



THE COBALT LODGE

Newsletter of the Cobalt Historical Society



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P.O. Box 309

Cobalt, On P0J 1C0

“Greetings from the Historic Cobalt Mining Camp”

Where skiers, snowmobilers, fishermen and hockey buffs have all enjoyed a snow friendly winter.

The Heritage Silver Trail

As reported in Volume 7, Autumn 2004, our field work for Phase II is completed and our bills are paid. We are also hopeful of gaining access to other Historic Mine Sites such as the Silver Summit, the Lawson, and the Waldman and Provincial, if and when ownership, accessibility, liability problems are resolved. That will be Phase III!

The Classic Theatre

Presents an all new production of “The Carol Burnett Show, Part II”, on May 27th & 28th and June 3rd & 4th, 2005.

The cast of the 2003 show reunites to bring us the hilarious antics of Carol Burnett, Tim Conway, Harvey Korman and Vicki Lawrence. For more information please contact:

The Classic Theatre
P.O. Box 29, 30 Silver St., Cobalt, Ontario
P0J 1C0 Tel: (705)679-8080
Fax: (705) 679-8081 email: etheatre@nt.net
www.classictheatre.net

From President Jack

A Busy Summer Season Ahead

- Dedicating the “Willet Greene Miller Memorial Site”, which includes our new office.
- A new lapel pin is under production and all C.H.S. Members will receive one.
- The Historic Cobalt Mining Camp Project will begin with a Welcome Centre at the Cobalt Train Station. (See manager’s report which follows)

My sincere thanks to Bill Lendrum, H.S.M. Class of 1942, of Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta for the excellent photos of the old hockey arena on Miller Street.

Send us the name and address of a friend, neighbour or relative whom you think may be interested in joining the Cobalt Historic Society.

Regards,

Jack Church

And now, the report from Doug Shearer, Project Manager, Historic Cobalt Mining Camp...



Report from the Project Manager, Historic Cobalt Mining Camp

On January 18, 2005, Federal Minister of Culture Joe Camuzzi, representing FedNor and Minister of Natural Resources David Ramsay, representing the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Committee, together with MP Anthony Rota, Cobalt Mayor Andre Belanger and Coleman Twp. Reeve Colleen Belanger announced nearly 2 million dollars in funding in support of the development of the Historic Cobalt Mining Camp. Additional funding partners of this important, community-based initiative include Human Resources Skills Development Canada and the Temiskaming Fund.

This initiative is unique in that the Historic Cobalt Mining Camp is the only privately operated Historic District in Canada. The Project will be constantly breaking new ground as it moves forward.

Three staff members – Doug Shearer, Project Manager; Cyril Aucoin, Programming & Product Development Officer and Melissa Ruddy, Outreach & Marketing Officer were hired in November to guide the project through the next year. The staff have moved the project forward very quickly through a number of activities. During their first eight weeks, tenders were developed, released and awarded for a number of specialists such as historians, designers for the new Welcome Centre, market planners, business planners, an archaeologist and corporate planners. Operating under the HCMC Steering Committee, the staff have the continued assistance of consultants MacLeod-Farley & Associates.

As the consultants finish their work, the community will be invited to special sessions to hear their findings and recommendations.

Several initiatives, such as magazine ads and attending a trade show, have already been undertaken to encourage an immediate increase in the tourist traffic next summer. A new flyer is in development, changes will be forthcoming to the Cobalt web site, key flyers and other information will be produced in a bilingual format and town businesses and tour operators will be invited to participate in Superhost training.

The centerpiece of the new initiatives will be the conversion of the Cobalt train station into a combined Welcome Centre, Bunker museum and interactive exhibit area.

As the initiative moves forward throughout the year, I look forward to a continued communication with all members of the Historical Society through the Cobalt Lode.

Doug Shearer, Project Manager