



We're Getting There...

As one can see as they drive by the Meeting House, the new addition is plainly visible. We have had many challenges to get to this point but we are not quite to the finish line yet. There is considerable inside work to be completed but we are optimistic that we will be operational early in the new year. As soon as possible after we have occupancy approval, we will be producing a special edition of the newsletter to let everyone know what the new capabilities of this addition can and will be.

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We're Getting There...



ABOVE ALL - WE NEED A ROOF

And finally after delays with the trusses, delays with the metal and again delays with the manpower to install the metal, we do have a roof. Now we can dry up the inside and move on with all the interior work.

We are so appreciative of all the support which has continued, even through Covid. Our Community should be very proud. We are currently looking for an individual to oversee our social activities. An outright volunteer would be the ideal but failing that, someone who is willing to monitor and reach out to the membership, oversee our rental bookings and assist with advertising and above all someone who is passionate about heritage and our Community. Salary to be negotiated. Check our web site in January www.lutzmntnheritage.ca for further details.

By the way, there is no such thing as retiring and do nothing. Most will take up a new hobby or some may volunteer in their Community. We would love to help you in your retirement. The Meeting House is a multi-faceted operation and there are many different areas where you could fit in. You would be helping your Community while helping yourself.



Artifact



About 4 years ago this month, the Lutz Mountain Heritage Museum was honoured to receive several donations of artifacts originating from Private Gordon Alexander Pratt, a young gentleman who served in World War I. Amongst the grouping of artifacts given to us was this beautiful handkerchief. A delicate yellow in colour, the handkerchief is embroidered with the emblem of the Royal Canadian Artillery. Inside of the emblem, you can also see their motto, “Ubique. Quo Fas et Gloria Decunt” which translates to

“Everywhere. Whither Duty and Glory Lead”. While at first glance, this handkerchief may look like any other, it is the history behind this artifact which makes it one of our collection’s most impactful objects.

Gordon Alexander Pratt was born on April 10th, 1898 in Campbellton, New Brunswick to parents Malcolm Pratt and Sarah Jane (Barclay) Pratt. Gordon was the oldest in his family having at least two younger brothers and one younger sister. On August 20th, 1915, he enlisted into the 55th Battalion in Sussex, New Brunswick and records show that he lied about his age at the time of his attestation. Almost a full 9 months shy of his 18th birthday, he indicated on his attestation papers that he was born in 1897 as to ensure he would not meet any resistance when joining the fight. Only 5 short days after enlisting, Pratt was moved to Valcartier, Quebec to join his battalion and begin training. On October 15th, 1915 he embarked on the SS Corsican to England and by May 15th, 1916, Private Gordon Pratt had transferred to the 21st Battalion and was fighting in the frontline trenches near St. Eloi, Belgium.

Lest we forget.

The handkerchief photographed here was one of the very last gifts Gordon would give to his mother before his death. It is not entirely certain at which point during his short-lived military career that he bestowed her with this memento. Some indications would suggest that he gave this handkerchief to her before he was sent overseas, however, this can not be irrefutably confirmed. What would remain certain is that it would soon become an emotional memento. On September 15th, 1916 the 21st Battalion was tasked with capturing a sugar refinery close to Courcellette, France. This operation was a part of the Battle of the Somme and was the very first offensive ever to use tanks on the battlefield. Needless to say, the fighting was relentless and brutal.

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Loss of a Dear Friend

RICHARD EDWARD WOOD 1949 – 2022



It was with extreme sadness that we at the Meeting House learned of Rick's passing. There are insufficient words to describe such a wonderful individual who brought so much joy and happiness to all those with whom he came in contact. Rick joined our Board of Directors back in 2017 and was currently our President. His generosity of thought, time and energy was displayed each and every time he joined us, both at meetings concerning the Foundation or at fund raising activities.

He tended to think outside the box, as they say. New ideas and new contacts to make these ideas come to fruition.

We were saddened to hear three years ago this month of the passing of Rick's wife Debbie. One can only imagine the heartbreak that Rick must have felt. But Debbie, along with Rick was a great supporter of the Meeting House and it was her wish that they would give a donation to help the Meeting House fulfil its mandate within the Community. We received a gift of two hundred thousand dollars from Rick, in Debbie's name which has provided the incentive to continue with Phase three of our expansion plans.

But Rick's generosity was not limited to this grand gesture. It was a day to day lifestyle. If we can all take a lesson from knowing him, we shall all be better persons.

With permission from the family we have reprinted the very well documented overview of Ricks accomplishments. To encapsulate his life, we would have to recreate another encyclopedia. His stories abound and we will miss him dearly. Friends and family of Richard (Rick) Edward Wood of Moncton, N.B. age 73 years, regret to announce that this dear, charitable and convivial man died on Monday, November 7, 2022 suddenly but peacefully and without pain only steps away from where his Twin Flame Debbi (Steeves) Wood died three years ago this same month. Despite his jolly disposition and extremely active life, Rick was devastated by the unexpected loss of his best friend, spouse and life partner of half a century. He was not unacquainted to loss and tragedy in his life, coming face to face with his own mortality as a 16-year-old boy on the cold Cape Breton waters with a family friend, his father George and his 14-year-old brother Robert.

Richard was the only survivor on that fatal day and was recognized with a distinction by Governor General Mitchener for his bravery tying the three bodies to the vessel and getting to shore to comfort his mother Pauline (Gould) Wood.

Debbi had competition for Richard's heart; his passion for the internal combustion engine was a lifetime love affair that may have faded only slightly when he purchased his first all electric car this year. Rick was a "GM Man" and made countless friends and lifetime relationships through his affection for cars. Too many to count, he has assembled and disassembled cars and trucks from all vintages and years. Hot Rods to Corvettes, Monte Carlos to Mazda Miadas he loved them all and was always happy to regale anyone with stories of the latest deal he got on a trade-in or sale. Despite his expensive hobby he was known to be a frugal man leaning towards parsimony but never meanness. He was generous with his friends, charitable with strangers and extremely giving of his time and work ethic to causes he believed in despite his ongoing health issues.

He was born to be a teacher and was loved by his students and colleagues of that noble and honorable profession. Many of his former students have grown up, had their own families and kept in touch with him until this year. From Driver's Education to the Quadratic Formula, Mr. Wood taught it all but found the greatest joy in his career from volunteering with the kids in many extracurricular activities. Concurrent with sharing his knowledge he too learned from his students and colleagues from each of his former schools in the Greater Moncton area.

Richard was Past Master of Keith Masonic Lodge #23; he was a proud member of the Shriners and was recently honored to become Director of ROJ. He served a plethora of charitable causes including but not limited to Lutz Mountain Heritage Museum, Maritime Motorsports Hall of Fame, New Brunswick Antique Auto Club, the Maritimes largest flea Market in Sussex, NB and many more. He was recognized by Governor General Johnston with the "Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers" in 2015. Rick had many honors, distinctions and affiliations but the title he wore with pride was that of "friend". He was blessed to have deep friendships; many of which endured for decades. It is for those who loved him so much that he is being celebrated by his community despite him not wanting "all that fuss". He may come back to haunt us for going against his wishes of being "cast into a hole" but as the wise Hebrew trope states, we should "Honor the Dead and Comfort the Mourners". Please join us at Ferguson's Funeral Home, 1657 Mountain Rd., Moncton NB (506.858.1995) for public visitation on Sunday from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. or from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

A funeral service and celebration of Rick's life took place at the chapel on Monday, November 14, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. Following cremation, a graveside committal of his ashes laid alongside Debbi took place in Saint John, NB at Fernhill Cemetery on Tuesday at 11:00 a.m. (please meet prior to that at the Fernhill office to process together). All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Rick was predeceased by his wife Debbi Wood, his parents George and Pauline Wood, brother Robert Wood, aunts and uncles, special aunt (Katie) Catherine Wood Hayward, cousins and close friends.

He is survived by his cousin/neighbor Dan Gould, second cousins David N. MacKenzie (Sherry) of Vancouver Island, BC and D. S. Mack MacKenzie (late Fred C. Rowe) of Saint John, NB and many close friends, too many to list here sadly (or happily) but you know exactly who you are. Thank you for being there for him.

Remembrances may be made to: Luxor Shriner Transportation Fund, the Lutz Mountain Heritage Museum Foundation (506.384.7719), lutzmntnheritage@rogers.com) or a charity of the donors' choice.

Artifact continued

By the end of the first day, the 21st Battalion suffered heavy casualties, including the young Private Gordon Alexander Pratt. Because of the devastation of the battle, his body was never able to be recovered and his final resting place remains unknown to this day. As a result, his name is honoured on the Canadian National Vimy Memorial in Vimy, France. Gordon Alexander Pratt was only 18 years old when he sacrificed his life for his country.

Interesting Fact:

The one of the very first units of the Royal Canadian Artillery was founded in Saint John, New Brunswick in 1793 when residents of Saint John came together to form the Loyal Company of Artillery. (The unit still survives to this day, but is now called the 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, RCA).

OUR ARTIFACT COLLECTION

Kate Blacquiere continues to do exemplary work as our Collections Manager. Cataloguing, photographing and displaying our almost 9000 pieces of history is a daunting task. Thank-you to Martha, Susan and Helen who have recently returned after a summer vacation to assist with the cataloguing of new artifacts to the collection. Meanwhile as visitors arrive at the Museum, Kate is only too happy to give an in-depth and entertaining guided tour of all three floors of displays. Visitors are impressed with the number of artifacts and how well they are displayed. If you are one of those folks who have not had the privilege of seeing our local history up close and personal, we invite you visit the Lutz Mountain Heritage Museum. You will be amazed.



The Lutz/Lutes Family Scholarship 2023

The Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation Inc. in conjunction with the Michael Lutes/Lutz Descendants (1766) are once again pleased to announce the offering of a scholarship for 2023.

The Lutz/Lutes Family Scholarship was established by Claudia (Lutes) Tugwell in memory of her parents Allen and Esther Lutes. The scholarship, valued at \$1,000.00 is awarded annually to a deserving high school student who will use said award toward the cost of the first year of his/her continuing education.

The recipient will have demonstrated high academic achievement and financial need. Completed applications received on or before **April 1st** of each calendar year will be considered. Decisions will be announced on or before May 1st of that same year.

www.lutzmtnheritage.ca/news-events/scholarships/

Upcoming Events at Lutz Mountain Meeting House 2022 & 2023

Wed. Dec 7 th	Christmas Tea	11:30am & 1:00pm
Wed. Dec 14 th	Christmas Tree Draw	7:00pm
Thurs. Jan 12 th	Fibre Arts Restarts	10:00am - 2:00pm
Sat. Jan 21 st	Hillbilly Dinner (subject to construction)	7:00pm
Sat. Feb 11 th	Valentine's Tea	11:30am - 2:00pm
Tues. Feb 14 th	Annual General Meeting	7:00pm
Feb 13 th – Feb 17 th	Heritage Week	
Wed. Feb 15 th	Volunteer Appreciation Night	7:00 pm
Sat. May 13 th	Spring Salad Supper	5:00 pm
	Take outs	4:30pm
Wed. May 24 th	Muriel's Tea	11:30 am – 1:00 pm

*This is a tentative Calendar of Events,

Please check our events board, our Facebook page or website
(www.lutzmtnheritage.ca) for any updates.

**THE LUTZ MOUNTAIN
HERITAGE FOUNDATION
INC.**

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For Special Occasion Bookings: office parties, business meetings, bridal / baby showers, or family functions; contact us at the meeting house.

Artists and Musicians: Please speak to any of our staff about displaying your art work, or offering your musical talents, for one of our gatherings.

The Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation Inc. was incorporated in 1975. The Corporation is currently managed by a 9 Member Board of Directors.

Membership is open to all.

Please see our website for details

We are proud of the Foundation's accomplishments over the years and seek your ongoing support and encouragement. We invite you to consider volunteering – act as a tour guide, be a waitress for Muriel's Tea Room, sign up for an hour a month to maintain the flower garden, start up or suggest a special interest program, display your collections, or lend a hand in the kitchen. We are looking for volunteers to assist with our artifact collection.

FUNDING SPONSORS

The Lutz Mountain Heritage Foundation Inc. wishes to acknowledge our sponsors:

Federal Government Student Employment Program;
Province of New Brunswick Heritage Branch;
Province of New Brunswick Student Employment Program;
City of Moncton;
Private Donors; and
Community Supporters.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT