



# 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

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Website: [www.pioneersalberta.org](http://www.pioneersalberta.org)

Email: [southernalbertapioneers@shaw.ca](mailto:southernalbertapioneers@shaw.ca)

September 2004

### *President's Message*

As fall approaches my thoughts turn to when my Presidency will come to an end, and I reflect back on what has been a very successful, interesting and enjoyable year. What a wonderful organization this is; heritage, tradition, friendships. I have enjoyed these things and much more.

I would like to thank and express my appreciation to the Board of Directors, Committee Chairpersons, Convenors, and Volunteers of all the various functions, for the time and effort that goes into getting the job done. It takes a lot of volunteer hours to have successful events. All of our

events have been well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy them.

The Memorial Building looks so great as a result of all the maintenance and upgrading that has been done, and as we promised, the parking lot has finally been paved. Also notice the new security on the windows. The artistic design was done thanks to member Helen Mackie.

We are having a Family Games picnic and Volunteer Appreciation at Champion Park on Sunday, September 19th at 2pm. If you have not been to this park, you are really missing out on a wonderful experience. We are so privileged to be able to

hold picnics in this glorious setting. Thank you Gerald and Mary Janet Knowlton and Danny and Fran Copithorne for hosting these special days.

We also have the Annual General Meeting, October 16th; Round-Up 84th Annual Dinner and Dance, November 6th and Christmas Party, December 4th. These events are explained on the back of this newsletter. Mark your calendar.

To all the new members, we welcome you—please come forward and introduce yourselves at the events you attend. This is the time when we all start to get to know one another.

— Audrey Rice

### *Stampede Exhibit 2004*

The Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants hosted another very successful exhibit in the Roundup Centre again this year thanks to the many volunteers. It would not have been possible without the cooperation we received. Of the 88 time slots manned during the 10 days, 79 were filled by our membership (some volunteers were there 2 or 3 times), seven by the Lougheed House volunteers and two by the Chinook Country Historical Society.

We, as in previous years, had the support of the Remington Carriage Museum in Cardston. They provided two units for the booth. Also, for the first time this year, Reynolds-Alberta

Museum in Wetaskiwin supplied two vehicles. Thanks to Remington and Reynolds for trucking the units to and from Calgary free of charge.

Thanks also to the Stampede Board for providing an excellent booth space this year. It certainly allowed us to be “front and centre” and we attracted many, many visitors because of it.

A major part of our exhibit this year was the 140-picture display. A big thank you goes out to Bud Vine for his expertise in copying the pictures and for providing us with some of his own. The framework was loaned to us by the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta and arranged for us by Jay Joffe.

The “visitor book” that was placed

in the booth contains many very favorable comments. People from all parts of the world signed the book.

Plans are underway for the 2005 exhibit with more pictures, etc. Your comments are welcome—just contact Dave or Lionel. Please note our request for historical pictures elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, please remember the volunteer appreciation/family potluck coming up on September 19th at Champion Park. More about this from the phoning committee.

Once again, thank you to all the volunteers for helping us with a successful 2004 Stampede exhibit.

— Dave Wake and Lionel Singleton  
Stampede Exhibit Co-ordinators

# Memorial Building Fund

The following have donated to our Memorial Building Fund since my last report in May:

Mrs. Olive Blain

Rev. William Sayers (in memory of Mrs. F.R. Sayers)

Mr. R.J. Brewster

Contributions to the Fund are income tax deductible. Cheques should be made payable to The

Southern Alberta Pioneers' Memorial Building Fund. At August 31, 2004, the Fund stood at \$147,580 compared to \$127,204 August 31, 2003.

In addition to donations from individuals and bequests from estates, The Southern Alberta Pioneers' Association contributes \$50 to the Fund in memory of each deceased member.

— John L. Hutchings

## Men's Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, July 17, 2004

The weather was very good again this year for our Breakfast event. Between 125 and 150 people, including volunteers, turned out to enjoy pancakes, sausages, coffee and juice. This year Margret Sayers provided crafts for the children, while the parents enjoyed their breakfast. Thanks, Margret.

Thanks to Molly Douglass for her help in filling in for John who was

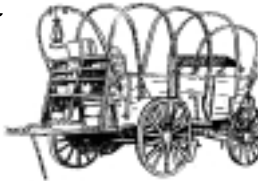
busy on the farm. Without volunteers

there would not be a pancake breakfast—thanks to the many volunteers.

Fifty percent of the gross proceeds were sent to the Calgary Food Bank.

See you next year at the Men's Pancake Breakfast.

Respectfully submitted,  
— Lionel Singleton



## Men's Pancake Breakfast

Hopefully all those who attended enjoyed the final event of our Stampede week celebration. Unfortunately a number of folks were charged more than they should have been, based on the previously

announced prices.

We do apologize for the overcharge and plan to handle it differently next year.

— The Board of Directors

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

#### MEMBERSHIP FOR OCT/2004 TO SEPT 30/2005 IS DUE OCTOBER 1, 2004

Please remit cheque or money order to:

**Southern Alberta Pioneers**

3625 - 4th Street SW., Calgary, Alberta T2S 1Y3

Attention: Membership

Regular – \$20

Associate – \$15

Senior (70+) – \$15

Out of Province – \$15

Gold Card (80+) – Free

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Membership Report

**PLEASE NOTE: MEMBERSHIP IS DUE OCTOBER 1, 2004. Our fiscal year is October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005.**

**The Newsletter is available for reading at [www.pioneersalberta.org](http://www.pioneersalberta.org).**

### In Memoriam:

Leora Hope-Johnston, Betty Hall, Selina Tims, Donald MacBean, Laura Sinclair and Dorothy Goldin.

### Welcome New Members:

Leona Zadourian, Great Grandchild of John McCain Bratton, Macleod 1889.

Richard Arthur Stafford, Great Grandchild of William Stafford, Lethbridge 1882.

John Wallace Madill, Great Grandchild of Simon Jackson Hogg, Calgary 1883.

Barbara J. Yopyk, Great Grandchild of Norman Willans, Calgary 1890.

Randall McKay, Great Grandchild of Samuel McKay, Fort Walsh 1875.

Hugh Alan Hamilton, Grandson of J. Lemuel Sexsmith, Calgary 1888.

Lynn (Marilyn) McArthur Taylor & Donald G. McArthur, Grandchildren of Michael Muir, Medicine Hat, 1888.

Gregory Bruce Leslie, Douglas Gordon Leslie, Christine Ann Leslie, Susan Gay Leslie, Laurna Marie Leslie, Jana Dee Leslie, Donna Lynne Leslie and Dianna Baylis, all descendants of Captain James Desson, Calgary 1887.

### Welcome New Associate Members:

Donald Fipke and Anita Madill.

### Welcome New Gold Card Members:

Ruth Gomer, Murray Jacques, Shirley Jacques and Reg Swan.

### Correction from the May newsletter:

Linda Many Guns is the descendant of Wolf Child.

We have lost contact with Doris Johnston and Edna M. Walker. If you know the whereabouts of these Gold Card members, please call me.

Please call 271-5483 or e-mail [sap.membership@shaw.ca](mailto:sap.membership@shaw.ca) with any address or phone changes.

— Maureen Peckham  
Membership Secretary

The following article about my uncle was published in 1933 by the *Calgary Daily Herald*, Saturday Nov. 18, for the Jubilee Edition. Superintendent Macdonell was a member of the Macdonnell Clan and was married to Marguerite de Billefeuille of Montreal. There have been three generations of Macdonnells who have served with the North West Mounted Police and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. The spelling of the name is not correct in the article.

## Family History

# **Arrived When Calgary was a Stockaded Fort, July 1882**

One of the real veterans of the West and distinguished member of the original "Mounties" is Major A.E.C. McDonell, former superintendent of the Royal North West Mounted Police now residing in Calgary at 1803 Eighteenth Street Southwest. Major McDonell arrived in Calgary in July, 1882, with "E" Troop of the N.W.M.P and remained until July, 1887. Of his experiences the Major says:

"At that time the N.W.M.P.post was a stockaded fort, regimental guard was mounted every day at 2 o'clock and a seven pounder gun fired every day at 12 o'clock. At the time of my arrival, the Hudson's Bay post was situated just east of the Elbow; Mr. Fraser was in charge and the I.G. Baker Company's store was in a log building just west of the Elbow with Johnny Dunn in charge.

"I joined the Force in Montreal; Col. W.M.Herchmer at the time superintendent, was recruiting for the Force. We left Ottawa on the 7th of May and sailed for Collinwood to Duluth, from there to Bismark on the

Northern Pacific, from there to Cut Bank on the Missouri from which point we marched to Fort Walsh, which was then the headquarters of the police.

"I did service during the construction of the C.P.R. through the mountains and was in charge of the detachment at Revelstoke, when the Riel Rebellion broke out in 1885. Inspector Sam B. Steel was in command of the policing during the construction of the C.P.R. and was ordered with his party to report to Calgary.

"On arrival in Calgary, Inspector Steele was posted with his command to the Alberta Field Force under the command of Major General Strange. As Steele's scouts. We marched out of Calgary on the 19th of April, 1885 headed by the fife and drum of the 91st Battalion . We came in contact with the Indians of Big Bear's Band at Fort Pitt and were in the engagement at Frenchman's Butte at Loon Lake.

"I did duty in the Yukon for ten years and was the first superintendent of the Alberta Provincial Police. Assigned as police magistrate for 14

years in Peace River and district, having resigned from the R.C.M. Police in 1917.

– Submitted by Patricia Cox

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## **Building Committee Report**

What a pleasure it is to report to our membership that our parking lot is now paved. Concrete curbs poured at the north and south ends, bumper curbs re-installed, and the parking lines painted on the new asphalt. This has only taken your committee four years of constant pressure on the City to install a proper storm drain system for our parking lot to drain in to.

The log restoration work on the exterior of the building is now complete with all the badly decayed log ends replaced with new logs.

New security bars have been installed on four more windows, and the balance are being built and will be installed within the next couple of weeks.

The new roof is now complete with an insulation factor of R21; all that remains to be done is to have the new eavestroughing installed.

The concrete work for the new storage building, the present building, and the garbage container has been poured. The new storage building will be in place before winter.

On August 23rd the committee met with Geoff and Melanie regarding the custodian contract on the building and grounds. They have agreed to work for the same rates and conditions as last year, for the period October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005.

– Bob Brewster, Chairman

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Pioneers Association**



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# Member Name Tags

We have received some requests from our membership to have permanent name tags made available for purchase. With that in mind, the new name tags will be printed up on request and receipt of payment. Cost will be \$8 including GST (cost based on number of people ordering and difference will be refunded). The

name tags will be 1" x 3", gold color with black lettering. Order forms will also be available at the Annual General Meeting.

Please send the required information, along with your cheque for \$8.00 to Southern Alberta Pioneers, Attention: Pat Rodriquez, 3625 - 4 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1Y3.

Southern Alberta Pioneers  
**YOUR NAME HERE**  
 Pioneer Family – **NAME HERE**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Pioneer Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (last name only)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ P.C. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_



# Pictures Wanted!!



The legacy of being successful in an endeavor is having to strive for improvement the next time around and "The 2005 Stampede Display" falls in that category. Our dilemma, then, is to outdo our recent picture and vehicle display by creating one that celebrates Alberta's Centennial Anniversary, while also celebrating our Southern Alberta Pioneer Families 115-plus years of residence in the region.

Following a meeting with several members of the Stampede Exhibit 2005 Committee it was agreed that the picture display would be paramount in achieving our goal. Now comes the tough part, enlisting the assistance of you, the membership, to supply photographs that can add to the display.

So! What is a suitable photograph, and how many can we display without boring our visitors to death? Perhaps there should be categories established that could be featured on separate panels. Each panel bearing a title and depicting a place, an activity, or event that has a bearing on the theme of our display. We can use lots of pictures and an adjudicating panel of interested members to decide what pictures are most suitable.

To this end, then, we are looking for pictures of early Calgary and Southern Alberta. Pictures of historical events, places, structures, farming, ranching, etc. would be welcome. Photos will be copied with your approval and the originals returned as quickly as possible.

Contact Dave Wake at 288-5545.

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**SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS & THEIR DESCENDANTS**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2004**

**LUNCHEON AT 12 NOON**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT 1:00 P.M.**

**PRESIDING: PRESIDENT, AUDREY RICE**

**AGENDA**

1. *Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held October 18, 2003*
2. *Business arising from the minutes*
3. *President's Report – Audrey Rice*
4. *Treasurer's Report – John Hutchings*  
*Appointment of Auditor*
5. *Membership Report – Maureen Peckham*
6. *Committee Reports*
7. *Election of Board of Directors for 2005*
8. *Other New Business*
9. *Introduction of the Incoming President*
10. *Incoming President's Remarks*
11. *Adjournment*

*Southern Alberta Pioneers & Their Descendants Foundation Meeting  
to follow AGM to appoint Directors to Foundation Board.*

## ***The Family Papers Collection*** ***A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity***

**W**e have been cautioned to beware of offers that are too good to be true. However, when an offer comes from the prestigious National Genealogical Society in collaboration with the Calgary-based Alberta Family Histories Society (AFHS) you may want to take note.

The NGS has kindly consented to help make October the Family History Month in Southern Alberta.

NGS will send a mobile team of technical workers to Calgary for an unprecedented event. The team will come prepared to record treasured family documents, records and artifacts for all who are interested in preserving the history of their family.

The NGS Family Papers Collection has been established in an effort to preserve unique family records that are being lost or destroyed at an alarming rate.

The recording team will arrive in Calgary on October 4th and will spend

several weeks digitizing any documents of genealogical significance that are made available by local participants.

All those who are interested in compiling their family history are invited to present their holdings for digital recording on a CD at NO COST to them. The documents will remain the property of the participant. NGS will only ask for approval to catalogue and display the digital images on a public website. Participants are encouraged to observe or even assist in the digitizing process. In addition to obtaining digitized versions of these priceless and perhaps irreplaceable documents the participants will have the satisfaction of knowing that the digital copy of them is being made available so that researchers worldwide may be able to access and use.

The AFHS Library at 712 - 16th Avenue NW in Calgary will be established as headquarters for the project.

The technical team from NGS will

provide several presentations publicizing their work. The first will be offered at a meeting of the AFHS on October 4th. Another will be made at the AFHS FAMILYROOTS 2004 Expo/Seminar on Saturday, October 16th at the Carriage House Inn, Calgary.

How do you participate? Any individual, organization or society wishing to have their documents digitized should log onto the AFHS website ([www.afhs.ab.ca](http://www.afhs.ab.ca)), click on The Family Papers Collection and review the information provided. Those without Internet access may contact the local coordinator, Mr. S.W. Mumford by phone at 933-2881, or by e-mail at [mumford@mumford.ca](mailto:mumford@mumford.ca) (providing a phone number).

For complete details visit [www.afhs.ab.ca](http://www.afhs.ab.ca) and click on The Family Papers Collection

For further information, call Bill Campbell, AFHS, Public Relations, 254-2293.

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## ***Stampede Parade 2004***



*Audrey Rice, President, ?????? and Ernie Rice.*



*?????, granddaughter, John Hutchings, Treasurer and ??????, grandson.*



# 84TH ANNUAL ROUND-UP

*Saturday, November 6, 2004*

*Crystal Ballroom, Palliser Hotel*

**Cocktails 6:00 p.m.**

**Dinner 7:00 p.m.**

*Be sure to call early to get in on the early bird draw.  
Bring your family and friends and plan to attend a very special evening of  
superb dining, terrific entertainment, great prizes and dancing.*

**Entertainment for the evening provided by Mr. Ben Crane,**  
internationally acclaimed cowboy poet, western cartoon artist, musician.

He is one of a few Canadian artists who design "Leanin' Tree" cards.

We know you will all enjoy his many talents.

**Music for dancing provided by "Sentimental Journey"**

Early bird draw for those purchasing tickets before October 16th.

Prize – a room in the Palliser for the evening of the Round-Up

**TICKETS – \$50.00 EACH**  
**MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE**  
**(No tickets will be sold after October 30, 2004)**

**For tickets:** (by mail or phone)

Fern Dorsch  
#88, 10940 Bonaventure Drive S.E.  
Calgary, AB T2J 5C8  
**phone:** 278-2793

or

Sharon Thielen  
5124 Brockington Road N.W.  
Calgary, AB T2L 1R6  
**phone:** 282-1302

Tables will be assigned as tickets are purchased so for best seating buy your tickets promptly.

**ONCE AGAIN WE WILL BE DRAWING FOR MANY OUTSTANDING DOOR PRIZES BEFORE  
DINNER AND THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE EVENING.**

## 2004 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

### OFFICERS

#### President

Audrey Rice .....255-4103

#### Vice-President

Bill Murphy .....252-6565

#### Past President

Lionel Singleton .....247-0765

#### Secretary

Sandy Pedlar .....278-1334

#### Treasurer

John Hutchings .....255-4211

#### Membership Committee

Maureen Peckham .....271-5483

#### Directors

John Douglass .....641-2562

Bob Brewster .....225-2376

Moyra Ferguson .....249-9989

Pat Rodriguez .....279-6435

Laurie Jacques .....271-0138

Jean Chugg .....255-0692

Margaret Glasford .....

David Wake .....288-5545

### COMMITTEES

#### Bridge

Fern Dorsch .....278-2793

#### Building

Bob Brewster .....225-2376

#### Casino

Pat Rodriguez .....279-6435

#### Cookbook

Fern Dorsch .....278-2793

#### Historical

Jim Mackie .....228-4046

#### Library

Sharon Thielen .....282-1302

#### Newsletter

Kerri Fipke .....271-9581

#### Newsletter Advertising

Moyra Ferguson .....249-9989

#### Records Management

Anne Fitzpatrick .....271-3179

#### Sick & Visiting

Alice Schwieger .....287-0995

#### Social

Jean Chugg .....255-0692

#### Stampede Parade

Margaret Buckley .....932-5561

Don Edge .....

#### Stampede Display

Lionel Singleton .....247-0765

David Wake .....288-5545

#### Telephone

Joan Davis .....251-4915

#### Padre

Rev. Bill Sayers .....282-8526

#### Pioneer Lady

Ralphine Locke .....251-1078

#### Pioneer Gent

Jack Shaw .....272-7417

#### Memorial Bldg.

##### Caretakers

Jeff Wright .....246-7061

Sylvia Graham .....217-1708

SAP Office .....243-3580

SAP Fax .....287-2485

Hall .....287-2489

# EVENTS

**Saturday, Oct. 16** – AGM & Luncheon. Convenor: Kerri Fipke 271-9581.

**Saturday, Nov. 6** – Round-Up Dinner. Convenor: Sharon Thielen 282-1302.

**Saturday, Dec. 4** – Christmas Dinner, 6:00pm. Convenor needed.

**Sunday, Jan./05** – Family Games, 2:00pm, Pot Luck, 5:00pm.

**Saturday, Feb. 21/05** – Wine Tasting Night, 7:30pm.

**Sunday, Feb. 22/05** – Family Games, 2:00pm, Pot Luck, 5:00pm.

**Sunday, Mar. 21/05** – Skating Party/Pot Luck, Champion Park, 2:00pm.

**Sunday, Apr. 18/05** – Volunteer Appreciation, 2:00pm.

**Sunday, Apr. 25/05** – Yard Clean-up, 10:00am.

**Sunday, May 2/05** – Gold Card Tea, 2:00-4:00pm.

**Sunday, Jun. 13/05** – Family Day, 2:00pm, Pot Luck, 5:00pm, Champion Park. (Tentative)

**Saturday, Jul. 10/05** – Stampede BBQ, 6:00pm.

**Sunday, Jul. 11/05** – Memorial Service, 2:00pm.

*All events are held at the Memorial Hall, except where otherwise noted.*

## THE NOTICE BOARD

#### Historical Committee

Please submit Family Histories to be entered in our archives. We would like to feature a family history for each newsletter publication. Contact Pat Cox, 252-4220.

#### Deadline

Deadline for newsletter copy and photos to be submitted in writing at monthly Board Meetings or left at SAP office. Newsletter printed January, May and September.

#### Historical Committee

Resumes regular weekly meetings on Monday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Contact Jim Mackie, 228-4046.

#### Sick and Visiting

Please notify Alice Schwieger (287-0995) 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 7:00 p.m. (except July). Members welcome.

#### Dessert Bridge

3rd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (except July, August and December). Everyone is invited, members and friends. \$2.00 per person. Contact Fern Dorsch at 278-2793.

#### Advertising

To place an ad in this publication, please call Moyra Ferguson, 249-9989. Deadline to place a classified ad – SAP Board meeting prior to publication.

Members are encouraged to support the businesses advertised in our newsletter.

#### Memorial Building

Bookings phone 243-3580 (office) 287-2489 (hall), fax 287-2485.

#### Website:

<http://www.pioneersalberta.org>

#### Email:

[southernalbertapioneers@shaw.ca](mailto:southernalbertapioneers@shaw.ca)