

Hubbards Barn & Community Park



The Newsletter of the Hubbards Barn Association

A Place to Build Community

Things are changing – I know they always do, but this year it really started to hit home. The economy is shifting. Gas prices are a yo-yo. Our natural environment is threatened. Food safety is in the news. Sustainability is moving from a buzzword to a new reality. So how do we adapt to these changing times? To me, the solution lies in one word – **community**. My hope is that the Hubbards Barn and Community Park can continue to play a role in building community. It is a place to meet and celebrate. It is a place to share food and stories. It is a place to build relationships and experience new things. But more than anything, it is a place for people to discover what community means to them. As you will read in this year's newsletter, Barn Association volunteers are working hard to create a friendly, attractive, and active venue; but true community is about the people who make the site come to life. Think about how you can use the Barn to help build your own community, whether it is friends and family, a local group, or a business or public event. And as always, feel free to share your energy, ideas and concerns – this is your Barn, so be a part of making it the best it can be.

Peter Labor, Chair

Farmers' Market Update

During the 13th season of our Market we welcomed new producers, expanded to Sundays during July and August, and added a second Christmas Market. The vendor numbers were low for Sundays, but compared to our first summer in 1996 (three vendors) it can be considered a good beginning. A decision has not been made whether or not to continue Sundays in 2009. If we do it will likely take a different direction

from Saturdays and provide a venue mainly for arts and prepared foods, with activities for families.

In the winter of 1996 Gillian Maycock, Deborah Fleming and I sat over tea and hatched plans for a farmers' market. At the beginning it was difficult to convince farmers that the trip to Hubbards was worthwhile, so we would drive to Farmington, Italy Cross or Conquerall Mills to buy produce to sell on Saturdays. All three of those supportive farmers have spent many seasons at the Hubbards Market, and were with us there this summer – Sandra Amos,

Ann Naugler and Wanda Wolters. Nelson Millett joined us for the first summer in the empty lot next to the Trellis and he's been a loyal member of our Market ever since. Glenn and Cindy Higbee joined us when we moved to Bishop's Park the following year. Then we moved on to the Fish Plant and finally to our wonderful home at the Barn.

After thirteen years I am taking a break from the position of market manager, beginning in 2009. I've thoroughly enjoyed being part of the creation of what I think has become a community gathering place. Thank you to everyone who

Fall, 2008

- Something for Everyone:
 - Farmers' Markets
 - Festivals
 - Movies
 - Concerts
 - Weddings
 - Workshops
 - Meetings
 - Gardens
 - Hiking Trails
- 2009 schedule
- News and Events
- Pavillion Update
- We Thank a Community Champion

The volunteer Board of Directors is always interested in hearing your suggestions.

participated along the way! The Board of Directors of the Hubbards Barn Association will look after the next steps in our growth.

See you at the Market!

-Linda Cahill

Special Events & Programs

Our Barn season was off to a great start in May this year with the annual Hubbards and Area Business Association Expo. Once again, HABA transformed the space for this one-of-a-kind community trade show, highlighting local businesses and services. June was busy, with the Barn serving as the start and finish for the RECAP Father's Day bicycle ride. Later the same week, the Barn came alive with one-wheeled riders, as a staging point for *Ride The Lobster* – the province's first international unicycle race. The facility was also home for Hubbards Yacht Club barbeque, and provided a superb last-minute rainy day venue for the Hubbards Cove Waterfront Development Association pig roast. August found the young and old enjoying the Barn, with an Old Fashioned Senior's Picnic, and an overnight leadership retreat for Sir John A. student's council members. Throughout the summer, we also offered special art programs as part of our new Sunday market, and were thrilled by the number of private rentals for weddings, receptions, and barbeques.



With a diverse line-up of films, this was our best year yet for *Movies at the Barn*. Through our partnership with Film Circuit, and the Toronto International Film Festival, more than 150 movie buffs enjoyed a special evening of movies and fresh popcorn right here in our own Barn Theatre. The season kicked off with gala showing of *A Stone's Throw* – hosted by the film's director, Camelia Frieberg. As in

past years, viewers enjoyed seeing unique award-winning documentaries, this year featuring *Shark Water*, *Up the Yangtze*, and *Young @ Heart*. Our dramatic series mixed high profile films *Juno* and *Into the Wild*, with a couple lesser-known gems – *I'm Not There*, and *The Savages*. New this year was our *Summer Shorts Mini Festival* that featured a dozen short films, including three local productions, international award winners, and film festival favourites. Planning is underway for our 4th season in 2009. Visit the website regularly, let us know what you would like to see, and enjoy a night out in the unique setting of Hubbards Barn. If you have not been to a movie at the Barn yet – you don't know what you are missing!

-Peter Labor

Gardens Report

The gardens at the Barn flourished in 2008. They benefited from the hard work of dedicated volunteers who weeded, pruned, mulched and divided throughout the season. Most of the time the volunteers worked alone or in pairs, but from time to time the entire group met on a Sunday afternoon to socialize, compare notes on plants, and attack, en masse, one area in need of a concerted effort. Plans have already been made for working on specific garden areas next spring. For our final get-together of 2008, we divided daylilies and black-eyed Susans (*Rudbeckia*) that had become too tall and consequently were blocking the main sign at the end of the driveway. The potted plants that were created from these divisions were offered free, at the last farmers' market of the season, to anyone who wanted perennials for their own developing gardens.

I wish to thank all the gardening volunteers who joined me at the Barn this past season. The gardens never have too many workers and so I encourage anyone with interest

in gardening to join us next spring as the work continues. You don't have to be an expert. In fact, gardening at the Barn is an ongoing learning experience for everyone who takes part. Join us at the Barn!

-Anne Watling, Gardening Co-ordinator

Property Update

This season found us with a new property coordinator, as Bruce Scallion stepped away from the Board to make more time for his life and family in his new home on the other side of the Bay. We are extremely grateful to Bruce for his dedicated efforts to transform an abandoned cattle barn to our current spectacular venue. Michael Oddy and a few others are doing their best to pick up where Bruce left off. In our continued efforts to green the facility all the interior lights were updated with energy efficient bulbs.

Much of our effort this year went into establishing greater connectivity to the Barn for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians. We built a new trail through to the PharmaSave property, and are creating a new strategy for parking at the Barn. Our neighbors have been extremely understanding and generous in their offers to allow us to defer some of the autos to their nearby lots. Next season we will be able to take greater advantage of the new crosswalk and sidewalk so that people may more readily park off site, yet conveniently and safely access the property. Expect a bulletin when the Barn re-opens that will provide an overview accessibility options.

Vendors and renters will be pleased to know that we have also installed a high quality water treatment system so that all of our water now meets provincial drinking water standards.

We extend a special thanks to John Publicover and Farrell Munroe who have done a tremendous job caring for the property and making it a welcoming place for visitors and patrons.

- Michael Oddy, Property Coordinator

Rentals

The Hubbards Barn and Community Park has enjoyed a very successful year for rentals. People who have rented the Barn

2008-09 Board of Directors

Chair/Special Events

Peter Labor

Vice-Chair/Market/

Membership & Volunteers

Jackie Leppard

Treasurer

Ian Grant

Secretary

Glynda Wimmer

Gardens

Anne Watling

Property

Michael Oddy

Rentals

Tanya Grant

Marketing/Web

Gord Tate

have given us great feedback about their experience. This past season saw one family celebration, one company barbeque and a retreat for the student council of Sir John A. Macdonald High School. The Hubbards Area Business



Association once again held their annual Business Expo and the Hubbards Yacht Club hosted their annual Dinner and Auction. Seven weddings were celebrated this year.

2009 is filling up quickly, with eleven weddings booked along with the Hubbards Yacht Club's Dinner and Auction.

We would like to thank the community for their continuing support.

-Tanya Grant, Rentals Coordinator

Volunteers & Membership

Volunteers are the backbone of the operations and events at the Barn. Without them, we would not have this beautiful place that we all love and enjoy so much. It is truly



wonderful to see people in the community working together to create and maintain it. Volunteers made an invaluable contribution towards the spring clean-up of the building and grounds, and by providing a friendly presence at the Barn Association table to answer questions, sign up members, and sell aprons, cups, etc. They helped install energy efficient light bulbs throughout the Barn, and organized special events such as this year's scavenger hunt and relay race for the children which were so much fun that we'll definitely be doing them again. And without our volunteers we couldn't host movie nights, and maintain and improve the gardens and grounds

We are happy to welcome new and returning members to the Hubbards Barn Association. Our members represent a community of those who enjoy and nurture the Barn project. In addition to the moral support, members' dues

help to fund basic maintenance and custodial services for the Barn and Community Park. While most of the work is done by volunteers, some things must be funded by cold hard cash!

Next season we plan to run membership drives in hopes of increasing the Barn Association membership base. But right now, we extend our sincere and deep gratitude to our current members and volunteers. It couldn't happen without you.

Pavilion Update

As most of the community is aware, the Hubbards Barn Association has plans to develop a Pavilion in a portion of the south field behind the Barn. This will allow us to expand use of the 6 acre property and will include a natural stone wood burning oven and grills and raised community garden beds for seniors, children

and the less abled.

The original time frame had been to develop this project in 2009 but we have encountered shortcomings in available funding. As we and the community feel strongly that this project should move forward, we have revised the work into manageable segments. As we successfully acquire funding we will develop each segment. In 2008 we received a \$10,000.00 grant from Service Nova Scotia for their Community ACCESS-ability Grant Program. This grant will allow us to prepare the south field for further development.

Each year we will continue to secure funding through government and private sources to develop this project. The project will take a little longer to reach fruition but we are committed to the completion of the project. We would like to thank members of the community for their ongoing interest and support of the Barn and Community Park.

Treasurers Report

As a Board we have recently reviewed our financial results for the first 9 months of 2008. I am pleased to report that the results are in line with our budget for this year. Our financial position continues to improve each year. For the first 9 months our revenues are 23% ahead of last year.

It is important to realize that although we are a registered not-for-profit organization we must make sufficient annual income to

ensure that we have continued sustainability in the future. As an example, we anticipate that the Barn roof will need replacement by the year 2010, thus we need to ensure that we have accumulated the necessary funds to pay for this capital expenditure at that time.

The Farmers' Market will continue to be our mainstay; revenues have grown over 50% during the past 3 years. In part this growth is the result of the recruitment of additional vendors. In addition we continue to pursue other opportunities to generate revenues. Rental of the Barn for weddings, and other events continues to grow and is becoming a source of additional revenue.

The Barn is operated as a self sustaining business operation. The volunteer Directors are responsible for recruiting, overseeing, managing, and controlling all revenues and operating expenses. These operating expenses amount to approximately \$20,000 annually and include grounds maintenance, barn repairs and maintenance, utilities, advertising and promotion, property insurance, property taxes, and annual property rental paid to the Aspotogan Heritage Trust.

The 2007 financial statements will be made available on our website. When the books are closed on 2008 in the new year we also report these.

-Ian Grant, Treasurer



A True Community Champion

Lin Cahill, the long-time champion of the Hubbards Farmers' Market has decided to take a well-deserved break, and will not be managing the market in 2009. Lin's vision and passion has inspired everyone involved in the market and Barn. For those who recall the early days of a few dedicated market vendors selling their wares on the side of the Shore Club Road, the success of today's Farmers' Market is a testament to Lin's unwavering commitment and selfless dedication to building a now cherished element of our community. Although she will not be formally involved in the market, I know Lin will continue to be a familiar face on market mornings, and a significant source of wisdom for future market management. "Thank you!" hardly expresses the depth of our appreciation for Lin's efforts and friendship – but it is the least we can offer to this true community champion.

Movies at the Barn

Engaging, thought-provoking films will return again in 2009. Enjoy a big screen, big sound, and fresh popcorn in a unique theatre setting.

Years from now you'll think back to how a movie at the Barn just felt like a summer evening in Hubbards.

Movie **sponsorships** are available. With your support you receive acknowledgment online and in our ads, 4 free passes, and a big public "thank you."

Look for new listings and dates in the spring. We're always happy to hear your viewing suggestions at info@hubbardsbarn.org

2009 Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, March 11th, 2009
Trellis Café
6:30 pm Meet and Greet
7:00 pm Call to Order

We invite everyone to discuss the past, present, and future of the Barn Association and its efforts. Please consider joining the Board.

Feel free to contact us. We welcome your feedback, concerns, and praise.

Hubbards Barn Association

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2009 Schedule

Annual General Meeting
March 11
Farmers' Market Re-Opens
May 8
Harvest Festival
October 10
Last Regular Market
October 24
Christmas Markets
Nov 28 & Dec 12

Look for updated special events and movie listings in the spring. OR always keep up to date at www.HubbardsBarn.org

New Website!

We are indebted to Alex Becket for his effort to produce a high quality, attractive, and most importantly, useable website.

It is a great way to keep up to date on happenings at the barn, view reference documents, and engage in the Barn community.

www.HubbardsBarn.org