

The membership newsletter of the

Historical Society of Alberta

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# History NOW

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## Community History Festivals: HSA Leads the Way

by Gail Rydman and  
Marianne Fedori

Summer has arrived and that means it is time to step into history! The Historical Society of Alberta chapters in Edmonton and Calgary are leading the way in developing community history festivals. These local chapters are providing community residents and visitors alike programs that offer new ways to explore history. Both Historic Calgary Week and Historic Edmonton Week have become anticipated city events that enable heritage partnerships, collaboration and promotion.

In 1991 the Chinook Country Historical Society offered its first program of public walking tours and open house on a local history theme. Since 1997 there have been mid-summer festivals devoted to history in both Calgary and Edmonton. The success of these programs has depended on cooperation and communication with as many as thirty local organizations devoted to the preservation and presentation of history. These partners have included not for profit societies, municipal and provincial government departments, economic agencies, federal associations, private businesses and corporate and media sponsors. Historic Festival Weeks in Edmonton and Calgary have involved approximately 5,000 participants. This year both cities have expanded their programs and established signature opening events and activities. Take a look further along to plan your experience or check our websites at:

[www.albertasource.ca/hew](http://www.albertasource.ca/hew) (Edmonton Historic Week)

[www.albertahistory.org](http://www.albertahistory.org) (Calgary Historic Week).

The Historical Society of Alberta is also developing a template for how to carry out a community history festival. This project has been funded by Canada's National History Society and is being researched and written by Gail Rydman, the Coordinator of Historic Edmonton Week. The manual will be produced over a period of three years and it is hoped that it will help facilitate the development of other community history festivals throughout Alberta.

Like many of the Historical Society of Alberta's successful programs the festivals are largely driven by volunteer effort outside of the employment of contractual coordinators. Despite their small budgets they have brought a unique focus to heritage. Thanks to the many volunteers and partners that make these events so very successful!

For more information about Historic weeks in Calgary call 403-261-4667 and Edmonton call 780-439-2797.

## HSA Pin

The  
Historical  
Society of  
Alberta pin  
is available.



You can pick it  
up from the office  
or mail your cheque or money order in  
the amount of \$5 plus \$.50 postage and  
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Box 4035, Station C  
Calgary, AB. T2T 5M9

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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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|                    |   |
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#### Welcome to new members

Sancie Kemtrup, Calgary  
W.H. Copithorne, Calgary  
Donna Cimino, Calgary  
Fern Dorsch, Calgary  
Darrell Rundvall, Calgary  
Peter Demulder, Edmonton  
Margaret & Denny May,  
Edmonton  
Barbara & Melvin Olsen  
Foley & Lynne Marquess,  
Calgary  
Tom McPhail, Calgary  
Hartmann & Eileen Nagel,  
Edmonton  
Cheryl Arthurs, Calgary  
Brenda Falle, Calgary  
Donna Long, Calgary  
Marie Donovan, Calgary  
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Sask.  
Ronald & Barbara Lacey,  
Lethbridge  
Beverley Leggett &  
Humphrey Shupenia,  
Calgary  
Lois Currie, Calgary  
Bobby & Sunni Turner,  
Calgary  
Katherine Coutts, Calgary  
George S. Lane & Family,  
Calgary  
B.J. & Christina Ersson,  
Calgary  
Margaret Hougan, Central  
Alberta  
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Bob Paston, Calgary  
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Sandra Neill, Calgary  
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Ione Olesen & Family,  
Calgary  
Christopher Wiebe,  
Edmonton  
Gerry Luciani, Calgary

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

Thomas Kienzler  
Jean Wells  
Roy & Helen Peterson  
S. Robert Elliot  
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Ron Williams  
Don Hepburn  
Jean Johnstone  
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Phyllis & Joe Konrad  
Catherine Cole  
Pauline & Bill Feniak  
Margaret Auxier  
Oscar & Anne Erdman

#### Legacy 2002 Campaign

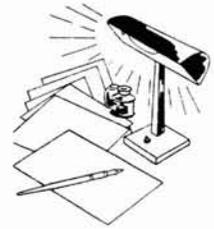
Donations to the Legacy  
2002 Campaign will be  
published in the next issue  
of *History Now*

Thank You for Your  
Donation to the **Silent  
Auction** HSA Annual  
General Meeting, Calgary,  
May 24-25, 2002

The Historical Society of  
Alberta gratefully acknowl-  
edges the donations  
given by the following  
sponsors to this successful  
event held at our Annual  
Conference in May, 2002  
in Calgary:  
Brian Brennan  
Catherine Cole  
Louise Crane  
Marianne Fedori  
Joan Garland  
Roberta Hursey  
Dorothy McElroy  
Donald B. Smith  
Ken Tingley  
Bill Waiser  
Alberta Pioneer Railway

Association  
Alberta Views Magazine  
Artichoke Publishing  
Chinook Country Historical  
Society  
Detselig Enterprises Ltd.  
Duval House Publishing  
Edmonton & District  
Historical Society  
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Laurie Greenwood's  
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Legacy, Alberta's Cultural  
Heritage Magazine  
Lethbridge Historical  
Society  
Lone Pine Publishing  
Provincial Archives of  
Alberta  
Spotted Cow Press  
(www.spottedcowpress.ca)  
The Museum of the  
Regiments  
Treefrog Publishers  
United Western  
Communications Ltd.  
University of Alberta Press  
University of Calgary Press  
Venture Publishing Inc.  
Workshop West Playwrights'  
Theatre

## President's Report by Ron Williams



The HSA has just held a successful Annual General Meeting. A very great "Thank You" goes to the Chinook Chapter and all those who worked so hard to make the gathering such a great success. The organizing committee headed by Mike Kempel and Anne Birch and chapter President, Vivian Sampson, deserve special thanks for their hard work and new ideas.

The HSA had a successful year in 2001 and is moving forward. At the AGM we said adieu to Margaret Waite, our long serving Office Coordinator. Margaret, while riding into the sunset of retirement, will be around as a volunteer, so it is not "Good bye", only "au revoir." Margaret was a dedicated worker for the Society for over seven years. She was the voice and face of the Society to the public and we thank her very much for her great service. In her place we welcome our new Office Coordinator, Debbie Goodine.

Three members left the Council: Treasurer, Geoff Wilson; Second Vice-President, Sarah Carter; and Director at Large, Diana Sim. We say thank you to these dedicated persons and welcome the new members: Treasurer, Beverly Leggett; Second Vice-President, Tony Rees and Director at Large, Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve.

There is much activity planned for the near future: the "Unsettled Pasts" Conference, of which HSA is one of the sponsors, was held at the University of Calgary, June 13-16, 2002; the largest public events of the summer season will be Historic Calgary Week, July 26—August 5, 2002, and Historic Edmonton Week, July 28—August 5, 2002. I wish to commend all of our chapters for their outstanding programs.

HSA revised web site, which is the result of a partnership with the Heritage Community Foundation, will be launched on Tuesday July 2, 2002.

Please visit [www.albertahistory.org](http://www.albertahistory.org) to see the new format.

My first year as President has been busy and I believe successful. I look forward to serving you for one more year.

I wish to thank all of our members for their support and many, many volunteer hours. I also thank all persons who have made financial contributions to the Society. The volunteer efforts, with both time and financial assistance, make our Society the success it is.

The HSA will continue to work in cooperation with our chapters for the preservation of our heritage. The most current project is the preservation of St. Mary's School in Calgary. So far, results have been disappointing but our efforts will continue.

### Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson



#### Your new 2002 council

L to R: Val Jobson, Secretary, Marianne Fedori, Past President, Beverly Leggett, Treasurer, Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve, Director, Ron Williams, President, Jean Johnstone, First Vice President,

David Jones, Director and David Smith, Director

(not present in photo: Tony Rees, 2nd Vice President and Don Hepburn, 3rd Vice President.)

The AGM was held on Saturday morning with 48 members making it in to the early breakfast.

Three Board members retired and were thanked for their hard work: Geoff Wilson, Sarah Carter and Diana Sim.

Three new Board members were welcomed: Bev Leggett as Treasurer, Tony Rees as Second Vice President and Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve as Director at Large. Margaret Waite received the grateful thanks of the HSA for her many years of dedicated service as HSA Office Coordinator.

## Member Profile



### Congratulations

#### **Sanders, Jonas Isaac**

Born Tuesday, April 23, 2002.

Weight 8lbs. 9 oz.

Foothills Hospital.

Mother: Kirsten Sanders

Father: Harry Sanders

Good wishes from HSA  
to Harry, Kirsten and  
Jonas

## HSA History Facts: Celebrating 100 years in 2007

Since its formation on March 15, 1907, the Historical Society of Alberta has been making a positive contribution to this province. Its founding father, Alexander C. Rutherford, first premier of the province remained president of the Society for thirty-two years, presiding at virtually every meeting until ill-health forced him to retire.

During its long history, the Society has achieved many goals. It has attracted such speakers as the Hon. Frank Oliver, Chief Justice Horace Harvey, former Premier Richard G. Reid, historian J. M. Careless, and many other academics, pioneers and literary figures. During and after the 1940's, the Society had a representative on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada, which was responsible for preserving many historical landmarks in Alberta. It has also had representations on the Alberta Geographical Names Board, and a host of other heritage organizations and was a party to the drafting of the first heritage legislation for Alberta.

During the 1950s, its stated aims were to promote Alberta's history, to see the rebuilding of Fort Edmonton, the erection of highway signs, the preservation of trading post sites, the collection of manuscripts, and obtaining the reminiscences of pioneers. All of these aims, in one form or another, have been realized.

A major accomplishment of the Society was to launch the quarterly publication, *The Alberta Historical Review*, in 1953. It was renamed *Alberta History* in 1975, and has remained one of the leading journals of its kind in Canada. In 2003 the Society will publish a 50th Anniversary issue of the magazine to celebrate this momentous occasion and is seeking records and stories to undertake the organizations centennial history in 2007.

Watch for more HSA history facts in upcoming issues. If you have any stories about the Society you would like to share please send them to [hsa@cadvision.com](mailto:hsa@cadvision.com)

# HSA Members News

## Patton Windmill moved

In 1910 Thomas Patton erected a windmill, a Dempster Annuoil (that needed oiling annually). It had been built in Beatrice, Nebraska. Thomas and Ella Patton needed the windmill to provide water for their 15-acre market garden. The well was over 100 feet deep, and it produced exceptionally hard water. The Patton tea kettles had to be rinsed frequently with vinegar to get rid of the deposit. It was however an extremely successful well, that never ran dry because it had struck an underground river. In lower-lying areas neighbours drilled 200 ft. wells, and encountered soft water—but no river!

On April 29, 2002, the windmill was dismantled preparatory to having it restored and eventually moved to the Fort Calgary Site. A group of friends from the Historical Society of Alberta and Fort Calgary, had been invited to watch the tower as it was carefully placed on a large truck. The windmill was moved separately. It must have been a sad but proud day for the Patton family. They hope that the restored mill will be at Fort Calgary in August this year.

It was fitting that Clarence and Bernice's small grandson, Thomas Patton Sangwine was there to see his great-great-grandfather's mill being moved to help preserve his family's and Calgary's history.

## Obituary: Mrs. Tokariuk

Mrs. Tokariuk was an active member and a staunch supporter of the Lethbridge Historical Society. She was involved in a Pastoral Care Counsel and her church, St. Basil's Roman Catholic Church and also an avid sports fan. Her volunteer activities and smiling face at LHS functions will be sorely missed.



# Alberta National Historic Site Districts

## Field Units

### Wood Buffalo

Fort Chipewyan  
Fort Vermillion  
Methye Portage  
Fort Fork  
Lawrence, Sheridan  
Brick, Rev. John Gough

### Jasper/Fort St. James

Fort Dunvegan  
Albright, William Donald  
Jasper House  
Jasper Information Centre  
Henry House  
Overlanders of 1862  
Thompson, David  
Wheeler, Arthur Oliver

### Elk Island/Prince Albert

Notre Dame des Victories Mission  
Fort Assiniboine  
Tomison, William  
McDougall, Rev. George M.  
Victoria Settlement (no plaque)  
Northwest Rebellion/Frog Lake  
Massacre  
Lacombe, Albert  
Fort Augustus & Edmonton House  
Preservation of the Plains Buffalo

### Edmonton:

Creation of the Province of Alberta  
Edmonton Grads Commemoration  
Murphy, Judge Emily  
Rowand, John  
Oliver, Frank  
Stranges, Col. Alberta Field Force  
May, W.M. "Wop"  
Fort Edmonton III  
Fort Gary, Fort Edmonton Trail  
Punch Dickens  
Leduc/Woodband Oilfield  
Rundle's Mission  
Wetaskiwin Court House  
Peacemakers

## Banff/Rocky Mountain House

Nordegg (no plaque)  
Rocky Mountain House  
Kane, Paul  
Henry, Alexander (the Younger)  
Parlby, Mary Irene  
Stephansson, Stephan G.  
Henday, Anthony  
Abbot Pass (no plaque)  
Skoki Lodge  
Sulphur Mountain Cosmic Ray Station  
Palliser Expedition  
Harkin, James Bernard  
Gibbon, John Murray  
Banff Springs Hotel  
Banff Park Museum  
Cave and Basin

### Calgary:

Cosmic Ray Station  
Aberhart, William  
Bennet, Richard Bedford  
Burns, Patrick  
Beaulieu (Lougheed House)  
Calgary City Hall  
Fort Calgary  
Hull, William Roper  
Mewata Armory  
Pearce, William  
Wood, Henry Wise  
Heritage Hall (SAIT) (no plaque)  
Palace Theatre (no plaque)  
RCAF (WDS)  
Atlas Coal Mine (no plaque)

### Waterton/Bar U

Chief Crowfoot  
Treaty No. 7 Signing Site  
Blackfoot Crossing (no plaque)  
Cluny Earthlodge Village (no plaque)  
Brooks Aquaduct  
Turner Valley Oilfield  
Royalite Gas Plant (no plaque)  
Old Women's Buffalo Jump (no plaque)  
Bar U Ranch  
Cross, Alfred Ernest  
Fort Mcleod

Territorial Court House  
Edwards, Henriette Muir  
Suffield Tipit Rings/Plains Indian Sites  
(no plaque)  
St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church  
Medalta Potteries

### Lethbridge:

Magrath, Charles A.  
First Air Crossing of the Canadian  
Rockies  
Indian battle of 1870  
Alberta's First Coal Mine  
Fort Whoop-up  
McKinney, Louise  
Head-Smashed in Buffalo Jump (no  
plaque)  
Red Crow  
Coleman (no plaque)  
Galt Irrigation Canal  
Mormon Agricultural Village  
Fort Benton-Mcleod Trail  
Alberta Temple  
First Oil Well in Western Canada  
Prince of Wales Hotel

## Rossdale: The On-Going Story

Several processes are unfolding around the Rossdale Power Plant and the historic Rossdale Flats.

This spring the Edmonton Historical Board and the City of Edmonton have held a series of public consultations to look at an appropriate commemoration for the burial sites that have been discovered on the site.

Also, following the 2001 designation of the buildings on the site, the City of Edmonton was asked to do more research on the historical land use of the Rossdale area. To accomplish this task, the City's Senior Management team has set up a separate group of employees to work with the Province to define the kind of research required and to look at the possibility of developing long-term historical and cultural plans for this most important historic district.

Early this summer Edmonton's City Council will look at the issue of

by **Marianne Fedori**

municipally designating the Rossdale Power Plant. It is believed that the City will likely block such a designation because of the interests of its power corporation, EPCOR, as well as concern for the compensation issues that go along with designation. Under the Historic Resources Act, Municipal Designation can require compensation to owners. In this case EPCOR is arguing that designation could bring significant loss to their company. The council of the City of Edmonton are also the shareholders of EPCOR thus complicating the decision.

After a strong decision from the province designating the buildings, the City of Edmonton will not likely follow suit. In fact, EPCOR has requested that all heritage buildings on its site be removed from the City of Edmonton's register of historic resources.

## Heritage Issues



This issue of compensation was also a major factor in the recent decision regarding St. Mary's School in Calgary where Calgary's city council defeated (by a tie vote) a decision to designate municipally. The Historical Society of Alberta is concerned by the weaknesses in the Historical Resources Act and resulting municipal processes, and as a result of a resolution from our members at the 2000 AGM this problem is being monitored by HSA.

Please contact Mayor Smith and all Councillors if you are in favour of municipal designation of the Rossdale Power Plant. For more information please contact, Frank Norris, President of the Edmonton and District Historical Society at 780-455-5610.

## Museum and Heritage Studies at the University of Calgary by **Don Wetherell**

While museum studies programmes have been expanding throughout the United States and Europe in the past decade, Canadian universities have been somewhat slower in joining the trend. This gap is, however, steadily being closed. Last fall I was hired as the first full-time faculty member in the Faculty of Communication and Culture, University of Calgary, to teach museum and heritage studies. In this programme, students combine museum studies with another subject, such as communications studies, history, archaeology, and art history. To broaden our scope, the Faculty will offer a new introductory class in museum studies for first year students this fall, while senior classes will continue to provide more advanced

students with the chance for in-depth study of more specialised topics. Teaching methods that combine theory with practical projects are used, and all students must complete a practicum at a museum, historic site or other cultural heritage facility.

The Nickle Art Museum at the University of Calgary and its Director, Ann Davis, are fully involved with the museum and heritage studies programme. The Nickle co-ordinates the practicum class and provides students with a venue for study. Graduates thus leave the programme with a theoretical understanding of the complexities and possibilities of museum and heritage work and with practical skills that will

permit them to move easily into the work place. Alberta has many exciting and innovative museums and heritage facilities, and the commitment by the University of Calgary's Faculty of Communication and Culture to museum and heritage studies is another bold initiative in the evolution of Alberta's cultural heritage.

For further information on the University of Calgary's Museum and Heritage Studies Programme, visit the university's web page at [www.ucalgary.ca](http://www.ucalgary.ca) or write to the Faculty of Communication and Culture, Social Sciences Bldg. University of Calgary, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Ab. T2N 1N4, or contact me by email at [dwethere@ucalgary.ca](mailto:dwethere@ucalgary.ca).



## St. Mary's School (1909) Municipal Designation

Presentation made to Standing Committee Operations & Environment, Calgary City Hall, Public Hearing May 22, 2002 by Jean Johnstone, First Vice President, The Historical Society of Alberta

Mr. Chairman, (Alderman Barry Erskine) and Members of the Standing Policy Committee on Operations and Environment, my name is Jean Johnstone. I live in Lethbridge, and I am President-Elect of the Historical Society of Alberta.

The Historical Society of Alberta was formed and incorporated by an Act of the Alberta Legislature in 1907. The primary objectives of the Historical Society Act read in part:

- "... to encourage the study of the history of Alberta and Canada,
- 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,
- to secure and preserve objects generally illustrative of the civil, religious, literary and natural history of the country, and
- to help preserve historic sites and landmarks ... ."

Our province was formed in 1905 and by 1907 our government of the day felt it was of sufficient importance to pass an Act to ensure our history and culture were remembered and preserved.

Today, I am representing the Historical Society but I also speak as a graduate of St. Mary's School. To those of us who learned from the teaching sisters, from far and near, who were members of the "Order of Faithful Companions of Jesus." we know first hand of the importance of this teaching order. However, do the citizens of Alberta know just how important the

Catholic Church and St. Mary's in particular were in the early education of Albertans? Those teaching sisters who gave their life in the service of others and the furtherance of Christian education in

the Calgary area are no longer in a position to stand and fight for the preservation of St. Mary's. Nor perhaps given their vows, would they, and so it is even more important that those of us who benefited from their wisdom and commitment should help to preserve this landmark as a testament to their devotion and dedication.

Now more than ever we need to remember what was laid out by our forefathers and celebrate what was accomplished in those early days by preserving what remains of the 1909 St. Mary's School. The original building is an example of a landmark that begs to be left standing as an early example of school architecture. It is an important cultural legacy to be appreciated for decades to come.

For the sake of tomorrow, please remember yesterday. The Historical Society of Alberta and I respectfully recommend Municipal Designation of the 1909 St. Mary's School.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

**NB:** Due to the severe snow storm in Southern Alberta on May 22, Jean Johnstone's presentation was read on her behalf by Sheila Johnston

### From Neil Watson, Chair Calgary Heritage Authority, June 20, 2002

On behalf of the Calgary Heritage Authority, I wish to express our profound disappointment in the anticipated loss of St. Mary's School.

This is a uniquely important structure to our City. It is our hope that in the future mechanisms will be developed to more effectively satisfy the needs of all parties involved with preservation issues.

Neil Watson is also Past-President of the Chinook Country Historical Society

### Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting



**Diana Sim** with the display she put together for the 2002 HSA Conference and AGM in Calgary

# Save St. Mary's Girls School

May 28, 2002  
The Hon. Gene Zwozdesky  
Minister of Community Development  
Province of Alberta  
Legislative Building, 10800 - 97 Avenue  
Edmonton, Alberta  
T5K 2B6

**Heritage  
Issues**



## **Re: Provincial Designation of St. Mary's School (1909), Calgary**

Dear Sir:

The Historical Society of Alberta is deeply concerned about the impending demolition of Calgary's St. Mary's School (1909) and would request that your government immediately file a notice to provincially designate the 1909 structure.

The demolition of St. Mary's School will have a tumultuous impact on the future of heritage preservation in Alberta, setting a dangerous precedent that will impact school heritage for decades to come. These precedents will, in the long term, outweigh the difficulties that have been presented by the current owner, the Calgary Catholic School Board.

Your government has the ability to change history and champion public sentiment on this matter. Although, you have looked at this issue previously, it is now clear that the community at large is not in favour of losing this important piece of Alberta's history.

The Calgary City Council narrowly voted in favour of demolition. Their decision was largely a result of the concerns regarding compensation required by municipal designation. It is our understanding that the compensation issues would not happen with provincial designation.

St. Mary's School is not replaceable. It is premier and an early example of school architecture; it has an illustrious history and is a community institution that represents an important cultural legacy. Serious consideration should be given to financing its future so that it can continue to be a living heritage building for generations to come. It is the Historical Society of Alberta's hope that provincial designation will save the structure so that it can be used to illustrate our cultural heritage and unite it with social, educational requirements on that site.

Yours truly,

Ron Williams, President

Jean Johnstone, President-Elect

Marianne Fedori, Past President

Copies: Premier Ralph Klein, Hon. Ty Lund, Minister of Infrastructure, Hon. Lyle Oberg, Minister for Learning

## **From: Trudy Cowan, Chair of Heritage Canada.**

The potential demolition of St. Mary's School (1909) in Calgary is wasteful of a solid and perfectly useable structure; environmentally unsound; a slap in the face to all the thousands of Calgarians, and others from across Canada, who wrote letters, signed petitions, and turned out to rallies and public meetings; and a major threat to every historic school building in the province. Given the building's significance, it is shameful that its demolition is going to perpetuate

Calgary's record as one of Canada's least preservation-conscious cities.

I feel that rather than dealing with one school at a time when the bulldozer is on the way, that the provincial government, in cooperation with the City of Calgary and all Alberta municipalities, must take a pro-active stand with regard to heritage school buildings. There must be a study and evaluation done of all the pre-WWI school buildings throughout Alberta, a list made of those that have

major heritage significance, and provincial designation completed for all those that reach or surpass whatever benchmark is determined to be appropriate.

This is a program that is similar in many ways to the Heritage Railway Stations program undertaken by the federal government for that entire class of buildings across the country—a landmark program that works.

## HSA Annual Awards 2002

### Annual Award

Awarded to: **Pauline Feniak**

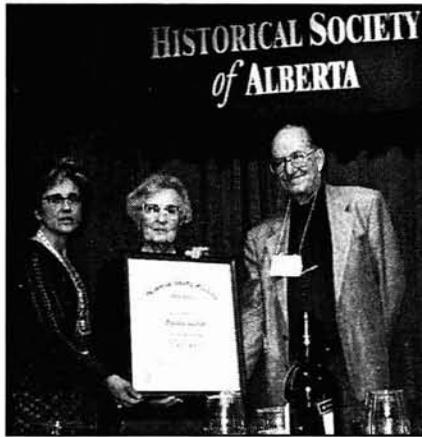
Nominated by: the County of Smoky Lake

Mrs. Pauline Feniak has "faithfully and extensively worked on matters of historical importance over a long period of time." She has contributed to the promotion and preservation of the historic heritage of Victoria Settlement, Pakan, Warspite and the Smoky Lake regions of the County of Smoky Lake. Through her efforts, the Honourable Sheila Copps, in February of 2002, designated, the Victoria Settlement a national historic site. The Victoria Lake settlement now constitutes the largest national historic site in Canada.

Pauline Feniak has made a strong contribution to historical writing about her region. She has co-edited, researched and compiled local histories of Smoky Lake, Warspite and the Victoria Trail. She is a founding member of the Warspite-Victoria Trail Historical Society and has been a member of the Advisory Board to Victoria Settlement Provincial Historic Site since its inception. She has chaired the board for eight years.

She has foreseen the need to capture and consolidate regional history surrounding Victoria Settlement and formed the Victoria Home Guard Society for whom she has produced studies on the Victoria Methodist Mission as well as initiated the commemoration of cemeteries in the district.

In 1996 the Edmonton and District Historical Society awarded Mrs. Feniak the Award of Distinguished Merit. She is a longtime member of the Historical



L to R: Marianne Fedori, Pauline Feniak and Ron Williams

Society of Alberta, the Alberta and Northwest Conference (UCC) and Canada's National History Society.

### Annual Award

Awarded to: **Fred Schutz**

Nominated by: Ron Trentham and Michael Dawe

Fred Schutz has made a tremendous and unique contribution to the preservation of Alberta's history that spans a period of almost 50 years. His achievements have been many-faceted and crossed several disciplines including the fields of both human and natural history. As author of "West of the Blindman", a weekly column that appeared in the Rimbey Record from 1954 to 1997, Fred has documented the stories, experiences and events of his community providing an invaluable record of 43 years of commentary about natural history, people, places and events.

Mr. Schutz was born on a farm near Trochu in 1920. When he was a year old his family moved to ranch northwest of Rimbey near Bluffton. He ranched in the area until his retirement. "In the 1940's and 50's when habitat preservation was viewed with some incredulity, Fred applied his conservation ethos to

his ranching practices by preserving large tract of natural habitat." Fred now resides in Rimbey.

It was in 1962 that Fred suggested it was time for Rimbey to build a museum to preserve its history and he was elected President of the newly formed Rimbey Historical Society. In the same year he wrote, Pas-Ka-poo: An Early History of Rimbey and the Upper Blindman Valley. He has authored several other publications including a biography of his father, Charles Herbert Ernest Schutz, a history of the Blindman Valley Shipping Cooperative and 1998 article on Irene Wright.

Fred Schutz has received many awards including the George Cadogan Memorial Award: "Outstanding Columnist in a Canadian Weekly Newspaper", 1989, the Emerald Award of the Red Deer River Naturalists, 2000, and the Affiliate Award of the Canadian Federation of Naturalists in 2001.

He is a member of and founding President of the Rimbey Historical Society (1961-1996), a founding director of the Ellis Bird Farm (1982-1992), Past-President and Director of the Red Deer River Naturalist (1970-1987).

### Award of Merit

Awarded to: **The Alberta Pioneer Railway Association**

Nominated by: The Edmonton and District Historical Society

The Alberta Pioneer Railway Association was chartered in 1968. For over 30 years the association has operated the Alberta Pioneer Railway Museum in the former St. Albert CNR station which is located in north-east Edmonton.

The Society is dedicated to collecting,

## HSA Annual Awards 2002

preserving, restoring, and operating artifacts which demonstrate the history and social impact of the Canadian National and Northern Alberta Railways and their predecessors in our province. The museum operates largely on the volunteer effort of over 100 individuals. Its collection has been acquired over the last three decades and is made up of 50 railway cars and locomotives. The facility replicates a small Alberta railway terminal of the 1950's to 1960's era and is complete with shops, water tank, passenger station, wayside structures, tracks, and rolling stock. Visitors can ride self propelled track cars, diesel powered trains and steam locomotives.

The Alberta Pioneer Railway Association has also preserved and catalogued an extensive archival collection which is in Edmonton.

The Alberta Railway Museum provides a "living history" experience for more than 4,000 visitors each year. Their programming includes school classes, the public and special train weekends. The museum demonstrates to a high standard, a whole railway environment matched by quality restoration initiatives.

### Honorary Lifetime Membership Award

Awarded to **Helen LaRose**

Helen LaRose has been involved and passionate about preserving Alberta's history since the mid-1960's. Born in Denzil Saskatchewan she came to Edmonton in 1955. In 1967, with a young family of three in hand, she was asked as a Walterdale resident, to keep an eye on the John Walter Site. She soon started to work for the City of Edmonton Parks and Recreation Department and coordinated the first

public programs of the John Walter Museum, researched the Fort Edmonton site, and began to catalogue city artifacts. Since she has made an enormous contribution to the historical and archival world in her professional career and as a volunteer.

She is a graduate of the Archives Management Course from the University of Alberta and officially became City of Edmonton archivist in 1973. From then until 1992, through Helen's management and vision, the City of Edmonton Archives developed into one of the premier research facilities in the province. Just weeks before her official retirement, the Archives under her leadership, reopened in a new location at the Prince of Wales Heritage Centre.

Helen has been interested in almost all aspects of Edmonton and its region's history. She has been dedicated to the art of records management, the preservation of historic buildings, working with museums, especially Fort Edmonton Park, and an active member of the Historical Society of Alberta, twice serving as the Edmonton and District Chapter President (formerly the Amisk-Waskahegan Chapter). As City Archivist she has played a key role in the workings of the Edmonton Historical Board and continued to volunteer on the board's committees until this year.

Helen has published articles in historical journals such as *Urban History Review* and the *Alberta Museums Review*. She has received recognition for her achievements such as the Commemorative Medal for the 125th Anniversary of the Confederation of Canada, 1992; the Edmonton Historical Board Recognition Award (1993);

Honorary Membership Award, Alberta Society of Archivist, (1993); and the Amisk Waskahegan Chapter Annual Award.

Helen LaRose has provided not only meritorious service to the Historical Society of Alberta and our chapter, but has set an important example of what can be accomplished to preserve our past through dedication and commitment. Helen is dearly respected by her colleagues and friends in history.

Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson



L to R: Harry Sanders and Mike Kampel

On Friday evening the tension was high as champions of each chapter vied for supremacy in the History Trivia Game Show, while host Roland Kieken hurled the insults thick and fast. After a tense final standoff, Harry Sanders emerged triumphant for the Chinook Country Chapter.

Even the commercials were entertaining, with sincere testimonials by members about how joining the HSA had cured them of a variety of repulsive diseases.

### Fact Sheet

The Heritage Community Foundation and the City of Edmonton are delighted to launch a dynamic, new educational website with broad public appeal — The City of Edmonton Archives Online Catalogue. This is the Heritage Community Foundation's gift to the City and people of Edmonton and will be a major support for centenary celebrations in 2004.

The project was made possible through the financial support of the Department of Canadian Heritage through the Canadian Culture Online Program. Total project cost is \$268,823 with \$167,867 being contributed by the Department of Canadian Heritage, \$65,971 by the Heritage Community Foundation and \$17,059 by DevStudios Inc.

### Project Facts:

The Heritage Community Foundation developed, resourced and accomplished the project

The City of Edmonton Archives contributed over 10,000 archival photographs

DevStudios, Edmonton-based web development and e-commerce leader, undertook graphic and database design

The site is available in both of Canada's official languages

Historic photographs and contextual information previously only accessible to onsite visitors are now available to teachers, students, parents and members of the general public — locally, provincially, nationally and internationally

Photos are categorized into 24 archival description categories to make searching easier, but searches can be done using one key word or multiple words within quotation marks

### Top five categories are:

- Commerce and Industry (2,637 pictures)
- Transportation (2,250 pictures)

Sports, Recreation, and Leisure (1,918 pictures)

Communications (1,110 pictures)

Family and Personal Life (846 pictures)

Heritage Community Foundation staff digitized and translated 10,232 photographs and related catalogue information

Five full-time staff scanned high resolution images on location at the archives, with the fastest scanner digitizing over 200 images in one day

Nine staff spent weeks entering data and catalogue information, with the fastest entering 270 records in one day

These records are only 10 per cent of the Archives' total holdings

The four collections are:

Northern Alberta Pioneers' and Old Timers' Association Collection

Hubert Hollingsworth Collection

Hook Outdoor Advertising Company Collection

### The Edmonton Bulletin Collection

These collections are regularly used by researchers, both academic and amateur, and are accessed for projects or celebrations requiring heritage content. In 2004, the City of Edmonton will celebrate its centenary as a city and in 2005 as the Capital of Alberta. The City of Edmonton Archives Online Catalogue will be a vital resource for professional and amateur historians alike and for teachers and students wanting to help celebrate the centenaries. The following information describes more fully the collections digitized.

### EA 160 The Hubert Hollingsworth Collection

Hubert Hollingsworth was one of Edmonton's most outstanding photographers. He was a founding member of the Edmonton Camera Club. He also operated his own photographic studio as well as working as a photographer for McDermid Studio, The Edmonton

Journal, and the Edmonton Bulletin. Upon retirement in 1976, Mr. Hollingsworth took up part-time work copying and cataloguing photographs, many of them his own, at the City of Edmonton Archives. Mr. Hollingsworth died in January 1988. Hubert Hollingsworth donated a collection of approximately 3,000 of his photographs, documenting life in Edmonton during the 1930s, 1940s, and 1950s. Over 1,600 of these photographs have been catalogued.

### EA 10 (and various others in Albums) The N.A.P.O.T.A. Collection

The Northern Alberta Pioneers' and Oldtimers' Association is one of Edmonton's oldest chartered clubs. It was founded in 1894 by a group of 36 pioneers who either trekked across the prairies from the east or worked their way up the Saskatchewan River by boat. The original objectives of the association were twofold: the preservation of the early history of the settlement, and the fostering of harmonious relations amongst the pioneers of the district. Presently known as the Northern Alberta Pioneers' and Descendants' Association, the organization has been responsible for the collection and maintenance of written and photographic archival material. The City of Edmonton Archives house 3,212 of their photographs.

### EA 275 The Hook Outdoor Advertising Company Collection

Hook Outdoor Advertising Company was an advertising company that employed billboards to deliver the message. The photographs were taken to document the placement of the advertisements — however they also frequently detail the surrounding area streetscape. There are 2,069 photographs dating between 1920 and 1970.

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## New Books



### Bateman, J. Tom

The Milk River Man: The Life of Alva Bair  
Calgary: Conservation Education Foundation, 2002  
ISBN 1-894255-17-8

### Cashman, Tony



Three Cheers for  
Edmonton: New Edmonton Stories  
Edmonton: University of Alberta Press, 2002  
ISBN 0-88864-392-6. \$24.95

### Huck, Barbara



Exploring Fur Trade  
Routes of North America  
Winnipeg: Heartland, 2002  
ISBN 1-896150-20-9

### Hughes, Douglas

The Old Bow Fort  
Calgary: Deteselig Enterprises, 2002  
ISBN 1-55059-230-0 \$16.95

### Reed, Gordon



Head- Smashed In Buffalo  
Jump  
Calgary: Fifth House  
ISBN 1-894004-83-3, \$12.95

### Carter, David J



Prairie Wings. Royal Air  
Force #34 Service Flying Training  
School, Medicine Hat, Alberta  
1941-1944

### Carter, David J



POW Behind Canadian  
Barbed Wire. Prisoner of War Camps in  
Canada 1914-1946.  
Contact:  
Eagle Butte Press Co  
Box 39, Elkwater, AB T0J 1C0  
Phone/Fax: 403-893-2470  
e-mail: djcarter@memlane.com  
www2.memlane.com/djcarter

### Sanders, Harry M.



Calgary's Historic Union  
Cemetery: A Walking  
Guide  
Fifth House, 74 pp.

### Bowman, R.F. P (Paddy)



Railways in Southern Alberta  
2002 revised edition of the 1973 publi-  
cation with additional photographs and  
information.  
\$7.95 plus P&H

### Johnston, Dr. Alex



CP Rail High Level Bridge  
4th Edition. \$6.95 plus P&H  
Both books available from The  
Lethbridge Historical Society

### Millar, Nancy



McCready, Margaret  
Sayings of Women  
Deteselig Enterprises Ltd. Calgary, AB  
ISBN 1-55059-231-9  
Pack this small but informative book for  
light and amusing summer reading.

## Books & Websites



## Websites to Try

### Heritage Tours and Sites

Take a look at these websites and  
plan a visit to an Alberta heritage site  
this summer or fall!

[www.pioneeracres.ab.ca](http://www.pioneeracres.ab.ca)

Pioneer Acres near Irricana displays one  
of the largest exhibits of antique farm  
machinery in Western Canada. The  
working museum is operated by the  
Pioneer Acres Plowmen and Thresher  
man's Club of Alberta. Call 1-403-935-  
4357 or email [info@pioneeracres.ab.ca](mailto:info@pioneeracres.ab.ca)

<http://hintonchamber.com/Tours>

Take an industrial tour of coal mines in  
the heart of Alberta's coal branch. Also  
visit a forestry museum and a natural  
resource interpretative park. Call the  
Hinton Chamber of Commerce at  
780-865-2777 or email to  
[hinchamb@oanet.com](mailto:hinchamb@oanet.com)

Don't forget to check Travel Alberta's  
website when planning a heritage  
excursion at [www.travelalberta.com](http://www.travelalberta.com)  
Click to Learning Adventures and  
Alberta's heritage.

## City of Edmonton Archives Online Catalogue (p 12 cont)

### EA 600 The Edmonton Bulletin Collection

The Edmonton Bulletin was the first newspaper published in Edmonton (1881 - 1951). There is an extensive collection of photographs however, those that are catalogued at the present include approximately 1,800 photographs taken by photographers Bud Dixon, Eric Bland, Laddie Ponich, and Peter Sullivan dating from 1947-1951. They document Edmonton's newsworthy events and personalities.

For further information, please contact:

Adriana A. Davies, Ph.D., Executive Director, Heritage Community Foundation  
Tel.780-424-6512, ext. 222, e-mail: [adriana.davies@heritagecommunityfdn.org](mailto:adriana.davies@heritagecommunityfdn.org)

## We want to hear from you!

Please send us a description of  
your favorite heritage place or site  
in Alberta detailing why you think it  
is worth a visit!

## Heritage School Fairs

by **Marianne Fedori**

A Heritage Fair is similar to the more familiar Science Fair, only more fun! Students research and display their findings about an aspect of Canadian heritage or history. Grades 4 to 9 enter the fair with the assistance of their teachers and school community. The fair becomes not only an integral part of the children's social studies program but provides an opportunity for the children to reach out into their community. The Heritage School Fair is a national program sponsored by Historical and regional fair committees and organizations.

There are five regional fairs in Alberta each held in May. Historical Society of Alberta members participate as judges and mentors. This year the HSA featured a variety of student

projects entered into the Calgary Regional Fair at our Annual General Meeting Conference.

Also, this spring it was my pleasure to mentor an Edmonton grade five student, Krista Janzen at Glenora Elementary School. Krista's teacher Patrick Reilly and the school principal, Corrie Ziegler, invited me to work with Krista to develop a history project to take to the fair. It was a wonderful learning experience for both of us and Krista work was highly commended.

Krista lives in a historic home in our neighbourhood of Old Glenora. She decided to research and write a journal from the perspective of Francis Newell in 1922. Francis Newell lived in Krista's home from 1911 to 1947. Krista wrote as if she were Francis in 1922, a young

girl age 11. We researched at the archives, used local histories, studied newspapers from that year and used clippings files. From this Krista prepared a creative non-fiction writing exercise.

To celebrate her accomplishments the grade five class at Glenora School held a community tea where the journal was read to some long time residents of the community.

Next year the school is considering establishing a history club to take more projects to the Edmonton Regional Fair. Approximately 150 children participated this year at the Legislative Buildings in Edmonton.

To learn more of the fairs please take a look at their national website at [www.historia.ca](http://www.historia.ca)

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## Heritage School Fairs - Regional Winners

Names of Regional Fair Winners

Grade 4 -5, Grade 6 -7, Grade 8 - 9

### Edmonton Regional HSF

Jean-Luc Bugeaud and Mark Sumka  
Leo Nickerson School (Grade 4)

Samantha Balzer, Victoria School  
(Grade 8)

Melissa Foley and Carrie Lewis, Sir  
George Simpson School (Grade 9)

### Calgary Regional HSF

Megan Grbavac, Calgary

Kristin Collins, Cochrane

Judy Smith, Chestermere Lake

### Central Alberta Regional HSF

Troy Catherall, Ecole Mountview  
School, Red Deer

Topic: History of Lacrosse

Nicole Reaman, Koinonia Christian  
School, Red Deer

Topic: Edmonton Grads

Justine Martinson, Olds Junior High  
School, Olds

Topic: Battleford Sunrise Millars

### Southern Alberta Regional HSF

Carly Takeda, Lethbridge, AB

Topic: The History of Winnie the  
Pooh

School: Ecole Agnes Davidson

Teacher: Monique Gouittin

Orion Miller, Lethbridge, AB

Topic: The History of Hockey

School: Ecole Agnes Davidson

Teacher: Louise Cormier

Amanda Bareman, Grassy Lake, AB  
(403)655-2475

Topic: The Disaster of Turtle  
Mountain

School: Coaldale Christian School

Teacher: Mark Slomp

### Northern Alberta Regional HSF

Elyse Hill

Iroquois Display, Grade 5

Alexander Forbes School

Grande Prairie, Alberta

Natasha Marshall, Wilderness Park

Grade 7, Holy Family School

Grimshaw, Alberta

Michelle Schamehorn

Les Grads d'Edmonton

Grade 8, Ecole St. Gerard

Grande Prairie, Alberta

## The Origins of Postal Service in Southern Alberta - Part 3

by **Bill Yeo**

In 1882 Chief Post Office Inspector Dewe predicted rapid growth in the population and the number of settlements in Canada's North West. His prediction certainly came true in those districts affected by the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Census of 1881 had recorded a population of 6,800 white and Metis residents in the Provisional District of Alberta, 60% of whom lived south of Edmonton. By 1891 the total had jumped to 17,593, with 80% south of Edmonton. In that year Edmonton's population was 700, while Calgary, a small cluster of log shacks and tipis a decade before, had 3,867 residents.<sup>1</sup>

Dewe recommended expansion of the postal service in the North West. The cost of these improvements was justified, he said, because the establishment of mail communication was "essential to the convenience and prosperity of the country." Without these improvements there would be "hardship to the new settlements, obstruction to all kinds of business, and general dissatisfaction and complaint." He was certainly right about the complaint. In August 1883 the first

CPR freight train arrived in Calgary, bringing the press for the Calgary Herald. The first issue of the paper appeared on 31 August. It included an editorial complaining about the mail service.<sup>2</sup>

Edmonton had no railway, but it did have a post office (opened March 1878). Calgary had a railway but no post office. Mail still came from Fort Macleod by stage and reached Calgary every ten days, to be sorted by Corporal Greet of the Mounted Police. However, all this changed when the Calgary post office opened 1 October 1883 in Bannerman's store east of the Elbow. Between 1883 and 1889 31 new post offices were opened for business, most of them along the CPR main line.<sup>3</sup>

Of these new post offices, some were in Dewe's "new settlements," places which had not existed or been very tiny before the railway came, such as Medicine Hat (June 1883), Gleichen (September 1884), or Cochrane (July 1887). Other new post offices were opened at established settlements some distance from the CPR, such as Fort

Macleod (October 1883), High River (February 1884) or Red Deer (December 1884). Not all places with new post offices were destined to become large towns or cities. Pekisko post office opened at the Bar U ranch in August 1886 and served "42 residents and settlers." In 1891 this was the largest settlement in the district, but in 1967 the post office closed for lack of business.

<sup>1</sup> Canada: Annual Report of the Postmaster General, 1882; special report by Chief Post Office Inspector J. Dewe. Census of Canada, as cited in Keith R. Spencer: Territorial Alberta, the Westhaver-Thompson Collection, Saskatoon (1989), p. 13.

<sup>2</sup> Dewe 1882, cited above. Calgary Herald, 31 August 1883.

<sup>3</sup> Spencer 1989, cited above, p. 17. Information on post office openings can be found on the National Archives Website [www.archives.ca](http://www.archives.ca), ArchiviaNet link: "Post Offices and Postmasters."

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### Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson

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The 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Historical Society of Alberta was hosted by the Chinook Country chapter on May 24-26. They presented the theme "Friends and Neighbourhoods" with a good deal of verve along with careful organization.

On Friday, twenty-six adventurous souls went on the Voyageur Canoe Adventure along with three intrepid voyageur guides and two tour guides, David Finch and Jeff Gottfred. David Finch is a consulting historian and an avid paddler; he told all sorts of stories



There were two canoes with NW Company flags and one with an HBC flag; the company employees dressed like voyageurs and there was one sitting or standing at the back of each canoe.

about Calgary and canoeing as we watched for beavers and birds. Jeff Gottfred is a fur trade re-enactor who made his own outfit including his Hudson's Bay Company blanket coat. He demonstrated activities such as using a sextant as David Thompson did, and has published on this and other fur trade subjects on a website: [www.northwestjournal.ca](http://www.northwestjournal.ca)

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## Chinook Country Historical Society

by Vivian Sampson

Greetings from Chinook Country,

For those of you who were unable to attend, you missed a great time at this year's conference and HSA AGM and Awards banquet. A vote of thanks for a job well done to the organizing committee of Mike Kampel, Anne Birch, Louise Crane, Roland Kieken, Jennifer Prest, and Martin Stocker. They worked many long, hard hours putting this conference together. The Friday night entertainment based on the Weakest Link was enjoyed by all in attendance. However, Edmonton did get a raw deal at the beginning with all those difficult questions. But, your president, Frank Norris, was a good sport. As the night wore on, the questions got easier. The home link from Chinook won. Congratulations to all participants for a very entertaining evening. Thank you to the hotel staff who made sure everything was okay and to you, the delegates for coming. I do hope you went home with a good feeling that history can be fun.

Our April program on Sir James and Lady Belle had one of our largest turn outs this season. Speakers Dr. Donald Smith of the University of Calgary and

Dr. David Hall of the University of Alberta, covered both the political and social sides of Sir James and Lady Belle. Former Premier Peter Lougheed and his wife, Jean, brought along their daughter, Pam. Pam is the spitting image of Sir James.

For the May program we substituted Faye Holt who did a slide presentation of prairie fires: from fires started by lightning; to cinder fires from the steam locomotives; to oil fires, and included pictures of Calgary's great fire before it became Sandstone City.

Thirty CCHS members judged at the annual Calgary & District Heritage Fair held at the City Hall Atrium on May 11. There were 150 exhibits, with three lucky students going to the Nationals in St. Johns, Newfoundland in July. For a first time event, 20 Grade Three students participated with their Family Treasures exhibits.

On Saturday, June 1, 2002, over 250 people participated in celebrating Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee in Calgary. The event started off with an Evensong at 4:00 pm at St. John's Church in Inglewood. Alberta's Lieutenant-Governor, Dr. Lois Hole,

## News & Views from HSA Chapters

attended both events giving the Vice-Regal Address at the dinner that began at 6:00 pm at the Ogden Legion. Dr. Hole (who is Patron to the HSA) described her meeting with the Queen and how important the monarchy is to Canada. Greetings were also provided by Jason Kenney, MP from the Parliament of Canada; Wayne Cao, MLA for the Province of Alberta, and Alderman Dale Hodges, on behalf of the City of Calgary. Everyone in attendance received a Jubilee pin and a flag. During the dinner, music was provided by the King's Own Calgary Regimental Band (RCAC). Besides the Monarchist League of Canada, Calgary Branch and Chinook Country Historical Society, 12 other organizations were involved in the planning of this very successful event. A truly fitting event in tribute of the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

I wish each and every one of you a very happy and safe summer. Try and make it a historic one by visiting as many of Alberta's historic sites (federal, provincial and municipal) as you can. And, don't forget to take in some of the activities of the Historic Weeks in Calgary and Edmonton.

### Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson



Paddling along the Bow River past Fort Calgary including the barracks

We landed at Edworthy Park for tea and biscuits; thanks to Dave Peyto for staying ashore to feed us and also take photos.

The coach tours on Saturday travelled in opposite directions; Roland Kieken acted as guide for the Foothills tour which stopped at Morley Church, the Turner



Jeff Gottfred demonstrated the use of a sextant during the stop at Edworthy Park. He is dressed as a fur trade clerk.

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Since last reporting, the Lethbridge Historical Society has had 2 meetings with speakers, and one book launch.

On March 26, our members were delighted to hear Elizabeth McLachlan read and highlight stories from her two publications: "With Unshakeable Persistence, Rural Teachers of the Depression Era" and "With Unfailing Dedication, Rural Teachers in the War Years." The teachers whose stories are chronicled in the books attended and provided an interactive question and answer period.

On April 23, our guest speaker Garry Allison, a free-lance writer, gave us the inside scoop on journalism during world conflicts. Mr. Allison is a former Lethbridge Herald reporter who continues to provide us with weekly historical stories in the Herald.

April 13, we held a double book launch at the Southern Alberta Model Railway Club house where the model trains were demonstrated. The Hon. Clint Dunford and City Alderman Barbara Lacey were in attendance and brought greetings from their respective

governments. The two publications were updated versions of past efforts and included: "Railways in Southern Alberta", Occasional Paper No. 36 by the late Mr. R.F.P. 'Paddy' Bowman and "The C.P. Rail High Level Bridge at Lethbridge," Occasional Paper No. 37 by the late Dr. Alex Johnston.

Lethbridge Historical Society continues to keep publishing as its prime focus. At this time there are three manuscripts being reviewed, as well as a reprint of "Plants and the Blackfoot". Any new publications will be dedicated to the Alberta 2005 Centennial to join the two launched on April 13.

A special event will be held on July 16 at the Lethbridge Public Library on 7:30 pm. Michael Unsworth, a professor from Michigan State University will be here to speak to us on World War II balloons that landed in Alberta. The topic appeared in the Spring 1995 *Alberta History*. The article was written by William R. Sinclair and is entitled "Bombs over Alberta". Please come and join us if you are in Lethbridge on that evening.

## Can you answer these questions?

Who were they? Did they become famous? Are they still around?

For some years now I have been trying to find out from my historical friends from the Calgary area the questions I have posed above.

As a young lad living in Strathmore in the Fall of 1949 and Winter of 1950, I recall a small group of western singers/entertainers who had a noon half hour radio spot on CFCN or CFAC. They were popular to many folks during every noon hour. The group also travelled to smaller centres outside Calgary in the evenings and would entertain at these smaller communities.

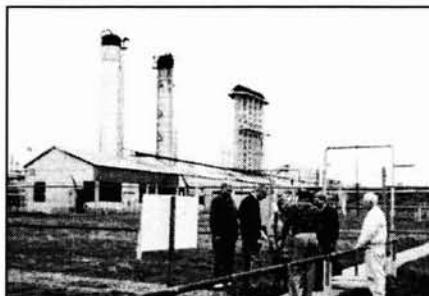
After I moved away from area in 1950 I lost track of the group as there was no reception for CFAC or CFCN radio.

Do any *History Now* readers know this group? What became of them? Are they still alive? If you do, would you write a short article for *History Now* to let us know what happened to them? Thanks, signed interested from Lethbridge.

## Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson

ValleyGas Plant site, and the Okotoks Museum; all memorable places to visit; and the memory of lunch at Bragg Creek still makes my mouth water. Louise Crane guided the Prairie tour which travelled east into the irrigation country and landed at Pioneer Acres. I wish that I could also have attended this tour; which sounded fascinating.

At the banquet on Saturday, the Awards were presented, and David Bly spoke about remembering our stories.



The HSA coach tour visits the Turner Valley gas plant site

The silent auction on Sunday saw many people lugging armloads of books around, while Norval Horner gave a slide talk about old homes in Calgary. The weekend ended with two more tours: Norval Horner's walking tour of Scarboro; and a bus tour of Trudy Cowan's Calgary—again both tours were well worth taking.

All in all, it was an excellent AGM; many thanks to the Chinook Country people who organized it.

This has been a busy year for this chapter. Hopefully, we have fulfilled our memberships expectations in regard to programs, newsletters, Historic Edmonton Week and our two annual banquets. There is always a desire to do more but our human resources, as they stand today, are not capable of doing much more than we presently do.

There are exciting times ahead for our chapter and many great opportunities to promote and expand our public image. There are three very important centennial celebrations on the horizon. They are: The City Of Edmonton's Centennial on October 8, 2004. The Province of Alberta's Centennial on September 1, 1905. The Historical Society of Alberta's Centennial on March 15, 2007. The EDHS president is already actively involved with representing our chapter on Edmonton's 2004 Committee and attends many public and planning meetings. Because of our long and strong efforts in promoting history, our voice and ideas are respected. The EDHS president was also invited by His Honour, Mayor Bill Smith, to sit on the planning and advisory committee, to help provide support to Linda Goyette, as she moves forward on the "Edmonton—A City Called Home" book project, which is an important element of the centennial celebration.

Our chapter will also host the Historical Society of Alberta's annual conferences for some, if not all, of the centennial celebrations. No small organizational task, but a wonderful opportunity to promote our cause and increase our public presence.

So! If you have any ideas or ambitions to become part of these exciting

and challenging projects, occurring in the next five years, our society welcomes you with open arms.

In this past year we have incorporated the former Society for the Protection of Architectural Resources in Edmonton as a standing committee of our general board. Financial resources, in the amount of about \$2000, were received and used, in part, to provide one year memberships to former SPARE members. Brad MacDonald, a graduating U of A student, is doing a capable job of chairing this committee.

The Rosedale issue gave us an opportunity to have our voice heard, when we were granted intervener status to present our position to the Alberta Energy and Utility Board Hearings. The decision to designate three of the Rosedale Buildings was the important result of these hearings. We congratulate the Minister of Community Development, Honourable Gene Zwozdesky, for his very important decision. It gives us hope for the future of this historic site.

Historic Edmonton Week, our sixth, is on schedule, for July 28 thru August 5, and planning is well underway, thanks to our coordinator, Ms Gail Rydman. Funding is proving hard to find this year, however, we plan to proceed using existing funds. Our casino in 2003, we hope, will replenish our bank account. We are gaining new partners again this year and we are planning an eight day "History Show" in City Hall, hopefully using all the available space. This will take much effort and organizing skills and we will need many volunteers. We will see you there and have a great summer!

### Edmonton Historic Week July 28 to August 5, 2002

Presented by: The Edmonton and District Historical Society, (a Chapter of the Historical Society of Alberta)

Join a heritage community rooted in Edmonton's history and celebrate our past. Historic Edmonton Week Festival, founded in 1997, is a mid-summer, week-long tribute to history where more than 40 agencies with an interest in heritage create a program of activities along a historical theme. Each member of the heritage consortium contributes an event unique to its interest, facility or location. What results is a week of open-houses, tours, presentations and other activities. The Edmonton and District Historical Society presents this festival with the help of volunteers and staff who contribute hours of work within the heritage consortium. It is because of their efforts we can enjoy opportunities to explore the roots of Edmonton's past with our local historians.

For more information about Historic Edmonton Week festival 2002 call 780-439-2797. Visit our web site at [www.albertasource.ca/hew](http://www.albertasource.ca/hew)

Edmonton and District Historical Society, P.O. Box 1013, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2M1

by Janet Walter

Write to  
c/o Red Deer and District Museum  
4525-47A Avenue, Red Deer, AB T4N 6Z6

## Red Deer Heritage Recognition Award

A Red Deer historic preservation achievement was recognized May 10, when the first Heritage Recognition Award was presented to honour the citizens who came together to retain a 1907 railway bridge.

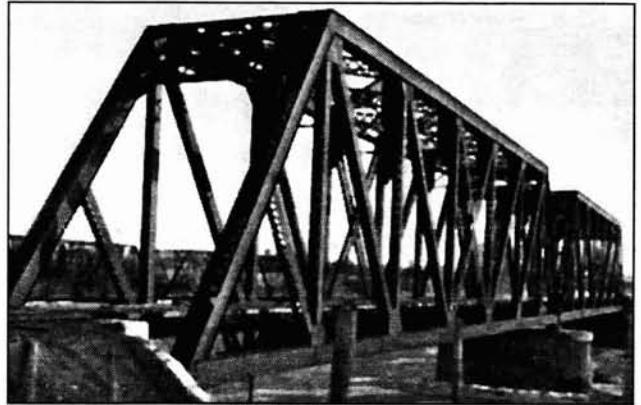
When the railroad was rerouted out of the city centre, CPR had no further use for the bridge. Due to the cost of repairs and continued maintenance of the bridge, City Council in 1990 decided to remove the bridge and sell it. This double span steel bridge was a feature of the landscape of North Red Deer and had been used for years as a pedestrian bridge, by people in the North Red Deer community. It was convenient for the walkers using the river trail system and for access to the Bower Ponds recreation and cultural park area.

The initial appeal to city council to maintain the bridge for pedestrian use was denied. Shirley Hocken wrote letters to the editors of the local newspapers asking citizens who were interested in saving the bridge to come forward. Many did so and a North Red Deer Rail Bridge Committee was formed of: Dr. Bob Lampard, Randy Harper, Jim Douglas, Morris Flewwelling, Gordon Becker and Shirley Hocken.

In Shirley Hocken's account of their committee's work, written for *History Now*, she records: Peter Barlem of United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America local 2410 approached me about the carpenters contributing to the project by doing all the carpenter work on the bridge. Greg McMahan the leader of the union for

Alberta along with several people went to council on the second reading and an Ad Hoc City committee was formed to help answer all the financial and structural problems. When third reading was given so was the municipal heritage designation.

The Normandeau Board was asked to support the Northside Community Association so that people or businesses could receive tax receipts. The CPR had set aside \$100,000 to remove the bridge so the committee had to approach the CPR to have that money transferred to the bridge project in exchange for a charitable tax receipt. Grants were obtained and many businesses came forward to help the project along. MLAs were asked to support the project by getting the Public Works Dept. of Alberta to approve the bridge becoming a pedestrian/cycle bridge. The various committees worked throughout 1991 on the project. In the spring of 1992, there was only a brief window of opportunity for the Carpenter's Union to help with the project, so contracts were sought for the rest of the project and the work began. There were approximately 40 different Union men that helped with the construction. The handrails on the bridge were taken from the old 45 St. overpass, refinished and reused. The Bridge was completed in September of 1992. Provincial heritage designation was received in the Spring of 1993. \$160,000 was raised for the restoration



Red Deer River CPR Bridge, Red Deer, Alberta

project which doesn't include all the volunteer hours given by the carpenters union or the money not charged by suppliers and contractors. The rail bridge is one of very few that has provincial historic designation in the province of Alberta. Volunteers and a strong desire to preserve our heritage is important for the future generations to see the past.

There were two other Historical events in Red Deer on the second weekend in May.

The 6th annual Western Undergraduate History Conference was held at Red Deer College. Undergraduate students in History and Classics presented the history papers they entered for judged competition.

The Heritage Fair for junior and senior high school students, organized by Red Deer and District Museum was held at the Red Deer Centre Mall.

Museums throughout Central Alberta are ready for summer visitors. These include the new Danish Canadian National Museum & Gardens at Dickson.

## HSA Calendar of Events – 2002

- Jul 26 to Aug 5** CCHS Historic Calgary Week. Info 403-261-4667 or visit the HSA website at [www.albertahistory.org](http://www.albertahistory.org). HQ is at the Memorial Park Library 1221 2 Street SW.
- Jul 28 to Aug 5** EDHS For information about Historic Edmonton Week festival 2002 call 780-439-2797 or visit our web site at [www.albertasource.ca/hew](http://www.albertasource.ca/hew). Edmonton and District Historical Society, P.O. Box 1013, Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2M1.



### Highlights from the 2002 HSA Conference and Annual General Meeting by Val Jobson

David Finch is at the front facing the rowers. He switched to sit in two different canoes and Jeff Gottfred was in the third canoe.

### Enjoy your summer

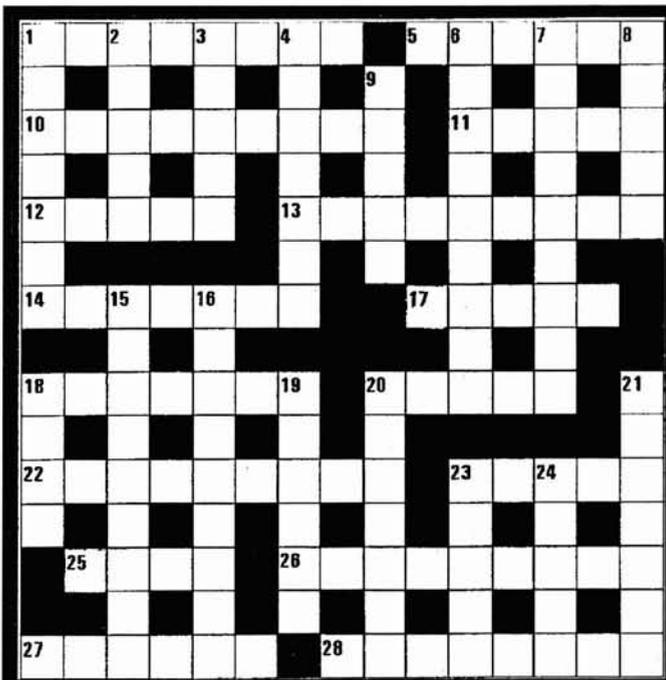
Visit Historic Week Events in Calgary and Edmonton. Try your luck in the Plaque Finding Contest. See you in the Fall

#### Answer to last newsletter crossword:

**Across:** 1. Reynolds, 5. pilot, 10. grayling, 11. Nil, 12. tenor, 13. Louis Riel, 14. Alberta, 17. Stanley, 18. caribou, 20. enlists, 22. fortnight, 23. Irene, 25. canoe, 26. Nobleford, 27. Tahiti, 28. West Wind.

**Down:** 1. regatta, 2. yearn, 3. oiler, 4. Donalda, 6. Innisfail, 7. oilfields, 8. issues, 9. Hunley, 15. Bar U Ranch, 16. R.B. Bennett, 18. CCF, 19. urgent, 20. eatable, 21. sledder, 23. inert, 24. ego, 25. cat.

### HSA Crossword



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. Desolate area in Dinosaur Provincial Park
5. Respiratory disease
10. Winner of LHS Alex Johnston Award of Merit 2002
11. Alberta's quivering tree
12. An order of architecture for columns
13. First steamer on North Saskatchewan river to reach Edmonton, 1875
14. Precisely
17. Confess
18. Made a mark of military respect
20. The thing we sing we are home on
22. Calgary's Stampede breakfast treat
23. Twin brother of Esau
25. Colour of unbleached linen
26. Event of 1885 in the Northwest Territories
27. Leduc No. 1 or Atlantic No. 3
28. Some say it is the City of Champions

#### Down

1. Medical manner
2. Oilfield town
3. Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission acronym
4. Lieutenant Governor of Northwest Territories 1881-1888
6. Head ... , Buffalo Jump
7. Vintage automobile of yester year
8. Miss Simpson, first female pharmacist of Innisfail, Bassano, Jasper and the Calgary General Hospital, to her friends
9. Name of the Camrose mill which first made Sunny Boy Cereal
15. Unions
16. Cache from which the Yellow Head Pass took its name
18. Umpire's call at Trappers or Cannons game
19. A former mayor of Edmonton
20. Community near Highway 9 which offers dinner theatre
21. Country once noted for its Cedars
23. Dessert which Jack Benny once advertised
24. Movie star Eastwood, who made a film near Longview