

Reflections 1684: a question of 17th century time

History leaps to life during Reflections 1648, at Midland's Sainte-Marie among the Hurons, Aug. 6-10. Traditional guided tours will be suspended during the week of Reflections as costumed historical interpreters assume the personalities of those who lived and worked at the mission in 1648.

Visitors will be greeted and prepared for their first-person Reflections experience ahead of time. Then they will be free to follow their imaginations through the palisade gate and into Sainte-Marie as it was in the fall of 1648 - a community of priests, native people, lay workers and a few soldiers. Ontario's first European settlement throbbed with life and hope in 1648; few foresaw the tragedy that was to befall the mission in the coming months.

Says Sharon Armstrong, Sainte-Marie's interpretive and education officer, "Reflections gives the visitor a real opportunity to step into another century as our interpreters try to live the day-to-day struggle that was life at Sainte-Marie in 1648."

First person portrayals are based on research, private study and imaginings. Interpreters choose the historical personages whom they wish to portray.

Interpreter Tim Braund chose two roles.

"I will play Father Noel Chabanel and Ambrose Brouet, who was cook and later laybrother at Sainte-Marie. The two personalities balanced each other."

Tim's research indicates that Father Chabanel was an interesting personality. Says Tim: "He somehow never felt as if he quite fit in here at Sainte-Marie. Although he was a classical scholar, he couldn't get his tongue around the Huron language. He tried but he never truly felt comfortable with native customs and foods, yet he made a vow to stay here until he was martyred."

There is little information on Ambrose Brouet, but Tim has put a lot of thought into the kind of man he must have been. "I like the visual interest in the cookhouse," he says, "and I like to prepare food for my friends. I think I have a feeling for this man from France who used what was available - corn, a duck, some pork on special occasions - to feed those who lived here."

Interpreters also study the France and New France of the 17th century. This insight gives their Reflections 1648 added depth.

There were no European women at Sainte-Marie in 1648 but Reflections visitors may meet a costumed gentlewoman busily plying her needle in a quiet corner of the Sainte-Marie museum. Her role is to provide insight into the life of 17th century France and New France. Nicole Couture will play that role several times during Reflections.

She will also be on site some of the time, wearing her 20th century H.H.P. tour guide uniform. In that role she will provide a link

between past and present. Says Nicole, "If a visitor asks a question that a 17th century Frenchman or native person could not answer, we will bridge the gap to assist the visitor and maintain the validity of the Reflections experience."

Tim and Nicole say participation in Reflections provides stimulation and refreshment to their jobs as historical interpreters. "It provides a challenge," says Tim. "We begin to take a fresh look at our jobs." Certainly the annual

Reflections event stirs the imagination of visitors who have the opportunity to talk to actual historical personages.

Sainte-Marie among the Hurons is on Highway 12 just east of Midland, Ontario. Travellers and local friends are all invited to visit the historic site between Aug. 6 and 10 when the barriers of time will be erased.

By all means bring a camera, but don't be surprised if the 17th century men and women you meet don't know what it is!



On final approach

Two Labatt's Blue aerial balloons were photographed just prior to their landing early Sunday evening off Highway 93 less than one kilometre south of Yonge Street. Both had taken

off earlier in the evening from Penetanguishene where they had taken part in Penetanguishene Rotary Club's wrap-up to this year's Great Penetanguishene Fish Hunt '84.

Craft people have a treat in store for 'em at museum

Craft people, and those interested in the methods used to produce quilts, have a treat in store for them over the next couple of weeks when they will be able to see the quilting operation in progress at Huronia Museum.

Members of Simcoe County Arts and Crafts Association, in connection with their Inspiration Thor Hansen display have set up a quilt in the Museum auditorium and through the next couple of weeks will be working at quilting the piece.

Hilda Sibthorpe, who is in charge of the quilting project says she doesn't know exactly how many will be working on it, but she is quite confident there will be at least two at any one time work is in progress. This demonstration will provide an insight into how several of the craftwork pieces on display have been created.

Besides a couple of quilts, the display includes Thor Hansen designs produced through several types of needlework and rug hooking, along with a ceramic creation and a suncatcher.

There are also five original pieces of interior decoration which Thor created from the British American Oil head office building on Toronto, (now Gulf Oil.) These pieces are on loan from the oil company.

Steven J.T. Godry
D.C., B.Sc.

wishes to announce his associateship with

W. Reg Nicholson
D.C. M.X.R.P.(cert), D.T.(R.)

for the practice of chiropractic at the

MIDLAND CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC

422 King St. Midland Ont.
open: Monday - Saturday

call:

526-6221-526-9110

Museum

open daily

Huron Museum is located in Little Lake Park, and is open daily from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and from 11 to 5:30 p.m. on Sunday.

Parks Canada
Parcs Canada

open house

To discuss the proposed camping and docking policies for Georgian Bay Islands National Park

Sunday, August 5
-at the Visitor Centre, Cedar Spring
-1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 11
-at the Honey Harbour office
-1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Come and discuss your comments with Park Management

Canada

290 King St., Midland

GIANETTO'S

OF MIDLAND
YOUR FRIENDLY GREENGROCER

526-2761

Prod. of Ont. SWEET CORN 6/99¢	Prod. of Ont. "Fresh" MUSHROOMS \$4.16 kg
BLACK FOREST HAM \$3.99 lb \$8.78 kg	Schneiders' Medium, Old & Marble CHEDDAR CHEESES \$3.99 lb \$8.78 kg
Fruit Baskets Prod. of California "Seedless" GREEN GRAPES \$1.19 lb \$2.62 kg	Party Trays Prod. of Ont. ROMAINE 59¢ Head
Prod. of Columbia BANANAS 45¢ lb 99¢ kg	Prod. of Ont. "SEEDLESS" ENGLISH CUCUMBERS 49¢
Prod. of Ont. CAULIFLOWER \$1.29	POTATO SALAD \$1.29 lb \$2.84 kg
Schneiders' Medium, Old & Marble CHEDDAR CHEESES \$3.99 lb \$8.78 kg	

CIVIC HOLIDAY SPECIALS