Headstones and History
Story and photos by John Chalmers

On May 26 and 27, 2012, for the first time I attended the annual conference of the Historical Society of Alberta, held this year in Calgary. While the western theme in program topics and attire is common with special events in Calgary, this year it had special meaning as 2012 marks the 100th Anniversary of the first Calgary Stampede.

Before attending the conference I read Wendy Bryden’s new book, *The First Stampede of Flores LaDue*. Flores (often called Florence) was the wife of Guy Weadick, father of the Stampede with the financial backing of the Big Four -- Patrick Burns, George Lane, Archie McLean and A.E. (Alfred Ernest) Cross. Appropriately, the conference was held in the impressive log structure at Stampede Park, the Big Four Building, named for those four far-sighted friends of what would become a world famous annual event.

While everyone, at least in Calgary and environs, knows who Guy Weadick was, his wife is a lesser known figure in Alberta history and deserves more recognition. Bryden’s book helps to correct that situation, as did the author’s participation in the conference program. Flores, born Grace Maud Bensel, literally ran away from her home in Minnesota at the age of 15 in 1898 to avoid the displeasure of her father and she joined the circus, a wild west show, assuming the name of Flores LaDue to make it difficult for her father to find her.
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:
Editor, History NOW,
Historical Society of Alberta
Box 4035, Station C
Calgary, AB T2T 5M9
email: albertahistory@telus.net
phone: 403-261-3662
fax: 403-269-6029

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For Information Contact
Office Coordinator
The Historical Society of Alberta
#622 Lancaster Building
304 8th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB T2P 1C2
phone: 403-261-3662
fax: 403-269-6029
email: albertahistory@telus.net
website: www.albertahistory.org

Now Hiring - EDITOR

We are sorry to advise that Sherring Amsden, Editor, has resigned effective May 31st, 2012. Sherring has been our Editor for over 15 years and we will miss her. Thank you Sherring for your great work. We are now accepting applications for the position of Editor of History NOW.

The following is the Job Description

Historical Society of Alberta Job Description
Editor for “History Now”
The job of the editor is to initiate, coordinate, write, edit and produce 4 newsletters per year. Editor responsibilities are to design layout, collect articles and have the newsletter ready for our printer in a timely manner so that he/she will be able to print and deliver to the distributor. The Editor communicates with the printer, photographer, distributor and the Office Coordinator to assure that they will be able to print and deliver the newsletter by the specified date given by the Office Coordinator.

Responsibilities
• review upcoming events with Office Coordinator, to determine which articles are needed
• send out notices requesting articles/information on specific subjects
• input information into desktop publishing program
• write editorial article and other articles based as needed
• edit articles for understanding, grammar, length and occasionally appropriateness
• use desktop publisher to create PDF as per printer’s specs and newsletter design format

Qualifications
• Excellent organizational and written communication skills
• Computer, Internet and email access essential
• Desktop publishing capabilities
• Ability to inspire others to meet deadlines
• Organizational support and ability to set aside time for “History Now” duties
• Ability to work with others to achieve consensus
• Knowledge and interest in history of Alberta
• Ability to know what is happening in the historic community, so that articles are relevant

Supervision
• Newsletter Editor will report to the Office Coordinator.

Time Commitment
• Newsletter Editor serves a two-year term, renewable voluntarily with approval of the Council.
• Expected hours: 20-30 hours per issue

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President's Report by Belinda Crowson

Fall is now upon us. Kids across the province are back in school and schools are gearing up for the year ahead. And across the province volunteers and coordinators with the five regional Heritage Fairs are gearing up to get the year started.

Heritage Fair
Members of the H.S.A. and representatives of the various regional heritage fairs met in Red Deer in August to start discussions around the Heritage Fair program in Alberta. This group met to brainstorm ways to promote the heritage fairs program across the province and to come up with recommendations for the H.S.A. Council on how the H.S.A. can support the regional fairs and the best possible role for H.S.A. in the Heritage Fairs program.

In other Heritage Fair news, two Alberta students, Dylan T. of Lethbridge and Alex H. of Coutts, were named as finalists in the Young Citizens program. Under this program (new this year), four heritage fair students were chosen from each regional fair, given a free video camera and asked to create a video about their project and the research behind it. These videos were then posted to the Canada’s History web-site.

Dylan and Alex were among 30 students chosen as finalists from across Canada. In September a panel of historical experts from across Canada will review the 30 videos to choose 6 students to attend the National History Forum in Ottawa in December. Keep your fingers crossed for these Alberta students.

Historic Edmonton and Calgary Weeks
Congratulations to everyone on another year of great Historic Weeks. Several people I know from Lethbridge were up in Edmonton during Historic Edmonton Week. They had the opportunity to take in a few of the events and were impressed with everything there was for families.

I was able to take in two events during Historic Calgary Week. The first was the Smithbilt Hat Co. plaque unveiling. The second was the 2012 Lion Awards. Congratulations to Kate Reeves and the RCMP Veterans’ Association for their Advocacy and Awareness Awards.

Welcome to New Members and/or Subscribers
June 15, 2012 – September 15, 2012

Robert Lepla, Lethbridge
J. Butterworth, Okotoks
Linda Nelson, Turner Valley
Nana Joumlat, Nanton
Kevin Timanson, Grande Prairie
Lisa Schalk, Lethbridge
Lenore Eaton, Calgary
Ann Hunt, Calgary
Stephane D. Perreault, Red Deer
Cynthia deBoer, Red Deer
Lowell Hodgson, Red Deer
Dianne Wintjes, Red Deer
Allen O. MacLennan, Red Deer
Valerie Lalor, Sherwood Park
Bob Butler, Edmonton
Cory Bohaychek, Lethbridge
Fran L. Beaver, Wabasca
Maureen Krill, Edmonton
Ilona Carroll, Calgary
Dr. Carol Williams, Lethbridge
Winston C. Parker, Calgary
Loram 99 Corporation, Calgary
Ross/Kay Gould, Calgary
Patricia McInnis, Airdrie
Margaret Peyto, Calgary
Stephen/Valerie Kapsha, Calgary
Peter Cutting, Calgary
Annie Tarita, Calgary
Michael/Karie-Anne Getta, Calgary
Josh Brown, Calgary
Marilyn Wallis, Calgary
Liz Delong, Calgary
Aimee Benoit, Lethbridge
Thank You for Your Donation to the HSA and/or Chapters - June 15, 2012 - September 15, 2012

Evelyn M. Brown  
Delcie Gray  
David Leonard  
Dalton/Kay Deedrick  
Donald Smith  
Randy Bell  
Faye Holt (2)  
Dick Reuser  
Marilyn Davidge  
Cynthia deBoer  
Dianne Wynijes  
John/Linda Stewart  
Gerry Luciani  
Janet R. Walter  
Diana Ringstrom  
Dennis E. Lewin  
Chalres/Ann Grant  
J.E. Machtmes  
Brenda Etherington  
Vincent/Mary Ellen Eriksson  
Bern Roe  
ShirleyFrederickson  
Belinda Crowson  
Margaret Peyto  
Robert/Margaret Watson  
Peter Cutting  
Michael/ Frances Dodds  
Diana Carr  
Joyce R. Thompson  
Ken/Sheila Grogan  
Elizabeth Marshall  
Dr. Lloyd rodway  
Brian Roth  
Sheila Power  
Bradley McDonald  
Irene Nicolson  
Ron Williams  
Carol Megaw

The Society wishes to acknowledge and thank the following persons and organizations for their support of our Year 2012 Legacy Campaign. Funds from this campaign are being used to assist with the Heritage Fairs Fund as well as special projects of the Society. Donations are still being accepted.

Anonymous  
D. Lorraine Andrews  
William Baergen  
Raymond/Violet Ball  
Georgeneen Barass  
Russell/Jane Braathen  
Ruth Bryan  
William Chebuk  
John Connor  
Robert D. D. Cormack  
Marilyn Davidge  
Clarence/Joan Davis  
Bill Dunn  
Jack Dunn  
Marianne Fedori  
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Betty Grunau  
Nancy Hackett  
Mark/Nancy Heule  
Wim/Marije Jalink  
Sheila Johnston  
Myrtle Lambert  
Hilda Lawson  
Stanley A. Milner  
Norman/Merilyn Milner  
Clarence “Clancy” Patton  
M. Aileen Pelzer,  
In Memory of James Mackie  
Lloyd Rodway  
Beverley A. Snell  
Donald J. Stiles  
Vic Walls  
Robert/Margaret Watson  
Ron Williams

Our newest publication, “The Fort Edmonton House Journals, 1806 – 1821” is available to our members for $40.00. We will be selling this book to the general public for $60.00. This would make a wonderful gift.

Please send your orders to the office at:
PO Box 4035, Stn C, Calgary, AB T2T 5M9.
If you order this book on or before December 31, 2012, H.S.A. will cover the mailing costs.

We are pleased to offer “Frontier Life in the Mounted Police” at a reduced rate of $29.95 for the holiday season. This offer is open until December 31, 2012. H.S.A. will cover the mailing costs.
Guy and Flores met on the rodeo circuit and were married in 1906. After performing in wild west shows and rodeos for 14 years, Flores won the title of World’s Champion Lady Fancy Roper at the first Calgary Stampede in 1912. Her story is one of two books about champion cowgirls that I have read this year, both recommended. The other book is The Lady Rode Bucking Horses, by Dee Marvine. It is the story of Fannie Sperry Steele, a Montana cowgirl, who like Flores LaDue, was born to the saddle and personally invited by Weadick to compete in the 1912 Calgary Stampede. Fannie was awarded the title of Lady Bucking Horse World Champion.

The following year both Flores and Fannie competed in the Winnipeg Stampede and successfully defended the titles bestowed upon them by promoter Guy Weadick. Over the years, both women competed in rodeo events from Calgary to New York City. Guy and Flores performed at western shows in Canada, the U.S. and Europe.

In addition to the conference program, a non-scheduled opportunity arose. With my motel room only a few minutes south on Macleod Trail from Union Cemetery, I left early on the beautiful morning of May 26 to walk to that huge graveyard and seek out the final resting places of some well-known figures in Calgary and southern Alberta history.

From a visit a few years ago, I had a rough idea of where some of the graves were that I wanted to see. First was that of Rev. John McDougall and his wife, Elizabeth Boyd McDougall. The McDougalls connect with family history. My great-great uncle, Scottish-born Rev. John Niddrie, worked with McDougall from 1889 to 1910 at the Morleyville mission site west of Cochrane, where the 1875 Methodist church still stands, now as McDougall Memorial United Church. It is still used for commemorative services in June and September, often the site of a wedding ceremony, just as it was over 135 years ago.

Uncle John’s mother, Jane Niddrie, my maternal great-great grandmother, is buried in the cemetery on the hill across the road from that church, not far from where McDougall’s father, Rev. George McDougall and his wife, Elizabeth Chantler McDougall, are buried. We know that Jane, who died in 1895, is buried close to the McDougalls in a grave unmarked by a permanent stone, so the exact location is unknown. She is remembered in a bronze plaque placed in the church.

Other graves were rewarding to locate. Cowboy John Ware, a former American slave, who homesteaded and ranched in Alberta, is buried at Union Cemetery. So is Scottish-born Col. James Farquharson MacLeod, the famous Mountie who served as...
Commissioner of the North-West Mounted Police, as a politician and as a magistrate. A chance discovery was the gravesite of another early Mountie, English-born Sir Cecil Denny, who came west with the NWMP in 1874.

With a little help from the cemetery’s web site, I located the grave of Bob Edwards, another Scot, the outspoken and colourful newspaper writer and publisher of the *Calgary Eye Opener* newspaper, who served in the Alberta legislature. By chance, I came upon the grave of one of the Big Four, A.E. Cross. Likewise was found the headstone of rancher James Shouldice, for whom Shouldice Park in Calgary is named, on land he donated to the city.

Continuing my search in August, with the help of Calgary Cemeteries, I located the grave at Queen’s Park Cemetery of legendary cowboy and rancher, Clem Gardner. At the first Calgary Stampede in 1912, Clem entered a number of events and was declared Canadian Champion All-Around Cowboy. In 1923 he was one of the first to enter chuckwagon races, the first to use Thoroughbreds on his team, competing in the races until 1933 and competing in other events until 1944. Clem Gardner School, named for him, is now a charter school called Calgary Science School, but his name remains on Camp Gardner, a Scouts Canada camp near Bragg Creek on land donated by Clem. Today, a new community planned for Rocky View County is to be named for him, with a recreation facility called Gardner Club.

But the tour wouldn’t be complete without the graves of Guy Weadick and Flores LaDue, who are buried at High River. After the HSA conference, opportunity arose to travel to High River and visit the cemetery. A Calgary Herald story on June 4 reported that five memorial benches had recently been installed, four near the Weadick graves and one by the grave of George Lane. Knowing that, it was easy to locate the graves. Although Flores had left home literally covering her tracks to leave her father, Charles Bensel, she eventually reconciled with him and in his later years he moved to Alberta to live with Flores and Guy until he died in 1946. When Flores died in 1951, she was buried beside her father, and Guy was buried next to her in 1953.

In 1920, the Weadicks bought a ranch 23 kilometers west of Longview, which they owned until 1947 when they sold it and moved to High River. The Weadicks’ livestock bore the TS brand, signifying the name of The Stampede ranch. In 1963, the 140-acre ranch was purchased by the late Mervyn and Bernice Edey, who started a youth care program there in 1975. Today the...
ranch is operated by owners Ross and Gail Edey and their son, Joel, as the Stampede Ranch for Kids. It is a home for boys at risk, age 10-16, who live in residence and take schooling offered by the Foothills School Division which sends teachers to the ranch. The Weadick home and other original buildings are still in use, and the TS brand still appears on cattle and horses at the ranch.

Col. Macleod School and Macleod Trail in Calgary are named for the famous Mountie, as well as the town of Fort Macleod. No such recognition is given for Cecil Denny, who was forced to resign from the NWMP in 1881, and had a checkered career afterwards, including serving as an archivist for Alberta. It was not until 1921 that he became Sir Cecil Denny, inheriting the title as a Baronet upon the death of his half-brother. But Denny's name remains on his books about the NWMP, The Riders of the Plains, published in 1905 and revised as The Law Marches West, although it was not published until 1939, a decade after his death.

In High River, the George Lane Memorial Park and Campground is named for one of the financial backers of the first Calgary Stampede. Schools in Calgary are named Guy Weadick School, Senator Patrick Burns School, A.E. Cross School, John Ware School and Bob Edwards School. The annual rodeo and chuckwagon races in High River are called Guy Weadick Days, and the circa 1912 street at Stampede Park is named Weadickville in honour of the Stampede's founder.

On a beautiful Saturday morning in May, with the sun spilling across the headstones of Union Cemetery and bathing the Calgary downtown skyline in sunshine, I looked from the hillside graves to the towers of a modern city founded as a North West Mounted Police fort in 1875. The influence of the pioneers whose graves I visited is still present and their names have a place both in the city today and in our Alberta history.

Author note: John Chalmers is an HSA member and was the 2011 recipient of the Award of Merit from the Edmonton and District Historical Society. With his late father, John W. (Jack) Chalmers, he co-edited Niddrie of the North-West, based on the memoirs of Rev. John W. Niddrie and published by the University of Alberta Press in 2000.

johnchalmers@shaw.ca
Chapter Reports
Central Alberta Historical Society

CAHS

Write To: c/o Red Deer & District Museum
4525 47A Avenue,
Red Deer, AB T4N 6Z6

By Bill Mackay, President, CAHS

CAHS has had a rather quiet summer. Even our Red Deer Centennial Committee took a break.

We come out of the summer with our website up and running. Check us out at: http://www.centralalbertahistory.org/. Or come and say hello at our Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/ca.history). We will continue to develop our website through the fall and winter.

Now that fall is here we are planning for the 2013 HSA AGM to be hosted by our chapter in Red Deer on May 24-26, 2013. We will have a very interesting Friday evening at Red Deer’s Museum and Art Gallery with the launch of our first digital book (Homesteads that Nurtured a City) as well as a look at the new million dollar gallery depicting Red Deer’s history with lots of interactive displays. On Saturday we will have a bus tour to the area west of Red Deer to several sites of historical significance in the area – an old creamery (Markerville), lunch at a traditional rural hall (Fensla) a visit to the house of Iceland’s national poet (Stephansson House) and a visit to an original rural school (Hola) a half mile down the road from Stephansson House. Participants will be able to see what it was like to ‘walk to school’ if they wish. Finally, if time permits we will visit the Historic Dickson General for an ice cream cone before heading back to Red Deer for the banquet. The focus of our presentations will be the ‘odd schools’ of early Red Deer.

Our AGM was held on September 19. In order to attract a crowd we decided to make the evening an attractive event built around the local launch of Dr. Allen Ronaghan’s book, Three-Persons and the Chokitatpix. The subtitle of the book is a Jean L’Heureux’s Blackfoot Geography of 1871’. In keeping with that theme, we started the evening with buffalo stew, bannock and saskatoon pie capably organized by Iris Loewen and Sheila Bannerman. We had a short AGM after the meal. Then Dr. Gerhard Ens gave a presentation titled: The Blackfoot Occupation of Central Alberta and their relations with Outsiders 1730-1870. The presentation focused on the history of the Blackfoot speaking people in in Central Alberta and beyond from the arrival of the horse in 1730 to 1870. Of particular interest were the trading relationships of the Blackfoot people, first with Cree middle men and then with the posts established by the Hudson’s Bay and Northwest companies on the Saskatchewan River and later with the American trading companies on the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers. Following this excellent presentation we launched Dr. Ronaghan’s book with a presentation of background by both Bill Mackay from a publishing perspective and the author from his perspective of more than ten years work on the manuscript.

The CAHS is also the lead organization in the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the incorporation of the City of Red Deer. We have a series of six major events planned starting with New Year’s eve 2013 and ending with an event, Fire and Ice, in late December 2013. Our biggest event will be on the July long weekend which will include a homecoming and River of Light experience. Expect to hear more about this event and CAHS’s involvement as the year unfolds.

We have a full program of monthly events lined up for the coming year. These programs are loosely tied in to Red Deer’s Centennial Celebration.

The next presentation, at our October 19 regular meeting, will be by: Dr. Patricia A. McCormack, University of Alberta, who will speak on Thanadelthur, a Canadian Icon of Contact. Thanadelthur was a Dene woman in the early 18th century who is linked to Governor James Knight of the Hudson’s Bay Company and to fur trader William Stewart. As a cultural mediator, she is emerging as a Canadian cultural icon of northern fur trade expansion, which in Canada is considered a primary step on the road to nation-building.

Planning for our Christmas dinner is well underway and the theme this year will be a Scandinavian Christmas.

We have just started organizing the 2013 tour which will be our first 6 day tour and will see historic sites in the Caribou. We will have a more complete description including dates in the next issue of History NOW.
Chinook Country Historical Society's exciting new 2012-2013 monthly program has been set and the program has been posted on our website. The color poster for the October program is also available on the website (www.chinookcountry.org).

Submitted by Sarah Harvey

Chinook Country Historical Society

Write To: 311, 223 12 Avenue SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0G9

On September 25th the CCHS presented the History of Germans from Russia. A representative from the Calgary Chapter of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia was well received by an enthusiastic group of 100.

On October 23, 2012 we will be featuring the Centennial of the Alberta Federation of Labour with Winston Gereluk speaking about Alberta’s rich labour history.

Our Historic Calgary Week was a grand success with 10 days of record attendance, thousands of attendees and run over 40 enthusiastic volunteers. With grants and the help of more than 30 partner groups and organizations the CCHS’s Historic Calgary Week offered over 60 events – talks, walks, tours, songs and stories and concerts from July 27 to August 6, 2012. One of the new partners was a Century Homes initiative, homes built around 1912 with over 500 Calgary homeowners participating by putting information signs on their lawns with details about the home and its interesting history.

CCHS is represented by our President, Sarah Harvey, on Project Brewery and the Communities Heritage Roundtable. CCHS has raised the Heritage Fair concept at the September Roundtable Steering Committee meeting and found great support and suggestions with regard to local partnership opportunities.

We are now on Facebook and Twitter.

Edmonton and District Historical Society

Write To: Queen Alexandra School
7730 106 Street NW,
Edmonton, AB T6E 4W3

I recently had lunch with a friend of twenty-five years standing to join with other friends in celebrating his ninetieth birthday. As one would expect, the marking of such a momentous occasion includes a hearty handshake. Lunch itself was very pleasant, and particularly so as my friend is entering his tenth decade in good health, his active intelligence and curiosity about the world still leading him to try new things. Two years ago he backpacked in Cuba, without itinerary or tour bus. I am blessed with other friends of similar vintage in birthdays, who because of their vitality, remind me that the most important part of studying local history is to keep top of mind that it is not a dry immersion in dates and records, but is actually a consideration of vigour and activity.

I am reminded of another friend, who died in his late eighties, who told me of his playing in the remains of Fort Edmonton as a young boy. We lived in the same neighbourhood, and to this day I never pass the corner where his family house still stands without thinking of him and our shared interest, indeed passion, in Edmonton’s past. He died more than a decade ago, but his passing on to me, among many, of his patent love for his native city is a constant inspiration for me. History, in short, is not about something that was once alive but is now dead, but something, rather, that is very much alive.

With so many Edmonton “centennials” in the air these days, including Highlands neighbourhood, The High Level Bridge, the First Presbyterian Church, and, in recent days the Alberta Legislature Building, it is profoundly interesting to look across the table at someone whose visual memory recalls when those historic relics were still raw and new. When we are tempted to regard remnants of the past as hopelessly antique, we need only to speak to our friends, to realize that this antiquity is not by definition “out of date”, but instead sharply contemporary.

In our shared cultural history, the image of knowledge being passed on his often represented by “the laying on of hands”. Whether in religion or in Star Trek, we often see one generation’s gift of understanding of things is underscored by the touch by the elder of the younger.

In the midst of this ninetieth birthday activity, the Edmonton and District Historical Society gifted its History Centre to the City of Fort Saskatchewan, the Fort Saskatchewan Museum and Historic Site and the Fort Saskatchewan Historical Society. As all EDHS members well know, the History Centre is the farthest thing from a dry recitation of history as dust that obscures rather than illuminates. Indeed, it is the epitome of passing on by hand the fullness and richness of our heritage.

Instead of reading or hearing about surveyors, students will run a transit and measure distance with a chain. A beaver pelt will be something held in one’s hand rather than caged in a page of a book. In all the programmes, the history learned is learned by hand.
Chapter Reports - Continued

When I was young, much of what I learned about my community was literally passed to me, by parents, by relatives, by older members of the community. The use of tools, the rationale behind a decision, the depth that animated a feeling would all be conveyed in person by the appropriate hand gesture. It was sometimes a measure between a thumb and a forefinger. Another time it was a hand movement that was demonstrated when my grandfather told the story of being recruited as an Edmonton fireman by being waved over to where the fire chief was standing on Jasper Avenue in 1916.

The youth of to-day are less directly integrated into the community than perhaps we were. The world we live in now is more transient, and sadly many are not fortunate to live in the multi-generational family or community that once was so much more common. Many families are new to Edmonton, and uninitiated to its colourful past.

Thus, the History Centre has over the years provided a new generation with that “handing on” of history and the students’ hands themselves are used to help shape their understanding of that history. It is a very powerful tool, and EDHS is thrilled that students for years to come will have that opportunity thanks to our new partners in the “Fort”.

So, when I shook my friend’s hand on the great occasion of ninety years, in that hand was his personal history of service on a corvette during the Second World War, his love of 1950s and 1960s jazz, our shared love of our native city, and twenty-five years of common experience. So much of history made by hand, is learned by hand, and passed on by hand. The EDHS is very proud of our gift of the History Centre to a new generation of students, and we congratulate all who had a hand in its making.

Lethbridge Historical Society
Write To: PO Box 974
Lethbridge, AB T1J 4A2

What a great summer! You may not be aware of everything the LHS does in addition to our regular monthly speakers in the fall and winter, but we like to keep busy in the summer too and the last few months were no exception. For example, since our last report we supported local efforts to get the new northside park named after a woman from Lethbridge’s history, and to get the lake south of the research center and west of the jail officially named after Archie McLean, one of the Calgary Stampede’s “Big Four” and MLA for the Lethbridge and Taber area in the 1910s and 20s. On Saturday June 30 we had a community booth at the Farmers’ Market where we made some new friends and increased our visibility. I would like to thank Aimée de Valois for organizing that for us, as well as table volunteers Marion Snowden, Gail Holland, Lana Lonseth, and Judy Robins. On Saturday August 18th we organized a very successful bus tour in memory of LHS author and long time member Johann Dormaar. More than 30 people took this tour which explored some of the historical, archeological, paleontological and geological sites near the 49th parallel which Johann wrote about in his many books. I would particularly like to thank Carly Stewart for organizing the tour and reaching out to Johann’s family and former colleagues at the Research Centre. And, last but not least, our Facebook page has skyrocketed to more than 115 “likes,” due in no small part to the fantastic series of “then and now” photographs Belinda has been posting! Here’s hoping we see some of those new faces at our fall events! Speaking of Belinda, you can read more about some of the other things she’s been doing for the LHS elsewhere in this newsletter, from a scavenger hunt to getting information about the LHS to the Welcome Wagon folks who can share it with newcomers to our city, organized labour in the sugar beet fields in the early twentieth century. This research is from her current book, which the LHS expects to publish in late 2012.

On Saturday May 12 we celebrated five more historic buildings with a plaque launch event at the Cleary House, built in 1906 on 7th Street downtown. The other four buildings we’re putting plaques on this summer are the Hotel Dallas/Coalbanks Inn (built in 1903), the Lethbridge Hotel (1885), the Burns Building/Shanghai Chop Suey (1911), and Berté’s Grocery/George’s Groceries and Meats/William’s Grocery/Tumbleweed Café (1910). We got a great article in the Lethbridge Herald for this event, as we did on April 25th for our efforts to preserve another important and at-risk building downtown, the Oliver Building. Preserving and celebrating Lethbridge’s built heritage is a key priority for the LHS!

We had hoped that the plaque launch would be our final event for Historic Lethbridge Week but unfortunately we were not able to go ahead with HLW as we planned. We had hoped to keep this annual event going, but we were not able to get enough events organized to make it happen.

On Saturday June 30 we will have a booth set up at the farmers’ market at the Exhibition from 7:30am to 12:30 pm. It will be a great opportunity for us to meet new people, get some new members, and sell a few books!

Ticket sales are also underway for our Dr. Johann Dormaar Memorial Bus Tour on August 18th. The tour will include the Pinhorn Grazing Reserve and the canyon of Milk River. Tickets are $100 if you pay by July 15th and include the tour, a souvenir booklet, and lunch. The tour is a fundraiser to help the LHS publish the late Dr. Dormaar’s final manuscript.
The Peace Country Historical Society is beginning its year with a meeting at Beaverlodge's South Peace Centennial Museum. The 40 acre site includes working farm machinery, steam engines and several heritage buildings which capture the homesteader experience and also affords room for camping. The museum is open from May to September and is a great visit on your way to the Alaska Highway or if you’re in the area.

The second in the Historical Maps of the Peace series, The Long (Athabasca) Trail is now available. The purchase price is $15 and includes shipping. To order, please send payment to Peace Country Historical Society, PO Box 23394, RPO Prairie Mall, Grande Prairie, AB, T8V 7G7.

We are also pleased to inform HSA members that the late Wallace Tansem's anticipated book on the 1918 Grande Prairie mass murder has been published. Foulst of Murders is available online for $19.95 plus shipping from http://webd-foulstofmurders.com.webs.com/introduction.

In October, the PCHS will be holding its fall lecture, so watch for details on our website (www.pc-hs.ca).

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Books by Faye Reineberg Holt

Special Offer & New Prices

- Awed, Amused & Alarmed: Fairs, Rodeos, Regattas in Western Canada $19.95
- Alberta: A History in Photographs $14.95
- Canada's Rocky Mountains: A History in Photos $14.95
- Homemade Fun: Games and Pastimes of the Early Prairie $9.95
- Monarchs of the Fields: The Story of the Combine Harvester $9.95
- Out of the Flames: Fires & Fire Fighting on the Canadian Prairies $8.95
- Prairie Twins: Alberta & Saskatchewan Photographic Memories $14.95
- NEW Settling In: Early Homes in Western Canada $12.95
- Sharing the Good Times: Prairie Women's Joys & Pleasures $19.95
- Threshing: The Early Years of Harvesting $9.95

Special Email Offer: Order 3 or more books by email to flholt@telusplanet.net to receive 20% off above prices. Then forward your cheque when you receive the books and invoice.

For more information on her books, workshops & presentations or to order using Paypal, see Faye’s website www.wordsandhistory.ca. Special 20% discount does not apply to Paypal orders.

GST 5%. Shipping Charges Extra: 1-3 Books $10; 4-6 books $15; larger orders contact Faye
Attitudes on many matters, notably sexual, were very different from those of today. The author fully explores these so the reader can better understand the era. He writes in a very open and frank way. He uses explicit words without blanks or dashes to disguise the real meaning. Anyone offended by explicit, even raunchy, language be warned!

The death of Nero in 68 had ended the rule of the family of Julius Caesar so the succession to the purple was problematic.

Hadrian came from a rich family in Spain. His father was involved in Empire politics so the family moved to Rome where Hadrian received an excellent education. His father died of a fever when he was 40 leaving Hadrian as a young orphan in need of a guardian. Two men agreed to serve at least in a technical sense. This was considered necessary to protect the young rich lad from being tricked especially into an unsuitable marriage.

One of his guardians was Trajan a relative by marriage who was on the rise.

The author follows the twists and turns of Trajan’s career which leads Hadrian’s own. Trajan became Emperor in 99 and remained such until his death in 117. Hadrian had an excellent platonic relationship with Trajan’s wife and with her sister who became his mother-in-law. His relationship with his wife was cool and correct.

His continued successful career is documented. He finally, with the help of Trajan’s wife, was adopted by Trajan as his heir.

Trajan had no natural heir as he was homosexual, as was Hadrian. This was not considered worth noting at the time.

On the death of Trajan, Hadrian succeeded to the purple. He introduced a new style. He did not assume a great elevation in status but remained on a friendly basis with members of the upper class. He was adored by the soldiers as he lived the life of an ordinary soldier when on military expeditions; marching with the men, eating the same food and sleeping under the stars.

He stopped the policy of continual expansion of the Empire. Rather he clearly defined its borders and built markers such as Hadrian’s Wall in northern England. He reorganized the administration of the Empire so more authority was in the hands of the central government.

He was a great builder.

He tried to rule by consensus but the final revolt of the Jews underlined the fact that the final authority was the power of the legions. His personal life was basically happy except for the death of the love of his life, Antinous. This is dealt with as fully as is possible after 2000 years. The final decline in Hadrian’s health and mental condition is dealt with again as best as can be over the great gap of time.

This is really an excellent book. It gives a full picture of the mid period of the greatest Empire the world knew until the British. This was the beginning of the long period of consolidation before the long decline set in.
Mix together one secret organization, one mysterious Christian artifact, and one Vatican historian, and you get a work of history that reads like a Dan Brown novel. The Templars and the Shroud of Christ (Skyhorse Publishing, September 2012) tells the story of the medieval warrior-monks—the Knights Templar—and the venerated, blood-soaked cloth that they believed had wrapped Christ as he rose from the dead: the Shroud of Turin.

As the most powerful military religious order of the Middle Ages, the Templars guarded the Shroud of Turin. This swath of fabric—regarded as the chief relic of the Passion—was known in its intimate nature by only a handful of the order’s officials and was kept in the central treasury of the Knights Templar.

In an era of widespread doctrinal confusion in much of the Church, the Templars considered the Shroud to be a powerful antidote against the proliferation of heresies, both a Christian icon and a defense mechanism. The Templars and the Shroud of Christ reveals the fascinating facts of the cloth: the startling detail of a human face, mysterious writing, and marks of a crucifixion, which led many to believe it to be the true burial shroud of Jesus of Nazareth.

But not everyone was a believer. Thousands of years later, scientific experiments were conducted with the hope of dating the treasured artifact. However, the uncertainty remains and the questions are still unanswered.

Vatican historian Barbara Frale—having compiled research for almost two decades—has gone back in time to the dawn of the Christian era to provide a new perspective on the controversial relic. The Templars and the Shroud of Christ provides a detailed look at the one of the most fascinating organizations in history—the most powerful military order of the medieval world.
On July 23, 1874 Richard Barrington Nevitt, a recent graduate in medicine from Trinity College Medical School in Toronto, was appointed as assistant surgeon with the newly formed North-West Mounted Police. In the space of days, he had to say goodbye to his fiancée, Elizabeth Beat, and arrange to join the first contingent of Mounted Police at Fort Dufferin in the North-West Territories. From Fort Dufferin, Nevitt would travel to Fort Macleod to help set up this frontier police outpost where he would remain stationed from 1874 to 1878.

Before leaving Toronto, he and Elizabeth committed themselves to a remarkable pact. They agreed to write a kind of diary by correspondence about virtually everything they did or thought - “no matter how trivial.” Elizabeth’s letters have not survived, but Nevitt’s family carefully preserved his letters from Fort Macleod until they were later acquired by the Glenbow Archives. In addition to providing a detailed account of everyday life in the North-West Mounted Police, the surviving letters also provide a rare glimpse into a 19th century long distance courtship that resulted in a long and successful marriage.

This collection of “diary letters” also included numerous fine illustrations of notable events, Aboriginal people and daily life in the Mounted Police done by Nevitt, a very talented amateur artist. These illustrations are some of the earliest depictions of life in what would become southern Alberta, while his letters offer an intimate and engaging portrait of life at Fort Macleod and as a member of the North-West Mounted Police.

These rare archival treasures are published as an edited collection with select illustrations and a full introduction by Hugh A. Dempsey, the archivist who acquired the collection for the Glenbow and one of Alberta’s most distinguished historians.
In 1795 the Hudson's Bay Company established Edmonton House and the North West Company Fort Augustus a few kilometres downstream from the present day city of Edmonton. Although both posts were moved several times, they operated side by side as the major administrative, trade, and provisioning centres on the North Saskatchewan River from 1795 to 1821, when the companies merged.

The post journals and district reports from Edmonton House for the period from 1806 to 1821 are reproduced verbatim in this volume. Long available only to researchers with access to the collections of the Hudson's Bay Company Archives, these journals and district reports provide a detailed day-by-day account of the operations of Edmonton House during this crucial period. They provide direct insight into the Aboriginal, social, and economic history of the region, and new information on the foundation of the Red River settlement and the struggle for control of the trade in the Athabasca region.

The volume editors, Gerhard Ens and Ted Binnema, are both distinguished scholars who have published extensively on fur trade, Aboriginal, and environmental history. Their extensive introduction, scholarly annotations, and appendices provide readers with the historical context for these documents and help to explain the complex history of trade and trade relations on the North Saskatchewan River in the early 19th century.

BOOK SIGNING
Join us at the Royal Alberta Museum,
12845 - 102 Avenue, Edmonton
on Tuesday, 23 October 2012
at 7:30 p.m. and purchase your signed copy for $40.00.

Answers to Puzzle #31

Across
1. Lodgepole
6. Milk
9. Deacon
10. EP
11. Edsel
13. Cut
14. Oxyeye
15. Len
16. Lingard
18. St. Anne
19. Scythe
21. Ardmore
24. Leo
25. Big
26. Carly
28. Moo
29. Entwistle
32. Nadia
33. Twin Butte

Down
1. Leduc
2. Drayton
3. Emote
4. Ox
5. Empress
7. Insulin
8. k d lang
11. Emerald
12. Cord
16. Lost Lemon
17. Athabasca
20. Yeoford
21. Agent
22. Orr
23. Egbert
27. Yee
30. ICB
31. Tot
Best Dressed Cowgirl

Winner of The History Wrangler’s Best Dressed Cowgirl Contest is: Meghan MacLean of High River.

We had wonderful response to the contest.

Thank you to everyone who entered the contest.

SOLUTIONS TO HISTORY NOW PUZZLE#30

In our July 2012 issue of History NOW, we neglected to include the answers to the April 2012 Crossword Puzzle. We are sorry for the oversight. Here are the answers to Crossword Puzzle #30:

Across
1. Galt
3. Wray
6. Peter
10. Ambient
11. Rampart
12. Sicks
13. Alb
15. Condor
16. Canadian
18. Empress
20. Fescue
24. B.C.
25. Brand
26. Nolan
29. Buffalo
30. Maroons
31. Dick Turpin
32. ON

Down
1. Grads
2. Lubicon
4. Retlaw
5. York boat
6. Pembina
7. Trans
8. Ritz
9. Keystone
14. Knee
15. Cree
17. Estado
19. Pacific
21. Elnora
22. Calhoun
23. Adam
25. Brant
27. Nisku
28. Obed

CASINO
JANUARY 15, 16, 2013

Our next Casino will be held at the Deerfoot Inn, 1000, 11500 35 Street SE Calgary, AB on Tuesday, January 15th, 2013 and Wednesday, January 16th, 2013.

We need volunteers for this Casino. If you are willing to help out, please call the H. S. A. office at 403.261.3662 or Vivian Sampson at 403.277.1013 or email at albertahistory@telus.net. Thanks.

The funds generated from this Casino will be used toward the publication of the magazine, newsletter and books.
Three Alberta Sites Designated Provincial Historic Resources

Diverse sites tell distinct stories of Alberta's history

Three sites from Alberta's past have been designated Provincial Historic Resources for their historical and architectural significance.

The three sites represent Alberta's diverse history and were important for the development of the communities where they are located:

- The Alberta Wheat Pool grain elevator in Big Valley, a commercial and social hub for the region's farmers.
- The Canadian Pacific Railway section house in Coronation, a key railway junction between Stettler and Saskatchewan.
- The St. Luke's Anglican Church in Red Deer, an early and excellent example of Gothic Revival style church construction on a small scale.

“These sites embody our province’s rich early settlement and industrial history,” said Heather Klimchuk, Minister of Culture. “As we celebrate Alberta Culture Days from September 28 to 30, these designated historic sites remind us that culture connects us to our past and are worth preserving for all Albertans to enjoy.”

Alberta has more than 330 Provincial Historic Resources. These sites are examples of Alberta's diverse history and include medicine wheels, tipi rings, fur trading and mounted police posts, coal mines, farmsteads, ranches, railway stations, grain elevators, churches, schools, government offices, commercial blocks and private residences.

For more information on Provincial Historic Resource Designation, visit http://tinyurl.com/97x6qmj

Alberta Culture Days is an annual province-wide celebration and is part of the national Culture Days, a pan-Canadian movement to raise the awareness, accessibility, participation and engagement of all Canadians in the arts and cultural life of their communities. For more information, visit www.albertaculturedays.ca

Stampede Memories

My favorite Stampede Memory will be my first Stampede Breakfast that my Mom hosted for our neighbours on July 8, 2012.

I met Doug Wilson, one of the Annual Award Winners for 2012, (he is in the photo with me) and Vivian Sampson, 1st Vice-President of The Historical Society of Alberta as well as many other history buffs.

Submitted by Cugo Goodine
(Cugo is looking forward to next year's Stampede and the pancakes)
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Conference Concerns

Due to rising costs (venues, catering, labour, etc.), shortage of volunteers, low attendance and increased time required to organize and coordinate conferences, it is the recommendation of the Conference Committee that the H.S.A. Annual General Meeting/Conference change its format beginning in the year 2014.

The Committee further recommends that the following format be adopted:

- To be held on the second Saturday of June in Calgary
- To hold the AGM at 11:00 a.m.
- To host an Awards Luncheon beginning at 12:30 p.m.
- To host the regional Heritage Fair student presentations as part of the entertainment

Please fill in the coupon and mail it to the H.S.A. office by December 31, 2012.

Circle one:
I am in favour of the recommendations
I am not in favour of the recommendations

Further comments/suggestions:

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

MAIL TO: HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ALBERTA, PO BOX 4035 STATION C, CALGARY AB T2T 5M9
Icelandic immigrants settled in an isolated location west of the Red Deer River in 1888. By 1900 farms were making progress, schools were in place, business had already been established and the Icelandic Ladies Aid—Vonin asked their men folk to build a meeting place. A Stock Company was organized and shares sold.

The new hall, instigated by the women, was named Fensala—the home of Frigg, the most important goddess in Norse mythology. The book, Fensala, is a narrative about the social history in Fensala as a small community moves from 19th-century isolation to the 21st-century computer age; with their community spirit still alive and well.

The second story in the book tells how and where the Huldufolk (hidden people) came to be in Iceland and how they came to Markerville with the immigrants and where they lived since the hall was restored. 95% of the people in Iceland know Huldufolk exist.

The last section of the book provides archival material about the 1904 creation of Fensala and then the story of how a small community raised $350,000 to turn a one hundred-year-old building into a modern functional community meeting place with all the amenities expected in the 21st century while retaining the charm of a century-old facility.

Heritage Canada Foundation / La fondation Héritage Canada
Communiqué

Ottawa, ON October 1, 2012 – The Heritage Canada Foundation (HCF) 2011-2012 Annual Report is now available online.

This past year was a busy one for the organization and our achievements are numerous: in our capacity as the National Trust for Canada, we welcomed representatives from National Trusts around the world when we co-hosted the 14th International Conference of National Trusts in Victoria, B.C.; developed mutually beneficial membership discounts with a number of our provincial partners; launched a new and expanded bilingual website, social media program and online member/donor management system; published online Heritage Day materials celebrating “The Heritage of Power Generation”; released our Top Endangered Places and Worst Losses lists, bringing Canada-wide attention to those sites needlessly lost; the publication of our quarterly Héritage magazine featuring top stories, reports and commentaries on the key issues facing historic buildings and places; and more.

Printable copies of the Annual Report are available on the HCF website at http://www.heritagecanada.org or contact us by phoning 1-866-964-1066 or emailing heritagecanada@heritagecanada.org if you would like a copy mailed.

The Heritage Canada Foundation is a national registered charity dedicated to the preservation of Canada’s historic places. Your support is vital to our work. Please join or make a tax-deductible donation today.
HISTORY NOW PUZZLE #32

Across
1. Alberta’s official tree
6. A town south east of Lethbridge, ___ River
9. A church official
10. Once the property of the Prince of Wales, the ___ Ranch
11. One of Henry Ford’s lemons?
13. “___ that out!”
14. A daisy
15. MLA for Calgary-Buffalo, ___ Webber
16. Member of the Lethbridge Historical Society Council, 2007 and author, Bill ___
18. A destination for an annual pilgrimage in Northern Alberta, Lake ______(2 words)
19. An implement for mowing hay
21. A hamlet 23 km south west of Cold Lake
24. Many a person born in August is one
25. Grab a train in Stettler and head to ___ Valley!
26. Past President of the Lethbridge Historical Society, ___ Stewart
28. A barnyard sound
29. A hamlet 42 km south east of Mayerthorpe
32. Former Olympic champion gymnast, ___ Comaneci
33. A hamlet 90 km south west of Lethbridge

Down
1. A city 30 km south west of Edmonton
2. A town 105 km west south west of Edmonton
3. To overact
4. One of a team used to pull a cart
5. A village 108 km north east of Medicine Hat
7. Sir Stanford Fleming discovered this as a treatment for diabetes
8. The pride of Consort, singer _____ (3 words)
11. The jewel of Yoho Park, ___ Lake
12. An automobile of yore or a length of wood
16. A fabled mine in the Crowsnest Pass (2 words)
17. A town 145 km north of Edmonton founded by the Hudson Bay Co.; also a river and a lake
20. A hamlet, now part of Winfield
21. A representative; go-between
22. Hockey legend, Bobby ___
23. Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, 1925-31, Dr. William ___
27. “___-Haw!”
30. Industry Classification Benchmark (Initials)
31. A small child

Answers on Page 15