

Spring 2007

Wishing you the joy of Spring!

On Behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank you for your patience. We are sorry that this site has not been updated since last fall. We have been busy planning and organizing our work for the upcoming summer and fall.

As you can see (picture of the church) the roof and the bell tower have been restored. Jacko Construction (David MacDonald) from Port Dufferin was the successful bidder on the job and we thank him for a job well done.

Last year the Society applied to the Halifax Regional Municipality Community Grants Program for a grant to assist us with this phase of the restoration. We are pleased to report that the Society received, from this program, a five thousand dollar grant to be used toward the restoration of the roof. We thank them for their very generous donation and for the interest shown in helping us in our efforts to preserve the cultural heritage of this area.

This year, in keeping with the architectural report that the Society has been using as a restoration guideline, we will be focusing on restoring the exterior of the building. We are presently waiting for an architect and an engineer to inspect the site to provide us with a more in depth assessment of the issues that need to be addressed in order to take this phase of the restoration to bid. Hopefully this will be in place by the end of May and work can be done over the latter part of the summer and into the fall. We extend our sincerest thanks to these wonderful gentlemen who are donating their time and effort to this project.

You may note that the window in the front of the building is missing. On the day that the picture was taken the window was in the process of being restored by several members of our Board. Carl & Kay Leslie, Karen Crowell, and Greg Aylward spent many hours, last summer, tirelessly cleaning the windows and re-caulking them. If you look on our Website you will see a picture of Kay and Karen hard at work. Please note that the window frames are not nailed together, they are pegged. What wonderful craftsmanship went into these windows and how fortunate we are to have an opportunity to preserve them. Thanks folks for your hard work. It is anticipated that the complete restoration of the windows will be an ongoing process over the next few years and it will take many hours of labor. I am sure these folks would welcome any help that may be offered. If you are interested in helping to preserve these windows just email Carl or Greg at our site address and they will get back to you ASA.P.

The 1st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Society was held on August 26, 2006 - 3 PM at the St. James U.C. Heritage Site on Old Taylors Head Road. There was an excellent turnout for the meeting and the Board of Directors for 2006 – 2007 was very pleased with the confidence and support extended to them from Society members. On behalf of the Society the Board of Directors would like to express their sincerest appreciation to Don McBain who very kindly donated his time and expertise to audit the Societies books for the 2005 – 2006 Annual General Meeting.

A list of the Board of Directors for the 2006 - 2007 fiscal year is now posted on the Website. The date set for the 2nd Annual General Meeting of the Society is on August 25, 2007 – St. James U.C. Heritage Site at 3:00 P.M. The Financial Statements, Election of Directors for the upcoming year and Chairman Report will be presented at that time.

Please REMEMBER, your MEMBERSHIP in the Society, MUST BE RENEWED by June 30, 2007. New memberships or renewals may be forwarded to the Society any time after May 1st. (Forms are included in letters sent through the post and may be downloaded from our Website for those receiving emails. Society dues are \$20.00 for the year and may include up to two persons - spouses or partners if listed on the form.) Thank you to the members who have already forwarded their renewal for 2007 – 2008! We would ask all members to PLEASE CONTINUE to support the Societies efforts by renewing your membership. Memberships must be paid in full prior to the Annual General Meeting. ONLY THOSE PERSONS WITH MEMBERSHIPS PAID PRIOR TO THE AGM MAY PARTICIPATE IN THE MEETING AND VOTE for the new 2007 – 2008 Board of Directors and on any other issues pertaining to the operation of the Society. Your support is crucial to the effective functioning of the Society. A strong and vibrant membership is a very persuasive factor when applying for grants or speaking to members of the various governmental bodies with regards to preserving sites such as this one.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions regarding the St. James U.C. restoration process please feel free to contact any member of the Board of Directors by email or letter. We appreciate any constructive input that may be directed our way. NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AND WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS TO SOLICIT SUPPORT FOR THIS PROJECT FROM YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS THROUGH SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP.

Website address: www.stjamesheritagesociety.com

Mrs. Vera Stone will be the Chair of the Societies Nomination Committee for the upcoming AGM. Kay Boutilier, Carl Leslie and Karen Crowell are also members of the Committee. If you would like to serve as a member of the Board of Directors or nominate another member for that position please contact Vera or any member of her Committee. The Committee may be reached through the Website or at our official mailing address – 28 North Street, Dart., N.S. B2Y 1B4.

This year we are planning to host several fundraising activities. We will hold the 2nd annual Penny Auction in Spry Bay on June 23rd from 1 pm to 3 pm with the draws taking place at 2:30 pm. We will also have a Bake Sale at the event and will be selling tickets on various prizes. A Grocery Basket will be the door prize for one lucky participant. More details will be posted on the Website as they become available. We accept and appreciate any donations that may be made toward the event. Penny Auction items can be as varied as the donor wishes and the value of the prize is at the discretion of the donor.

We gratefully accept any donation of Flea items for our annual Giant Yard/Bake Sale that will be held on August 25, 2007 - from 9:00 AM till 1:00 PM - in front of the church on Old Taylor's Head Road. In conjunction with the Flea/Bake Market BBQ hotdogs and refreshments will also be available. Come join us and have some fun while supporting a worthwhile project. All proceeds from this event (and all our fund raising events) go directly toward restoration cost of the site.

The Society will also be selling tickets, this summer, on a ½ cord of split, dry hardwood, gift certificate for fish and a lovable, cuddly stuffed lamb made by one of our members. Any one wishing to purchase tickets may contact our website or any member of the Board of Directors. Your help in selling tickets would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Linda or Karen at this site and we will ensure that you receive some tickets to sell or purchase.

THE PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN FOR AT THE END OF THE GIANT YARD SALE ON AUGUST 25TH

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE LETTER:

- ☒ Roof update
- ☒ HRM Grant
- ☒ Restoration goals for this summer
- ☒ AGM 2007
- ☒ Membership Renewal
- ☒ Nomination Committee
- ☒ Upcoming Fund Raising Activities

Sincerely,

Linda MacDonald
Treasurer

St. James United Church Heritage Society