

The membership newsletter of the

Historical Society of Alberta

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History NOW

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HSA Proudly Introduces their new Honorary Patron

The Historical Society of Alberta would like to express our pleasure and gratitude to Her Honour, the Lieutenant Governor, The Honourable Lois E. Hole, CM for lending her name to The Historical Society of Alberta. Our Society believes that the Honourary Patronage of Her Honour, will bring great distinction to the promotion and preservation of our Province's history. The Historical Society of Alberta looks forward to this association during the term of her office. Her Honour, Lois Hole will provide a message to our members in the next issue of *Alberta History*.

Mrs. Lois E. Hole, CM, Lieutenant Governor of Alberta, Member, Order of Canada, Chancellor of the University of Alberta, Chancellor Alberta Order of Excellence.

On December 9, 1999, Prime Minister Jean Chretien, appointed successful businesswoman, best selling author, education advocate and community supporter, Lois Elsa Hole as Alberta's 15th Lieutenant Governor. She is the second woman in Alberta's history to serve as Lieutenant Governor.

Born and raised in Buchanan, Saskatchewan, Mrs. Hole moved to Edmonton in her early teens and completed her secondary education at Strathcona Composite High School. Married to Ted Hole, they have two sons: Bill and Jim and three grandchildren. In 1952, she and her husband Ted bought a mixed farm in St. Albert which, by 1960, they had diversified into a vegetable and mixed garden business. In 1979 the farm was incorporated as Hole's Greenhouses & Gardens Ltd. and their sons joined the business full-time. It has since grown into one of the largest retail greenhouse operations in western Canada.

Mrs. Hole served as a school trustee for the St. Albert School District #6 from 1981 to the fall of 1998. She previously served, for fourteen years, as a trustee and chairperson for the Sturgeon School Division and, for eleven years, as a member of the Athabasca University Governing Council. Mrs. Hole has served as a director of the Farm Credit Corporation and as Honourary Chair for the 27th Canadian Congress on Criminal Justice and for the Children's Millennium Fund. She also served as a board member of the Canadian Heritage Garden Foundation, the Child & Adolescent Services Association and the Quality of Life Commission and Chancellor of the University of Alberta.

Mrs. Hole is the author of six gardening books (all Canadian bestsellers) and a collection of life stories, photographs and growing information entitled "I'll Never

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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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Welcome to new members

The Ranche at Fish Creek Restoration Society (Larry Wasyliv), Calgary
Jason Ness, Calgary
Janet Lamonte, Calgary
Dianne Parkinson-McCabe, Calgary
Dr. Robert Klakowich, Edmonton
S. June Parker, Calgary
Allan Nielsen, Calgary
K. Grant Watson, Calgary
Fran Eby, Calgary
Mary & Paul Ritchie, Red Deer
Elaine Dunn, Red Deer
Michelle Purcell, Edmonton
Marie Lesoway, Edmonton
Patricia Gordon, Calgary
George Duncan, Edmonton
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Art Dixon, Calgary
Alexis A. Soltice, Rimbey
Mrs. M.E. Anderson, Calgary
Fort Macleod Provincial Historic Area Society (Bill Mitchell)
Lori Arndt, Edmonton
Dan Bodie, Edmonton
Elizabeth Hale, Lethbridge
Dr. A.R.F. Williams, Lethbridge
Kara Zutz, Edmonton
Alex & Helen Malcolm, Sherwood Park
Brad Rennie, Calgary
Corliss Mackid, Calgary
Craig Elborne, Calgary
George Goulet, Calgary
Randy & Judy Mitchell, Calgary

Helen White, Calgary
Wanda Kerley, Calgary
Dianne L. Dixon, Calgary
Marjorie Weber, Vulcan
Judith & Chris Mathews, High River
Brian Reeves, Calgary
Joan & Robin Gourlay, Calgary
Paul Charest, Girouxville
Dino Carnevale, Calgary
Peter Melnycky, Edmonton
Phyllis Schumacher, Edmonton
Helen M. Williams, Camrose
Stella & Walter Fedori, Calgary
Grant MacEwan Elementary School, Calgary
Wayne & Pauline Hall, Calgary
Margaret Russell, Calgary
Pearl Jones, Red Deer
Tara Senft, Red Deer
Alice Williamson, Red Deer
Christine Ancelet (Bar U National Historic Site), Longview
Gene Roach, Stony Plain
Liliane Maisonneuve, Edmonton
Stuart L. Malcolm, Red Deer
Morris & Miriam Sanders, Calgary
Alias Sanders & Kelly Taylor, Calgary
Ralph & Rita Thurn, Calgary
Dale Hopkins, Calgary
Peggy Evans, Red Deer
Bill & Pauline Feniak, Warspite
Lt. Gov. Lois Hole, Edmonton

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

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Marry a Farmer." She has been a regular contributor to the Globe and Mail, Edmonton Journal, and the Edmonton Sun, and was the writer of the Canadian portion of the 1999 Old Farmer's Almanac Gardening Companion. She has appeared regularly on the "Grapevine" segment of CBC TV's Canadian Gardener.

During the past five years, she has spoken to nearly 600 gardening groups and businesses across North America, to a total audience of nearly 100,000 people. In 1983, Mrs. Hole was awarded an honorary doctorate from Athabasca University and in 1997 received a Distinguished Citizen Honourary Diploma in Business from Grant MacEwan Community College. In 1995 she was named as both Edmonton Business and Professional Woman of the Year and as St. Albert's Citizen of the Year. In 1999 she was appointed a Member of the Order of Canada.

What is the Office of Lieutenant Governor?

The post of Lieutenant Governor was established by the British North America Act in March, 1867. This Act united the provinces under a central government, with each province retaining its own legislature to preside over matters not under federal jurisdiction. In Alberta, the Office of Lieutenant Governor came into existence when the Federal Government, by act of the Dominion Parliament, 1905, created the province of Alberta from the Northwest Territories.

Since the Statute of Westminster of 1931, Canada has been a fully sovereign state, however, Canada has chosen to remain a member of the Commonwealth, a voluntary association of 49 independent states (as of 1983),

representing approximately 25% of the world's population. The Monarch is Head of the Commonwealth.

Under section 9 of the British North America Act 1876, The Monarch is Canadian Head of State and thus, The Monarch of Canada.

The Lieutenant Governor is the representative of the Crown in the Province, and exercises The Monarch's powers and authorities with respect to Alberta. In the early years of Confederation, Lieutenant Governors were agents of the Federal Government, and were expected to advise the Provincial Government as to the intent of Federal legislation and to ensure that Provincial legislation conformed to that of the senior government. Over the years, however, with the gradual increase in the authority of Provincial Governments, the Lieutenant Governor's role as a Federal agent has virtually disappeared, and is now focused primarily on their responsibilities as the Sovereign's representative and Chief Executive Officer of the Province.

One of the most important responsibilities is to ensure that the Province always has a Premier. If this Office becomes vacant because of death or resignation, it is the Lieutenant Governor's duty to see that the post is filled. The Lieutenant Governor has the same responsibilities if the government resigns following a defeat in the Legislature or in an election.

The Lieutenant Governor is an important element in both the Legislature and Executive Government of the Province.

The Lieutenant Governor summons, prorogues, and dissolves the Legislature, and reads the Speech from the Throne at the Opening of each Session.

With the advice of the Premier, he appoints and swears-in members of the Executive Council (or Cabinet) and is

guided by their advice, as long as they retain the confidence of the Legislative Assembly.

The Lieutenant Governor gives Royal Assent in The Monarch's name to all measures and bills passed by the Legislative Assembly, except on the rare occasions when "reservation" is considered necessary. The Lieutenant Governor also signs Orders-in-Council, Proclamations, and many other official documents before they have the force of law.

The Offices of the Monarch, Governor General, and Lieutenant Governor are entrenched in the Canadian Constitution, and no changes can be made to the Offices without the unanimous approval of all Provincial Legislative Assemblies, and the Senate and the House of Commons in Ottawa. The Lieutenant Governor is host to Members of the Royal Family, visiting Heads of State, and other official visitors to the Province.

The Lieutenant Governor also extends hospitality to many persons from Alberta, and from other parts of Canada and abroad, at dinners, luncheons, receptions, and the annual New Year Leveé.

The Lieutenant Governor extends Patronage to a wide variety of activities which contribute to the enrichment of the lives of Albertans of all ages.

Each year, the Lieutenant Governor presents a number of awards for bravery, for outstanding public service, and for achievement. The Lieutenant Governor presides over Investitures of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, the Alberta Order of Excellence, the Duke of Edinburgh Awards, the Royal Life Saving Society Canada, and other organizations.

The Lieutenant Governor attends

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many dinners, cultural events, and military and civilian ceremonies. The Lieutenant Governor also opens buildings and conferences, addresses gatherings of various kinds, and visits schools, community events, and military establishments. As a result the Lieutenant Governor travels extensively throughout the province.

The Lieutenant Governor is appointed by the Governor General, on the advice of the Prime Minister of Canada, for a period of not less than five years. Those appointed are generally persons who have served their country and/or province with distinction for many years.

Because of the Lieutenant Governor's constitutional position as head of the Executive Government of the Province, the Lieutenant Governor is not involved in political activity. This apolitical position permits the Lieutenant Governor to represent Alberta on Ceremonial and state occasions.

During a visit to Canada in 1973, Her Majesty The Queen observed that "...the Crown is an idea more than a person, and I would like the crown to represent everything that is best and most admired in the Canadian ideal."

The Canadian Crown is a distinctive and essential part of Canada's heritage and character, and this a focus of national pride. It is an important symbol of unity, serving to bind Canadians together in their common ideals and aspirations. It is viable proof of the vitality of our traditions, the permanence of our institutions, and the continuity of national life.

As representative of the Crown in Alberta, the Lieutenant Governor is both personification and custodian of these traditions and ideals.

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The Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History

Our very own **David Smith**, Secretary of the Central Alberta Historical Society, along with Calgary Teacher Ann Gatha, were among the nation's top teacher's honoured in Ottawa at the Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian History, an award sponsored by Canada's National History Society. The Alberta nominees attended several celebrations the weekend of November 17, 2000. On November 18, the nominees participated in a ceremony with Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada who announced the finalists and the winner, Marion Mineault, a Quebec teacher who has made history his life's work. Marianne Fedori, HSA President and CNHS Director was pleased to attend the awards and help host the Alberta finalists.

David M. Smith, a Social Studies teacher at Lindsay Thurber Comprehensive High School in Red Deer, was a finalist for The 2000 Governor General's Award for Excellence in Teaching Canadian history. Smith was selected from a national pool of teachers nominated for their dynamic and innovative approach to teaching Canadian history.

The Award program, established in 1996 by Canada's National History Society (CNHS), is designed to recognize and reward the efforts of outstanding Canadian History teachers, celebrate Canadian history and promote the sharing of great history teaching ideas. Twelve finalist submission are selected annually; one Award recipient is chosen from among the finalists. "Lessons literally come to life for Smith's students," state his colleagues. "He exemplifies the historical discipline and exhorts his students and colleagues to ever greater levels of understanding."

Smith uses the review of primary documents to focus students' attention on events such as Confederation, The Founding of the CCF, the "King-Byng Affair," and the beginning of World War I. In the latter case, his classes review primary World War I documents including The Austro-Hungarian Ultimatum to Serbia and German war dispatches. On a more contemporary front, his students

review the Massey Commission on-line, critically examining its purpose.

The review of primary documents is only one tool used by David Smith to create innovative history lessons. He also uses mock parliamentary re-enactments, expert testimonials, role playing, in-class debates, position papers, research essays and directed reading. Smith's lesson plan, *The Slippery Slope to Total War*, illustrates his diverse teaching approach. In this lesson students assume the roles of the six major European powers during the July crisis of 1914. He ensures that both popular and unpopular points of view are examined and encourages students to draw their own conclusions based on the evidence that they see.

Smith has a unique way of teaching history. Instead of using the traditional approach of starting with an effect and looking at causes, Smith starts with a group of related causes and looks at several possible effects. In this way, he believes he creates a better understanding of the dilemmas and options experienced by protagonists and of how history really works.

David Smith is currently a lead teacher in developing a Canadian parliamentary web site. He has also developed a self-study web site on World War I. Students master objectives as they navigate through the pages. Smith has also

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helped supervise the Annual Alberta International Baccalaureate History Colloquium. He has published original research in historical journals and is a Council member of the Central Alberta Historical Society.

Anne Gatha, an elementary school teacher in Calgary, was also a finalist from Alberta for this year's award.

Ms. Gatha, a Music Specialist, has written several historical novels about three elementary students who time travel. Initiated to invite children into the world of historical figures in music, Anne Gatha uses these novels to give her classes a complete understanding of life in different historical periods.

Her works combine history, art and music. "Looking at the history of a period gives meaning to the music," explains Gatha. Through reading her novels, students learn not only about the daily lives of the people but become familiar with a host of other aspects of life at that time including transportation, food, clothing, shelter, art and recreation.

As an example, in Gatha's book *Time Tunnel to Canada*, focusing on Jean de Brebeuf, students explore the lives of 17th century First Nations' people, missionaries, voyageurs and coureurs de bois. In addition to combining history, art and music, Gatha's novels provide significant age-appropriate critical thinking and research opportunities.

Her colleagues write, "Anne Gatha's students consistently have the opportunity to deepen their understanding of historical events in ways that move beyond dates and places. Not only has she deepened students' understanding of history, she has contributed to their love of reading."

Some of Gatha's novels are in circulation in the school library and in the system wide borrowing program.

Alberta finalists from previous years include: Simon Jeynes from Warburg (1999); the teaching team of Jackie Underhill and Kathy Thomson from Edmonton, and Donald Holmgren from Ashmont (1997); and, the trio of Wally Diefenthaler, Gail Sobat and Kaye Steward from St. Albert (1996).

As part of the Award program and to further the sharing of great history teaching ideas, Canada's National History Society has developed the Database of Canadian History Specialists—a searchable database and web site that lists all nominees for the award and their areas of specialization. Lesson plans are also available on the site at www.historysociety.ca.

Winnipeg-based CNHS is a non-profit organization with a mandate to popularize Canadian History.

Canada's National History Society acknowledges the generous support of the following sponsors: Hudson's Bay History Foundation, Bell Canada, the Investors Group, and Wawanesa Insurance.

Giving the Future a Past: Teaching, Learning and Communicating the History of Canada—Challenges and Solutions

A national conference on the teaching and learning of the history of Canada in the 21st century is to be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba, October 19–21, 2001.

Building upon the successful 1999 McGill Institute for the Study of Canada history conference entitled Giving the Past A Future, the Association for Canadian Studies and its partners will be hosting a second such national event. Entitled **Giving the Future a Past: Teaching, Learning and Communicating the History of Canada—Challenges and Solutions**, the conference will look at the ways in which history is most effectively taught, as well as the presence and relevance of history to our daily lives. The conference, to be held October 19–21, 2001 in Winnipeg, Manitoba, will explore the teaching and learning of Canadian history from conventional approaches to innovative methods. Teachers, students, professionals and others involved with the field of Canadian History are invited to participate.

Recently there has been considerable focus on the relative absence of knowledge about Canada amongst our youth. This conference will look at what a basic knowledge of Canada might include and how it is best disseminated and retained in later years. The conference will bring together organizations and individuals from many backgrounds involved in teaching history from inside and outside the classroom. The conference will include an exhibition by various organizations featuring displays from museums, television, film, multimedia, governments and education. The exposition will showcase the new and innovative methods, resources and techniques being used to ensure that our future has a past.

The organizing committee welcomes and encourages submissions of papers as well as proposals for plenary sessions, workshops and multi-media demonstrations. Please contact: The Association for Canadian Studies, 209 Ste-Catherine Street East, Suite V-5140 a/s Université du Québec à Montréal, Post Office Box 8888, Downtown Station Montréal, Québec H3C 3P8. Tel: 514-987-7784. Fax: 514-987-3481. E-mail: general@acs-aec.ca.

President's Report

There is no longer a doubt that we are into the next century. Best wishes to all in 2001!

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I announce to our members and all Albertans that we have a new patron. The Historical Society of Alberta is pleased that Her Honour, Lois Hole, The Lieutenant Governor of Alberta will lend her name as patron of the Society for her term of office. We look forward to our relationship with Her Honour Lois Hole and appreciate her support of our organization. Watch for a first message in the next issue of *Alberta History*.

5.8 In November, the Society temporarily moved to Room 501 of the Lancaster Block. We thank Oxford Developments for helping us with the move. We also made a joint tenancy application with CCHS to the Calgary Public Library for space in Memorial Park Library, Alberta's first Carnegie Library. Unfortunately, CPL did not accept our application although we presented a strong argument for having a heritage tenant in the building.

Our relocation team is looking for a permanent home and other locations such as Edmonton are being considered. This is the biggest challenge facing the HSA in the coming months and we need the help of our members. Many thanks are due to Margaret and Geoff who coordinated the move and to the many volunteers who helped them.

Ron Williams and I registered as interveners on behalf of the HSA and its chapters at the AEUB hearing to rule on the Rosedale power expansion. History has become the key element of the hearing. We have had an opportunity to cross-examine EPCOR's witnesses and will present our brief when the hearing reconvenes in January 2001. Our Society will present a joint panel with Heritage Canada.

by Marianne Fedori

Enid Fitzsimonds of EDHS and I participated in a public consultation process concerning the redevelopment of the HBC store on Jasper Avenue in Edmonton. A compromise was struck with the developer to ensure that the building's historical integrity was maintained. Both case examples have been useful in collecting information to help work on resolutions put forward at our AGM.

As an appointed representative of the Provincial Archives Advisory Board, I have been privileged to bring the Society's views to the development of the new Provincial Archives building in the year 2000. This appointment will continue in 2001. Don Hepburn and I attended the first meeting of the newly formed Heritage School Fairs Council last November. The Council is hoping to help facilitate the Heritage School Fairs on a provincial level. Sheila Johnston's term as the Chair of the Alberta Heritage Council has ended. However, the HSA will continue to be involved with the group which is currently preparing the final report on the September consultation, "The Health of Heritage."

The EDHS invited me to bring HSA greetings to their members at their annual Christmas party. It was a great night. Guest speaker, Mrs. Pauline Feniak, gave a compelling talk on the history of the Victoria Settlement. The Victoria Trail is currently being considered for national designation. Topping off the evening was a wonderful quartet, and of course, the tradition of Christmas carols. The other Chapters hosted successful seasonal events, a tradition that is firmly rooted in our organization.

As a Director of Canada's National History Society I had the great fortune to be present at the Governor General's Award for "Excellence in Teaching Canadian History," in Ottawa last November. Our own David Smith,

Secretary of the CAHS, was one of the 14 finalists to be recognized at Rideau Hall by Her Honour Adrienne Clarkson. Congratulations to David and to the other Alberta finalist, Calgary teacher and author Anne Gatha.

NeWest Press launched Dr. MacEwan's last book in Calgary at the elementary school that holds his name. Thanks to David Jones and Hugh Dempsey for representing the Society. Look for more information on the book in the review section of this newsletter.

This will indeed be a busy year for the HSA and its Chapters. The following is a sampling of the projects we plan to undertake in 2001 and we welcome your assistance:

1. The relocation of our office.
2. In May, the Annual General Meeting in Lethbridge, election of new officers and committee appointments.
3. A special fall issue of *Alberta History* dedicated to the memory and work of Dr. Grant MacEwan.
4. An integrated 2005 Centennial Plan featuring the expansion of Historic Weeks, publishing programmes, conferences and chapters activities.
5. Membership drive.

Please note that nominations for our Annual Awards and a new slate of officers are fast approaching. Details are included on page 7.

The year 2001 is forecasted to be one of continued economic growth in our Province. In times like these, we need to pay particular care to our history. Along with this growth, the HSA is witnessing many new demands that require strong voices and new volunteers. Please lend a hand when and where you can. Thanks to all of you that continued to make us so vibrant in 2000, the councils, all volunteers, and staff.

We wish a speedy recovery to Sheila Johnston who has had hip surgery, and to Ken Penley in Calgary.

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HSA Annual General Meeting Announcements

Awards and Nominations:

To make a nomination, please request a nomination form from our office. Nomination forms must be submitted to the office and directed to Sheila Johnston, Chair of Awards and Nominations, prior to **April 1, 2001**.

Council Nominations

The Society invites interested persons to submit nominations to serve on the HSA Council. Please contact Sheila Johnston at 403-261-3662 or hsa@cadvision.com before **March 15, 2001**.

AGM

Join us for “**2001 Heritage Odyssey**,” the AGM of the HSA hosted by the Lethbridge Historical Society May 25, 26, 27, 2001 at the Sir Alexander Galt Museum and the Lethbridge Lodge. The three day event includes: book launches of *Paradise for the Poor* and *Prairie Prisoners*, a ghostly visit lead by Heritage Coach Odyssey Tours in Lethbridge and Cardston district, the annual banquet, walking tours, silent book auction and presentation of the “Celebration of the Century-2005.” Watch for more details in the next *History Now* or contact Carly Stewart in Lethbridge at 403-328-4669.

In Memory of Mike Maccagno

Former Alberta Liberal leader Mike Maccagno died at the age of 86 in Calgary on November 25, 2000. Mr. Maccagno was first elected to the Alberta legislature in 1955 and held a provincial seat for three consecutive elections. He was Alberta's opposition leader until Peter Lougheed's conservatives formed the opposition. Upon leaving the provincial political scene in 1967 he attempted federal politics and served as mayor of Lac La Biche in the 1970's. Mr. Maccagno was appointed to a ten year term on the national parole board.

Born in Italy, he arrived in Canada at the age of five years with his parents who pioneered in the Lac La Biche district. Mr. Maccagno spent many years collecting the history of the Lac La Biche and published the *Lac La Biche Chronicles* in 1991 with Portage College. His son Tom Maccagno, a Lac La Biche lawyer, shares his father's passion for history and he has been advocating for the continued recognition of the area for several years. We send our condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

HSA Awards

It's that time again. The HSA is seeking nominations for awards to be handed out at the Annual General Meeting being held in Lethbridge, for the following:



Annual award

Presented to an individual who must qualify in one or more of the following categories:

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

Award of merit

Presented to eligible business, corporation, society, government, church, or other corporate body. The recipient must qualify in one or both of the following categories:

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

Please forward your nominations in writing, setting out the nominee's accomplishments with short biography and the name of at least one other member supporting the nomination to:

Sheila Johnston
Chair, Nominations & Awards
Committee
c/o The Historical Society of Alberta
Box 4035, Station C
CALGARY, AB T2T 5M9

Member Profile Ken Penley

I don't know when I began to have an interest in history. It certainly wasn't in school where my eyes glazed over in history class. But now, as I look over my bookshelves, I see many books which pertain to the history of Canada, Alberta and Calgary. Some volumes which I obtained many years ago, are those by: MacGregor, MacEwan, Dempsey, Liddell, Peach, Nordegg, Turner-Bone, Leishman McNeil, Newman, Mowat, Berton, Gray, Broadfoot, Ward, and others. So, I suppose the interest in history was always there if it was the right kind of history.

Once when challenged to name the first pharmacist in Calgary, I found that there were no records available where I searched, so I was determined to fill that

gap, which I did. This was followed by a search to name the first pharmacist in Alberta (getting close). Later, the Alberta Pharmaceutical Association formed their Archives Committee and asked for a representative from Calgary. My hand shot up! In this connection and for my own interest as a hobby, I began to interview senior pharmacists for their own stories, or research the careers of deceased pharmacists, and I have now completed and filed about one hundred of these at the A.Ph.A. and Glenbow Archives as voice tapes and/or written records.

I served as chairman of the A.Ph.A. Archives for five years. During my term I convinced the A.Ph.A. that a book on the "History of Pharmacy in Alberta" should be compiled and with the help of a co-author and a committee, that was done and it has been very well received.

Heritage Park (Calgary) asked me to demonstrate some aspects of pharmacy dispensing to their docents. Afterwards, I stayed on as a volunteer to answer questions and do some pill rolling in the dispensary of the pharmacy there.

I helped at Fort Calgary for a short period as I had been thinking of doing volunteer work in the history field on a regular basis. A conversation with Diana Sim opened the door to a volunteer position with the Historical Society of Alberta and the Chinook Country Historical Society.

I have volunteered at the HSA under four different office coordinators doing various types of work and enjoy my present duties very much. Through the HSA I have made many new friends and I am grateful for the association.

Letter to Diana Sim, Director -Membership

Dear Diana,

Thank you for your letter reminding me of my overdue membership and subscription which I received today, November 22, 2000.

Actually, I had not forgot about it. I had decided earlier in the year to not renew my subscription for awhile.

However, I do miss *Alberta History* and your letter reminding me that we are leading up to the year 2005 prompted me to renew my subscription and membership again. Does this include a membership in the Edmonton Chapter which I had before?

I am very involved in the Hinton & District Historical Foundation. Over the past 1 1/2 years I have worked on an oral history project where I interview people regarding their part in the history of the area and my wife and I transcribe

it into text. Copies are then supplied to the Provincial Archives, the Hinton Library and the Hinton Historical Foundation. So far we have gathered 1,700 pages of text and 50 hours of tapes. It has been an exciting project and will be continued for some time.

I tell people that these years leading up to 2005 are going to be some of the most exciting times to be involved in Alberta's historical projects, so again, your comment about looking forward to the 100th anniversary certainly hit home. Thank you.

Yours truly, Dan Rooks,
101 Hardisty Drive, Hinton, AB
—by permission of Dan Rooks

We like to hear about members' activities and interests. Have you won a prize for an entry at a Heritage Fair, or taken part in any heritage related activity? Write your story and send it to the HSA office so, in this way, we can learn from each other.

Clancy Patton receives Western Living at It's Prime Award

Recently Clarence "Clancy" Patton was recipient of the "Western Living at It's Prime" award.

This annual award is presented by Telus Corporation and dmG World Media to a man and woman residing in Calgary and Southern Alberta. The recipients are seniors who are recognized for their contributions to the community at large.

Clancy is active in the HSA, Calgary Horticultural Society, Midnapore Church of England Society, the Rancho at Fish Creek Restoration Society, the recently chartered William Aberhart Historical Foundation, the Ellis Bird Farm near Lacombe, Alberta and still has time to be politically active.

Well done Clancy.

Designations of National Historic Significance Commemorated in Alberta – Part 4

by Bill Yeo

On Thursday, 12 October I attended a ceremony at the Calgary Aerospace Museum, where a plaque was unveiled commemorating the RCAF Women's Division of World War II. This event was well attended, particularly by former WDs who had come from far and wide. It was obvious from their numbers and their enthusiastic response that this formal act of commemoration meant a great deal to them. Members of the platform party also spoke of their wish that the message of the commemoration be communicated to all Canadians, particularly the rising generation.

The plaque which was unveiled that day will be placed outside the Museum, as a permanent reminder of the national historic significance of the contribution made in wartime by some 17,000 Canadian women. But what happens then? If we agree that this message should be communicated as widely as possible, can we expect the plaque to do the job all on its own? In previous articles I have mentioned the numbers of commemorations in Alberta. In Calgary alone there are 11 plaques, including the new one, but how many Calgarians, never mind visitors, know where they are and what they represent?

At the end of July the Chinook Country Historical Society and Fort Calgary Historic Park launched Historic Calgary Week with an unusual event. The year 2000 is the 125th anniversary of the establishment of Fort Calgary, and, just as Calgarians had done at the 50th anniversary, over 100 people gathered around the 1925 stone cairn that bears a commemorative plaque. The plaque is a 1980s replacement, and even the cairn has been moved, but they were rededicated with due ceremony. More than a few people now recognize the importance of the old monument that stands beside Ninth Avenue. This kind

of message reinforcement could work in other communities. I described in a previous article how the creation of the province of Alberta was commemorated in 1955. Alberta's centenary will soon be upon us, and the grounds of the Legislature Building will be a busy place in 2005. Surely the monument that stands in the grounds, with its plaque proclaiming the national historic significance of what happened in 1905, should be the focus of a significant public event.

I share with some other members the notion that the Historical Society of Alberta has a role to play in providing Albertans and their visitors with information on the location and purpose of the many formal commemorations scattered throughout the province. This activity ought to include provincial and local plaques and monuments as well. In the corner of a wheat field, near the junction of the Highwood and Bow Rivers, a simple concrete plinth bears an inscription reciting a brief history of the Dunbow Industrial School, whose cemetery stands nearby. Apart from its role as an historical marker reminding us of this long-extinct institution, and of the still strong memories it has for many Native people, it is a relic of Alberta's program of commemoration, now apparently extinct as well. The Society and its chapters can do much to bring sites like this out of obscurity.

At the Historic Sites and Monuments Board ceremony in October, the proceedings were chaired as usual by a member of the Board. On that occasion the duties were performed by Mr. Brian Saunders, the member for Saskatchewan. He did a fine job, but his being there underlined a very long-standing issue. There is at present no member of the Board for Alberta. The Society has written to the Minister

responsible, the Hon. Sheila Copps, expressing its concern over the continuing delay in appointing a member. I sat beside the Minister at the Bar U Ranch ceremony in July, as did Trudy Cowan, our former Board member, but the occasion did not lend itself to lobbying. Maybe we missed an opportunity, but HSA members should not be shy. Write today!

Web Sites

Celebrate national Heritage Day, February 19, 2001, visit www.heritage-canada.org.

Visit Alberta Heritage online www.albertaheritage.net.

The Loyal Edmonton Regimental Museum has a two part website to highlight Canadian military history discuss the freedoms Canadians enjoy—www.lermuseum.org.

Canada: A Peoples History, go behind the scenes of CBC's popular show—www.cbc.ca/history.

Every Canadian has a story. What's yours? Tell it on www.storyengine.ca. The Canadian Film Centre's Great Canadian Story Engine is an interactive website for Canadians of all ages and backgrounds to share their personal stories. Your story matters. Take a moment and include it in this ever-growing unique portrait of Canada.

Our Future/Our Past look it up at <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/Alberta>. This is a joint undertaking by the University of Calgary Library, University of Alberta Library, the Provincial Archives of Alberta, the Glenbow Museum and the Nickle Art Museum.

The Fort McMurray Historical Society has a great website which has a timeline of the town's history. Visit www.fortmcmurrayhistory.com

HSA Granted Intervener Status at AEUB Hearing

by Marianne Fedori & Ron Williams

The Historical Society of Alberta has been granted intervener status at the AEUB public hearing to determine EPCOR's application of an expanded power plant on the Rossdale site.

History has become the heart of this hearing which commenced on October 17, 2000 and has had to reconvene on January 9, 2001 as the proceedings could not be completed in the originally scheduled time frame. The HSA will make the following statement at the reconvened hearing and has, in the month of October 2000, had an opportunity to cross examine the applicant as to the potential impact on Alberta's heritage resources

The Society believes that the Rossdale case is of provincial importance. The Society hopes that by participating in the hearing it can gather information to help work towards the resolution put forward last spring by our members to open public discussions on the workings of heritage legislation.

October 4, 2000

Mr. Michael J. Bruni, Q.C.,
General Counsel
Alberta Energy & Utilities Board

**Re: Notice of Hearing, Application
No. 990289, EPCOR and EPCOR
Generation Inc., Construct and
operate Rossdale Power Plant Unit 11**

The Historical Society of Alberta believes that the preservation of historical elements, and recognition of history surrounding this site is pertinent to all Albertans. We feel that the hearing outcome must demonstrate that Albertans have had an appropriate voice to ensure that the Rossdale site preserve and promote Alberta's past.

The Historical Society of Alberta was incorporated by an act of the Alberta Legislature in 1907. The original objects of the Society are the same today as they were expressed in an act legislated in 1907:

"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 obtain and preserve narratives in print, manuscript or otherwise of their travels, adventures, labours and observations, to secure and preserve minerals, archaeological curiosities and objects generally illustrative of the civil, religious, literary and natural history of the country". We believe that it is our mandate to make sure all aspects of the site's history have been thoroughly studied, interpreted and maintained.

The Historical Society of Alberta feels that in the case of this application the history of the site should be considered as a whole. The valley of the North Saskatchewan River and the site of the potential expansion is one with a long and complex history. The Historical Society of Alberta believes the story of Alberta is symbolized by the sweeping use of the Rossdale site from the original and extended occupation of Alberta's first peoples, to the fur traders and early settlers, and in more recent history the urban and industrial use of the Twentieth century. We are concerned that this story and the documentary evidence which supports human use and human history is still unfolding, and that not enough time has been given to allow all parties to reach an acceptable standard of investigation.

We recommend that the applicant be asked to prepare an integrated historical study of the site using all the studies that are in progress or have been completed.

Given that human occupation of Rossdale site dates to back to at least 8,000 years, it is extremely important that the archaeological investigation continue, that the findings be made available to the public, and that the applicant is expected to continue its archaeological care taking role of the site through time as prescribed by provincial legislation. We recommend that a decision carefully consider that recent finds have indicated that there is potentially much more to discover.

As to the matter of the history of aboriginal occupation, fur trade and early settlement history, since May much documentary evidence has been accumulated by descendants and scholars. Much of this is new material with respect to study of the history of the province. It is truly incredible to witness how Albertans are embracing the value of their history as a result of the proposed expansion. We believe that the groups gathering this evidence, the First Nations, and the descendants of early settlers should be given an opportunity to continue building their collective history. For example, we believe that more documentary evidence needs to be collected to verify the existence of burials on the site. We recommend that advanced technology be applied to aid this process if possible, and that a separate study be implemented to provide the best possible and most accurate account of this aspect of the region's history.

The HSA supports the 1977 impact

continued on page 11

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assessment of the Rosedale Generation Station presented by ARESKO Ltd. when it was clearly articulated that “any fur trade period site discovered in Edmonton, would be considered a very significant find: potentially of national interest. Every effort should be made to preserve such a site.” The current assessment by Lifeways Canada endorses this position. All findings to date are of major significance to Edmontonians, Albertans and Canadians. However more work needs to be carried out, such as an appropriate evaluation and ruling by Alberta Community Development with respect to the provincial Historic Resource Nomination that asks for designation of what is known as the “Gathering Place, Big House, The Fort of the Prairies, Fort Augustus and Edmonton House.”

The Historical Society of Alberta believes that the Rosedale site structures are among the top industrial historical resources in the province. We feel that the future of the Rosedale Low Power Plant was compromised when it was asked to be removed from the City of Edmonton’s municipal register. Clearly, at one point in time this site had been evaluated to be very significant.

We are pleased that EPCOR has shown an interest in maintaining structural historical resources on the site and has recently changed its position to retain a portion of the Low Pressure Power Plant (1938 to 1952). However, given the documented significance of this plant by both the City of Edmonton for its municipal register, the Historic Resource Impact Assessment (HRIA) required by Alberta Community Development and the information outlined in EPCOR’s “The Rosedale LP Plant— A Plan for Conservation” (September 2000, Whiting Architecture

and HIP Architects), we believe that at this point, the applicant is presenting a compromise that undermines the value of this incredible industrial plant to Albertans and Canadians. We feel it is necessary to have the applicant continue working with the appropriate municipal and provincial authorities who manage historic resources to work towards a more desirable solution to maintain a greater portion of the plant and thus, not compromise the historical integrity of this breathtaking industrial building.

The Historical Society of Alberta also believes that the proposed plant design is not sympathetic to the existing resource. It was with great care and decision that in the past the City of Edmonton expanded the original 1938 plant, through a period of over ten years, to create a structure that was harmonious. Each historical addition was sympathetic or in the same style as its forerunner. We believe that to maintain the overall integrity of the site it would be valuable for future expansions to reflect the original character of the plant.

In summary, the Historical Society of Alberta appreciates the commitment to heritage that has been demonstrated by the applicant and in this process. However, we feel that there is a great deal more work that needs to be fulfilled to guarantee that proper identification, preservation and interpretation of the site is carried out to secure the interest of the Alberta history for future generations. We request that the historical needs as we have outlined be accomplished as a condition of the approval.

Respectfully,
Marianne Fedori, President
Ron Williams, First Vice- President,
President Elect

Current Heritage Issues

A compromise was made by the City of Edmonton and O and Y Real Estate Services regarding changes to the HBCo Building. The developer has agreed to submit a redevelopment plan that will retain more of the historic exterior of the building.

The Calgary Heritage Advisory Board and the Calgary Municipal Heritage Properties Authority have merged to form the Calgary Heritage Authority. Neil Watson and Larry Gilchrist co-chair. Sheila Johnston and Kate Reeves are representatives on the new body.

Hanover Corporation has applied for a new development permit which will require that the Lougheed Grand Building in Calgary be demolished. The permit is being appealed.

Members have written regarding their concern for the lack of representation from Alberta on the Historic Sites and Monuments Board. The HSA has written to the Minister of Heritage and plans to forward names of potential appointees in the new year.

Thanks to Allan Ronaghan for keeping us abreast of the Frog Lake Site. The Society is continuing to bring attention to this site to the appropriate authorities.

Don't miss this first rate, riveting story of the prairies. To be released by HSA-ARPB, April 2001.

A Paradise for the Poor—Hussar, Standard & Caroline, Alberta Letters of Ole Nissen, 1923-1937



Edited by Joan Walter, the daughter of Ole Nissen

Emigrating from Denmark to western Canada, Ole Nissen arrived at Hussar, Alberta, in 1923.

After working as a farm hand, riding the rails to Vancouver, cutting and hauling rail ties west of Edmonton, he returned to Hussar to farm.

Assailed by the Great Depression, his fortunes waned, and he and his wife Emmie were among thousands driven from the drought-stricken plains. In bush country at Caroline, Alberta, more trouble awaited.

Ole's intimate diaries and letters from Hussar, Standard, Chancellor, Dorothy, and Caroline, are writings of hope, elation, disappointment and despair, before he and his loved ones found their measure of fulfillment.

Bow River Days Growing Up in Calgary, 1927-1951



by W.H. Bell

The events described in *Bow River Days* are the recollections of one boy—the author—as a youth growing up in Calgary and its environs during the Great Depression and World War Two.

He tells of scholastic affairs and escapades, of extra-curricular adventures along the Bow River, of games and music and movies in an era without television, of the utilization of horses in the city, and of aviation's Golden Age.

It is a book of community history, full of nostalgia for a time now past.

Published by Bell Enterprises, 5731 Malibu Terrace, Nanaimo, BC V9T 5Y8.
Phone 250-751-28099. E-mail: whbell@telus.net. ISBN 0-968784-0-5. Price \$14.95. Available in bookstores.

Sharing the Good Times



A History of Prairie Women's Joys and Pleasures

by Faye Reineberg Holt

In this her latest book, Faye Reineberg Holt traces the leisure activities of prairie women. Although leisure and pleasure were not a top priority, the pursuit of joy has always been important.

How did women during the early settlement years relieve their life filled with the constant drudgery of household chores and caring for their family? A sense of humour was common. It had to be if they were to discover ways to enjoy themselves no matter where or when they lived.

Canadian women in the era between the late 1800s and the 1960s not only had time for hobbies, parties, fun and games, but were also avid participants in activities not normally associated with women. They skated, ice-fished, played in bands, danced, rode as good as any cowboy on the prairie, pursued women's rights, drove tractors and cars, hiked, climbed mountains, skied and participated in athletics.

Throughout the book personal accounts and photographs illustrate the various ways Canadian women found to enjoy life in their unique prairie landscape. It is an approach that offsets the more often told stories of tragedies and difficulties that prairie women faced.

Published by Detselig Enterprises Ltd., Calgary, AB. ISBN 1-55059-208-4. \$34.95. Available in bookstores.

Books



Buffalo People Portraits of a Vanishing Nation



by Mildred Valley Thornton

Throughout her life Mildred Valley Thorton had an abiding passion and that was to preserve Canada's native culture. For over fifty years she painted, wrote and lectured on the images and legends of what she recognized as a fast-vanishing way of life.

With her brush and pen she recorded not only portraits of prominent and historical Native Canadians but she also assembled a catalogue of anecdotes, folklore and legends, mostly related in now long-forgotten native tongues, which today provide a unique chronicle of a vanished age. The book is full of her paintings, in colour and black and white.

Her first book featuring Indians of the Pacific Coast entitled *Indian Lives and Legends* (Mitchell Press Limited, 1966) was an immediate success.

Mildred Valley Thornton, FRSA, CPA (1890-1967) was an accomplished portrait and landscape artist who has left an unique legacy of Canada's native history. Her paintings are found in the National Gallery, the Glenbow Foundation and many other galleries and private collections.

Published by Hancock House Publishers Ltd. ISBN 0-88839-479-9. \$24.95.
e-mail: sales@hancockhouse.com.

Building a Province 60 Alberta Lives



by **Brian Brennan**

Selecting sixty lives from the many who have helped to build the province of Alberta is a daunting task, but in this book Brian Brennan has made a start.

The selection covers men and women who were pioneers, cowboys, entrepreneurs, artists, politicians, athletes, or unsung heroes. In their various ways they worked hard to make their vision of Alberta a reality. Arranged by date of birth, familiar names such as Sir James Loughheed and Bob Edwards, Betty Mitchell and Mary Dover are intermingled with the less familiar such as Victoria Calihoo, 1861-1966, a métis buffalo hunter and folk historian and Bert Sheppard, 1901-1999, cowboy.

The essence of each "life" is captured by Brennan in three to four pages that set out their accomplishments. This makes for quick, easy reading and therefore ideal for to take on the daily commute to the office. Each story is a starting point that opens a door to other reading and to discover more about each life and their place in history.

The book is indexed by name, city or town, or by category. In the latter it is interesting to note that the Arts and Culture section is the largest with fifteen names followed by business and politics with eight names each.

Brian Brennan is a freelance writer known for his columns and feature stories in the *Calgary Herald*.

Published by Fifth House Ltd
ISBN 1-894004-53-1. \$14.95.
It is available in bookstores.

Trucking North :On Canada's Mackenzie Highway



by **Roberta L. Hursey**

This is a popular social history about transportation and the history of trucking in Northern Alberta and the NWT.

Temeron Books, 2000
ISBN 1-55059-204-1. \$34.95.

Built On Coal: A History of Beverly, Edmonton's Working Class Town



By **Lawrence Herzog**

Beverly Community Development Society: Edmonton, 2000. Launched at Historic Edmonton Week this book is richly illustrated with more than 150 photographs and written by society member Lawrence Herzog who has recently relocated to Victoria. It is the story of the remarkable people, coal mines, organizations and merchants that created and shaped Edmonton's working class town.

Available from Audrey's Books,
Edmonton, or EDHS.

The Last Illusion: Letters from Dutch Immigrants in the "Land of Opportunity."



Edited and Translated by **Herman
Ganzevoort**

Professor Ganzevoort has discovered and translated several rare letters and articles written by Dutch immigrants that outline the experience of pioneer settlement.

University of Calgary Press
ISBN 1-55238-013-0, \$24.95

Watershed: Reflections on Water



by **Grant MacEwan**

Grant MacEwan (1902-2000) was one of the most respected Western Canadians of the twentieth century.

He was an agriculturalist, educator, mayor of Calgary, Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, historian, lecturer, and the prolific author of over forty books. The recipient of numerous accolades and awards, Dr. MacEwan received the Golden Pen Lifetime Achievement Award at the Alberta Book Awards just a few months prior to his death.

Watershed: Reflections on Water contains a series of essays on water by MacEwan, as he draws from his broad knowledge as an agriculturalist and his vast life experience to tell us "what every Canadian should know about water." Intended to encourage Canadians to value a natural resource taken for granted, "Watershed" highlights the importance of water to our daily lives and questions the stability of the earth's water supply—a pressing issue in the world today. "Watershed" is a book every "water-rich" Canadian should read.

In *A Partner in Caring for the Vineyard*, Dr. MacEwan writes that "I believe I am an integral part of the environment and, as a good subject, I must establish an enduring relationship with my surroundings. My dependence on the land is fundamental." This sentiment is echoed throughout "Watershed," from a young MacEwan's pioneer days in Saskatchewan to water conferences in Calgary, Alberta.

"Watershed" is Dr. MacEwan's final offering to his outstanding collection of published works.

ISBN 1-896300-35-9

* 208 pages black and white photos.
\$19.95 CDN* \$15.95 US.

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E: erin@newestpress.com

News from Heritage Canada

As was reported in our last newsletter several members of the HSA and the CCHS attended "Towards a National Trust", Heritage Canada's National Conference this past September in Calgary.

This was a consultative conference designed to gain information and views about the need and role for a national trust in Canada. Senator Dan Hays delivered a speech prepared for the Minister of Canadian Heritage who was unable to attend the conference as she was attending the Olympics in Australia. Mr. Hays said "A national trust in Canada could be a great gathering of people in support of heritage-government, non-government and corporate. It could take a leadership role in championing heritage, public education, fund raising and granting, brokering properties, and membership." Heritage Canada's next conference will be held in Toronto on October 13, 14 and 15, of 2001 and will focus on the economics of heritage conservation.

Don't forget to celebrate our national Heritage Day, the third Monday in each February, and this year February 19, 2001. Heritage Edukits in 2001 will be based on the theme of transportation heritage. The "Travel Through Time" Poster and Guide will be available in the new year. Contact Heritage Canada at heritage-canada@heritagecanada.org to receive your copy.

Congratulations once again to Trudy Cowan, who was elected as Chair of Heritage Canada.

Heritage Fair Exhibit Tour 2000-2001

Dates for the travelling exhibit of projects from across Canada—September through April 2001 in the West,
Contact: Kate Gunn, Museums Alberta at 780-404-2626

Winnipeg City Hall September 11–October 16, Winnipeg, MB

Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly October 20–November 13, Regina, SK

Lethbridge Public Library November 20–January 20, Lethbridge, AB

Vancouver Museum January 29– March 9, Vancouver, BC.

Diefenbaker Canada Centre March 18–April 29, Saskatoon, SK.

May 10–12, 2001. Alberta Fair Sites are: Peace River

Edmonton Region

Central Alberta (Red Deer)

Calgary Region

Southern Alberta (Lethbridge)

National Fair in Kamloops, BC. July 9–15, 2001 are the tentative dates.

CAHS Millennium Award Presentations—Donalda

Audrey and George Braithwaite donated 27 acres of land 12 miles upstream from the City of Red Deer in 1993. It was donated to the Alberta Fish and Game Association Wild Life Trust Fund and is to remain in its natural state in perpetuity. A cairn, built from stones that George collected, displays a bronze plaque honoring George's step-father, John James Dawson, 1857-1937, a member of the North West Mounted Police, who pioneered the land after serving fifteen years in the force.

The Donalda and District Museum Society was formed in 1980, to build a suitable home for over

500 oil lamps that Donald and Beth Lawson donated to the Village of Donalda, on condition that suitable housing was found. Canada's Lamp Capital now has over 850 lamps, plus many other artifacts. On July 1, 2000, a forty-foot high gas lamp was lit at the end of main street; a beacon of light overlooking the breathtakingly beautiful Meeting Creek Coulee below.



L to R: Dr. Don Hepburn presents CAHS Millennium Award to Palmer Hagen, first chairman of the Board of Directors



20th Anniversary of the Donalda & District Museum and some of the Board of Directors.
L to R Back: Esther Adair, Gordon Knudtson (Vice Chairman) & Letha Knudtson.
Front: Palmer Hagen, Berit Hagen, Anna Collin, Harry Collin

Addresses:

Donalda and District Museum, Box 40,
Donalda, AB T0B 1H0.
Phone: 403-883-2100

George and Audrey Braithwaite, RR 1,
Bowden, AB T0M 0K0
Phone: 403-224-3963

Alex Johnston Lecture Series 2000-2001

When Alex Johnston passed away in early 1989, the Lethbridge Historical Society looked for a project that would commemorate Alex's memory, keep his name alive, and in the eyes of Albertans. We considered scholarship's at the University of Lethbridge. These would have a long life, however a scholarship becomes buried and hidden within hundreds, if not thousands of others, that are given out each year. We searched for something that was more public orientated. A Lecture Series Fund was suggested. It could be established and dedicated to cover different subjects that had held Alex's interests. LHS considered managing the Lecture Series Fund, but further thoughts led us to establish the Fund with the University of Lethbridge, a facility that would have a longer life expectancy than our local Historical Society. UofL personnel made suggestions as to how to handle it and how many dollars (\$25,000 investment fund) it would take to finance and maintain it. The task looked formidable, then we realized that Alex had many friends and colleagues.

As initial seed money, the LHS put \$10,000 toward the Fund. Relatives, personal friends, Alex's colleagues, clubs, friends and associates from his historical and other interests were invited to make tax deductible donations. The Fund quickly reached \$25,000. An Alberta Government matching grant brought the Alex Johnston Lecture Fund to \$40,000.

A Lecture Series Selection Committee made up of three persons from UofL Arts/Science and two representatives from LHS was set up. They select the guest lecturers and subjects that would have been high on Alex's list of interests.

When the Alex Johnston Lectures Fund and the Lecture Series were established, it was stipulated that the Fund's annual interest each year be divided into 1/5th and 4/5th. The 1/5th to be added to the capital and 4/5ths to go into an expendable account (E.A.) to finance each year's lecture and other relative expenses.

We also made provisions within the Series guidelines for an "Outreach Program" whereby the lecturer could be invited to deliver the identical lecture (within a one year period) to historical societies in Calgary and/or in Edmonton, pending an invitation to the Lecturer. A "limited portion" of the costs for the lecturer to deliver his/her to visit those centres would be covered from the E.A. Looking back today, we can see the problems that have taken place with this arrangement. As I recall, the Lecture Series Selection Committee has established a guideline allowing \$250 each to Calgary and/or Edmonton if they hosted the lecture within the time allotted after the lecture was delivered in Lethbridge. The UofL E.A. fund also gave the lecturer an additional \$100 honourarium for each lecture when given in Calgary and/or Edmonton. This \$250 is a limited grant to the Societies in Calgary or Edmonton. Calgary or Edmonton are responsible for any and all expenses for the lecturer's travel, meals, accommodation, facility rental etc. over the grant amount.

If Calgary or Edmonton were able to "tie in" with the lecturer's initial travel plans to arrive in Lethbridge via their city/ies they could save that expense. Better still, if the lecturer resided in either centre they would be yet further ahead. One can certainly see why the

E.A. fund could not support bringing in a speaker from NFLD or elsewhere for a second or third trip!

The Alex Johnston Lecture Series is now ten years old. Ten different lectures have been delivered in Lethbridge. The 1997 lecture was cancelled due to an accident to the lecturer shortly before the presentation date. In 2000 the guest lecturer was Dr. John Dormaar. John delivered an incredible lecture in Lethbridge, one that was most fitting to honour his long time friend Alex Johnston and the Alberta which Alex loved. John, a close friend and colleague of Alex since 1963, chose as his subject the Southeastern edge of our Province. The lecture was titled: Milk River Mystique—Alex Johnston's Passion.

The subject matter of each year's lecture may have held little interest for Calgary or Edmonton or, other factors have resulted in the lecturer not being called upon to lecture in those cities. This year however, the Lethbridge Historical Society and the UofL Lecture Selection Committee are very pleased that Calgary and Edmonton have both chosen to host Dr. John Dormaar's lecture in early 2001. Don't miss it when it arrives. The dates for each lecture may be found in the Events Calendar on the rear page of *History Now*.

Calgary and Edmonton Chapters made donations to the Alex Johnston Lecture Fund when it was initially set up, so they are, or will be, the only Societies included in the outreach program. However, we encourage other interested societies to contact each year's lecturer directly and make their own arrangements and financing.

by Carly Stewart

The 2000 Alex Johnston Lecture Series produced jointly by the Lethbridge Historical Society and the University of Lethbridge went very well at 7:30 pm, November 7, in the Lethbridge Public Library Theatre Gallery. Guest lecturer was Dr. John Dormaar who was a close friend and colleague of Alex Johnston since 1963. John's lecture on: "Milk River Mystique - Alex Johnston's Passion" was well attended by approximately 175 visitors at the Library—extra chairs had to be set out. This intriguing and phenomenal slide presentation kept us all enthralled, the subject holding many people's interest. Be sure to take the lecture in when it is presented in your community.

The Annual General Meeting of the Lethbridge Historical Society was held November 28, in the Lethbridge Public Library; however there were only 12 members present, (15 are needed for a quorum) so the presentation of reports, the election of officers and the voting on a motion to spend some Society funds was postponed. Frustrations, frustrations, frustration. C. Stewart had to quickly arrange a new venue and an Extraordinary Meeting announcement (set for Dec 12) to deal with matters at hand. It is expected that there will be little change in the executive positions, with the exception that a new councillor will have to be named for a two-year term to cover a position that has been vacated by a resignation of Wilma Wood whose work load has recently increased.

LHS January 23, 2001 monthly meeting will feature our own Bob Shore who will provide a slide presentation on the "Beginnings and Development of

the University of Lethbridge." Bob was an early employee of the UofL.

On February 27, we look forward to a visit from Louis Reil and Gabriel Dumont during our Banquet. Guest speaker beside the two mentioned will be Dr. Bill Baergen who will speak on the "Ku Klux Klan in Central Alberta." The 6:30 pm banquet is slated for the Sir Alexander Galt Museum, Alex Johnston Gallery. It will be limited to the first 60 registered persons. As well, if all things go right, we may be launching our next publication in February.

The March 27 and April 24, 2001, programs have not been confirmed at time of reporting.

As reported in the previous *History Now*, an application to the Lethbridge Community Foundation to help finance a new book and to gift six different books to each of 150 school libraries (900 books in all) in the Lethbridge area has failed. The Lethbridge Community Foundation has chosen to not participate in our plans, forcing us to find a way to do it on our own.

Three Society members are presently involved in a Community Outreach Program where they will present slide presentations to other groups in the City or area. These programs are:

"Lethbridge Scenes Past and Present," by Bob Shore 403-320-9287

"Yukon & Alaska History," by Bob Shore

"University of Lethbridge Early Development," by Bob Shore

"Charles S. Noble and the Noble Blade Cultivator," by Carly Stewart 403-328-4669

"The Whoop-Up Trail," by Carly Stewart

News & Views from HSA Chapters

"The CPR High Level Bridge," by Carly Stewart.

Please contact the presenter if you would like to consider their presentations for your venue—you may wish to have two presentations by one speaker in one evening to make the trip worthwhile.). The third presenter we omitted as she is just too busy working on another book for us and we don't want to delay her progress.

The theme of the first Annual General Meeting of the Historical Society of Alberta in the new millennium is: "2001—A Heritage Odyssey." Lethbridge is host; Jean Johnstone, Bob Shore and Carly Stewart, with help from Wilma Wood, are the initial organizers presently making plans for you in Lethbridge on May 25., 26., 27, 2001. Please make your early commitment to make an odyssey to Southern Alberta. Watch for further information in this and next issues of *History Now*. A Registration Form will be mailed to each Historical Society of Alberta member in plenty of time for your early registration.

John Dormaar Dr. Alex Johnston Lecture Series

John Dormaar was born in Indonesia and raised in Switzerland and The Netherlands. He attended university at the State College of Tropical Agriculture in The Netherlands, the University of Toronto and the University of Alberta where he received his PhD in Soil Organic Chemistry in 1961.

Dr. Dormaar has served the Canadian public, and in particular the ranching

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The first program in our winter lecture series was an interesting presentation by Linda Manyguns. We were given an insight into the rituals and ceremonies surrounding the transfer of a tipi from one owner to another.

In October Nancy Millar returned to talk about her latest book *Once Upon a Wedding*. The large crowd enjoyed an entertaining slide presentation of "veiled history."

The Museum of the Regiments opened the galleries to our members and guests prior to our November program. Dr. Pat Brennan gave a most interesting lecture on the Battle of Vimy Ridge, outlining the organization and execution of the battle plan. He placed the battle in the context of the First World War

and explained the changing Canadian participation.

Over 160 members and guests braved the freezing weather to attend the CCHS Annual Christmas Dinner at the Wainwright Hotel in Heritage Park. We spent a pleasant evening socializing with old and new friends then sat down to a delicious turkey dinner. Following the dinner, we were amused and amazed by Stephen Forrester, author, magician and magic history enthusiast.

January 23, 2001 will be our opportunity to hear Dr. John Dormaar speak about "Milk River—Alex Johnston's Passion," at Fort Calgary Historic Park. Thanks to the Alex Johnston Lecture Committee at the University of Lethbridge and the

Lethbridge Historical Society for making this outstanding program possible.

February 27, 2001 will be an evening of nostalgia with Ron "Buckshot" Barge. He will share memories of the Buckshot Show and his small sidekick Benny the Bear.

Something new for our Annual General Meeting in March at Mewata Officers Mess. There will be a supper at 6:00 pm, prior to the Annual Meeting. The cost of the meal is \$16.00. Call the CCHS office at 403-261-4667 for more information and reservations. The deadline for reservations is **March 1, 2001**. The AGM begins at 7:00 pm followed by "Historic Calgary Neighbourhoods," presented by four historians from the Chinook Country Historical Society.

John Dormaar Dr. Alex Johnston Lecture Series continued from page 16

community, for 35 years at the Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Research Centre, Lethbridge. During his career he has been granted three sabbaticals as a Research Scientist in France, Germany, and Australia. Though now retired from the Public Service, John has continued to serve the community as a popular Adjunct Professor and acclaimed field guide to generations of geography students at The University of Lethbridge. As an Emeritus Research Scientist, he continues to be a valuable resource person for the ranching community of Southern Alberta.

The Milk River Canyon is located in the southeastern corner of Alberta. It is about 150 m deep and up to 2.5 km wide. The Canyon is surrounded

by a remarkably diverse grassland topography with an average precipitation of only 310 mm per year.

Some of the topics to be covered in the presentation include: How did the Canyon get there and how do geophysical, climatic and biotic forces account for its form? What kind of landscape served both the pre-settlement First Nations and the post-settlement Boundary Commission, North West Mounted Police and the ranchers? How have animals and plants adapted and thrived in the rigours of this environment? The canyon is unique in Alberta. Its qualitatively distinctive nature and age-old sacramental character contribute to the Milk River Mystique.

Strathcona's Horse A Western Heritage

A rare collection of Regimental works of art depicting 100 years of the history of a famous Canadian cavalry regiment—the Lord Strathcona's Horse (Royal Canadians) from its beginning as a fighting force of the British Empire in the South African War, through two World Wars, Korea and now as a key unit for peacekeeping in today's Canadian Armed Forces.

Works by:
Sheldon Williams,
Sir Alfred
Munnings, Dr.
Jeffrey J. Jameson
and many other
artists.



4520 Crowchild Tr. SW

Open until March 31, 2001

Edmonton & District Historical Society

by **Frank Norris**, Vice President

Write to
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The Edmonton Chapter's annual Christmas event was held on Wednesday evening at the UofA Faculty Club. Sixty-five members attended a buffet dinner and were entertained with an interesting presentation given by Mrs. Pauline Feniak on the subject of "Victoria Home Guard Society." It was an interesting topic that held peoples' interest. Mrs. Feniak was presented with an Honorary full Membership to the Historical Society of Alberta.

A presentation followed by the Ergo Cantamus Quartet, who are members of the Edmonton Swiss Mens' Choir. It was very enjoyable and included a general sing-along.

The chapter has nearly completed plans for our "Speaker Series" for the new year. The first presentation will be at the Edmonton City Hall "Heritage Room," featuring the Alex Johnston Lecture Series. Dr. John Dormaar will give an illustrated presentation on "Milk River Mystique, Alex Johnston's Passion". This event will be held on February 7, 2001, at 7:00 pm.

On March 21, 2001, 7:00 pm in the Edmonton City Hall "Heritage Room," Mr. Doug Barnett will present "Early Surveys and Settlements in the Edmonton Region." Purpose: to relate early developments to the land survey system in Edmonton and district.

April 4, 2001, at 7:00 pm. at Mackay Avenue School located at 10425 99 Ave. A panel presentation by Authors: Cora Taylor, Merle Harris, Barbara Demers and Colleen Heffernan;. Moderated by Marianne Fedori. Subject: "Digging up more than Dinosaurs!" (bringing history to children through fiction and story-telling).

The Executive is brain storming ideas for "2001 Historic Edmonton Week." We may not receive a grant from The

Edmonton Community Foundation, however, we have had no formal reply to our grant application. We have received notification that the Edmonton Real Estate Board will renew its funding support of \$500.00 for which we are very grateful. Our concern is how do we compete with the World Games. A recent opportunity, presently being explored, may allow us to partner with local businesses to promote local tours of Historic Sites and Venues within day trip distances, during the whole World Games event. An exciting possibility!

The EPCOR saga goes on. Marianne Fedori has taken on the onerous duty of representing both the HSA and the EDHS at the Energy and Utilities Board hearings, which I believe will carry on in January. This Chapter is very grateful for her concerned intervention with the EUB as we lacked resources to do it.

For our Annual General Meeting in late April, there is an urgent need for additional volunteers in the Executive of the EDHS. Many opportunities are lost and issues not supported because of a lack of human resources. We must work vigorously to attract enthusiastic members who will promote our ongoing work, as it relates to providing knowledgeable support and general information to the community at large and in support of local issues and concerns.

Another important area that presently gets little attention is our relationship with like organizations in our surrounding district. There are two main reasons for this and they are: a lack of inventory of where and who they are; and a lack of the human resource to build an interactive communication system and maintain it. Our present method of communication with the "District" in our name is via newsletter. While important, it lacks the "interactive" element, so essential in supporting our common goal.

The new "Millennium Year" brings many challenges which will require a larger, more resourceful and dedicated executive along with many enthusiastic volunteers to work on special projects. Together we can make it happen.

Hugh Dempsey Honoured for Lifetime Achievement

by **Michael Gourlie**

To kick off Archives Week 2000, the Archives Society of Alberta paid tribute to one of the pioneers of Alberta's archival community. At a reception held on October 2, 2000 at Calgary's historic McDougall Centre, the ASA conferred honorary membership on Hugh Dempsey for his lasting contributions to the preservation of Alberta's priceless documentary heritage.

Following an introduction by Glenbow archivist Doug Cass, Hugh recounted his experiences working at the Glenbow Archives. While known primarily for his work as a writer and historian, he was also one of the first archivists to work at the Glenbow and played a critical role in the growth and development of its archival program. He also reminisced about the acquisition of some of the unique archival materials which continues to draw researchers from across the country to the Glenbow.

Following Hugh's speech, local actors presented a workshop reading of the play "I'll Laugh Till I Am Dead: The Trial of Robert Raymond Cook" by Aaron Coates. Funded by a grant from Young Canada Works and written using archival documents from the Legal Archives Society of Alberta, the play dramatically recreated the repercussions from a passionate act of murder in Stettler, Alberta in 1959, an act which ultimately culminated in Alberta's last execution by hanging."

Central Alberta Historical Society

by Janet Walter

Write to
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Red Deer AB T4N 5H2

The fifth annual meeting of the CAHS was held September 21 in the Stewart Room of Red Deer and District Museum. The incumbent Board and Executive were returned to office with the addition of Marion Hives. The AGM was followed by a bus trip to Trochu for a tour and dinner at St. Ann Ranch Historic Site.

The origin of this restored early Alberta community is unique. The founder, Armand Trochu, persuaded aristocratic Cavalrymen from Brittany to join him in establishing a new French ranching community in Western Canada. Bed and breakfast, historical artifacts and archival materials in a sheltered prairie coulee, make St. Ann Ranch a good historical tourist destination.

President, Bill Baergen continues to give readings from his book, *Ku Klux Klan in Central Alberta*. The most recent was in his home town of Stettler on November 23. He was a guest presenter for the Lethbridge Chapter featuring an, in character, monologue of Louis Riel's defence speech prior to his execution in Regina in 1885.

Future projects for CAHS being discussed and in progress: centres of community such as local rural schools that no longer exist and for the most part are not marked. Some commercial centres are growing and changing

rapidly while others are diminishing.

Features of historical significance require deliberate restoration and preservation and an assured place within new developments, or the continuity and diverse features of past structures will be lost. CAHS is working with the Historical Preservation Committee of the Normandeau Foundation to sponsor a three part evening lecture series at the Red Deer and District Museum. The purpose of this collaboration is to increase both knowledge and participation of Red Deer residents in the preservation of valuable links with the past.

The first presentation was given on October 20 by Nancy Hackett, a planner with Parkland Community Planning Services. She is part of an implementation team for Red Deer's Downtown Action Plan and a Redevelopment plan for an area along the Red Deer River that lies northwest of the old downtown section of the city. She outlined six categories of preservation benefits: economic, tourist destination selection based on local unique features; aesthetics, and features such as Red Deer's fifty year old jewel—City Hall Park, all of which attract customers, employees or prospective retail and professional enterprises; landmark assets, such as the 55th St. willow tree and

the green onion water tower; education, new generations and visitors learn historical information more readily if it is tied to historic locations and buildings; efficiency, municipal costs of new infrastructure services of roads sidewalks, sewer and water are avoided when current buildings are restored on site and reconstruction costs become money circulated in the local economy; civic pride, a sense of common belonging generated by long time features like the distinctive Old Court House, the train station and the CPR bridge.

The second presentation in the series discussed Red Deer's participation in the Alberta Main Street Programme, an Alberta Lottery Historical Resources Foundation initiative designed to give assistance in revitalizing downtown areas. Within the membership area of CAHS, Drumheller, Didsbury, Lacombe, Ponoka, Camrose and Wetaskawin have already participated in Alberta Main Street Programs. Mirinda Conley, Programme Chief for the Alberta Main Street Programme and Local coordinator Tara Senft explained available assistance and Tara requested local participation in the form of historical information and items of civic pride.

On February 6, 2001 the third evening in this preservation series will feature architect, David Whiting who is a specialist in the preservation, adaptation and presentation of heritage buildings.

Silent Auction

HSA Annual General Meeting, Lethbridge May 25–27, 2001

It is planned to hold a "Silent Auction" at the next annual general meeting and for this event HSA is looking for donations of books, artwork, etc.

If you have an item you wish to donate or if you have any suggestions please contact the HSA office in Calgary

Phone: 403-261-3662 or E-mail: hsa@cadvision.com.

Trudy Cowan CCHS Millennium Award



L to R: Marianne Fedori, HSA President, Trudy Cowan and Mike Kampel, CHHS President

HSA Calendar of Events – 2001

- Jan 23** CCHS "Milk River Mystique." The Alex Johnson lecture by Dr. John Dormaar 7:30 pm Ft Calgary, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- Jan 23** LHS Regular Meeting & Program 7:15 pm, Lethbridge Public Library, speaker: Bob Shore will give a slide presentation on: "The Early Development of the University of Lethbridge."
- Feb 7** EDHS "Milk River Mystique." The Alex Johnson lecture by Dr. John Dormaar. 7:00 pm, Heritage Room, Edmonton City Hall, 1 Sir Winston Churchill Square. Seating limited call: 780-439-2797
- Feb 27** CCHS The Life and Times of Buckshot with Ron "Buckshot" Barge. 7:30 pm Ft Calgary, 750 9 Ave SE.
- Feb 27** LHS Annual Banquet in the Sir Alexander Galt Museum 6:30 pm. Bill Baergen will speak on the "Ku Klux Klan in Central Alberta."
- Mar 20** CCHS AGM Mewata Armouries Officers Mess 801 11 St. SW Calgary. 6:00 pm Supper. AGM 7:00 pm. Speaker 7:30 pm. "Historic Calgary Neighbourhoods - Cliff Bungalow, Inglewood, Rosedale and Scarboro."
- Mar 21** EDHS "Early Surveys and Settlements in the Edmonton Region," by Doug Barnett. 7:00 pm Heritage Room, Edmonton City Hall.
- Mar 27** LHS TBA. Check with Carly Stewart 403-328-4669.
- Apr 4** EDHS "Digging up more than Dinosaurs!" panel: Cora Taylor, Merle Harris, Barbara Demers. Moderator: Marianne Fedori 7:00 pm Mackay Avenue School 10425 99 Avenue.
- Apr 24** CCHS "Business History of Alberta" by Dr. Henry C. Klassen. 7:30 pm Ft Calgary, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- Apr 24** LHS TBA. Check with Carly Stewart 403-328-4669.
- May 22** CCHS "The Ku Klux Klan in Central Alberta" by Bill Baergen. 7:30 pm Ft Calgary, 750 9 Avenue SE.
- May 25-27** LHS HSA "2001—A Heritage Odyssey." Historical Society of Alberta Annual General Meeting and programs in Lethbridge.

Answer to last newsletter crossword:

Across: 4. ore, 8. Ottawa, 9. loiter, 10. nudge, 13. Dr. Grant MacEwan, 16. ETA, 17. tea, 18. China, 19. Emily, 23. Acme, 24. Brett, 25. Kane, 26. Kid, 28. to, 31. hopped, 34. you, 35. UAL, 36. Edmonton Eskimo, 39. Frank, 40. Fedori, 41. Eagles, 42. TCA.

Down: 1. starch, 2. Lawrences, 3. Hanna, 4. Oldman, 5. elect, 6. wigwam, 7. kernel, 11. UT, 12. GA, 14. ata, 16. EEE, 18. Clark, 20. yield, 21. ure, 22 Uta, 25. Kipling, 27. indeed, 28. ton, 29. outfit, 30. Kanata, 31. husked, 32. Oak, 33. eloped, 34. Yoho, 37. or, 38. en.

HSA Crossword



Across

1. The Governor and Company of Adventurers Trading into. . .
8. Household disinfecting liquid
9. West African State
10. Circus gymnast's swinging prop
11. Praise highly
12. Christmas turkey white meat
14. Methodist missionary remembered by missions at Gull and Pigeon lakes and a mountain at Banff townsite
17. Asian country
19. Butter was made from milk with this
21. Bow or Columbia for example
22. Aircraft "driver"
23. Town, River, Lake, Landing or University in N. Alberta

Down

2. Overshadow in performance
3. Successfully complete this puzzle
4. Lump of gold
5. River, Dam or Lake near Lodgepole
6. Leavening or fermenting agent
7. Mr. Davis of Peace River
8. City on the Oldman River
13. 'Flu of 1918
15. Town with museum of 850 lamps plus the "world's largest lamp"
16. Beetle revered by ancient Egyptians
18. Sometimes performance at Calgary's or Edmonton's Jubilee Auditoriums
22. Dads

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*.