



NEWSLETTER

Fall 2008

20th Anniversary Folk Art Festival

There is only one word that can be used to describe the 20th anniversary of the Nova Scotia Folk Art Festival and that is **WOW!!!!** We had record-breaking attendance and sales, special exhibits and visits with both old and new collectors and artists. What an amazing day it was on the first Sunday in August this year.

- 52 folk artists
- 7 new artists
- 1200 paid attendees

It was wonderful to have Leo Naugler, Clarence Aulenbach and Len Haley at the anniversary celebrations. These popular artists are no longer able to show at the Festival, but we are pleased they came to share in the excitement. Their work was among the collection displayed in the special Retrospective Exhibit. Many thanks are due to Inge Hatton for her diligence in assembling this collection and to the collectors who were willing to loan the pieces of art for the day. Lots of very positive comments were heard about this show. Founders of the Folk Art Festival, Chris Huntingdon and Gordon Stewart were on hand to talk about the early days, as well as long time artists Bradford Naugler and David P. Stephens. Sunny MacMillan and Charlotte McGill also shared memories with the many people who took time to view the exhibit.

Bradford Naugler, who was the featured poster artist for the 20th anniversary, is also the only artist who has attended each of the 20 Folk Art Festivals. Bradford was presented with a special certificate of recognition after the event. We are told the certificate hangs in a special place in his workshop.

Many of you will have seen and heard about the young couple who planned their wedding around the Festival this year. They were featured in an article in the Halifax Chronicle Herald and special seats were reserved for them at the front of the line. You may have seen them walking around the show wearing their respective "Bride" and "Groom" name tags. A wedding date set to coincide with the Festival is the best testimonial to the excitement of this annual event.

A huge thank you goes out to all of the folk artists who contributed to the Festival, to the buyers who come from far and wide for this unique event and to the more than 40 volunteers who make it all come together over the weekend. It continues to be **"the best four hours of fun on the south shore of Nova Scotia in the summer"**!

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Expanding our world

Recognizing that we live in an ever -changing world, we added a new position to the festival organizing committee this year, that of *e-communications*. Working along side our 'traditional' publicity chair, we now are keeping the web site up to date, email inquiries are responded to and newsletters are sent out twice a year. This new committee chair also seeks out new opportunities for the promotion of the Festival through various electronic media. In partnership with South Shore Now (www.southshorenw.ca) the production of a short video that included an interview with Bradford Naugler and photos from previous Festivals was developed. We hope to revise and expand on the video for the 2009 festival.

Plans for August 2, 2009

The poster artist selected for 2009 is Barry Colpitts from East Ship Harbour. You may have seen his work featured in Saltscapes magazine and the Chronicle Herald at different times. He has been coming to the Festival for the past eight years.

This year we have a change in committee membership. Our treasurer is stepping down after five years in the role. We extend a very big thank you to Sherry for all her hard work over the years. The other volunteer committee members have agreed to work another year: Sheila Woodcock, Inge Hatton, Sue Kelly, Nancy Wilson, Doug Quinn, David Young, George Palmer and Gordon Stewart.

For those receiving this newsletter electronically for the first time...the festival committee appreciates receiving feedback and comments; either positive or negative. Through your comments, we try to improve every year.

We hope the winter months are productive for our folk artists. Spring is always full of anticipation and eagerness to see what these creative artists have designed, carved and painted for the next festival.

www.novascotiafolkartfestival.com

HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR JOURNEY?



FOR THE 21st ANNUAL FESTIVAL?

**Circle your calendar for August 2nd 2009
Join the Folk Art Festival Artists and Volunteers
at the “best four hours of fun on the South Shore this summer”!**