

Atlin Historical Society

2013 Newsletter

Greetings to members and friends of the Atlin Historical Society!

The tourist season is winding down for another year. Once again, Patricia Kother has done a stellar job in bringing to life the atmosphere of Atlin around 100 years ago, as she guides our visitors through the historical buildings of Atlin town site, and the M.V. *Tarahne*. The Atlin Museum has been busy as well, as Museum Manager Katherine McCarthy and Sue Thorn have guided visitors through the vignettes of daily life and Atlin's mining history, both inside the old school, and outside in the yard which is full of early mining, farming, and transportation equipment. The restored Erie steam shovel, now housed in its new shed, is a favourite, along with the corkscrew skidoo. Roger Gallagher and crew have been looking after the lawns, and Sue has helped out with the trimming of lawn around the artifacts, and pruning of vigorous shrubs. Katherine has kept the Museum gift shop stocked with an excellent selection of northern history and natural history books. Archives volunteers Helen Smith, Suzie Kuelbs, Linda Reed, and others behind the scenes have been doing research on various aspects of Atlin's past. Thanks to volunteers Brad Thayer and Peter Sidler for winterizing, and "summerizing" the Globe Theatre and the *Tarahne*, plus taking care of all the buildings, maintaining and fixing them as needed. Thanks also to Donald Shaw for all the time he has put into the Museum yard. Thanks also to the providers of beautiful flowers outside our buildings: Elizabeth Clarke, Gerri Johnsen, Maureen Morris, Barb Tait, and Daniel McNeil.

This summer the **Globe Theatre** has been quite busy. Since mid-June, movies have been shown in the afternoon and evening, presented by Literacy Now, and sponsored by various local businesses. Thanks to Deb Hiron for masterminding this, and being there every week to greet and inform! In July, the Atlin Arts & Music Festival once again held films and concerts at the historic Globe Theatre. It's great to see people sitting in the comfortable theatre seats, enjoying the marvellous acoustics and wonderful ambience that are available to us because a team worked so hard in the 1990s to save and restore this building.

The **M.V. *Tarahne*** comes alive again in Atlin summers. The annual Tarahne Tea, organized by Diana

Thayer, was once again sold out for its two sittings on July 6th, and raised over \$3,400 to aid in the ongoing preservation of this treasure. As with the Globe Theatre, we are able to enjoy the *Tarahne* now because of past efforts by dedicated AHS volunteers who saved her from the sad fate suffered by so many other ships in the north.

The **Courthouse** was also used this year by the Arts & Music Festival, as they held art demonstrations and displays upstairs. Meanwhile on the main floor in the court room itself the Atlin Courthouse Gallery was open daily with their wonderful northern art. The Atlin Community Library still occupies the southern half of the main floor, and is open Friday and Saturday afternoons year-round. In the non-summer months, the court room is used for its original purpose by the BC Provincial Circuit Court. And, the judges' chambers are home to the Big Water Society. So much life still goes on in this venerable building.

But, the Courthouse needs your help! In order to continue using this building, we need to fix the roof. This is possibly not a glamorous project, but a leaking roof could spell the end to this valuable resource. This old building has withstood many hazards over the decades, including two major downtown fires. Let's not let it die ignominiously now. It's time for a fund-raising drive to

SAVE OUR COURTHOUSE

Please donate what you can. We thank you for your support.

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The 2013 **Atlin Claim** (the local paper for the tourists)
can be found at www.atlinvisitors.net