



SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS

AND THEIR DESCENDANTS NEWSLETTER

Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants • 3625 - 4th Street S.W. • Calgary, Alberta T2S 1Y3 • Phone 403-243-3580

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January 2018

Chinook – Prairie Hurricane

Today the effects of climate change throughout the world make it difficult to predict future weather patterns even with all the computers and modern meteorology. To Southern Albertans, the variables of unpredictable weather are something oh so familiar. The last month or two demonstrates the vagaries of Southern Alberta's unique weather. We had balmy days hovering in the mid-teens through much of November until a week before Christmas and then, wham! An Arctic cold front dropped the temperatures down to nearly -36 degrees Celsius with a wind chill and added a foot of snow over two days. Then a Chinook blew in and we were back to four days of clement weather with snow disappearing and turning to slush and eventually rivers of water. Then we had another week of chilly subzero dangerous frostbitten weather and yet another Chinook. These are the quirks of living with the Chinook winds on the leeward side of the Rocky Mountains.



Hays Dairy Farm, Turner Siding, Calgary 1935
Courtesy of Glenbow Archives PA-3900-78

described a Chinook he experienced on December 29, 1792, *"the wind being at North-East and the weather calm and cloudy, a rumbling noise was heard in the air like distant thunder, when the sky cleared away in the South-West; from whence there blew a perfect hurricane, which lasted till eight. Soon after it commenced, the atmosphere became so warm that it dissolved all the snow on the ground; even the ice was covered with water, and had the same appearance as when it is breaking up in the spring."*

The "Chinook" is common throughout the world where there are tall mountain ranges with a north to south orientation like the Himalayas in Southwestern China, the Cascades and the Rockies in USA and Canada, the Alps in Europe where it is known as "foehn" and in the Andes it is called "puelche". In Southern Alberta the frequency and intensity of these winds are known world-wide due to the exposure of the Calgary 1988 Olympic games and recently Leonardo DiCaprio's warning cry of global warming in 2015 after experiencing a Chinook while filming in the Calgary region. The Chinook played havoc with both events and in both cases artificial snow makers were needed.

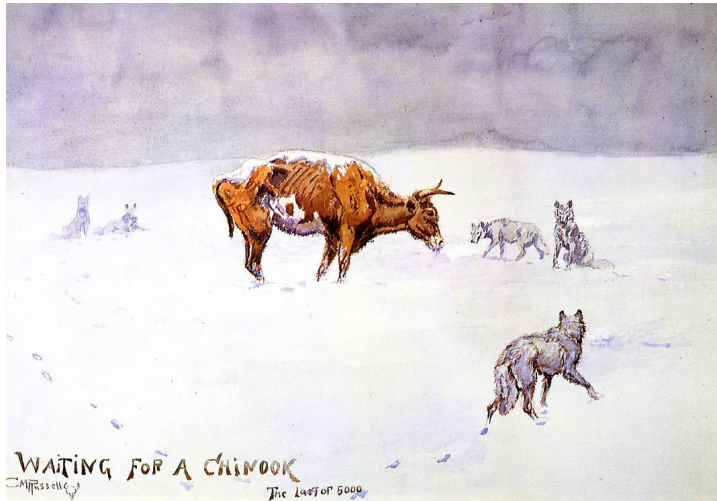
In the past, capricious Chinook weather was too much for many of the earlier pioneers where years of erratic windy winters were followed by summers with droughts and wildfires caused by winds that suck the moisture from the land and air. No two seasons were alike, some winters had a Chinook every four days on average, drying out the land and causing severe winter kill due to the lack of snow cover. Other winters had no Chinooks at all, like the long hard historical winter of 1892 where thousands of cattle died on the prairies because too much snow covered the prairie grass. The severe and indeterminate weather caused an exodus of settlers from the High River area in 1892 when many packed up their belongings, to make the long hard trek back to the United States or north to the Edmonton region.

For those who stayed and settled the land, the cycle of the Chinook weather would cause considerable havoc and surprised many early pioneers that arrived from parts of the world in which winters were cold and predictable. Without the benefit of weather forecasts like we have today, the pioneers sometimes believed the stable weather pattern would prevail and

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Chinook – Prairie Hurricane – continued

were unexpectedly caught in dangerous situations with loss of life an inevitable result. *The Winnipeg Wire* reported on a blizzard with a tragic ending in Medicine Hat on November 24, 1891 where two young boys, ten and sixteen, were looking for cattle and were caught out in a storm. It was “so severe and so sudden they were unable to find their way home that night, and search parties



Waiting For A Chinook – The Last Of 5000, C.M. Russell

organized the following morning found no trace of them until last night. The Cochrane boy was found sixteen miles from home frozen to death beside a haystack.” This sad occurrence still happens, even with all the modern weather predicting capabilities and all of today’s modern conveniences. Southern Alberta weather can be lethal.

Although there is clear indication that Southern Alberta winters are shorter and have more frost-free days since the 1950’s, the climate change that is affecting the world is hard to quantify when examining the vagaries of a Chinook. Today, rarely is dangerous cold vicious weather used to describe Southern Alberta. It is the mild winters, caused by Chinooks that the city and towns promote to encourage tourism, industry, and immigration to the region just like they did back in 1906. Excerpt from *The Southern Alberta News*, Thursday, Nov. 22, 1906 describes the life of an Albertan living in Southern Alberta. “Southern Alberta is not California. We have an occasional cold snap in winter to add zest to life. We have no tropical verdure in

January. But we have something far better, — an exhilarating atmosphere, a sunny climate, cool enough to be invigorating, and mild enough, except for an occasional brief spell, to make heavy clothing unnecessary out of doors, — mild enough to let cattle graze out of doors on the prairie all winter, and to let human beings enjoy the open air for the whole day and not for an hour or two only. It is a climate good for a man’s purse and good for his health and happiness.”

The Physics of a Chinook

- A Chinook begins with the *prevailing westerlies*, global winds that blow from west to east between the latitudes 30 and 50 degrees. More prominent in North America than in South America, they bring warm weather to western coasts of the continents.
- The *westerlies* are warm and hold moisture from the ocean surface as they hit the British Columbia Coastal Ranges. As the air mass begins its climb over the first mountain barrier, the Coastal Range of the Canadian Cordillera (multiple ranges of mountains from Pacific Coast to Alberta Prairies), it cools until it reaches saturation level. As it changes from water vapour to precipitation, copious amounts of rain falls before it reaches the summit.
- As the *westerlies* continue eastward, the air mass cools as it rises over the multiple ranges but the air mass gains back the heat when the water vapour converts to liquid water. This process is called *latent heat of condensation* and if the liquid water freezes within the air mass it creates additional heat called *latent heat of fusion*. By the time airflows traverse all the British Columbia’s ranges to the last barrier “the Rockies”, the majority of the water content is lost to precipitation but the latent heat still remains in the air mass.
- As the dry warm airflow descends an average 3000 metres (10,000 feet) from the Rockies ridge lines, onto the Southern Alberta prairies, it continues to gain heat through the *compression of air*. The dry air mass warms 9.8 Celsius degrees per 1000 metres and as a result the air warms by nearly 20 degrees Celsius as it descends to the high prairies. This warm descending air is the Chinook.
- The temperature changes are dramatic, sometimes rising 20 to 25 degrees Celsius in minutes. The record temperature increase in Southern Alberta was on January 6, 1966 in Pincher Creek, when Chinook winds increased the temperature 21 degrees Celsius in four minutes. As astonishing as the temperature increases are, the Chinook winds can be ferocious with hurricane force wind gusting up to 160 km/h (100 mph).
- The combination of high temperature and dry air blowing at high speeds can literally remove 30 cm (1 foot) of snow in a short time because it not only melts snow but it evaporates it as well. This process is called *sublimation* when the dry air absorbs the liquid like a sponge without leaving liquid behind. The combining of these two elements created havoc on February 25, 1986 in Lethbridge when Chinook winds were gusting to 166 k/h (104 mph) melting a 42-inch snow pack in eight hours, causing substantial wind damage and creating lakes of water.

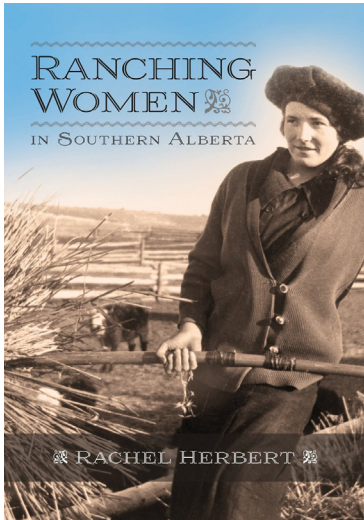


View from Crescent Heights, A Chinook Arch, Calgary, Jan. 1957 – Courtesy of Glenbow Archives NA-5093-320

SAPD Book Club & Speaker Series

The main objective of the SAPD is to research, share and publicize stories of the early pioneers of Southern Alberta. Here in Southern Alberta, many share our objective – museums, galleries, researchers and authors. Come learn from them while sharing our own stories in this new series. Help us find the best research on the history of Southern Alberta by recommending speakers and inviting guests. Come, and add your stories to the discussions. The first events in the series will be [February 14](#), [March 14](#) and [April 11](#).

Free admission. Consider purchasing books at the events or borrowing them from the library for your own research and discussion. Spread the word.



Wed, February 14, 7 pm, Memorial Building

Public, Free Admission

Topic: Pioneer Women

Featuring Rachel Herbert with *Ranching Women in Southern Alberta*

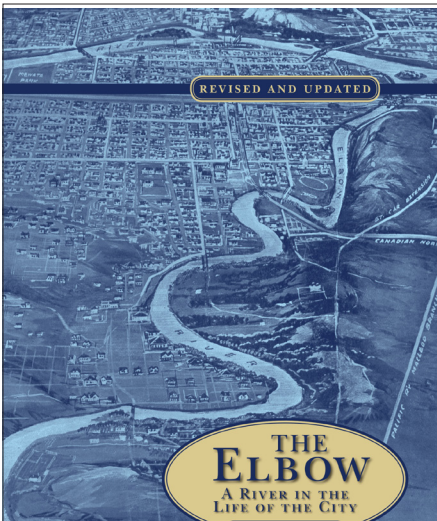
Ranching Women in Southern Alberta examines the rhythms, routines, and realities of women's lives on family ranches. As these ranches replaced the large-scale cattle operations that once covered thousands of acres, women were called upon to ensure not only the ongoing economic viability of their ranches, but also the social harmony of their families and communities. At the same time, ranching women enjoyed personal freedoms and opportunities unknown to their urban and European contemporaries.

Praise for *Ranching Women in Southern Alberta*: The great-granddaughter of pioneer ranchers, Rachel Herbert brings a unique insight to the stories of these brave and talented women who carved a role for themselves and their daughters during the dawn of the family ranch.

This is the first book to recognize the women who played a crucial role in establishing the family ranch in the foothills of southern Alberta from the late nineteenth century forward. One of the crucial attributes of Rachel Herbert's work is that it enables ranching women to speak for themselves, to tell us who they were and how they viewed their world.

Ultimately, it provides convincing evidence not only that women were true partners on the land and in the household during this frontier period, but also that they gained a sense of fulfilment as a result. Sacrifices were numerous but the rewards generally speaking made them worthwhile. - Warren M. Elofson, author of *So Far and Yet So Close: Frontier Cattle Ranching in Western Prairie Canada and the Northern Territory of Australia*

Rachel Herbert raises grass-fed beef and chases her two free-range kids at historic Trail's End Ranch near Nanton, Alberta.



Wed, March 14, 7 pm, Memorial Building

Public, Free Admission

Topic: *The Elbow River*

Featuring John Gilpin the author of *The Elbow: A River in the Life of the City*

The extensive research that John Gilpin packed into *The Elbow: A River in the Life of the City* makes the book a demanding but interesting read as each section is described in extraordinary detail including stories of the early entrepreneurs, influential people, city builders and planners as Calgary grew from a NWMP Fort along the Elbow River to a metropolis of over a million people. In chronological order the book is laid out in seven chapters each detailing a critical period of increasing demands on land use along the Elbow River.

The first five chapters cover the period from 1874 with the building of Fort Calgary to the completion of the Glenmore Dam in 1933. Equal attention is spent on addressing opposing concerns between the need to build bridges for the growing communities, expanding businesses, and retaining the need for recreation, with increasing demands by the City Water Works, for clean water supply and flood mitigation. The sixth chapter chronicles the City Water Works bizarre fears of contamination of the

Glenmore Reservoir water supply from the increasing demands to use the river for recreational purposes like playgrounds and parks from the 1930 to 1946.

The final chapter Post-War Calgary and The Elbow River: 1947-2017 focuses on the inability of the river to supply enough water for the increasing demands of the city, on the building of the Glenmore Park, and on the increased concerns of new flooding with mention of the 2005 and 2013 historic floods. Notably lacking in the revised edition of the book, are the trials and tribulations surrounding the building of the southwest ring road over the Elbow River and through the wetlands that was finally approved in 2016. The crossing that is planned under-went many revisions and alternatives over the last couple of decades and it continues to cause conflict between the needs of the citizens of Calgary to maintain natural recreational areas along the Elbow River Valley Corridor with increased transportation needs for a growing city.

[continued on pg. 4](#)

SAPD Book Club & Speaker Series – continued

She Made Them Family

A Wartime Scrapbook from the Prairies



Anne Gafiuk

Wed, April 11, 7 pm, Memorial Building

Public, Free Admission

Topic: Story telling based on the book, *She Made Them Family: A Wartime Scrapbook from the Prairies*.

Featuring Anne Gafiuk

Anne will join us for an evening of storytelling based on her book, *She Made Them Family: A Wartime Scrapbook from the Prairies*. It is a collection of letters, book covers, photos, anecdotes, magazine and newspaper clippings from The Second World War compiled by Mrs. Alice Spackman, Okotoks, Alberta.

Shelley McElroy from SAPD sat down with Anne to talk about her life as a writer and to get a preview of what people can look forward to at her talk on April 11, 2018!

SAPD: *She Made Them Family* is about a woman from Southern Alberta who documented the lives and adventures of her whole community, which was worldwide by the end of the book! You'll be at the Southern Alberta Pioneers to tell us more about it in April. What

can people look forward to?

Anne: Alice Spackman was a young woman who came to Alberta in 1913, looking for a bit of an adventure, teaching in a one room-school house. I will share some of her life story, how her family took part in WWII, and how she and her husband opened their home to young men and women also served Canada and the British Commonwealth during the Second World War. Mrs. Spackman left a legacy, as did other women in Okotoks and area. I will also share some of their stories.

SAPD: What inspires you? How do you find stories that you love and want to tell?

Anne: I do not go looking for the stories; they seem to find me! Serendipity? Fate? Being in the right place at the right time? All the above! My curiosity is often piqued when someone I am talking to tells me a story. Often they have questions they do not have the answers to and that inspires me to go looking. A person will say, "I know someone who you should talk to." I visit with them and they, in turn, suggest I speak to others. And the cycle continues, often taking me to Ottawa, the library and archives to delve into files where I find more stories.

Lougheed House Book Launch Event

Thurs. February 22 at 7 pm

Free admission, everyone is welcome

Lougheed House

707 13 Ave SW,

Calgary, AB T2R 0K8

Metis Pioneers

Marie Rose Delorme Smith and Isabella Clark Hardisty Lougheed

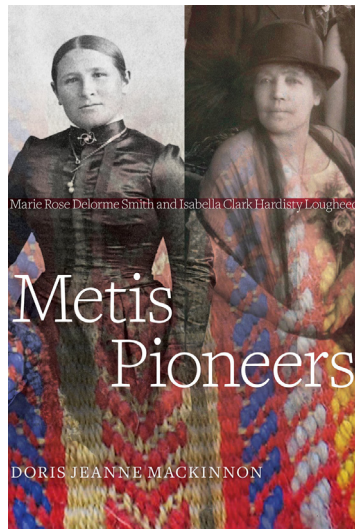
By Doris Jeanne MacKinnon

University of Alberta Press

Metis Pioneers features two former members of The Women's Pioneer Association of Southern Alberta – Isabella Clark Hardisty Lougheed, of what is now called Lougheed House in Calgary and Marie Rose Delorme Smith, "Queen of the Jughandle Ranch" near Pincher Creek.

In *Metis Pioneers*, Doris Jeanne MacKinnon compares the survival strategies of two Metis women born during the fur trade—one from the French-speaking free trade tradition and one from the English-speaking Hudson's Bay Company tradition—who settled in southern Alberta as the Canadian West transitioned to a sedentary agricultural and industrial economy. MacKinnon provides rare insight into their lives, demonstrating the contributions Metis women made to the building of the Prairie West. This is a compelling tale of two women's acts of quiet resistance in the final days of the British Empire.

With rich historical context of this key time period, the book is highly recommended reading for SAPD members.



Chinook Country Historical Society

Tues, February 27th, 7:00 pm

Free Program

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Central Library

John Dutton Theatre, 616 Macleod Trail SE

Sikh Pioneers in Calgary

Michael Hawley

Associate Professor of Religious Studies,
Mount Royal University

The talk sheds light on the long and colourful history of early Sikh migration and settlement in Calgary. The presentation draws from various archival sources as well as from interviews with the descendants of Calgary's early Sikh settlers.

Tues, April 28th, 7:00 pm

Free Program

CALGARY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Central Library

John Dutton Theatre, 616 Macleod Trail SE

Canadian Comic-dom: Wartime Comic Books in Canada

Dennis Slater

Author, Educator, Music Journalist

During the first World War, Canadian children thrilled to the adventures of the Young Canada Boys, the Brighton Boys and the Belgian Twins. By the Second World War, Canadian superhero comic book characters were battling enemies overseas.

Stampede Display 2018

Hi from the SAPD History Department where we are already getting ready for our photo display at the 2018 Calgary Stampede. This year we have decided to use the lens of sports to talk about stories we are interested in and even though we didn't get the outcome we wanted in the Grey Cup, we're putting the spotlight on football in Calgary. We've decided to share this sneak preview with you!

Did you know that among the recruits who marched west with the F Troop in 1874 in search of the place where the Bow and Elbow Rivers met were many immigrants from Europe who brought the game of rugby with them from their faraway homes? Rugby/football is known to have been played in Calgary as early as 1889. This match was played at the NWMP barracks at Fort Calgary and yes, that is the Deane House in the background!



Men playing football on training field, the Deane House is on the left. RNWMP Barracks, Fort Calgary, c. 1914 – Courtesy of Glenbow Archives NA-3409-8

Shepherd Ellis was known as a very mild-mannered person but one day in 1924, something happened that really got his goat. He and his son Torrey were out working in the field when they noticed that three men were walking around on their farm without permission. Shepherd and Torrey went to investigate and were informed that the three men were electricians and had some work to do on the property. Apparently, something about the situation rubbed Shepherd the wrong way because he became very excited and told his son to throw those three men off of his land! Torrey was also known as "Brick" Ellis and he played football for the Calgary Tigers, the precursor to the Calgary

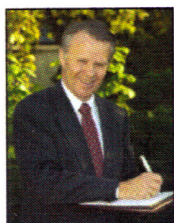
Stampeders. Torrey did indeed remove those three lousy Saskatchewan Roughrider fans from the property or maybe they were just three guys trying to do their job. The day's events elicited a court date where the judge agreed that Shepherd and Torrey had been within their rights to remove the trespassers but ruled that the force used had been excessive. Torrey was fined one dollar.

Now it's your turn – we'd love to hear your stories. Do you have a photograph or artifacts from a family member who played rugby or football with the Calgary Tigers, the Altomahs, the Bronks or the Calgary Stampeders? Do you have any memorable stories about meeting a player or attending a game that stands out? Please let us know if you have any stories about the 1988 Olympics, Mewata Stadium or any other great memories of local sporting events, athletes or facilities around Southern Alberta.



Football game at Mewata Stadium, Calgary, Alberta 1942
Courtesy of Glenbow Archives PA-3866-1

Cochrane Law



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From the Vault

A Pioneer's Account of the Hard Winter of 1891 – 92 in Lethbridge

"That hard winter of 1891 – 92 proved to be not entirely an unmitigated evil for it taught the big ranchers, who lost heavily, the lesson that it is best to be prepared for anything that may happen, now they keep hay on hand to feed the old and poor cows in case of necessity."

Job Reeds



Cattle on house roof, after snowstorm, Sid Hepburn's farm Elnora, Alberta 1950 – Courtesy of Glenbow Archives NA-2757-1

the wind had blown it off; it went on like that for seven weeks until Jan. 1 when the Chinook wind came up and took it all away in short order.

One night toward the end of November some of our cattle would not face the north to come home, but turned down at the coulee to the river where there is good shelter, and on the third day I started out to hunt them, and soon found four cows dead in a well. They had crowded in a barn for shelter, and the well in the corner of the barn had got uncovered. One of the cows I had bought not long before for seventy-five dollars. We covered up the well and nailed boards across the doors but someone took them off, and on Christmas Eve a policeman called and told my wife that there was a cow in very bad condition in the same barn. I was away at the time and when I came home it was too late to do anything, but next morning I got three other men to go with me to help get the cow out of the fix she was in but we could not get her up out of the hole that she had got in. There was a large cellar for roots across the middle of the barn and two square holes in the floor, the cow had got one hind leg in the hole and could not get out, and as she was a very heavy cow we could not get her up so we cut the floor away and let her down in the cellar and found eight more in there that had gone down the same way. We cut the floor away enough to let them walk out but they were so far gone for want of food that we only saved one of them, and just in front of the barn was one that had fallen on the ice in the river and hurt herself so badly that she died. It was nearly supper time when we got home and we had no supper. Was it not a miserable way of spending Christmas Day?

On the first of January it began to change and the prairie was very soon splashing over with water instead of snow. On the fifteenth of January winter set in again and lasted until the beginning of April. It was such a winter as the Indians had no record of. After the first two weeks we began to feed the cattle with hay and kept it up thinking that it could not last much longer until the hay was nearly all gone; then we turned some over to the coulee and got bran to feed the balance but they got weak and when the grass began to spring up three or four more died. One of them I paid seventy-five dollars for; but the worst of all Dollie died. I mean the one I bought at Dunmore, the best butter cow I ever saw. We got seventeen pounds of butter from her in one week at Woodpecker in her second season. If I had bought bran from the first and fed it with the hay, I need not have lost one, I mean from hunger. I lost thirty-six head of cattle altogether.

Excerpt from Job Reed's Letters, Jan. 1, 1894
Life in Lethbridge 1886 – 1906

My dear old friend,
I suppose you have been thinking before now that I should never write to you again, but I know you will excuse me when I explain to you how very little time I have for writing.

I think I last wrote you in Nov. 1891. On the fifteenth of that month snow fell to the depth of six or eight inches, and frost set in and we had real winter weather, froze again so suddenly that there was a scale of ice on it and the poor cattle could not get at the grass except just a little on the high coulee banks where

Memories of Christmas Past

As we move into a new year, it is of interest to remember the sights and sounds of past Christmases. In the following remembrance, Vera Stinson Nelson recalls Christmas in 1928 when she was 7 years of age and lived in Carseland. Vera was born on February 2nd, 1921 and is the granddaughter of Joseph H S Moss and Elizabeth Shortt (<http://pioneersalberta.org/higginbottom.html>). Joseph originally settled at Pine Creek in 1879. Joseph and Elizabeth were married in Calgary in 1888 and moved to the West Arrowwood Creek area (now known as Mossleigh) in 1902.



Children on stone boat, Cochrane area, Alberta, 1912
Courtesy of Glenbow Archives NA-1061-14

"It was Xmas 1928 and my two sisters, parents and I were going to my Uncle George's for Xmas Day to stay overnight. They ranched and farmed at Mossleigh since 1900. My Uncle had seven children and lived 15 miles from us. My two sisters and I were anxious to get there and play with our cousins. My Uncle George had a lovely team of horses and a large sleigh. The horses had bells and ribbons on them and they made a wonderful sound as they trotted along. In the sleigh were hay and horse blankets as it was very cold. My two sisters and I were dressed warmly and got down in the hay with warm bricks and horse blankets. Across the road we went, and down over the bridge over the Bow River and up the River Road with the bells ringing. The road was just a dirt road and some places the snow covered all the road or trails. There were very few farms along the way.

When we got there the older cousins were waiting for us on a stone boat (a flat sledge or drag, usually made of wood, for transporting heavy articles) and were very excited to play with us. Our presents for them were in a box and was put under the Xmas tree. We got on the stone boat for another ride around the buildings and pasture. Horses were used to pull sleigh and wagons for ranchers and farmers to [travel to] town for groceries and the mail. Cars were a rarity."

Submitted by Dexter Nelson

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President's Message



President Guy Cochrane, SAPD 97th Round-Up, 2017

Happy New Year! This is my first message of my office and of the year.

Looking back over the last fourteen months since I joined the board, I can see that we have been a busy group. Sometimes so busy I have been dizzy. I have thought of Groucho Marx, when he said, "I would never join a club that would have me as its member". However, I am happy to be part of this group.

We have seen some changes at the Pioneer Memorial Hall, very positive changes. Going into 2018 we have a new board, new faces, new energy and fresh ideas.

We also have a new sewer system that will prevent sewage back ups in the basement. This overhaul was necessary if we want to compete for business in the hospitality arena. We have a new rental agent who has increased our rental income significantly over 2017 and we have a number of new contracts already in place for 2018. Gabrielle has been very dedicated to this position. We are looking at a new lock system for the building that will allow us to give a code to the various renters so they can gain entry without having a member of staff person present at the hall.

Over the last few years we were in arrears with various financial reports to government agencies. However, our new bookkeeper Iliana has done a tremendous job of updating and completing the necessary paperwork so those reports could be filed and those government agencies are now satisfied. On December 22, 2017, I attended at the office of Myers Norris Penny to sign the Registered Charity Information Return as required by Canada Revenue Agency so we are back in the good books of the federal government.

We are looking forward to a new kitchen floor that will see the hall closed for a short time, January 8th until January 22nd, 2018. Then we are open again for the International Wine and Food festivities on February 24, 2018. Please bring your friends and neighbours. It's always a good time and tremendous value. See you there.

Remember – think 100. That is our 100 years of existence as SAPD.

Think Round Up 2020. Think Crystal Ballroom at the Palliser. We need you.

May the Christmas thoughts of good will toward man exist throughout the year.

Guy Cochrane, President 2017 – 2018

Upcoming Social Events

Sat, Feb 24, 7:00 pm
International Food & Wine

Brian & Kathleen Rogers,
403-242-1850
Jeff & Maureen Hill,
403-225-2397

Sat, Apr 7, 2:00 pm
Volunteer Appreciation & New Member Orientation

Guy Cochrane, 403-243-6438
Sandy Pedlar, 403-278-1334

Fri, Apr 27, 10:00 am
Building & Yard Clean Up
Joan Hampaul, 403-282-8515

Fri, May 04
Jane's Walk
Steve Foote,
Lyn Cadence, 403-465-2345

Sun, May 6, 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Gold Card Tea
Karen Clark, 403-641-2106
Heather Van Hereweghe,
403-809-9017



Twenty-Fourth Annual INTERNATIONAL FOOD AND WINE TASTING EVENT

Saturday, February 24, 2018

7:00 pm

Memorial Building

Convenors:

Brian and Kathleen Rogers
Jeff and Maureen Hill

Tickets

Gwen Hanna
403-279-5621

\$35. each

Tickets may be purchased by cash or cheque prior to the event and mailed or held for pick up at the door. Sorry no refunds.

This event sells out quickly
"Limited to 60 people".

Volunteers Needed

Our members are the descendants of the early pioneers of Southern Alberta and we have the privilege to have the extraordinary Memorial Building to help continue on with the mandate set out in the 1920s to keep the history of the region alive. Over the years we have lost many long-term members who have contributed greatly to this cause. In addition, due to changing times and more Government regulations, much of the funding we have received in the past is now restricted and tied closely to our Historical Department and we need to create new programs to reach out to the public to maintain funding. In the past few years we have made much headway in fulfilling some of the newly enforced requirements, but we still have a great deal of work ahead and need your time, ideas and expertise to sustain and nourish our role in collecting, preserving and showcasing the history of Southern Alberta.

Volunteers for School Program

Program content focuses on pioneer life, using artifacts to enhance discussion of what life was like in the pioneer days. The feedback thus far has been resoundingly positive, and the children love learning about the "olden days"

- Assist with the delivery of curriculum-based school programs for elementary grade children.
- The program takes place on both the main level by the fireplace and the downstairs for more activities.
- Predominantly groups of 25 students are divided into two groups – 2 hours in length.

Please consider becoming part of this exciting new endeavour. I would be happy to meet with you and go over program content. Don't be intimidated – remember you will know more than the children and the teachers.

Francie Hagedorn, 403-243-3861

New Librarian Needed

Our chief librarian Iona Shaw is retiring! She will still be involved with the library, but is looking for someone to take the lead. Please consider stepping up to help. The job involves:

- Heading the library committee under the umbrella of the Historical Committee to fulfill SAPD's mandate to preserve Southern Alberta's history.
- Maintaining the existing library.
- Accepting and cataloguing new and donated books.
- Liaising with historical organizations throughout Southern Alberta, exchanging books and other resources.

There already exists an enthusiastic group of volunteers who love working with our historical collection. They meet every Monday from 10:00 to 2:00 pm and would welcome your participation and involvement. Iona would be happy to answer questions, and may be contacted at Korim1@telus.net.

Thanks for stepping up!

Volunteers for Social Media

Interested in joining our social media team? Whether you are highly skilled or keen to learn, come to a meeting (could be in person or online, depending on where you live) where we will decide how to use which platforms to tell our stories. Contact Lyn Cadence at lyn@cadencepr.ca.



Stephanie McSween
Piper

v: (403) 686-2484
c: (403) 819-2920
email: stephmcs@shaw.ca

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CHRISTMAS PARTY 2017



James Wreford, Francie Hagedorn and Cheryl Hendry leading the SAPD Christmas Sing Song, Memorial Building 2017

Ho! Ho! Ho! Santa wasn't there this year but there was plenty of cheer to go around. Saturday, December 2, 2017 was a dry, clear day and evening of around 2 degrees. Pioneer Gent David Ballard and Pioneer Lady Bev Snell greeted guests as they entered the building into a beautiful, festive environment. Members and guests mingled both upstairs and down while visiting and purchasing merchandise from our "Boutique", including SAPD logo tote bags, aprons and t-shirts. Money from our merchandise goes towards the building in a number of capacities.

Our Christmas Dinner was sold out. We had 101 adults and 10 children this year who enjoyed the fabulous turkey dinner prepared by Alpine Catering. Once dinner was over a sing song was held upstairs led by Cheryl Hendry on the piano and Francie Hagedorn our lead singer and assisted by James Wreford (grandson of Sharon and Herm Thielen). It was a treat to see the children singing along so enthusiastically with the adults. Wonderful.

Thank you to all who came out to share the Christmas spirit this year. Many hands make light work. Thank you to those who assisted with the setup, prior to, during the event and clean up. Special thanks go to Gwen Hanna (ticket seller) Wayne and Leanne Bateman (bartenders), Francie Hagedorn, Joan Hampaul, Dave and Betty Wake, Roy, Mary, Gordon Burke, Eileen McElroy, Pat Rodrigues, Rhonda and John Hutchings, Robin Arthur and grandkids.

Convenor Maureen Hill

97th Roundup 2017

There was an excellent turnout for this year's 97th Annual Round Up held on November 4th, 2017 in the Palliser Hotel's Alberta Ballroom. The night began with greetings at the door by 2017 Pioneer Lady Audrey Petrie and Pioneer Gentlemen Roy Burke who were great emissaries throughout the year and by Guy Cochrane's photographer who took group pictures of the members with their families. Continuing on with tradition the head table was piped in and the dinner began after introduction of the head table. Later, the new President, Guy Cochrane, shared his wonderful story on how he became a member with the impetus of his mother and his wife Lyn Cadence wanting to be married in the building. Once again the President of The Northern Alberta Pioneers made the trek south to share in this special night. Congratulations to the Honorary Associate Lady Edith Morlidge and Honorary Associate Gentleman John Hails this year recipients. Thanks to Kerri Fipke who convened the wonderful dinner and dance with live music played by Larry Vannatta's 5-piece band.

The silent auction convened by Francie Hagedorn was a great success, and provided the members who attended the annual Roundup with a variety of items to bid on – from a night at the Opera, to a train ride at Aspen Crossing, to a behind-the-scenes tour of the Historic Lougheed House. Approximately \$4,000.00 was grossed. She would like to thank Steve Foote, Robin Arthurs, Beryl Sibbald, Joan Hampaul, and Dexter Nelson for helping to secure interesting silent auction items.



The Petrie Family, SAPD 97th Round-UP 2017

WE NEED YOUR FAMILY HISTORY FOR YOUR FUTURE DESCENDANTS

Pioneer's Family History Records Update

The history committee is working on a project to have all members update their pioneer (direct line) records to ensure your future descendants have direct access to their original pioneer who settled in Alberta prior to 1890.



Memorial Building, Calgary Alberta, January 2017

The history committee is in the process of digitizing all our pioneer records in the vault. Our records have not been updated for many years and we want to make sure that all of our information on each pioneer and their descendants is accurate and up to date.

I am asking for every member to help with this project by filling out the Pioneer History forms needed to ensure we have updated records. Forms have been made available online 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 the 001 generation (original pioneer) and forward down the line to 2018. For many we are only at the third, fourth and fifth generation and need up to the seventh or even eighth generation for each member's family.

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

Membership

Thank you to all the members that have and will be paying their dues for 2018. SAPD uses the funds to for all our programs that are preserving Southern Alberta history.

If you have family members that are interested in Alberta history, please encourage them to become members of the Southern Alberta Pioneers.

The information they will need can be found at www.pioneersalberta.org/members. They will find the Membership application forms and the information they will need to fill out the forms.

We would also like to hear from you about our yearly fees. We are considering raising the price. What do you think?

E-mail membership@pioneersalberta.org with your opinion. I look forward to hearing from you.

Maureen Peckham, Membership

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

IN MEMORIAM

Alan Hodgson, Claire Hodgson, Ada Hayes, William Cunningham, Patricia Chudey, James McKevitt & Ernest Rice

NEW GOLD CARD MEMBERS

Herm Thielen, Beverly McDonald & Grace Murdoch

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Megan Ballard, Descendant of Joseph Moss, Pine Creek 1886

Ruth Storey, Joan Mackenzie, Brian McKinnon, Joan McKinnon, Laurie Kernaghan, Daniel McWilliam, Dona Klaiber, Gordon Huggard, Elaine Ogston, Larry Huggard, Marilyn Bloye, Jill McWilliam & Lachlin McKinnon,

Descendants of Lachlin McKinnon, Calgary March 10, 1886

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

Jean Togstad, John Hails

WELCOME BACK

Donald Parsons & Russell McKinnon

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.

If you would like to discontinue receiving the paper copy of the newsletter, please send a notice to

Maureen Peckham, membership@pioneersalberta.org.

Southern Alberta Pioneers & Descendants

Membership fees for 2018
are due.

Members age 18 to 79 – \$30/year
Gold Card Members – 80+ Free

Please address cheque to:
Southern Alberta Pioneers & their
Descendants

3625 – 4th Street SW
Calgary, AB - T2S 1Y3

SAP MEMBERSHIP Buffalo Head Lapel Pins

Gold and Blue (SAP Logo)
\$15.00 each
Contact Francie Hagedorn
403-243-3861

Calgary's Progress 1892

Once the CPR completed the railway in Western Canada, they encouraged magazines and newspapers throughout the civilized world to focus their attention on the region. Journalists and writers took extensive journeys by train describing their experiences as they investigated the new Canadian Frontier. The primary purpose of the articles were to paint a vivid image to entice new immigrants to the prairies.

Just now Calgary is the most amazing town in the whole Northwest. A stranger is at once struck with the substantial appearance of the town. There is certainly nothing like it west of Winnipeg. Brandon defies it. Regina sniffs at it, but Calgary ignores them both. Vancouver she knows and Winnipeg she knows, but who are ye? Yet Calgary is nearer vagrancy than either of them. Brandon lives on wheat. Regina on the Government. Calgary has no visible means of support. You may watch all day and never see a load of wheat brought in. There is not a solitary elevator in the whole place. Only recently they have started a grist mill. Yet here is a town of nearly 4,000 inhabitants, splendid stone business blocks, handsome residences, waterworks, electric lights, telephones, every modern convenience. Ask a resident what made Calgary and he will refer you to the next man. Some indeed, will point to the manufactories, but these are all of recent date. Ranching and the ranchers' money built this town, aided, perhaps, by the great Alberta thirst. Things are in a transition state here just now. Until the opening of the Calgary & Edmonton Railway crossing the C.P.R. north and south, ranching ruled supreme, and Calgary thrived under this sway. Now the old order of things is crowding the big man out. But it is just possible to go a little too fast. The big man may fall, but the little-chap is liable to be the underdog. Calgary will not suffer though, for big and little have to eat and drink.

Excerpt from The Globe article – *In Southern Alberta: The Fruitful Edmonton and Calgary District.*, November 4, 1892

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Sharon Hoiland.....403-282-8082

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Susan Priel.....403-289-6372

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Pioneer Lady

Bev Snell.....403-243-0563

Pioneer Gent

David Ballard.....403-282-3716

Memorial Bldg.

SAP Office.....403-243-3580

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

Hall Rental Agent

Gabrielle Leah403-807-0550

Memorial Building

3625-4 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1Y3

THE NOTICE BOARD

Memorial Building

Planning to rent the hall? Call early to ensure your date is available. For bookings call Gabrielle Leah at 403-807-0550.
<http://www.pioneersalberta.org>
sap.office@pioneersalberta.org

Newsletter

The newsletter is printed in January, May and September. Interested in submitting a story or photos for the newsletter? Call Susan Priel at 403-289-6372 or email spriel@shaw.ca.

Historical Committee Meeting

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 at 403-288-5545.

Sick and Visiting

Please notify Peggy Barr at 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 pm (except July & August). All members are welcome.

Historical Records Committee

Submit family histories to Francie Hagedorn, 403-243-3861
Joan Hampaul, 403-282-8515