

Maritime Trip Day 20 September 11, 2010 54 degrees F, mostly sunny

It seems quite odd to be remembering 9-11 from a foreign country, but people here remember it, too. We had a wonderful picnic breakfast with the red squirrel visiting for another free handout! How some creatures do adapt to human invasion!

Bill and Wayne picked up our rent-a-wreck (2004 Chevy Impala) and we set off to explore the nearest town of Baddeck (Baaaah-deck). It has Scottish heritage. The Old Post Office & Customs House dates back to 1859 and is constructed of sandstone with a copper & slate high-hipped roof. The clock was donated to the village in 1912.

Just outside of Baddeck is the Alexander Graham Bell (1847-1922) National Historic Site. He was quite the inventor and creator! We all know about the telephone but he also invented (1) the audiometer—a device to detect hearing loss; (2) the hydrofoil boat setting marine speed records; (3) the "Silver Dart" airplane—the 1st controlled powered flight in Canada; (4) the photophone; (5) founded the National Geographic Society and the Aerial Experiment Association; (6) improved the telegraph and the phonograph; (7) taught Helen Keller and many other deaf students to speak. His wife Mabel was the love of his life and financed many of these projects as well as assisted in many of them. They built a mansion in the area which is still in the family and private. This museum was well done and quite informative!

Driving along highway 105 was scenic; we watched a ferry take cars across the channel—a five minute ride! Lunch was fish & chips at the Englishtown Bus Cafe—a red English double-decker bus! The temperature has been dropping all day as the drizzle turned to rain. The local Co-op grocery store gave us the opportunity to restock a few items. We knew it was a small town when this "big" store in town closed at 5:00! A Yarn Shoppe gave Lorene the chance to purchase yarn for a scarf and the local Bakery gave us all a chance to enjoy tea and sweets before heading back to the campground for a light supper and dominoes. (Lorene won overall!)