

The membership newsletter of the

Historical Society of Alberta

Box 4035
Station C
Calgary, AB. T2T 5M9
Telephone: 403-261-3662
Fax: 403-269-6029
e-mail: albertahistory@telus.net

History NOW

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Council Meeting September 14, 2002

Photograph taken outside Cronquist House, Red Deer



Photo courtesy of: **Robert Lampard**, President Elect, CAHS

HSA Pin

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You can pick it
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Your new 2002-2003 Council

Back Row L to R: Tony Rees, 2nd Vice President, Bev Leggett,
Treasurer, Val Jobson, Secretary, Marianne Fedori, Past President

Second Row L to R: Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve, Director, Bill Baergen,
Debbie Godine, Office Administrator, Jean Johnston, 1st Vice President,
Ron Williams, President

Front Row L to R: Don Hepburn, 3rd Vice President, Bob Shaw, LHS rep-
resentative, Vivian Sampson, President CCHS, David Jones, Director,
Ed McCullough, Vice President, CCHS, Frank Norris, EDHS.

Missing from photo: David Smith, Director

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:

Sherring Amsden,
Editor, *History Now*,
Historical Society of Alberta
Box 4035, Station C
Calgary, AB T2T 5M9
Phone: 403-261-3662
Fax: 403-269-6029

**Members of Council
2002-2003**

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2nd Vice President	Tony Rees
3rd Vice President	Don Hepburn
Treasurer	Beverly Leggett
Secretary	Val Jobson
Past President	Marianne Fedori
Directors:	David Jones, Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve, & David Smith

Committees:

Alberta History Editor Hugh Dempsey
History Now Editor Sherring Amsden

For information contact:

Office Coordinator
The Historical Society of Alberta
#518 Lancaster Building
304 8th Avenue SW
Calgary, AB. T2P 1C2
Phone: 403-261-3662
Fax: 403-269-6029
e-mail: albertahistory@telus.net
website: www.albertahistory.org

Welcome to new members

Bill Hallett, Calgary	Tom Hamp, Calgary
Milton Fenske, Edmonton	Marge Ferrari, Ely, Nevada
Susan Steinmann, Calgary	Janice Renaud/Justin MacIntyre, Calgary
Bill Dunn, Cayley	Jack & Annelies Wallace, Calgary
Jack & Jean Leslie, Bragg Creek	Larry Lefebvre, Calgary
Charles H. Grant, Edmonton	Ian & Wendy Bryden, Calgary
Aero Space Museum Association, Calgary	Judy Blair, Calgary
Robert E. A. Logan, Calgary	Marla Scollon, Calgary
Sheila Ross, Calgary	Marlyn Parker, Calgary
Walter & Louise Dmitroca, Calgary	Dr. E. Kenneth Schmidt, Edmonton
Teresa Feehan, Edmonton	Diana Carr, Calgary
John G. Diefenbaker Sr. High School, Calgary	Joanna Baker, Okotoks
Elizabeth Kirillo, Edmonton	Joyce B. Stang, Edmonton
Edith Fearon, Edmonton	Dr. Neil F. Duncan, Edmonton

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

Liliane Maisonneuve	Roman J. Kierzek
Ron Williams	Bonnie Laing
W. P. Baergen	Diana P. Ringstrom
John A. Eagle	Glynis Grigg
Anonymous	Reinhold Winterer
Marjorie Lilley	W. Kline
Gloria Dingwall	Ron Whistance-Smith
Mrs. Helen J. Green	Ron Williams
Jean Johnstone	Marjorie McIntyre
Janice Renaud/Justin MacIntyre	Diana Carr
Olive R./Elwood Hillman	Dr. David Cornish
Larry Lefebvre	

President's Report by Ron Williams

Summer is now passed and autumn begins the winter programs of the Historical Society of Alberta. All of the chapters are planning very informative and interesting programs. We are all looking forward to an interesting year.

The Legacy Campaign was a success again. Each campaign results in an increase in the total contributions from our members. I thank each person who contributed to the success of the campaign. As our endowment fund increases it brings more stability to our finances. Contributions from our members are not limited to the Legacy Campaign but continue throughout the year. I thank each member who contributes to the work of the Society. Our society is a successful, dynamic organization because of the contributions of our members in time and financial contributions. Thank you all.

The first meeting of the new Council was held in the historical Cronquist House in Red Deer; a very beautiful, as well as, historically significant site. There was a very controversial issue to be discussed and voted upon. It is to be hoped that the thorough debate and decision will lead to strengthening of the Society. The question was the loca-

tion of the office. The present location is deemed less than satisfactory, being cramped at 490 sq. ft. After a long term of spacious quarters, we have been forced to move twice into lesser space at increased rental—such is the result of being very small in the commercial marketplace.

Over a long period of time there has been discussion about the desirability of being located in a heritage building. No such site has been available. An offer from the City of Edmonton presented an alternative to the Society. The Society was offered the opportunity to lease very adequate space—1450 sq. ft. in the Prince of Wales Armory. The other tenants in this premier, heritage building, which the City has restored at very great cost, are: City of Edmonton Archives, Museum of the Loyal Edmonton Regiment and the Genealogical Society of Alberta. After prolonged debate and an adjournment to a conference call, a majority of Council voted to remain in the commercial market in Calgary.

An official position of representation of the Historical Society on the Advisory Board of the Provincial Archives has been created. The President was offered and accepted the



initial appointment. This is recognition by the Provincial Department of Community Development of the important role played in the field of historical research and preservation by the HSA.

The Society continues to make presentations regarding the Rossdale site in Edmonton. This is because that site is unique in being part of every stage in our history, from being a gathering space for hunter and gatherers 6,000 years ago, to modern industry in the form of a power plant, which is significant in its own right—both historically and architecturally.

I look forward to a busy time during the last months of my term and to visiting events around the province.

I look forward to a busy time during the last months of my term and to visiting events around the province.

Also, I would like to wish each of you best personal regards for the holiday season.

Meet your New Council Members

Bev Leggett, Treasurer: is a certified Management Accountant who also holds a MBA. Bev works as a planning analyst in the oil industry in Calgary. Fortunately for the HSA, she has a deep interest in local history and can bring both her passion and expertise to the workings of our council.

Tony Rees, Second Vice President: is a long time and well known member of

the Society. He has held many positions in the archival world including that of Chief Archivist at the Glenbow. An author of many titles, his latest works are a history of polo in the Canadian West and a study of the 49th parallel boundary. He is chair of Publications. **Liliane Coutu Maisonneuve**, Director at Large: is coordinator of the Heritage and History Sector of the Associatio

canadienne-française de l'Alberta in Edmonton. Although a teacher by profession, she and her late husband Marcel operated a grain and oil seed farm near Guy in the Peace River Country. She has both French Canadian and Metis roots. The history of her family, the Lagimodiere, the Riel and the Coutu is intertwined with the history of Western Canada.

Member Profile

Gord Tolton has recently been appointed as History Co-Ordinator for United Farmers of Alberta Co-Operative Limited (UFA).

Gord's job is to implement a project to collect, document and exhibit artifacts and archival material pertaining to the organizations's history. The project is in preparation for the UFA's centennial in 2009. Gord is willing to meet with any one interested in this project.

If you know of artifacts, primary documents, publications, or have any oral histories or photographs of UFA Stores, Fuel Agencies, or the Political or Social history of the company, please visit Gord at the Lethbridge Farm Supply Store, 2905 2 Avenue N, Lethbridge, call 403-380-4659, or e-mail: gord.tolton@ufa.com

A ten-year employee of UFA, Gord has also been active in the heritage field for several years. He has been Program Co-ordinator for the Lethbridge Historical Society, LHS representative to the the Historical Society of Alberta Council, Board member of Fort Whoop-Up in Lethbridge, and an early member of new organizations like Riders of the Plains in Fort Macleod, and the Great Canadian Plains Railway Society. He is author of two books, *Rocky Mountain Rangers* and *The Buffalo Legacy*.

HSA's new e-mail address

Please note that the new e-mail address for The Historical Society of Alberta is:

albertahistory@telus.net

History at the Theatre

Workshop West Theatre's first production of the season, *Mary's Wedding*, by Stephen Massicote, is a beautiful WWI play that tells the story of Charlie, a member of the Lord Strathcona's Horse Regiment and his lover Mary.

It's a love story structured around Mary's dream the night before her wedding, shortly after the end of the war. She dreams of Charlie, of the chaos of war, or a love that's stronger than time. There's lots of good war/prairie history, told in a very engaging way.

Showing at Kaasa Theatre, Edmonton, October 25 to November 9, 2002. Tickets Adults; \$16 Students/Seniors \$13. Bring your teenagers. Bring your parents.

2002 Canadian Pacific Lecture

On September 30, 2002, HSA and Alberta Records Publication Board member Rod Macleod was the chosen speaker for the Canadian Pacific Lecture in Western Canadian History.

Professor Macleod delivered a presentation on the diaries of First World War soldier, Frank Reginald Hasse, a member of Edmonton's 49th Battalion.

This was the fourth in an annual series of lectures intended to raise awareness and funds for research in western Canadian History at the University of Alberta.

Previous lectures have been given by HSA members, Dr. David Breen and Dr. David Jones.

HSA Members News

Archives Society of Alberta Archives Week

The Archives Society of Alberta will hold its annual Archives Week from October 7 to 12, 2002.

This year's theme is "A Feast for the Eyes: Food in Archives." Events will take place at a variety of archives around the province.

Watch for the virtual exhibit on the Archives Society of Alberta web site at www.archivesalberta.org for a showcase of material from around the province focussing on this year's theme."

We'd like to hear from you

I am interested in volunteering for the Historical Society of Alberta.

I am interested in:

- ☐ Events
- ☐ Fund Raising
- ☐ Membership
- ☐ Publicity

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

PC: _____

E-mail: _____

The skills I have to offer are:

Mail or E-mail to:

The Historical Society of Alberta

PO Box 4035, Station C,

Calgary, Alberta T2T 5M9

Phone: 403-261-3662

E-mail: albertahistory@telus.net

Conference Highlights Unsettled Pasts: Reconceiving the West Through Women's History held at the University of Calgary, June 13–16, 2002

by Charleen P. Smith, PhD
Student, History, UofC

Over 170 participants from Canada, the U.S., and Great Britain came together last weekend at the University of Calgary to discuss western women's history.

The Unsettled Pasts conference appealed to scholars, activists, local historians, artists, archivists, and students interested in exploring how reconceiving the West through women's history can fill in the blank spaces left by telling history only from a male perspective. Many Historical Society of Alberta members participated as organizers, presenters, chairs, and delegates, and the HSA was an important and early sponsor of the event.

Sheila Johnston, HSA past-president, said she enjoys "the enthusiasm we have for each other. A lot of these people are here giving papers, but they are also learning."

In her keynote address, Elizabeth Jameson, Imperial Oil-Lincoln McKay Chair in American Studies at the University of Calgary, set the warm tone for the weekend by encouraging participants to think about how women's experiences in the West connect women on both sides of the Canadian-U.S. border. One of the highlights of the conference was the inclusion of speakers who shared their personal family stories. Olive Stickney and Lucille Fricker both told powerful stories that "grounded the conference in women's lived reality."

Participants were kept busy with a choice of concurrent panels, browsing the book displays, chatting with old friends and meeting new ones. The richness of Calgary's history was displayed in a tour of the Glenbow, Local History Collection at the Calgary Public Library, Dean House, Famous Five statues in Olympic Plaza, and a

walking tour of Union Cemetery. One of the most inspirational moments was Alberta Senator Thelma Chalifoux's moving address on Indigenous Women's Struggle to Survive. Evening presentations by filmmakers and local authors, a banquet and tribute to Eliane Silverman, and the premiere of a new play by Nancy Millar about the Famous Five, "Singing Up The Hill," were described by participants as "well-organized and most important, fun!" One response suggests the importance of this conference on the future of women's history: "It challenged me to continue exploring the ideas that were raised in this conference; to continue to do critical work in women's popular history." Another outcome of the conference will be a book of essays on women in Alberta history.

HSA Annual Awards 2002

(more photos by Irene Dixon)



HSA Honorary Lifetime Membership award presented to Helen LaRose by Marianne Fedori, HSA Awards Chairman



The HSA Award of Merit presented by Marianne Fedori to The Alberta Pioneer Railway Association, accepted by Herb Dixon,

Rossdale: HSA Request to Speak at Public Hearing

Office of the City Clerk
The City of Edmonton
3rd Floor City Hall
1 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, AB T5J 2R7

Gentlemen:

Further to our telephone confirmation that the Historical Society of Alberta wishes to speak at the Non-Statutory Public Hearing to Review the Use of the Rossdale Power Plant scheduled for October 1, 2002, City Council meeting, at 3:45 p.m. The content of our position is as follows:

The Historical Society of Alberta is a province wide organization created by Act of the provincial legislature in 1907 to promote and preserve the history of Alberta. The Edmonton and District Historical Society is one of four chapters of the provincial society.

The Historical Society has been involved in the Rossdale question from the early stages and has made presentations to the provincial agencies regarding the questions of preserving this site.

The HSA believes that the Rossdale site is of unique importance to the entire province and indeed nation.

The entire sweep of Alberta's history is focused in the North Saskatchewan River Valley; right from the nomadic hunters and gatherers who come here over 6000 years ago—before the time of the pyramids; to the fur traders and others associated with that era; to early agriculture and industrial development in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

The power plant is an unique part of that heritage, being an early industrial development that has continued for nearly a century. It is a classic example of power plant engineering of the inter war period. It was a great statement of optimism for the City of Edmonton; a City of under 100,000 in the midst of the Great Depression to build the 1938 section. Given that these buildings are provincially designated, we would request once more that the City of Edmonton undertake appropriate heritage management resulting in municipally designating them. The Historical Society of Alberta strongly urges that in planning for the future of this uniquely significant site that the integrity of the entire site be preserved.

In addition to the preservation of the integrity of the site, there must be means to educate visitors to the site of the total history of it and its importance to the history of the entire area of Western Canada.

There must be the involvement of the many diverse groups who have an interest in the planning and ongoing progress of the site. The Historical Society of Alberta is pleased that the City of Edmonton is undertaking a historical land use study of the site. We would encourage the City of Edmonton to ensure that measures for appropriate heritage management strategies are put in place in any long range use of the site. We look forward to continued involvement in the planning of this unique heritage landscape.

Sincerely,
Ron Williams, President

Heritage Issues



Lougheed House Restoration Update

by Trudy Cowan

Many Historical Society of Alberta members have noticed that restoration work at the provincially-owned Lougheed House in Calgary has been at a standstill for almost a year.

Provincial funding of the project was put "on hold" along with many other projects across Alberta. However, there does seem to be some movement, and the Lougheed House Conservation Society hopes to see work begin again within the coming two or three months.

If you have any questions or comments, please call the society at 403-244-6333, or e-mail to info@lougheedhouse.com.



Drawing by HSA member
Nick Ochotta, Edmonton

Rossdale: Public Hearing to be Held

by **Bradley McDonald**
SPARE Committee of EDHS

already granted full designation to the most significant buildings.

The public will finally get the opportunity to present their thoughts and opinions on the ever-controversial Rossdale Power Generating Station in October. Edmonton City Council passed a motion to develop the parameters of a hearing in January and voted to proceed with a hearing, originally scheduled for early September, in June. The date was pushed back to October, as many Councillors were unavailable on the original date.

The most important outstanding issue to the Historical Society and to the Edmonton and District Chapter is that of Municipal Historical Registration. We initially wanted to see the plant Designated as Municipal Historic Resource; however, City Council felt it was redundant since the Province has

Historic Registration would officially recognize the significance of the buildings and the plant to Edmonton. As well, it would correct a great error made by the City Council of 1999. The buildings now designated by the Province were registered on Edmonton's 'A'-List, but were removed when Council decided to proceed with an expansion that would have seen the most historic buildings demolished. No other buildings have been removed from the 'A'-List and the factors that make the building worth of such status have not changed. The fact that they remain off the list is an insult to the system of heritage building preservation.

Although our presentation has not been planned, other topics that may need to be addressed include the nearby

Heritage Issues



cemetery and long-range planning for the site. The City and the Province have taken initiative on both issues and we would like to show our support for the initiative and encourage them to keep progressing.

The hearing represents an important opportunity for community groups and citizens to play a role in civic issues.

EDHS is grateful to have this opportunity to participate in this process with the HSA.

History in the Schools

excerpt from *Edmonton Journal*, Saturday August 24, 2002, page A17

This spring former Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed stepped down as Chancellor of Queen's University. At an address to the Queen's University Council he made a compelling speech about the need for more history in our schools. An excerpt from his address was published in the newspapers. (See the *Edmonton Journal*, Saturday August 24, 2002, page A 17).

Among the quotes stated was the following:

"I believe Canadians want to know about their history. I was fascinated as you were, and I give the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation great credit

for their Canadian history series. They said we'll average 700,000 to watch the programs, they got well over 2 million.

There is a message there and that is the message of how interested Canadians are in themselves and in their history.

Where do we go?

I want every province—under our Constitution as you know the jurisdiction for curriculum is with the province—I want every province within a short period of time to make Canadian history mandatory at three levels: at the elementary, the junior high

school as we call it in Alberta, and at a secondary level—yes mandatory."

Mr. Lougheed has been trying to champion this cause throughout the country and is part of a national movement to advocate for the study of history in the schools. The Historical Society of Alberta has revived its own Education Committee which will be chaired by Third Vice-President Don Hepburn. One of the goals of this committee is to look for ways in which to help enhance Alberta history studies in our schools. Please call the HSA office if you have views on this subject or would like to help.

HSA History: "Looking Back"

excerpt from: *The Edmonton Saturday News*, February 16, 1907

On February 25, 1907 the first organizational meeting of the Historical Society of Alberta was held in Edmonton. The week before the papers reported that it was time to "look back." *The Edmonton Saturday News* reported the following on February 16, 1907:

"The new body will have a wide and fascinating field of labor before it and should be of great value. The province is not yet two years old and its is only with very recent times that it has attracted the attention of the world, but its historical records go back several centuries. As the attorney-general in his speech in the Legislature on the capital question pointed out, Edmonton was political centre before Toronto was. It was the seat of the government of the Hudson's Bay Company for a vast stretch of territory before Governor Simcoe picked upon Muddy York as the capital of Upper Canada. But a full century before the time of which Mr. Cross spoke, when Edmonton sprang into existence, Fort Chippewyan, 450 miles north of the present city and still removed by a long and toilsome journey of some week's duration, was a place of importance."

The article went on to present more facts about the relevance of Edmonton's history and paid notice to the work of Dr. George of Innisfail "who for his own satisfaction his systematically collected an extensive museum at his home in Innisfail."

On March 15, 1907 The Historical Society of Alberta Act was passed by the legislature. The Honourable A.C. Rutherford became president of the society, a position he held until March 13, 1939. No meetings were held during the war but in 1947, Lt. Col. F.C.

Jamieson became the second president of the Society. James G. MacGregor, a noted Alberta historical writer, was elected as the Society's third president in 1952.

If you would like to read more about the formation of the Historical Society of Alberta and the stories of the people behind our organization take a look at your back issues of *Alberta History* from the year 1997 when we celebrated our 90th Anniversary.

"Launching Alberta History", *Alberta History*, Winter 1997, Volume 45, Number 1

"Four Historians, *Alberta History*, Spring 1997, Volume 45, Number 2

"Calgary Historical Society", *Alberta History*, Summer 1997, Volume 45, Number 3

"Woman Journalist, *Alberta History*, Autumn 1997, Number 4

The HSA will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2007. Please share your stories of our organization with our Centennials Committee by emailing mariannefedori@shaw.ca



Alberta Labour Institute

Since 2001, the Alberta Labour Institute has joined Historic Edmonton Week to create a historical day dedicated to the working people of Edmonton.

The Institute was founded to "collect, restore, protect and archive materials relating to the history of working people in Alberta."

It produces a calendar that showcases the history of the working people who built the province, maintains a research library and archives, and has initiated an oral history programme. For more information visit their website at www.labourhistory.ca

Or contact the Alberta Labour History Institute at:
205, 10425 Princess Elizabeth Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5G 0Y5
780-471-1940
alhi@hotmail.com



Frank Oliver: A Founding Father

by Alan Kausy

There exists many a well-told story regarding the days when the great buffalo trod the vast Western Canadian plains and the Canadian Pacific Railroad was just a dream in the minds of many hopeful Northwesters. This was also an era that was witness to the establishment of the Northwest Mounted Police in the then Northwest Territories, Red River carts being a common means of transportation and the evolvement of Fort's Edmonton and Augustus into the now capital of Alberta. And synonymous with these days bygone, are the often colourful characters that helped shape our province to its current state. One of the influential individuals that contributed to that worthy cause was none other than Frank Oliver.

Born near Brampton, Ontario in September of 1853, Oliver was soon to become an Edmonton pioneer and entrepreneur. The beginnings of his journalism career were initiated at the Toronto Globe and, later, the Manitoba Free Press. His interest soon waned, however, and his desire to beat the then proposed railway to Edmonton took priority, as he wished to own property prior to the origination of the aforementioned. So, in the spring of 1876, with a team of oxen and some essential effects, he travelled west to Edmonton.

By the year 1878, Oliver had purchased, at the price of \$25.00, a lot on Jasper Avenue and was running a general supply store in order to eke out a living. Hitherto, communication from Eastern Canada was virtually non-existent. But, in the fall of 1879, a telegraph station was established in Hay Lakes and information was wired to the telegraph operator, Alex Taylor, in

Edmonton. With the office situated in John Walter's carpenter shop, Oliver and Taylor decided that, under their surname heading, they would begin a local newspaper. As a result, a small printing press, at a cost of \$20.00 and weighing 200 pounds, was purchased and Oliver brought it to Edmonton.

Unfortunately, the press had but two small font sizes and a title for the paper was in need. Taylor, resorting to his resourceful and skilled ways, carved into a piece of birch wood, the words 'The Bulletin'. They dipped this in ink and stamped it at the top of each copy and the first issuance of a newspaper within Alberta was printed and distributed on December 6, 1880.

Henceforth, Oliver, editor of the paper, used the publication as a continuous means of representing the opinions of the citizens of the Territory and often published scathing articles related to the federal government and its decisions; of which he regularly disagreed with. Oliver remained the unofficial spokesperson for the provincial citizens of whom either concurred with or opposed his views wholeheartedly. A commonly heard phrase was that 'Bulletin' readers were of two groups: those who swore by the paper and those who swore at it.

He held a firm stance on the grounds of prohibition and wanted beer banished from the Northwest Territories and stated this emphatically with a petition he circulated regarding the much-debated matter. He remained far from introverted when expressing his view of the government and, inevitably, this led him into related positions. Oliver was a member of the Northwest council from 1883 to 1885, remained a Liberal under

the authority of Prime Minister Sir Wilfred Laurier between the years of 1896 and 1917 and was named Minister of the Interior from 1905 until 1911.

The city of Edmonton decided to pay homage to Oliver's accomplishments by establishing The Frank Oliver Memorial Park located on Jasper Avenue and 100 street. With the magnificent Hotel MacDonald located on the same site as the park, it would make a trip down to the grounds an overall worthwhile experience. An impressive monument, complete with plaques briefly detailing Oliver's lifetime accomplishments, is the centrepiece of the area. Officially opened by Mayor William Haverlak on August 17, 1964, it stands as one of the finer and most well-cared for parks within our city.

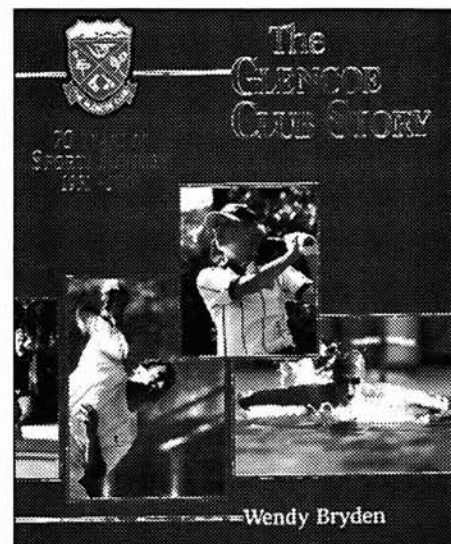
Oliver continued as editor of the paper he originally launched in the confines of a loaned smokehouse, until 1923. It was in Ottawa on March 31, 1933, that the proprietor, publisher and government representative passed away, but not before leaving an indelible impression on the city of Edmonton and the province it remains capital of.



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New Books



Wendy Bryden

The Glencoe Club Story
70 Years of Sports History 1931-2001
ISBN 0-9688940-0-3

The Glencoe Club Story is a commemorative history published on the 70th Anniversary of the incorporation of the Glencoe Club in 1931.

The club was started by Ernie McCullough and through the hard work and dedication of its members it flourished. It's success is due to it being a family club where the active members enjoy the sports facilities and social activities. Often, the children continue their participation as adults thus giving the club stability and continuity.

Wendy Bryden divides the book into sections according to the variety of sports found in the club. A list of members who have won championships is a useful reference to anyone wishing to research who won what in each year. Also included are colour and black and white photographs of members and events.

Information about the book can be found at www.glencoe.org

New Books



MacEwan, Grant

A Century of Grant MacEwan

A Century of Grant MacEwan is a major release, the first retrospective of MacEwan's writing since Rusty MacDonald's *The Best of Grant MacEwan* two decades ago.

This volume completely avoids overlap with the *Best Of*, and includes many examples of MacEwan's fine work since 1982. It focuses on little-known events and anecdotes, the often humorous or bizarre side-trails of history that MacEwan was so good at unearthing, and which for him were the life's blood of historical storytelling.

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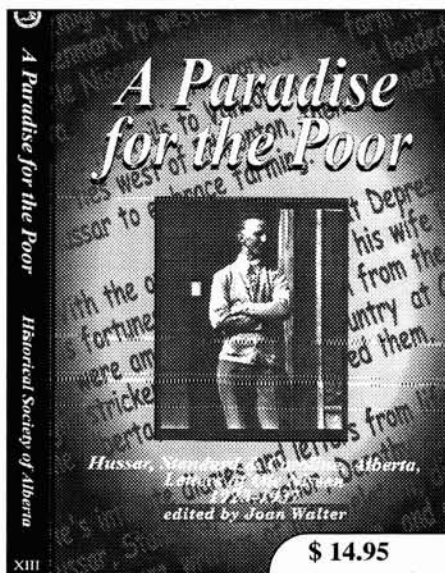


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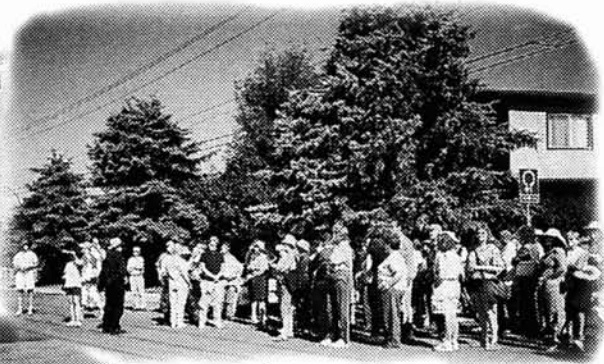
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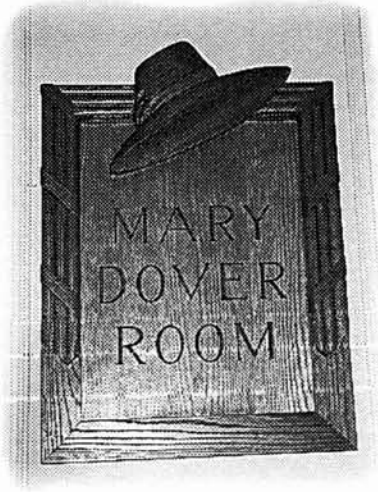
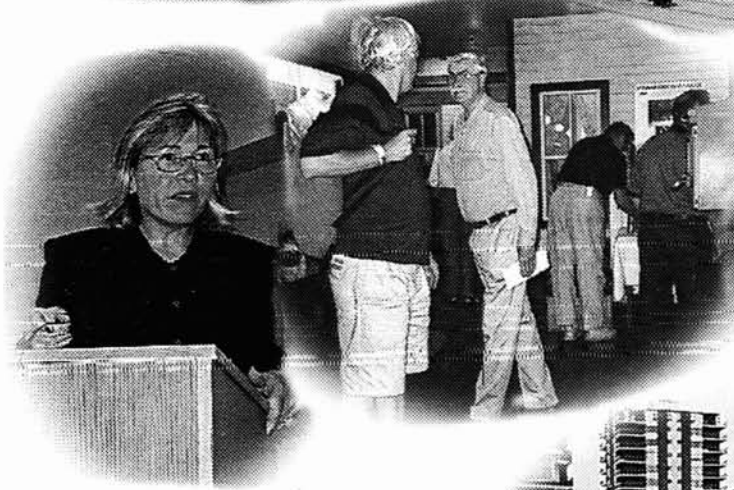
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Images of
Historic Calgary Week 2002



by Vivian Sampson

Chinook Country again celebrated a great Historic Calgary Week, July 26 to August 5. Remarkably, its all done by volunteers, from the organizing committee to the presenters, to the person doing our brochure. They all did a wonderful job. We had a number of new faces, as well as members attending the many venues featuring our theme "Communities". Several were newcomers to Calgary, or new to the community that was being featured. The response from the media was overwhelming. From the crossword and program published in the *Calgary Herald* to live interviews on TV stations Global, A-Channel, Shaw Cable, and Radio QR77, CBC 1010 and CBC French One. Camera crews followed us on some of the tours. Our annual historical crossword puzzle published in the *Calgary Herald* generated 168 entries. The four winners are: Mrs. C.C. Goetz, HSA member Harold Sharlow, Gladys Traer all of Calgary and Sheila Daly of Victoria, BC. We didn't always have the greatest weather, but, Thank You to all who participated.

Besides participating in Historic Calgary Week, the provincial historic site of Stoney Mission, east of the present Morley Reserve west of Calgary, celebrated the Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II with a Tea on Saturday, August 17. The 127 visitors entertained by The Queen and Her Court, signed a congratulatory letter to Her Majesty and feasted on Saskatoon desserts and tea.

The CCHS/HSA was invited to participate in the heritage pavilion sponsored by Sun Life at Spruce Meadows, July 5-7. Other organizations that participated were Morley Church, Loughheed House and the Western Canadian Mail Stage. I would like to thank those who volunteered their time: Geoff and Maymai Wilson, Val Jobson, John and Diana Brook, Haifa Selo from

CCHS; Don and Joan Hepburn from CAHS; and Marianne Fedori from EDHS. Spruce Meadows is an excellent venue to promote the HSA. We handed out close to 1000 Historic Calgary Week brochures and over 500 HSA membership forms, as well as other information from the Chapters. Spruce Meadows has asked us to participate again next year.

The Bearspaw Historical Society have been very busy this summer with their Bearspaw Historic School project. This very energetic group have moved the 80 year old Bearspaw School onto a new foundation which will be restored. Also, included in the restoration will be the original teacherage and barn. When completed it will show today's and future generations the importance of preserving our history while there still is history worth saving.

St. Patrick's Church, Midnapore has been sold by the Catholic Diocese to a Memorial Company. I received this information from a lady in Okotoks who wanted to move it. She was phoning the CCHS to see if this was viable. After contacting the Calgary Heritage Planner, it was suggested I contact Edmonton as St. Patrick's is a provincial site. I further discovered that the province had okayed the sale of property but with the understanding that the Church would not be moved. I have not been able to make contact with the new owners.

A national historic site, The Banff Park Museum, has been closed since August 2 when a cracked beam in the roof was discovered. Parks Canada are hoping to install stabilizing beams by the end of September.

On August 25, two tributes were unveiled in High River to honour the Nos. 5 Elementary Flight Training School. It played a major role in advancing aviation: in winter flying, parachute testing, and communications

News & Views from HSA Chapters

during the 1920's and 1930's. The Aerodrome was used for air and ground-crew training for Commonwealth personnel during World War II.

The Museum of the Highwood is again holding their historic homes tour on Saturday, September 14. It's shaping up to be another sell-out. Their first tour was held two years ago with resounding success.

Members of the Friends of the Glenbow Library met recently with President Mike Robinson to discuss their concerns about short staffing in the Library. We were informed that the Library receives no funding from the provincial government, however, the Archives are owned by the people of Alberta and therefore eligible for provincial funding. Glenbow has been seeking grants and private funding to bring the library back up to standard. The Glenbow's Annual General Assembly will be held on September 18.

Our Programs Committee have set up interesting talks for the 2002-2003 schedule. The first one on Tuesday, September 24 at Fort Calgary will have Linda Manyguns explain the history of the "hoop dance" assisted by a performance from world professional dancer, Lisa O'Jack. October 22 the film "Operation Lifesaver", will be shown. The film records the evacuation of a sector of Calgary in 1955. The evening will be hosted by CBC Radio One's Jeff Collins. Frank Dabbs will present a lively talk on the early days of Alberta's oil industry in Turner Valley on Tuesday, November 26. The Annual Christmas Dinner this year will be held in the Barracks at Fort Calgary, CFCN-TV anchor man, Darryl Janz, will entertain us with stories and readings. If you are in Calgary for any of the above dates, please join us.

Our summer season was relatively quiet, with one extra presentation July 16. Michael Unsworth, University of Michigan: topic, "Japanese Incendiary Balloons, WWII.

Two updated publications were released: "CPR High Level Bridge at Lethbridge," by Alex Johnston, and "Railways in Southern Alberta," by C.B Bowman.

Southern Alberta Heritage Fair, requested judges for May 11. These were provided by the Lethbridge Historical Society.

A plaque will be placed in the Archives, in memory of George and Jesse Watson to mark a family bequest.

Lethbridge member, Gordon Tolton, has been appointed "Historical Coordinator" for the United Farmers of Alberta 2009 Centennial. He is asking for information, photos, artifacts, etc. related to that organization.

Our Fall events are:

September 21: Coach tour destination is St. Henry's Church, Pincher Creek History Society and Museum attractions, and more in Pincher Creek area and/or on route.

October 22: Regular meeting of the LHS in the Community Meeting Room of the Lethbridge Public Library, 7:15 pm. Gordon Tolton will be speaking on the "Life of John J. Healy,

November 5: The Alex Johnston Lecture Series sponsored by the University of Lethbridge will be held in the Lethbridge Public Library Theatre Gallery, 7:30 pm. This year's speaker is Dr. Patricia Wood and her topic is "The Horn in the Ice, Borders between the Tsuu T'ina Nation and the City of Calgary."

November 26: Annual General Meeting in the Community Meeting Room of the Lethbridge Public Library, 7:15 pm.. Presentation by Tony Reeves "International Boundary Commission of 1872-75."



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Edmonton: Past and Present

by Bradley Macdonald

SPARE would like to acknowledge Elly DeJongh's important contribution to the Historic Edmonton Week City Hall Display. Elly has long been active in heritage building preservation in Edmonton and was a founding member of SPARE. She continues to be active in our organization and was the driving force behind this year's "Edmonton: Past & Present" display.

As new development started changing Edmonton's downtown many familiar streetscapes, buildings, and establishments were lost. New buildings and streetscapes often left behind no sense of what they had replaced. Today's downtown has now become familiar itself and, for many of us, is really the only one we know. The downtown of the past is in danger of being forgotten.

Fortunately, evidence of the old streetscapes and facades has been wonderfully preserved in the form of photos. Earlier this year, Elly suggested that we put together a photo display of notable buildings lost over the years together with the streetscape that exists today. The display would enable people to quickly see what existed before at a location that they were currently familiar with. The project was unanimously supported and a budget was put into place so that we could purchase historic photos from the Edmonton Archives and display them at City Hall.

Once a list of buildings had been decided upon, Elly took the time and

effort to find the photos. A bit of scrounging produced nearly thirty pictures—all of them interesting and few of them commonly published. Duncan Fraser of Edmonton Planning generously photographed the same sites as they appear today and had the photos dry-mounted at no charge. With the help of Frank and his label machine, the pictures were arranged, identified, and ready for viewing when Historic Edmonton Week was launched.

I believe that the display was very successful. With the old and the new side-by-side people were able to quickly recognize where the historic buildings were. It allowed the old buildings to be visualized within the context of their location allowing people to easily imagine or remember the streetscapes the way they once were. As well, it provided interesting insight into the evolution of our city—Churchill Square could be seen as a bare field in a photo from the late 1960's and as a mature park in a photo from the 1980's. Changes in cars, buses, and fashion were all evident.

What was most interesting was that the "historic" photos were taken from different eras, some quite recent. Colour photos taken in the 1960's looked almost new—one could believe that the Empire Block was still standing at 101 St and that ETS still used red and cream coloured buses. A black & white photo, again from the 1960's, made the very modern Royal Bank Tower look historic. A sad photo of the Alberta Hotel taken in the 1980's in contrast to one from the hotel's better days showed clear evidence of the decay that caused many of our beautiful old buildings to fall victim to the wrecker's ball.

The display forced people to think about the value of our built environment and the causes, costs, and benefits of urban renewal and redevelopment. We often received poor value when buildings were replaced. But it would be difficult, and I think wrong, to argue that none of the new buildings are without value. Some have become landmarks in their own right and are fine examples of good modern architecture.

In all, the display was an intriguing look at Edmonton's development. I think it caused us to question the decisions we've made and hopefully will make us aware of the value in our old buildings and in the familiar. While we can't and shouldn't always prevent change, we need to be certain that we won't miss what we've got.

Thanks again to Elly for her inspiration and work, to Duncan Fraser for his generous help, and to the Edmonton Archives for their on-going efforts in heritage preservation.

Mark Your Calendar Christmas Celebration

Date: December 4, 2002.

Time: Cocktails 6 pm,
Dinner 6:30pm,
Program 8 pm.

Place: Faculty Club, University
of Alberta

Watch for further details and
registration form in the EDHS
Newsletter

by Janet Walter

Write to

c/o Red Deer and District Museum
45-47A Avenue, Red Deer, AB T4N 6Z6

During the 2002 summer, Central Alberta historical societies, museums and archives held a variety of annual events as well as first time and anniversary celebrations.

Rimbey and District citizens hosted a three and a half day centennial celebration. It began with the annual Old-timers afternoon that honoured 50 year high school graduates. There was a luncheon at their seniors' lodge and continuous horse drawn conveyance to all the events and to the hosted historic homes, in the town. There were two suppers and lots of old time music for dancing and listening. A community choir concert featured international songs representative of original homelands of people who have made Rimbey their home. A parade included a granddaughter on her grandmothers side saddle. A military musical ride and a formal garden tea followed the parade. This tea was complete with period costumes, silver tea service, and a chamber music ensemble. Notable Rimbey historian Fred Schutz made the presentation to the guest of honour, Lieutenant Governor Lois Hole. She later personally greeted every guest. This Rimbey event was a memorable celebration for visitors, old timers and current residents.

On June 10, forty-four people boarded a bus in Red Deer for the seventh CAHS bus tour, Back to Batoche. For those who went on the first Rebellion 1885 bus trip this was a second opportunity to visit the sites where in 1885, Western Canadian history was set on a course determined by the commercial and territorial ambitions of business and government leaders of the new Nation of Canada. These policies, determined by men 2000 miles away, were enforced on First

Nations Peoples and Metis by NWMP and Canadian military.

Some tour people met at Fort Normandeau on Sunday, June 9 where local interpreters gave an overview of the Rebellion and the history of the fortification at the Red Deer River Crossing. The first Monday tour stop was in front of a farmstead near Wetaskiwin, the 1885 site of the military fort Ethier. Ethier like Fort Ostell, and Normandeau were manned by Canadian soldiers from Quebec. Each of these was an unused military presence.

The first, off-the-bus tour stop was near Viking. We climbed a hill that gave a long distance view of surrounding rolling hills. Part way up the hill there is a provincial historic site plaque. The words on the plaque, partially obliterated by vandal bullet scars, tell of the First Nations sacred monument to the Spirit of the Buffalo. On the brow of the hill is a meteorite rock, carved in parallel lines like a buffalo rib cage. The disparity between the thousands of years of aboriginal living in this place and the lifestyles of the colonizers and inheritors of recent centuries, is perhaps epitomized by the defaced plaque.

Visits to Lloyminster and the story of the Barr Colonists, the gallery of the Imhoff paintings and the Allen Sapp gallery provided an interesting balance to the grim stories of the stops we made to learn about the events of 1885. Alan Ronaghan joined our group to guide us at the Frog Lake site and Wayne Brown, one of Sam Steele's biographers acted as guide at Steele Narrows.

Many of the interpreter narratives at National Historic sites present a broader



Cree woman at Fort Battleford 1885

sociological view than those that were given six years ago. Part of Tammy Blais' account at Fort Battleford is a good example of this. She talked about Growing Thunder, an old woman pictured in the photographic panorama of the history of Fort Battleford. A young NWMP constable noticed Growing Thunder sitting behind a police building, smoking her pipe. He told her to put it out. She refused to do this and when she chased him with her walking stick, he arrested her for attempted assault and put her in jail. The photo was taken while she was in jail.

A new season for the Central Alberta Historical Chapter begins with the AGM on the afternoon of September 19. A brochure with details of the CAHS public programs for the year will be available. Following the meeting there will be a narrated bus trip to Dickson. At the Danish National Museum guests for the evening will enjoy a Danish supper and have an opportunity to stroll through the gardens and trails to historic sites within the seven acre site.

HSA Calendar of Events – 2002

- Sep 24** CCHS: "Aboriginal Lodge Symbolism" presented by Linda Manyguns. Tuesday, September 24, 7:30 pm at Fort Calgary Historic Park, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- Oct 22** CCHS: "Operation Lifesaver" Film night host Jeff Collins. Tuesday, October 22, 7:30 pm at Fort Calgary Historic Park, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- Oct 22** LHS: Regular meeting of the LHS in the Community Meeting Room of the Lethbridge Public Library, 7:15 pm. Gordon Tolton will be speaking on the "Life of John J. Healy"
- Nov 5** LHS: The Alex Johnston Lecture Series sponsored by the University of Lethbridge will be held in the Lethbridge Public Library Theatre Gallery, 7:30 pm. This year's speaker is Dr. Patricia Wood and her topic is "The Horn in the Ice, Borders between the Tsuu T'ina Nation and the City of Calgary."
- Nov 26** LHS: November 26: Annual General Meeting in the Community Meeting Room of the Lethbridge Public Library, 7:15 pm.. Presentation by Tony Reeves "International Boundary Commission of 1872-75."
- Nov 26** CCHS: "Oil and Gas in Alberta before Leduc" presented by Frank Dabbs. Tuesday, November 26, 7:30 pm at Fort Calgary Historic Park, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- Dec 11** CCHS: "CCHS Annual Christmas Dinner" Wednesday, December 11. Cocktails 6 pm. Dinner 7 pm. At Fort Calgary Historic Park, 750 9 Avenue SE. Call Harry, 403-259-8339 for information and reservations.

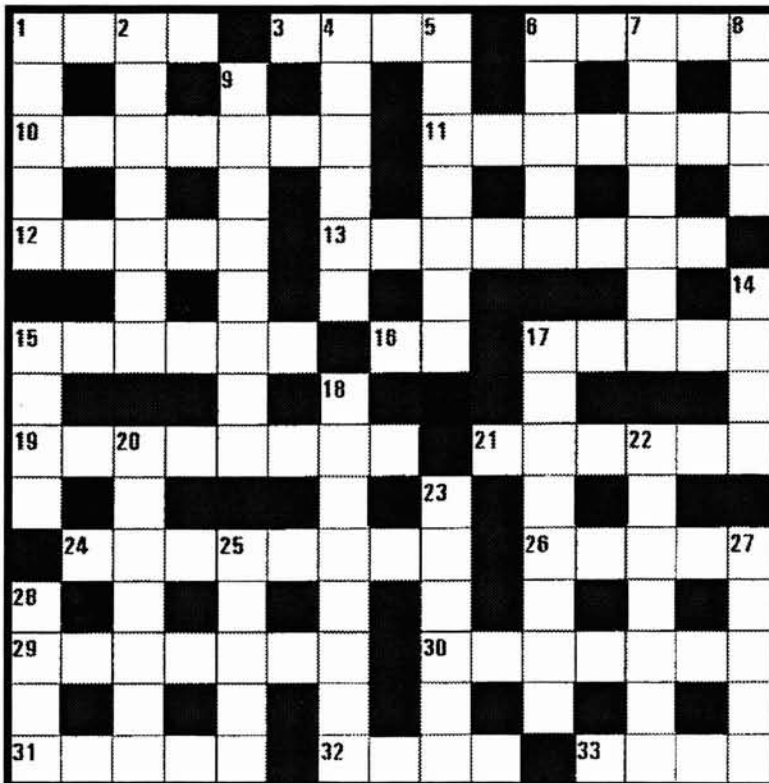
HSA Crossword

Answer to last newsletter crossword:

Across: 1. badlands, 5. asthma, 10. Dave Dowey, 11. aspen, 12. ionic, 13. Northcote, 14. exactly, 17. admit, 18. saluted, 20. range, 22. flapjacks, 23. Jacob, 25. ecru, 26. rebellion, 27. gusher, 28. Edmonton.

Down: 1. bedside, 2. Devon, 3. AADAC, 4. Dewdney, 6. Smashed In, 7. Hupmobile, 8. Annie, 9. Byers, 15. alliances, 16. Tete Jaune, 19. Decore, 20. Rosebud, 21. Lebanon, 23. Jello, 24. Clint.

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. With 3 Across, site SE of Red Deer, of disastrous tornado
3. see 1 Across
6. Name of Alberta's oldest Provincial Park, at Gull Lake. "... Beach
10. Name of a world famous prehistoric animal museum near Drumheller.
11. The study of animals
12. Type of engine that once towed trains over the Rockies
13. Community located in Cypress Hills Provincial Park
15. Alberta's cultural heritage magazine
16. Morning for short
17. Macleod, McMurray and Saskatchewan for three
19. UFA Premier of Alberta 1925-1934
21. Altos, tenors, contraltos, eg. parts of the choir
24. Stampede breakfast entree
26. Cloth made from flax
29. Royalties was named Little ... during the late 1930's
30. Action of departing aircraft
31. Banff's ... Museum of the Canadian Rockies
32. Certain
33. Remain

Down

1. Guide Jerry ... let the NWMP to Fort Whoop Up
2. Former mining town on Highway 11
4. Those that opposed the Axis
5. Site of a windmill display and museum
6. Agreeable scent
7. One of those who first settled in Alberta
8. Negative votes at the Legislature
9. Emergency rations for wintering natives
14. CFL for short
15. Experimental stations (abbr)
17. Site of a massacre in the North West Rebellion
18. Banks, Hays, and Taylor
20. Site of Western Canada's first producing oil well, in Waterton Lakes National Park
22. Home town of k.d. lang
23. One who uses the Olympic Oval on UofC campus
25. River over which Twelve Foot Davis watches
27. Attractively smart
28. Flat bottomed boat