

# The Fire Mark

The Newsletter of the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum

P O R T H O P E , O N T A R I O , C A N A D A • A P R I L 2 0 1 3

## What's Happening at CFFM?

Over a 12 day period in February, the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum (CFFM) hosted six very successful "Red Door Week" parties at the homes of museum members. The parties, which ranged from coffee mornings to wine and cheese affairs, attracted several hundred people—some to more than one event! The results were positive: more awareness for the museum and a generous amount of financial contributions.

Says Mary Trevor, Museum Treasurer and organizer of the event, "We were pleasantly surprised and very gratified at the success of the event but it must be said, it would not have been possible without the hard work of our gracious hosts: Terri Pamenter, Joan Moss, Roz Farber, Peggy Bennett, Barb Coleman, Helen Matthew and Marielle Lambert. A very big 'thank you' to all of them."

Adds Ken Burgin, Museum Chair, "The Museum would like to make this event an annual one, and several people have already expressed an interest in hosting parties next year. Anyone who would like to host, should contact Mary Trevor at 905-885-5006."

The parties, as it turned out, proved to be larger than simply a gathering for a coffee or glass of wine. Many people, introduced to the Museum for the first time, were



Left: This distinctive graphic for the Red Door Event attracted much attention over the 12 days of the event! The result was a higher awareness for the museum and a good amount of funds raised!

either new to town or had little previous knowledge about CFFM. As a result of the publicity generated by these events, the money is still coming in.

In addition, the Museum hosted a bbq for the Fire Fighters Association Hockey Tournament the same week and many thanks go to Will and Marielle Lambert for organizing the food etc.

It should be noted that 2014 will be the 30th anniversary of the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum and the next 12 to 18 months are going to be very exciting!

## Now we have Robots helping to fundraise!

There's a giant robot on Hwy. 28, just north of Port Hope—about 25 feet tall—and he's helping us raise funds!

Through the generosity of Ron Dacey and Rhonda Cook, owners of Primitive Designs, a very unusual shop that features "exotic and unusual antiques and crafts from around the world", we can now look forward to some unusual fundraising! Last

year, Primitive Designs commissioned a giant robot sculpture, made up of auto parts, from one of their artisans in

Vietnam. Subsequently, they have made three other, smaller ones, that are positioned around the store. Each robot has a sign inviting visitors to go ahead and snap a photo and to please give a donation to the Firefighters Museum!



According to Ron, they get hoards of people coming through every day in season. Ron had specially designed collection containers made up for the museum as well, three will be left at his store with the robots and the rest are for the use of the Museum.

Primitive Designs is really just up the road from the Museum! A big thanks to Ron and Rhonda!



### Thank You Port Hope Legion!

A few weeks ago, on a sunny Sunday afternoon, we were called to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch in Port Hope to present our credentials!

We followed orders and we were pleasantly surprised to become the recipient of a generous donation to our building fund! Thanks Legion, we value your support!

### We're going NATIONAL!

By now, it's no secret that we want to make CFFM Canada's NATIONAL Firefighting Museum and lately we've been getting closer to making this a reality.

While nearly every municipal fire department has a few artifacts of their past history, some have developed more extensive collections into actual fire museums. In other areas groups of enthusiasts, outside of the fire departments, have gathered private collections of fire equipment sufficient to open independent fire museums.

There are "dozens" of fire fighting museums and we've contacted 25 of them. Out of those we contacted, 24 have replied and 23 of them were positive!

This is important for CFFM as we are seeking the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs endorsement, and as a condition, they've asked us to seek consensus with other museums. Now that the results are in, we await

the CAFC decision.

But that's not all! We are currently in the midst of creating a cross Canada committee of advisors—people from every province and territory who represent firefighters, equipment manufacturers, insurers and other fire fighting related concerns. With their advice and help we will be able to develop a collection that truly tells the story of fire fighting in every area of the country with representative artifacts and displays that are appropriate.

We look forward to being able to publish our list of advisors in the near future.

### Wear the Museum!

We received a generous offer from Royal Ribbons to produce some free buttons. They are 2.5 inches in diameter and very shiny—and we liked them so much, we ordered more!

They will be available in the Museum store and at special events this summer.

Thank you Royal Ribbons, we look forward to seeing these all over town and beyond!



### TCS Students Hold Fundraiser for CFFM!

A few months back, four enterprising students at Port Hope's Trinity College School decided to do some fundraising on behalf of the Museum as a part of their "Week Without Walls" program held annually at the school.

Under the direction of Director of Service Learning, Kim Vojnov, the students made jewelry and sold it to their fellow schoolmates and the resulting proceeds were presented to CFFM in April.

A big thank you to students and staff at TCS, one of Canada's finest private schools—we're proud to be associated with you!

Seen above from right to left: Director of Service Learning, Kim Vojnov; Week Without Walls faculty site leader, Stacey Moore; CFFM Treasurer, Mary Trevor; CFFM Chair, Ken Burgin; Sarah Flanigan, student in the site; Brianna Robinson, student in the site. Absent from photo: Cassie Rego and Emilie Mann.

The Fire Mark is the Newsletter of the Canadian Fire Fighters Museum, 95 Mill Street S., Port Hope ON L1A 3W4 Tel: 905-885-8985 [www.FireMuseumCanada.com](http://www.FireMuseumCanada.com) [www.facebook.com/FireMuseumCanada](http://www.facebook.com/FireMuseumCanada)

