



IN THE NEWS

December 2016

Christmas Traditions at “The Farm”

For many, Christmas is a time to spend with family and friends. For some, it is more difficult, dredging up memories or simply reminding them that they do not have family to share the season.

At Bonny Lea Farm, some traditions have evolved, which elevate everyone's spirits. We are fortunate to have a personal visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, AKA Stuart Carver and Linda Allen. For the past 10 years, Santa and Mrs. Claus have brought joy to the participants by dropping in for a party and presenting each participant with a gift, making sure no one is left out. They raise funds throughout the year by hosting pool tournaments, which they then use to purchase the gifts. They truly are magic.

On the work side, many of the participants and staff are busy preparing products for local Christmas markets. This year we were at the Father Christmas Gourmet Food Market, the Chester Victorian Christmas and the Chester Artisan and Farmers Christmas Market.

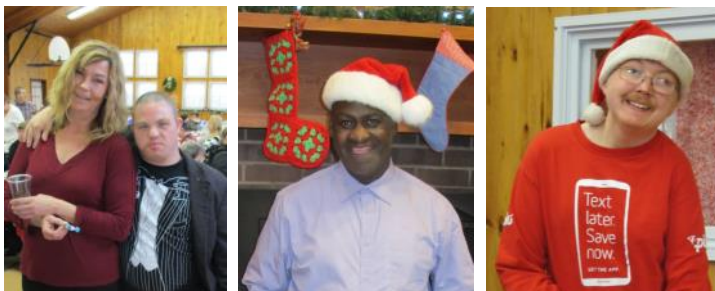
Wishing you the very best this Christmas and all the year through.

Christmas Dinner brings together participants, families, staff, Board and association members as well as some community members. For many of us it signals the true beginning of the Christmas season. It is something that the participants look forward to with great anticipation. This year's dinner hosted a record number of guests who were delighted with the festive decorations, scrumptious turkey dinner and singing of a Christmas Medley chosen by the participants themselves.

We also make an effort to “give back” at Christmas. For many years the staff at Bonny Lea Farm have provided two families with Christmas hampers, containing everything needed for Christmas dinner and a few special treats.

Some participants have already left to go home with family. Others will leave next week. And still others, will spend Christmas at “The Farm”.

From all of us, to all of you, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the very best for the new year.



Annual Fund Drive

Our Annual Fund Drive is on now. If you haven't received a package and would like to, please call Liz at 902-275-5622 ext 241 or go to: www.bonnyleafarm.ca and click “Donate Now”.

“Every now and then miracles happen. For us, it's been Bonny Lea Farm. At my age it gives me great comfort to know that Catherine is happy and has a place she calls home.”

- Tom, Catherine's father

Personal & Professional Achievements

Each year three participants are presented with awards recognizing achievements over the past year. Two of the awards are presented by staff, the third is nominated by participants.

Sonya Joudrey received the Powers' Trophy, awarded to a participant who has demonstrated significant personal achievement. Staff noted that she has made progress in expressing herself and communicating more effectively with others, as well as an increased willingness to try new things and sharing her sense of humour and smile.

The McClung Trophy is presented to a participant who has made achievements in the workplace. Anton Voegle was recognized as having started in a new work crew where he is excelling and seems content, becoming one of the strongest workers in the crew.

The participants nominate one of their peers for their spirit, humour and contribution to life at Bonny Lea Farm in honour of former participant, Huey Barkhouse. This year the participants selected Laurie Anne Hughes to receive this award. Laurie Anne felt very honoured to receive the award.

The dinner is also an opportunity to pay tribute to staff for long-service as well as any who are retiring. Natasha Hennigar was recognized for 20 years of service as residential counsellor, while Mike Joudrey was given good wishes for his retirement after 24 years as residential counsellor. Congratulations everyone!

Planning for Today & Tomorrow

On November 21 the Board of Directors and management team met to map out what is working well and what we may need to consider in the short, medium and long-term.

While it is not the first time we have taken steps to develop a strategic plan for Bonny Lea Farm, it is the first time that the Board of Directors and management team members have met jointly for this purpose.

We will share more about this in the new year.

Giving Made Easy

Annual Fund Drive - On Now!

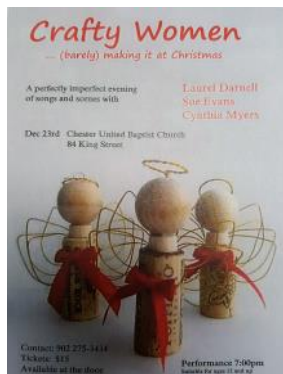
Mail in or visit www.bonnyleafarm.ca

United Way Campaign - Now!

Name South Shore Community Service Association (Bonny Lea Farm) as your charity of choice for your workplace United Way campaign. Our charitable number is: BN# 11915 8459 RR0001

Tribute Gifts - Anytime

This Christmas consider giving a tribute gift to someone who has "everything". Visit www.bonnyleafarm.ca and go to Ways to Give or call Liz at 902-275-5622 ext. 241.



HOLD THE DATE!

December 23

"Crafty Women...Barely Making It At Christmas" - fundraiser for Bonny Lea Farm presented by Cynthia Myers, Laurel Darnell & Sue Evans hosted by Chester United Baptist Church—ages 12+.
Event starts at 7:00pm. Tickets \$15 at the door.

December 23-January 3

Day Program and Businesses closed for Christmas Holiday

Good Times Gallery



Anton and Sonya receiving their awards from Stacey; Laurie Anne receiving the Huey Barkhouse Award;

Philippe shaving off Jason's Movember beard. Jason raised \$35 for prostate cancer!

Benefit pool tournament winners, Matthew Cassidy and Greg Kaye second place and Shauna Boyle and Bernie Terris shared first place. The tournament organized by 90 year old Stuart Carver (AKA Santa Claus), raises funds for Bonny Lea Farm and Kings Meadow.