

# **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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May 2020



#### President's Message by John Hutchings President

t is amazing how situations change so rapidly during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. In the last newsletter, only 3 months ago, I was anticipating what a great year we were going to have in celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> year and the re-opening of our building with all the associated gala events planned for the year. Sad to say, little of this is going to happen.

As per current restrictions, our building will be out of service until the end of August, which means our social events are all cancelled and vital rental revenue will not be realized.

Our partners from the City of Calgary, who we lease the building from, have emergency funds to pay for up to 75% of operating costs to community associations including our organization. Hopefully we can benefit from this but there are no guarantees.

#### **Special Thanks**

I would like to thank our two contracted employees, **Ileana Tamaian** (Bookkeeper) who provided expertise and assistance to **Brian Rogers** (Treasurer) for our audits and financial reporting, and **Gabrielle Leah** (Rental Agent) who worked with our valued renters in re-scheduling their events rather than cancelling.

This was important to her, especially the many weddings that were to take place this spring and summer. Gabrielle also went above and beyond duty in personally cleaning and sanitizing the building even after the Construction Contractor had finished cleaning. The building has never been cleaner. We are extremely fortunate to have these two dedicated staff members.

#### 100 Years of Memories

The Memorial Building Upgrade Project is nearing completion, which is the largest capital improvement since the building was built in 1955. It certainly had its challenges, but it will be worth it in the long run. More details about the project are in this newsletter.

As mentioned in the April President's Message, we are

going to celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> centennial year in 2022, which coincides with our official incorporation date of January 1922.

#### Volunteers Needed and Appreciated

As always, we are looking for volunteers and are in *dire need* to fill the following positions:

- Vice President
- Building Committee Chair

Please contact me if you are interested in putting your name forward.

I would like to thank **Kelsey Hipkin** who has volunteered to be our new Librarian; she comes at a good time when we are moving all the books back into the building.

During this challenging time, I ask for your support.

- Renew your membership if you have not already done so
- Persuade the young people from your family to join SAP and be the ones who will carry on your pioneer family's spirit and legacy
- Join a Committee or sit on the Board of Directors
- Volunteer for an event facilitators are especially needed
- Attend future events and programs
- Complete your family history for our archives
- Contribute a family story to future editions of the Newsletter

### 2019-2020 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

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Val McKinney403-512-1585
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#### **Pioneer Families of Southern Alberta**

This SAPD publication and its Addendum Edition introduces readers to over 2300 pioneers and includes illustrations and pioneer portraits.

#### Pioneer Families: \$20.00 · Addendum: \$10.00

Order your copies from Dave Wake 403-288-5455



Gold and Blue (SAP Logo) \$15.00 each

Contact Francie Hagedorn 403-243-3861





## **Rideau Pharmacy**

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## **Membership Report**

#### by Maureen Peckham Membership Chair

#### IN MEMORIUM

William Shaw, Norma Moore, George Sutherland, Allan Petrie & Gary Trimble

#### NEW GOLD CARD MEMBERS

William Brogden, Dorothy Edge, David Wake, Lance Cooke & Norman "Skip" McDonald

#### WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- Patrick Taylor, Descendant of Lachlin Mckinnon Calgary 1886
- Pat Green, Descendant of John Clark, Crowfoot Creek, 1883
- Gillian Lawrence, Descendant of Henry Frank Lawrence High River, 1882
- Paul Bouchard, Descendant of John Costello, Calgary 1883

WELCOME BACK

Susan & Stanley Church



If not, please send a cheque to SAPD, 3625 – 4<sup>th</sup> Street SW, Calgary AB T2S 1Y3



Your \$40 e-Transfer can be made out to <u>membership@pioneersalberta.org</u>

#### THIS NEWSLETTER CAN BE READ AT and PRINTED FROM www.pioneersalberta.org/newsletter

If you wish to discontinue receiving the paper copy of the newsletter (and read it online only), please send a notice to <u>membership@pioneersalberta.org</u>.

Please notify me of any changes to mailing addresses, phone numbers or e-mail addresses via email at <u>membership@pioneersalberta.org</u> or by phone at 403-271-5483

## THE NOTICE BOARD

Memorial Building: If you want to reserve the hall once we are given the "all clear" to congregate again, contact Gabrielle Leah at 403-807-0550 or email her at sap.rentals@pioneersalberta.org. We are also online at www.pioneerbuilding.ca.

Cards & Remembering: Notify Peggy Barr at 403-246-2843 if there are any illnesses or a death in your family.

Historical Committee : The hall is closed until further notice but you can contact Dave Wake at 403-288-5545 to ask about Committee meetings. To have your Family History entered into our archives, submit your write up to our Librarian, Kelsey Hipkin at 403-700-8698.

Newsletter: Our newsletter is published January, May and September. Send your stories, articles and photos to Val McKinney at <u>newsletter@pioneersalberta.org</u> by the 15th of the month prior to these publication months.

Advertising: To place an ad in this publication, Call Beryl Sibbald at 403-932-5584 by the first Tuesday of the month.

Members are encouraged to support the businesses that advertise in this publication.

## Memorial Building Upgrade Report

#### by John Hutchings President

The building upgrade project is in the final stages. All the major work is complete; all that is left are minor deficiency items that the Contractor, Longboard Construction Inc., is now completing. The official "turnover" of the building back to the Southern Alberta Pioneers was slated for April 19, 2020, which is the date when the Contractor is "Substantially Complete" the work: an important milestone as 45 days after this date the 10% holdback of invoiced costs is released to the Contractor.

The work was supposed to be completed at the end of March but, with delays due to the ENMAX power hookup, extra work orders (over 30) and productivity delays due to the COVID-19 virus, the work is just now getting complete.

Not only has the virus delayed construction, it also has shut down the building for member functions and rentals until the end of August (this could change). But, on a positive note, the shutdown will provide us more time to move the contents back in.

As mentioned in previous communications, the most

#### Project Costs as of May 15, 2020:

Budget (including GST)	\$627,707.54
	, ,
Incurred Costs (Spent)	\$540,865.66
GST	\$ 27,026.52
Total Incurred	\$567,892.19
Costs to Go:	
Project Management Fee	\$ 2,100.00
Main Construction Contract	\$ 15,210.17
ENMAX	\$ 0.00
Contingency (Change Orders)	\$ 39,656.83
Total Cost to Go	\$ 56,967.00
GST	\$ 2,848.35
Total Cost to Go (Including GST)	\$ 59,815.36
Total Forecast Cost	\$627,707.54

#### Funding and Government Grants

We are extremely fortunate in securing the following Grants:

Total Grants	\$480,580.00
CFEP 2020 Application (approved Nov. 12, 2019)	\$ 75,000.00
CCG 2019 Application (approved June 11, 2019)	\$300,000.00
CFEP 2019 Application (received March 8, 2019)	\$105,580.00

noticeable change to the building is downstairs. The hall has new walls and ceiling with striking new lighting.

Due to the larger furnace room, the downstairs kitchen is much smaller. It still has a dishwasher and deep freeze, but the stove/oven range is gone. However, while the upstairs kitchen has a new electric stove/oven range, there is less space in the cupboard adjacent to the refrigerator due to a new furnace exhaust duct that passes through the cupboard.

The audio/visual system for the building has all new wiring so it should produce great sound.

The next big task is moving everything back into the hall and reorganizing the contents, especially the pictures downstairs. We will require help in doing this but, due to the current circumstances, this must be done in a controlled manner.

All in all, the project went smooth except for the extra work that occurred, which is typical of renovations. The good news is that even though the schedule was overrun, the budget is still forecasted to be on target barring any further unforeseen costs.

#### **Donations:**

To date, a total of \$58,000 in donations towards the Memorial Building Fund has been made by these generous people who are true Pioneers and Visionaries:

- Barb Depaoli
- Anonymous Descendant
- Nola Rintoul in Memory
  of Bob Rintoul
- Clark Farms: Karen & Roy Clark
- Kathleen & Brian Rogers
- Rhonda & John Hutchings
- Michael Stewart
- Jan & Don Cook

- Catherine Foote
- Alice Huggard
- Jim McDonald
- Lockwood Family Fund at Calgary Foundation
- Noreen Baker in Memory of Tom Hall
- Barb MacDougall
- Betty & Dave Wake
- Maureen & Jeff Hill

#### Cost Exposure to Southern Alberta Pioneers Foundation (SAPF)

Total Forecast Cost	\$627,707.54
Funding to Date	
GST (50% Rebate)	\$ 14,937.44
Government Grants	\$480,580.00
Donations to date	\$ 58,000.00
Total Funding	\$553,517.44
Cost Exposure to SAPF	\$ 74,190.11

#### Memorial Building Upgrade Report continued

In summary, the project was necessary to update the building to current building codes and to keep it fit for future use by our members and renters, whom we rely on to ensure a steady revenue stream in order to keep the building maintained in the manner our members and founding Pioneers would have expected.

We are fortunate to have \$553,517 in funding so far, including \$58,000 from our generous members, which is about 44% of our goal of \$130,000. We have enough money in our Memorial Building to fund the projected gap of \$74,190; however, as we prefer to have this fund to grow, we need to keep up our fund-raising initiatives.

It is unfortunate that the virus has hampered our social functions and rentals in the near future but, once we get through this pandemic, the building will be something we can all be proud of. It will be an integral part of the legacy of Southern Alberta.

Due to limited storage capacity in the Memorial Building we need to reduce our stock of kitchenware and chinaware.

After we take stock of all items and decide what needs to be kept and what can be sold, we would like to give our members the opportunity to purchase the excess items.

We may have a silent auction or a simple yard sale. Stay tuned for further announcements.

## Social Events

here is not much to be said about our current state. We are all disappointed about not being able to carry on with our revered social events and gatherings at the Memorial Building.

Time and perseverance with what we all need to do will be the tell-all as to when we can meet again.

As it stands right now, as stated in John Hutchings letter to the membership in April, all events have been cancelled until the end of July. This includes any rentals of the building as well. We will assess the situation based on the pandemic at the time and will communicate necessary details.

Some of our events may be able to be rescheduled and those will be determined based on the information on hand.

The city has cancelled all events until the end of August and we have no

idea at this time how many people may be allowed in a gathering; even when they do lift some of the restrictions.

### Here is a list of **POSSIBLE FALL EVENTS**:

- Grand re-opening (to be determined)
- October 17: AGM
- November 7: ROUND UP

As John stated in his April letter, the "Board has decided to defer the Centennial Celebration to 2022 as this would be a valid year for us; in 1922, SAP and the Old Timers'

#### by Maureen Hill Social Committee

Association was officially registered under the Societies Act of the Alberta Government."

I have been in contact with the Palliser regarding our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to be held on November 7, 2020. The Crystal Ballroom is being held for us at this time if we wish or are able to proceed. The Alberta Room is tentatively booked by another group at this time.

Thank you for your continued support. Communication will be forthcoming as current updates and information is available to us.



## **Cookbook Story**

Part 2 of the making of Pioneer Kitchens by Fern Dorsch

**E** dweena, having excellent marketing skills, contacted the outlets she felt were qualified to sell pioneer cookbooks: the Glenbow Museum Gift Shop, The Book Company in Bankers Hall, Absolutely Alberta in Banff, Old And Crafty in Cochrane, Riley and McCormick in Calgary, Ginger Tea Room in Okotoks, Traditions in Cochrane, Heritage Park in Calgary and The Cookbook Company in Mount Royal Village, Calgary.

We were delighted when the book proved successful and was selling well. By the summer of 1993 we were sold out.

#### A second edition

Having had many requests for a second printing, Edweena met with the Board of Directors in Sept. 1993. They approved of ordering 1,000 copies. She decided to place them on consignment in museums, and at Fort Macleod, Heritage Park and Fort Calgary. Selling them ourselves saved paying commission.

Edweena and I, along with other willing members of the committee, manned the tables at Farmer's Markets Community Social Events and Sport Days. Millarville Farmer's Market proved to be our best outlet during summer. Christmas Craft Sales were very successful at Crossfield, Langdon, Turner Valley, Strathmore, High River, Okotoks, Longview and Silver Springs during October and November.

Edweena had finally had enough travelling in the country and decided to try her luck selling in the city, leaving the country sales to me.

Although her intentions were good, the first two city bookings, the Homes and Garden Show at the Roundup Centre and the Junior League Convention, proved to be real goof ups. During the Garden Show she booked a booth with the idea of making a big pot of potato soup, using a recipe from the book and passing out samples. The soup was a resounding success; however, we never sold a book. The Junior League Convention was two days, so Edweena suggested making cookies from the book, which would entice the ladies to buy. We all got busy and made, what we thought, would be enough cookies for two days. They were gone the first day. So we had to get busy and make more.

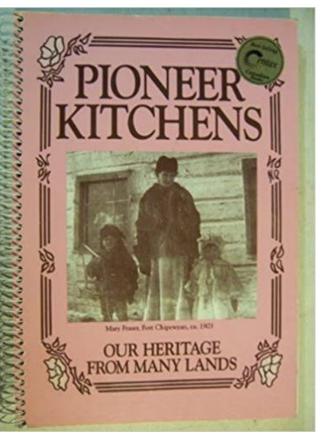
Halfway through the second day they were gone. All in all we sold very few books and decided then and there, samples do not sell books.

#### **Cooking for ethnic pioneers**

Since our first book was a success, I suggested publishing a pioneer ethnic cookbook using the same concept but reversing the color scheme: having pink for the dominant color. Edweena called a committee meeting and put forth this suggestion. Most of the members were in agreement.

We soon got the wheels in motion, first checking with Helen Mackie and Margo Embury: Helen to do the artwork and Margo assisting where needed. Funding was secured by Edweena using her usual skills.

Now that funding was in place, we went all out to gather suitable ethnic recipes, which proved to be much more difficult than those in our first book.



We contacted members and friends and their ethnic friends and relatives. Fortunately, we eventually received the required number but, since many were unknown to us, cooking and tasting was a necessity.

Some examples were Oatmeal Soup (Scotch), which sounded tasteless, but after cooking and testing, we found it very good. Sunflower Pie (N. American) was an inexpensive way to make Southern Pecan Pie. I made it and was brave enough to serve it to guests. They loved it and, hopefully, bought the book.

#### Compiling and marketing

The next step was compiling the book. Placing the recipes in the usual manner turned out to be nothing but a hodgepodge. I offered to take them home and come up with a workable plan, since it was my idea to go ethnic. While sorting, an idea suddenly came to me; arranging them by nation. I started with North America, British Isles, Scandinavian, Western, Central and Eastern European. The committee agreed it was the solution. Helen suggested starting with indigenous and including an oriental section. The indigenous section she named *First People*.

My sister, Anne Vincent, knew Doreen Turning-Robe, daughter of Chief David Crowchild. She was willing to share authentic recipes informing us that the Tongue and Turnip was a sacred recipe used during ceremonial gatherings.

Adding the Oriental section was very necessary as the Chinese were among the earliest pioneers, having worked on the railway and also providing small towns with cafés. Many of the Japanese were agriculturists who were settling on farms.

Both Chinese and Japanese recipes were gourmet. Knowing the reliability of donors, cooking and tasting were not necessary. Since the recipe fit into four categories, we compiled them in the same manner. Breads, Soups, Main Dishes and Desserts.

Like the first edition, we needed an incentive to entice buyers. So we added history about each group, which was collected by Maureen Peckham. Also Helpful Hints. The finishing touch was a section on Spices and Herb History.

#### What to call the book??

My brother-in-law, Warren Vincent, suggested *Pioneer Kitchens – Our Heritage From Many Lands*. No other suggestions were necessary as it was a hit with all the members.

Following the same routine as in our first book, Helen and Edweena spent time working with Margo assembling the book according to the layout suggested by the committee.

#### **Marketing strategies**

As before, we were thrilled to see the sample copy. The pink color really stood out. After necessary editing, our ethnic book came into being September 1995.

Margo offered to sell books by consigning them to Centax outlets in the U.SA. and Eastern Canada, if we ordered 5,000 copies. The Board of Directors along with the committee were in favor providing full payment was not required up front: we worked out an agreement for gradual payments.

Even though earnings were less, we gained through quantity. We received requests, by mail, from Ontario; Nova Scotia; Austin, Texas; California; and rural areas throughout Canada. We sold a lot of books on our own by booking tables at our usual markets.

#### A new carpet for SAPD; a sad farewell to Edweena

In 1997 or 1998, we had earned enough to purchase the carpet for our Memorial Building: our reason for publishing and selling Cookbooks. After wheeling and dealing with many carpet suppliers, Edweena purchased a beautiful Axminster Carpet with red the dominate color. I think the cost was well over \$10,000.

During 1998, Edweena's health was deteriorating, so she moved from her apartment into a Seniors Health Centre. Sadly, she kept the cookbook records on her personal computer and when she passed away on March 9, 1999, the records disappeared and were never found, which is why I am guessing the cost of the carpet.

#### Second and third printings

I picked up the reins and carried on

with the help of Anne Vincent, Alice Schweiger, Gwen Hanna, Pat Rodriguez and others to book with the same markets. By 2001, we were sold out of *Pioneer Kitchens – Our Heritage From Many Lands.* Having received permission from the Board of Directors, we decided on a second printing of 1,000.

I contacted Margo Embury at Centax Books in Regina; she quoted a price of \$8.60 per copy. Our selling price of \$18.95 gave us a net price of \$10.35, less table fees averaging around \$30.00 per table. We received our second printing June 1, 2001 with 1,181 books, including the overrun.

Most of the second printing of the ethnic edition was sold through Heritage Park, Fort Calgary, Millarville Farmer's Market and Christmas craft sales. By 2006 we were nearing the end of our ethnic books.

Having received numerous requests for a third printing of the first edition, *From The Pioneer Kitchens*, and with the permission of the Board, I contacted Margo Embury to see if it was possible after this length of time. She informed me our cost would be higher as we would have to go back to square one. Fortunately, I was able to gather the necessary information and ordered 1,000 copies.

The third printing of *From The Pioneer Kitchens* came into fruition June 9, 2006. Our cost was \$12.02 per copy; selling price \$19.95.

continued on next page



Many of the sales were to individuals along with Millarville Farmer's Market, Fort Calgary (no longer on consignment), and Craft Markets. The more books we could sell on our own, the better as our costs were higher.

#### Grateful for faithful friends and good sales

March 31, 2007, I landed in hospital where I spent most of one year, having had my right leg amputated. Having booked several markets at Millarville Farmer's Market, I was grateful to Anne Vincent, Alice Schweiger and Sharon Thielen for attending to these markets, along this the Stampede Display selling books where ever possible. "Congratulations" to them for selling 96 books during 2007.

I was finally able to leave the hospital the end of February, 2008. I had purchased a condo all on one floor and started a new life, living in a wheelchair. Still, I planned to carry on selling books with the generosity of volunteers willing to drive me to markets and craft sales.

My first venture attending a market in a wheelchair was June 21, 2008. Alice and Buster Schweiger drove me to the Millarville Farmer's Market; a good place to get orientated. We attended three other Millarville Markets that summer and sold 73 books.

During November. Alice and I had booked a table for the Christmas Craft sale at Crossfield and Strathmore. I decided to book other Christmas Craft Sales in the city and was able to get a table at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Book sales during the next six years were excellent through individual efforts, the Millarville Farmer's Market, Christmas Craft Sales and the Stampede Display.

Our President during 2013, Bill Nelson and his wife Barbara, owned a Second Cup Coffee shop and willingly sold books there. They sold 112 cookbooks before selling their shop and moving to Victoria.

#### A third printing for the ethnic cookbook

In January 2012, our Treasurer, Joe Ferguson, suggested a reprint of the ethnic edition, *Pioneer Kitchens – Our Heritage From Many Lands*, since we were nearing the last of the first edition. After he convinced the rest of the Board and once I agreed to keep selling our beloved cookbooks, I called Centax in Regina. They were no longer in business and had been taken over by



a more up-to-date printer. I sent them my copy, enabling them to reprint from it at a much lower cost of \$9.50 per copy, which we sold for \$19.95, eventually \$20.00.

Joe said he was adamant to use the book as a promotional tool; however, I often wonder, since he was a very caring person, that he thought of me needing a purpose in life after having survived my hospital ordeal.

Seven enjoyable years were spent selling the third printing of the ethnic edition and the balance of the first edition, mostly at Millarville during the summer and at the Christmas Craft Sales in Calgary in October and November.

The last book was sold to a member, Dexter Nelson, on November 17, 2018.

#### All "Good Things" have to come to an end.

There are so many volunteers who having assisted me during the 29 years of being involved with the Cookbooks from start to finish, it would take pages to list them all. Fortunately, most of them were mentioned in my reports at the annual meetings. However, I must express my gratitude to those who were like my right arm during the ten years I was in a wheelchair.

Alice and Buster Schweiger, my sister Anne Vincent, son Lane, and cousin Walt Jackson, who had driven us and assisted with sales at Millarville. Cousin Ruth Jackson and Iona Shaw who assisted with the Christmas Craft Sales.

> Watch for a new story - *The Old Chimney at Stampede Park* - in the September issue of SAP News.

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