

The Almanac



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museum & archives

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CONTENTS

2013 Exhibit Announcement
Paramount Theatre
Curatorial Corner
Cultural Explorations
The Great War
Sardis History
Gift Shop News
Volunteer Spotlight - Jon Halstad
What's On in the Chambers Gallery?
Curatorial Corner Answer

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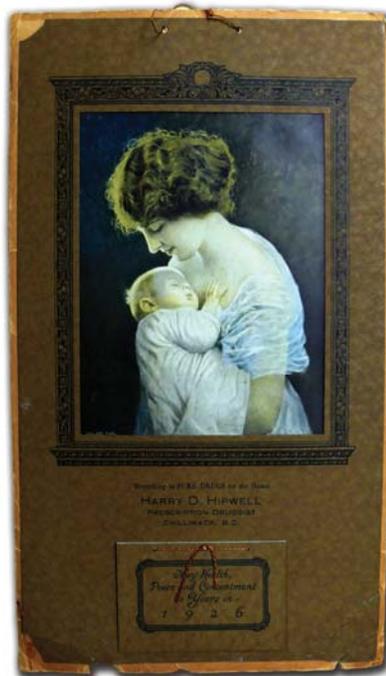
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MAY HEALTH, PEACE & CONTENTMENT BE YOURS

Staff are working on a new exhibit about health care and the wheel of life. Today most of us have access to a doctor and the types of medicines that are needed to cure our aches and pains. But a century ago, this wasn't the case. Dr. J.C. Henderson and Dr. Robert McCaffrey were the only doctors serving the Chilliwack area. The new Chilliwack Hospital had just opened and Harry Barber's drug store was offering a host of remedies that could cure just about every ailment known to inflict the human body.



Only a few short years earlier Louis Pasteur and Robert Koch formulated the theory that bacteria and micro-organisms could invade the human body and cause diseases. Scientists were still looking for cures for some diseases that we now no longer even think about.

Our new exhibit's title was inspired by a 1926 Harry Hipwell Drug-store calendar with the phrase, "May Health, Peace and Contentment be Yours". Depicting a mother with a newborn... (see p. 2)

CULTURAL EXPLORATIONS



The Museum and Archives and the Chilliwack Community Arts Council have joined together to create a new school program called Cultural Expressions; Mysteries of the Mask. Students make a mask as part of the Arts Council activity while they gain a broader understanding of the meaning of masks in a presentation in the recently expanded Archives. The pilot program is being offered to the nearby schools of McCammon, Central and Bernard Elementary schools.



THE GREAT WAR

In 2014 Canada will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the start of the Great War, the first in a series of events running through 2018. The Chilliwack Museum and Archives will commemorate the events of the war in a number of ways.

Paul Ferguson, our Heritage Collections Manager, spent the last eighteen years collecting material for a book that promises to be ground breaking in its content. *Chilliwack Remembers: The Great War at Home and Overseas* will talk about how the war affected a small community of several thousand people. The book places local events within the larger context

of world events and Canada's participation in crucial battles. Paul has made numerous trips to Europe - to battlefields, Commonwealth War Graves Commission Cemeteries and Memorials, archives and museums - gathering material for this book and many other projects. The manuscript will be edited in the fall (2012) with publication planned for 2013.

Work has already begun on an exhibit that will open August 1, 2014 that focuses on this theme. Chilliwack has a large contingent of retired veterans who along with their families and friends have an interest in this topic. More details about the exhibit will be forthcoming in 2013. What is known at this time is that the exhibit galleries on our main floor will be transformed to accommodate the exhibit.

SARDIS HISTORY

A group of ten to fifteen people with roots in the Sardis community has been gathering since the spring to work on producing a history of Sardis. Many photographs have been gathered and memories recorded. The group is now in the process of assembling the material in book form and identifying some of the information gaps. It is hoped that a publication will be available by June, 2013.

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Over the winter the gift shop area in the museum will be renewed, with new lighting, display cabinets and a paint job. Our goal is to create an attractive retail space featuring a host of new products that reflect the character of our community.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

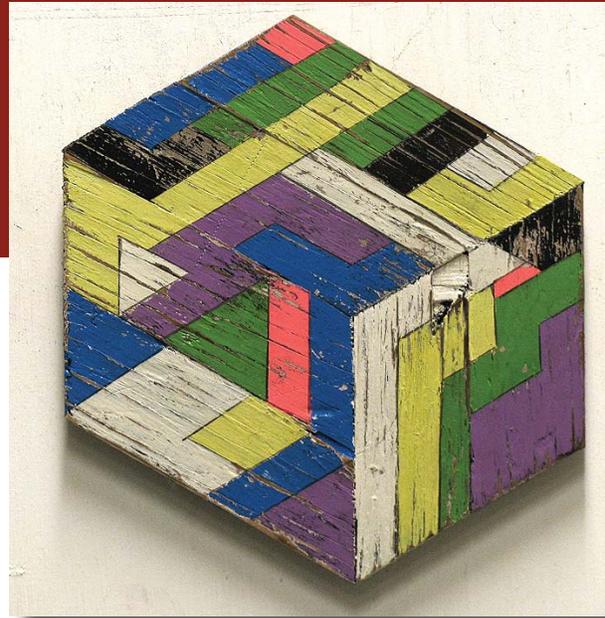
Jon Halstad works Friday mornings welcoming guests to the museum. He's retired now and enjoys "living his own life" indulging in his favourite hobby as a wood turner. It wasn't always that way. For 28 years he travelled extensively throughout Canada, Europe and the Middle East as a member of the Canadian Armed Forces. He was a preventive medicine specialist working with other soldiers on occupational health, bio-hazard and environmental issues. This led to a second career with the Upper Fraser public health unit. Not content with this role he formed his own company developing software that is now used by public health units throughout North America. John has volunteered for two years now.

WHAT'S ON IN THE CHAMBERS GALLERY?

Until this year exhibits in the Chambers Gallery have been curated by the members of the Chilliwack Visual Artists Association (CVAA). In 2013, that responsibility shifts to the museum.

A call for entries went out in the spring and we received responses from a number of artists who wanted to exhibit their work. Graphic artists, wood turners, sculptors, fabric artists, painters and multi-media artists submitted exhibit proposals.

To start off the year the Central Fraser Valley Graphics Guild will open a show on January 12. This will be followed by a young Fraser Valley sculptor, Aaron Morvan, whose exhibit will open on March 2. We are very excited to showcase one of our staff members, Heritage Records Manager, Shannon Bettles. Shannon will be exhibiting her acrylic paintings along with her mother's award winning art-quilts next April.



And don't forget this year's Christmas show. We decorate the Chambers gallery for late November and December. Our Christmas school program runs concurrently with the show so there is often a school class during the morning or early afternoon period. So please phone ahead to ensure that the room is free. (above: "Ark ii" by Aaron Morvan)



IT'S A FILM PROJECTOR!

(Answer to Curatorial Corner)

We were very fortunate to acquire one of the two film projectors from Chilliwack's Paramount Theatre. Next to the projector, on the left, is part of the three tiered platter system for use with the projector. The platter system was a labour saving device that meant projectionists did not have to wind and rewind films in between shows.



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