



CanoeS

The newsletter of

The CANADIAN CANOE MUSEUM

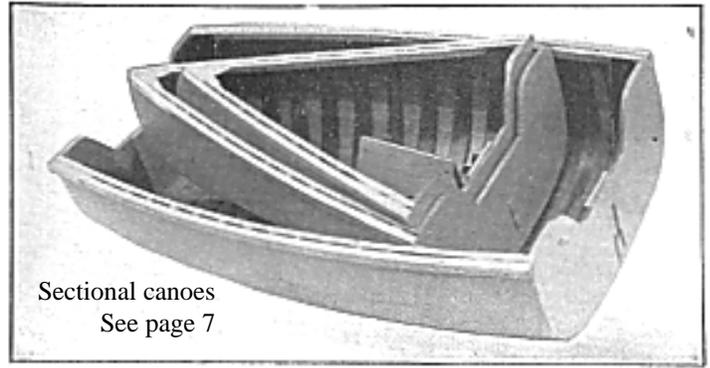
Le MUSÉE CANADIEN *du* CANOT

Fall edition
September 30, 2006

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Manager's Message

by Janice Griffith



I am delighted to report that as of August 31, our attendance for 2006 was 22% higher than the same period in 2005. We have many reasons

why people are visiting, not the least of which are the education programs coordinated by **Carolyn Hyslop** and delivered by a talented group of Animators.

The three Royal Canoes on long term loan to us from the Royal family have proven to be popular attraction. They are on temporary exhibit in our lobby area, awaiting a more permanent home in one of our galleries.

On June 11, the 28th anniversary of the canoeing tragedy that took 13 lives, we opened the **Remembering Temiskaming** exhibit.

Here are some sample comments from the *Book of Remembrance*:

"As a wilderness guide and teacher, I take this story very personally. Thank you for sharing. It will change the ways in which I lead."

"What an appropriate and poignant exhibit!"

"I am so surprised and pleased to see my beautiful young cousin and his friends remembered. We always learn from his sacrifice."

The centrepiece of this exhibit is the *Père Lallemand*, a 22 foot cedar canvas Chestnut canoe that was one of the four on Lake Temiskaming that day, carrying 31 students and teachers from St. John's School. The message is to remember those who died and to remember the lessons learned about precautions and safety practices.

On a lighter note, our newest acquisition is a boat donated by famous Canadian author and environmental activist, **Farley Mowat**. We are indebted to **Dr. James Raffan** who kindly took a ten-hour detour from his Nova Scotia cottage to pick up this 1921 Peterborough sailing canoe from Farley's summer residence on Cape Breton Island and bring it back to the Museum. Hence this craft comes complete with a marvelously entertaining taped interview given by one storyteller to another.

This craft is, at present, in our storage facility, also awaiting space in our galleries. Those attending the **Doors Open** event on September 30 may get a peek at her as we are opening the Collection Centre to visitors that day.

Our traveling exhibit *"The Canoe, a Canadian Icon"* is currently out on loan to St. Marie Among the Hurons at Midland, and there are requests from other museums for it for next year.

In July, our Chairman, **Verne McKay** and wife **Pat** hosted a Barbecue at their barn near Fraserville. It was a resounding success and a sold-out crowd generously raised over \$12,000 through dinner tickets and auctions. Thanks to all involved.

Our Fundraising Committee has embarked on a new annual Gallery Sponsorship program, which has been kicked off by the **Lockington Lawless and Fitzpatrick** law firm. Participating sponsors will have their name and company logo associated with a particular gallery, prominently and tastefully displayed in that gallery. Anyone wishing further information or wanting to reserve a gallery for his or her company should contact me at the Museum.

Lastly, we had a taste of Hollywood fever at the beginning of September, when for a week, our parking lot became the base camp for a movie production company. The movie, *'Jumper'* due to be released in 2007, stars **Samuel L. Jackson** and **Hayden Christensen**. Eyes sharper than mine actually spotted these stars.

Sally Thurlow – Canoe Dreamings

by Kim Watson

The museum was pleased to work in conjunction with the Art Gallery of Peterborough to host **Sally Thurlow's** recent art show *"Canoe Dreamings"*.

Her show consisted of three unique pieces of art: *Systems Failure*, *Corset-Kayak* (shown here), and *Oh, Canada*. Ms Thurlow used the canoe and its form to address feminism, environmental, political, native, and spiritual issues.

In her artist statement Thurlow describes her exhibition by saying, "the



symbol of the canoe gives comfort to Canadians who still dream of it as their connection to the wilderness exploration and exploitation, but I have tried to look back further to the canoe's ancestral heritage, to reflect on its meaning in contemporary society, and in our possible future".

The exhibition will be displayed at the Art Gallery of Mississauga in the near future.



Our new volunteer co-ordinator – Mellissa Trudel

by Dwayne James

As many of you may know, the museum has been without an official volunteer co-ordinator since the restructuring. For the last several months, much of this responsibility fell on the shoulders of our front desk coordinator **Norma McEwan**, who attacked it with an enthusiasm and energy that can only be described as superhuman. As her responsibilities also included bookings and reception, Norma worked exceptionally long hours and had to be “encouraged” on more than one occasion to take some time off. Indeed, she spent so much time at the museum, that there was talk of giving her an actual museum accession number. Norma has finally decided to take a well deserved break, and **Mellissa Trudel** has generously volunteered to take on the position of volunteer co-ordinator.

Mellissa and her husband Ian work as the local sales representatives for **Old Town** canoes. In fact, it was through their efforts that the latest raffle of an Old Town *Charles Riverroyalex* canoe was made possible.

They have been members of the canoe museum for several years, and just last year, were recruited as volunteers. Since that time, they have worked together on the Front Desk.



You'll usually see them there on Mondays.

As the volunteer co-ordinator, Mellissa will be responsible for recruiting new help, acting as a liaison between the museum department heads and their unpaid staff, as well as keeping all of the volunteers aware of what's going on at the museum. This is no easy task. Many of us are only at the museum for a few hours a week—and a lot can happen in a week. This is especially relevant for front desk staff, who take phone calls from people that are expecting the volunteers to know what's going on. To address this, Mellissa has placed a binder at the front desk that she

updates regularly. It has information on current events, museum policies, and facts that all volunteers should know about, especially if they interact regularly with the public.

Another one of Mellissa's goals is to tap the incredibly varied pool of talent that is our membership (which is why the volunteer postings are shown below). Some of you may recall seeing the volunteer check box on your membership form and wondered what it was all about. Well, here's your chance.

Please think about donating some of your time to the Canoe Museum. We are truly blessed with one of the most diverse and dedicated group of volunteers—a fact that sets us apart from other museums in the country—and here's your chance to become a part of it. If you want to sign up, or know somebody else who can, then please contact Mellissa through the museum either by phone or by sending an e-mail to mtrudel@canoemuseum.net.

For volunteers past and future, be aware that Mellissa is friendly and approachable, and she encourages everyone to seek her out with questions, concerns, or suggestions.

Call for volunteers

If you're interested in any of these positions, please contact Mellissa Trudel at (705) 748-9153 or by email at: mtrudel@canoemuseum.net.

FRONT DESK VOLUNTEER

This position includes answering telephones, greeting Museum visitors, collecting Admission fees and giving a general introduction of the Museum to visitors; all volunteers will receive appropriate training for their role.

Benefits include volunteering in a relaxed atmosphere and a 10% discount on all CCM store purchases.

We are actively searching for volunteers for the following shifts: Saturdays (9:30 – 1:30 or 1:30 -5pm) and Sunday (11:30 - 5pm). Those interested can contact the Museum

GIFT SHOP VOLUNTEER

This position includes greeting gift shop clients, assisting retail customers with their purchases (finding a size), basic cash register functions (training provided) and in-store clean-up/folding. Note that all volunteers will receive appropriate training for their role.

Benefits include volunteering in a relaxed atmosphere and a 10% discount on all CCM gift shop.

We are actively searching for volunteers for any of the following shifts: Thursday afternoons (1:30-5pm), Saturdays (9:30 – 1:30 or 1:30 -5pm), and Sunday (11:30 - 5pm).

HOSPITALITY COORDINATOR

The role of this energetic and time flexible volunteer is to lead our Hospitality committee in running social events held at the Canadian Canoe Museum. The position includes confirming scheduled events, planning volunteer schedules (for food/beverage and set-up/clean-up duties), communicating with the Museum Manager and staff about upcoming events and managing basic expenses. Although not essential, experience in the hospitality field is an asset.



The Great Cardboard Canoe Experiment!

by Dwayne James

On June 3rd, the Canadian Canoe Museum held its annual **Kawartha Family Fun Day** on Little Lake. Organized by the tireless **John Curtis**, and with the enthusiastic support of the students of Kenner Collegiate, the day was a lot of fun, and well attended despite the constant drizzle.

As in previous years, the Fun Day included a canoe-a-thon from Lakefield, a volleyball tournament, as well as canoe and kayak trials. This year, we introduced a new feature—the *cardboard canoe race* in which participants were asked to construct and paddle a vessel made entirely from cardboard.

The morning dawned cloudy, and it sprinkled pretty much all day long. Luckily this failed to dampen the spirits of the participants. Although community interest was minimal, the kids remained enthusiastic.

Right from the start, everything seemed to be happening all at once. Part of the group headed up to Lakefield to begin the long paddle down the lock system. Another group set up the volleyball net and began playing in a tournament that lasted most of the day. Some set up a temporary dock, while still others put up the lunch station. It was very well organized, and a testament to John Curtis' leadership abilities.

The cardboard canoe race started at 10 AM. Participants were given several sheets of 4' by 6' single ply cardboard (generously donated by **Coyle Packaging Group** of Peterborough), as much duct tape as they needed (generously provided by **3M Canada**), and several large sheets of plastic wrap. Each team was also provided with a knife. They had two hours to build the craft out of these materials, and were told that they could bring some of their own supplies, but for decoration only.



Several teams took it right to the wire, putting the finishing touches on the designs just seconds before the whistle blew. Then the judging for the first award took place. **Janice Griffith** studied each of the canoes, and met with each team individually to determine the **Most Original Design**. It was not an easy decision due to the fact that a lot of imagination went into the construction of these boats, and there were a lot of unique ideas.

Then, the teams dragged the canoes to the water's edge, and the race was on! One member from each team was to paddle the craft on a course from the shore to the far side of the walking bridge. The fastest canoe to span these two points would win **Best Time**, and the canoe that went under in the most amusing manner would win the **Most Spectacular Sinking** award.

We decided to let each team run the course individually, so that we could time and watch them more easily. The participants very quickly figured out the best way to launch the fragile craft (they slid them down the muddy bank like river otters), and how best to paddle them. The cardboard canoes proved surprisingly seaworthy, and only a few of them capsized. Luckily, the water was shallow enough that the paddlers were still able to finish the race simply by dragging the soggy mess under



Winners of **Best Time**.

Team 7, Chris McFadden, Evan Browning, Jason Patten, Adam Edwards.

the bridge themselves.

At the end of the race, the winners were announced. A wide variety of prizes had been donated by sponsors such as *Wildrock*, *Dreams of Beans*, *Galaxy Cinemas*, *Tim Hortons*, and the *HBC*. In addition, the canoe that won **Best Time** got the honour of being put on display in the museum!

A really big thanks goes out to all those who assisted in the event. **Jeremy Ward** helped with picking up the cardboard, and designing the prototype canoe (it looked nice on the posters but didn't float for very long—but that wasn't Jeremy's fault). **Don Curtis**

cut plastic and was our time judge. **Janice Griffith** officiated and evaluated the best design. Lastly, **Mollie Cartmell** was a great support all day long, and even helped me clean up the leftover cardboard

(if you've ever had to gather a truckload worth of wet soggy cardboard, you'll know how grateful I am to her for hanging in).

The whole day was a great success, and I look forward to doing it again next year!!





Winners of **Most Spectacular Sinking.**
Team 3, Kirk Szafranski, Jennifer Shin,
Jerry Warrington, Matt Philip.



Winners of **Most Original Design.**
Team 9, Farncomb LeGresley and the
Baarbé brothers Jeremiah, Jasper, Josiah
and Justin.

The CCM visits the ABM

by Mollie Cartmell

Board member **Dwight Boyd**, has served on the board of the Antique and Classic Boats Society, and he is also particularly knowledgeable about the *Antique Boat Museum* in Clayton, New York. <www.abm.org>

With Dwight's coordination, in June, fourteen of us from the Canadian Canoe Museum, visited the Antique and Boat Museum in Clayton, New York.

The ABM mandate differs somewhat from ours in terms of its collection and its waterfront location, however there are similarities, ie very few staff; their operation is largely dependent on part-time and contract employees, working in partnership with large numbers of volunteers.

Also, the ABM has extremely successful membership and fund-raising programmes raising in the order of \$4M per year. Additionally, it has recently completed an approximately ten-year plan in which every building of the museum has been renovated – a \$25M project.

The Canoe Museum group, comprising education and collections staff, several board members, along with volunteers from the store, front desk, workshop and artisan areas, was warmly hosted by ABM staff.

The day consisted of a museum tour, working lunch, followed by area specific meetings and "back of house" tours (yes indeed, they have storage barns much like our back-building); finally, we were given a Thousand Islands tour on a restored antique motor launch. (One

of the perks for ABM donors at a certain level is personal use of this beautiful craft - including captain - for one special event each year. Food for thought anyone ?)

Discussions and evaluation on the return trip, indicated several favourable comparisons between the Canoe Museum and the ABM, some new and easily operative ideas, as well as several areas of shared opportunities, particularly in marketing. (The ABM is currently negotiating a satellite museum in Gananoque, which would be an excellent opportunity for both museums to develop reciprocal marketing and membership arrangements.)

A bonus on the way home, was a visit to another museum of sorts ! We stopped at Clarion Boats in Campbellford. Dwight gave us a tour of his shop – four buildings jammed with wooden boats of various size and vintage, all at differing stages of restoration.

It is hoped, the visit to ABM will further a productive professional-development relationship with this museum, and through similar visits and participation in professional organizations, the Canoe Museum might pursue interaction with other like-minded organizations.



Education Report

by Carolyn Hyslop, Education Coordinator

What a fantastic summer it has been for Education here at the Canoe Museum! As you know we took a big step in starting up the *Canoe Museum Kids Summer Day Camp*. We ran four weeks of camp throughout the month of July and had 39 children attend over this time period. The campers took part in a variety of activities that took place throughout the exhibits as well as spending a whole day canoeing on Little Lake. Considering it was our first year, we were very happy with enrollment and look forward to perfecting the systems over the next couple of years. **Alan Morin** coordinated the Summer Camp and worked with **Jen Pattinson**, **Ben vanVeen** and **Jennifer Burnard** to provide many memorable experiences for these children. With some improvements to early advertising, registration procedures and equipment preparation the 2007 Day Camp will be an even bigger success.

Our Summer Institute for Teachers ran this great success this August! At capacity, 10 participants were granted certification as Flatwater Instructors through the Ontario Recreational Canoeing Association. The new ORCA Flatwater Instructors are **Gregory West**, **Gary Thomas**, **Leslie Black**, **Peter Tamlin**, **Craig Creighton**, **Andrea Keay**, **Kelly Whyte**, **Eric Barker**, **Jennifer Pattinson** and **Carolyn Hyslop**. The very talented instructors for this course were **Phil Matsushita**, **Alan Morin** and **Jennifer Burnard**. We all gathered at Silent Lake Provin-



Photo: Joanne West

cial Park and spent five days on the water perfecting tandem and solo technique as well as instructional skills. We are already looking forward to the summer of 2007 for more professional development in canoeing. Perhaps Canoe Tripping Level II...? You can place your name on my list of participants for next year as early as now!

The school season has started up again and we are taking a flurry of bookings for school visits for the fall and early winter. We are excited about the new season and the new Animators that will be entering the fold. If you have never seen an Education program in action, give me a call and we'll ar-

range for you to have a glance. As well, if you are interested in volunteering with the Education Department, we could use a steady volunteer to help with preparing program resources and other interesting tasks. Again, speak with Carolyn if interested.

Equipment call

Looking to place your gently used canoe equipment in the hands of campers at next year's Canoe Museum Kids Summer Camp? Great! We would appreciate your treasures.

We are in need of:

- **PFDs**
sizes 30-60 LBS, 60-90 LBS and over 90 LBS.
- **Paddles**
children-size and adult-size paddles, any style welcome.
- **Canoes**
Any craft in good repair, water-worthy, and low maintenance is welcome.

Please do not drop these items off without speaking to Carolyn first!!
education@canoemuseum.net



Perssonal Reflections on the Collection

by Dick Persson

Sectional canoes.

The well-known canoe builder Walter Dean of Toronto designed and patented what was probably the first sectional canoe in 1898. It was built in three sections which nested inside each other for ease of transportation to the intended market in the north and specifically the Klondike gold rush. The canoe sold well. However, as the gold rush dwindled so did the demand for the Klondike sectional canoe. Unfortunately, the museum does not own a Dean sectional canoe. Although, not on display, the museum does own a couple of Hyde sectional canoes.



This next generation of sectional canoes was developed by Jack F. Hyde of Ontario Provincial Air Service.

Ontario Provincial Air Service

In the spring of 1924 the Ontario Provincial Air Service was formed by the Ontario Government to help protect the province's



vast forests. They set up their headquarters at the edge of St. Mary's River in Sault St.

Marie with their initial fleet of 13 World War I surplus Curtiss HS-2L flying boats.

Jack F. Hyde had joined the Air Service in 1924 as a rigger/fitter. He was adept at finding innovative solutions to operating problems and was soon appointed aircraft foreman and, in 1929, Plant Superintendent.

Beaching and mooring a flying boat was often a difficult task which would have been much easier if the crew had a canoe, so Hyde designed a traditional canvas covered canoe which was split down the keel in two sections.

These sections were secured to either side of the flying boat's fuselage, forming two fairly aerodynamically acceptable bumps. When need arose to use the canoe, the two halves were merely removed and assembled.

It is likely that Hyde had a little help to start with from another Sault St. Marie canoe builder; Ben Richards from St. Mary's Canoes, who had been in business nearby since 1912, building traditional canvas covered canoes.

Hyde's first longitudinal sectional canoe design was followed by others as new airplanes replaced the flying boats.

In 1927 new designs were patented which divided the canoes crosswise in three and four sections respectively,

still using the same simple, quick and effective assembly system.

The Air Service built the sectional canoes for their own use as well as for the Ontario Forestry Branch.

In 1929 Western Canada Airways asked the well-known airplane ski manufacturer Elliot Brothers of Sioux Lookout to manufacture Hyde sectional canoes that could be carried inside their Fokker aircraft.

In the mid 1930's Chestnut Canoe Co. and Peterborough Canoe Co. introduced their own models of sectional canoes for aircraft transportation as the market for such grew. Other Canadian canoe builders quickly followed. The museum has several significant examples of those.



The sectional canoe is an example of a uniquely Canadian industrial development and design. They have served an important part in developing the North and deserve more attention, in my opinion, than the Canadian Canoe Museum has been able to give them.

Collapsible and folding canoes are other examples of innovations and developments represented in the museum's collection with significant stories to be told.

Now, those are stories for another time.

Thank you to Ron Pellinen, George Mersereau and the Canadian Bush-plane Heritage Centre for contributing information.



Notices and Events

<p>Saturday, October 21 7:00 p.m.</p> 	<p>Wipper Lecture Dr. James Raffan</p> <p>Author, broadcaster, scholar, musician, educator and leading Canadian canoe advocate Dr. James Raffan will present <i>Canoe Country: A lovingly skewed Geography of Canada</i>. The lecture will include canoe-related music, images, and stories gathered during nearly 40 years of expeditioning. Raffan shows how, even in post-industrial times, the essence of the Canadian nation is still shaped by its riparian geography and by its people's on-going preoccupation with the canoe.</p> <p>Admission to the October 21 lecture is \$5 for Canadian Canoe Museum members, \$7 for non-members and \$5 for students.</p>
<p>Friday, Oct 27 Raffle draw 12 noon</p>	<p>Our latest draw will be held at the museum for the following prizes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Town Charles river Royalex Canoe (16 ft.) • 6 point Hudson's Bay Blanket (Queen size) • Voyageur Paddle, Hand carved and decorated by Canadian Canoe Museum Artisans • Original Oil Painting by Neil Broadfoot
<p>Wed., Nov. 29</p>	<p>Volunteer Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 p.m.</p>

The End of Summer

by Jeremy Ward

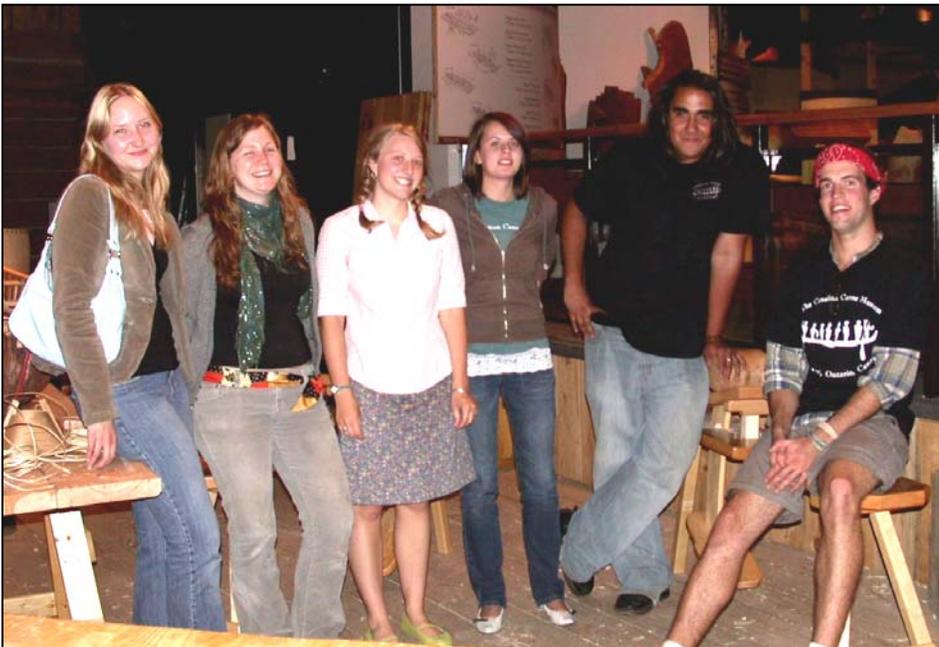
The summer season has ended, and the Canadian Canoe Museum would like to express its sincerest thanks and best wishes to the wonderful team of summer staff of 2006.

Our peak season began with the opening of *"Remembering Temiskaming"*: a challenging exhibit that honours the memory of the twelve boys and one instructor from St. John's School that lost their lives in 1978,

and also reflects upon the changes to canoeing safety that came about following the inquest. Aside from becoming versed in our nine permanent galleries, the team was also charged with acquiring the skills and knowledge to facilitate our visitors' experience of this installation as well as the nine permanent galleries. One of our newest intakes had also performed with the Lakefield College choir at that exhibit's moving opening.

These artisan-interpreters came to us from very diverse backgrounds, bringing a wide range of prior skills this year, and provided a particularly polished and helpful level of service. Visitors to the museum would have also seen an equally broad range of artisan projects underway at their hands, a range that included beadwork, sweetgrass and packbasket weaving, handmade mocotagan ("crooked" or canoe knives), elaborately finger-woven sashes, hardwood paddles and soapstone carving.

We hope to see many of these folks again in 2007, and hope that the passion that they conveyed for our exhibits also carries them with success along their own paths.



Our summer staff from left to right:
Cara Jordan, Beth Stanley, Rachel Colley, Laura Wilson, Chris Moose and Neil Morrison.

