



## Newsletter March & April 2019



### NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT AND CASES

There are some new things to see at the museum this month. Two permanent display cases have been changed and displays on local geology and a local timeline have been added. The interactive table has also been changed out and a guessing game of "guess the animal" has been added. Come by and see if you can get all of them!

Our temporary exhibit room also has a new exhibit featuring a display of our fantastic patent medicine collection. This exhibit, entitled "The Cure-alls that Cured Nothing: A History of Patent Medicine" explores the phenomenon of these "medical" cures that were more about the advertising than the medicines themselves. Come and learn about the medicines, advertising, and the bizarre personalities of the people involved.

### THE CURE-ALLS THAT CURED NOTHING: A HISTORY OF PATENT MEDICINE

Maple Ridge Museum | On Display March-September 2019

Did you know that patent medicine was neither patented nor medicine? Join us in our temporary exhibit room to explore the history of this curious "medical" practice, and to see a selection of our patented medicine bottle and box collection.

### AGM & POT LUCK SUPPER

Coming up quick on March 21 is our AGM. WE start the meal at 6:30pm and then have a business meeting at 7:15pm followed by some social time.

We really need as many members as possible to come out and show your support for your society. It is vitally important to retaining our society status and our standing in the community.

For the pot luck, bring one dish of sweet or savory to contribute to the meal. Also bring your own plate and cutlery and a serving spoon if needed. Coffee, tea and cold drinks will be provided.

Feel free to bring friends who might be interested in finding out more about the society. We're a friendly bunch with lots of interesting stories!



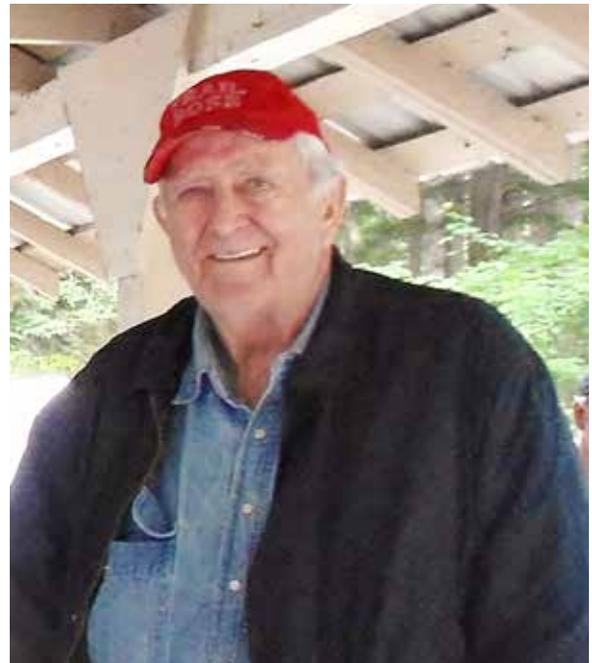
**MAPLE RIDGE  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Annual Report 2018





Murder Mystery: Participants at the first "Tampering with Temperance" event.



The CHC recognized Bill Archibald for his lifetime of work towards the Haney Horsemen. See page 4.

Left: From the Archibald archives, Bill at 15 in 1945. Bill has been very generous in donating his archives from the Horsemen and Raft Race years.

## OUT OF THE BOX

### SLOAN'S LINIMENT

Being neither patented, nor medicine, these compounds, tinctures, liniments, and “herbal remedies” called “Patent Medicines”, most often contained combinations of alcohol, cocaine, opium, and a strong laxative. This combination gave the impression that it was working by making you feel good, and “expelling the sickness.” Their success was all in the advertising and the personalities of the “doctors” who peddled them. One such patent medicine was Sloan’s Liniment. This balm was developed by Andrew Sloan, a horse harness making and self-taught veterinarian, in Zanesfield, Ohio in the 1840’s. Referred to locally as “Doc Sloan” he would make his special liniment for horses after they had a long ride and needed their sore muscles rejuvenated. The story would have ended there if not for Andrew’s son Earl, who left home at 15 to seek his fortune and to take his father’s liniment on the road.

Earl Sloan began marketing his father’s product not only to livestock ranchers but to people as well. Marketing a product originally, and primarily, intended for livestock to humans may seem like an arduous task, but Sloan was a natural salesman. Intense advertising campaigns combined with the lack of actual doctors in the rural communities Sloan usually visited lead to terrific sales of his product on the road. In reality, the concoction consisted of mostly mineral oil, alcohol, and chili powder, giving the liniment a tingly feeling on the skin, which was enough to convince people that it was working. Eventually, a product meant to ease horses muscles, was being advertised to cure muscle ache, rheumatism, arthritis, stiff neck, bruises, sprains, and if you can believe it, mosquito bites.

The liniment, advertised as “good for man and beast” eventually became a household product meant to cure any muscle, joint, or skin complaint. Amazingly, Sloan’s Liniment is still available commercially, advertised specifically for hand pain. It joins products like Bayer aspirin, Vicks Vapo-Rub, coca cola and corn flakes, as a



handful of early patent medicines that are still around today.

Image: Sloan’s Liniment bottle from our collection, currently on display in our new temporary exhibit “The Cure-alls that Cured Nothing: A History of Patent Medicine”

## MURDER MYSTERY NIGHTS

We had our very first murder mystery night on February 9th at Haney House. (Photo on opposite page).

We had a great group of participants and everyone had a fantastic time. We were all successfully transported back to the roaring 20s as we attempted to solve the mystery of who killed Tommy Gunn at the local speakeasy.

The mystery stumped some and was solved by others, and we had such a great time that we have decided to run the program again!

We have scheduled two more murder mystery nights, March 23rd and April 27th. For tickets visit the events page of our website. LATE BREAKING NEWS – the April date is sold out but there are some tickets left for March.

## COMMUNITY HERITAGE COMMISSION ANNUAL HERITAGE AWARDS 2019

During Heritage Week, the CHC had its annual awards night at St. Andrews Heritage Church Hall. Those awarded were:

- Heritage Landscape/Natural Heritage Resource – Haney Horsemen Association Trails
- Stewardship of a Community Cultural Asset – Fraser Regional Correctional Centre Allco Community Fish Hatchery
- Stewardship of a Community Cultural Asset – Maple Ridge Garden Club
- History and Heritage Research and Publication Award – Maple Ridge History Family Group - Unmarked Grave Program Research
- Heritage Building – Ron and Debra Gordon 11414 205 Street Hammond
- Heritage Commendation – Maple Ridge Family History Group, Hammond Family Research

It was a lovely evening of heritage awards presented by Brenda Smith and it was great to see two city councillors, Ryan Svendsen and Ahmed Yousef in attendance. The awards could not have gone to better organizations and projects, with all in attendance very proud to receive their awards and excited to continue on their important work of preserving both our cultural and natural heritage.

It was also so nice to see Bill Archibald present for the commission's tribute to him and his lifetime of work towards the Haney Horsemen, presented by Dave Smith. He was right there along

with the Haney Horsemen receiving their award for preserving the heritage landscape and a local natural heritage resource.

## BC HERITAGE AWARD FOR HANEY HOUSE

We are very happy to see the City of Maple Ridge, Don Luxton & Associates, the Community Heritage Commission and our society all recognized for the work done this past year on Haney House Museum. The restoration work done to replace the roof, windows, doors and chimneys may not be the most glamorous project but it is all vital to securing the building for the future.

It should also be acknowledged that museum staff – especially our “Allisons” – put in a tremendous amount of work in preparing the collection to be stored away safely during the renovations and then bringing our new staff up to speed on where everything should go afterwards. It also involved a lot of cleaning.

We hope this recognition will spur the effort to get more funding to complete the inside part of the renovation, especially the replacement of wallpaper and paint. If you haven't yet seen it, do visit Haney House to see the display on the history of the home's wall finishings as discovered by wallpaper expert Simone Vogel-Horridge.

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2019, there are a number of ways to do it. You can drop by the museum with cash, credit card or a cheque or mail a cheque: 22520 116 Ave, Maple Ridge, V2X 0S4.

You can also go to our website and use PayPal – [www.mapleridgemuseum.org](http://www.mapleridgemuseum.org)

DEWDNEY-ALOUETTE



**Visit the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society's diorama in the museum.**

On the last Sunday of every month, members of the Dewdney-Alouette Railway Society are present to “talk trains” and operate the Diorama. Model Railroaders are welcome on the Tuesday and Thursday evenings before the last Sunday of the month.

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This issue of the newsletter with contributions from Val Patenaude and Shea Henry was prepared by Fred Braches.