

Stepping Back in Time: Reliving History - Oct. 5-6, 2019

DKG-NB appreciates the sponsorship of this professional development cross-border conference by the DKG Educational Foundation.

On a day displaying a natural tapestry of brilliant hues of red, yellow and orange, DKG members from DKG-NB and DKG-Maine met for a social gathering at the *Acorn Restaurant* in Prince William, NB. DKG-NB hosted the event and welcomed members from Maine and our Area Representative Canada – Betty Rose from Alberta.

Following lunch, we proceeded to *Kings Landing*, an historical village with citizens working in character of the past. We followed paths either on foot or on a wagon through natural autumn art. It was a performance of sunshine, dancing leaves, mooing cows, bleating sheep, and trotting horses as we visited historical houses and met several friendly people in character. We relived NB history through stories from our guides and people-in-roles in buildings in the village. History indeed came alive.

Our banquet at the *Fredericton Inn* served forty-two attendees. Our meal was delicious and we certainly enjoyed the presentation by our first guest speaker Jacques Poitras, CBC political reporter and author of five non-fiction books. With assistance from his son Zachary, he presented the history involving changes in the boundary of NB and Maine. The boundary had several changes over the years and has created several complications from the past to present day. Our second speaker M. Anne Mitton, a DKG sister from Beta Chapter, Fredericton, shared *Reflections of New Brunswick* that highlighted stories from her own personal experiences relating to NB Inventions and Historical “Firsts”.

Our Professional Development session involved all DKG members in small group discussions on relevant topics, such as membership, member participation, leadership, mentorship, and fund-raising. The information gained and shared are valuable sources of information and suggestions that we will take back to all our chapters.

We were welcomed on Sunday by Doreen Armstrong, board member of the *School Days' Museum*. We explored educational artifacts, books, desks, and displays of early teaching- training in NB. We re-lived memories of our past education by travelling back in time to how we were taught and our own educational experiences. This museum experience enriched our belief that, as Robert Penn Warren, American poet and novelist, stated *..History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future.*

DKG neighbouring members of New Brunswick, Canada, and Maine, United States, two countries sharing one border, joined in fellowship and learning for a marvellous weekend and we are looking forward to future cross-border conferences.

Dianne Caron, Conf. Chair