

The Friends of the Forestry Farm House



Valentine's Day Dinner

**Superintendent's Residence
Forestry Farm Park and Zoo
Tuesday, February 14 2012
Seatings at 5:00 and 7:00
\$40 per person
by pre-paid ticket only
Call Claire at 373-1787 or e-mail
c.bear@sasktel.net
This will sell out, so get your
tickets soon!**

In Memoriam **Dr. Ronald Bremner**

We are sad to announce the passing on Oct. 21, 2011 of one of our long-time members, Ron Bremner. As a medical specialist in dermatology, Ron travelled the world, notably to Afghanistan & China, but found time to be deeply involved in his home community of Saskatoon after moving here with his wife Muriel and their young family in 1954. Ron was a founding member of the Saskatoon Nature Society (formerly the Saskatoon Natural History Society) & its first president. He & Muriel were also strong supporters of Meewasin, the Zoo Soc, the Saskatoon Heritage Soc, & the Marr Residence. Ron & Muriel were faithful supporters of Friends of the Forestry Farm House events & Ron always attended our Annual Meetings. We extend our condolences to Muriel and family.

Annual General Meeting

**Sunday March 11, 2012
Superintendent's Residence**
Enjoy lunch provided by the Board at 12:30 and our **Annual General Meeting** at 1:15. Details will follow in mail out prior to the meeting.

Membership Time!

Membership in the Friends of the Forestry Farm House is the calendar year. All memberships expire on December 31. We value your membership since it enables us to continue to provide programming and events to highlight the history of this valuable National Historic Site. The Superintendent's Residence has long since been restored and its ownership returned to the City of Saskatoon, but we continue to utilize it to emphasize its importance to the history of the settlement of the prairies through our school programs, open houses, and special events. Enclosed you will find slips for renewing your membership. Please take a few minutes to fill out and return the slip with your cheque. We really appreciate your support!



Heritage Festival of Saskatoon

The 2012 Heritage Festival will be held on **Sunday, February 5th** from 12-5 p.m. at the Western Development Museum. The theme this year is Saskatoon Past Times: See How we Played. It will include exhibits, demonstrations, entertainment, sleigh rides, costumes, activities for children, and a parade!

Admission is free! Be sure to stop by the Friends of the Forestry Farm House display while you are there. If you would like to volunteer to sit at our display for an hour or so, please contact Claire at 373-1787.

Our New Banner!

The Friends have a new banner, thanks to the City of Saskatoon Marketing department and Pelican Signs. The board decided a number of months ago that a stand-alone banner would be a great addition to our displays for such events as the Heritage Festival and our fundraisers. We helped Tara from marketing develop a banner that commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Forestry Farm site in 2013. Our thanks to both Tara at Marketing and Pelican Signs for their great work. The banner has two photos of the house, an historic one and a modern one, our logo, our website address and the years 1913 and 2013. The next time you are at a Forestry Farm House event, check it out.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

2011 is drawing to a close and that can result in a retrospective glance of the past year. The FFFH have continued to provide interpretation for schools and hosted several successful open houses. We turned our sights to a new fundraiser which also provided an interpretive opportunity for citizens to visit the house and the park. **The Spring Art Show and Sale** proved to be so successful we will return this event on **Sunday May 27, 2012** so mark your calendars.

Our annual **Valentine's supper** on **February 14th** gave us a chance to showcase the house, raise funds and provide an opportunity for a local young chef to show her style. We will be having a repeat performance again this year so do remember to book early as it is always sold out.

Our Spring Art Show and Sale provided a new fundraising opportunity as well as a chance to highlight local artists. We had no shortage of artists for the space but worked to keep the arts showcasing the house and not overwhelming it. The venue has its limitations as to how many artists we can provide space for. Some patrons felt we should also have used the beautiful back yard but that puts us at the mercy of Mother Nature. Our fundraising portion of the venue was "Delectable Desserts" by a young local baker and that proved to be a good fit for a strolling afternoon of looking at art. We certainly learned a few things during this inaugural event that we have duly noted for the upcoming event.

Our annual fall supper saw some changes this year. The 2010 event proved very successful but the board members concerns resulted in some interesting modifications so this year it was a sit down 3 course meal. We had some wonderful help in the kitchen with two young professionals donating the afternoon to help us provide the plated table service with great quality food. It was successful both as fundraiser and as a team builder. A huge thank you goes out to the wonderful volunteers.

We continue to sit and actively participate with the City of Saskatoon Forestry Farm Park and Zoo Advisory Committee. This year was quiet as we only reviewed the second stage of the Discovery Center's graphic display. Our prior work had resulted in a historically correct, interesting, educational and well written display and so this format was followed for this second state.

The City of Saskatoon marketing branch believes in starting early so the **100 years of the Park** banners were unveiled on Attridge Drive this year. We met once as a group to form a committee which will oversee the centennial celebrations for this National Historic Site. If you have ideas of events or connections for the 2013 event please feel free to contact me at maxic@yourlink.ca. We are very excited to be working with Sara Williams on a centennial book and will consolidate some of our previously researched oral and written history here.

All in all the Friends have had a very successful year and our bank balance reflects the dedication and hard work of the board and volunteers. With our healthy year we have been able to purchase a new banner for our group and a portable display board for events which were items noted in our strategic plan. Another goal is to update the display in the interpretive center and we are slowly proceeding with that project.

Respectfully submitted:
Bernie Cruikshank. President

Harvest Dinner Report

The annual FFFH fall supper was once again a successful venture for both the monetary point of view and the board sanity point of view. The new concept of a plated meal was relatively well received by most that attended and the food was felt to be top notch. We were very lucky to have Jacqueline Keen make our spectacular desserts and to have Lindsay Dueck provide expertise for the plated portion of the meal. We had great volunteers and the evening went off without too many hitches. There was a significant reduction in the amount that was discarded at the end of the night and the chaos of the buffet was replaced with a bit of behind the scenes chaos of plating but overall things ran smoothly.

