

SUMMER CHILDREN PROGRAMS

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Once again, we held our Summer Children Programs this year, which offered many nature related crafts and activities.

This year's summer program was a little different than past years due to Covid-19. We were still able to operate but there were some regulations: We were required to wear masks during the sessions, sanitizing after each program had to be done, and the number of children for each session was limited.

Public programs were held every Tuesday and Thursday, twice a day, in order to allow more children to attend.

The Carberry Childcare Co-op usually came with about 8 children to attend their designated sessions on Wednesdays.

Programs were still held for 1 hour each and free of charge.



A child making his sea animal sun catcher

Pressing flowers was one of our activities we organized. The flowers we used were from the Little Seton Park and some we brought from home. After the flowers had been in the presses for 1 week the children put them into popsicle stick frames which they could then decorate. This was a very unique activity that was different than what most kids would do at home.

Another activity we did was planting beans and/or peas with the children which they could then take home and watch grow.

Some other crafts and

activities included pine-cone dahlia flowers, clay pots with rocks painted like cactuses, sea animal sun catchers, and colorful hand-print parrots.

We also had Nova Cassan come in who did a lesson with us on observational drawing. Observational drawing is drawing what you see in front of you and not drawing based on your imagination or what the object looks like in general. Seton did a lot of this during his art career while he was examining animals and recording all the details. This we could use later on with the children during some programs.



One child doing some observational drawing of the Golden Plover



Flower pressing project with the daycare



Great drawing done by a child during our observational drawing program

Overall, this years programs went fairly well, when you keep in mind the surrounding situation that was going on.



MUSEUM AND PROGRAMS DURING COVID-19



This global pandemic that has had effect on many places around the world, has also affected our small museum here in Carberry. We have some rules and requirements that were unusual and new to us.

Our children's programs had a limit of 4 children per session with the exceptions of siblings in a group. In that case we could allow 5 children. The daycare children were in the daycare together, so because of this they were allowed to bring more children and interact with each other here at the program. We required masks while holding the programs while social distancing is hard to do working with children doing crafts and activities.

Other years the public programs would sometimes include games and activities outside where children would interact with one another. This wasn't ideal for the current situation but we could still do this with the daycare which was a bonus.

Puppets were a favorite for some children in the past, but due to Covid-19, they also weren't ideal and didn't get used with the children.

We required a limit of 2 guests in the museum at a time, and were also required to wear masks while working with guests.

Some years Seton's birthday had been a small event at the Seton Centre with decorations and a special program with maybe some treats and a

party related craft. Due to the current situation, Seton's 160th birthday didn't include this other than mentioning his birthday a bit.

Another change in the museum was our displays. We eliminated our interactive table items which were some of the children's favorites. These were items they could touch and explore using more of their senses.

Of course with all these rules, we were still required to do some sanitizing after children programs and guests.

This situation was a new experience for all of us so we were learning and adjusting as we went. Thank you to everyone who helped keep our little museum open!



Cute thank-you presents from the Carberry Childcare Co-op for the Children Programs we organized for them

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES



This summer we had the very exciting and special opportunity of finding two monarch caterpillars in our Little Seton Park where we have Milkweed, which is the diet of these caterpillars.

We took care of them and watched them evolve into beautiful Monarch butterflies. After they had hatched we released them both into the world. This was definitely an exciting experience for the children, and also for us.





FUNDRAISING

How lucky we are to have volunteers who are so generous with their time and donations to our fundraising events. This year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, our two major fundraisers have been cancelled. However we have been participating in the weekly Farmer's Markets, selling jams, fresh garden produce and Last year we had a successful table in the Handmade Market in November, selling baking plus donated crafts and pottery. Special thanks to Brenda Nelson (sister to Cheryl Orr-Hood), for her donation of a basket of goodies, including some of her pottery, a cookbook of Cheryl's (proceeds going to ALS) and lots of Christmas baking and treats. This gift to us was in memory of her sister Cheryl and was definitely a popular item for ticket sales.

Thank you to all of our hardworking volunteers!



Board members selling baked goods and 50/50 tickets at the Carberry Farmers Market

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Red Gnome Dogwood planted in memory of Cheryl Orr Hood

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHERYL ORR-HOOD AND LITTLE SETON PARK

This year a "Red Gnome Dogwood" was planted in the memory of Cheryl Orr-Hood. A small thank you for her dedication to the Seton Centre and the garden in Little Seton Park.

The garden had a slow start, due to our poor spring, but has ended up looking very lush. Thanks for everyone who helps with the weeding and tree trimming. A special thanks to Clayton Muirhead, he keeps the walkway free of leaves with his leaf blower.

The girls have done a great job of redoing the benches and picnic table. This little garden is a great spot to take a break, so please enjoy it.

TRAIL OF AN ARTIST-NATURALIST PASSAGES

"I left Toronto for the West – the glorious, wonderful, promissful West." (page 155) This is a passage from Seton's book– Trail of an Artist-Naturalist. At this point in Seton's life he had not long ago received a bill from his Father for his expenses while raising him, including the fee from the doctor to help deliver him. He was getting older and was expected to start his own life soon while he was still a teenaged boy in mind. Seton was leaving Ontario and going to Manitoba where he would join his brother, Arthur, on a farm. He described the west as glorious, wonderful, and promissful. He loved to explore the prairies, spruce forests and sand hills. Later on he described his time here as his "golden days".

-Annette

"All wild life was interesting; but birds were my first love, and I followed and studied them with absolute concentration." (page 151) This statement of Seton is quoted in his book "Trail of an Artist-Naturalist" and it perfectly depicts his greatest passion; birds. Seton's heart had always beat for nature and he dedicated all his strength and energy to it. No matter if he lived in the alleys of Toronto or on a farm, wild life would always find a way into his life and not rarely in the form of a bird. Seton used every opportunity he could find to interact with and study these creatures. During his time in Carberry he examined many species, dissecting them and making sketches to keep records of all the details.

-Maria



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4 books donated to the Seton Centre

The Seton Centre

Board Members:

- Peggy McPherson
- Jackie Sallows
- Edna Sheval
- Val Andrey

Email:

etseton@mymts.net

Website:

thesetoncentre.ca

Location:

Box #508
 116 Main St.
 Carberry, MB
 R0K 0H0

Phone:

(204) 834 2509

Facebook:

Seton Centre



DONATIONS TO THE SETON CENTRE

Thank you to Clemency Coggins (Ernest Thompson Seton’s granddaughter) who donated four of her books; including one written by her cousin and two others that were published in Japan. She also sent a small plaque of her grandfather’s likeness.

We would also like to thank Clemency for her very generous monetary donation. Part of it was used, in combination with a grant from the Carberry Area Community Foundation, to purchase a new air conditioner. Last year, after the passing of our long-time chairperson, Cheryl Orr-Hood, we received many generous donations specifically in her memory.

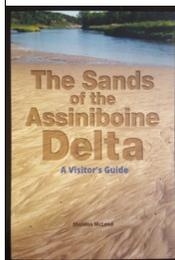
Thank you to all of our members who also sent donations with their membership fees to help keep The Seton Centre open !

Plaque donated to the Seton Centre



NEW BOOK IN THE BOOKSTORE

THE SANDS OF THE ASSINIBOINE DELTA: A VISITOR’S GUIDE



Sheldon McLeod grew up in Glenboro, Manitoba and spent a large part of his early years exploring in the Sandhills of Spruce Woods Provincial Park, before it was a park and even before there was a bridge across the Assiniboine River. He lived close enough to ride his bike to the dunes.

His book is full of beautiful photos and information on all the flora, fauna and the history of the area plus outdoor activities available throughout the seasons.

Sheldon’s love of this unique location is infectious to his readers and it is his hope to “share some of the allure of its landscape with you”.

2020 INTERPRETERS

This year we had 2 interpreters working at the Seton Centre giving tours and leading children programs.

Maria Bock (age 18) is planning to attend college in January.

Annette Sippel (age 16) is planning to attend grade 11 in September.

Both Maria and Annette had worked with us last year and got the chance to do so again this season.



Maria (left) and Annette (right)

For a Virtual Tour about Ernest Thompson Seton go to Virtualmuseum.ca and type "Ernest Thompson Seton" in the search bar. Click on the gallery button to see over 100 pictures with captions, including many from the Carberry/Spruce Woods area.