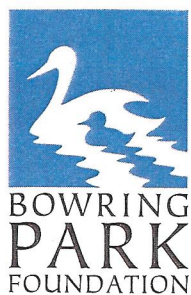


Honorary Patron
Derrick Bowring



WHITE SWAN CLUB NEWSLETTER

1998 SUMMER/FALL



IN THIS ISSUE

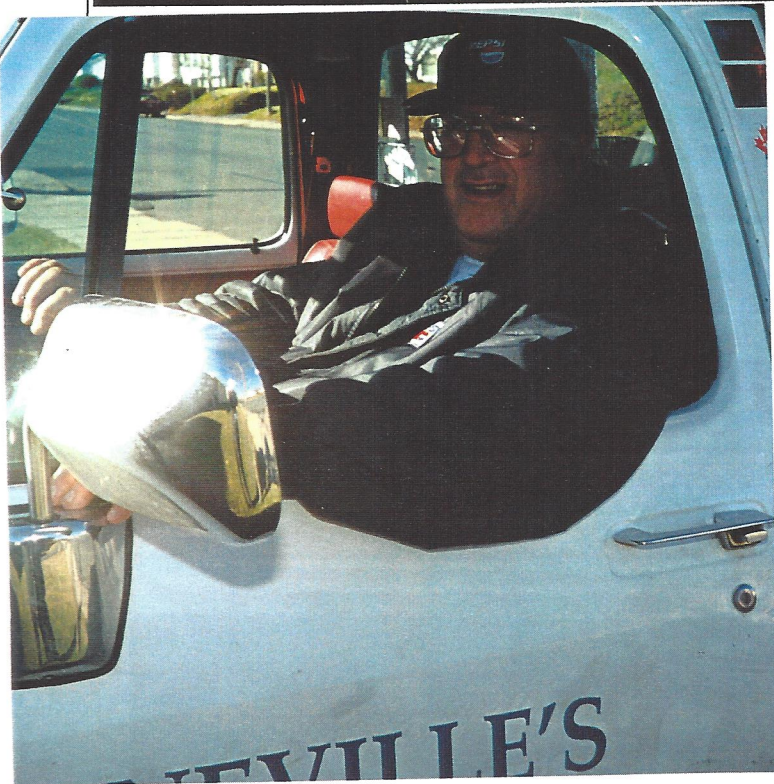
New Members
Park Memories
Amphitheatre news

COVER PHOTO

Peter Pan and Friends
in front of playground
Mural.

NEWSLETTER

Printed courtesy
of **XEROX**



Gus Neville, is a former Executive Member of the Bowring Park Foundation, and a very dedicated member of the White Swan Club. He is one of the founding members of the organization and works tirelessly on behalf of the park.

Gus was born and raised in St. John's and received his education from Holy Cross school. His early life was filled with a variety of sport activities including long walks to Bowring Park where he enjoyed the old swimming hole.

He started his working career with Bowrings on Water street until it was destroyed by fire. He then obtained work with The London and was warehouse manager there until it closed in the eighties. From there he joined Browning Harvey's and his work with this company continues to take him all over

the Avalon Peninsula. In this capacity Gus meets and counts as friends, people from Trepassey to Goobies.

As mentioned, Gus was actively involved in sports and played hockey with the London Lions for ten years. He also played Softball at Bowring Park with the Kilbride League. Things have changed a bit since his hockey days when he would suit up at his home on Patrick street, walk to Memorial Stadium, play the game and then walk back home before shedding the uniform.

Besides his sports he greatly enjoyed the out of town trips on the Newfie Bullet to his favourite fishing spots at Spread Eagle and Ocean Pond. Today he thoroughly enjoys the time away from his busy schedule, troutng on the Southern shore with his brother.

He is married to the former Nina Mitchell and they have one daughter, Amy, who is eight years old and attends Bishop Abraham Elementary School. She enjoys outing's to Bowring Park , just like her dad.

In his work with the Bowring Park Foundation , Gus is mindful of the fact that what is accomplished will benefit future generations and help to make the park a vital part of this city activities. He works diligently to ensure the successful outcome of every event put on by the White Swan Club and is quick to volunteer his expertise and his goodwill connections to enlist the support of the business community.

Capturing Memories

Even before Bowring Park officially became a designated area for public enjoyment, I can just imagine that those families who lived on the property admired its beauty and were compelled to capture it forever through the lens of a camera or through the stroke of a brush on a canvas.

Ever since its conception, people have been drawn to the Park's grounds not only to experience its natural wonders, but to make the surroundings a part of their most memorable occasions. On any given weekend between June and September, you are bound to see more than one bridal party gathered around some of the Park's more popular monuments and settings. They have come to take pictures that they and their families will cherish for generations to come. During Spring and Fall convocations, graduates and their parents come to the park and take photographs that will be proudly displayed in their homes as a tangible reminder of this momentous event. The beaming face of a child sitting at a picnic table near the playground, blowing out candles on a birthday cake has been captured in a photograph time and time again.

But it is not only for special occasions that people come to the Park with camera in hand. It's simply to experience and capture some of life's simple pleasures, such as an infant taking her first ride on a swing, a father teaching his son the perfect slap shot on a frozen duck pond, a family picnic near the tennis courts, or a walk with your dog near South Brook as

the leaves fall around you. It is for these memories that people travel to Bowring Park. They take pictures of these moments and place them in their family photo albums, later over which they will reminisce.

Others come to Bowring Park to experience its wonders but with different intentions in mind. If you frequent art galleries there is a great chance that you will spy a photograph, sketch, or painting of a scene from Bowring Park. The fighting Newfoundlander, the Caribou Monument and the statue of Peter Pan are certainly favoured subjects of Provincial artisans. So too are the Park's physical features like the rushing waters of the Whale Back Falls, the majestic weeping beech tree and the swans which grace the waters of the Duck Pond.

Artisans and families have been drawn to Bowring Park over the decades capturing memories that will last a lifetime and beyond. Therefore, it goes without saying that there must be hundreds of pictures of Bowring Park in homes all across the Province. I would venture to guess that if you were to dust off your photo albums and search through the pictures, you would find more than one photo of a family member creating a memory in Bowring Park. If so, let us know! If any member has a picture, story or memory that they would like to share, give us a call or drop us a line. We long to hear of and share stories of the Park which has become a memorable part of our lives.



It's been a while since we published the names of new White Swan Club Members in the Newsletter, so we have quite a few!

We extend a warm Welcome to the following members:

<i>Rick Tiller</i>	<i>Surry Lane</i>
<i>Ann and Thomas Pottle</i>	<i>William and Elaine Yetman</i>
<i>Loyola and Bernice Maher</i>	<i>William and Julia Batten</i>
<i>Vincent Hawcott</i>	<i>P. Withers</i>
<i>Fred Carter</i>	<i>Dr. Grace Sparkes</i>
<i>June LeMessurier</i>	<i>Carol Alexander</i>
<i>Jane Costello</i>	<i>Kim Connolly</i>
<i>Richard, Stephanie and Andrew Daw</i>	<i>Doug, Adele, Erin and Stephen Sharpe</i>
<i>Tim Shears</i>	<i>Nancy and T. Alex Hickman</i>
<i>Dr. Eithne Knowlings</i>	<i>D. J. Williams</i>
<i>Ken, Joann, Amanda, Jeremiah & Olivia Shaw</i>	<i>Dr. Paul O'Neill</i>
<i>Linda Phillips</i>	<i>Frances Barnable</i>
<i>Stephen Norris</i>	<i>Sean Connors</i>
<i>Jackie Gale-Vaillancourt & Richard Vaillancourt</i>	<i>Laura Hicky</i>
<i>Jennifer and John Scott</i>	<i>Helen Carew</i>
<i>Jane and Joss Simoes Re</i>	<i>Jennifer Whelan</i>
<i>Anthony and Margaret Ryan</i>	<i>H. Rhodes-Cooper</i>
<i>Wendy Martin</i>	<i>Ruby Dewling</i>
<i>Heather Anderson</i>	<i>S. Francis O'Driscoll</i>
<i>Anne George</i>	<i>Cathie Sullivan</i>
<i>Mrs A. L. George</i>	<i>Neil, Donna, Alex and David Downton</i>
<i>B. Gauthier</i>	<i>R. L. Templeton</i>
<i>Toby Decker</i>	<i>Dr. James C. and Dr. Robin D. Orr</i>
<i>Cowen Heights United Church Play Group</i>	<i>Walter Gillier</i>
<i>W. J. Cant Funeral Home</i>	<i>Stella Bayers</i>
<i>A. H. T. Clayton</i>	<i>Roy A. Russell</i>
<i>Dr. Aurnum and Eve Richler</i>	<i>John Perlín</i>
<i>Marin and Aileen Martin</i>	<i>Jody, Suzanne, Christopher & Brian Jackson</i>
<i>Robert Colford</i>	<i>David and Joanne Templeton</i>
<i>Roberta Buchanan</i>	<i>Helen Whiteway</i>
<i>Margaret Barnes</i>	<i>Pauline Pomeroy</i>
<i>Anne Godin</i>	<i>George L. and Elizabeth F. Pike</i>
<i>Gwen Woodley</i>	<i>Mike Power</i>
<i>Enda Nordin</i>	<i>Barbara Williams</i>

Around the Office

Jim Ronan, General Manager

For those who feel that Bowring Park's greatest attribute is its trees, this is their time of year. With the many and varied trees of the Park now donning their beautiful fall coats, the Park has become a tapestry of color that is a delight to all, both young and old. Now is the time to enjoy a refreshing walk over the many kilometers of trails and walkways, and soak up the beauty that is Bowring Park.

The Guided Tour program was conducted again this past summer with four Tour Guides on staff again this year. Tours were offered in the evenings as well as the afternoons, to allow those who wished to take in an after work, evening stroll.

The trail improvements at the Captain's Falls Bridge were completed by the Conservation Corps Newfoundland and Labrador this summer. Drainage improvements, planting of native material and a major river clean-up were accomplished during their work term. Thanks and best wishes to the Green Team of Chris Quigly, Lisa Gosse, Gillian Annable and Sean Seaward.

The Foundation hosted a visit from Mr. Gilles Chenier of the National Capital Commission (NCC). Mr. Chenier visited the new Confederation Monument, which the NCC helped to fund. Mr. Fred Hann, Landscape Architect, also gave Mr. Chenier an update on the Fountain Pond Restoration Project. The NCC has also assisted in the funding of this project. A request to the NCC for further funding of this project will be sent later in the year.

The portion of the Newfoundland T'Railway through Bowring Park is currently under construction. The abandoned railbed is being upgraded into a world class walking trail, with rest stops and other amenities.

We look forward to seeing its completion for next summer. It will then be possible to take an easy walk from the Harbor to Paradise.

Ways and Means Committee

Bruce Templeton, Chair

The Picnic in the Park event concluded on August 15th with a very successful concert by the Punters and their Friends on the Bungalow lawn. Many thanks to Peter McKenzie of Entertainment Unlimited, the Punters, Billy and the Bruisers, Arthur O'Brien and Connemara, the Ennis Sisters and A Fine Crowd for donating their talent and time to make this the successful event that it was. The 10 - 12,000 in attendance had a ball!

The Gift Shop is now closed for the season. This year's pilot project has proven that there is a market for Newfoundland souvenirs in the Park and we look forward to a continued relationship with the operator, the Newfoundland Historic Parks Association.

The Gala Art Auction has been postponed until February 20, 1999 due to the existence of a number of similar events at the same time. More details to come later.

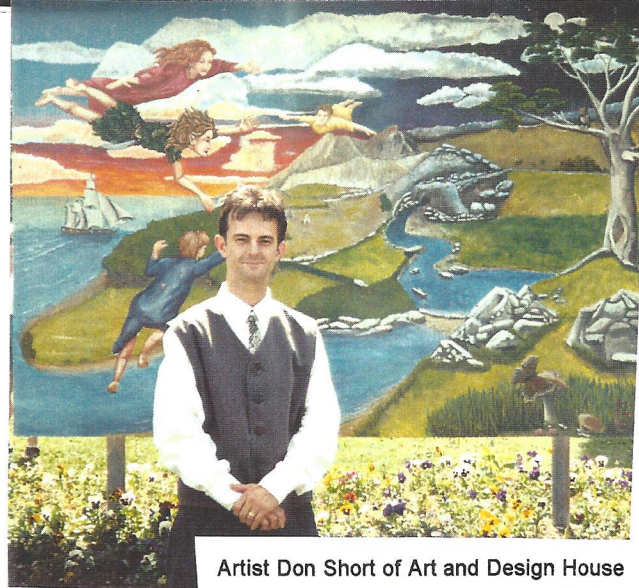


Peter Pan Day and Picnic in the Park

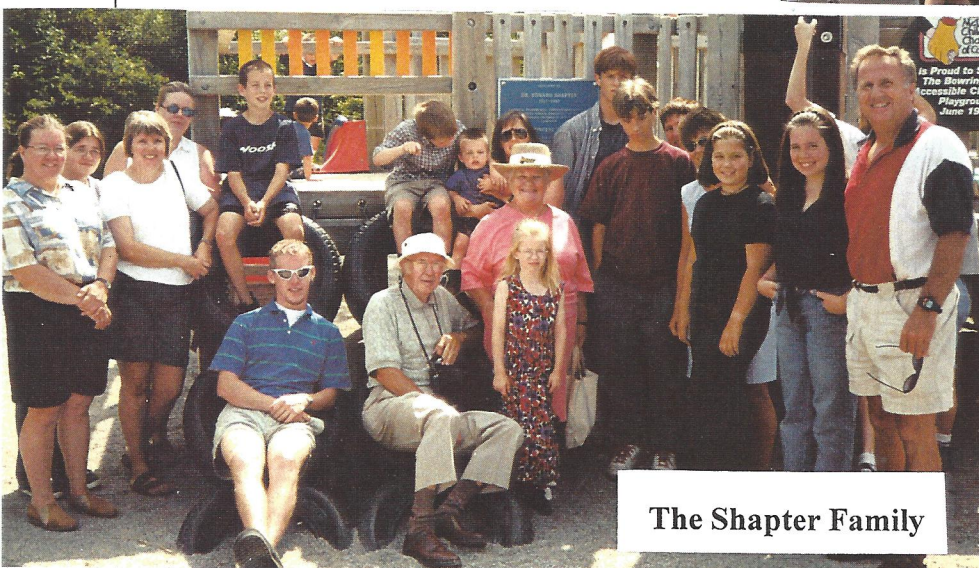
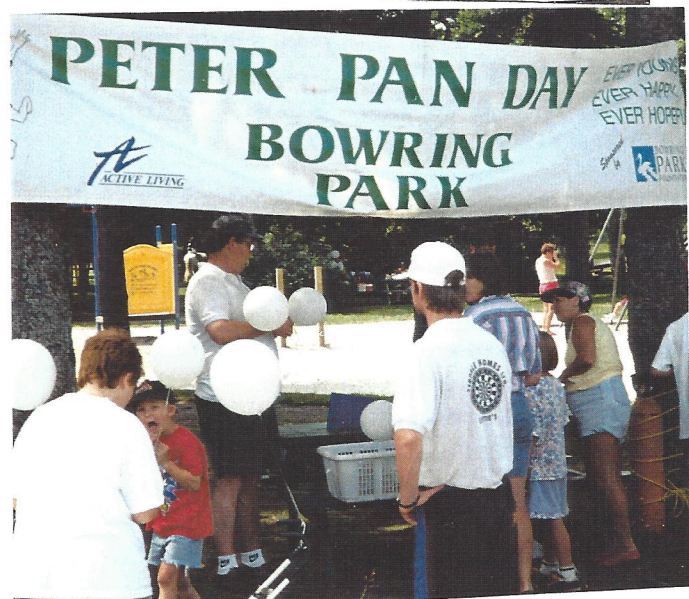
Prior to the start of the Picnic in the Park concert held on August 15th, the White Swan Club Committee hosted "Peter Pan Day". At 10 AM. **Peter Pan** (P. J. O'Leary) arrived and the day got started with games and prizes for the children. Face painting, balloons, free Pepsi and music gave the event a carnival atmosphere and with the warm sunny weather the participants had lots of fun.

Immediately following the games, **John Downton** (Chairman of the White Swan Club) dedicated the new improved, accessible playground area in memory of **Dr. Edward Shapter**, a surgeon who enhanced the lives of thousands of children.

It was now time to unveil the new mural erected on the playground and pictured on the cover. By this time the sound of music starting up on the Bungalow lawn was attracting everyone's attention and Peter Pan Day ended and the free concert began.



Artist Don Short of Art and Design House



The Shapter Family





Punters and Friends concert, August 15, 1998

PARK HISTORY (cont'd)

By Doug Crane

MONUMENTS

FIELD GUN

The sacrifices by so many Newfoundlanders during war time do not go unnoticed at Bowring Park. The Caribou, Fighting Newfoundlander, and the monument known simply as the Field Gun stand as constant reminders of the courage and heart shown by

those who fought in defence of the liberty we all enjoy. The Field Gun is located south of the Bungalow, across from the Fighting Newfoundlander, and to the immediate left of the pedestrian bridge which leads to the tennis courts. It stands as a tribute to all the Newfoundland field gunners of World War II.

The salvage and restoration of this gun coincided with "Come Home Year" in 1967. The Royal Canadian Legion Branches of Newfoundland used this theme to encourage Newfoundlanders living outside the province who had served in war time to come for a visit and partake in festivities, which included a large parade. This particular gun was discovered in Torbay by Mr. Cecil Mercer, lying forgotten and in disrepair. He persuaded Government to allow him to restore the gun to its original glory, which he did with the help of other members of the 166th Field Artillery Association.

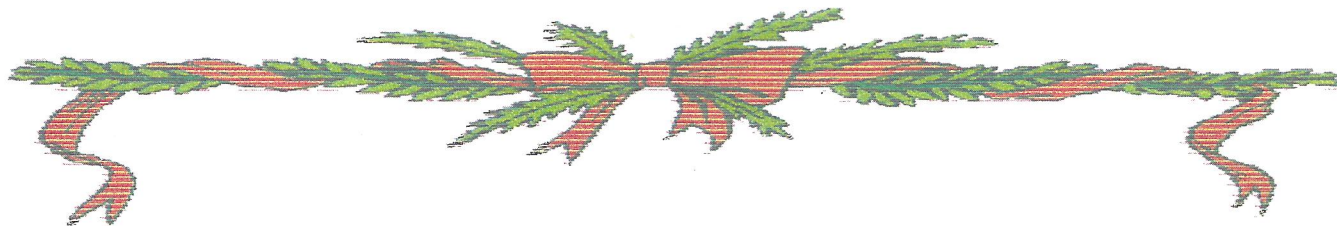
Mr. Mercer, along with Mssrs. Leo Knox, Reg Young, Frank Walsh, Ted Caines, and Reg Pye, carefully salvaged and restored the Gun, with the work being carried out at Mr. Mercer's home. The men then used it as the centrepiece of a display they entered in the Legion parade. They recreated a vividly realistic battle scene, complete with dirt and sand bags scattered around the Field Gun.

The Gun was donated to Bowring Park in September of 1967, with Mr. Mercer himself on hand for the formal dedication. The Gun was moved to City Hall in the early 1980's, but has since returned to the Park, much to the delight of our many visitors. The work of this dedicated group of men has resulted in providing a fitting tribute for their comrades, and all those who view the fruits of their labour are no doubt thankful in more ways than one.

More next time.

Editor
Associate Editor
Contributors

Ed Matthews
Jim Ronan
Mary Lou Downey
Susan O'Driscoll



GIVE THE GIFT OF BOWRING PARK

The Christmas season is upon us once again! It is a time for sharing gifts with family and friends. Why not share your love of Bowring Park by giving your family and/or friends the gift of a membership in the White Swan Club. Complete the application below and the person(s) you have chosen will receive a gift certificate from the White Swan Club along with the Club's Official pin and a membership card. As members, they will be sent the Club's Newsletters and be informed of special events which take place at the Park throughout the year. Remember, all membership fees and donations to the Bowring Park Foundation are tax deductible, therefore you will receive a receipt for income tax purposes. Membership in the White Swan Club will not only make a great gift or stocking stuffer, but it will go a long way toward ensuring that Bowring Park remains one of the most beautiful parks in all of North America.

*****Cut Here*****

WHITE SWAN CLUB GIFT CERTIFICATE APPLICATION FORM

I would like to enroll the following person(s) in the Bowring Park Foundation's White Swan Club:

NAME: _____

PAYMENT

ADDRESS: _____

A cheque for \$ _____ has been enclosed.
(Please make payable to Bowring Park Foundation Inc.)

CITY/TOWN: _____

Mail completed Application Form and Fee to:

POSTAL CODE: _____

Bowring Park Foundation
P.O. Box 39085
St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada
A1E 5Y7

TELEPHONE: _____

Telephone: (709) 576-6134
Registered Charitable # 1045525-S3

TYPE	YEARLY FEE	(X)
SENIOR	\$10.00	()
INDIVIDUAL	\$12.00	()
FAMILY	\$18.00	()

Please choose one of the following: (X)

THIS MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES DEC.31, 1999

Mail Certificate to New Member at Address given ()

Family Memberships include a maximum of 2 adults and all children 18 years of age and under. Please include the names of all additional members:

Mail Certificate to My Address below ()

ADULT: _____

NAME: _____

CHILD: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CHILD: _____

CITY/TOWN: _____

CHILD: _____

POSTAL CODE: _____

CHILD: _____