



PRESIDENT NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

Hello SAPD Membership

On Saturday, October 17, 2020 I was voted into the position of President for the Southern Alberta Pioneers' and Their Descendants. Thank you for your confidence in allowing me to serve you for the 2020-2021 year.

President Information

Although my maiden name was Jackson, the assumption is that I came from that famous Jackson family in Millarville. Unfortunately not -- I am part of that famous Jackson family who resided in the Killarney and Shaganappi area.

I currently own 20 acres outside of Carseland and reside with 3 horses, 1 dog and a number of barn cats --- so you can see that I have taken up the "pioneer life" albeit during the 21st century. Retired after 40 years in Human Resources – mainly in the food and beverage business.

I joined SAPD as a member in 2018 with an interest in the genealogical history of my family, and found that I was immediately moved onto the Board of Directors. Next role was Secretary under the guidance of Past President, Sandy Pedlar. This role presented a larger scope as to who and what SAPD was really all about.

Let me bring you along as to what I see for the 2020-2021 year.

SAPD Vision

Last year, one of the largest projects completed was the updating and refurbishing of the Memorial Building. This was a tremendous undertaking and came with a lot of hard work by John Hutchings, Jeff Hill, Dan Shaw, Gene Blakley and could not have been done without the "money man" Brian Rogers. Thank You again guys!!!

As it looks like we will be continuing on with this pandemic for a while, I would like to concentrate on our "family pods" becoming more involved with their own pioneer history.

1. Returning Family "FUN" back to the building and lands – we need to engage our youngest adults and children. Some of the ideas are to use the open areas around our building – what about a movie night (tail gate) in the parking lot/what about a portable hot dog/marshmallow roast/scavenger hunt/box social with potato sack or egg & spoon races/lawn darts or

If you have ideas that would involve our families, please do not hesitate to send them my way, and I will then forward them onto our Social Committee - we can use all of your ideas.

Our Social Calendar is in the process of being planned – we are looking at a skating party either in January and/or February. Various venues are being talked about and hopefully the weather will remain decent so we can get out and remind ourselves what our pioneer families would have done during the winter.

2. Membership – through the last survey and on-going discussions, we continue to ask how to increase membership – we cannot keep going to the “well and come up dry” – what about adding a new membership format?

Our Bylaws were updated in 2014/2015 and reviewed again in 2017. It looks like we are ready to review the contents once again.

How about a section known as “Friends of SAPD”? This would allow us to widen our base, without changing the historical objects of either SAPD or SAPF, thus adding new members who would be interested in perpetuating our history. Think about how we would be educating and transferring the knowledge of our pioneer families to a new group, along with all the extra volunteers we would be able to assemble for various projects.

The need to conduct business through virtual platforms is apparent, which allows more members from Red Deer south to participate in meetings, voting and volunteering. Our By-laws will need to reflect this progression.

If we are not prepared to move forward, just like all pioneers, we will certainly come to the end of our own history.

3. Connecting with other Historical Societies – putting the SAPD name out to the public with the help of other established historical groups (High River, Bragg Creek, Strathmore, Bar U, Heritage Park, Chinook) – coordinating with some of their activities and education programs which displays the pioneer trait of fun, hard work and determination.

Through the communication of President’s Notes, I will keep you updated as to where we are on this vision. I ask that if you are interested in becoming involved either through volunteering, joining a committee, or have any suggestions that you would like to see addressed, please send me an email directly.

Let me close by promising that I will do my best to continue to preserve the historical knowledge of our Pioneer families. With the new Board of Directors that have agreed to stand, and your support, I believe that we can achieve a positive outcome. Thank you.

Lynn Hoosier
President 2020-2021
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