

Margaree Salmon Museum Newsletter December 2021

60 East Big Interwale Road * PO Box 46, Northeast Margaree, Nova Scotia B0E 2H0

Message from the MSM President

I am honoured to serve as President of the Margaree Salmon Museum which celebrated its 56th year of continuous operation in 2021.

In reviewing the past year, I am pleased to note some of the highlights of the season. Our Museum opened July 12th and closed October 17th. In spite of reduced days of operation, the MSM welcomed many visitors from far and near. According to our Curator, Bernardine Marple, over \$5000.00. was raised through sale of merchandise, memberships and entry fees.

We were successful in attracting funding from federal, provincial and municipal agencies that provided financing for our staff; to build a much-needed storage area on the second floor and to upgrade electrical and plumbing systems. The successful installation in August of the Bill Jollymore Memorial Exhibit recognizes one of our most ardent supporters. We hope to host his family in 2022.



In late October we were able to complete work on a new entry ramp at the front of the building with funding from a provincial grant as well as some additional support from the Municipality. Much thanks goes to Board member Lawrence MacLellan who spearheaded this project.

The online presence of the MSM has grown this year with design and launching of our new website and our enhanced Facebook site. Many have been enjoying *Fly Fridays* on FB in recent months. Check it out!

Two youth employees,

Theo Feehan Peters and Susan MacNeil managed these sites under the guidance of the Curator and the Board.

At the AGM in October, we welcomed three new members to our Board - Bill Haley, Helena Hart and Donald Fortune. We look forward to working with them during the coming months.

In closing, I want to extend warm holiday wishes to everyone for the Christmas season and health and happiness for 2022. *Anita Coady*

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NEWS, NEWS, NEWS

Short Castings

- * A healthy and happy Christmas season to all our members, supporters and community partners from the MSM Board of Directors
- * An appreciative thank you for the generous support to the ramp project by an anonymous donor.
- * Museum memberships are available by visiting our website or by filling in the mail-in form in this newsletter.
- * The MSM Board is looking toward 2022 with some fun events happening on site. Plans for a nature walk, a photography workshop and a tour along the salmon pools are also in the works. Stay tuned!
- * Sincere thanks to Ruth Austin for her assistance with financial statements over the past six months.
- * Check out the Museum website for updates: www.margareesalmonmuseum.ca
- * Happy Castings in 2022., everyone!



Some thoughts from our Student Employee — Fall '21

Susan MacNeil was hired as a part time employee from October to the end of December as part of a Service Canada grant. She offers thoughts on her time at the MSM.

I was born and raised in Glace Bay. I am a CBU grad, earning a degree in History in 2016 and Psychology in 2021. I am passionate about the history of our island and the contributions we have made to North America's develop-

ment.

As a part of my work with the Margaree Salmon Museum, I have aimed to connect those currently interested in fly fishing on the Margaree River to the stories and experiences of the many fishers before them. I have been sharing content to our social media pages which include pictures and information about

early fly inventors, fishing guides and, of course, the many anglers who have fallen in love with the area.

I have also worked with the oral history project previously conducted by Del and Anita to add videos of current experiences. As more people engage with the posts, our Facebook page has grown to over 600 followers!

Another aspect of this

research has been to better represent Indigenous fishing during their summer settlements and the pioneer fishing of the Acadian, Irish and Scottish settlers before the sport of salmon fishing came to the fore. This will help to improve the interpretation of historical artifacts at the MSM, providing necessary context and implications around tool use and legality.

While Susan's time with the Museum has been limited, we have appreciated her enthusiasm and the strong skill set she brought to us. We wish her well!

Have You Seen our MSM Road Sign???

You might say that the Margaree Salmon Museum Board of Directors is looking for a sign.

A sign for sure - though it is the kind of sign that gives neither inspiration nor focuses planning. Quite simply put, it is a Margaree Salmon Museum road sign that somehow disappeared shortly before the Board volunteers retrieved such signs from various locations at the end of the museum's 2021 season.

That particular sign was located on Route 19 heading north from Inverness, on the hill just beyond the town, some 38 kilometres from the community museum in North East Margaree. That sign, with its attractive blue background, had a salmon shaped into the design along the top edge. The sign was one of four made for the MSM by students in 2019 as part of a Design Technology class at Cape Breton Highlands, a course which assists groups with worthy projects to benefit the community.

MSM Board members are puzzled. They wonder if it could have been taken down by some well meaning volunteer duo who happened on the sign one night in late October. Perhaps they thought they would help with end of season duties. The problem is, that sign has never made it back to the museum and is perhaps propped against a shed, neither here nor there. Perhaps it was forgotten with hunting season or other endeavors and just never made it back to North East Margaree.

Board members would truly appreciate having their sign returned. If someone knows its location, we would gladly pick it up. No questions asked. Better still, it could be left at the side of the museum, ready for winter storage - very likely as those helpful volunteers intended.

The MSM Board remains hopeful!



A sign similar to the one that has disappeared.



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2021-2022

TO BECOME A MEMBER, PLEASE SEND THE COMPLETED FORM TO:

The Margaree Salmon Museum PO Box 46, North East Margaree, Nova Scotia B0E 2H0

MEMBER INFORMATION

Name _____ Tel. _____

Email _____ Address _____

\$5.00 Annual Membership Please make cheque payable to: The Margaree Anglers Association.