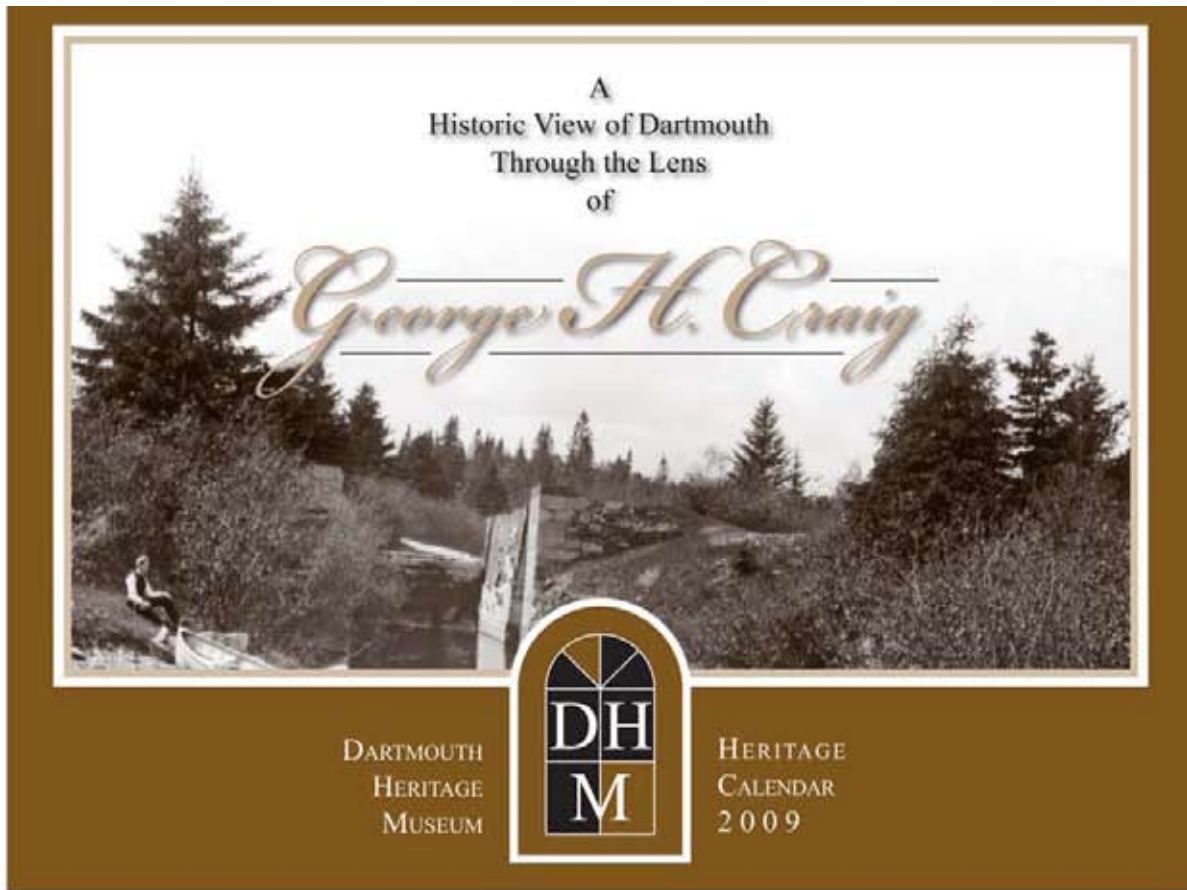
## Museum Hours

Tuesday – Friday, 10 - 5

Saturday, 10 - 1 & 2 - 5

Sunday, 10-1 & 2-5 (June - August only)





2009 Calendar Order Form = A Fundraiser for the Dartmouth Heritage Museum

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E=Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to be added to our e-mail list to receive our quarterly newsletter? (We do not give out this information to third parties.) Please circle YES NO

George H. Craig's	
"A Historic View of Dartmouth" Calendar	
Quantity _____ x \$10.00 =	\$ _____
Postage & Handling (add \$4.00)	\$ _____
Total:	\$ _____

Please make your cheque or money order out to the Dartmouth Heritage Museum Society and mail with this form to:

Dartmouth Heritage Museum  
 26 Newcastle Street  
 Dartmouth, N.S.  
 B2Y 3M5