



Winter 2017 Newsletter

*This year the annual Volunteer Appreciation Supper
will be held at The Old Spaghetti Factory.*

20077 91a Ave, Langley December 9th at 4:00 PM

Contact Wally for more information 604 575 5078

Please Note: each party must pay their own bill!



There is an active and supportive group of volunteers that take on projects either as the organizer or a pair of helping hands. There are too many to mention, but without people like Syd, Dalton, Herb, Jim, Harry, Grace, Wally, Tony, Hillary, the "Mike's" etc. etc....events would not take place, fundraising and community connections would not happen, and visitors would miss out on a lot of fun and informative interaction. As always, those that pay dues in support of the Museum but may not be available as often as some, are a valued part of the museum family.

The museum was used as a location for scenes in the movie "Christmas Homecoming" and closed to the public for 5 days. Despite all the work for the volunteers, it was a success and is a good source of revenue. Many artifacts were moved out of the main building turning the space into a Christmas themed museum. It was fun and interesting to watch how a movie scene is put together in a few short days. This experience gave volunteers a chance to do cleaning under and around large artifacts that don't get moved often. It took a few days to get things back in place, but visitors were still welcome. If you would like to see scenes with our museum check out this link to the Hallmark website.

<http://www.hallmarkmoviesandmysteries.com/christmas-homecoming>



We were able to secure a summer student, Dan Sanders. He was a welcome addition to the volunteers that make the Farm Museum an interesting and educational place to visit. His friendly energetic personality was a hit with everyone he interacted with. On his last day volunteers were on hand to thank him – cake and laughs were shared with our thanks for his participation. The Museum hopes to secure another student in future.

Around the Museum updates:

- renovations to the workshop
- moving and repurposing walls
- installing new ventilation and replacing the heating system
- new security camera system
- interactive touch screens for visitors
- new drainage and repainting the buildings



June 17 was a special day at the museum...the unveiling of the murals and opening the improved workshop.

Excerpt from the Langley Times:

Emcee Syd Pickerell, the past president of BC Farm Museum and mural project manager, conducted the visitors through the museum for the mural unveilings and the ribbon-cutting at the shop, which houses the tools used to repair and maintain the antique equipment in the museum collection. Seven BC artists painted murals on 32 large panels that showed the evolution of pioneer life with an emphasis on agricultural development up to the year 1966, when the Farm Museum opened.

John Aldag, Cloverdale-Langley City MP, was one of several speakers to praise the all-volunteer museum for preserving the history of Canadian agriculture. "There's an old saying that goes: if you ate today, thank a farmer," said Aldag, who used to work down the street from the museum when he managed the Fort Langley National Historic Site. "In today's world, we often forget the importance of farms and agriculture in our communities," Aldag added.



Cutting the ribbon to officially open the new shop area at the Farm Museum. From left: MP John Aldag, museum association president Todd Davidson, acting Langley Township mayor Blair Whitmarsh, MLA Rich Coleman and museum volunteer Laurie Griffiths.

MEMBERSHIP DUES are payable in November, have you renewed your membership yet? At only \$10 per year it is one of the best deals in town. Mail it in or drop by the museum office any Monday morning.

Kim and Todd Davidson were privileged to represent the Association at the annual Douglas Day luncheon held by Township and City of Langley. The event was held at the Langley Events Center on November 19 and was attended by about 400 people.

In 1858, the Colony of British Columbia was declared by Sir James Douglas at Fort Langley. The luncheon pays tribute to that event by honoring the areas Pioneers.

To qualify as a pioneer, residents must be 70 years of age or older and have lived in Langley Township or City for at least 60 of those years. This year, there were 18 new pioneers who met that criteria, bringing the total number of Langley pioneers to 346.



The theme this year was "Transportation" and we supplied our Stern Wheeler model for display.

The 2016 Douglas Day celebration also marked the 158th anniversary of the creation of BC. "Douglas Day is our opportunity to recognize the long-time Langley residents whose knowledge, ideas, and efforts helped forge our community," said Township of Langley Mayor Jack Froese

Once again, the Farm Museum sent some artifacts for display at the PNE. It looked fantastic and was a great representation of the cool old things we have in our collection.



Volunteers also took on some of our favorite events: Old and New, Canada Day and Model A Sunday. The public enjoys these events as do the volunteers.

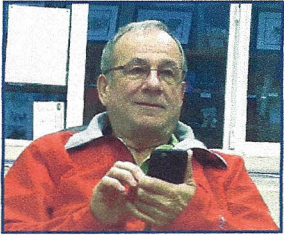


The 11th annual Day At The Farm event took place on September 9, Westham Island Herb Farm.

This event is organised by the Delta Farm and Wildlife Trust and is a fun way for the family to learn about farming and agriculture. Take in a hay wagon tour, meet the dairy farmer, learn about chickens, crops grown in our region, see draft horses plow and listen to live music. The goal of this event is to give people an opportunity to reconnect with the land that feeds them and to learn about how these same lands provide habitat for many wildlife species.

Members of the Association suggested honouring our Pioneer ancestors with the laying of a wreath at the Remembrance Day ceremony in Fort Langley. Laurie Griffiths kindly paid for the wreath from the Legion and Todd Davidson participated in the ceremony on behalf of the membership.





Karen Long from the Langley Volunteer Bureau (and The Farm Museum Secretary) was contacted by Food for Friends asking for a luncheon speaker and she asked Jim Mair if he'd be interested and the rest is history. She also asked him to create a video about the BC Farm Museum to attract volunteers.

He spoke on Agriculture history, seasons and methods, planting, cultivating, haying, harvesting, animals, machinery, women, men, and children roles. He covered the history of the B.C. Farm Museum- fifty plus years, artifacts, exhibits, volunteers, events and activities. Covering topics like food banks, supply and nutrition, food distribution, homeless, poor and working poor, he was a hit with both groups. Adding to the fun he shared funny stories about his childhood growing up on a farm. A big discussion followed about Langley farms and some of the places where and what kinds of farms they remembered.

A long group discussion about veterans serving our country, one in attendance was a Korean campaign soldier. They talked about Remembrance Day and some had relatives that served in the armed forces. Jim also took part in sing-a-longs. Way to go JIM!

"Apparently the word is out about the brave guy from the BC Farm Museum because I have been invited to attend a luncheon as a speaker in Brookwood on March 1. They have audio visual equipment with a big flat screen so with the help of Todd Davidson and Bill Forrest, I plan on presenting a slideshow and a video or two, explaining what we have to share at our museum."

The Annual GM was held on November 25th, details to follow in the Spring/Summer edition.

Volunteers of the museum are always ready and willing to take groups on a tour.

Through BC Field Trips and word of mouth we took in groups from elementary school children to university students: Often Hilary and Wally on are on hand to speak about the artifacts and give a hands-on display of rope making, always a hit with young and old. If you want a chance to meet and greet be sure to put your name down on the schedule in the office...see what the fun is about.

Save the date:

- ✓ March – Museum Cleanup, bring a bucket, cloths or a shop vacuum and help clean up the winter's dust.
- ✓ March– Potluck Dinner, volunteers kick off the regular season with a social time.
- ✓ April 1st – Museum Opening Day for the regular season – daily from 10 am to 4:30 pm
- ✓ May 21st – Fort Langley May Day Parade
- ✓ June 3rd – Model A Sunday
- ✓ July 2nd – Canada Day Celebration at the Farm Museum with our neighbouring community partners.
- ✓ August 6th – BC Day / OLD and NEW Day – visit the Farm Museum where there will be items on loan to us from local businesses. Among other activities enjoy the Model Railroad Club.
- ✓ September 3rd – Labour Day – regular day for the Museum.
- ✓ September 15/16 – Country Celebration at Campbell Valley Park.
- ✓ September 30th – close for the regular season

BC Farm Museum Association
Box 279, Fort Langley, BC, V1M 2R6
604-888-2273
bcbfm@telus.net
www.bcfma.com
Society# S5459 CRN# 118801133RR0001