

The Rucksack

Newsletter of the Friends of McNabs Island Society
The society is a registered charity: CCRA number 88847 4194 RR 0001



Volume Fifteen, Issue 3/4

Spring 2007

9th Annual Dinner & Auction was a Great Success!

Eighty people attended the Friends of McNabs Island 9th Annual Dinner and Auction on February 24, 2007 at Royal Artillery Park. Guests were entertained by Denis Williams at the grand piano. Longtime member, Dr. Dusan Soudek, was recognized as our Special Friend of the Island for his tireless work in promoting the island as a nature park.

Peter Underwood, Deputy Minister of Natural Resources, brought greetings from the Province, and Becky Kent, Councillor for

(Continued on page 2)



Denis Williams at the Piano

Friends of McNabs Island Society **17th Annual General Meeting & Public Lecture**

"Travelling through time on McNabs Island :
an Archaeological Tour"

Dr. Fred & Lynne Schwarz of Black Spruce Heritage Services
present findings of their archaeological
work on McNabs Island.

Brightwood Golf and Country Club
227 School Street (off Victoria Road), Dartmouth

Monday April 30 2007, 7:00 PM

**Friends of McNabs Island Society
Rucksack**

Web address: <http://www.mcnabsisland.ca>

Published 4 times each year: Spring, Summer, Fall & Winter

MEMBERSHIPS: Individual Membership or Newsletter Only is \$15 per year, Family Membership is \$20 per year, Supporting Membership is \$50 per year and Sustaining Membership is \$100 per year. We are a registered charity and accept donations.

Contact address: **Friends of McNabs Island**

PO Box 31240
Gladstone RPO
Halifax, NS
B3K 5Y1

DEADLINES: 1 February for the Spring issue, 1 June for the Summer issue, 1 September for the Fall issue and 1 November for the Winter issue. We welcome contributions, ideas and feedback.

DISCLAIMER: The articles contained in this newsletter are the property of the authors. No portion of the publication may be duplicated without permission from the author/editor. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of Society. We cannot vouch for groups, businesses or activities described in this newsletter. Information is provided for members' interest and readers are to use their own discretion.

**Friends of McNabs Island
Executive 2006/07**

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Board Member

Katalin Ohlsson

Board Member

Faye Power

Board Member

Carolyn Gallagher



(Continued from page 1)

Eastern Passage which includes McNabs Island, brought greetings from Halifax Regional Municipality.



Cathy McCarthy thanks Faye Power

Thanks to members and local businesses, hundreds of auction items ranging from original artwork to dinner tickets were donated. Funds raised by the dinner and auction will be directed toward Friends of McNabs Island projects.

Special thanks to Faye Power for selling the tickets and bringing in so many auction donations and to Denyse Contrasty for making the arrangements with RA Park.

by Cathy McCarthy with photo credits to Denyse Contrasty

Thanks to all Donors for making this year's Auction a Success!

Ambassatours
Applebee's Neighbourhood Grill & Bar
Armdale Pizza Ltd.
Christiana Eckoldt
Betty's Card and Gift Shop
Bogside Galleries – Hydrostone Market
Mr. Scott Brison, M.P.
Canadiana Restaurant & Lounge
Canadian Tire
Carrefour Atlantic Emporium
The Chickenburger
Lesley Choyce
Jim Cleveland
Cleve's Source for Sports
The Courtyard Tennis and Fitness Club
Kent Home Improvement Warehouse
Kokomo's Family Restaurant
Department of Natural Resources
Eastern Canada Towing Ltd.
East Side Mario's Restaurant
Future Inns Halifax
Carolyn Gallagher
Giovanna's Hair Design & Suntanning
Grant Thornton LLP
Halifax Metro Centre
Halifax Port Authority
Cynthia Hirschfeld
Home Depot of Canada, Inc.
Inn On The Lake
Mayor Peter Kelly
Councillor Becky Kent
Paul MacDonald
Alexa McDonough
M & M Meat Shops
Bill Mont
Sheri Wiener
Dennis Williams
Curves
Dalplex
Montana's Cookhouse
Murphy's On the Water

Prime Minister's Office
O'Regan's Toyota Halifax
Cynthia Phillips
Christine Ostling
Pizza Delight
Faye Power
Putting Edge
Sally Ravindra
Hon. Geoff Regan, M. P.
Richardson's Law Office
Rob McIntosh China & Crystal Shops
Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo
Shoppers Drug Mart
Sobeys
Steele Ford Lincoln
Greg Stevens & Katalin Ohlsson
Saint Mary's University
Swiss Chalet
Doris Schrader
Tao The Adventure Outfitters
Jeanne Thomas
White Point Beach Resort
The Westin Nova Scotian



Friends admiring the Auction Items

photo credit: Faye Power

Special Friend of McNabs Award 2007

I have the honour of introducing this year's Special Friend of McNabs Island.

I'm going to see if you can identify this person from his achievements.

He has been a devoted advocate for the protection and improved stewardship of McNabs and Lawlor Islands. He is a long-time member of the Friends' Society and was vice-chair in the 1990's.

He's written many articles about McNabs for the Rucksack Newsletter and contributed four chapters to the *Discover McNabs* Book. As the founder and a loyal participant in the annual Paddle and Clean-Up, he continues to make a contribution to McNabs and Lawlor Islands.

He's an occasional cross-country skier and photographer on the Islands.

In his other life, he's a busy physician in HRM with a family practice in Dartmouth. I'm impressed how he still finds time for McNabs.

I am pleased to report that the Board of Directors has approved the nomination of Dusan Soudek as this year's Special Friend of McNabs Island. Congratulations Dusan!

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Haverstock



Special Friend Dusan Soudek

Range Pier is Gone, New Wharf Planned

Range Pier, the rickety old wharf that has braced McNabs Island on the eastern side, is no more. The Pier was dismantled and hauled away in March to make way for a new wharf on the site. A new wharf is expected to cost \$275,000. The Department of Natural Resources is looking for partners to help finance the construction and maintenance of the new wharf.

by Cathy McCarthy



Old Site of Range Pier

photo credit: M.Tilley

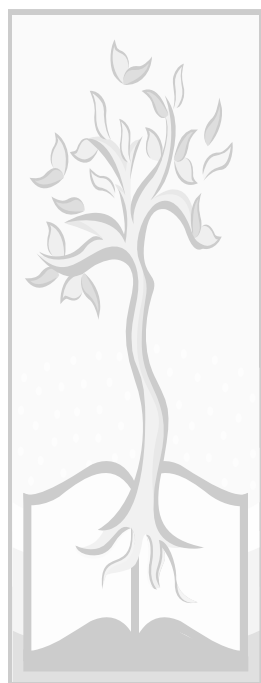
PETER MCNAB FAMILY TREE

Several years ago, Nancy Ross (a McNab descendant) and her husband Donald volunteered their time working on a genealogical chart of the Peter McNab family. They then made this material available to the Friends of McNabs Island Society.

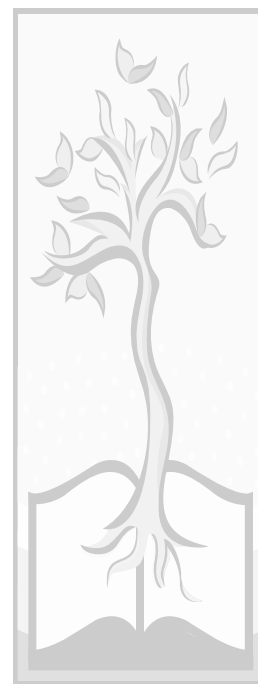
Recently, Carolyn Gallagher, a board member of the Friends, input the Ross' work into Family Tree Marker Program of Ancestry.com. She also spent time at the Archives of Nova Scotia where she was able to get a bit more information to add to this family tree.

Some changes were made to more accurately report names and dates. However, as original resources were not necessarily consulted, most dates and names entered into the program remained unchanged. A number of dates are not fully explained. For example, some dates were shown with (b) after them. It was assumed that (b) meant birth date but, in fact, it referred to the baptismal date. The question remains...was this individual baptized at birth or did a significant amount of time lapse between birth and baptism?

Like all family trees, the McNab Family Tree is a work in progress. Hopefully, it will continue to develop in both size and accuracy. A display of the Family Tree will be available for viewing at the Annual General Meeting.



**Artifacts of McNabs Island
on display at the Dinner & Auction
courtesy of Bill Mont**



Upcoming Events

McNabs and Lawlor Island Beach Cleanup

Sunday, June 3 10 AM to 4PM

Raindate - Sunday June 10

Kick off Environment Week by joining the Friends of McNabs Island Society for the annual cleanup of McNabs and Lawlor Islands Provincial Park. Bring gloves, lunch and drinking water and wear comfortable shoes. Meet at Murphy's on the Water, on the Halifax waterfront before 10:00 AM. Transportation to the island is free for volunteers. All ages are welcome. Groups of more than ten persons must pre-register with the Friends of McNabs. Space on the boat is limited and available on a first come, first served basis. Rain date is June 10. For more information, contact Carolyn at (902) 477-0187 or email the Friends of McNabs at [**mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca**](mailto:mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca) or visit [**www.mcnabsisland.ca**](http://www.mcnabsisland.ca).

McNabs Island Paddle and Clean-up

Saturday, September 8th, 9:30AM

Rain date- Saturday, September 15th @ 9:30AM

Join fellow sea kayakers and open canoeists of Canoe Kayak Nova Scotia and Friends of McNabs Island Society for a leisurely paddle along the shoreline of McNabs and Lawlor Islands in Halifax Harbour. We will stop at several beaches to collect litter. Plastic bags will be provided, and a motor boat will pick up the full bags afterwards.

PFDs have to be worn while on the water, while the safety equipment required by the Coast Guard (floating line, bailer, and signalling device - e.g. whistle) will need to be on board. Bring your own lunch, drinks and rain gear. The group will meet in Shearwater. Contact Katalin Ohlsson at 902-464-1236, (evenings) or at [**Katalin.Ohlsson@ns.sympatico.ca**](mailto:Katalin.Ohlsson@ns.sympatico.ca) for more information or to pre-register.

McNabs and Lawlor Island Fall Foliage Tours

Sunday, October 14 10AM to 4PM

Raindate - Sunday October 21

Join the Friends of McNabs Island Society for the annual Fall Foliage Tour of McNabs Island. See the island in its autumn splendour and participate in guided history and nature tours. Tour includes a visit inside the historic island homes of "midway king", Bill Lynch and his family. Wear comfortable shoes, and bring a lunch and drinking water. Meet at Murphy's-on-the-Water on the Halifax waterfront before 10:00 AM. Cost TBD. Groups of more than ten persons must pre-register with the Friends of McNabs. Space on the boat is limited and is available on a first come, first served basis. Rain Date is October 21. For more information, contact Carolyn at (902) 477-0187 or email the Friends of McNabs at [**mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca**](mailto:mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca) or visit [**www.mcnabsisland.ca**](http://www.mcnabsisland.ca).

Notices



How can YOU help?

The Friends of McNabs Island Society runs on volunteer power, please consider giving a few hours of your time.

Do you have an interesting story about the Island? Submit it to the newsletter! Not all jobs take a lot of time, some can be one-time-only help with an event, doing call backs or mailing out the newsletter. Please contact the executive through our email address: mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca



Katalin Ohlsson and Theresa RolletMcWilliams greet dinner guests at RA Park
Photo credit: Denyse Contrasty

Send us your photos!

Anyone who takes photos for a McNabs event is welcome to submit their photos for the newsletter. Please send each file as a JPEG extension and we prefer files of around 100 kb each. We regret that any photos over 1M cannot be accepted.



McNabs Island Merchandise

For a unique souvenir or gift consider supporting the Friends of McNabs Island.

- ◆ **Discover McNabs Island** books are available for \$10.00
- ◆ Panoramic harbour view **POSTERS of McNabs Island** available for \$5.00
- ◆ **Brochures and Maps** are available for FREE.

Contact Carolyn Mont, 477-0187 to get yours today!

Email Updates

If you wish to receive updates about the status of McNabs Island by email, please send your contact information to: mcnabs@chebucto.ns.ca

**THE FRIENDS OF McNABS ISLAND SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION and RENEWAL FORM**

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____

RENEWAL

Ad-
dress: _____

I AM ENCLOSING \$ _____ FOR

DONATION

SUSTAINING MEMBER (\$100 annually)

SUPPORTING MEMBER (\$50 annually)

INDIVIDUAL MEMBER (\$15 annually)

FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (\$20 annually)

NEWSLETTER ONLY (\$15 annually)

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Willing to help out? _____

Annual membership to the Friends of McNabs Island Society starts on the date of payment of dues and includes a year's subscription to the society's quarterly newsletter, *The Rucksack*. We thank you for your continued support and welcome your interest!

Send money or cheque, payable to:
The Friends of McNabs Island Society

PO Box 31240
Gladstone RPO
Halifax, NS
B3K 5Y1

or phone Carolyn Mont at 477-0187 for membership inquiries.



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The Rucksack is published by the **Friends of McNabs Island Society**.

Contributions, ideas and feedback are welcome.

Visit our website at: www.mcnabsisland.ca

Phone: Cathy (902) 434-2254 evenings

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