



SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS

AND THEIR DESCENDANTS NEWSLETTER

Southern Alberta Pioneers Memorial Building J13625 4th Street SW Calgary Alberta T2S 1Y3 J1 Phone 403-243-3580

Vol. 54 No. 1 Website: www.pioneersalberta.org E mail: sap.office@pioneersalberta.org September 2021

President's Message

WOW... what a summer! From June to the end of August we have enjoyed some spectacular warmth -- so I got to thinking, "Is this really a historic event" OR ... ??

I could only go back to July 12, 1886 (34C) through Environment Canada's historical information, but take a look - our temperatures were not that different in our pandemic year than Southern Alberta was in 1914-1918:

- Aug. 3, 1914 36C
- Aug. 29, 1915 31C
- July 9, 1916 31C
- July 16, 1917 33C
- July 19, 1918 34C

Can you imagine not having A/C or ice-cold water from the fridge (sure, you had a spring if you were lucky), trying to get your crops off without the machinery we have, and fighting a pandemic at the same time? Our pioneer families were made of "tough stuff," yet they survived and we will too!

Future Ho!

Although our social functions were cancelled this past year and a half, we are about to rise from the ashes. With the assistance of Gene Blakley, there have been contacts made with the Presidents from the Bar U and Millarville Historical Societies. Each of these Presidents have been introduced to the Memorial Building and are very much interested in our historical group partaking with them at various public functions.

We were invited to the **Priddis & Millarville Fair** on August 21 to showcase our photos, in conjunction with [Millarville](http://www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.com)

[Racing & Agricultural Society](http://www.racingandagricultural.com). We had a great time and learned a lot from the [Millarville Historical Society](http://www.millarvillehistoricalsociety.com).

The next opportunity to showcase SAPD will be with the [Bar U Ranch National Historic Site](http://www.baru.com): we are waiting to see what dates are available for 2022.

Getting back to our "grass roots" allows us to survive in a world that wants to alter the memories of our pioneer history. We all agree that parts of it were not pretty, but it is *our* history, and we need to continue moving forward, learning from our past mistakes, and making improvements along the way - leaving our pioneer legacy in a better place.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will be held on **Saturday, October 16** at the Memorial Building. (See the Agenda on page 2.)

This year we will be voting on changes to the SAPD Bylaws. As a current member, your attendance to pass this Bylaw is *exceptionally important*. It will allow us to increase our membership without changing the initial criteria for membership, which is our ancestors' citizenship by the year 1890.

The torch has been passed and your help is needed. We look forward to seeing you on October 16.



Lynn Hoosier, President 2020-21

Notice for Members of a Special Resolution

At the Special Meeting of Members set for October 16, 2021, a motion will be tabled for the following:

1. Repeal the Bylaws of the Southern Alberta Pioneers' and Their Descendants, dated 2014, in their entirety and
2. Replace them with the bylaws posted on the [SAPD website](http://www.sapd.ca)

SOUTHERN ALBERTA PIONEERS'
and THEIR DESCENDANTS
Annual General Meeting



Saturday, October 16, 2021

Commencing at 1:00 PM

Presiding: Lynn Hoosier, President 2020—2021

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held Oct. 17, 2020
2. Business arising from the minutes
3. President's Report — Lynn Hoosier
4. Treasurer's Report — Brian Rogers
5. Membership Report — Maureen Peckham
6. Committee Reports
7. Election of the SAPD Board of Directors for 2021—2022
8. Special Resolution
9. Vote on proposed SAPD Bylaw changes
10. Introduction of the Incoming President
11. Incoming President's Remarks
12. Motion to Adjourn

The Southern Alberta Pioneers' Foundation meeting will follow the
SAPD's AGM to appoint Directors to the Foundation Board.

**In compliance with the Government of Alberta Restrictions Exemption Program,
the Memorial Building will be following the Restrictions Exemption Program.
Further information on the steps to attend the AGM will follow.**

2020-2021 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

SAPD exists thanks to the efforts of its member volunteers.

SAPD has several openings for the 2021-2022 Board of Directors & Committees. Let us know where you want to fit in.

OFFICERS

President

Lynn Hoosier403-680-3113

Vice President

Shawn Hendry 403-464-1737

Past President

John Hutchings403-252-2428

Treasurer

Brian Rogers403-242-1850

Secretary

Gene Blakley403-931-2264

Membership Secretary

Maureen Peckham.....403-271-5483

DIRECTORS

One-Year Term

Alan Lynas403-228-7815

Elaine McDonald403-993-1769

Bev Prieur403-287-0020

Dan Shaw403-861-3000

Two-Year Term

Megan Ballard403-862-1756

Val McKinney403-512-1585

Carl Ringdahl403-246-6180

Steve Bibby 403-921-5877

MEMORIAL BUILDING

3625 4 Street SW, Calgary, AB T2S 1Y3

SAP Office 403-243-3580

SAP Fax 403-287-2485

Hall 403-287-2489

Hall Rental Agent

Gabrielle Leah403-807-0550

Building Committee Chair

John Hutchings403-252-2428

PIONEER LADY Joan Christianson 403-641-2242

PIONEER GENT Dave Wake 403-288-5545

COMMITTEES

Fundraising

Vacant

Casino

Gene Blakley 403-931-2264

Historical Committee

Historian

Alan Lynas 403-228-7815

Library

Kelsey Hipkin 403-700-8698

Historical Display

Carolyn Preston 403-240-0603

Stampede Parade

Vacant

IT

John Rauchert..... 403-283-6067

Membership

Vacant

Telephone

Joan Christianson..... 403-641-2242

Cards & Remembering

Vacant

Nominating

Sandy Pedlar (as Past President) 403-278-1334

Public Relations & Communication

Vacant

Newsletter Editor

Val McKinney 403-512-1585

Newsletter Advertising

Beryl Sibbald..... 403-932-5584

Records Management

Sandy Pedlar 403-278-1334

Social

Vacant

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

Contact Alan Lynas at 403-228-7815 to purchase a copy for your family.

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the office at
sap.office@pioneersalberta.org



Membership Report

by Maureen Peckham
Membership Secretary

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

IN MEMORIAM

- Daniel McCormick
- John McQueen
- Wallace Madill
- Glenn Chugg

NEW GOLD CARD MEMBERS

- Brenda McMahon
- Margarete Cooke
- Maureen Peckham
- Bill Holmes

Thank you
for being
part of
SAPD

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

- Gaylene Johnson, Descendant of Thomas Hayes Laycock, Fish Creek, 1888
- Jennifer Peddlesden, Descendant of William Berry, Chipman Creek, 1884
- Cathie Scatterty, Descendant of Albert Stuart Cannon, Calgary 1889

WELCOME NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBER

- Nicole Hendry

Please notify me, Maureen Peckham, of any deaths in your family, changes to mailing or email addresses, or to phone numbers. I can be reached by email at membership@pioneersalberta.org or by phone at 403-271-5483.

Calgary Stampede President's Reception

by Shawn Hendry

SAPD Vice President Shawn Hendry and his wife Nicole attended the **2021 Calgary Stampede President's Reception** on behalf of the Southern Alberta Pioneers in July. While there, Shawn and Nicole had a chance to meet with Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi who is an enthusiastic supporter of the Pioneers.

Even though "elbow bumps" replaced traditional handshakes, Shawn reports having a great time promoting our exceptional organization to Mayor Nenshi and others.



L-R: Nicole, Mayor Nenshi, Shawn

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"Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

Walking in their Footsteps

by Gene Blakley

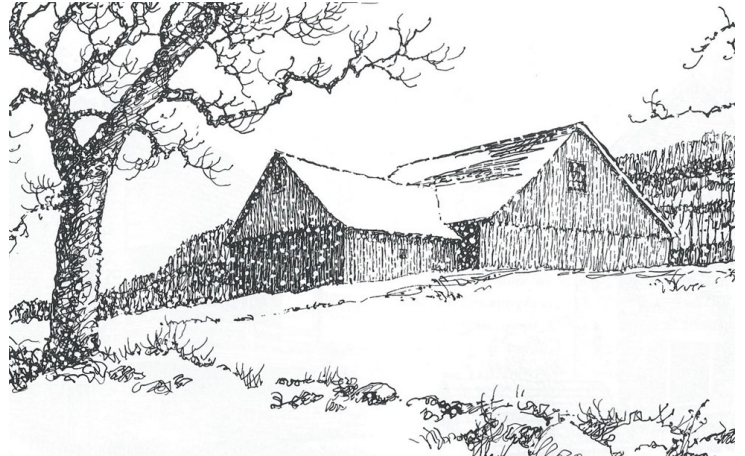
How many times have we, who are raised on the land, walked in their footsteps? I can only speak for myself but the connections that we have with the past here on Fisher Creek are endemic.

When I get the pleasure to write about those that have come before, I get nostalgic and sometimes wish that things had not changed.

- The pleasure of working with many family members and neighbours was a gift.
- A gift that keeps on giving.
- Knowing that they are looking over your shoulder makes you do that job just a little better.
- Trying to emulate them makes you a better person.
- Being involved in the community that they started makes you humble.
- Knowing that the stories you heard as a child can be passed on to your children and they can pass them on to their children. These ties make families strong.
- Visualizing what made your Grandfather or Great Grandfather come to this particular part of the New World. The opportunities that they came for: the almost free land, being the king not the peasant, creating hope for your family. All you had to do was overcome fear, find passage, make a commitment, and see the fruit of your labour.

I think also of our Grandmothers or Great Grandmothers who had the faith to follow this crazy person that has given up the meagre stability of home. To travel great distances, to meet that person maybe two or three years later in a land most unfamiliar. Then set in to be the other person, in harness, to accomplish those dreams.

The jobs on the land have not changed in their most basic parts. The animals must be cared for whether that is with a pitchfork or bale processor.



The fields still have spots that produce and ones that do not as well. The weather still repeats with wet, dry, foggy, snow. Sometimes with extremes, but so it always has. The frost still comes at about the same time and the rivers rage or dry up.

The one thing that has changed and will always change is the amount of people that are now here. That one variable has made a difference in the community. No longer does that person on the other side of the fence understand what is happening on your side. Progress has changed how the ones on the land do their business.

So, next time you open the door and go outside, see your piece of Millarville, Priddis or Bragg Creek through the eyes of those that came before. That visualization is a therapy of its own.

The land, the community, and the people really have not changed; they are just different. The perception of what makes you happy is probably more dictated by the little square glass boxes.

But the land has not. It nourished the ones that came before and will nourish the one here now. That cycle will carry on if the stories are kept and passed on much the same as the tales around the fire kept the skills and traditions alive. There is probably no greater motivator than knowing you are the one that has to keep these traditions alive and make them better.

One Small Branch of a Family Tree

Morris Stewart (b. 1831), his wife of two years, Mary, and a one-year-old son left Aberdeen, Scotland in 1855 to start a new life in Canada. Their destination was Noyan, Quebec, which is between Montreal and the US border. Great-grandfather Morris was a farmer or crofter in Scotland and chose to continue this occupation in Canada.

Mary had several more children over the next 14 years in Noyan but, unfortunately, died in 1869 giving birth to the last child. Morris had a married sister in Noyan and also had a family living next door with a sixteen-year-old daughter. Between these two, the children were looked after.

In 1870, Morris married “the girl next door” and they proceeded to start a new family. My grandmother became the 3rd child on this union born in 1876.

Western Canada must have intrigued him as he left southern Quebec in early 1882 to work on CPR rail construction crews heading west. When the crew got somewhere west of Winnipeg, he got word back to his wife, my great grandmother Agnes, “bring the family out here and we will continue out west and also bring Alex and Will” (two older boys 15 & 17 from his previous marriage).

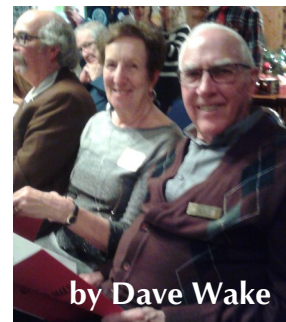
A month or so later, Agnes arrived in Winnipeg with the two boys and five small children aged one to ten (my grandmother Annie was now six years old). They followed the construction crews until winter set in and were, at this time, in Swift

Current. Part of the winter was spent in a tent. In the spring of 1883, they decided to leave the work party and head west to Canmore by covered wagon. The trip was delayed by an outbreak of scarlet fever. The youngest (one year old) died in June and is buried in Swift Current.

After working in a CPR stopping house in Canmore for two years, the family quit the CPR and headed to Davisburg (East of Okotoks) close to where the Highwood River flows into the Bow River. Morris took out a homestead as did the two boys. By this time (1885) they were 18 and 20 years old. (Alex later moved to Gladys Ridge and Will staying in Davisburg his whole life.) Morris and Agnes had four more children at Davisburg. Both Morris and Agnes died in 1907.

Will was a member of the Southern Alberta Pioneers for many years and Catherine (Stewart) Hogg, who was three years older than my grandmother, was the President of the Ladies organization when the SAPD Memorial Bldg. was dedicated in 1955.

Annie Stewart and Walter Wake were married in 1898 and, after a couple of years in the Kootenay’s running a butcher shop for Pat Burns, moved to High River where grandfather Walter took out a homestead on his own. Walter was a butcher, cowboy, farmer/rancher, but probably best known in the district as a cattle buyer for Pat Burns, shipping carloads of cattle and pigs out of High River and Cayley for many years.



Dad sold the home-stead in 1944 and we moved east of High River. I grew up in the area taking the school bus to High River for twelve years. I came to Calgary to take a two-year course in Automotives and then out to industry for a couple of

years to obtain my mechanic license. In 1962, I was approached by the Automotive Department Head at SAIT (Southern Alberta Institute of Technology) to consider teaching. I joined the staff that fall and continued in the department in various positions, retiring in 1995 with 33 years of service.

After retiring I became more interested in researching my family genealogy (as many people do). I came to the SAPD to search for some answers and was quickly signed up as a member and joined the Historical Committee. In 2003, we expanded the display providing historical photos at the Stampede and also a mobile display. I was also on the Building Committee for several years. I served on the Board of Directors for three years then a year as Vice President and then President in 2011. I was nominated in 2019 as the Pioneer Gentleman shortly before the pandemic occurred so couldn’t carry on any duties.

Betty and I were married in 1965 and we have two children and three grandchildren.

BULLETIN BOARD

Click on the links below to browse the [website](#) of the SAPD

- ⇒ [Southern Alberta Timeline](#)
- ⇒ [Pioneer Profiles](#)
- ⇒ [SAPD Archives, Publications](#) and [Library](#)
- ⇒ [Initiatives](#): information about our Historical Photo Display & Pioneers Digital Memory Project
- ⇒ [Historical and Other Related Alberta Sites](#) includes links to places of interest
- ⇒ Memorial Building reservations are managed by Gabrielle Leah: phone 403-807-0550, email sap.rentals@pioneersalberta.org, or go online www.pioneerbuilding.ca.
- ⇒ Cards & Remembering: Notify the office at sap.office@pioneersalberta.org to report any illnesses or a death in your family.
- ⇒ Historical Committee: Contact Alan Lynas at 403-228-7815 to ask about committee meetings. To have your Family History entered into our archives, contact Kelsey Hipkin at 403-700-8698.
- ⇒ The SAPD Newsletter is published January, May and September. Send your stories, articles and photos to Val McKinney at newsletter@pioneersalberta.org by the 15th of the month prior to these publication months.
- ⇒ Advertising: To place an ad in the newsletter, 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.

Did you know?
SAPD Tweets by
[@sa_pioneers](#)



If you have paid your

2021 Membership Fees
thank you!!

If you have not, **REMEMBER**
you **must** be in good standing before
attending the AGM on October 16, 2021.
So please send your cheque to SAPD,
3625 – 4 St. SW, Calgary AB T2S 1Y3
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membership@pioneersalberta.org

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Priddis & Millarville Fair

Photo submitted by
Kathleen Rogers

The Priddis & Millarville Fair is one of Southern Alberta's oldest and largest country fairs. It began in 1907 and has been located at the Millarville Racetrack since 1950.

This fair is a huge success story because of the diligence of volunteers, community members, exhibitors, and sponsors.

Besides exhibits and old-fashioned country fun, the fair creates a learning atmosphere for participants, volunteers, and spectators.

This year (Aug. 21-22), the organizers invited SAPD to exhibit our photos and educate the public about Southern Alberta pioneers and their descendants.



L-R: Brian Rogers,
Gene Blakley,
Dave Wake,
Lynn Hoosier and
Alan Lynas

Rideau Pharmacy

TIM HEATON
B.Sc. Pharm. M.Sc.



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JANUARY 2022'S SAPD NEWSLETTER WILL INCLUDE

- The first report of the 2021-2022 SAPD President.
- An article from Karen Gummo about her great-great uncle Indridi Fridriksson, a stonecutter/mason.

If you have pioneer stories of your own, share them with us so we can tell members who your ancestors and family are.