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# History NOW

No. 3  
July 1999



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## Treaty 8 Commemoration

by Colleen Heffernan

The experience of the Treaty 8 Commemoration was indeed an embarrassment of riches. So many concerned and thoughtful groups and individuals brought the fruits of their labour to Grouard that participants were offered an incredible range of ideas and experiences.

It was a move from the intellectual to the intuitive, for example, to listen to the conference presentation on the Treaty 8 provision to hold land in severalty (by individuals outside of 'reserve lands') and then to walk outside where the round dancers moved to the rhythm of the drums, the singers' voices a call to the heart.

The careful and painstaking assembly of Métis scrip records by the students of the School of Native Studies is a gift beyond measure to the people who attended the research workshops on genealogy and community history—a gift exemplified by Norma Collins' passionate and thorough investigation of the journey of one piece of scrip.

The difficulties, discussed in the academic conference, of bringing together the European written record of history with the oral history of First Nations people were focused for me in the research workshop on northern history. A participant who had spend years tracing her family tree found that her ancestors were recorded under many different surnames, depending on the language spoken either by the person creating the written record or by the person translating. Her family appeared as Wolf (English), Loup (French), Tchunne (Beaver) and Mahekan and Mahegan (Cree), although they were one family.

The image of the hundreds of dancers participating in the grand entry of the Pow Wow will stay in my mind's eye for a long time. Each costume was an individual work of art, no two alike, and yet joined together, a commemoration of what has happened over the last 100 years, and I think, a celebration of who they are together.

continued Page 4

## HSA Pin

The Historical Society of Alberta pin is available.



You can pick it up from the office or mail your cheque or money order in the amount of \$5 plus \$.50 postage and handling to:

The Historical Society of Alberta  
Box 4035, Station C  
Calgary, AB. T2T 5M9  
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## 1899 CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE

Grouard, Alberta • June 17-21, 1999



Chief Kocoshayo addressing the Treaty Commission at Lesser Slave Lake, 1899

A CONFERENCE IN COMMEMORATION OF THE INITIAL SIGNING OF TREATY #8 & THE DISTRIBUTION OF SCRIP IN 1899

Residents of Lesser Slave Lake, c.1900  
TAA #2427

The Historical Society of Alberta is a registered charitable organization.

Donations are gratefully received to help further the work of the Society which includes the publication of *Alberta History* and this newsletter, *History Now*. Donations are tax deductible and will be acknowledged in *History Now*, unless otherwise requested.

*History Now* is published quarterly. We welcome information about your upcoming or past events, activities, publications, etc. They should be in the hands of the editor prior to deadline.

**Submission deadlines:**

- Mar 1 for Apr-Jun issue
- Jun 1 for Jul-Sep issue
- Sep 1 for Oct-Dec issue
- Dec 1 for Jan-Mar issue

**Send copy to:**

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Editor, *History Now*,  
Historical Society of Alberta  
#325, 304 8th Avenue SW  
Calgary, AB T2P 1C2  
Phone: 403-261-3662  
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1998-1999**

- |                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| President          | Marianne Fedori |
| 1st Vice President | Ron Williams    |
| 2nd Vice President | Sarah Carter    |
| 3rd Vice President | Carly Stewart   |
| Treasurer          | Geoff Wilson    |
| Secretary          | Val Jobson      |
| Past President     | Sheila Johnston |

**Committees:**

*Alberta History* Editor Hugh Dempsey  
*History Now* Editor Sherring Amsden

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## Welcome to new members

Joyce Penley, Calgary  
Audrey Call, Calgary  
Kenneth J. Tyler, Vancouver  
Adele Lytle, Calgary  
Luke Kurata, Red Deer  
PanCanadian Petroleum Limited, Calgary  
Paul J. Smith, Calgary  
Susan Blanchard, Calgary  
David Smith, Red Deer  
Theresa A. Ferguson, Edmonton  
Wm & Dora Corbett, Calgary  
Kendy Bentley, Calgary  
Marlene Mackie, Calgary  
Murray Miller, Edmonton  
Doug Walker, Calgary  
Barbara Swinton, Red Deer  
Judy Henry, Alix  
Maurice F.V. Doll, Edmonton  
Garth Clarke, Red Deer  
Sally Jennings, Calgary  
Olympic Heights School Library, Calgary

Neil Watson, Calgary  
Bonnie Laing, Calgary  
High Prairie & District Museum &  
Historical Society, High Prairie  
Audrey Good, Calgary  
Jim Tagg, Lethbridge  
Walter Stewart, Lethbridge  
Harvey Van Heinden, Fort Macleod  
Dennis Shigematsu, Lethbridge  
Eileen Matteotti, Lethbridge  
Lawrence Papworth, Magrath  
Erwin Schultz, Lethbridge  
Diane Dirk, Lethbridge  
A.A. Chervinski, Lethbridge  
Monty Smith, Lethbridge  
D.R. Lingard, Baton Rouge, LA  
Lloyd Pederson, Lethbridge  
Charles Lanier, Lethbridge  
Tim Johnston, St. Albert  
Dr. K. Warren Geiger, Calgary

## Thank You for Your Donation

Ronald & Bernadette Nowell  
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Dorothy G. McElroy  
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Mr. & Mrs. Bern Roe  
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**Thank you for your donation of back issues of *Alberta History***

- Sheila Daly

Handwritten notes:  
142  
7.6  
852  
994  
1079.2

## Membership/Subscription Application

Name:	_____
Address:	_____
City:	_____
Prov:	_____
Postal Code:	_____
Telephone:	_____
Individual:	\$25;
Families:	\$30
Is this a renewal?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
My particular interest in Alberta's heritage is	_____
My occupations is/was	_____
I would like to assist The Historical Society of Alberta	<input type="checkbox"/>

# President's Report

by Sheila Johnston

Our new President, Marianne Fedori, has graciously suggested that I write this last letter to finish off my "term" as your President. I appreciate the opportunity to give you a final report, and to say thank you for your support.

First, I would like to express appreciation to those of you who were able to attend the HSA Annual General Meeting, held along with the academic conference in Grouard June 17-19. The Conference, held in conjunction with the Treaty 8 commemorative events, was an interesting, enlightening and successful event. Congratulations go to the Edmonton and District Chapter for sponsoring the conference and to David Leonard and his committee for all the arrangements. Being able to share some of the events of the Treaty 8 commemoration was a special bonus for those attending. My husband, Wes, and I stayed over and took in the ceremonies on Monday, June 21, the day of the re-enactment, and enjoyed that very much. (In spite of my sun-burned face!).

At the Annual Meeting we had reports and financial statements for the year ending March 31, 1999. If you would like a copy of the Annual report, please let the office know, and Margaret will get one out to you. Mark Rasmussen, of the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation (AHRF) was the guest speaker at the meeting, and gave us a good overview of how he sees heritage activities in the province in the next few years. AHRF provides us with a substantial yearly grant (\$51,450) to support our work, which we much appreciate. So, it was good to hear how we fit in to the provincial heritage community from Mark's perspective. Earlier in June, we were invited to make a presentation to the AHRF Board at its quarterly meeting in Lethbridge. We appreciated this opportunity to increase the Board's awareness of our publications, projects and activities, and the support of Bob Shore and Carly Stewart who added the perspective of chapter projects and activities to our report.

## The Handing Over of the Gavel 1999 AGM

### L to R Backrow:

Carly Stewart,  
Ron Williams,  
Geoff Wilson,

### Front row:

Val Jobson,  
Sheila Johnston,  
Marianne Fedori  
& Murray Miller



The two major issues which had to be dealt with at the Annual meeting were the changes to the membership/subscription fee schedules which you will see outlined elsewhere in the newsletter, (p. 4) and two small changes to the by-laws, one as a result of the fee schedule change. The new by-laws provide for every member to receive the quarterly newsletter, subscribers will receive the quarterly journal. Hopefully, all those who are now members will become both members and subscribers, which will give you the same benefits you now enjoy.

Special thanks were extended at the Annual Meeting and the Banquet to both Kathryn Ivany and Fred Holberton, who were retiring after many years of service to the Council and to HSA. We will miss their wisdom, experience and expertise. We were sorry that Anne Waters could not continue as Secretary.

We also elected new officers and members to the Council: Ron Williams as First Vice President, Sarah Carter as Second Vice-President, Val Jobson as Secretary, Geoff Wilson as Treasurer, and Murray Miller and Farley Wuth as directors at large.

The Alberta Heritage Alliance activities were highlighted by the May provincial Roundtable of heritage groups from across the province. You will be hearing more of their activities as time goes on.

Our new Centennials Committee, under the leadership of Marianne Fedori, has begun to look at possibilities and proposals for the many celebrations and anniversaries coming up between now and our HSA centennial in 2007.

Once again, grateful thanks must go to all those whose efforts provide us with our publications. To Hugh Dempsey who quietly and faithfully edits our quarterly *Alberta History*. To Sherring Amsden who keeps us all up to date through editing *History Now*. To David Jones and the members of the Alberta Records Publication Board, for once again publishing a very fine documentary book, *On the North Trail*. One of the hopes for the coming year is a comprehensive review of all our publishing ventures, to provide us with direction for the coming years.

This is my opportunity to express my deep thanks and appreciation to the many people who have been and continue to be,

## President's Report

continued from p. 3

by Sheila Johnston

supportive of the work of HSA, and of the President. First, thanks must go to Margaret Waite, our office co-ordinator, whose support and cooperation have made it possible for me to do this job. I truly do not think I could have done it without her. She keeps all of HSA on track!

In the last issue I mentioned the office volunteers who support our work in a variety of ways, but I missed Michele Mallinson's surname—sorry, Michele! A special thank you along with our good wishes, go to Michele, as she is leaving us to go back to school this fall. Best wishes for renewed good health go to office volunteer and crossword puzzle author Ken Penley. A special word of thanks and appreciation needs to go to the volunteers who gave time to staff our May Casino, especially Garry Robertson, who managed the casino, Ron Robertson, alternative General Manager and Clancy Patton who recruited and organized volunteers. Margaret Waite, Jim Lozon and Roberta Ryckman gave "over and above" extra time and energy when it was needed at the end of the Casino. Thanks from us all!

I want to thank all the members of the Council for their support over the last almost two years. They have given a lot of time, worked very hard, always keeping in mind the best

interests of HSA and the chapters.

Finally, how can I begin to express my gratitude, and humility, for the surprise honour of the Life Membership presented to me at the Awards Banquet. I will cherish both the kind words and the framed certificate, which I will display with appreciation and pride. THANK YOU!

And now, as I move into the Past-President's role, my very best wishes go to our new President, Marianne Fedori and to the new Council. I know we can expect great things in the coming years.

— Sincerely, Sheila Johnston

## Membership & Subscription Changes

The Annual General Meeting adopted a new fee structure which will separate membership fees from subscription fees. This step is necessary if we wish to continue receiving our mailing subsidy.

**Effective October 1st, 1999**, the new membership and subscription fees are:

Individual Membership	\$10.00
Annual Subscription	<u>\$25.00</u>
Total	\$35.00
<b>If both purchased together</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
Family Membership	\$15.00
Annual Subscription	<u>\$25.00</u>
Total	\$40.00
<b>If both purchased together</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>

Affiliate Membership fees will remain at the current rate.

Individual and Family Memberships will receive the quarterly newsletter *History Now*; Subscribers will receive the quarterly journal *Alberta History*.

The Annual Meeting recognized that the new fee structure is an increase of \$5 over the current membership/subscription rates. Since it is some years since fees have been increased, and many costs have risen in the meantime, (e.g. paper and printing) it seemed appropriate to make both changes at the same time.

We hope that you, our members, will continue to be both members and subscribers, since our membership numbers are very important when we are applying for grants and support, such as that from the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation. HSA will continue to make a grant to each Chapter from the proceeds of memberships, based on their membership numbers.

We hope that you will bear with us as we make the transition from the old system to the new in October. Thanks for your patience.

If you have further questions, or wish to renew you membership under the current system before October 1, please feel free to contact the office by phone, fax or email.

## Treaty 8 Commemoration

continued from p. 1

The re-enactment play of the events surrounding the Treaty 8 signing brought many of the techniques and textures of history together. The script was written based on the careful historical record gathered by professionals like David Leonard; the acting company of twenty included seventeen community people who had never acted before, seven of the cast were direct descendants of signatories to the Treaty. Hearing them talk about how the experience had deepened their understanding was as enlightening as the play itself.

A hundred years ago, the government of Canada signed a treaty with the First Nation people of Northern Alberta, a treaty which both the oral history and the records of the Oblate missionaries tell us did not include the verbal promises made at the time. What Grouard was all about for me was a deeper and many-textured understanding of what that means. As a new member of the Edmonton and District Historical Society, it was a privilege to attend.

# Nordegg, Then and Now

by Don Hepburn

Early in this century the town of Nordegg was a vitally important place in Central Alberta. In response to the need for coal for the expanding railways, and with the urging of the Canadian Northern rail system, the coalfields discovered by Martin Nordegg, were developed, and a mining town bearing his name was built.

It was a mining town unique in many ways. A carefully planned town with streets laid out in concentric semicircles, building construction carefully supervised and colours carefully chosen, all under the watchful eye of Martin Nordegg himself. A thriving multicultural community developed in the West Country a hundred miles west of Red Deer. The community enjoyed municipal water and sewage systems, electricity in the homes, a hospital, prepaid medical care, town band, literary society, theatre, a full range of sports and a very vibrant community life. In the 42 years ending in 1955, Brazeau Collieries produced over ten million tons of coal, and the town of Nordegg was home to generations of new Albertans.

In the years after the mine was closed in 1955, the town nearly disappeared. Fires destroyed some of the buildings, and others simply collapsed from neglect. Of the 200 homes left standing when the town was abandoned, by 1973, fully 175 of them had been razed. For a time the site was used for a detention camp by the Attorney General's department of the provincial government, but in later years the remaining buildings were destroyed, burned or buried by the government.

But Nordegg didn't die. Through the efforts of the Nordegg Historical Society parts of the site have been restored, and tours of the site are provided each summer for thousands of visitors. Plans are being made to continue the restoration. Three recent books have added greatly to our knowledge of Martin Nordegg and the town he started: *Martin Nordegg, The Uncommon Immigrant* by Edmonton author John Koch (Brightest Pebble Publishing, 1997); *To the Town that Bears Your Name: A Young Woman's Journey to Nordegg in 1912*, written by Martin Nordegg and translated by Maria Koch (Brightest Pebble Publishing, 1995); and *Small Moments in Time: The Story of Alberta's Big West Country*, by Anne McMullen Belliveau (Detselig Enterprises, 1999).

The latest addition to the Nordegg story is an excellent 30-minute video called *Nordegg 1914-1955: A Vision in the Valley*, produced by Jane Hurl Productions for the Nordegg Historical Society. It was officially released in Nordegg following the Society's annual general meeting on May 8, to a large gathering of over one hundred people, including all three authors mentioned above, Nordegg oldtimers, the area MLA Ty Lund, representatives from the MD of Clearwater, and visitors from the Red Deer and District Museum and the Central Alberta Historical Society. It was an impressive occasion, and the Nordegg Historical Society can justifiably take pride in their accomplishments in keeping alive this important part of the Alberta story.

## Dr. J.L. Granatstein to Speak at The Winston Churchill Society Luncheon

Dr. J.L. Granatstein, well known historian and current Director and C.E.O. of the Canadian War Museum, will be in Edmonton in September.

He will speak at a luncheon hosted by The Sir Winston Churchill Society on September 29. Details of time and location still have to be worked out.

We all know Jack Granatstein is a passionate Canadian and an articulate promoter of our history. As soon as all the details are known we will inform you, but in the meantime, mark your calendar for this big event.

For information phone 780-435-5602.  
email: shirdave@telusplanet.net

— Dave Leaker

## Ford Motor Company of Canada

Research material wanted. I am looking for documentation on Ford Canada (Walkerville/Ford City, ON.) and dealers or individuals in Alberta before 1923. This is required for a biography of **Gordon M. McGregor**, founder of Ford Canada.

Send to:

David Roberts, 23 Queensbury Avenue, Scarborough, ON M1N 2X8,  
Telephone: 416-978-6744.



## The Company of Adventurers on the Road to Grouard

by Diana Sim

An early start on June 17 saw seventeen intrepid adventurers board the "Company of Adventurers" bus in Calgary en route to the North. We were delighted that Evelyn Schuler, from Hilda, joined us and Les Prior, our driver, got us to Red Deer on time to pick up two more adventurers. (Some members may remember Les Prior and his wife who took us on the trip to Stettler).

In Edmonton we stopped for lunch at the Provincial Museum cafeteria where six more "adventurers" joined us, including the Conference organizer, David Leonard.

During the trip to High Prairie, and on all other bus trips, David Leonard distributed photocopies of interesting documents relating to the part of the country being traversed. We also received a photocopy of Treaty 8. His copy machine must have been sizzling when he'd finished duplicating!

Next morning we attended the first session on "Contending (and sometimes contentious) Accounts of the Treaty Process". The subject of Treaty 8 was new to me, and I learned many details about it and how it differed from Treaty 7. The Cree had never lived in large groups, and the term "severalty" was added. This meant that pieces of land could be taken by individuals, rather than one large reserve.

One interesting person at this session was Roger Maaka, from New Zealand, who is studying various aboriginal peoples. Another was David Smyth, who almost 20 years ago, as a young historian from Ottawa, worked on the Rocky Mountain House history.

A problem for most people was an "embarrassment of riches". The academic sessions, especially. Decisions were required! Also, there was a presentation by the Grouard First Nation. On June 21, the trip started and ended at Peace River, before paved roads. How we appreciated our

journey before joining the bus for a journey. The countryside was beautiful, the Peace River

cafeteria. Sheila Johnston, who is now Past President of the HSA. Presentations of books and a presentation at the University of Alberta, (a smaller copy of the book) and our thanks for permitting the use of their facilities.

Presentations were made especially for the occasion of the Treaty 8 centennial. Only three of them with dramatic training. The play would make a good event on Saturday evening was the first to be filmed on the frozen Lesser Slave River. A commercial movie to be made in Canada. The driver had logged 2,550 km.

Reference sessions, papers will be available on the web



# The Last Days of Ardenode

story and photos by Sherring Amsden

"Where is Ardenode," I asked.

"About 43 kilometres east of Calgary on Highway 564, and one kilometre south of the Ardenode Hall," replied my antique collector friend.

She went on to tell me that the house and General Store, home of the Sharmans since 1917, and its collectible contents were up for sale the coming Saturday and Sunday, June 12 and 13.

What a treasure trove of memorabilia we found. The store, the little house and three barns were crammed with furniture, Royal Albert and Doulton china, books, paintings, jewelry, silverware and over 60 clocks in all shapes and sizes were still ticking away the years. A beautiful grandfather—or is it grandmother—clock with a mercury-filled pendulum drew admiring glances and comments. Don Schatkoski, who inherited the property from Wilf Sharman who died at age 80 three years ago, told us that it always kept good



time and had come originally from Calgary's Palliser Hotel. Little, beyond a small addition and a lick of paint, has been done to the crooked prairie shack that Hilda Sharman purchased in 1917 for \$500. Flowered wall paper is still good after years of use and the glass-fronted counter was probably state-of-the-art in its day. On the counter-top is an old weighscale along with faded, dusty, handwritten ledgers used for recording the day-to-day business of the store—no computers in sight.

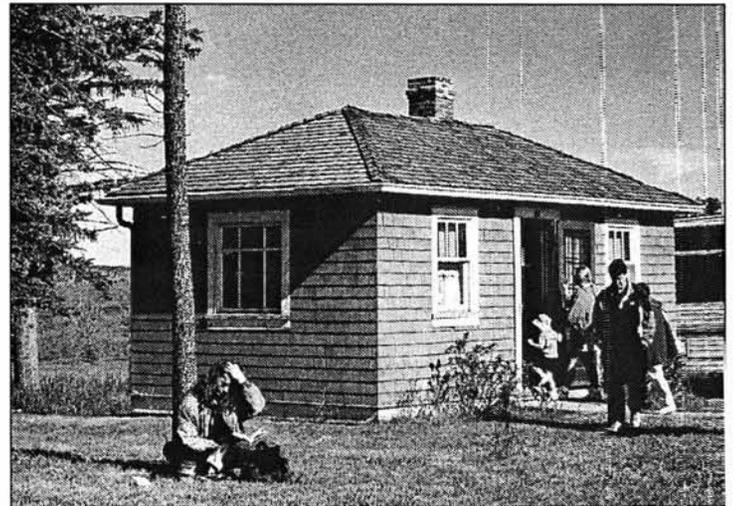
The little two-roomed house, also painted bright green, was stacked with books, paintings, prints and empty picture frames. A set of works by Charles Dickens caught my eye. Covers still bright red with gold-edged pages and inside beautiful etchings, protected by tissue paper, illustrate the stories. Seeing them brought back memories of my childhood when books were treasured and handed on from one generation to the next. I heard afterwards that the set sold for \$600, so daresay someone will make a profit. The prints and paintings, with ornate frames, were decidedly Victorian. I tried to imagine living in the two rooms, one of which had a built-in cupboard, "a case of a place for everything and everything in its place." Window fixtures I did notice, that reminded me of an old downtown Calgary house I had lived in, were ornate metal curtain hangers that swing over to cover the window at night, but during the day swung back to lie against the wall. So much easier than struggling with pullies, or curtain rings, and less material needed for the curtains.

Becoming tired of trying to decipher the calls of Hector Lloyd, of Lloyd's Auction Services, we drifted off to inspect what was left of the garden tended by Hilda Sharman. A sunken, stone-walled area, which once had a fish pond, is sheltered from the north by trees but is open to the sun on the east and south sides. Some plants still struggle alongside grass and weeds, and sitting there we caught the sense of an era when horse and buggy brought patrons to the store to buy supplies and get their mail. A small creek nearby provided water and in the past neighbours from the surrounding area would stop to eat lunch and gossip. A way of life has disappeared forever as even the buildings will be torn down or moved and the town of Ardenode will be no more.

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## Mountain Heritage Magazine. The Journal of Rocky Mountain Life and History

This is a new magazine published in Canmore, Alberta. It's goal is to seek and print historical tales of human drama associated with the Rockies.

As Peter Ross writes in his first editorial, "The people in these stories are real; their lives are revealed here—in Mountain Heritage—in their own spoken words. Their interests vary from the mystical to the mundane and speak of both wisdom and folly. That makes these stories worth celebrating. After all, heritage isn't about exhuming the past. Heritage is living faith. Let it be your compass and your survey marker. Heritage helps you to know exactly where you are. That's the absolute truth."

Articles cover a wide spectrum of interests, from the "Mystery of the Anthracite Wheel," "Hollywood Scenes & Mountain Schemes," "Lessons from a One Room Schoolroom," and "The Spirituality of Climbing," all are accompanied by photographs, past and present, as well as illustrations.

Now starting it's second year of operation Mountain Heritage is published quarterly and a subscription is \$25.50 for two years, eight issues.

Send your order to:  
Mountain Heritage Magazine  
327 Hoodoo Crescent, Canmore, AB T1W 1A8  
For more information Phone: 403-678-0025  
Fax: 403-678-0094

email: [macross@expertcanmore.net](mailto:macross@expertcanmore.net), or look them up at [www.mountain-heritage.com](http://www.mountain-heritage.com)

## Celebrate Calgary's History

Join Calgary's Heritage Community for the Ninth Annual Historic Calgary Week — Friday, July 30 to Friday, August 6, 1999.

The theme this year is Law and Disorder: Crime and Policing in Calgary's Past.

The official opening is at Fort Calgary, 750 9 Avenue SE, with a talk "Scandals and Scoundrels: The Bre-X Story," by Stephen Ewart from the Calgary Herald at 7:30 pm.

For information and brochure of events call 403-261-3662 or 403-283-3601.

## Historic Edmonton Week

Celebrate Historic Edmonton week from Sunday, July 25 to Sunday, August 1, 1999.

The opening event is The History Show with the Volya Ukrainian Dancers at the Prince of Wales Armouries, Sunday, July 25, 11-4 pm. Also, on Sunday, the arrival of the Great March West to Fort Edmonton Park.

For information and brochure of all events call 780-439-2797

## National Heritage Fair

Entertainment and fun activities for everyone — come and see, Punyi and Rooney, Arts and Crafts Workshop, Storytelling, and Woodworking. Master of Ceremonies Lauier LaPierre, Historian, Author and Broadcaster.

There will also be models, dioramas, plays, multimedia and Internet projects by students from across Canada.

The National Heritage Fair Exhibition will be held Saturday, July 17, 1999, 10:30 am to 4 pm, at the Alberta Legislature Interpretive Centre, 10820 98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB.

The Heritage Project's Heritage Fairs Programme links the lessons students learn in the classroom to what they experience at home, on television and in the community around them. The culmination of the programme is the National Heritage Fair, hosted in mid-July by a different community in Canada each year.

For information call 1-888-676-3247  
[www.heritageproject.ca](http://www.heritageproject.ca)

### Help HSA save for a rainy day



Invest in HSA's future  
Give now and double  
your investment

HSA is asking Foundations, corporations and our members to make donations to the HSA Endowment Fund.

Send your cheque to:  
**The Calgary Foundation**  
1920, 540 5th Avenue SW,  
Calgary, AB T2P 0M2.

The "HSA Open Endowment Fund" has been set up with The Calgary Foundation to ensure that the HSA has an assured cash flow in the future for its publishing and programs. HSA, on its part, will each year invest funds surplus to its needs in the HSA Endowment Fund until our goal of \$1,000,000 is reached. In this manner, with the compounding that occurs withing the Fund, our goal will be reached sooner.

**Please get behind this project and donate today.**

All donations will receive a tax receipt from The Calgary Foundation and an acknowledgement from the Historical Society of Alberta. Thank you for your generosity.

## A Guide to Medicinal Wild Fruits & Berries

by Julie Gomez



Going camping or hiking this summer and need to soothe a sunburn, stop itching, or relieve indigestion?

For answers to these questions consult *A Guide to Medicinal Wild Fruits & Berries*. This slim 5 x 8.5 book with water/stain repellent cover slips easily into pocket or backpack.

To ease a sunburn use the fresh fruit of the wood strawberry; the leaves of false Solomon seal can stop itching and blossoms of the flowering dogwood can relieve indigestion.

Detailed line drawings by author and illustrator Julie Gomez, combined with accurate descriptions, allow for easy identification and use. Although in black and white inside the book, a coloured version of the fruit-bearing trees, shrubs and herbs together with page number appear on the back cover.

All the fruits and berries mentioned grow wild throughout the Pacific Northwest and have beneficial and healing qualities. They are also flavourful and tasty, vitamin rich containing substantial amounts of A, B<sub>2</sub> (riboflavin) and C, plus fiber, iron, potassium, magnesium, beta carotene, malic and citric acids, and essential oils to keep the body healthy.

On each page a fruit or berry is given its common and botanical name followed by a description of its flowers, fruit colour and month(s) available, size, a full description of the complete tree or shrub, habitat, medicinal parts, harvest and medicinal uses. There is also a warning usually connected to excessive use. On the facing page is a drawing of the plant or shrub.

The introduction gives advice on collection and obtaining permission to harvest. Rules of safety to follow are avoid self diagnosis, make sure the area is free of chemicals and never assume a fruit or berry is safe to eat, so if in doubt leave

it. A little common sense and careful identification will make your experience of wild food foraging fun.

There are short botanical and medicinal glossaries and groupings are deciduous trees and shrubs, evergreen shrubs and herbs.

## Meadow Muffins Cowboy Rhymes and Other B.S.

by Mike Puhallo



Cartoons by Wendy Liddle

This is a collection of poems and cartoons guaranteed to entertain all ages as well as providing an insight into a form of modern folklore.

All the poems express the simple, honest values exemplified by the word "cowboy." and range from the sensitive to the ridiculous. These poems are the real stories of today's West, written by a real working cowboy, saddlebronc rider, packer, horse trainer and truck driver.

Urbanites can sleep at nights, but not the cowboy on *March Nights* when,

Cold and snow  
that won't let go,  
and the calves  
are coming fast.

If you doze off and miss one ...  
his first night is his last!

It's an unforgiving way of life  
for those tied to the land.  
And sleepless nights  
are just one cost  
of runnin' your own "brand."

For someone who hid his writing for years underneath his socks and underwear in a drawer, Mike Puhallo, has a down-to-earth approach to all aspects of ranching life. His poems range from seeing in *Midnight Revelation* "the face of God/on a moonless autumn night.", a continuance of the past in *Shadow Camp* as, "Gokleya and Chief Joseph,/Tom Horn and Russell too,/have visited my dreamscape camp/and shared their points of view", to the political in "Canada Goosed" when he writes, "Target Farmers Unlimited,/those well-heeled urban cats/who masquerade as

environmentalists/while altering habitats."

In addition to Puhallo's poetry, there are poems by W.H. (Bill) Stewart, David Longworth, Kathy Schneider and Gordon Wilson.

Wendy Liddle's vivid cartoons capture the essence of each poem in both liveliness and humour. She has drawn professionally for ten years and this is her fourth book with Mike Puhallo.

To order these books, send \$7.95 to

Hancock House Publishers,  
19313 Zero Avenue, Surrey, BC V4P 2Y5.

Toll free phone 1-800-938-1114.

Email: sales@hancockhouse.com.

Web Site: www.hancock



## Mill Creek Kids by Colleen Heffernan

Children's author, Colleen Heffernan, works enthusiastically with students of all ages. Of particular interest to teachers of Grades 3-4 are her workshops on local history which enhance Social Studies curriculum at this level. *Mill Creek Kids*, is a time travel adventure to the Edmonton of 1902. Set in historic Mill Creek, the main characters, Katelyn and Jake, find out about a steam train, an abattoir and a coal mine as they help their new-found friends, the 'Mill Creek Kids' of 1902. Fast-paced and funny, it is an engaging piece of historical fiction for children aged 7-9.

Workshops: **The Story in History**

For Grades 3 to 6

Cost: \$75/session - 60-90 minutes.

### 1. Writing the Stories of our Place

How does a story start? How do we discover the historical details we need to know? How are these details woven into the story? Students are invited to ask questions and use archival material.

### 2. Explore the Setting of a Book

Weather permitting, meet the author at her home. She will take your class on a guided tour of the setting of *Mill Creek Kids*, complete with historical details of the Mill Creek of 1902 and readings from the book.

For information contact:  
Colleen Heffernan at 780-469-1179

# News & Views from HSA Chapters

The 1999 CAHS bus tour, *Furs to Furrows*, is an examination of events and places. From the middle of the 1840's to the Great War, a way of life disappeared and was replaced by a new one. The players changed but the land remained. By WW I, the great prairie grass fires were over, and the forests and parkland replaced by cultivated land. The immense buffalo herds disappeared, replaced by fences and home-steads; a revolution in one lifetime.

Before the 1840's western Canada was the domain of the First Nations, Cree, Saulteaux, Assiniboine, and Blackfoot. They lived in harmony with their environment and at peace with their creator, if not always with their neighbours. They followed a traditional hunting and gathering lifestyle, trading with the fur traders for guns, ammunition and metal goods and a few other articles from the factories in Europe.

There were fur traders, Scots and French-Canadians. The Quebecois came West with the fur brigades and then returned to their farm homes in the East, or stayed and became established in the West. The Scots manned the fur trade posts for a term of service, then returned to Scotland. Many stayed, taking country wives and settling in the West, most likely at Red River once they were too old to work in the fur trade.

Within a generation there emerged a new group of people—known as Métis or Halfbreed—the children of the fur trade. Some were absorbed into the Indian nation of their mothers, some were educated and integrated into white society in the West or back East. Many formed a new culture, adapting to and serving the needs of the fur trade. They were a remarkable people, skilled in many languages: English, French and Gaelic, as well as Cree, Chipewyan and other Native tongues, besides their own blended language, Mechiffe. These people were skilled in the work of the fur trade, trading and trapping, the technologies of transportation, building boats, paddling canoes, manning York boats, driving dogs

and horses. They were masters of the buffalo, suppliers of pemmican to the fur trade, teamsters, guides and interpreters. They were an indispensable part of the fur trade's economy.

Then it all changed. In the 1840's the Hudson Bay Company invited missionaries into the West. Methodist and Roman Catholic missionaries travelled with the Indians and began the process of conversion. At the same time, to the south, the westward settlement was under way in the United States. Railways were to span the continent. The buffalo herds were slaughtered to extinction. White man's diseases struck the First Nations, measles, influenza and a host of others. The small pox epidemic of 1870 eliminated thousands. Thus, the great days of the fur trade came to an end. Deprived of a livelihood, weakened by disease and malnutrition, the First Nations were reduced to poverty and settled on reserves.

The Métis stayed on for a time, well placed to play a role in the new society as traders, teamsters, ferrymen, and carpenters. They were willing enough to be farmers, too, but in a manner that reflected the fur trade such as growing vegetables, keeping a cow and chickens, and, of course, horses—always horses. They put up enough hay to winter their livestock and supplemented their agriculture with wage labour. They lived in river lots in small communities where they could maintain social contacts and family ties. Villages were established. Some were seasonal like the buffalo hunters' Tail Creek, others more permanent such as Batoche, Victoria, Boss Hill, Laboucaine and St. Paul. Then the Métis, too, were pushed out of their river lots. They were surveyed out of existence by surveyors from the East, and were no longer welcome in the new white communities. They were pushed to the fringes of the towns and became "road allowance people," as Maria Campbell called her people. Some moved west and north to less settled areas where they could still live their lives in the old way.

The great land was empty and ready for new players. Railways replaced river routes and cart trails. The land was surveyed into townships, sections and quarter sections. Settlement schemes were devised and advertised. Soon, settlers came by the tens of thousands to occupy the emptied land. They came from the American Midwest, Eastern Canada, Britain, and Europe. They settled and transformed the land into a place of farms and villages, a horse and buggy agricultural land ready to become the bread basket of the world.

World War I marked the end of the revolutionary change. The war disrupted the development of the towns and the social structures that had developed. It took away the young men, many not to return, and those who did, came back to a different world. It was, or soon would be, a world of cars, trucks, tractors, combines, airplanes, radio and electricity. Villages disappeared, along with the one-room schools. The shift to urbanization had begun.

From fur trade to farming, a revolution in one lifetime, is a remarkable story found in the country east of Edmonton and north of Red Deer. It tells of the North Saskatchewan river as a highway of fur trade commerce; fur trading posts from Fort George and Buckingham House to Fort Edmonton which was the hub of the western fur trade; the Carlton Trail, an old cart trail across the plains from Fort. Carlton to Edmonton and the beginnings of church influence at the Victoria Settlement, St. Paul de Cri, St. Paul de Métis; where the graves from the small-pox epidemic, and of John McDougall and family are found. It's all there waiting to be explored by the CAHS bus tour.

—extract from the tour information booklet written by Don Hepburn.

## Chinook Country Historical Society

by **Diana Sim**

**A Voice from the Past:** On June 1, Margaret Waite had a visitor from Victoria—Sheila Daly—who for several years, until 1985, was responsible for HSA membership. This was before Fred Holberton took over this task. Mrs. Daly reminisced about the friends she had made—including Betty Dahlie, Marg Exton, and Grant MacEwan. Sheila has other claims to fame as she was a docent at Fort Calgary, working with Trudy Cowan around the time the Fort opened. Other members may remember Sheila as

Georgina Barrass' sister. Sheila's principal reason for visiting the office was to donate some back issues of *Alberta History*, for which we are very grateful.

Sheila passed on the following story: During his days as Lt. Governor, he and Mrs. MacEwan attended a concert. At the intermission, his presence was announced, and he stood up. Others around him also stood, and one man looked around, then turned to Grant and said "I don't see him, do you?"

The HSA office is open Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00 am–3:00 pm. Whether you live in the Calgary area, or from out of town, you are welcome to come in to do research, check on your membership, catch up on reading—or perhaps on occasion to volunteer—Margaret will be glad to see you.

Margaret will be on vacation August 17–27. During this time, the office will be closed. BUT we'd welcome volunteers to answer the phone, or take messages from the answering machine. If you could give us 2-3 hours a week please call Margaret at 403-261-3662. She will be happy to show you the ropes.

## Edmonton & District Historical Society

Write to  
PO Box 1013  
Edmonton, AB.  
T5J 2M1

The new President of the Edmonton & District Historical Society is Lisa Maltby. At present preparations are underway for Edmonton Historic Week to be held July 25 to August 1, 1999. For information call 780-439-2797.

A bus tour to Paradise Valley is planned for August 21. Coordinators: Jack and Enid Fitzsimmonds, call 780-455-2767, or email [efitz@icrossroads.com](mailto:efitz@icrossroads.com) for information.



## Lethbridge Historical Society

Write to  
PO Box 974  
Lethbridge, AB. T1J 4A2

by **Carly Stewart**

In October 1999, the Lethbridge Historical Society plans to place a Bronze Plaque to mark the site of the World War II Air Training School at Pearce, Alberta.

Pearce was the home of three training schools, the last being the Royal Canadian Air Force #2 Flying Instructor School, which was often referred to as the "University of the Air" in official diary reports. Flying instructors were trained there and then posted to other schools. The marker project depends on the Society raising at least half of the estimated cost of \$2,000, from outside sources. Anyone wishing to make a contribution to this project may do so by contacting **Carly Stewart at 403-328-4669**. An income tax receipt from the Historical Society of Alberta will be issued for all donations. Don't delay, if we don't have enough encouragement by early August, we will have to drop the project.

**Bus Tour Planned:** In September, likely on the 11th, the LHS will take a short bus tour. Early plans include a visit to the Readymade area east of Lethbridge where buildings, packaged by the CPR, delivered to CPR designated "Readymade" farmsteads were erected and are still in use today.

Next we go to Stirling, Alberta, that has been designated a "Historical Village", for a guided tour around town and maybe enter some selected structures.

Then we visit the Raymond Museum and also have a bite to eat (patrons are asked to pack a picnic lunch and refreshments).

To end out the day, we will try to arrange a visit to a Ammonite/Ammolite mine on the return trip. Ammonite is the gemstone of Alberta. Southern Alberta is a rich resource for these gems. We expect the bus ride to cost in the area of \$10 to \$12 each, and is open to everyone.

At the March 1999 meeting of the LHS, we launched our 33rd Publication, entitled *Tales of a Mounted Police Officer Superintendent R. Burton Deane of the Lethbridge NWMP Division 1888–1902*. Written by William (Bill) Baker, it has 80 pages and 30 or more illustrations.

The book sells for \$8.25, and HSA members receive a 25% discount, \$6.25

Members wishing to purchase this new book may send a cheque for \$9.25, for a single copy (mailed anywhere in Canada), or \$33, for 5 copies (mailed to any one address in Canada). Dealer and retailer enquiries for our entire list of publications is invited.

Send cheque and order to:  
Lethbridge Historical Society  
PO Box 974  
Lethbridge, Alberta T1J 4A2

# HSA Calendar of Events – 1999

**Jul 25-Aug 1 EDHS** Celebrate Historic Edmonton week from Sunday, July 25 to Sunday, August 1, 1999,  
For information and brochure of events call 780-439-2797.

**Jul 30-Aug 6 CCHS** Historic Calgary Week—For information and brochure of events call 403-261-3662

**Sep 12** **Lougheed House Conservation Society** Edwardian Garden Party, Sunday afternoon, September 12, to celebrate the opening of the estate's Beaulieu Gardens, an "oasis of green in the heart of Calgary." Open to the public. Admission free. Donor's reception 1:15 pm; Entertainment 1:30 pm; Edwardian Garden Party 2 pm; Ceremony 2.15 pm. Dress: Styles appropriate to the Edwardian era are encouraged. Contact the society at 403-244-6333 or Fax: 403-244-6354



## Museum of the Regiments

**4520 Crowchild Trail S.W.**  
**Calgary, AB, Canada T2T 5J4**  
Tel: (403) 974-2850 Fax: (403) 974-2858

[www.nucleus.com/~regiments/](http://www.nucleus.com/~regiments/)

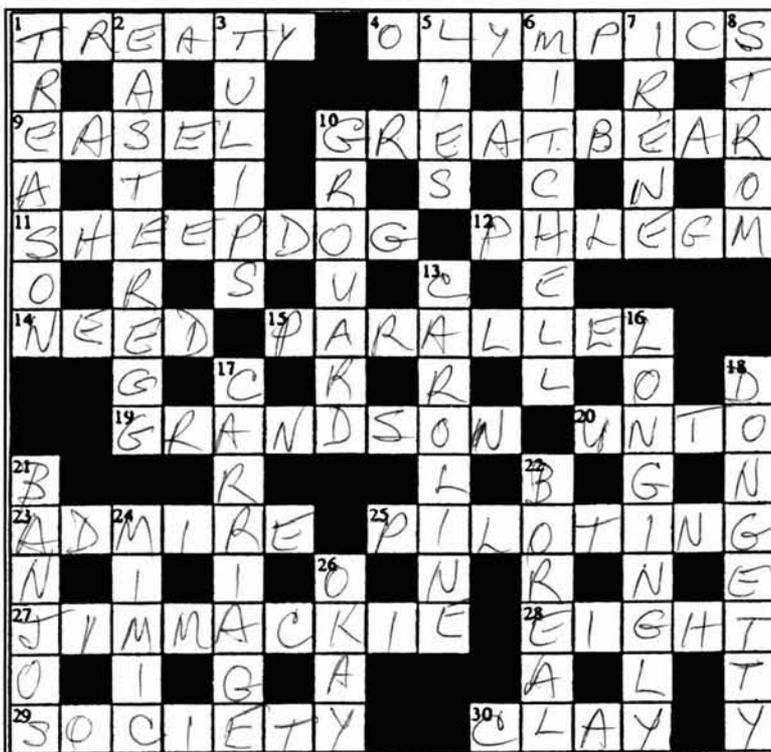
Visit the Museum of the Regiments, the largest military museum in Western Canada. Life-like exhibits, gift shop and deli restaurant. See the military history of Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians), Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, the Calgary Highlanders and the King's Own Calgary Regiment.

### Answer to last newsletter crossword:

**Across:** 1. Henday, 4. twisters, 10. nonstop, 11. Etzikom, 12. riverboats, 13. amen, 15. Batoche, 17. alias, 19. elastic, 21. devices, 23. jobs, 24. Rutherford, 27. Herbert, 28. tuition, 29. St. Albert, 30. hydros.

**Down:** 1. Honorable, 2. Nunavut, 3. Anthracite, 5. Wheatland, 6. size, 7. Eskimos, 8. Simon, 9. up to, 14. Silver City, 16. Encounter, 18. Residents, 20. Alberta, 22. Crozier, 23. Johns, 25. Hats, 26. herb.

## HSA Crossword



### Across

1. With 28A, event being commemorated at Conference 1999
4. Winter Games held at Calgary 1988
9. Artists prop.
10. Largest lake lying entirely within Canada
11. Shepherd's aid
12. Viscid respiratory mucous
14. Requirement
15. Alberta's southern border, the 49th . . . . .
19. Peter Lougheed's relationship to Senator James Lougheed
20. Do . . . others as you would, etc.
23. View with favour
25. Activity of Wop May, Fred McCall & Herbert Hollick-Kenyon
27. President of HSA 1993-1995
28. See 1 Across
29. The "S" of: HSA, CCHS, CAHS, EDHS, or LHS
30. Potter's medium

### Down

1. Crime for which Riel was tried
2. Vegreville's giant symbol
3. Holland's gift to Canada
5. What Sitting Bull called some white men's promises
6. Alberta author "W.O."
7. Mrs. Parlby
8. First Alberta born Premier
10. Site of Conference 1999
13. Kurt Browning's home town
16. In a desiring manner
17. Cardston's Remington Alberta . . . . . Centre
18. Alberta Premier recently received Order of Canada
21. Certain stringed instruments
22. Canada's most northerly type of forest
24. Ape
26. Casual expression of agreement<sup>o</sup>

You have plenty of time to complete this crossword puzzle which was devised by a member of HSA. The answer will be published in the next issue of *History Now*.