



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

Email: southernalbertapioneers@shaw.ca

February 2008

President's Message

Thank you for giving me the privilege and honour of being your President for the upcoming year 2007-2008. There is a long list of very worthy past presidents and I will try to follow in their footsteps.

I am going to give excerpts from a book by Dan McCowan called *Hill Top Tales*, published in 1948. I hope you will enjoy them.

— Beryl Sibbald

Library Report

Sharon Thielen reported that all of the books have been moved: in the process one missing book was found. Seven new books have been donated to the Southern Alberta Pioneers.



Pioneer Logo

After a visit with a loved one it becomes difficult to say goodbye, for most of us. Saying goodbye for the last time is an emotional time for all of us.

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

Stampede Parade 2008

Congratulations to all who made the 2007 Stampede Parade entry such a success! The parade committee was thrilled with the deportment and visual appeal of the 2007 participants. Everyone was dressed appropriately to their conveyance and the enthusiasm of members was evident.

It is now time to look forward to

the 2008 Stampede Parade. Participation is on a first come first served basis and we are asking that you call Linda at 225-0698 if you wish to be put on the list for our next parade entry.

Thank you again for your interest in sharing part of the past with the visitors and residents of Calgary.

— Linda Chudey



14th Annual WINE TASTING NIGHT

Saturday,
February 9, 2008
7:30 p.m.

Convenors:

Beryl Sibbald & Shirley Siddon

Featuring a selection of Fine Wines
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Tickets are only \$20.00 per person
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email: stephmcs@shaw.ca

Pipes for All Occasions



Treasurer's Report

Joe Ferguson, Treasurer, reported that the signing authority change for the CIBC has been completed. Audit process is progressing but is not yet complete. Building rentals for the past three months are up from last year.

There is no update on investment income. Expenditures such as utilities, janitorial, security etc. are comparable to last year. Major expenditures this year include duct cleaning and purchase of new chairs.



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Membership Report

IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID THIS YEAR'S DUES YOU WILL FIND A COLORED NOTICE WITH YOUR NEWSLETTER.

The Newsletter can be read at
www.pioneersalberta.org.

If you would prefer to not receive a paper copy in the mail and read the newsletter online, please e-mail
sap.membership@shaw.ca
and let me know your wishes.

In Memoriam:

Frank Gough, Florence Pallesen, Marion Magee, Sabine Joffe & Margaret McKinnon

Welcome to New Gold Card Members:

Joan Davis, Nora Trono, Henry Peake, James Mackie, Leonard McDougall, Douglas Hutchings, Glenn Chugg & Bernice Williamson

Welcome to New Members:

Sharon Mills – descendant – James McKevitt, Midnapore 1883

Whitney Issik – descendant – George Shortt, Red Deer Lake 1888

Robin Stronach – descendant – William Springbett, Lethbridge 1890

Shauna DeMaere – descendant – Morris Stewart, Davisburg 1885

Patrick Webber – descendant – George Hodgson, Calgary 1883

Dale Hodgson – descendant – Joseph Robinson, Calgary 1881

Jessica Hagel – descendant – James McKevitt, Midnapore, 1883

Janet Hawes – descendant – Richard Robinson, Calgary 1888

Michael Hawes – descendant – Capt. Meophran Gardner Calgary 1886

Andrew Hunter – descendant – Sage Bannerman – Calgary 1885

Cheryl Nixdorff – descendant – Andrew & Elizabeth Sibbald 1875

Jay Sibbald – descendant – Andrew & Elizabeth Sibbald 1875

Welcome to New Associate members:

Olga Bateman, Wanda Shortt, Merleen Hodson & Marcia Lane

You may notify me of any changes at 271-5483 or sap.membership@shaw.ca

Thanks again for keeping me informed of Address/Phone changes.

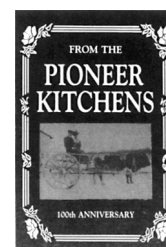
– Maureen Peckham
Membership Secretary

Records Management

Peggy Barr is looking for a volunteer to assist with organizing the files at the SAP Office.

Cookbook Makes a Great Gift

Looking for an inexpensive, good quality gift for a bridal shower, birthday or anniversary? Our cookbook, *Pioneer Kitchens 100th Anniversary*, is ideal. Call Fern at 278-2793.



In celebration of our wine tasting event, here is a recipe from our Pioneer Kitchens 100th Anniversary:

Dandelion Wine

4 quarts of dandelion flowers
Cover flowers with 1 gallon water
Boil and strain off liquid
When lukewarm, add juice and sliced rind of 6 lemons, 4 lbs. white sugar and 1-1/2 yeast cakes. Let stand in crock about 10 days. Then strain through cheesecloth. Bottle and seal.

Recipe for a Home

To 1/2 cup of friendship
Add a cup of thoughtfulness
Cream together with a
Pinch of powdered tenderness
Very lightly beaten.
In a bowl of loyalty
With a cup of faith, one of hope
And one of charity
Be sure to add a spoonful each
Of gaiety that sings
And also the ability
To laugh at little things
Moisten with the sudden tear
Of heartfelt sympathy
Bake in good natured pan
And serve repeatedly.

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Pioneer Days in the Foothills – Howard Sibbald

One of the most unassuming and likable men in the Canadian Rockies was Howard E. Sibbald. For some time Indian agent at the Stoney and Blackfoot Reservations, for many years chief Warden of Banff National Park and latterly Superintendent of Kootenay Park, he was recognized by the red men and white as being a government official endowed with much common sense and as a man of sterling character. During two summers it was my good fortune to serve under him as fire warden.

Camped with him on Ghost River, where we were storm-stayed for two days, he beguiled the hours by recalling some of his experiences of bygone years in the West. His story of early travel across the great plains and of pioneer days in the foothills of the Rockies was to me entrancing, and there and then in the glimmer of a tipi fire I made record of what he said. Here it is:

"Early in 1875 my father, Andrew Sibbald, had been offered a position as teacher in a school about to be established amongst the Blood Indians in the far west. This offer he accepted and so, at the age of nine years, I, in company with the other members of the family, left Stroud, Ontario, on June 10th of that year. The party consisted of my father and mother, my brother Frank, aged six and my sister Elsie, aged three. Travelling by way of Duluth and Moorehead and descending the Red River, we presently completed the initial stage of our journey by reaching Fort Garry. There we met David McDougall, the trader, with his cart train. My father bought a horse and a wagon for us to ride in and also secured a cart and an ox to haul it. In the ox cart were loaded our household belongings, among which were a sewing machine and an organ. This instrument was, I think, the first of its kind brought in to the North West, although the McDougall family had previously imported a folding melodeon.

"Leaving Fort Garry we set out across the prairie, our faces turned toward the setting sun. To me, a nine-year-old boy, it was an adventurous journey and a never-to-be-forgotten experience. Father travelled most of the way on foot and, with his gun, kept the family supplied with food. There was no dog in the outfit and so I was frequently obliged to act as retriever, wading into the sloughs for ducks which had fallen to the gun. At that time game of all kinds was plentiful and we had an abundance of fresh meat.

"Travelling on the old Edmonton trail we saw no white man until reaching Bird-Tail Creek (now Birtle) where we encountered a survey party in which was Mr Allan Patrick, later of Calgary. This chance meeting was on a Sunday, which was a resting day and thus we had opportunity to learn much about the country through which these men had recently passed. Long before reaching Fort Ellice our freight ox had become exceedingly footsore and weary and my father traded him off for a partly broken steer. The part which was broken must have formed but a small portion of the animal, because he proved an unruly fractious beast, upsetting the cart several times and otherwise causing us much trouble and annoyance. After this experience trader McDougall was paid to transport our freight in his train.

"My mother drove the horse and looked after her children who, sheltered from sun and rain inside the covered wagon, gazed in wide-eyed wonder at the apparently endless sea of grass and at the various forms of wild life then so abundant on the plains.

"Somewhere in what is now Saskatchewan we saw our first Indian. He came into our wayside camp one evening when mother was busy preparing supper. Being somewhat of a curiosity to us he was asked to stay and partake of the pancakes which were in the making and which formed

the main part of the meal. This he did, bolting the hot cakes as fast as the astonished cook could turn them out of the pan, while we hungry youngsters watched with awe the rapacious Redskin greedily devouring our supper. This incident was indelibly stamped upon my memory and I can still recollect that after dark on that evening I lay watching the stars and speculating on just how many pancakes an Indian, given opportunity, could hold."

Here Howard paused in his narrative, gazing long and thoughtfully at the embers as if still perplexed by this problem of fifty years standing.

"It is almost unbelievable the difference a few years makes. Settlers such as we were plodded across the plains from dawn till sunset and at the pace of a slow-moving ox; a calendar was more useful to us than a clock. We were over a hundred days on the trail before we finally reached the foothills and made preparation to spend the nearing winter in the little settlement at Morley. The untimely death of Rev. George McDougall, which occurred in a January blizzard some few miles north-west of Calgary, was an irreparable loss to our small community and delayed for several years the founding of a mission school amongst the Blood Indians to the south. So my father remained at Morley where he taught school and between times was otherwise employed. He had much to do with preparing the lumber and with building the church, which stands by the side of the Trans-Canada highway near Morley. He also floated logs down the Bow River to the new settlement at Calgary. From this timber at least one church on what is now Sixth Avenue, and several other buildings, were constructed. That was of course a few years after we took up residence in Morley.

To be continued.

MEMBER NAME TAGS (Magnetic)

Cost: \$9.00 (including GST)

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

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Your Pioneer Family Name: _____
(Last name only)

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Southern Alberta Pioneers

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Round-Up 2007

Another year has come to a close and with it the 87th Annual Round-Up, hosted by our retiring President, Bob Brewster, was held on November 3rd at the Palliser.

Joining Bob and Ilya Brewster at the head table were the Pioneer Gentleman for 2007, Clarence Davis and wife Joan, Rev. Bill Sayers and Marion Sayers, incoming President, Beryl Sibbald and husband John, and Pioneer Lady, Agnes Rouse.

Joining us for the evening were President Dan Denning of the High River Association, accompanied by his spouse Gerarda. We were also fortunate to have in attendance the Rev. Doug Powell and his wife Evelyn. Doug is our new incoming Honorary Padre. Joining us also for the evening were Mac and Cathy Elder.

A special presentation was made to our retiring Padre, the Rev. Bill Sayers, who held this position for the past ten years. Mac Elder was also honoured for his spe-

cial efforts over the years assisting with the "rigs" during Stampede Parade morning. Past President Bob thanked both these gentlemen for their unlimited support to all our members over the years.

Presentations were also made to:

- Agnes Rouse and Clarence Davis as Pioneer Lady and Pioneer Gent for 2007.
- Honourable Lady and Gent, Ilya Brewster and Art Hanna.
- Eldest Lady and Gent in attendance, Priscilla Rowland. While not in attendance, it was announced that the Pioneer Lady for the upcoming year is Noreen Hall and the Pioneer Gent is Murray Colwell.

Incoming President, Beryl Sibbald was introduced. Beryl gave a short history of her pioneer background, stating that to become President of our organization was indeed a great honour. Beryl also mentioned how in the past everyone looked forward to the annual Round-Up as the

social event of the year.

Our guest speaker for the evening was S/Sgt W.J. "Robbie" Robertson, Rtd. Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Mountie Cowboy Poet. Robbie entertained us with his poetry and a dissertation on the arrival of the Mounties in the west. Very entertaining and timely.

The "early bird" draw, consisting of the evening's accommodations at the Palliser, was won by Beryl Sibbald. Not only did Beryl win that draw but she also won the major draw prize, being a night and brunch at the Chateau Lake Louise. Naturally everyone was urging Beryl to purchase a lottery ticket or two as quickly as possible.

A sincere thank you to all those who assisted in making the evening a success, namely: Gwen Hanna, Margaret Buckley, Fern Dorsch and Fran Copithorne. And last but not least, a special thank you to all those who contributed door prizes.

– Danny Copithorne

Stampede Display Future

I sincerely believe it would be a great loss to the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants should the Stampede display have to be abandoned due to the lack of year-round support from our membership. Dave and I can attest to the fact that a year-round vigilance is required to plan and create new displays and to organize the resources in people plus material and to maintain the contacts

required to make the annual show come to fruition.

This Stampede twosome of David Wake and I would very much appreciate and whole-heartedly welcome the addition of two or three new "full time members" to our committee. For example, it would take a load off Dave's shoulders if someone would assume the position of canvassing members for the volunteers

required to man the booth during Stampede week.

Perhaps some member out there may wish to plan a theme for next year's display. Perhaps learn the mysteries of working with Adobe Photo Deluxe to make their plans work out. I am not sure just how much longer I may be able to carry on as the sole provider of this expertise.

– Bud Vine

Welcome to Doors Open Alberta

Doors Open Alberta is a major heritage tourism initiative that celebrates the people, places and architecture of our province. It is part of an international, national and provincial program that showcases built heritage and the people of our communities.

Between April and October, communities host one or two day **Doors Open**

Alberta events that offer free tours of architecturally interesting buildings and places. In 2004 six Alberta communities showcased 135 buildings and sites to over 6,200 visitors. Alberta's centennial in 2005 presented an opportunity for communities to feature built heritage as part of their centennial celebrations.

Doors Open Alberta is brought to

you by the Alberta Historical Resources Foundation, Doors Open Alberta Steering Committee, the Heritage Community Foundation and Travel Alberta.

2008 Doors Open Alberta events to be announced:

Crowsnest Pass Doors Open and Heritage Festival – August 1-4, 2008

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Danny Copithorne.....271-1972

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Pat Rodriguez.....279-6435

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Alice Schwieger287-0995

Social

Moyra Ferguson.....249-9989

Stampede Display

David Wake288-5545

Bud Vine279-4744

Stampede Parade

Don Edge.....

Linda Chudey.....225-0698

Telephone

Audrey Rice.....279-4744

Padre

Rev. Douglas Powell282-8526

Pioneer Lady

Norreen Hall249-2839

Pioneer Gent

Dr. Murray Colwell.....244-6976

Memorial Bldg.

Caretaker – Sherry Tofin

SAP Office243-3580

SAP Fax287-2485

Hall.....287-2489

EVENTS

Saturday, Feb. 9 – Wine Tasting, Memorial Bldg., 7:30pm.

Sunday, Feb. 24 – Family Games/Pot Luck, Memorial Bldg., 2:00pm. Convenor: Pat Rodriguez.

Sunday, Mar. 16 – Family Games/Pot Luck, Memorial Bldg., 2:00pm.

Sunday, Apr. 20 – Volunteer Appreciation, Memorial Bldg., 2:00pm. Convenor: Beryl Sibbald.

Sunday, May 4 – Gold Card Tea, Memorial Bldg., 2:00pm. Convenor: Moyra Ferguson.

Saturday, May 10 – Building/Yard Cleanup, Memorial Bldg., 10:00am. Convenor: Building Committee.

Friday, July 4 – Pre-Parade Breakfast for participants, Rotary House, 6:30am. Convenor: Kerri Fipke.

Saturday, July 5 – Stampede BBQ, Memorial Bldg., 6:00pm. Convenor: Laurie Jacques.

Sunday, July 6 – Memorial Service Tea, Memorial Bldg., 2:00pm. Convenor: Gwen Hanna.

Monday, July 7 – Sandwich Making for Rotary House, Memorial Bldg., TBA. Convenors: Moyra Ferguson & Linda Chudey.

Tuesday, July 8 – Pioneer Tea, Memorial Bldg., 2:30pm - 4:30pm. Convenors: Moyra Ferguson & Linda Chudey.

Note: Games / potluck events; potluck dinner starts at @ 5:00pm.

Contact Bob Brewster or Moyra Ferguson if you can fill any of the "Convener Needed" functions.

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 Joan Davis, 251-4915.

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.

Card Night

2nd 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 Beryl Sibbald, 932-5584. 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:

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