



SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS

AND THEIR DESCENDANTS NEWSLETTER

Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants • 3625 - 4th Street S.W. • Calgary, Alberta T2S 1Y3 • Phone 243-3580

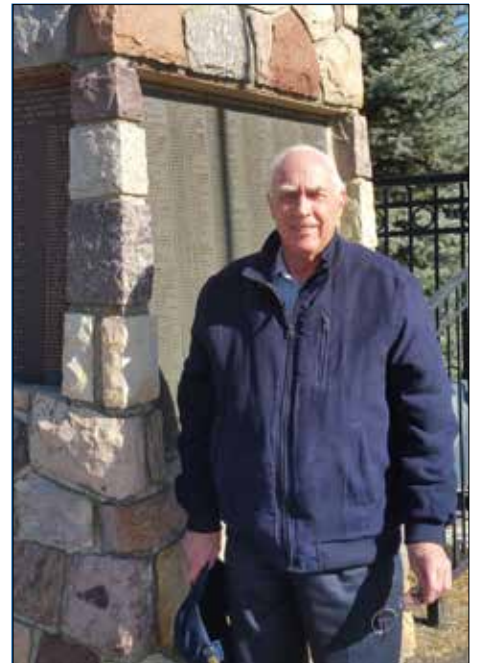
Vol. 48 • No. 3 Website: www.pioneersalberta.org Email: sap.office@pioneersalberta.org May 2016

Southern Alberta Pioneer Quiz

The *Southern Alberta Pioneers and their Descendants* (published in 1993) tells the history of the organization, the Memorial Building, the Centennial Gate and the first pioneers to settle in Southern Alberta. I encourage you to take a look - or another look - at the book. Soon the website will feature many of these stories. Meanwhile, here's a quiz to test your knowledge.

1. What year did the association begin and what was it called at the beginning?
2. What year was the first Annual Round-up and why is that its name?
3. In the early days, the Association was composed of men who were residents of Southern Alberta on December 31, 1890 or prior and their male descendants on reaching the age of 21. When and how did the women pioneers organize and who was their first leader?
4. In 1940 what other organization spun out of the Pioneers and what happened to it?
5. When did the Men's and Women's Associations amalgamate and why?
6. When was the Memorial Building officially opened and what amusing incident did the **Calgary Herald** report about the opening ceremonies?
7. To whom is Rotary House on the Stampede Grounds dedicated.
8. What will you find on the Centennial Gate?

The answers can be found on the next page.



Dave Wake in front of the Centennial Gate



President's Message

After an exceedingly warm winter with very little snow we are welcoming Spring early and hoping for lots of gentle rains to water our parched province.

We have had several very successful events since our last newsletter. Our very popular wine tasting in February convened by Maureen Hill and Kathleen Rogers, featured food pairing from around the world. Our Gold Card tea welcomed almost 100 honoured guests, family, friends and volunteers on a beautiful May 1. Karen Clark and Heather VanHereweghe convening.

We also hosted a Jane's walk May 8 which open our doors to the public for a display of historical pictures, and informative walk and light refreshments. Many thanks to Lyn Cadence, Steve Foote and Dave Wake for organizing.

As we approach our summer season please mark your calendars for our many Stampede Events, including our Pancake Breakfast, Rotary House Tea held yearly since 1912, and our Barbeque. The Stampede Display will again be in the BMO building, thanks to the many volunteers that make this event so popular with the stampede visitors.

We again will be part of the Calgary Stampede parade. As your president I am thrilled to ride and thank the many volunteers that make this possible.

We will again be hosting an open house for the Historic Calgary Week in late July and Open Doors Calgary in September. Both events allow the public to see our beautiful building and enjoy the gardens and view.

Our cookbooks are again on sale at the Millarville market and offered for sale at any time with a call to Fern Dorsh.

We all are invited to Past President Roy Clark's historic ranch at Crowfoot Crossing, August 13. Transportation and lunch will be provided. Contact the office or Roy for more information. The great hospitality of the Clarks make this event not to be missed.

Mark your calendars for our AGM and consider volunteering as a board member, convenor or help at any of our varied social events.

The highlight of our year and not to be missed is of course the Round Up, November 5. This event is our 97th year at the Palliser Hotel and will feature a live band and silent auction. Tickets will be available from Gwen Hanna, who so capably handles all of our ticketed events.

Our Building Committee, headed by Joan Hampaul, is busy with restorations, and beautifying our building and grounds. Her group does an extraordinary job.

So come out and join us.

Pamela Hilton, President

Answers to the Page 1 Quiz

1. The Society had its early beginnings in 1901. A group of men known as "The Oldtimers" met from time to time to swap stories of the early settlement of Calgary. In December, 1901, they formed The Calgary Oldtimer Association. On January 9, 1922, they became incorporated as The Southern Alberta Pioneers and Old Timers Association.
2. 1908. After the ranchers rounded up their cattle they had the first annual dinner and ball. The tradition continues with the Annual Round-up.
3. The Women's Pioneer Association of Southern Alberta met in March, 1922 at the home of Lady Lougheed who became the first president. There were 100 members.
4. 5. The Native Sons Association began as a way to encourage new membership among the next generation. They objected to events being members only as that meant they couldn't bring their wives. With the wives the Roundup swelled.
5. In 1962 the associations amalgamated as requested by the women, who wanted "legal interest" in the new Memorial Building.
6. The Memorial Building opening ceremonies were held on June 8, 1955. The Society had arranged for the Lieutenant-Governor and Mayor Don Mackay to be driven in a stage coach from the Palliser Hotel to the Memorial Building. The city had oiled Fourth Street running up the hill to the building making it too slippery for the horses, so the Mayor and others had to help the horses by pushing the coach up the hill.
7. Rotary House is dedicated to the pioneers of Southern Alberta.
8. The Centennial Gate has the names of the first pioneers engraved, with room for more to be added, along with a plaque commemorating Treaty 7 which concluded on September 22, 1877. Look for your family name.

Upcoming Social Events

Friday, July 8, 2016, 6:30 am
Pre-Parade Breakfast, Rotary House
Kerri Fipke, 403-271-9581

Saturday, July 9, 2016, 5:30 pm
Stampede BBQ, Memorial Building
Eileen McElroy, 403-272-9841 & Bill
Jackson, 403- 651-6656

Monday, July 11, 2016, 12:30 pm
Sandwich Making, Memorial Building
Lorraine Toews, 403-863-2545

Tuesday, July 12, 2016, 2:00-4:00 pm
Rotary House Tea, Rotary House
Lorraine Toews, 403-863-2545

Saturday, July 16, 2016, 9:00-noon
Pancake Breakfast, Memorial Building
Steve Foote, 403-938-6350 & Bill
Jackson, 403-651-6656

Friday, July 22, 2016, 10:00 am-3:00 pm
Historic Calgary Week Opening Day
Kerri Fipke, 403-271-9581 & Kathleen
Rogers, 403-242-1850

Saturday, August 13
Open House at Roy Clark's historic
ranch at Crowfoot Crossing,
Roy Clark, 403-641-2106

Friday, August 26, 8:30 am
Social Media Breakfast, Memorial
Building
Lyn Cadence, 403-465-2345

Sunday, September 10, 2016, 2:00 pm
Social/Pot Luck, Champion Park
Fran Copithorne 403-271-1972

Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25,
2016
Doors Open Calgary
Kerri Fipke, 403-271-9581

Saturday, October 15, 2016, 12:30 pm
AGM Luncheon
Karen Clark, 403-641-2106

Saturday, November 5, 2016, 5:30 pm
Round Up at the Palliser Hotel
Pamela Hilton 403-934-2637

Sunday, October 29, 2016, 10:00 am
Christmas Decorating, Memorial
Building
Joan Hampaul, 403-282-8515

Saturday, December 3, 2016, 5:30 pm
Christmas Dinner
Jeff and Maureen Hill, 403-225-2397

Stampede BBQ



Saturday, July 9, 5:30 pm

at the Memorial Building
Cocktails: 5:30 PM, Dinner: 6:30 PM

Open to members and guests of all ages

Tickets: Gwen Hanna at 403 279 5621
Deadline for ticket purchase is July 5.
Tickets must be purchased in advance.
No credit cards. No refunds.

Please make cheques payable to
Southern Alberta Pioneers and mail to
7048 - 22A Street SE, Calgary, T2C 0X2
Tickets can be mailed or held for pickup.

Membership

Membership fees are due. Is your mem-
bership up to date?

This newsletter can be read and printed
at www.pioneersalberta.org.

If you would like to discontinue receiving
the paper copy of the newsletter, please send
a notice to Maureen Peckham at
membership@pioneersalberta.org.

IN MEMORIAM
Hugh Hamilton, John Hutchings, Ger-
ald McDougall, Lynn Taylor, Howard
Moore, Eleanor Oltean, Henry Peake &
Edna McNeil

NEW GOLD CARD MEMBERS
Pearl Laycraft, David Ballard & Barbara
George

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS
Shawn Doble, Descendant of Joseph
Hope, Dewinton, 1886

Karen Bidder, Descendant of Albert Ed-
ward Burke, Grierson/Davisburg, 1889

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS
Norma Moore & Lone Gradner

Thank you for notifying me of any
changes, address, phone numbers or
e-mail addresses.

E-mail membership@pioneersalberta.org
or phone 403-271-5483.

Maureen Peckham, Membership

PIONEER HISTORY RECORDS UPDATE



The History Committee is working on a project to have all members update their pioneer (direct line) records.
The History Committee is in the process of recording all our pioneer records on the computer. We want to make sure that all of our information is accurate and up to date on each pioneer.
I am asking for every member to help with this project. Forms have been made available on line through Maureen Peckham (membership), email address: membership@pioneersalberta.org and also at the Memorial Building in the front office.
Please fill in each generation starting with 001 generation and on down the line.
I am asking for your help to make this project a success with all the pioneer names and their direct descendants completed.
Thank you for your help,

Shirley Simmering, History Committee

Pioneer Families of Southern Alberta

Reprint of **Pioneer Families of Southern Alberta** and the Addendum of 96 pages of over 800 new names.

Pioneer Families: \$20.00
Addendum: \$10.00

Get your orders in soon.
Dave Wake 403-288-5455

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\$15.00 each
Contact Gwen Hanna
at 403 279-5621.

Pioneer Logo

You may give a lasting tribute to your descendant of a pioneer family by inserting the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants Society's logo into your loved one's obituary.

The logo is a copyrighted feature of the Pioneers Society.

Our logo is available at the **Calgary Herald** and the **Sun** newspapers.

The cost to insert our logo is included in the column inch charge for your loved one's obituary.

Bill Murphy
murph230@shaw.ca, 403-252-6565



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MEMBER NAME TAGS (Magnetic)

Cost: \$13.25 (including GST)

The name tags will be 1" x 3", gold color with black lettering

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Your Pioneer Family Name: _____
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Southern Alberta Pioneers
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Tao of Dowsing

By Veronica Kloiber

An ancient tradition, a divine gift, or one lucky guy, call it what you will, Bill Jackson finds what he's looking for, a precious resource, residing beneath the surface of the earth.



Crossing the hill, he walks in ever smaller sweeping circles. His wandering seems random, yet he strides through the late-summer grass with a purpose, poking the ground with a metal rod. Bill Jackson has been searching for water for the past four decades.

He's not thirsty. He is a dowser, a diviner, a witcher of wells. Tromping through the hills near where his father's father homesteaded at the turn of the last century, Jackson points out wells the way most folks point out landmarks.

"See up there on the hill?" he asks. Using the tool of his trade, his dowsing rod, Jackson points across the fields to a house and yard. "That's my

son's well, 130 feet deep, 15 gallons per minute. Up the hill behind the knoll, that one there's not as good. It's only four gallons per minute," he explains.

Watching him work, walking the land looking for liquid gold hundreds of feet beneath his own, it crosses your mind it's all an illusion, a parlour trick, smoke and mirrors. Jackson knows differently.

"If you don't know what you're doing – if you don't have confidence in yourself – don't do it," he sages. Like so many things in this life, it won't work if you don't believe.

If confidence is all it takes to find water, Jackson's got a leg up, but to be a true dowser you need a medium – a method of communicating with what you seek. For him it's an old axel off some long-dead machine. A metre or so length of carbon steel, one end a now-blunt point, the other squared off with a hole through it.

"I've been doing this for over 40 years and I've had the bar since then," says Jackson.

Requiring no special care or feeding, the steel is still well looked after. Kept out of the weather, Jackson will let you use it, take it for a spin even, but let it out of his sight? Not for a moment. "It's a part of me," says Jackson and admittedly he'd look odd without it.

Well worn, Jackson's dowsing rod has as many stories to tell as the man himself. How this piece of metal came to Jackson, and exactly how it communicates a find is all part of the mystery.

"Some jobs you don't ask too many questions," he jokes.

For Jackson, to find water is to have a conversation with it, be a good listener. It requires his full attention and a lot of space. In his wanderings he goes alone, with no distractions and no company save his dowsing rod.

Jackson's method is to walk in diminishing circles, across the property looking for the best place to drill, always taking into consideration the lay of the land, the location of buildings, and power and gas lines. Holding the dowsing rod parallel to the ground, waiting for it to pull down and become vertical. There's the water.

"I go back and forth across and for a ways both directions from where I initially find it," he explains. "It tells me there is a stream there and not a pool."

Once Jackson has chosen the spot, he wedges a blue festooned stake into the ground. The dowsing is done. "Blue ribbon, that's the key right there," he muses. The reason behind the blue marker? "Everyone uses the other colours," says Jackson. "And blue means water."

Now it's up to the driller to once more prove Jackson has the touch. He has an impressive record and the local well drillers still call him first to find water.

"I don't like to brag but it's in the high 90 per cent," says Jackson of his success rate. "Most times, well drillers feel witching is a successful method," he continues. "They can go out in a field and drill a hole and probably won't find anything."

Even backed by a respectable reputation, there are those who are sceptical of dowsing for water with its lack of scientific proof and its witch-y overtones. Despite the naysayers, Jackson has proven himself time and time again. (cont'd)

So he carries on, dowsing in the hills of southern Alberta.

"I get chuckles," said Jackson. "You really think it works? they ask." "I like to call people's bluff. If you need a well drilled, you'll call me and I'll find you water."

Water, the way it's found, the way it's used, who can have it and who can afford it is all changing. Jackson has seen a decrease in recent years of people needing a well dowsed. Changes in land development regulations have made it difficult or impossible to subdivide.

Still, Jackson feels there will always be a need for well witchers. There will always be a cry for water and until such time as it becomes much more precious than it is now, Jackson can be found in the softly rolling hills practicing his craft.

(from **Routes** magazine, Nov/Dec 2011)

Norah's Story

By Faye Reineberg Holt

Norah Driscoll nee Matthews was the daughter of Claire and Inspector Matthews of the North West Mounted Police. The family was in western Canada in the late 1800s, and Norah's experience reveals that not all courting was entered into with great gravity and formality. Rather, the times allowed for fun and flirtation and for a young woman to change her mind.

Norah was born in Ontario in 1876, and she was proud that she was a descendent of United Empire Loyalists. Her father was appointed an inspector for the North West Mounted Police in 1886, and the family moved west, first to Winnipeg, then to Regina in January 1887, and then to Fort Edmonton in May of the same year. As a young girl, Nora, along with her sisters and mother, had suffered cramped or rough quarters, but life had been interesting and filled with adventure. Activities were wide-ranging and included staging plays and skits for the entertainment of themselves and others at the police posts. In 1889, the family was transferred to Lethbridge where they spent four years. By then, Norah was seventeen and of marriageable age. Surprisingly, she was allowed to go camping with a co-ed group of friends, but the affairs of the heart were usually very innocent at the time.

In Her Own Words

....we spent four happy years there [Lethbridge] at the age when I was growing into womanhood, and having beaux! We had a tennis court and all became good players, taking part in local tournaments and going to tennis dances etc.

My Aunt visited us again from Butte and made things lively for us. Mother was always kind and hospitable to the many homeless young bachelors and it was I suppose inevitable that I should have my first proposal of marriage when only 17, but mother shooed him away. Father had a rule that none of us should be engaged before 20 years of age. Consequently I became engaged on my 20th birthday to an entirely different person, after having three or four affairs in between. Girls were very scarce in those early days.

In 1892 our happy life in Lethbridge came to an end when father was transferred to Fort Macleod. Again there were no quarters available in the barracks, and we had to remain in Lethbridge for some months until in the Spring of 1893 when a house was found for us not far outside barracks, and we reluctantly moved. Macleod was a much smaller place and we were going to miss all our friends, and besides starting another school did not appeal to us. However, father bought a tennis net and we made a tennis court so that was some consolation, and as I was then about 17 [I] was permitted to go to all the grand balls and was soon having a gay time, interspersed with visits to Lethbridge, and having our friends visit us, and then happy when Inspector Morris was moved to Lethbridge and we moved into his quarters in barracks, not nearly as commodious as our quarters in Lethbridge but still we managed very well and lived there until 1898.

Our greatest joy was our annual camping trip to the mountains, to Waterton Lakes where old Kootenai Brown's shack was the only sign of

habitation--now a very large and prosperous summer resort for Lethbridge and other towns in the South. We also camped in the Crows Nest Pass on the spot where the terrible Frank slide took place a few years later, and a hundred lives were snuffed out in the little mining town that had sprung up on the site where we camped.

And another delightful camp was in the Livingstone Range at Bull Park. I had just become engaged to be married so this has particularly happy memories for me, and we were quite a party. My friends Eva Murcott and Lily Deans of Lethbridge, Inspector Primrose, John Cowdry and R.C. Mathews, who afterwards married my sister Clare. Lily Deans and Inspector Primrose also married some time later. We had a wonderful camp and the fishing in the river was the best we ever had anywhere.

On breaking camp, we came down to the North Fork where there was quite a large settlement of young English ranchers who played polo etc. They were having a dance and gymkhana to which we were all invited. So this was my introduction to the ranch life of which I was to become a part when I married. I met many who were later on to become good friends and we all thoroughly enjoyed the polo gymkhana and dance after. That was our last camping trip I think.

From: Faye Reineberg Holt. **Sharing the Good Times: A History of Prairie Women's Joys and Pleasures.** Calgary: Det-selig Enterprises Ltd., 2000, pp. 33-35. As quoted from Nora Matthews Driscoll, Oral History Project, City of Edmonton Archives, 11-12. Faye's website is at www.wordsandhistory.ca

Stampede Display, July 8 - 17, 2016

Historical Photo Display Plans are underway for our 2016 Calgary Stampede Photo Display. We will be in the Western Showcase again this year – the same location as the last several years.

The Western Passenger Wagon (Stagecoach) will return compliments of the Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston. The Stagecoach is requested by the Calgary Stampede and welcomed by our visitors every year.

This year we will display photos of pioneer women as they helped develop the West. In addition we will have photos of early modes of transportation.

The Stampede Historical Committee will follow our lead depicting women participants in the early Stampedes (e.g. bronc riders).

A big thank you to those of you who have already volunteered to man the booth. We have been contacting last year's volunteers but there is still room for new members. Gate passes will be provided. If you would like to help please call Dave Wake at 403-288-5545, email Dave at dcwake@shaw.ca or email Joan Hampaul at jhampaul@telusplanet.net.

As an added feature this summer we will be taking our portable tri-folds and easels to Pincher Creek on September 2nd & 3rd where we will display approximately 140 8"x10" and larger photos. The Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village is celebrating their 50th Anniversary and we are excited to be able to participate.

Dave Wake, Chair, Historical Committee

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Bob Rintoul's Family History

My great-grandfather Edward was born at Richmond, Ontario on August 20, 1844 and died in Calgary, Alberta on May 10, 1926 at the age of 81. He was the 8th child of John Henry Burke. He married Ellen Murdoch on Feb. 17, 1864 in Edwardsburg, Ontario. Ellen was born on January 21, 1842 on the farm north of Cardinal and died December 26, 1931 at High River. They had eight children: Eliza, George, Robert, Albert, Margaret, Leonora, Effie and Jane.

Edward and Ellen settled on their own land north of Prescott in 1883 when they bought 130 acres. When Edward and Ellen decided to move to the West in 1889 they sold the same piece of property to Edward's youngest brother, Caleb.

Eliza and Luke Draper moved to Calgary and established the store on the north side of 17 Avenue between 1st and 2nd Street S.W. The house was located where the current Jacques' Funeral Home parking lot is situated. I remember as a little boy visiting the store where "Uncle Luke" gave me licorice, other candy or an ice cream cone. They had a number of children: Clara, Ella, Lunetta (who died at an early age), Harold, Raymone, Erma, Stan and Dalton. Liza died on June 27, 1954 in Calgary.

Maggie married John Alexander Grant in May or June 1893 at the Burke farm. They subsequently farmed and ranched near the Big Rock (a left over from the ice age) between Okotoks and Black Diamond. Maggie died on January 21, 1928 in High River. They had a number of children.

George married "Kit" Ingram in July 1895 and settled for a while in the Melrose (Davisburg) area. George worked in the mines in Butte Montana and then headed to the Gold Fields of the Yukon in about 1900. He made a fortune there and helped his mother and father move east and built them a sumptuous home. He subsequently travelled to Punta Arenas, Chile where the next world class gold find was located. He died there, apparently cleaning his gun on February 15, 1906.

Robert or "Rob" as he was known in the family, took over the family farm when both his parents and my grandfather Albert homesteaded west of

Claresholm in the Porcupine Hills. Rob subsequently sold the farm to the Maxwells. It as appeared in print that Rob brought in the first seed drill to the Davisburg area. Rob also quartz mined in Butte Montana and joined his brother George in the Klondike. Rob subsequently managed the St. George Hotel, High River; the Queens Hotel, Calgary and the Auditorium Hotel in Nanton. He married Ellen Earle in Medicine Hat on September



Bob Rintoul at his 60th Wedding Anniversary

16, 1918 and died in High River on January 6, 1940.

Effie married Dr. Earle Everard Shepley on December 28, 1909 at The Church of the Redeemer in Calgary. Dr. Shepley was instrumental in developing cobalt treatments for cancer while at The University of Saskatchewan and subsequently died of complications due to radiation burns. They had two children, Margaret and Robert. Effie died in Vancouver on November 13, 1980.

In the summer of 1889 Edward Burke purchased 800 acres from the CPR east and north of Okotoks in the Davisburg area for \$3.00 per acre. The legal description is N ½ and SE ¼ 25-21-29 W 4th and N ½ 23-21-29 W 4th under contract 4320 & 4321.

The family started their trek west by CPR in the fall of 1889 arriving about October. Edward built a fine two storey house insulated with Calgary Heralds from that era. The house still stands

and has been renovated to fit in with a housing development. It is unclear at this time but evidence points to Liza marrying Luke Draper in Ogensberg, NY in 1880. That left Robert, Albert, Maggie and Effie with the family. Alameda had died in Ontario on December 31st, 1885 at the age of 6 years – 8 months.

What would it be like to be Edward's children going to school by horse or on foot some 5 miles after you jumped out of bed to an unheated floor at 5 in the morning to do your chores? No television, radio or motor vehicles. No electricity, running water, indoor toilets or other modern conveniences.

How would you like to travel 30 miles for groceries or mail in a horse-drawn sleigh? Imagine having no neighbour within 15 miles when the urge to talk to somebody else came upon you. Rather than climb into a garage-warmed car in -40 degree weather you would have to climb up on the seat of a horse drawn hay rack to fetch more feed for the farm animals.

These hardships are difficult to envision in this day and age of all our modern conveniences but they were a fact of life to our esteemed ancestors and without their diligence and will we would not be here today enjoying all our luxuries.

From 1889 when the Burkes arrived at Davisburg until 1896 were the driest years this country has seen. They decided to homestead again West of Claresholm in the Porcupine Hills and along with their son Albert filed on land. However they became homesick for the "East" and their son George, flush from the Klondike, moved them to Leamington, Ontario and outfitted them with a new fully furnished home. They returned to Calgary in 1904 where brother Rob the other Klondiker outfitted them with a fully furnished house at 1216 – 4th Street SE (known as Olympic Way since the 1988 Winter Olympics). It has recently been demolished to make way for the Calgary Stampede expansion.

Edward Burke was a member of the Orange Lodge.

His and Ellen's names are inscribed on the archway dedicated on July 9, 1967 to the memory of Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants.

International Food and Wine Night

The 22nd International Food and Wine Event on February 20 at the Memorial Building was sold out. With beautiful weather once again this year, members and guests arrived early to enjoy food and wine from Portugal, Italy and New Zealand. This event is hosted by your Board of Directors in order for the members and directors to get to know one another better. Not only do the directors host, but many of them make the food as well. Kathleen Rogers and Maureen Hill research food from the associated country in order to have an authentic experience. A sommelier helps pair the wine to the food. Guests were greeted with a glass of bubbly from Italy, by our Pioneers Lady and Gent, Beryl Sibbald and Ken Thomson, respectively. The evening progressed with lively conversation and laughter interchanged with bites of fabulous food. T-shirts with the Alberta Pioneer logo were donated for draws by John and Rhonda Hutchings. Thank you to our never ending support from the volunteers who help to make this the wonderful event that it is.



Cheryl Lyn Hendry and Ron Moore



Kathleen and Brian Rogers



Jon and Janice Hilton



Daryl Van Hereweghe and Joan Trimble



Pamela Hilton and Del Huber



Ken Thompson and John Sibbald

Social Committee Help!

Thank you to members who make our organization what it is. Your dedication makes it possible for us to socialize together and enjoy a variety of activities.

We have successfully filled the convenor position for all events. If you would consider taking on a position this year, with lots of help, please contact Maureen Hill 403-225-2397 or Linda Chuday 403-225-0698.

Maureen Hill

Casino Fundraising

CASINO DATES FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2016
at COWBOYS CASINO, STAMPEDE PARK



The Casino provides us with funding for many of our projects and special events i.e. Digital Library, Website, Calgary Historical Week, Janes Walk, Stampede Photo Display and many more. Our objects are to rescue from oblivion the memory of Southern Alberta's early pioneers and to obtain and preserve narratives of their exploits, perils and adventures!

We require volunteers to fill the following positions: General Manager, Banker, Cashiers & Chip runners for each day. There are 2 shifts per day plus the Count room shift each night. Volunteers are asked to work one shift each. We will also require a backup list to cover any emergencies.

Please contact Kerri Fipke to volunteer, phone 403-271-9581 or send an email to kfipke@telus.net

Jane's Walk, May 7, 2016

By Lyn Cadence, Dave Wake and Steve Foote

This year, the Southern Alberta Pioneers participated in Jane's Walk for the first time. Jane's Walk is a movement of free, citizen-led walking tours inspired by Jane Jacobs. The walks get people to tell stories about their communities, explore their cities, and connect with neighbours. It is named after Jane Jacobs (1916-2006) who was an urbanist and activist who believed that cities should be walkable places where neighbours and passersby interact.

Saturday May 7, from 10 am to 2 pm the Southern Alberta Pioneers' hosted an open house and from 11 am - noon we lead a Jane's Walk around the property and a little way into the river valley.

A representative of the Calgary Foundation made the welcoming speech and explained Jane's Walk. Dave Wake (4th picture down, plaid shirt) told our group of 45 what they were about to see and took them outside to explain the history of the gate and point out the names of the pioneers and the Treaty 7 plaque. He carried on to discuss the interpretive signs on the other side of the building: The Elbow River, Macleod Trail and Lindsay's Folly.

The group was particularly enchanted by the idea of bull trains heading up Macleod Trail urged on by the cracking of big long whips and "colourful language." They also appreciated that Joan Hampaul (right) came in costume.

From there we headed down the hill a stretch to a spot where we could see the remains of Lindsay's Folly. Legend and lore suggest there were two reasons the mansion was never completed. Either his wife died leaving him heartbroken and unable to fathom living alone in the house or the hillside location was unable to support the huge weight of the planned structure. According to Bill Walsh, Lindsay's grandson, neither story is true. The problem was purely financial. After Lindsay's death in 1925, the property stayed in the family until 1936 when the city took it over for back taxes owed. Mr. Walsh recalls as a youngster, playing in ruins and crawling in the tunnels underneath which were to house the utilities. At present, the city is planning on upgrades for Stanley Park and hoping to raise the awareness and accessibility to the site.

At that point, Dave Wake headed back to the building where he could answer questions about the Stampede display materials about the early days of women and of transportation in Southern Alberta.

Meanwhile, Steve Foote (bottom picture) lead guests towards and along the water, outlining a few more points in history, notably some background on the Mission area and the Elbow River

The Mission area was settled in 1872 by the Oblates of Mary Immaculate Catholic missionaries. Father Lacombe secured the area in 1883 for the Catholic church. In 1899 the area was incorporated into the Village of Rouleauville, named after Charles Rouleau who was a Supreme Court Magistrate. His intention was to found a French speaking community. Rouleauville was incorporated into Calgary in 1907 and renamed Mission. Today the neighbourhood is bounded by 4th Street to the West, Macleod Trail to the East, 17th Avenue to the North, and the Elbow River to the South.

In the late 1800's the flats along the banks of the Elbow River were often camping sites for Natives, Metis, travellers and people searching for work in the city. Calgary has a long history of flooding: in 1883, 1897, 1902 (flood of the century), 1915 (Bow River wiped out the wooden Center Street Bridge), 1923, 1929, 1932 (due to the newly constructed Glenmore Dam), 1950 (caused by ice jams during spring break up), 2005 (record rainfall in Calgary) and of course, 2013.

The last stop was Princess Obolensky Park, near the Memorial Building at the top of the bluff. This small park is named after Princess Tatiana Obolensky who, at 11 years old, fled Russia with her family during the revolution in 1917. In 1952 she opened a clothing and gift shop, La Boutique, which was as much a social center as a fashion center. Tania died in 1984 at the age of 78.



Gold Card Tea, May 1, 2016

There was a good turnout on a warm, sunny day for the Gold Card Tea. Guests enjoyed visiting with each other as well as the tea, coffee, sandwiches and sweets that were served.

We had 41 gold card members and their guests. 92 people signed the guest book; most of the helpers were included in that number. A great group of people came to help make the tea a success.

There are a variety of jobs from setting up and setting tables putting out chairs, making sandwiches, squares and cookies, pouring tea and coffee, serving, plating the food and cleaning up afterwards. A sincere thank-you to everyone who helped.

Thank you to Beryl Sibbald and Ken Thompson, Pioneer Lady and Gent, for greeting everyone as they came in, Kerri Fipke for putting on the corsages, Kathleen Rogers for handling registration and Rhonda Clark for taking pictures. A special thank you to Moyra Ferguson for her help and for opening her home to the crew that did the flowers for the tea.

Karen Clark, Heather Van Hereweghe



Pioneer Gent Ken Thompson with Pioneer Lady Beryl Sibbald.



Irene and Gordon Grier, Oldest Gent (95) and Oldest Lady (94)

Social Media Breakfast

Ever wondered what all the fuss is about Facebook or Twitter? Would you like to learn how to Skype with your grandchildren or email photographs to them? Here is a unique opportunity. On August 26, The Southern Alberta Pioneers are sponsoring a social media breakfast for a group of business professionals. After the presentation, they will pair up with Pioneer members to help answer your questions. From 10 am to noon, appointments will be assigned. Contact Lyn Cadence at 403-465-2345 or lyn@cadencepr.ca with your social media questions and we'll pair you with the social media professional who can best help you.

Lyn Cadence

WANTED: Newsletter Committee Members

Have you ever wanted to see your words in print? Perhaps you'd like to help spread the history of the Southern Alberta Pioneers. We can use help scanning images, researching stories, typing handwritten reports and stories, writing stories, finding stories to tell, stuffing envelopes and warning people about their deadlines. Contact Lyn at 403-465-2345 for further information.

An advertisement for Steve Foote, an Independent Travel Consultant Administrator. The ad features the TierOne Travel logo and contact information. The text includes: Steve Foote, Independent Travel Consultant Administrator, TIERONE travel, direct (403) 543-8844, toll free 1 866 543-8844, steve foote @TierOneTravel.com, and A7, 10333 Southport Road SW Calgary AB Canada T2W 3K6.

An advertisement for Stephanie McSween Piper. The ad features a graphic of a hand holding a pen and musical notation. The text includes: Stephanie McSween Piper, v: (403) 686-2484, c: (403) 819-2920, email: stephmcs@shaw.ca, and Pipes for All Occasions.

2016 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

Treasurer's Report

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Padre

Rev. Theo Reiner403-246-3651

Pioneer Lady

Beryl Sibbald403-932-5584

Pioneer Gent

Ken Thompson403-289-4636

Memorial Bldg.

SAP Office403-243-3580

SAP Fax.....403-287-2485

Hall.....403-287-2489

Memorial Building

3625-4 Street SW, Calgary, T2S 1Y3

Our books are being audited by MNP this year. Both the Descendants and Foundation are in solid shape.

The efforts to break even on social functions are bearing fruit.

Thanks to Pam Nicholls for all her bookkeeping efforts.

Eileen E. McElroy, Treasurer



THE NOTICE BOARD

Historical Committee

Please submit Family Histories to be entered in our archives.
Joan Davis, 403-251-4915.

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for newsletter copy and photos to be emailed to Lyn Cadence at lyn@cadencepr.ca by the 15th of the month prior to publication. The newsletter is printed in January, May and September.

Historical Committee

Regular weekly meetings are on Mondays, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. On the

rare occasion a meeting may be cancelled if the hall is booked for another function. Please call Dave Wake 403-288-5545 or Joan Davis 403-251-4915.

Sick and Visiting

Please notify Peggy Barr 403-246-2843 of any illness or death in your family or if anyone has need of a hospital visit.

Board Meetings

1st Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. (except July & August). All members are welcome.

Advertising

To place an ad in this publication, please call Beryl Sibbald, 403-932-5584. The deadline to place a classified ad is the SAP board meeting prior to publication. Members are encouraged to support the businesses advertised in our newsletter.

Memorial Building

For bookings phone 403-243-3580 (office) 403-287-2489 (hall), or fax 403-287-2485.

<http://www.pioneersalberta.org>
sap.office@pioneersalberta.org