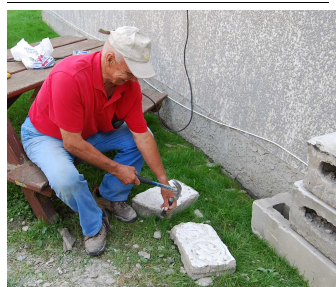


HAPPENINGS



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Gerald Curle helping with restorations

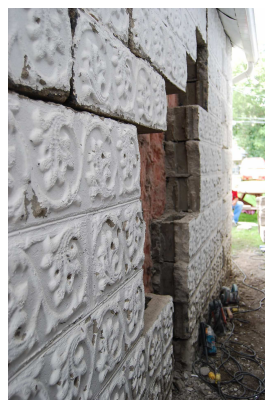


SURPRISES, BUT NOT SURPRISING DISCOVERIES

What started out as a predictable straightforward scrape and paint job has expanded. I am referring to our recent efforts to spruce up the exterior of The Seton Centre and restore it to its former shine and patina.

When Michael Labelle, our mason and restoration guy, looked closely at the exterior concrete blocks at the centre he noticed several areas with the tell-tale evidence of long term water damage. Blocks had cracked, separated from each other, and started to migrate from their original stacks. One section above the front window was poised to fall on an unsuspecting passerby. The job ahead to do a proper correction was daunting, but board members agreed fully with our contractor that just painting over the mess was not a good solution. Some compromises had to be struck to be able to fall within our budget, so most of the repairs were given to the south wall and the area above the front window.

The north side was treated to having a makeshift plastic fill removed, the areas



South wall of The Seton Centre

cleaned, and re-pointed, before it received the primer and finish coats of paint. To help prevent the damage from the expansions and retractions of the north wall, Michael and his team fitted an expansion joint from the top of the wall to the bottom.

The metal roof is beautiful but actually quite fragile. The crew set up a system of planks to avoid having to walk over the roof. Sections of metal tiles required repairs before they could be painted.

When it came to choosing the colours for paint the board chose between a number of historic colours that have been put together by Benjamin Moore Paints. The building is in the shadow or view of the Old Municipal Building which is

a sandy brown colour, so we chose within that range of shades for the trims of the building, with a light warm white for the exterior walls. Since the sign has this sandy brown colour, as do some of the stripes of the awning, this colour should wear well.

The gooseneck style light for the front has a green fixture which should blend well with the rest of the front, given that there are green areas of the awning.



The damage to the metal roof needed repaired before it could be painted.

We have been fortunate to have been given a couple of authentic gooseneck lights so there will be one for the front as well as one for the rear of the building. We have also been fortunate to have a good crew of volunteers to pitch in to do some of the routine work on the site.

Go to "Grants" on page 2



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L-R: Cheryl Orr-Hood, Bruce Hood, and Peggy McPherson

"We are most appreciative of grants we have received to do this work."



L-R: Bronni Manns, Laura Chartrand, and Bryanna Manns



GRANTS HELPING WITH RESTORATION

Our thanks go out to all our board members but also to Sharon Rankmore, Gerald Curle, Dan McPherson and Bruce Hood who helped us with painting the walls and chipping concrete from the blocks.

The expenses for a project like this mount up so we are most appreciative of grants that we have received to do this work from the Town of Carberry

and North Cypress and from the Carberry and Area Community Foundation. From the provincial government, we are pleased that the Home-town Manitoba Program



Wide open as new lintel for front window is manufactured

supported this work as well as a substantial amount that was provided by Historic Resources Branch of the Department of Culture, Heritage, Sports and Tourism.

Work progresses. We look forward to more steps that are set to happen to our happy 1915 building. Submitted by: Cheryl Orr-Hood, Chairperson

OPEN HOUSE A COMPLETE SUCCESS

On August 14, 2008, we had an open house in celebration of what would have been E. T. Seton's 148th birthday. There was face painting, cake, a raffle, and a clue bag contest.

The face painting was done by interpreter Laura Chartrand with assistance from Kelley Friesen and Erica Muirhead. Approximately 25 faces were painted. The cake was made and decorated by Laura Chartrand as well. It was served inside by Laura McKay, who also sold raffle tickets and supervised the clue bag contest. We are raffling off a set of 5 limited edition prints. The prints are of Lobo, Monarch, Krag, the Sandhill Stag, and a buffalo. Tickets will be sold until August 25, 2008. If you wish to view the prints being raffled, they are on display at the Centre.

Our brand-new self-guided tour was prepared for this event by our interpreter Laura Chartrand. Several people used it and there are plans in place to make it a permanent addition to the Centre.



Laura McKay

A silver collection was taken to help cover the costs of the activities. Over \$30 was collected and our expenses were more than taken care of. The extra money will go towards other summer programming.

About 48 people came to the Centre for this event and it was very well received. The interpreters wore costumes suitable to the period of time that Seton spent here. We received many compliments on our cos-

tumes. Thanks to the museum for helping us to make the costumes look authentic.

This event was well received by many people both in the community and visitors to our area. We hope that this event will become a tradition at the Seton Centre.

A big thanks to everyone who attended and enjoyed the beautiful day with us!

Submitted By: Laura Chartrand and Laura McKay, Interpreters



Seton's 148th Birthday Cake



SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

There were two sets of programming this summer for children.

The first, for 5-12 year olds, was continued from last year. Between 8 and 10 children attended each session and only one was cancelled. Some of our themes for this set of programming were: Howls of Fun (wolves), African Safari (Africa), I Believe I Can Fly (birds), and Come Out of Your Cocoon (butterflies). The sessions ran from 1pm-4pm every Wednesday and included a craft, story, activity, snack and games for a fee of \$2.

It was often challenging to find activities that everyone would enjoy for such a large age group, but the kids always seemed to have fun. There was a total of about 70 registrations for this programming and over \$166 were collected.

The second set of

programming was new this year. When we sent out parent feedback forms at the beginning of the summer, it was suggested that we have programs for younger children as well.



Two of our Junior Explorers

After some discussion, it was decided that we would have programming for 3-6 year olds from 10am-11:30am every Friday. For a fee of \$1, a child could enjoy a story, craft, and lots of games at each session. We even sang at one program! Some of the themes for these programs included: Animals on Islands, Let's Explore Bugs, and Life in the Desert.

These programs were always lots of fun. Younger children are easy to keep busy and love to play games. We had between 3 and 8 children at each program. There was a total of about 33 registrations and over \$20 were collected.

All summer programs were designed to teach children about nature and to let them be creative. We found that our goals for these programs were easy to reach and the children had a blast!

This summer was a eventful one, and we enjoyed it very much. We hope that these programs can be expanded on in the future and that children will continue to enjoy the programming at the Seton Centre.

Submitted By
Laura Chartrand and
Laura McKay,
Interpreters

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Programming for 5-12 year olds. (Come out of Your Cocoon)

"For a fee of \$1, a child could enjoy a story, craft, and lots of games at each session. We even sang at one program!"



Our Nature Table

NATURE TABLE

One of our projects this year was to create a display that could be touched and enjoyed by children. A large portion of the Centre is untouchable due to its age and fragility. We felt that this discouraged children from coming and enjoying all that we have to offer.

The display has been dubbed our "Nature Table" and has an interesting variety of things that can be touched and

observed. We are always looking for new things to add, such as bird and wasp nests, colorful pebbles, small fossils, shells, and textured objects. We stress that only items not currently in use are suitable for our nature table.

Call or visit us if you have something you would like to suggest or donate.

Submitted by: Laura McKay, Interpreter



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The Seton Centre

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Email: etseton@mts.net



*Playing games at the
Criddle-Vane Homestead*



We're on the Web!
www.mts.net/~etseton

CHILDREN'S TRIP TO CRIDDLE-VANE HOMESTEAD AND WESTMAN REPTILE

On August 20, we took a group of 7 children to the Criddle-Vane Homestead and the Westman Reptile Gardens near Shilo. Everyone met at The Seton Centre at 10:00 am and we left for the Criddle-Vane Homestead.

At the homestead we took the children on the self-guided 0.8km hike. The temperature hadn't gotten too warm at that point, so the children really enjoyed running along the trail to find all the interesting information and sites available.

We enjoyed a picnic lunch and played

games in the open area around the homestead.



*Touching a real live tortoise at
the Reptile Gardens*

Next we went to The Westman Reptile Gardens. While there we saw many different reptiles that are not native to our area.

The staff at the Gardens brought out some of the animals from the cages. The children

were able to touch a Tortoise, Bearded Dragon, and two King Snakes.

This day was full of fun and excitement! Thank you to our parent volunteer Bruce Duguay, who assisted with the driving and supervising.

Submitted By:

Laura Chartrand

Interpreter



*Pumping water at the
Criddle-Vane Homestead*

IT'S A GO: OUR NEW SPACE AT THE SETON CENTRE

Today, August 21, we turned the corner with our dream to build an addition to the Seton Centre. The board has been fundraising since January 2008 to raise funds for our addition which is designed to provide space for displays, storage, a kitchenette area, and a wheelchair accessible wash-room. To date we have been granted ten thou-

sand dollars by the Thomas Sill Foundation and fifteen hundred dollars from the Carberry and Area Community Foundation for this project. Today, we received confirmation that the Manitoba Community Services Council will chip in an additional eleven thousand dollars. This generous contribution has us convinced that we can indeed accomplish our goal to build the addition. It means that we have

one quarter to one third of the required dollars in hand. We recognize that it is a major undertaking to see the new space completed and fully funded. We are committed to do the necessary work to raise the funds and, where helpful, to do lots of volunteering to help get the work done. Submitted by Cheryl Orr-Hood, Chairperson