



Get Involved

Get involved with your community and help make a difference!



Rocanville Museum's unique collection needs you!

The Rocanville and District Museum was started as a vision of a few local farmers and Ernie Symons. On May 6, 1967 the Museum was registered under the Societies Act 1959, and became known as the Rocanville and District Museum Society. The Museum has evolved into a very large collection of unique artifacts from Rocanville and area.

The Museum is run solely by a few volunteers. We strive to keep the museum alive in the community and try to promote its existence and value to the community. We hold annual events and monthly markets. This year with all the Covid-19 restrictions we are in a "wait and see" mode, so we are unable to commit to our annual threshing day and market dates at this time.

The first project undertaken was to erect a quonset to house donated artifacts. It officially opened on July 1, 1967. Today it is home to tractors, stationary engines, trucks, cars and numerous small and large items. One tradition that was started originally was to hold an annual threshing day in September, usually on the second Saturday. At the time it is uncertain as to whether or not we can do this event this year. It is the museum's only fundraiser.

A very rare engine in our collection is the American Abell. It is massive in size and makes one feel very small when standing beside it. There are only four known and two of the four are in restorable condition. Rocanville Museum has one that could be restored, and the feasibility of this is being looked into. We hope to have the boiler tested soon to see if it is restorable.

We have a Japanese Fire Balloon in our collection and this is another very unique item. We also have the map showing where these were dropped. It has drawn interest from many people and we have even had people from the University of Calgary make a trip to research it.

We have two snowplanes in our collection, a Fudge and a Lorch. We hope to restore these at some time in the future.

Over the years several local buildings have been moved to the museum site and we now have 14 buildings that house artifacts that are relative to them. For example, Cambridge School is set up as a one room school which it was originally. Buildings moved to the museum include Hillburn Church 1899, Schqantz Store 1904, Cambridge School, Rocanville CPR Station, Prosperity School (the exterior is original but the interior has been converted to a museum workshop), and the Mason's Lodge Hall. A working blacksmith shop was erected on site. The Rice-Ore administration building was built on site as well. It was named after Everett Rice and Bill Ore, two of the original members of the museum. A new cold storage building is the newest building, built on site and is known as the Lockerbie-Hole Building. It's named for Lockerbie-Hole, contractors at the mine expansion who donated scrap wire from the expansion to the museum. The funds from the sale of this wire were used to construct the building.

Ernie Symons was instrumental in starting the museum and donated many items to the collection. He is well known for his famous Symon's Oil Cans. The building that he used to manufacture these oil cans still stands today. It has a unique, almost one-of-a-kind saw-tooth roof.

The museum has a large number of the last production of oil cans and we sell them at the museum as individual cans or in sets

of four.

Our museum members were able to take part in two Harvest for Hunger world record attempts for the most threshing outfits working at the same time. These events took place at Austin, Manitoba and Langenburg, Saskatchewan. Austin achieved a world record at the time. It was a bit of a challenge to get our equipment to Austin but we managed to do it and were part of the world record.

We hire summer students each year. This enables us to be open full time for July and August. Other times we are available by appointment and welcome all visitors. Many unique artifacts are on display at the museum and we strive to preserve the history of Rocanville and area so that everyone can connect to the past. We welcome new members and encourage anyone interested to become involved with the museum. We invite everyone to visit us and experience and explore how life has evolved over the past years.

A BACKWARD GLANCE

These interesting facts were printed in the front of an old cookbook from 1950:

We are always being urged to look forward but let us pause here and look backward briefly to the days when Rocanville has it's beginning.

- The first settlers came to the district in 1882-1883. Some of these included F.W. Pinkess, H. Thistle, F. Horsely, J. Logan, A.H.R. Bastien, Kinghorns and three Reavie brothers. Mrs. Jim Logan was the first woman settler in 1883.

- In August 1902, the village was started by Mr. S. Schwanz and his brother building the first general store in the middle of what is now Main Street.

- In 1902, the CPR Railway extended through Rocanville to Tantallon. Mac McDonald was the first agent.

- The village was named after A.H. Rocan De Bastien who was the first postmaster and Justice of Peace. He came into the village in 1903. The post office was in his house. The house is now occupied by Jack Kinghorn.

- The first lumber yard was built and operated in 1902 by J.E. Walker.

- In 1902, A. Cameron built his general store on the site where the Farmer's Building now stands.

- In 1903, the first livery barn was built and operated by Sid Jennings.

- In 1903, the first elevator was built on the site where the cenotaph now stands with the J. Jensen, the first agent.

- 1903, the first machine shop was built and operated by John Beattie on the site of Plummer's Hardware.

- The first blacksmith shop was owned and operated by William Harrison.

- In 1904, the village was incorporated with A.H. Rocan De Bastien as overseer and was known as the village of Rocanville in the district of Assiniboia, NWT. This was changed to Saskatchewan in 1905.

- In 1903, the first school which is now known as the Fire Hall was built on the site of the large brick school. It was opened February 1, 1904 with Miss Bertha Gessner as the first teacher. This served the community until the brick school was built in 1909 and the Kindergarten School in 1922.

- In 1903, the first butcher shop was operated by Doyle and Cameron and they had their first slaughterhouse on the lots where Mrs. S. Reavie now resides.

- In 1904, the first bake shop was opened by J. Stewart.

- The first harness shop was owned by F.M. Barrett.

- The first doctor was Dr. Bell, who built the first drug store in 1904 with C.L. Smith as druggist.

- The first restaurant was operated by J.J. Casselman.

- The hotel was built in 1904 by Wm. Fletcher.

- Rev. Marshall, Baptist minister from Moosomin, conducted the first church

services in the A.C. Cameron store.

- The first resident minister was Rev. Neil Morrison in 1904.

- The Methodist and Presbyterian churches were the first churches erected in 1903.

- In 1905, the first pool-room was opened by J.K. Schmidt.

- The first jeweller was Webster Widdess.

- In 1907, the first bank (Union) was opened.

- IN 1907, the Anglican Church meetings were first held and the church built in 1911.

- The Oddfellow's Lodge was chartered in August 1907.

- The Masonic Lodge was chartered June 17, 1910.

- The Rebekah Lodge was chartered January 3, 1912.

- The first Town Hall was over the post office. After it was moved to the Schafer Building.

- The Oddfellow's Hall was built in 1911.

In the foregoing notes we make no claim to have mentioned all the fine pioneers and we ask you to bear with us where space has restricted this humble narrative. However, in 1950, let us look backwards with love and pride and forward to a Rocanville just as fine as our grand old pioneers could have dreamed possible.



Above: An American Abell.

Left: A Japanese fire balloon.

FOR SALE:
Symon's Oil Cans

The Rocanville Museum will be opening for summer!
July - August
Monday - Saturday
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday
1 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Rocanville Museum Day
Pending Covid 19
SHA Regulations

COME OUT & ENJOY:
• PANCAKE BREAKFAST
• DEMONSTRATIONS OF PIONEER LIFE
• THRESHING DEMONSTRATION (1 P.M.)
• ENTERTAINMENT
• BBQ BEEF SUPPER

New members and volunteers welcome!
Donations of artifacts pertaining to the Rocanville area also welcome

UPCOMING MARKETS
Pending Covid 19
SHA Regulations

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK FOLLOW US ON TWITTER
AT: ROCANVILLEMUSE

For more information call the Museum at 306-645-2113 or 306-645-2164

We gratefully acknowledge our funders:

Saskatchewan **LOTTERIES**





Moosomin & District Health Care Foundation

We are a charitable organization working throughout the Moosomin area to raise funds to support programs and fund priority medical equipment for the South East Integrated Care Centre.

Your donations make a difference

Every year the Moosomin & District Health Care Foundation contributes thousands of dollars to fund equipment for our health care facility from your generous donations for Emergency, Inpatient, Lab and X-ray, Long-Term Care, Long Term Care Activities, Palliative Care and specialized training. Year after year the Moosomin & District Health Care Foundation is able to meet the annual priority equipment needs of the South East Integrated Care Centre. As an organization, we take these priority needs very seriously to avoid a disruption in any services that are offered from our health care facility. The continual support from our donors is paramount to our health care! The South East Integrated Care Centre provides 85 beds which are comprised of Long Term Care, Palliative and Acute care.

We have equipment needs all year round that need your support – donate today to make a difference!



Reasons to Donate / Special Occasions

IN MEMORY:

To honor the memory of a relative, friend, co-worker

BEQUESTS:

Planned giving is a lasting tribute to you.

SPECIAL OCCASIONS:

Tribute gifts such as birthdays, special occasions, thank you, anniversaries, weddings, retirement, Christmas etc.

PERSONAL:

A personal donation to the Foundation shows your support for health care interests

HOST A PARTY WITH PURPOSE

Ways to Donate

- At the South East Integrated Care Centre front desk
- At Conexus Credit Union, Moosomin Branch
- At RBC, Moosomin Branch
- Online through CanadaHelps.org
- Box 1470, Moosomin, SK S0G 3N0



**WE ♥ OUR
FRONTLINE WORKERS**

When you make a donation, you'll help to purchase priority equipment needs.



Get Involved

Get involved with your community and help make a difference!



Moosomin Thrift Store and Food Share We'd love to have you join our family!

The Moosomin Thrift Store & Food Share would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to individuals and businesses, that have helped us out over the years, especially this past year.

Like all businesses, we have had to change a few things around this past year to make it safe for our customers and our volunteers. Since Covid made an appearance, we were forced to shut our store down for two and a half months.

Since re-opening in June, we've been operating at reduced hours. We are now open for shopping Monday to Thursday from 12 pm to 5 pm. On Fridays, we are closed for shopping but we do accept donation drop offs from 12 pm to 5 pm.

Because of the regulations, we have to let the clothing sit for 72 hours before they can be sorted. We wash all the houseware items as they come in so they can be displayed asap. We have placed hand-washing stations as well as put barriers and 6 feet apart signs on the flooring to keep everyone safe.

One good thing to come out of Covid is that we are now accepting debit and Visa/MasterCard! We were able to purchase a Clover machine so there is no need to only carry cash now!

The Thrift Store and Food Share relies on the community and surrounding areas for donations. That is how we are able to keep the doors open and the shelves stocked! If you haven't been in our store lately, we highly encourage you to come have a look around.

We have been so fortunate to have been approved for various grants which let us move forward with many projects. Thanks to Nutrien, we were able to put new flooring down in the store. From Food Banks Canada, we were able to follow through on getting a dishwasher, new water heater and a water softener installed as well as a stand-up freezer for the Food Share. From the Government of Canada, we were able to get refunded for our students that are working here part time and also employ two additional part-time students for 12 weeks. From the RM



From left: Volunteers Shirley Lindsay, Sharon Beutler, Wendy Lynd, and Tracy Boutin sorting clothing at the Thrift Store.

of Martin and the RM of Moosomin, we were able to get two grants to help us with some Covid measures. From Enbridge and Food Banks Canada we were able to get new tables for our Food Share, stock our shelves, and be able to buy fresh produce for our monthly hampers. We were also fortunate to receive grants from SaskEnergy and Community Foundations of Canada.

Every little bit helps when receiving these grants, and with them covering the costs of our projects, we were able to donate to a few things in our local community as well! We donated \$10,000 to our local Fire Department, to the SCC Holiday Feast, sponsored the 2021 McNaughton Yearbook, helped out our local day-cares with food purchases, and we gave to the com-

munity Easter egg hunt. We also acknowledge that we wouldn't be able to give away these donations to our community without the help of our amazing volunteers. They are the reason this store is the way it is and why we are able to operate so smoothly. They are the backbone and the front of this operation and we cannot tell them in words how much we appreciate all that they do.

From taking donations and sorting them, from helping customers and ringing through purchases on the till, from organizing displays to cleaning, there is a never ending to-do list and somehow each one of them puts a dent in it every day! We have such a good rapport with everyone and it is such a joy to come to

the store and work alongside these ladies and gentlemen every day!

If you are looking for ways to give back to your community and want to get outside of your house, please come down and fill out an application to become a volunteer! We are always looking for new volunteers and we want you to come down and see what all the excitement is about!

I swear, we are becoming one of the busiest stores in town! Keep an eye on our Facebook page and Instagram page to be in the know of our weekly sales and remember that every Wednesday is bag day. For only \$10 you can fill a bag of clothes (mens, womens and kids).

If you are wanting to know more about our organization, are wanting to volunteer, or are wanting to make a monetary donation, please come down to see us at our location at 609 Gordon Street, Moosomin; phone Samantha Campbell at 306-435-2633 or email me at sehas2018@sasktel.net or leave us a message on our Facebook page or Instagram page - Moosomin Thrift Store. If you are wanting to mail us, our address is P.O. Box 1803, Moosomin, SK or you can e-transfer us at sehas2018@sasktel.net.

We would love to have you join our Thrift Store family!



Moosomin Thrift Store and Food Share employee Jaedyn Moore, left, and volunteer Marilyn Klinger, right.



Thrift Store  Food Share

SEHAS

609 Gordon Street
Moosomin, SK

306-435-2633

sehas2018@sasktel.net

Administrator:

Samantha Campbell: 306-435-2633

To book an ad in our upcoming **Fall Get Involved** feature, please call 306-435-2445 or email world_spectator@sasktel.net

THE WORLD-Spectator