



McNaught Homestead Preservation Society



February 2021 *Newsletter* Issue Sixteen

Annual General Meeting 2021 ??

There has not been a decision at this time about holding an AGM or when it might be. When a decision is made a notice will be placed in the NEWS.

President's Message by Peter Martin

As we are all aware, 2020 was a terrible year for our fundraising events. Lockdowns, isolation and restricted travel and gatherings took their toll on all activities. As a result the McNaught Homestead had to cancel all of our events except the Ghost Walk. Through the efforts of Erin and Kyla permission was received to go ahead with the Ghost Walk with some modifications and restrictions. (See details under Ghost Walk).

These events are a very big part of our annual fundraising. We did receive a Covid relief grant from the Federal Government as well as an Operating Grant from the County of Grande Prairie. These were both greatly appreciated (See details under Grants).

Erin also organized an online auction and with the help of various members, this too was a success. Again, the Homestead made a few dollars to help cover our operating costs on site. Thanks to all who donated items for the auction! I will forget to mention people who helped but you all know who you are and thank you.

Wishing you all a better 2021 and hopefully we can get back to doing what we like to do and a near normal schedule of events.

Grants and Donations


In 2020 the Homestead applied for two grants, both of which were approved. We received \$5000 from a County of Grande Prairie Operating Assistance Grant and \$500 from the Federal Government Department of Canadian Heritage for programs cancelled due to Covid-19.



The Homestead also received a large donation of \$1000 from the Beaverlodge Hidden Potential Society which provides vital programming for adults with physical or developmental disabilities. The group was unable to use the Hythe Community Centre because of Covid-19 but could come to the Homestead and social distance outdoors for many of their activities throughout the summer. Kay Rawlyk, the group's President, used her past experience as a Junior Forest Warden to offer the group valuable outdoor education on plants, birds and hiking the trails. Lori Spears, Homestead Caretaker and Hidden Potential Board Director prepared a large cake for the group's final event.



Photo (left): Kay Rawlyk, Beaverlodge Hidden Potential Society president, presented Lori Dalglish, McNaught Homestead Society treasurer, with a \$1,000 honorarium last week from Hidden Potential's fundraising activities.

 A special thank you to **Arcand Accounting** for donating the photocopying of this Newsletter.

Kay Rawlyk, president of the Beaverlodge Hidden Potential Society presents a donation to Lori Dalglish, Homestead Treasurer, in appreciation for the use of the Homestead during the summer for outdoor activities.

Doug Mackie, a good friend and supporter of the Homestead dies at 97.

Doug was born in Paris, ON, January 3, 1924. At four years of age the family moved to Beaverlodge in the Peace River region of Alberta where he grew up on a farm. At nineteen, Doug joined the RCAF and graduated from #5 Air Observer School in Winnipeg in 1943. There he became navigator on a Canadian Lancaster bomber with the 426 Squadron. His crew flew one complete tour of operations on missions over Europe in 1945. After the war Doug used veteran credits to obtain a B.Sc. in Agriculture at the University of Alberta. He became an Agricultural Officer with Agriculture Canada where his lengthy, distinguished career involved the regulatory inspection of seeds, feeds, fertilizers and pesticides.



Doris McFarlane, Doug Mackie and Betty Gaudin at studio circa 2012

Doug was a good friend of the Homestead Society and made several substantial contributions to Boardwalk construction and to the Homestead and attended several of the Homestead's Summer Festivals.

Events for 2021???

At this point scheduling is uncertain!

► **GALA FUND RAISER was postponed in 2020 and will hopefully be rescheduled sometime in 2021.**

► **JULY McNaught Homestead Open House, Arts Festival and I.O.D.E Tea 2020 was cancelled.**

► Ghost Walk in 2020 - A big Success

The Ghost Walk was the highlight for the Homestead last fall. Many changes and a new format were required to meet the Covid-19 requirements. Firstly people had to buy tickets for one of three nights at a specific time and register on arrival. Tickets were sold to control the number of people on site at one time. Three one-hour shifts were run on Oct.23 and two on both Oct. 24 and Oct. 30. Everything went really well. We made a few dollars from donations and had very few complaints about the changes. Many thanks to Erin, Kyla and Peter and their helpers for all the setup and take down.



Great helpers for registration table



Banjo players in the barn



Good looking guy

Art & Photography Programs and Workshops

These events are up in the air for now. Watch our website for other events in art, photography and nature walks. Also on the website are many old photos and a history of the Homestead.

Your Membership is Important!

With an annual \$10 membership or with The New Life Time membership in the McNaught Homestead Society you will receive our annual newsletter with dates of all upcoming events or changes for the year.

For you to be a great supporter of the McNaught Homestead we need your membership to show number of members in grant applications and to keep our mail list updated. With a good number of members grant applications are much stronger. Please continue to support the Homestead by completing the form on the last page of this newsletter and submitting your membership fee. Thank you!

Donations & Volunteering are welcome and necessary for Homestead Preservation work

As a Society we depend on fundraising and in-kind donations to be able to apply for matching grants to fund various projects in the preservation of the Homestead. Large or small, we accept them all. Charitable tax receipts will be issued for all donations.

BACS and McNaught Homestead Society join forces to store permanent art collections

For many years the Beaverlodge Art and Culture Centre and the McNaught Homestead Society have stored our respective permanent art collections in the basement at BACS, not catalogued or easily accessible. This has all changed with the recent installation of gallery-style storage that will accommodate dozens of framed art pieces, along with a five-drawer flat storage cabinet for the collection of unframed sketches and drawings. The next step is to have BACS and the McNaught Homestead Society catalogue their own art in digital and hard copy format.

Artists in the collection include Ed Bader, Marian Brown, Robert Guest, Marjorie Henn, Vicki Hotte, Evy McBryan, Euphemia McNaught, Isabel Perry, Suzanne Sandboe, Charlotte Schmidt, Jean Wagner, and many more.

Boardwalk is Open to the Public

The Boardwalk is open to the public by foot access. Park at the Homestead and follow the signs for the 20 minute walk from the barn to the Boardwalk.

See the Trumpeter swans during the summer, hopefully with cygnets. Please observe social distancing with other visitors.



Boardwalk sign showing bird types you might see

Public Use of the Homestead

The Schoolhouse/Studio is a facility that is available for retreats, meetings, classes, and social events. It can be reserved by contacting Lori (780-897-9973) or see our website for information.

As a Non-Profit Society we accept donations for use of the studio and grounds. We now have a **Facilities Use Form** and require a damage deposit (\$250) for groups of **25 or more**.

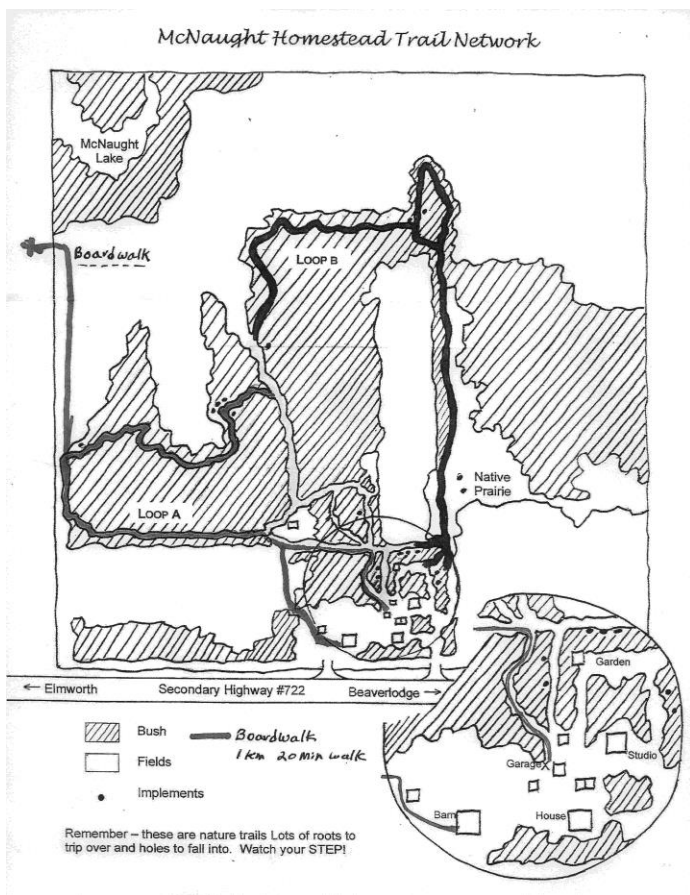


Inside the Studio

Hindsight 2020 at the Homestead

by Lori Spears

What a year! Had trouble with the furnace that was costly to fix. Back door was fixed once but still has a problem. Summer student, Terris Lappenbush, was superb and was respectful of equipment and just all around handy. Wood shed and outhouses were painted. Ramp was built allowing mowers to drive right into C-Can. Brush cutting, trail maintenance and all the mowing went well. This was a good year for wildlife too. Five cygnets reared at the lake survived the summer. Also seen on site were snowshoe hare, hawks, owls, a lynx, moose and deer.



Maps available in box on the garage

Board of Directors

Peter Martin, Chair
 Erin Dwernychuk, Vice Chair
 Vicki Hotte, Secretary
 Lori Dagleish, Treasurer

Kyla Martin
 Marjorie Henn
 Don Nelson
 Eileen Martin

Betty Gaudin
 Angie Patterson
 Sheila Zumwalt

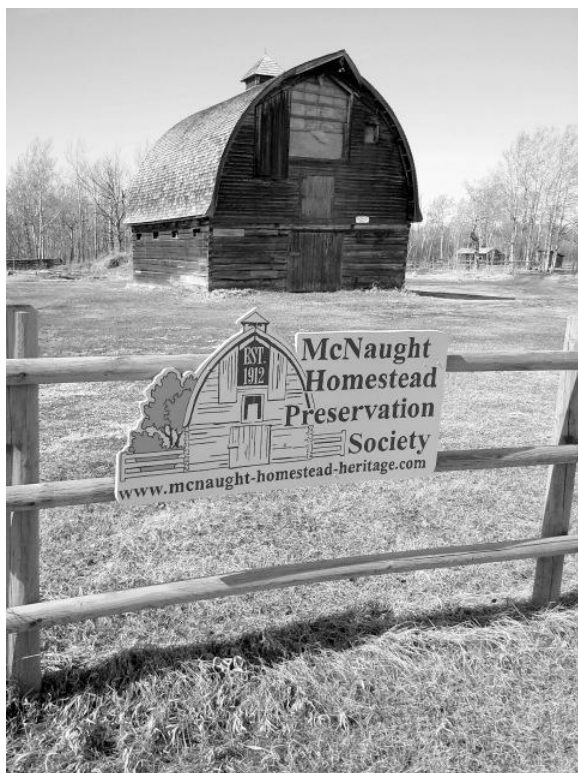
Honorary Members

Doris McFarlane
 Arlene Martin
 Ted Smyth

Membership Gifts

At only \$10 a year, a membership may be a welcome gift for one or more of your friends. See the membership application form on the last page of the Newsletter. Mail to Box 879 Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0 or go to the website and pay using Pay Pal.

www.mcnaught-homestead-heritage.com



Home sweet Home



New storage racks in Archive room at BACS



Actual Size
12"W x 9"H

This plaque recognizes the McNaught family members who made it possible for the Homestead Society to obtain title to the heritage site. It will be placed in the studio for all to see.



McNaught Homestead Preservation Society

www.mcnaught-homestead-heritage.com Box 879, Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

'A natural gathering place'

New Life Time Membership \$100

Memberships For 2021 \$10 per year

Renewal **New** **Gift;** donated by

Cash Enclosed **Cheque Enclosed** **OR go to the website and pay using Pay Pal**

Name

Mailing Address

Town Prov Postal Code

Phone number(s)

Return to: **McNaught Homestead Society**

Be sure to check out our website at

Box 879 Beaverlodge, AB T0H 0C0

www.mcnaught-homestead-heritage.com