



# 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

Vol. 38 • No. 2

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

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

January 2006

### *President's Message*

Thank you for giving me the privilege of being your President for 2006. I am looking forward to meeting and working with many of you in the upcoming year. Some of you will know much of the following, but new members may not, therefore.....

#### **Our Memorial Building Opened June 8, 1955**

Sitting on a bluff above the Elbow River, with a commanding view of all south Calgary and the magnificent Rocky Mountains to the west, is the Memorial Building of the Southern Alberta Old Timers. The site of our building is also a historical one as it is just above the old ford on the Elbow River, which was used by the first settlers upon arrival in Calgary. With its roots as deep as our province, this 2,400 square foot building contains some of the city's most important historical records, photos and memories, yet few Calgarians know its events. This is the home of the Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants – a group that was formed in the early 1900s. The mandate of the Association is to collect and preserve information, pictures and artifacts on the early settlement of the province and of the families who broke the ground.

The front of the site is marked by a large "Memorial Gate", built to celebrate Canada's centennial year. The archway bears, on its easterly face, two plaques – one a simple dedication to our pioneers and the

other a listing of the signatories of Treaty No. 7 in tribute to the Indian people who originally occupied these lands. The westerly face of the archway bears plaques perpetuating in bronze the names of 1,050 of the heads of original Pioneer Families settling in Southern Alberta before the end of 1890.

Our building is full of history and it is a lovely place to visit. It is even more fun to discover in person, by your attendance at a social function, where you could experience all of this in person. We look forward to meeting you at some future date.

– Cheers,  
Peggy Barr

### **Christmas Dinner**

Over 100 members and their guests gathered at the Memorial Building on Saturday, December 3rd for the annual Southern Alberta Pioneer's Christmas Dinner. An evening of good fellowship, a wonderful turkey dinner with all the trimmings (including Christmas pudding) and carol singing put one and all in a festive mood.

The singsong was led by Patricia Cox and piano accompaniment was provided by Ann McTavish. This event was a sellout, so make sure you order your tickets early for next year's dinner! Information will be included in the September Newsletter.

– Pat Rodriguez & Moyra Ferguson



### 12th Annual **WINE TASTING NIGHT**

**Saturday,  
February 18, 2006  
7:30 p.m.**

**Convenors:**

**Shirley Siddon & Lance Cooke**

*Featuring a selection of Fine Wines  
from Canada & Germany &  
Delicious Hors d'Oeuvres!*

*Tickets are only \$20.00 per person  
(includes all wines)*

*Available from Pat Rodriguez  
@ 279-6435*

*Limited to 60 people*



# 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](http://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](mailto:sap.membership@shaw.ca) and let me know your wishes.**

## In Memoriam:

Cyril Wooliams, Donald McNeil, James Shortt, Betty Ann Schmaltz, John Robert Bateman, Jean Fleming and Frieda Purmal.

## Welcome New Gold Card Members:

John Forrest Black, James Munro and Dulcie Cox.

## Welcome New Members:

Ryan Donald Pedlar, descendant of

Thomas & Flora Andrews, Calgary, 1884.

George Dennis Grisak, grandson of John & Anna Grisak, Lethbridge, 1884.

Michael Brown, descendant of Daniel & Margaret McEwing, Calgary, 1889.

Brenda Simmonds, descendant of James & Margaret Robertson, Cochrane, 1881.

Linda Raasveldt, descendant of Ephriam McAlister, Innisfail, 1890 & Thomas & Rebecca Green, Penhold, 1887.

Tanya Jones, descendant of Joseph & Elizabeth Connell, Gladys Ridge, 1889.

Kyle Pedersen, descendant of William Hinde, Calgary, 1889.

Joseph James Cox, descendant of William & May Patricia (Gough) Scott, Calgary, 1875.

You can notify me of any changes

at [sap.membership@shaw.ca](mailto:sap.membership@shaw.ca) or by phone at 271-5483.

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

– Maureen Peckham  
Membership Secretary

## Calgary Guild of Needle and Fibre Arts

Saturday, April 29, 2006

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Calgary Guild of Needle and Fibre Arts

Members "Show of Hands" and "Elegant Tea"

\$8.00 Advance Tickets

\$10.00 at the door

Contact Hilda Onions at 246-3651

## Calgary Guild of Needle and Fibre Arts

Over 100 members and their guests gathered at the Memorial Building on Saturday, December 3rd for the annual Southern Alberta Pioneer's Christmas Dinner. An evening of good fellowship, a wonderful turkey dinner with all the trimmings (including Christmas pudding) and carol singing put one and all in a festive mood.

## Memorial Building Fund

The following have donated to our Memorial Building Fund since my last report in September, 2005:

Mrs. Betty Ann Schmaltz

Ms Jeanne Rodbourne (in memory of Sherry Rodbourne)

Mrs. Margaret Buckley (in memory of Betty Schmaltz)

Mr & Mrs. D.J. Ballard

Mr. Joseph G. Hinde

Mrs. Olive Bain (in memory of George Godlonton family)

Mr. Robert Vine (in memory of

Murial (Phillips) Vine)

Contributions to the Fund are income tax deductible. Cheques should be made payable to The Southern Alberta Pioneers' Memorial Building Fund. At November 30, 2005, the Fund stood at \$182,043.

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

## HERITAGE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICES



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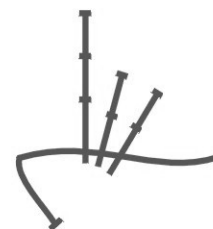
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(Within Queen's Park Cemetery)

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E-mail: [ccfsc@telusplanet.net](mailto:ccfsc@telusplanet.net)

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v: (403) 686-2484

c: (403) 819-2920

email: [stephmcs@shaw.ca](mailto:stephmcs@shaw.ca)

Pipes for All Occasions



# Round-Up 2005

From all of the accolades that are still being received the evening was an unqualified success. The theme for the evening was "A Centennial Celebration" featuring a 30-minute show by **The Young Canadians of The Calgary Stampede**. **Steve Allan** (well known to many of our members as the son of **Frances Allan**, President of our organization in 1975), acting in his capacity as Chairman of the Board and President of the Calgary Stampede, was our guest speaker for the evening.

**Bill Murphy**, our outgoing President, acted as Chairman and emcee of our evening proceedings. Joining **Bill** and **Eleanor** at the head table was our **Pioneer Lady for 2005**, **Gwen Hanna**, accompanied by husband **Art** and the **Pioneer Gent for 2005**, **Jay Joffe** and his lovely wife **Barbara**. Rounding out the head table were incoming President **Peggy Barr** and our Padre, **Bill Sayers** and his wife **Marion**, and of course **Steve** and **Marjie Allan**.

**Bill Holmes** and **Dorothy Holmes**, representing the High River Pioneers and **John** and **Laura Walter** from the Northern Alberta Pioneers were our guests for the evening.

Accolades and presentations were made to our Pioneer Lady for 2005, **Gwen Hanna** and our Pioneer Gentleman, **Jay Joffe**, Pioneer Associate Lady for 2006, **Barbara Joffe** and Pioneer Associate Gent, **Don Fipke**.

Presentations were made to oldest descendants in attendance, **Priscilla Rowland** and **Ken Urdman**. The Executive and Board of Directors for 2006 were then introduced, including the Pioneer Lady for 2006, **Ann Fitzpatrick** and the Pioneer Gent, **Jim Colvin**.

Incoming President **Peggy Barr** was introduced. **Peggy** gave a short history of her pioneer connections and stated that to be selected as President was an honour, and that she was very much looking forward to her term in office.

**Dave Wake** won the major door prize consisting of a nights' accom-

modation together with brunch at the Banff Springs.

A sincere thank you to the committee, namely: **Shirley Siddon**, **Margaret Buckley**, **Gwen Hanna**, **Fern Dorsch** and **Fran Copithorne** for all of their efforts and a special thank you to all those who donated

the door prizes. And last but not least, a big thank you to all those who attended for making Round-Up 2005 a success.

Mark your **2006** calendar for **November 4th** for this year's great Round-Up.

– *Danny Copithorne*



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# 2006 Calgary Exhibition & Stampede Picture Display

On November 3, 2005 a letter was dispatched to the Vice President of the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede stating that The Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants valued their long-standing association with the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede and expressed the Board's appreciation of the space provided annually for our booth in the Roundup Centre.

It was pointed out that the area assigned for the 2005 array, the best ever, enabled us to display a total of 324 items such as mounted and captioned photographs, some short text features and a few pertinent maps. The final arrangement, placed on 32 panels, provided excellent viewing for the visiting public without creating a bottleneck to the adjacent traffic flow. The remaining space proved

adequate to display two units from the Remington Carriage Museum.

A request for the same 48 by 24 foot location in the Roundup Centre for the 2006 Southern Alberta Pioneers exhibit was presented along with the speculation that our booth would be essentially of the same configuration, displaying a slightly larger and more varied look at Alberta history, events, locations and people. In addition, we reported that a request to The Remington Carriage Museum has been submitted for the Large "Red Concord Stagecoach" to be made available for our show.

It is premature to expect replies to our request for display space at The Roundup Centre and another for the use of the Large "Red Concord Stagecoach" from the Remington Museum. However, at this time

we must be prepared to forge ahead on the assumption that these wishes will be granted.

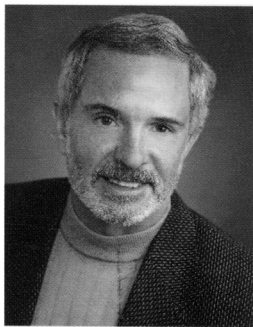
Today, January, 3, 2006, is just over six months away from the opening of the 2006 Calgary Exhibition and Stampede. And in order to be deserving of the space and equipment provided we must strive to provide a diverse, interesting and slightly varied theme or method of displaying the material we have available.

For 2006 we have considered adding a series of early 1900s home pictures that display interesting architecture of the period. Many of the homes presented would be dwellings owned by families who went on to become "The Southern Alberta Pioneers and their Descendants". Our picture source is in the form of a printed booklet featuring pictures of dwellings and businesses and just enough information to identify each building.

Now comes the need for helping hands. Deciding which homes to feature and researching information pertaining to each home is vital. Composing text and using that information to make interesting and informative captions becomes a vital part of the project. Digitizing pictures, downloading them into our computer, cropping images, inserting text, printing and mounting same on foamcore all takes time.

We anticipate recruiting assistance from the Historical Committee to accomplish the research, but the skills required to manage some of the computer operations may have to be recruited from members of our association who, at this time, are unknown to us. Perhaps there is someone reading this article, who can work with Adobe Photo Deluxe on on a Power Macintosh G3 computer.

If you wish to help please call Dave Wake at 288-5545 or Bud Vine at 279-4744.



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## ***Born on the Site of Old Fort Macleod in 1847 – Louis Watson***

*From The Lethbridge Daily Herald, June 21, 1924*

**W**atson was born in 1847, on the Island which years later became the home of western civilization – old Fort Macleod. He was born to a life of adventure and hazard in the heart of a land teeming with herds of wild life and hostile Indians.

“My earliest recollections are of vast herds of buffalo, elk, deer and antelope roaming over the country. There were terrible Indian wars in those early days and our lives were in constant danger. We lived among the Indians, subsisting on buffalo meat chiefly. For butter we used to grind up the buffalo bones, boil them until the grease came to the top. We would skim this grease and place it in a buffalo’s bladder and use it for butter. It was mighty good,” said Louis. “We used to eat a great deal of pemmican. This is buffalo meat ground very fine and fried. We used to pound it with rocks and axes. We raised a sort of barley, which we ground between rocks. This barley flour made a sort of black bread, which we washed down with water, the hulls sticking in our throats.

“The first white traders came from Montana. They brought with them old flintlock guns that we secured in exchange for our furs.

“I also remember the coming of the early Hudson’s Bay traders. The Hudson’s Bay traders gave the Indians their first taste of whiskey and tobacco. They were afraid of this at first, thinking it was poison, but after a while they learned to like it. Yes, they would even kill for firewater. Whiskey did much to degrade the Indian.

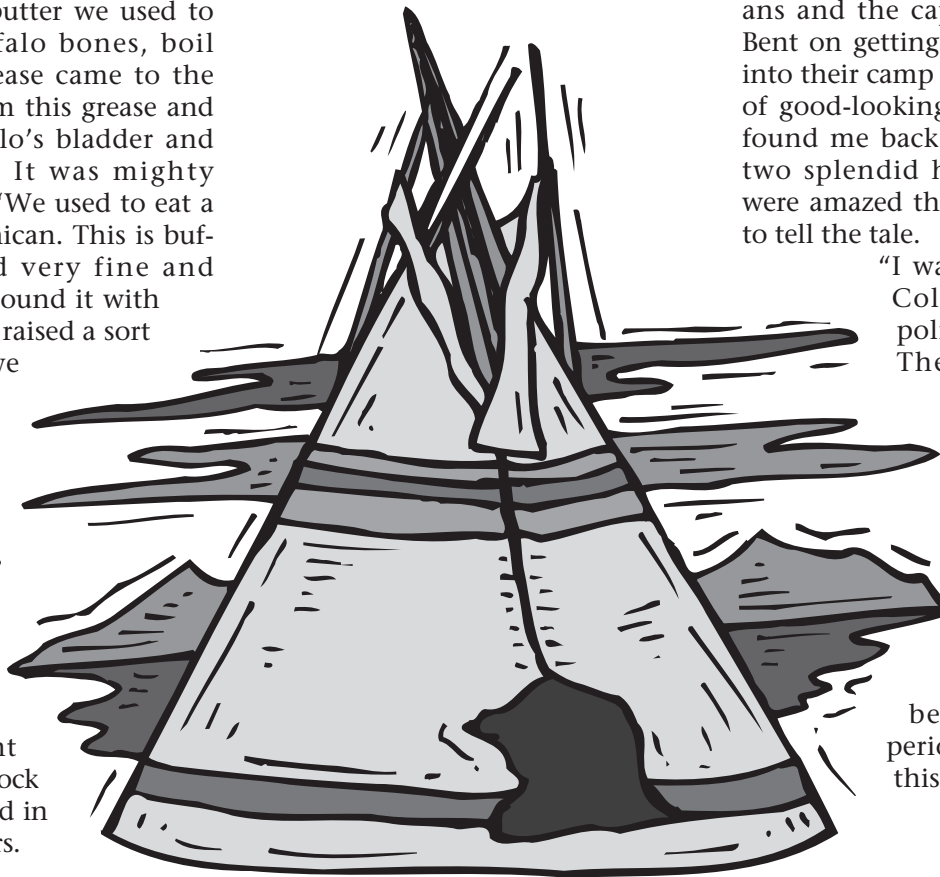
“I remember seeing Louis Riel in the Yellowstone Country across the line. He was a tall man with a heavy beard. His daughter, Bouteas,

was cooking for him. He was associated with a band of half-breeds at the time.

“I met Capt. Walsh at Fort Walsh and remember outwitting the Sioux there. The Sioux were camped five miles from the fort. One night they stole my best buffalo horses. I was determined to get revenge and planned a visit to their camp. I set out across the prairie, the fires of the Indian Camp lighting up the sky. As I drew near, I could hear the hideous war songs of the braves as the celebrated a victory over the Blood Indians and the capture of my horses. Bent on getting full revenge, I crept into their camp and secured a couple of good-looking animals. Daybreak found me back at Fort Walsh with two splendid horses. The officers were amazed that I came back at all to tell the tale.

“I was in Macleod when Col. Macleod and the police arrived in 1874. The Indians began to get more peaceful, the wild life began to disappear in the mountains or to the far north or south and white settlers started to come in.

“This marked the beginning of a new period in the history of this country.”



***The Newsletter can be read at [www.pioneersalberta.org](http://www.pioneersalberta.org).***

To help reduce the expense of mailing the Newsletter,  
please notify the office to have your address removed from our mailing list.

Send to: [sap.membership@shaw.ca](mailto:sap.membership@shaw.ca).

## 2006 Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons

### OFFICERS

#### President

Peggy Barr.....246-2843

#### Vice-President

Bob Brewster.....225-2376

#### Past President

Bill Murphy .....252-6565

#### Secretary

Sandy Pedlar.....278-1334

#### Treasurer

John Hutchings.....255-4211

#### Membership

Maureen Peckham .....271-5483

#### Directors: Two-Year Term

Laurie Jacques .....271-0138

John Douglass .....641-2562

Pamela Hilton .....932-2637

Fran Copithorne .....271-1972

#### One-Year Term

David Wake.....288-5545

Shirley Siddon .....271-1118

Beryl Sibbald .....932-5584

Bud Vine.....279-4744

### COMMITTEES

#### Bridge

Fern Dorsch.....278-2793

#### Building

Danny Copithorne.....271-1972

#### Casino

Pat Rodriguez .....279-6435

#### Cookbooks

Fern Dorsch.....278-2793

#### Historical

Jim Mackie .....228-4046

Joan Davis .....251-4915

### Library

Sharon Thielen.....282-1302

### Newsletter

Kerri Fipke .....271-9581

### Newsletter Advertising

Beryl Sibbald .....932-5584

### Records Management

Anne Fitzpatrick.....271-3179

Peggy Barr.....246-2843

### Sick & Visiting

Alice Schwieger .....287-0995

### Social

Moyra Ferguson .....249-9989

### Stampede Parade

Don Edge.....875-6851

### Stampede Display

David Wake.....288-5545

Bud Vine.....279-4744

### Telephone

Bud Vine.....279-4744

### Padre

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

### Pioneer Lady

Anne Fitzpatrick.....271-3179

### Pioneer Gent

Jim Colvin .....289-1477

### Memorial Bldg.

#### Caretakers

Geoff Wright.....246-7061

Cell 519-8806

Sylvia Graham.....217-1708

Cell 512-5681

SAP Office.....243-3580

SAP Fax .....287-2485

Hall .....287-2489

# EVENTS

**Sunday, Jan. 15** – Family Games, 2:00pm, potluck, 5:00pm. Convenors: Audrey & Ernie Rice, 255-4103.

**Saturday, Feb. 18** – Wine Tasting Evening, 7:30pm. Convenors: Shirley Siddon, 271-1118 & Lance Cooke, 286-2755.

**Sunday, Feb. 19** – Family Games, 2:00pm, potluck, 5:00pm. Convenors: Pat Rodriguez, 279-6435 & Laura White, 271-6055.

**Sunday, Mar. 19** – St. Patrick's Family Games, 2:00pm, potluck, 5:00pm. Convenor: Fern Dorsch, 278-2793.

**TBA** – Volunteer Appreciation Day. Convenor: Peggy Barr, 246-2843.

**TBA** – Building & Yard Clean-up. Convenor: Building Committee.

**Sunday, May 7** – Gold Card Tea, 2:00-4:00pm. Convenor: Moyra Ferguson, 249-9989.

**Friday, Jul. 7** – Pre-Parade Breakfast for participants @ Rotary House, 5:30am. Convenor: Kerri Fipke, 271-9851.

**Saturday, Jul. 8** – Stampede BBQ, 6:00pm. Convenor needed.

**Sunday, Jul. 9** – Memorial Service & Tea, 2:00pm. Convenor: Audrey Rice, 255-4103.

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

*Relay any updates or changes to Peggy Barr, 246-2843.*

## 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.

### Card Night

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 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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### Email:

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