



South Peace Centennial Museum

Heritage Newsletter

Open May-Mid September, 10-6 Daily



Upcoming Events

- Closed for the Season -
Old-Fashioned Christmas
December 13- 4:00-8:00

14- 1:00-8:00

15- 1:00-6:00

Come out and enjoy a classic, old-time Christmas with wagon rides, skating, caroling, live nativity, Santa visits, and more.



Latest News



- What an amazing turnout we had for our first annual Halloween event. We can't say enough about this amazing community that we are a part of. A huge thank you to our drive-in movie sponsors, our incredible trick-or-treat sponsors, and the businesses and volunteers for their generous contributions. You all made this happen. See you all again next year!
- We so appreciate everyone who came out to help split wood for our upcoming season. It is now stacked and ready for next year. What a blessing!
- If your choir group, church group, family, school choir, Sunday school, or friend group would like to be involved in the Old-Fashioned Christmas event this year, we would love to have you. We are looking to fill caroling spots with all your beautiful voices. Please email spcminfo@gmail.com to sign up!

From the Archives

Built in the early 1900s, the small log cabin referred to as 'Blair House' was built by Bill Blair 3 miles east of Hualien, just off of highway 45. In 1911, Bill Blair drove a team of oxen alone along the Athabasca Trail with his dog, leading him to homestead in the Hualien District. His brother, John, who had been searching for Bill, finally found him in 1917 when John arrived at Lake Saskatoon and began asking around. The brothers put down roots in the area and were an important part of the area's farming and trapping history.

The way that the cabin roof was built, with its steep slopes and overhang, was designed in a way to protect the logs underneath and keep them from rotting. This seems to have done its job, as the building is in exceptional condition considering it's age. In 2003, the Blair House was donated to the SPCM by the Schoepp family. As orchestrated by the Sons of Norway, the cabin was moved to the museum grounds on October 23, 2003. Since then, the Blair house has been restored and maintained by both the Sons of Norway and the South Peace Centennial Museum. It is set up as a family dwelling, with many historical pieces added, making it feel as if you just stepped inside the charm of 100 years ago. Come experience the history for yourself!



2003 - On original land

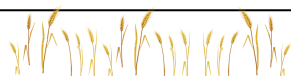


2004 - On the grounds



2024 - Present day

Heritage Recipe



Zwebback (buns)

Submitted by Madeline Parlee

3 cups scalded milk
1 cup butter (melted in milk)
2 cups water
2 tsp salt
1 pkg yeast (soaked in
1/2 cup warm water and
1 tsp sugar)

Mix all liquids in a bowl, add 6-7 cups of flour stirring to make a sticky sponge. Let rise for 1 hour then add enough flour to make a soft dough , not too sticky. Let rise until double in bulk. Punch down well again and let rise once more. Punch down well and form small buns and place on pan. Make a smaller ball and put it on top of the first bun insert finger in middle of bun pushing your finger down to the pan. This is to make them stick together (the top one may slide off a bit but don't worry they still taste good). Let rise and bake in a 375 F oven until brown.

If you have a classic, heritage recipe that you would like to share, please email it to spcminfo@gmail.com

Did you know?

Q- When good lumber was scarce on the prairies, early settlers would use this prairie resource to build their roof or sometimes their whole house.

A - Sod

Q- What women's winter fashion accessory was made of a cylinder of fur or fabric, open on both ends, and used to keep hands warm?

A - Muff

A Moment in History



Madeline Parlee was born Madeline Mary Friesen at the Grande Prairie Hospital in 1941. She grew up just south of La Glace with her 5 siblings and parents. Growing up on a farm, Madeline's responsibilities included gathering eggs, helping mom in the house, driving the tractor, and other family farm chores. She attended the Old Post School one-room school house until grade 3 when the local school houses were merged into fewer, larger schools. At that point she attended La Glace School. For high school, Madeline decided she wanted to board in Abbotsford, BC and finish up her schooling there. After 2 years of bible school in Saskatchewan, she was married and returned to the La Glace area with her husband to farm cattle and raise her 3 babies. All these years later, Madeline is a pillar in the La Glace community, her church, and within her family. She currently has 11 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

"I wish we still visited each other now like we used to. There was never a Sunday when we were young that we didn't go to someone else's house or have someone over for a visit. It was kind of nice when there was nothing open on Sundays too, because then it was never an option to go to the store or to be at work. It forced us to slow down and rest. During the week, we would always have a cake ready in case someone popped by. We always had time for others to come visit.

You know, in my dad's day, he walked behind the horses to farm. Now they can do almost a whole section in one swipe, and somehow, we still don't have any more time. Laundry used to be a full day of washing and drying, and then a full day of starching and ironing. It doesn't take so long now, but we still don't have any extra time. There's just more to do."

If you would like to share your story or nominate someone else's story, please email us at spcminfo@gmail.com.

Your memories are so important to us.