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# History NOW



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## 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 \$.94 postage and handling to:

The Historical Society of Alberta  
Box 4035, Station C  
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## Annual HSA Awards - Nominations 2010

There shall be three type of awards given by the Historical Society of Alberta: the Annual Award, the Award of Merit, and the Honorary Lifetime Membership.

### Annual Award

The Annual Award shall be presented to an individual for his or her outstanding contribution to Alberta history. To be eligible, the recipient must qualify in one or more of these categories:

- Meritorious service to the Historical Society of Alberta over a period of several years;
- Meritorious service to the preservation, promotion or development of Alberta's history over a period of several years;
- Performance of a single action, deed or service which is of such significance, uniqueness, or magnitude that it ranks far above routine or regular actions, deeds or services.

Normally, no more than one Annual Award shall be given in any calendar year. Under no circumstances shall more than two awards be given in any calendar year.

The recipient of the Annual Award shall receive a suitably framed scroll from the Society.

### Award of Merit

An Award of Merit shall be presented from time to time by the Society to any eligible business, corporation, society, government, church, or other corporate body.

To be eligible, the recipient must qualify in one or both of the following categories:



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

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**Welcome to new members/subscribers**

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Vera Cuthbert, Calgary  
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Sheila Stewart, Calgary  
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Isobel Mailloux, Edmonton  
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Marla J. Daniels, Edmonton  
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Kerry Hart, Claresholme  
Neil Armstrong, Coaldale  
Wayland Britton, Elnora  
Ken Hugo, Calgary  
Darcy Rose, Acme  
Jack Newman, Sherwood Park  
Carl Schnurr, Calgary  
Brenda Jones, Byemoor  
Dean Marshall, Canmore  
Manning Library, Manning  
Wes Walker, Byemoor  
Craig Budjak, Calgary  
Martin Ebel, Lethbridge  
Amy von Heyking, Lethbridge  
Darren Dirk, Medicine Hat  
Ann Gaskin, Medicine Hat  
Jean Vandervelde, Coaldale  
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Merle Stover, Bawlf  
Beverly Firla, Calgary  
Irene Penner, Cold Lake  
Jim Feschuk, Edmonton  
Dianne Franks, Regina, SK

continued on page 5

**Thank You for Your Donation to the HSA and/or Chapter**

Anonymous  
Campbell Ross (2)  
Catherine Cole  
David Ashkin  
Margaret/Robert Watson  
Roberta Stephen  
Helen Mackie  
Sheila Power  
Irene Nicolson  
Diana Carr  
Elsie Marquess  
Marjorie Lawrence  
Jean/Leon Matwe  
Sheila Bannerman  
Vivian Sampson  
Janet/Ernest Walter  
Moyra Ferguson  
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Ron Williams  
Belinda Crowson  
Hugh Dempsey  
Delcie Gray  
Robert High  
Graham O'Connor  
Joan/William Lowrie  
David J. Hall  
Kay/Dalton Deedrick  
Vernon Wishart  
Scott Davies  
Dorothy/Lew Lockhart  
Roger Smith  
Linda/William McLean  
Heather Mills

## President's Report

by William Baergen

I reported in the October 2009 History NOW, that in this issue I would advise you of the results of our strategy-sessions regarding the object of the Society. As advised we held two strategy sessions, with the assistance of our facilitator, Ronnalee McMahon, to assess our compliance with the object to date.

Upon revisiting our object, as outlined in 1907 and modified in 1927, and after two "Strategic Planning" sessions the consensus of the Council was that we were, for the most part, satisfied that our society was fulfilling our mandate and we would just like to zero in on some specific aspects of that mandate for the next two years.

Our vision is stated in our Object. So our mission would be to work toward accomplishing the vision, and we believe that the brochure that The Historical Society of Alberta publishes, (*which is quoted in bold italics below*) is a pretty good explanation of how our mission works. Another part of the one-page brochure explains how the local chapters also work to achieve our overall object

### Object of the Historical Society of Alberta

The object of the society shall be to encourage the study of the history of Alberta and Canada (*Through its network of regional chapters the HSA is preserving Alberta's rich history and presenting it to the public*), to rescue from oblivion the memories of the original inhabitants, the early missionaries, fur traders, explorers, and settlers of the north and west of Canada, (*Since 1953 the HSA has published a quarterly journal, Alberta History, including scholarly and popular articles on a*

*broad range of subjects and geographical areas. Also, our newsletter, History NOW, contains heritage news, and upcoming events*), to obtain and preserve narratives in print, manuscript or otherwise of their travels, adventures, labours and observations, (*The Alberta Records Publication Board, an HSA committee, publishes primary source historical documents such as diaries, correspondence and memoirs. These collections are the "building blocks" for researchers and writers and give those interested in Alberta's past a deeper perspective*), to secure and preserve objects generally illustrative of the civil, religious, literary and natural history of the country. (*As time has passed, the preservation of objects other than literary, has become the primary function of the museums of Alberta, not the Historical Society. In addition, members gather at the HSA Annual General Meetings which are hosted at locations around the province. They enjoy a variety of tours, programs, symposia and guest speakers while carrying out the business of and giving direction to the Society. The organization offers awards and recognition to those who have made outstanding contributions to preserving that history. Finally, the HSA strives to raise the awareness of Alberta's history through its educational programming, collaborations, and by having representatives on appropriate boards and committees.*)

The Council have agreed to work toward increasing membership by 10-12% within one year. We will endeavour



photo by Gwen Mann

to educate members on the work of The Historical Society of Alberta to become better sales people and/or ambassadors for the organization. We will be looking at ways to increase the number of participants attending events/programs.

The council will continue to work toward this object, with your assistance and approval, celebrating our achievements, and, hopefully, learning from our mistakes, if there are any. As members of The Historical Society of Alberta you can help us achieve this object by simply preserving your history for your family, friends, and community.

This Society is blessed with such dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to achieve our object. As we move into 2010, your Council will continue the work of the Society, as outlined in the Object. Should you have any comments or suggestions on how we can better achieve this goal, please feel free to contact me through the HSA office by phone: 403.261.3662; or by email at: albertahistory@telus.net.

## Lt. Governor Volunteer Appreciation Day

## HSA Members News



I to r: Ron Williams, His Honour, The Honourable Norman L. Kwong, Lieutenant Government of Alberta and Her Honour, Mary Kwong, Sheila Johnston and Linda Collier



I to r: Ron Williams, Sheila Johnston, Linda Collier and His Honour, The Honourable Norman L. Kwong, Lieutenant Government of Alberta

HSA Past Presidents Linda Collier, Sheila Johnston and Ron Williams attended the Lieutenant Governor's Volunteer Appreciation Day Open House and Tea at Government House on Sunday, December 6th to celebrate International Volunteer Day. Linda represented the Society at the cake cutting ceremony. Thank you to Linda, Sheila and Ron for attending on behalf of the Society.



Volunteers at the Cake Cutting Ceremony

## HSA Annual Awards Nomination - continued from page 1

- a. Meritorious service to the preservation, promotion or development of Alberta's history over a period of several years;
- b. Performance of a single action, deed or service to the benefit of Alberta history which goes beyond the routine services expected of the recipient.

Normally, no more than one Award of Merit shall be given in any calendar year. The recipient of the Award of Merit shall receive a suitable scroll or certificate from the Society.

### Honorary Lifetime Membership

An Honorary Lifetime Membership may be presented from time to time by the Society to an individual member or former member of the Society.

To be eligible, the recipient must have provided meritorious service to the Historical Society of Alberta over a period of years. The Honorary Lifetime Membership shall be given sparingly and will be most commonly awarded to a lifetime member who is retiring after having worked diligently for the Society.

The recipient shall receive a suitable scroll or certificate from the Society. He or she shall also receive all benefits of full membership in the Society, including the quarterly publication, without the payment of annual dues.

HSA Awards Nomination Form on Page 11.

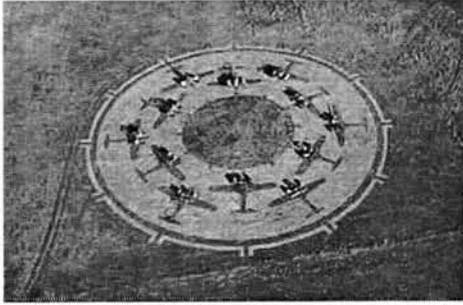
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## Welcome to new members/subscribers - continued from page 2

Debley Wanechko, Waskatenau	Tom Kurek, St. Paul	Pat Ancion, Pine Lake
Harold Fukuda, Patricia	A Skjonsberg, Bentley	Ken Wedman, Wetaskiwin
Jenny Gyorkos, Medicine Hat	Dave Vikse, Donalda	Forbes Homestead Restoration Society, Grande Prairie
Helen Pust, High River	Mary E. Docherty, Bashaw	Patrick Dean Burns, Calgary
Tom Irvine, Camrose	Madeline Watchorn, Fairview	Wendy Luther, Edmonton
Kathy Hutton, Bon Accord	D Dunbar, Elmworth	R. R. (Ron) Reimer, Edmonton
Lee Anne Murakami, High River	Dallas Wood, Edmonton	Landus Harty, Lethbridge
Deb Thomas, Cold Lake	Melvin Erick, Brooks	Marie Budal, Mayerthorpe
Joyce O. Peterson, Rocky Mountain House	Sue Jung, Peace River	Bob Walkom, Mayerthorpe
Toni Edwards, High River	Lois Pederson, Camrose	Irene Darichuk, Smoky Lake
Debra L. Klein, Provost	Randy Cross, Camrose	Cody Gilbertson, Coronation
Diane Kozak, Vilna	Barb Smith, Calgary	Penny Hanson, Beaverlodge
Smoky Lake Public Library, Smoky Lake	John Regier, Lethbridge	Blanche Wack, Major, SK
Stutt Potruff, Calgary	Susana Dyck, Coaldale	Lillias Waldren, Edmonton
Tony Cashman, Edmonton	Norm White, Calgary	Jack Anderson, Bentley
Ed Bean, Edmonton	Gail Kelly, Bassano	Paul Ponich, Grassland
Jack Brink, Edmonton	Wayne Nicholson, Drumheller	James Crowther, Peers
Musee Heritage Museum, St. Albert	Brenda Dowell, Trochu	Dorothy Gladish, High River
Grouard & Area Historical Society	G. Schram, Prince George BC	Erna Vandeligt, Lethbridge
Mavis Bush, Calgary	Joan Luchak, Willingdon	Don Stefanik, Bruce
Mac Livingston, Edmonton	Barry Burton, Okotoks	Ernest Polege, Coronation
Cindy Schultz, Hay Lakes	Marie Leahy, Taber	Brant Rolling, Edson
Erin McGrath, Strathmore, ON	Dale Durand, Leslieville	Glen Hellekson, Peers
Darcy Peterson, Hines Creek	Jula Lumby, St. Paul	I.L. Powell, Edmonton
E & L Autobody, Camrose	Marc Lynch Staunton, Lethbridge	Lee/Bonnie Stringer, Sunnybrook
Chris Kennedy, Rosalind	Gerald Smith, Wimborne	John Ogilvie, Black Diamond
	Elizabeth Bennett, Sundre	
	Helen Hawthorne, Stony Plain	

## Keith Harder's Art Installation at Nanton, Alberta

'Ghosts' of Canada's aviation past become art, article by Elise Stolte, Canwest News Service. Published: National Post Wednesday, December 02, 2009



Artist Keith Harder has taken a dozen planes left over from Second World War training schools across the Prairies and created a permanent art installation in a farm field south of Calgary.

"They're like ghosts of the past haunting the present," says Mr. Harder, also a University of Alberta fine arts professor. "They say a lot about death and dying, about gravity."

Thousands of Anson twin-engined airplanes were built in Montreal and used to train British and Canadian pilots at bases across Canada. When the war was over, and the glue started to deteriorate in their wooden wings, the wartime scrap was sold to farmers for parts.

Mr. Harder, of Camrose, Alta., has been studying a collection of them for about five years, painting and drawing the skeletons. He thought up the installation when the collector wanted to move the wrecks off his land.

Mr. Harder moved the remains on flatbed trucks and later positioned them around a circle, like points on a compass. Silhouettes of the planes point inward, outlined in gravel.

The installation, called *Gravitas*, measures about 100 metres across, large enough to be seen from a commercial airliner approaching Calgary from the south.

"I'm waiting for the next Google satellite to go across," said Mr. Harder, who hasn't arranged pedestrian access from the secondary highway nearby.

Bob Evans has been rescuing the "carcasses" for 20 years as landowners take the last parts they want and seek to clean out their junkyards.

He's a curator at The Nanton Lancaster Society Air Museum, where volunteers are trying to rebuild a complete Anson from his 20-odd specimens, scrounging parts from each wreck in turn. The wings alone will take three or four years to complete, he says. "They've been doing the cabin floor now for two and a half."

The society was founded to commemorate the 10,659 Canadians killed in bomber squadrons during the Second World War, when Canada played a critical role training pilots and supplying young men and women to serve in the air force. Many learned to fly at schools across much of Alberta.

Those who mastered a single-engine plane graduated to the Anson, a reliable aircraft with space for two 250-pound bombs. For about five years, their yellow fuselage was a common sight in the Prairie skies.

Most of the students never made it home again. Almost 60% of the Bomber Command died. During the worst of the offensives, fewer than 25 crews out of 100 would survive their first 30 missions.

Their graves lie across Europe, and grass now grows over many of the training airstrips in southern Alberta and around Nanton.

The 12 wrecks Mr. Harder saved sit in

a field about two kilometres north of Cayley on Highway 2A, 50 kilometres south of Calgary.

When you stand in the centre of the circle, it's as if history confronts you, stares you down, says Mr. Harder.

"The thing about flying is to free yourself, to get above it all. There's something miraculous about that," he says. "You look at them and wonder how they could do it."

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<http://www.nationalpost.com/related/topics/story.html?id=2293704#ixzz0Zn9ZbxRm>

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From Bev Betkowski, media relations associate Phone: 780.492.3808 email: [beverly.betkowski@ualberta.ca](mailto:beverly.betkowski@ualberta.ca)

A massive art installation in a farmer's field near Nanton, Alberta, is capturing attention as a unique kind of crop circle one created by University of Alberta visual arts professor and artist Keith Harder to pay tribute to a piece of Canada's wartime past.

Carved from white gravel, grass and the dirt of an old pasture on a private farm by Harder and a team of volunteers, a large compass rose can be seen from the air. Each of its points is studded with the decaying wrecks of 12 Anson airplanes, which were used to train pilots of the British Commonwealth during the Second World War.

The project salutes the hidden stories and the roles these lumbering aircraft played during their heyday. The planes

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were rescued by Harder, a professor at the UofA's Augustana Campus, from a museum boneyard and given new life as an enduring art exhibit.

The installation measures 100 yards across and took 20 truckloads of gravel, six months of time and much maneuvering of heavy equipment to build. The project was supported with a University of Alberta President's Grant for the Creative and Performing Arts.

Several still photos of the installation are available for publication. Learn more about the project at Keith Harder's website: <http://www.augustana.ualberta.ca/~hardk/Dereliction%20of%20Memory/index.htm>

For more information: Keith Harder, professor and chair, Department of Fine Arts, Augustana Campus, University of Alberta at 780.679.1175, or by email: [kbharder@ualberta.ca](mailto:kbharder@ualberta.ca)

Interviews are also available with the curator of the Nanton Lancaster Air Museum, which provided the airplanes used in the project. Contact Bob Evans, volunteer curator, at 403.646.2270 or email: [nlscurator@lancaster-museum.ca](mailto:nlscurator@lancaster-museum.ca)



Avro Anson C.19 TX235 of the Royal Air Force at Manchester (Ringway) Airport 1955  
— photo: RuthAS

Historical Society of Alberta  
Annual Conference and AGM  
May 28 to 30, 2010  
Queen Alexandra School  
7730 - 106 Street Edmonton, AB



### Discover Old Strathcona

Between 1891 and 1912 a distinct community inhabited by dreamers and builders grew on the South banks of the North Saskatchewan River. The community known by various names (South

Edmonton from 1891-1899, the Town of Strathcona from 1899-1907 and the City of Strathcona from 1907-1912) fostered not only the growth of the railway, mills and brick yards, but true community spirit.

In 1912, this once fiercely protected distinct community was amalgamated with the City of Edmonton.

In time what made the City of Strathcona unique was forgotten by many. In 1974 a group of concerned citizens formed the Old Strathcona Foundation with a mandate to revitalize the community.

On January 31, 2007, The Old Strathcona Provincial Historic Area was established under a provincial Order-in-Council. This designation signaled the recognition by Alberta of the district for its contributions to provincial history. The new district, including a section of Whyte Avenue, will now be listed on the Alberta and Canadian registers of historic places.

The HSA is proud to host its 2010 Annual Conference in this historically designated community.

### Tours

- Streetcar and Legislature
- Rutherford House guided
- Mount Pleasant Cemetery
- Old Strathcona Bus
- Queen Alexandra History Centre
- Heritage Fair Presentations & Heritage Fair Exhibits
- HSA Awards Banquet
- Raffle
- Via Rail return trip for two to Jasper
- Hand-made quilt by Shirley Ronaghan
- Victorian lace shawl by Lisa Maltby
- Tickets available during the conference \$5.00 per ticket.

For more information and brochure contact call 780.439.2797 or email [events@historicedmonton.ca](mailto:events@historicedmonton.ca).

Edmonton and District Historical Society.  
HSA Conference  
c/o Edmonton & District Historical Society  
3rd flr, 7730 - 106 St, Edmonton, AB  
T6E 4W3



## Little Leftie from Fort Vermilion Part I

by Don Edgcombe

While thinking back to my childhood the first thought that comes to mind is that I was probably a typical product of the great depression that hit North America and certainly western Canada about the time I was born on November 9, 1926. I was the third of four children born to my parents, Winnifred (Winnie to her friends) and Harold (Han to everyone) Edgcombe.

I was born in our little two storey log house, white with green trim, at Fort Vermilion on the banks of the Peace River. We had no hospital and the nearest town was Peace River, about three hundred miles upstream. I'm told Dr. Harold Hamman attended at my delivery, and was probably assisted by a local midwife. Dr. Hamman would become my Godfather when I was baptised into the Anglican Church. He was a legendary pioneer country doctor, known throughout the west as a principal player in the famous Diphtheria epidemic. He was also involved when the mercy flight by bush pilots Wop May and Vic Horner, flying in an open cockpit biplane in the frigid cold in the winter of 1928, delivered vaccine serum.

My Godmother was Mrs. Jessie McGrew who came from England in 1909 to teach school at nearby Stoney Point. Both my Godparents had a very positive impact on my childhood. Mrs McGrew operated the small public library on Saturdays where, with her help, I spent many hours selecting reading material. She gave me my first horse as my sixth birthday gift, a beautiful little black mare. I have no idea why my Godmother called her Bunty. I would have preferred a more traditional name, but out of respect I chose not to rename her. Dr Hamman became my hero as the star pitcher and captain of the Fort Vermilion men's softball team.

The eldest in our family of four was Dorothy born in 1922. During her teens, and even earlier, she willingly accepted the responsibility of supervising her younger siblings as our mother, but was often not in good health. Our father operated a small general store, bought furs, and in my early years was also the postmaster. My older brother Harold was born in 1924. Being two and a half years my senior he didn't encourage me to join his group of friends, but we shared many interesting experiences. My little sister Phyllis, was born on September 15, 1930, also at home. I remember waking the next morning and being told by my Dad that I had a new baby sister.

I do vaguely remember an incident that happened when I was three. I had followed our hired man, Bobbie McLean out to the barn to feed and water the animals. We had a team of horses that served us well for many years. Brownie was a medium sized brown mare, excellent for riding or driving. Jack was a big white gelding; gentle as a kitten. My dad had just bought Dick, a smaller grey horse, the day before and when Bobbie let the three horses out of the barn to drink from the river, Brownie and Jack resented the new horse sharing their space and immediately started to chase Dick around the barnyard. Bobbie didn't know I had followed him until Dick ran over me knocking me down. Fortunately I wasn't seriously hurt.

I also remember riding Jack along the two miles or so of the river road that ran through town to invite kids to my fourth birthday party. My parents saw no problem with me riding old, gentle Jack unsupervised. I had to lead him up beside a fence or a wagon to climb on his back. Another time, shortly after my fourth birthday, Bobbie McLean hitched up

Brownie and Jack on a cold winter morning to haul a load of firewood. With his parka hood up and the jingling sleigh bells he didn't see or hear the little four year old running behind. Fortunately a couple of Nuns from the Catholic Mission saw me and promptly returned me to our house, about a distance of a quarter mile.

In September 1931 I started school, two months before my fifth birthday. I was the youngest in grade one, we had never heard of kinder garden, but the school board needed at least thirty students to qualify for a grant towards the teacher's salary, and I happened to be the thirtieth. I sat on my teacher's knee while learning to read. She was Miss Olive Goodwin who later became Mrs Bresee when she married Art the local game warden. Our school was a single room log structure with no plumbing or electricity. During midwinter we were forced to shorten school hours by a half hour in the morning and the same in the afternoon due to darkness. We travelled about two miles to school often on foot but in extreme cold weather we drove our dogs. During my first Christmas concert I recited the well loved poem "Twas The Night Before Christmas," and was slightly embarrassed by the applause from the audience.

Young boys like me usually wore leather helmets with sheepskin or fleece lining, with big earflaps that buckled under the chin. Most of us wore moosehide moccasins but some wore ankle high black lace-up felt boots. Some of the older boys wore four buckle overshoes with their felt boots. My brother and I preferred moccasins as they were lighter and dried faster at night when hung near the heater. Breeks were the most common type of pant, shaped

continued on page 9

continued from page 8

similar to the ones the Mounties still wear but minus the yellow stripes. Ours were made of wool or cotton corduroy with leather knee patches and were laced snugly below the knee. Heavy wool socks covered our legs from just below the knee. We wore leather or moosehide mitts with a removable liner of wool or duffle cloth. Some of the boys wore bib overalls. Jeans, as we know them now, were not available. Flannel checked shirts, wool sweaters, and buttoned wool, or corduroy jackets kept our upper bodies warm. Zippered jackets came later.

I felt sorry for my two sisters, as ski pants or snow pants weren't acceptable attire for girls in the early 1930's, so they wore long brown or black wool stockings, wool plaid skirts or dresses, with hand knitted wool toques and mitts. We boys wore full length Penman's #27 mottled blue and white fleece lined combination underwear, while the girls wore fleece lined bloomers and undervests.

When I was five my brother and I rode old Jack on a choke cherry picking trip to the ferry landing about four miles upstream from town. Our friend Howard Bellerose accompanied us on his horse. Riding home we were sampling our berries and I was having a little fun spitting the stones at Howard's horse, causing him to jump as if bitten by a horse fly. Howard warned me that if I did it again he would hit our horse with his riding whip and also make him jump. I took the dare and suddenly old Jack got the whip sharply across his rump causing him to take a huge jump forward, depositing me onto the gravel road. Jack raced all the way home with Harold clinging to the saddle horn, but unable to rein him in. Howard raced after them hoping to stop the runaway. I had landed on my left arm which happened to be cradling a ten pound Rogers syrup pail filled with

chokecherries. I knew my arm was broken halfway between the wrist and elbow as I began the mile-long walk home. Luckily, I had watched the grade eight students being taught about applying slings for broken arms. I hooked my left thumb onto the strap on my bib overalls and found it didn't hurt quite as much. I'd even stopped crying by the time I got home. The accident happened about one hundred yards from Dr Hamman's office and residence, but it didn't occur to me to stop and ask for help. Later that evening he reset my broken arm taping it securely to wooden splints with a proper sling to keep it immobile. I started grade two in September and had to learn to write with my right hand which for me was a major challenge. The teacher said she hoped I would become a permanent right-hander, but as soon as the splints and sling came off I resumed being a natural leftie. I still am.

At about age seven or eight I had my tonsils removed, even though they were not giving me any problem. The provincial health authorities deemed it advisable that all kids in rural communities without hospitals should have their tonsils removed. A mobile clinic was set up in the local dance hall complete with camp type folding cots made of wood and canvas. A team of doctors and nurses arrived from Edmonton and in a couple of days probably fifty or sixty kids aged seven to fourteen were de-tonsiled. In spite of the obvious lack of a surgical theatre, or such basic requirements as electricity or running water, we all survived the surgery, but to this day I still question the logic.

Another luxury, if one chooses to call it that, which our isolated community did not warrant, was a dental office. When we kids had to have a temporary tooth pulled it was usually done by a parent or an older sibling. If an adult experienced a lot

of pain from a cavity, he or she would have the problem tooth removed with a pair of pliers by Gus Clarke the Hudson's Bay manager. No freezing of the tooth and usually just a swig of whiskey before, or after the procedure, to destroy any germs that might migrate from the pliers to the open wound in the gum. I recall vividly my only experience with a qualified dentist prior to my reaching adulthood. Dr. Green had a dental practice in Peace River, three hundred miles south of the Fort. He also had a very stylish little speed boat with an outboard motor. Each summer he would load his mobile dental equipment into his boat and make the trip to the Fort. He set up shop in a log warehouse that belonged to our Dad. With no electricity available he would operate his dental drill by a foot pedal that turned a large wheel, which in turn with a pencil thin round rubber belt, drove a much smaller wheel at a much faster speed. This operated his drill for preparing a tooth for a filling. Dr. Green was quite elderly and he would get tired operating the foot pedal, which was similar to the one on my mother's sewing machine. So, if he was really busy, either my brother or I would operate the pedal. It was kind of fun listening to the younger patients scream when his drill hit a nerve. But it certainly wasn't fun when my turn came to sit in his portable dentist's chair for a couple of fillings. One visit to a dentist in a log warehouse during my first eighteen years is a far cry from today when our grandchildren's dental check-ups, often entail braces, spacers, or retainers. Strangely at age eighty-one I still have most of my original teeth and haven't been to a dentist in years. I don't know whether to attribute it to good luck, good genes, or good tooth paste.

In grade three we got a supply of new readers replacing the old ones with King

continued on page 10

continued from page 9

George V on the cover. I was surprised to find a story, written by a local author, about her seventeen year old son being stranded in town when the ferry couldn't operate due to the Peace River rising rapidly carrying driftwood and trees on the swift current. Her son had no choice but to swim across the river, well over a half a mile wide, on his horse Tiny. Ironically my Dad had bought Tiny for ten dollars a few weeks before I read the story. I was so excited I put up my hand to interrupt the teacher and proudly announce to the whole school that Tiny was now our horse and at that very minute was tied up in the school barn. My older brother sort of rained on my parade by announcing to all that Tiny was actually his horse as I already had my very own horse Bunty since my sixth birthday. Not many kids get to find a storey in their school reader about an animal owned by their family. Tiny was a bit of a celebrity for a few weeks.

Between the ages of six and twelve I got to take a few trips with my Dad. The first was a buying trip to Edmonton. After a six day trip upstream to Peace River on one of the freight hauling boats we hired Mike Raychyba to drive us to Edmonton in his model A Ford. The three hundred mile drive took us three full days. We had to be pulled through mud holes several times by horses or steel wheeled farm tractors. On another occasion we hired Mike's boat to take us to Tall Cree Prairie outpost for the annual Treaty Day when all the natives got a cash payment of five dollars from the government, but only if they lived on a Reserve. We went down stream on the Peace to the confluence of the Wabasca River. We locals called it the Loon River. Going upstream on the Loon River was a serious challenge for the "Russian Navy" as all the Fort people had dubbed

Mike's boat. It was a shallow draft pontoon contraption with a huge wooden paddle wheel driven by a truck engine positioned between the pontoons. We found it necessary for Dad, Andrew our hired man, and me to walk along the bank pulling on long ropes to help it move forward in the fast moving current. The Tall Cree were Dad's favorite native customers. He had learned to speak their language which gave him a competitive edge on the opposition traders and the Hudson's Bay manager. I also was allowed to accompany Dad a few times by horse and wagon to his other outpost at the Eliske Reserve on the north side of the river. Here the Indians were of the Beaver tribe who spoke a different language than the Crees south of the Peace. Dad didn't learn Beaver as most of the trappers had learned a bit of English while attending the Residential School operated by the Catholic Church. About one hundred and thirty miles west of the Eliske Reserve was another band of Indians called Slaveys who also brought their furs in for Dad to purchase. Little did I dream that fifteen years later I would be a fur trader like my Dad living and trading with the Slaveys on their Hay Lakes Reserve.

I would learn to speak their language and care for their sick as a manager for the Hudson's Bay Company. My future wife Velma also became a HBC employee after a few years of teaching school. She had become quite fluent in the Cree language while clerking at Fort Vermilion before our marriage.

Our town only received mail once a month in winter, hauled by a convoy of five or six teams operated by Louis Bourassa and his men from the town of Peace River, a distance of three hundred miles on the river ice. Dad would usually ship his fur on the return mail haul to the Edmonton Fur Auction.

Between the December, January, February, and March shipments Dad accumulated a considerable quantity of furs, far more than he could hang in his store, so he put up a series of heavy strings across the bedroom I shared with my brother. These strings were attached to opposite walls just below the ceiling and spaced about eighteen inches apart. On them hung hundreds of fox, lynx, and wolf pelts, heads up and tails hanging down, to about two feet above our bed. Harold and I often considered dismantling our bed frame and lowering the mattress to the floor to provide more air-space under the wall to wall fur pelts. It's little wonder that we both later developed allergy problems. When I was fourteen Dad sold his general store and accepted the positions of Police Magistrate and secretary of the school board. When the outdated telegraph system using morse code messages became obsolete, Dad became the contact man with the outside world, using a then high-tech two way voice radio. He held the position of Police Magistrate and Commissioner of Oaths for many years until retiring at eighty.

He and Mom retired to Devon, a new town southwest of Edmonton. I am told by many that he was an excellent Magistrate, who used common sense, compassion, and experience to compensate for his limited formal education of grade nine received in his home town of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. At the time of their move from Fort Vermilion in 1963, I was living in Whitehorse, Yukon, and wasn't able to attend the huge farewell party the community staged for my parents. Almost the entire population of Fort Vermilion and surrounding area attended. There wasn't a building large enough to accommodate the gathering, so it was held outdoors in the summer

## The Historical Society of Alberta Annual Awards Program Nomination Form 2010

Nomination Procedure: To be considered, each nomination must be accompanied by this nomination form, as well as any further information that may be relevant. **Deadline for nominations is March 15, 2010.** The criteria describing each of the three award categories will be found on pages 1 and 4. Please indicate below the category chosen for this nomination:

**Award Categories:**    Annual Award: \_\_\_\_    Award of Merit \_\_\_\_    Honorary Lifetime Membership \_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: (Please type or print clearly)

Mr./Mrs./Miss/Ms./or Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (Res.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Bus) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Name(s) of Nominators:**

Organization/Individual: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Res.) \_\_\_\_\_ (Bus.) \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Please return completed form to:**

Linda Collier, Chair, Awards Committee, The Historical Society of Alberta  
P.O. Box 4035, Station C, Calgary, AB T2T 5M9

Please provide information, where possible, in the following areas:

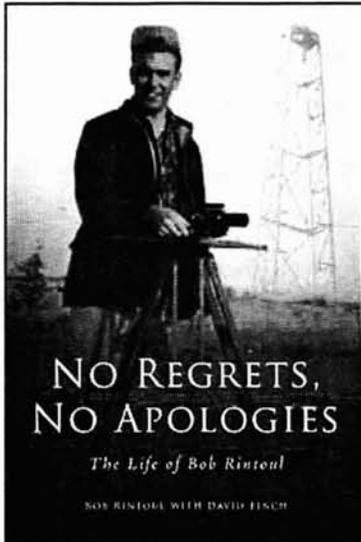
(If you need more space, feel free to attach other sheets, as well as any appropriate accompanying material).

**Brief Biography of Nominee:**

A description of why this person or organization is being nominated, their roles/accomplishments, and how these fit the criteria of the category you have chosen:

Other information or references that might be useful (if you wish):

Thank you.



pb \$25 plus GST, s&h where applicable  
Kingsley. ISBN 978-0-9784526-6-7

## No Regrets, No Apologies: The Life of Bob Rintoul

by Gordon Robert (Bob) Rintoul and David Finch

Available January, 2010 from the University of Calgary Bookstore, Main Store 403.220.5937  
Toll Free 1.877.220.5937, email: bkstore@ucalgary.ca

Direct pickup locations December 18 include Thomas Jeffries Men's Wear in Scotia Centre and South Centre, Fort Calgary and Heritage Park.

Book production costs have been paid by the author. All book sale proceeds are being donated by the author to the Bob and Nola Rintoul endowment in Bone and Joint Research—Southern Alberta, University of Calgary.

The launch party for *No Regrets, No Apologies* will be at the end of January, 2010. Stay tuned at <http://bobrintoul.com> launching this week.

"When you see this life in full, with "*No Regrets and No Apologies*," you will be left with no voids or ambiguities. As always, Bob puts it all on the table — a life laid bare for us all to see and learn from." — from the Foreword by Ken King, President and CEO, Calgary Flames

### *No Regrets, No Apologies: The Life of Bob Rintoul*

"With Bob, you camp throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan with rough-and-tumble, hard-drinking seismic crews ... You bed down in shanty-town bunkhouses after rowdy nights in prairie bars. You survive dangerous winter roads and hole up in farm homes while blizzards blow through. Bob introduces you to dozens of men and women who helped build a province. He weaves the genesis of their legacies through his chronological account of the dawn of a new western Canadian powerhouse ...

Bob Rintoul was born into depression-era Alberta. He showed an entrepreneurial bent from a young age and grew to become one of the province's successful businessmen through his company, Ace Explosives. In *No Regrets, No Apologies*, Bob, a born storyteller, gives an inspired account of his life: a rollicking tale of hard work, sheer determination, novel ideas, and holding fast to what matters in life.

Entrepreneur, oilman and philanthropist Bob Rintoul explains, "I have never sacrificed my principles to satisfy other people. I'm a risk-taker. I try to make life a little better for others as well as our family, and that pretty much summarizes my time on this earth. I've done my best."

Gordon Robert (Bob) Rintoul was born in Calgary, Alberta, in 1930 and completed his education at Calgary's Central Collegiate High School. He married Nola E. Cooper of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, in 1951, and they now have two children, five grandchildren, and four great grandchildren. Bob worked for Safeway as a young adult, and joined the geophysical industry in 1950, attaining the position of party manager. In 1957 he began work in the explosives industry and in 1967 started his own explosives distribution business, Ace Explosives Limited, distributing for both Canadian Industries Limited and subsequently DuPont of Canada Limited in western Canada and the Territories. His employees bought him out in 1984 at which time he retired.

While in business Bob served the community in the following organizations: Secretary of the Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists; Alberta Motor Truck Association Board; Calgary Heritage Park Board; Charter Member of the Bank of Montreal Small Business Advisory Panel; Cofounder, first President, and Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Explosives Distributors Association of Canada; Member of the Board of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business; and a member of the Group of Twelve, who made it possible for the Canadian National Hockey Team to move to Calgary in 1978.

Currently, Bob is on the board and is Vice president of the Petroleum History Society, a member of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Descendants, an Ambassador for the Calgary Flames, and on the advisory boards of the Alberta Bone and Joint and Patient Wellness for the new Calgary Health Region South Campus Hospital.

David Finch researches and writes the history of the Canadian West and is the author of more than twenty books, including *Pumped: Everyone's Guide to the Oil Patch*.

To receive review copies, to book speaking engagements or interviews, or further information, contact:

Lyn Cadence at 403.465.2345 or [lyn@cadencepr.ca](mailto:lyn@cadencepr.ca)

For a sneak peek inside the book, see <http://pitch.pe/35370>

*No Regrets, No Apologies* will be available in January, 2010 from the University of Calgary bookstore. 403 220.5937

Toll Free 1.877.220.5937 — [bkstore@ucalgary.ca](mailto:bkstore@ucalgary.ca)

\$25 plus GST, handling and mailing where applicable

published by Kingsley, ISBN 978-0-9784526-6-7



**Beautiful Joe**  
by Margaret Marshall Saunders

*Beautiful Joe* is the classic story of an innocent dog

forced to live with a cruel master who, in a fit of rage, viciously removes his ears and tail. Fortunately, help arrives in the form of a family named Morris, who nurse the dog back to health and gives him a new name Beautiful Joe.

Happy in his new home, Joe finds that he is in the company of many other animals that the family has saved from harm. The Morris family's belief that every creature has the right to a full and happy life makes them perfect friends for Joe, and despite his horrible early experiences, Joe learns to love and trust his adopted family and becomes a loyal and valued companion.

This novel showcases classic and timeless storytelling with a sensitive and compelling narrator at its core. Margaret Marshall Saunders created a loving narrative of profound devotion as touching today as when it was written over a century ago.

ISBN: 978-067-0-06464-9

272 pages/\$25

Publication Date: December 12, 2009

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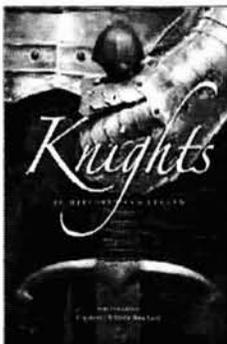
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**Knights: In History and Legend**

by Dr. Constance B. Bouchard

The word "knight" conjures up images of gallant men in gleaming armor astride noble steeds, searching for foes to fight and fair maidens to rescue.

In *Knights: In History and Legend*, Dr. Constance B. Bouchard and a team of medieval historians offer the most comprehensive book on knights and knighthood available—a volume that accurately details the reality of knighthood, warts and all. To better acquaint us with these mounted warriors who evolved from simple soldiers on horseback to defenders of the faith during the Crusades, this beautifully illustrated reference includes a timeline of knight history—and sections on knights during pre-medieval times, the rise and fall of Charlemagne's empire, knights among the Normans and the Saxons, the Crusades, and the decline of knighthood. It also features a wealth of details about knighthood, from its ethos and ideals to the weapons used by knights to the ways in which one became a knight to everyday life as part of this exclusive fraternity.

Finally, it examines the role of literature and movies in the mythology of knights. Filled with hundreds of beautiful color photographs, artworks and maps, *Knights* is a fascinating blend of history and legend.

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304 pages/\$40

400 colour photos, illustrations, maps

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## Books & Websites



**The White Horse King**

The Life of Alfred the Great

by Benjamin Merkle

Benjamin Merkle's *The White Horse King* is a fast moving biography of Alfred the Great.

*The White Horse King* tells how Alfred the Great defended Wessex against the Danish Vikings. Fortified towns, strategically planned roads, and a new system to ensure a continuous army were all developed.

But Alfred didn't stop at that. He believed that wisdom and piety in his noblemen, soldiers, and citizens were essential to freedom. Scholars were hired, Christian writings were translated, books were distributed, and rewards were given to those who made progress. These efforts led to a "literary renaissance" and a transformation of worship and daily life.

*The White Horse King* is hard to put down. Like most good biographies, the book is inspiring. It is also a great lesson in the history of England.

ISBN-10: 1595552529

ISBN-13: 978-1595552525

Paperback: 272 pages/\$14.99 US

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Phone: 61.889.9000

Web: [www.thomasnelson.com](http://www.thomasnelson.com)



## **One Dance with a Stranger**

by Mary M. Forbes

Handsome and fun-loving Wade Hart is a country singer

superstar. With his choice of women he doesn't understand his obsession with a centerfold beauty he's never met. She looks like every man's dream girl. When he finally meets her, he is further intrigued to see she is nothing like what he'd expected. But regardless of the fact she is his brother's fiancée, now he is determined to have her. Emily Van Sheldon as an orphan living on the streets wanted only to climb out of the dirt and mire of her youth by any means at her disposal. If she doesn't love her *saucy* fiancée it's not important to her. Emily has no intentions of letting emotions interfere with her plans. And she is determined that even the handsome, famous Wade Hart will not change her mind.

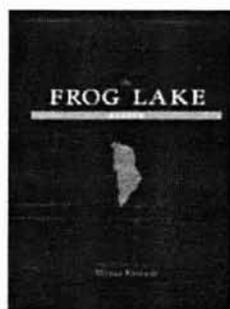
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Purchase: [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and is also available for purchase as an e-book at [www.kindle.com](http://www.kindle.com) or [www.lybrary.com](http://www.lybrary.com).



## **The Frog Lake Reader**

by Myrna Kostash

On April 2, 1885 Alberta Cree led by Wandering Spirit

rose up against unfair Canadian treaties and dwindling buffalo. Cree attacked settlers in the village of Frog Lake in Northern

Alberta killing many of the settlers and resulting in their own death by hanging after being convicted by the Canadian government. Alberta author Myrna Kostash's new book *The Frog Lake Reader* explores the diaries, memoirs and interviews with historians to provide a perspective on an event largely obscured by Riel's rebellion that same year.

ISBN-10: 1897126468

ISBN-13: 978-1897126462

Publisher: NeWest Press Oct 15 2009

\$26.95 Paperback: 256 pages



## **Wandering Spirit: Plains Cree War Chief**

by Garry Radison

Because of the events at Frog

Lake, Wandering Spirit has become the most misunderstood figure of the 1885 resistance. This well researched and well documented book, the first full-length biography of Big Bear's war chief, reveals Wandering Spirit as a protector of his people and not the renegade that history has branded him.

ISBN 978-0-9688329-5-0

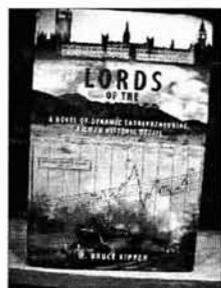
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## **Lords of the Frontier**

by W. Bruce Kippen

W. Bruce Kippen's new historical novel, *Lords of the*

*Frontier* offers a detailed and authentic view of the turbulent and exuberant building of the Canadian economy from 1887-1941

## **Books & Websites**



It is a tale that embraces the early development of Canada's rugged western frontier before leading on to eastern financial and cultural centers, in New York, Montreal, and the city of London. The book follows the lives of three young men through the golden age of the industrial revolution, the devastation of WWI, followed by the roaring twenties, stock market boom, subsequent crash, and the ensuing depression, leading to WWII, and the Battle of Britain.

Not only are the dynamic careers of three characters depicted whose endeavors dramatically reflect the wealth creation era, which transformed Canada from an agricultural to an industrial economy beginning at the close of the nineteenth century, but it also vividly illustrates the Canadian, American and British commercial history relationship

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paperback 532 pages

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There are four projects that are active:

Our website is complete and up on the web at [www.pc-hs.ca](http://www.pc-hs.ca). Lucie Campbell, our vice-president is now working to get this link added to the homepage for the Historical Society of Alberta, along with the other chapters.

Our first publication is planned for 2011 and is part of our multiyear project on Historical Maps of the Peace. We will be publishing a study of the Edson Trail 1911-1916, which is associated with the opening of Alberta's last frontier. The Alberta survey company, Focus Geomatics, is providing key pro-bono assistance to Pat Wearmouth on this project. This will be followed by a study of the Athabasca Trail ( sometimes

known as the 'Long Trail') 1885-1916, and then separate studies of routes from the 'heads' ( or is it 'tails') of these trails to the main homestead areas of the Peace Country. Also planned, though much more problematic at this time, is a study of the Native Trails, often the original basis of homestead routes criss-crossing the Peace.

An electronic directory of heritage groups in the Peace Country is being assembled by Daryl White, our treasurer, as a link on our website. We do not wish to miss anyone, so this will take time.

Our lecture series, conceived of as quarterly, will commence in May with a lecture by Dr David Leonard on ' The Land Rush of 1910' to coincide with the

100th anniversary of the opening of the first Land Office in the Peace. We are also exploring a presentation on 'Heritage of Winter Sports in the Peace' in association with the cultural events surrounding the Arctic Winter Games 2010 in Grande Prairie next March.

Our secretary, Janet Peterson, has gifted our society with a membership in Alberta Museum Society. Thank you, Janet.

## The Historical Society of Alberta - List of Awards

<b>Annual Awards</b>					
1961	Eric L. Harvie, Calgary	1974	Dr. Lewis H. Thomas, Edmonton	1988	William Peters, Calgary
1964	James G. MacGregor, Edmonton	1975	James Gray, Calgary	1989	Jim Carpenter, Lethbridge
1964	Hugh A. Dempsey, Calgary	1976	Bruce Haig, Lethbridge	1990	Charles Denney, Edmonton
1965	Kerry Wood, Red Deer	1977	Georgeen Barrass, Calgary	1991	Isabel Campbell, Grande Prairie
1966	Grant MacEwan, Calgary	1978	Catharine Whyte, Banff	1992	Elise Corbet, Calgary
1967	Frank Anderson, Calgary	1979	Jim Parker, Edmonton	1992	Arlene Borgstede, St. Albert
1968	Dr. Jack W. Chalmers, Edmonton	1980	Dr. Lewis G. Thomas, Edmonton	1993	Betty Dahlie, Calgary
1969	Bruce B. Peel, Edmonton	1981	Grant L. Weber, Calgary	1995	Peter D. Hawker, Edmonton
1970	Malvina Bolus, Winnipeg	1982	Balmer Wat Family, Edmonton	1996	Harold Mitchell, Smoky Lake
1971	Richard Y. Secord, Edmonton	1983	Sheilagh Jameson, Calgary	1997	Roberta Ryckman, Calgary
1972	T.R. "Pat" McCloy, Calgary	1984	Alan Ridge, Edmonton	1997	Allan Armstrong, Red Deer
1973	Alex Johnston, Lethbridge	1985	Lillian Knupp, High River	1999	Raymond Maisonneuve, Donnelly
		1986	Mel Hurtig, Edmonton	2000	Gerald M. Hutchinson, Edmonton
		1987	Carlton Stewart, Lethbridge		

continued on page 16

In late September, CCHS President Tom Hamp accepted a 6 month consulting assignment in Medicine Hat to bring together their natural gas program, and voila, I became acting president of the CCHS until March 2010.

Program meetings at Fort Calgary, organized by Laurel Halladay, have included:

The Waldron Ranch Story 1883 – 1907  
by author Warren Elosfson

The Grandfather of the Buffalo: Fossils in the Culture and Beliefs of the Nitsitapii (Cory Gross)

Proud to be White: The Ku Klux Klan in Alberta (William Baergen)

Early Pioneers –Struggles and Triumphs (Edie Postill Cole) in conjunction with the Christmas Lunch on December 12

Proud to be White filled the Fort Calgary auditorium and we received a

threat not to hold the talk – needless to say it generated some interest in Calgary. As usual the Christmas luncheon (thanks to Sarah Harvey and Shona Gourlay)) is sold out and Early Pioneers brings back the “good old days” that sound romantic, but were very challenging.

CCHS has been invited to attend Historical Institutions meetings in Calgary. The core group may expand but at present consists of, Heritage Park Historical Village, The Calgary Stampede, Fort Calgary, Lougheed House and Glenbow Museum. Carrol Jaques has been our representative.

Our AGM on March 23, 2010 will have the President and CEO of the Heritage Park Historical Village, Alida Visbach, as the guest speaker.

Historic Calgary Week 2009 was very well attended. The co-chairs – Kate Reeves, Janice Lowe, Roberta Ryckman and Linda Purdy – deserve more than con-

gratulations. They attended a preliminary meeting to help CCHS begin to think of 2010. Their commitment and expertise is needed and valued – and they will assist in picking a paid coordinator for HCW 2010. Carrol Jaques has applied for grants in this regard: from the Alberta Community Initiative Program, from the Federal Government’s Building Communities Through Arts and Culture Program and received a \$2,000 grant from the City of Calgary.

CCHS is in the final stages of entering into an Agency Agreement with the Bowness Historical Society.

The Living History Project is in its nascent stage.

Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy New Year.

## HSA Awards List - continued from page 15

2001	Georgia Green Fooks, Lethbridge	100 Contributors	2000	Viking Historical Society and The Town of Viking, Viking		
2002	Pauline Feniak, Warspite	2008	Senator Joyce Fairbairn	2001	Old Strathcona Foundation, Edmonton	
2002	Fred Schutz, Rimbey	2009	Hon. Peter Lougheed	2002	The Alberta Pioneer Railway Association, Edmonton	
2003	F. Marie Dorsey, Edmonton	<b>Awards of Merit</b>			2003	Big Valley Historical Society
2003	William Baergen, Stettler	1993	Lac La Biche Mission Historical Society, Lac La Biche	2004	Fort Edmonton Historical Foundation	
2004	Richard H. Shockley, Lethbridge	1997	The Lethbridge Herald, Lethbridge	2005	Alberta Aviation Museum Association	
2004	Hon. Thelma Chalifoux, Morinville	1999	Smoky River Genealogical & Historical Society, Smoky River	2005	Alberta Prairie Railway Excursions	
2005	Clarence (Clancy) Patton, Calgary					
2006	David Bly, Calgary					
2007	No Awards – Recognition of					

continued on page 17

Where has 2009 gone?

Certainly the fall was busy with our "What is history?" speaker series. We have been both entertained and challenged to think about how we view history by the various speakers and the series continues in 2010. And, no, I have still not come up with my own definitive definition of what history is so I'm glad the series is continuing in the spring.

We hope people will join us for the following upcoming programs:

January General Meeting, Tuesday, January 26, 2010, 7:15 pm. Photographic Visit to Various Archaeological Sites, particularly in Southern Alberta. Jim McMurchy, Archaeological Society of Alberta

Annual Banquet, Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Guest Presenter: Floyd Sillito. Entertainment, music and history. Reception: 6 pm Dinner: 6:30 pm. Galt Museum & Archives Viewing Gallery. Ticket prices \$29 members, \$31 non-members

March General Meeting, Tuesday, March 23, 2010, 7:15 pm. Diverse Voices and Stories. Dana Inkster will look at how to include as many diverse voices and stories in our history as possible.

April General Meeting, Tuesday, April 27, 2010, 7:15 pm. Historic Buildings. Ted Stilson will highlight Lethbridge's historic buildings and how by investing in our historic building our history is being brought back to life.

The Alex Johnston Lecture Series, which is a continuing partnership between the University of Lethbridge and the LHS, continued in November 2009 with Raymond Huel speaking on the development of the Catholic Church in southern Alberta. The lecture was very well attended and the committee will start work early in 2010 planning for next year.

## HSA Awards List - continued from page 16

2006	Gem of the East Museum Society	1995	Fred G. Holberton, Calgary
2007	No Award – Recognition of 100 Contributors	1999	Sheila Johnston, Calgary
2008	The Confluence Heritage Society	2000	Morris Flewelling, Red Deer
2009	The Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta	2000	Allen and Shirley Ronaghan Edmonton
2009	The Great Canadian Plains Railway Society	2001	Carlton (Carly) Ross Stewart, Lethbridge
		2001	James A.N. Mackie, QC., Calgary
		2002	Helen LaRose, Edmonton
		2005	Jack and Enid Fitzsimonds
		2006	Ralph L. Erdman, Lethbridge
		2006	F. Marie Dorsey, Edmonton
		2007	No Award
		2008	No Award
		2009	Dr. Geoffrey J. Wilson

### Honourary Lifetime Memberships

1962	E.S. George, Edmonton
1963	Hugh A. Dempsey, Calgary
1968	James Gray, Calgary
1977	Georgeen Barrass, Calgary



Dear Members,

This fall has meant a time of tremendous need for me to focus on personal issues as well as on family members in BC, and so I would like to thank the devoted members who have contributed to helping me keep up.

In particular, thanks to Shirley Dye, Don Hepburn, and Rod Trentham.

The Arches project continues to dominate our landscape, both figuratively and in reality. The committee working on Plaques content and design has been meeting frequently and coming up with some interesting methodologies for combining content and ideas. There should be a mock-up to discuss with the membership early in the New Year.

Good wishes to you all for the New Year, Sheila.

## Contacts:

Central Alberta Historical Society  
4525 47A Ave. Red Deer AB, T4N 6Z6  
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President: 403.347.7873  
E-mail: s.bannerman@hotmail.com  
Membership: 403.343.1881  
Web: www.albertahistory.org  
Link CAHS

## 2009 CAHS Board

President: Sheila Bannerman  
Vice pres: Dr Bill MacKay, Innisfail  
Secretary: Dr Lu Piening, Lacombe  
Treasurer: Gorm Hansen  
Past president Dr. Don Hepburn  
Directors: Dr W Baergen, Stettler  
Rod Trentham  
Faye Hughes  
Carolyn Kent, Rocky

Darlo Albrecht  
Iris Loewen Ponoka  
Marguerite Watson  
Dr Robert Lampard  
Pat McDonald, Rocky.

CAHS meetings are held Wednesday evenings at the Golden Circle 4620 47A Avenue.

Meetings commence at 7:30 pm except as otherwise noted. (September—December) There is no scheduled meeting in June.

Each year the Society organizes a historical bus tour.

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## Year 2009 Legacy Campaign

The Society wishes to acknowledge and thank the following persons and organizations for their support of our Year 2009 Legacy Campaign. Funds from this campaign are being used to assist with the Heritage Fairs Fund as well as the Queen Alexandra History Centre in Edmonton. Also, we are using a portion of the funds for a membership drive. Donations are still being accepted.

Marianne Fedori  
Marie Lesoway  
Jane/Russell Braathen  
Betty K. Daly  
Mary Mishra  
Peter Goruk  
Georgeen Barrass  
Eileen/Stewart Ford  
Elly deJongh  
Hilda Lawson  
William (Bill) Chebuk  
Violet/Raymond Ball  
Joan Garland

Robert D. D. Cormack  
Dorothy H. Gray  
Beth Sheehan  
Alan L. Bryan  
Merilyn/Norman Mitchell  
Lorraine Andrews  
Dr. Robert A. Macbeth  
Aileen Pelzer  
Joan/Clarence Davis  
Pat Molesky-Brar  
Donald J. Stiles  
V. G. Walls  
John W. Connor

Ron Williams  
Lawrence Barany  
W. P. Baergen  
Dr. W. Coons  
Susan Church  
Dr. Lloyd Rodway  
Willem J. Jalink  
Diana Ellis  
Fred Holberton  
Dorothy Chalmers  
David J. Hall  
Bernice/Clarence Patton  
Dixie/Fred McCall

We recently held an emergency meeting of some members of our Board plus Kathryn Ivany relative to the potential threat to the historical features of Fort Edmonton Park.

These concerns are raised because the Park is now administered by a newly created management entity who have invited an organization to examine and propose changes to the nature and character of Fort Edmonton Park in the name of increasing public awareness and attendance. This organization has worked for the Disney entities and we are concerned that the new proposal will impact negatively on the historical features and program delivery of the Park.

Proposals have to be accepted by Edmonton City Council.

Kathryn Ivany is preparing a resume of her notes and we are to make a presentation.

Website: <http://www.fortedmontonpark.ca>

I have this in my binder of interesting quotations, etc.

"In token for the love that thou hast shown for this wild land of freedom, I have named a province vast and for its beauty famed, by thy dear name to be hereafter known.

Alberta it shall be".

— The Marquis of Lorne, Governor-General of Canada 1878 - 1883, to his wife, Princess Louise Caroline Alberta

from Bud Squair

## Strangers in the Box

a poem, author unknown, presented by Bud Squair,

Come; look with me inside this drawer,  
In this box I've often seen,  
At the pictures, black and white,  
Faces proud, still, and serene.

I wish I knew the people.  
These strangers in the box,  
Their names and all their memories  
Are lost among my socks.

I wonder what their lives were like,  
How did they spend their days?  
What about their special times?  
I'll never know their ways.

If only someone had taken time  
To tell, who, what, where and when,  
These faces of my heritage  
Would come to life again.

Could this become the fate  
Of the pictures we take today?  
The faces and the memories,  
Someday to be passed away?

Take time to save your stories,  
Seize the opportunity when it knocks,  
Or someday you and yours  
Could be strangers in the box.



## HSA Calendar 2010

- Jan 20** CAHS Heritage Preservation Committee presents: Michener Administration Bldg, 7:30pm, Golden Circle 4620 47Ave.
- Jan 26** LHS General Meeting, Tuesday, 7:15pm, Jim McMurchy, Archaeological Society of Alberta
- Jan 26** EDHS The Life and Memoirs of Emma Minesinger, Dr Sarah Carter, Queen Alexandra School Gym, 7730 106 Street, Edmonton, 7:30pm
- Jan 30** PCHS Meeting, GP Museum 10am Speaker: Gail Shau, Genealogical Society
- Feb 17** CAHS Evolution of the Calgary and Edmonton Trail, Paul Pettypiece, 7:30pm, Golden Circle 4620 47Ave.
- Feb 23** EDHS St Albert 150, 7:30pm Queen Alexandra School Gym, 7730 106 Street, Edmonton
- Feb 23** LHS Annual Banquet, Presenter: Floyd Sillito, 6pm Galt Museum & Archives Viewing Gallery.  
Tickets \$29 members, \$31 non-members
- Mar 17** CAHS Sheila Bannerman, Historian, Larger than life: Alberta volunteers in the Anglo-Boer War, 1899-1902, 7:30pm, Golden Circle 4620 47Ave.
- Mar 23** LHS General Meeting, 7:15pm, Diverse Voices and Stories - Dana Inkster
- Mar 30** EDHS Flight Paths of History 7:30pm, Queen Alexandra School Gym, 7730 106 Street, Edmonton
- Apr 21** CAHS Central Alberta Catalogue Houses, 7:30pm, Golden Circle 4620 47Ave.
- Apr 27** EDHS Canoe Across Canada. 6pm, followed by John Rowand Night & AGM, Faculty Club, UofA, 11435 Saskatchewan Drive, Edmonton

## HSA Crossword

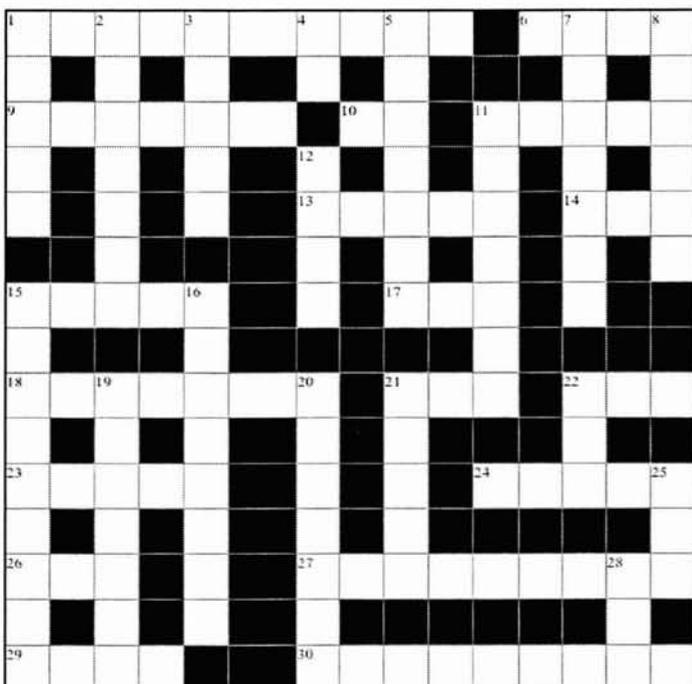
This crossword puzzle devised by Jennifer Prest

### Answers to October #20 newsletter crossword:

**Across:** 1. Assiniboia; 6. Kiev; 9. Brassy; 10. R.B.; 11. Edsel; 13. Lakes; 14. Lye; 15. Boyle; 16. Roi; 18. La Salle; 21. Due; 22. LDS; 23. Tress; 24. Lucas; 26. Ova; 27. Meandered; 30. Of; 31. Tidy; 32. Stampeder

**Down:** 1. Amber; 2. Stanley; 3. Nisku; 4. B A; 5. I G Baker; 7. Insulin; 8. Valley; 11. Erskine; 12. Alix; 15. Bull trout; 16. Elliston; 19. Shepard; 20. Eskimos; 21. Delia; 22. Lac; 25. Sid 28. Eft; 29. Eve.

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*



### Across

1. Author of 'Jake and the Kid' (3 wds)
6. Col. McLeod's organization
9. A moss-like growth found on rocks
10. An international organization
11. A reptile
13. NASCAR driver, Al \_\_
14. Grocery chain taken over by Sobey's
15. And early form of transport in Canada
17. A longing; desire for
18. River (Fr.)
21. Gilbert & Sullivan's '\_\_\_ Pinafore'
22. A railway company headquartered in Calgary
23. G.B. Shaw's \_\_\_ Dolittle
24. A notorious first stop for early immigrants to the USA \_\_\_ Island
26. Boxing great, Mohammed \_\_
27. Bob Edwards' paper, \_\_\_ (2 wds.)
29. Once the most powerful man in Venice
30. Town on Highways 2 and 88, 190 km southeast of Peace River (2 wds.)

### Down

1. Ft. \_\_, in the Cypress Hills
2. Historian, politician, author, and philanthropist, Grant \_\_
3. Limey's dork; fool
4. Santa's last word ?
5. Charles \_\_, of Ontario who bought David Thompson's journals in the 19th century
7. Guy \_\_, one of the founders of the Calgary Stampede
8. He met Simple Simon going to the fair
11. Banff \_\_ Hotel
12. \_\_ Lake, southwest of Edmonton
15. Hamlet on Highway 24, 35 km southeast of Calgary
16. One of the vanishing sights of the prairie, the grain \_\_\_
19. Covering; masking
20. Once a part of fleet that sailed the Atlantic, the '\_\_\_ of Britain'
21. A village on Highway 2, northwest of Grand Prairie
22. A mountain pass
25. Male honorific
28. Cartoon cry!