

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

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March / April 2007



Annual Multicultural Dinner

The Manitoba Historical Society invites you to its annual Multicultural Dinner, Tuesday, 17 April at the Manitoba Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre 180 McPhillips Street [west side – just north of the lights at William Ave.] The Cultural Centre has a large parking lot and more parking space is next door at Welders Supply, 150 McPhillips The #33 bus stops near the Centre. Doors open at 5:00 with dinner at 6:00 pm.

Enjoy authentic Japanese dishes such as tempura vegetables, teriyaki chicken and sushi. After dinner, there will be traditional Japanese entertainment. The guest speaker is **Judge Art Miki** who will be talking about the Japanese-Canadian experience in Manitoba. Cost per person is \$20. Call the Manitoba Historical Society office at (204) 947-0559 by 12 April to confirm your attendance. Visa or Mastercard accepted.

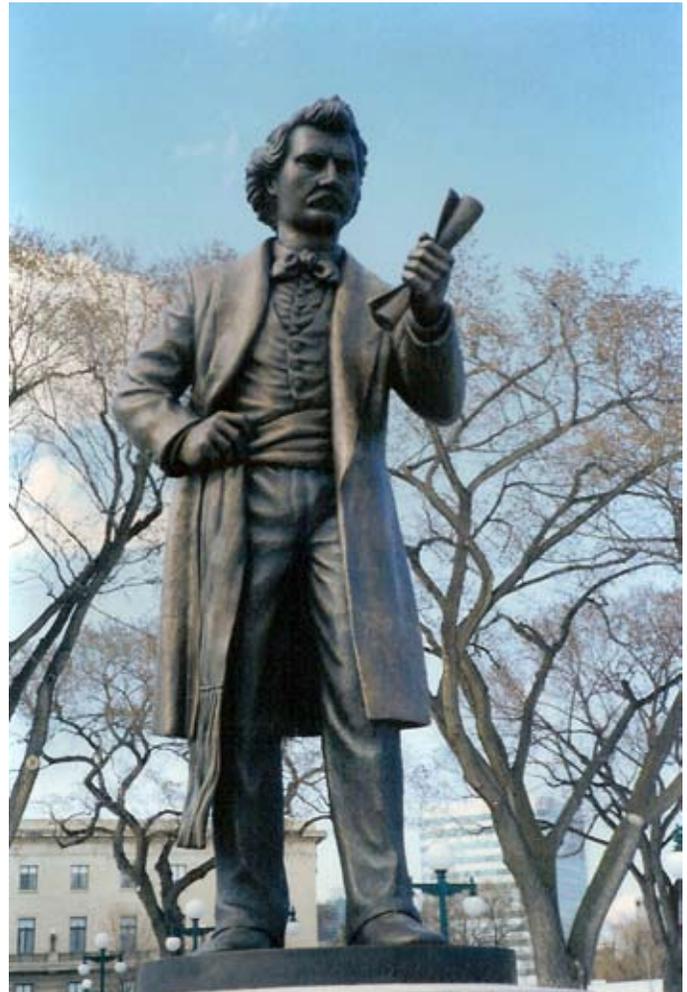
President's Message: Washington and Riel



Dr. J. M. Bumsted

Officially the Seven Years War began in 1756 in Europe, although the North American contestants had been engaged for many years in a desperate struggle for the allegiance of the Aboriginal peoples in the Ohio country and for sovereignty over the region. The French had tried to assert their claim in 1749 by sending a military expedition,

led by Pierre-Joseph Céleron de Blainville (1693-1759), that planted lead tablets all along the Ohio and Allegheny Rivers stating the French claims to the region. The French in 1752 and 1753 built military posts in the area. In the latter year the British sent a



Bill Fraser

Louis Riel stands on the grounds of the Manitoba Legislature.

young militia major with a small party to deliver a letter to the French commandant at one of the French posts, Fort Le Boeuf, claiming the Ohio Valley and requesting the French to leave. They refused. In turn, the British governor of Virginia was authorized to use force to expel the French. He sent the major back a year later with a force of 159 men, backed by a party of Aborigines, to establish a fort on the Ohio. On the way, the expedition confronted a small French party of thirty men commanded by Joseph Coulon de Villiers de Jumonville (1718-1754), which was travelling east

to see whether the Virginians had entered what the French regarded as their territory. If he had, he was to be ordered formally to withdraw. Jumonville's party was specifically ordered not to provoke trouble; he was on a diplomatic not a military mission.

On 28 May 1754, some of the Virginians entered the French camp, which was not well guarded. In the course of the ensuing melee, Jumonville (who had been wounded) was dispatched in traditional Aboriginal fashion with a tomahawk by one of the warriors. "You are not yet dead, my father," Tanacharison said to the wounded Frenchman in the ritual language of the time, and so he killed him. The young major, a Virginia planter named George Washington, subsequently did his best to deny that Jumonville had been murdered, arguing that the French had hostile intentions. It was in this context that the name of George Washington entered the larger tapestry of history.

Few of us believe that George Washington was perfect, but many would concede that he was probably as stainless as a military leader and public figure can be. But Washington had lost control of his aboriginal allies in 1754. He later ordered the devastation of Iroquois villages in the Mohawk Valley, and, as a slaveholder, fought to restore blacks freed by the British. Had the Americans lost the rebellion against the British, he might well have been hanged for treason – or for the murder of one of the many men executed by his illegal authority.

When I heard recently that Manitoba was considering a statutory holiday for February, I thought immediately of Washington, whose birthday for many years was the occasion for the American statutory holiday in that month. Not surprisingly, my mind then leaped to that other "Father of his Country," Louis Riel, who has always been denied that honour chiefly because of the death of Thomas Scott. Perhaps the time has come to recognize that the distinctions between criminals and statesmen are often very slight, not by attempting to argue that Scott deserved to die but simply by accepting that bad things are done in the heat of battle.

I offer three arguments in mitigation of Riel's behaviour in 1869-70. First, almost all observers then and since have accepted that Canada had treated the Red River Métis disrespectfully in 1869, and had brought on itself the resistance for which Riel came to be the spokesman. Secondly, it is at least arguable that when he allowed Scott to die, Riel was at the head of a legitimate government that had moved into a power vacuum in Red River in late 1869. Canada

always denied that the provisional government was legitimate, but of course, that is what one does when dealing with challenges to authority. Even Sir John A. Macdonald was prepared to admit, as he wrote in a letter to William McDougall on 27 November, that "an assumption of the government by you, of course, puts an end to that of the Hudson's Bay Company's authorities. There would then be, if you were not admitted into the country, no legal government existing, and anarchy must follow. In such a case, no matter how the anarchy is produced, it is quite open by the law of nations for the inhabitants to form a government *ex necessitate* for the protection of life and property, and such a government has certain sovereign rights by the *ius gentium*." Macdonald's scenario was fulfilled, and one of the "sovereign rights" that ensued was that of maintaining law and order – by whatever means necessary. Although the Canadian government and Canadian courts at the time had refused to accept this defense for the death of Scott, that refusal was really a political rather than a legal decision. Finally, the resistance that Riel led had not really failed. Instead, most of its aims had been fulfilled, and it is hard to see Riel and his movement in 1870 as unsuccessful. Incomplete, perhaps, but not abortive.

Think about it.
J. M. Bumsted



Bill Fraser

Wesley Hall, the original building around which the University of Winnipeg has developed, underwent an extensive renovation, with new exterior stonework and interior remodelling. For the sympathetic way that the renovations were conducted, the University of Winnipeg, along with Corbett Cibinel Architects and Alpha Masonry Limited, received Heritage Preservation Awards from Heritage Winnipeg.

Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner

The Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner Committee would like to thank all those who attended the annual dinner, and gratefully acknowledge the support and generosity of our sponsors, donors and participants. The proceeds of this important fundraising event play a vital and necessary role in financing much of the work of the Society, and enable us to continue offering and providing many of our services and programs to our members and the public, such as our Centennial Farm and Centennial Organization award programs, and our publications, *Time Lines* and *Manitoba History*. Thank you for helping us to keep history alive!

Participants

Hon. John Harvard	Hon. Peter Bjornson
Jim Ingebrigsten	Keith Burr, <i>Vets Unit 60</i>
Michael Bumsted	<i>Pipes and Drums</i>
Jim Blanchard	Harry Duckworth
Margaret Sweatman	Judith Hudson Beattie
	Valenzuela

Sponsors

Alsip's Industrial Products	Robert G. Darling
Ivan Eyre	Mrs. W. Steward Martin
Bob & Evelyn Sutton	<i>Winnipeg Free Press</i>

Silent Auction Donors

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Delta Marsh Field Station	Edward Carriere Salon
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MB Children's Museum	Manitoba Conservation
MB Lotteries Commission	Mariaggi's Theme Suite
MHS Dalnavert Museum &	Hotel
Visitor Centre Gift Shop	Moda Fini Hair
Partners in the Park	Designers
Prairie Fire Press Inc.	Prairie Pathfinders
Prairie Theatre Exchange	Royal Winnipeg Ballet
Emily Stamp	Theatre Projects
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University of Manitoba Press	Wawanesa Mutual
Wellington West Capital	Insurance
Winnipeg Art Gallery	Averill Whitfield

Silent Auction

Carl James	Maria Zbigniewicz
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Gordon Goldsborough

The Provencher Room in the historic Fort Garry Hotel was the setting for the 2007 Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner.



Gordon Goldsborough

MHS patron the Honourable John Harvard, Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba, brought greetings.



Gordon Goldsborough

Margaret Sweatman spoke on her experiences writing historical fiction. Her talk appears in the next issue of *Manitoba History*.



Winnipeg Foundation

An MHS project to digitize a collection of historically significant books, and make them freely available on our web site, was featured in the 2006 Annual Report of the Winnipeg Foundation. When unveiled later this year, the collection will include fully-searchable versions of such books as *Ten Years in Winnipeg* (Begg & Nursey), *Both Sides of Manitoba* (Galbraith), *Reminiscences of a Raconteur* (Ham), *Extraordinary Tales From Manitoba History* (Chafe), and *The Assiniboine Basin* (Kavanagh). Another part of the project will be two color features in upcoming issues of *Manitoba History* - the first time that color has been used in our journal. We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Winnipeg Foundation for this project.

Dalnavert

Dalnavert is hosting a **Spring Tea** on Saturday, 24 March from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. The price is \$17.50 per person. There will be tea sampling and a delicious light lunch. Details on entertainment or a speaker are to be announced. Add-on tours of the Museum are only \$2.50 each. Reservations are required. Please call Dalnavert at (204) 943-2835 for information or to book.

New Sponsor for Centennial Business Awards

For the past eight years Ken Zealand, either personally or through his Chartered Accountant businesses (Ken A. Zealand Chartered Accountants and Myers Norris Penney), has sponsored the Centennial Business Awards, for which we are extremely grateful. This year, we have a new sponsor: the Asper School of Business, at the University of Manitoba, under Dean (Dr.) Glenn Feltham, with the active participation of Mr. Steve James, Executive Director of the Asper MBA Program. This is an exciting development, and we hope it will bring the program more attention in the business community. The commitment has been made for three years, and we hope its success will lead to an even longer association.

Normally at the Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner, we present three awards; however, none were made this year. We had approached three insurance brokers. While they were enthusiastic about the honour, they were too busy to get the applications in early enough to complete the research required and have the plaques made. Perhaps the new motor vehicle licensing procedures were too draining, something we did not consider when we approached them. We hope to present the awards during the coming year. We appreciate receiving information about businesses that would qualify for the awards.

Judith Hudson Beattie (*chair*), Ken Zealand & David Deane, *Committee Members*

MHS History Book Club

The book club meets from 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the Dalnavert Visitors Centre. Visitors and new members are welcome.

19 March: Céline Kear will lead a discussion on Anna Jameson's *Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada*. Please confirm attendance to Marg Kentner at (204) 943-2835.

16 April: Judy Valenzuela will lead a discussion on James Houston's *Running West* (McClelland & Stewart, 1989) [other books or articles about Thanadelthur include Sylvia Van Kirk, "Thanadelthur", *The Beaver*, Spring 1974 pp. 40-45; *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*, Vol. II; Rick Book's *Blackships/Thanadelthur* (Heartland, 2001)]. Please confirm attendance with Judy at (204) 475-6666.

7 May: Pot luck at 6:00 pm, books for next year. Please confirm attendance with Judy, at (204) 475-6666.

Obituaries



William Paul Thompson, PhD, professor emeritus of Architectural history at the Faculty of Architecture at the University of Manitoba died in Winnipeg on 24 December 2006 at 64 years of age. He was born and educated in USA but he spent most of his career in Winnipeg. Bill was an architect and architectural historian specializing in preservation and restoration. He was president of the Manitoba Historical Society from 1980 to 1982. After 33 years service he retired in 2002 from the University of Manitoba, where he had given courses in history and theory of architecture and in preservation of architecture. His research projects included databases for identifying styles and types of buildings, programs for maintenance management of historic buildings and methods and procedures for establishing cultural conservation regions. He received the McWilliams Medal from the Manitoba Historical Society for his book, *Winnipeg Architecture: 100 years* (first published in 1975 and revised in 1984). Other works relating to Manitoba included a major report and feasibility study on *Winnipeg's Historic Warehouse Area* (1976) and *Design Guidelines for Historic Residences in Brandon* (1985). In 1992, he was recognized for his

lifetime work when he was awarded the Canada 125 medal for "achievements in advancing knowledge of and the conservation of Canadian architecture." In 1996, he won the University of Manitoba's Outreach award for "outstanding service to Manitoba through achievements in neighbourhood conservation."

Bente Cunnings, a MHS member, died in Winnipeg on 22 January at the age of 80 years. She was born in Denmark where she was involved with the Danish underground during World War II. She was trained as a nurse in Denmark and nursed for four years in England before immigrating to Canada in 1955. She nursed at TB Sanitariums at Ninette and the Pas before becoming the Director of Nursing for Manitoba Sanitariums. She received two degrees from the University of Manitoba, a Bachelor of Nursing in 1963 and a Bachelor of Interior Design in 1969. From 1969 to 1973, she was Executive Director of the Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses. After she retired from nursing her interest in crafts, especially pottery, led to another career, creating birds in clay. Over the years, she frequently attended MHS events.

Manitoba Historic Fur Trade Tour

18 & 19 August 2007

Exclusive tour limited to 12 persons
\$1899.00 + GST CDN per person dbl occ.

*Walk in the footsteps of the early explorers
and HBC fur traders*



Includes: Norway House tour, Churchill's Sloop Cove & Fort Prince of Wales tour (see Beluga Whales on the boat trip to the Fort), York Factory tour, private charter flights Winnipeg/Norway House/Churchill/Gillam/Winnipeg & Gillam/York Factory/Gillam, expert tour guides throughout entire tour, overnight Churchill hotel, all meals and transfers.

For details contact:

Heartland International Travel & Tours

204-989-9630 or 1-866-890-3377

info@heartlandtravel.ca www.heartlandtravel.ca

Heritage Day Events, 19 February 2007

On Heritage Day, 19 February, at a ceremony at the University of Winnipeg, Heritage Winnipeg presented conservation awards of excellence in the institutional category to: The University of Winnipeg, Alpha Masonry Limited and Corbett Cibinel Architects for Wesley Hall (515 Portage Avenue), Winnipeg Regional Health Authority, Deer Lodge Centre, and Cohmeyer Architects for the Women’s Memorial Tribute Lodge (200 Woodlawn Street). A distinguished service award was presented to Richard Walls, A.D.I. Designworks Limited for ongoing conservation. Special President’s Awards were presented to Bonnie Korzeniowski MLA for St. James for her efforts to promote the restoration of the Women’s Tribute Building and to Jerry Lemay, a Winnipeg teacher for his efforts to create the Ecole La Vérendrye Heritage Classroom.

Before the Heritage Winnipeg awards were presented, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada unveiled a plaque to commemorate William Hespeler (1830-1921) for his key role in recruiting some 7000 Mennonites to move from Europe to the Canadian Prairies between 1874 and 1880. For more information on William Hespeler and the plaque unveiling, see the February issue of *Manitoba History*.



Bill Fraser

Dr. Lloyd Axworthy, President of the University of Winnipeg, receives a Heritage Preservation Award from Celine Kear, Past-President of Heritage Winnipeg.



Bill Fraser

MLA Bonnie Korzeniowski received a Heritage Preservation Award from Heritage Winnipeg President Penny McMillan.



Bill Fraser

Jerry Lemay receives a Special President’s Award from Heritage Winnipeg President Penny Macmillan.



Parks Canada

On 19 February, at the University of Winnipeg, Parks Canada unveiled a plaque commemorating the role of William Hespeler (1830-1921) in fostering early Mennonite settlement of southern Manitoba. Shown (L-R) are Dawn Bronson, Superintendent of the Manitoba Field Unit, Parks Canada, Mary DeGrow, Hespeler’s great-great-granddaughter of William Hespeler and Helmut Hesse, President, German-Canadian Congress (Manitoba).

Welcome New MHS Members!

Ryan Eyford
 Laura & Darren Larson
 Kenneth M. McKay
 Laura McRae
 Pat Murphy
 Louise & Timothy Ryan
 John E. Poff
 Raymond Tilley
 Kristen Verin-Treusch
 Paul Warkentin
 Hans P. Werner

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

General Operations

Jane Maksymiuk
 Ken & Pat Zealand
 Carol Scott
 Shirley K. Dickenson
 Ross A. L. Nugent
 Joseph E. Martin
 David & Linda McDowell
 Robert McIntyre
 Maureen Cousins
 Wrey & Margaret Vickery
 Bill Fraser
 Laird Rankin
 Frances Bowles

Museum Operations

Dalnavert

Marina Plett-Lyle
 David & Linda McDowell

Centennial Farm Program

One Anonymous Friend
 Mary Hamilton
 Robert & Evelyn Sutton

Margaret McWilliams Program

Friesens Corporation

Erratum

A byline was inadvertently omitted from articles on the Young Historians awards in the last *Time Lines*, which were the work of Judith Hudson Beattie Valenzuela. We regret the error.

Popular Local History - A Practical Approach

Since 2004, Russ Gourluck has written two books on Winnipeg history. *A Store Like No Other: Eaton's of Winnipeg* was on the McNally Robinson bestseller list for several months, became a Canadian best seller, and received the MHS's Margaret McWilliams Popular History Award. *Going Downtown: A History of Winnipeg's Portage Avenue* sold out its first printing within a couple of weeks, became a Canadian best seller in less than two months, and was named by McNally Robinson as the best selling Manitoba book for 2006.

Join Russ on 4 March for a presentation on the process of writing popular history books. As a previously unpublished author, he will share his experiences and insights on the major steps of the writing and publishing process, beginning with how to choose a topic that's worth writing and reading, some techniques of efficient research and writing, where to locate useful images, how to find a publisher (and why self-publishing is usually a bad idea), and what writers can do to market their books. This practical and sometimes provocative presentation includes a number of key tips (including "Finalizing the Never-Ending Story", "Preventing TMI Syndrome", "Avoiding the World's Worst Editor and Proofreader", "Achieving a Little Fame and a Small Amount of Fortune", "Getting Over Yourself", and "Protecting Your Privacy"). This will be more of an interactive session than a lecture, and audience participation will be welcomed. Russ Gourluck believes that local history offers plenty of opportunity for aspiring authors not only to see their work in publication, but also to know that people are enjoying reading the results of their efforts. Join him at Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 61 Carlton Street at 2:00 pm on Sunday, 4 March to find out why.

This is a free event. Light refreshments will be served. Space is limited. If you intend to come please call Carl James at (204) 233-4776 as soon as possible and leave a message.

MHS Publications on the Internet

Back issues of *Times Lines* can be viewed on the MHS web site. Also online are back issues of *MHS Transactions* (series 1, 2, and 3), *Manitoba Pageant*, and *Manitoba History* (up to volume 41). All articles are fully text-searchable.

Time Lines

www.mhs.mb.ca/info/pubs/timelines

Membership survey

Last May, the MHS Council authorized a survey to determine what members thought about various aspects of the society. Over the course of summer and early fall, volunteers phoned 82 randomly chosen members to get answers to a set of standard questions. (In case you're interested, 82 was the number needed for an accuracy of plus or minus 10 percentage points on survey answers.) We thank Judith Hudson Beattie Valenzuela, Bill Fraser, Carl James, Steve Place, Carol Scott, and Marie-Louise Zorniak for their dedication in carrying out the telephone polling.

The survey worked like this. The caller listed each of the activities in which the MHS is presently engaged. After giving a brief description of the particular activity, members were asked to state whether they or an immediate family member had participated in it. The pollster then asked them to rate how important they believed this activity to be, on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 meant "not important" and 5 meant "very important." Ratings were obtained for 24 activities (see table). If you are interested in knowing more about any of them, refer to the MHS web site, or the article "The Benefits of Membership" in the February/March 2006 issue of *Time Lines*. Additional written comments on a particular question were also recorded. Three statistics were calculated for each activity, as described below:

1. *Percent participation*: This statistic, in table column A, represents the percentage of respondents who had participated in an activity, on the assumption that participation would be higher for activities that were perceived to be important.

2. *Percent with ranking of activity*: This statistic, in table column B, represents the percentage of

respondents who provided a rating, from 1 to 5, of a particular activity, regardless of the rating itself. The assumption was that activities deemed to be of importance (or perhaps high emotional resonance) would have a high percentage of members rating it.

3. *Percent of maximum rank*: This statistic, in table column C, calculated the average of all ratings for a particular activity (from 1 to 5) expressed as a percentage of the maximum possible rating (5). The assumption was that more popular activities would have a higher average rating.

Finally, because we felt that each statistic might represent a different way of assessing importance, we calculated an average of the three statistics, and sorted the averages in descending order from highest to lowest, in table column D.

What do we make of these data? We should make clear that no immediate actions will be taken by the MHS Council as a result of this survey; the information will be used merely to inform future discussion. Ongoing consultation with members will take place, and more feedback (on any of the MHS activities, or these survey results) is always welcome. But the results seem to tell us that

the three most important activities of the MHS are: *Manitoba History*, *Time Lines*, and Dalnavert Museum. These three activities are rated significantly higher than all other activities, which were presumably of perceived lesser importance. (Of course, each of the "lesser" activities had strong advocates).

Do you agree with this interpretation of the results? Let us know. Give your feedback to Jack Bumsted or Gordon Goldsborough via the MHS office, the contact information for which is on the back page of this issue.

Gordon Goldsborough

Membership Survey Results
See text for explanation of columns

	A	B	C	D
<i>Manitoba History</i>	96	100	91	96
<i>Time Lines</i>	98	95	88	94
Dalnavert Museum	79	95	94	89
Macdonald Dinner	66	93	85	81
Ross House Museum	56	86	87	76
Field Trips	52	88	86	75
AGM	51	89	85	75
Multicultural Dinner	46	93	83	74
Margaret McWilliams Committees	21	96	92	70
Young Historian	42	80	89	70
Web Site	11	99	92	67
Centennial Farm	45	70	85	66
Book Club	23	95	84	67
Presentations	27	93	81	67
Representation	37	85	78	67
Affiliated Societies	5	88	86	60
Centennial Business	19	83	82	61
Centennial Organization	15	96	79	63
Conferences	9	88	77	58
Film Night	26	77	77	60
Douglas Kemp Award	17	78	73	56
Reference Library	9	82	81	57
Charles Bell Award	25	68	75	56
	1	82	78	54

Heritage News

The ties between the **Orkney Islands** and Manitoba run deep. For instance, Winnipeg's first Board of Trade had seven members who were born in Orkney or had Orcadian fathers. A new web site, www.buyorkney.com, features biographies of some early Orcadians in Manitoba — with plans to add many more — so they would be delighted to hear from anyone with anything to add. You can also sign up to receive a daily email about Orkney and Orcadians. Contact Patricia Long, who maintains the BuyOrkney web site, at patlong@orkmail.com if you have information about a Manitoban with Orcadian roots, or if you are interested in anything relating to Orkney.

Fort Dauphin Museum is chronicling rural schools in the R. M. of Dauphin. Project facilitator Jerry Joss will collect memories from past students of the 40 schools in the area on a DVD. The DVD will be a database of history, photos and stories. The *Dauphin Herald* notes, "Each school will have its own disk with first-hand stories and scanned photos of students, buildings and even memorabilia. The information will be bound in a large scrapbook with two pages dedicated to each school, containing the DVD, a photo of the school, rural school trivia and if possible some-school related items." The project is funded by a New Horizons Grant of \$9000, which will be matched by a grant from the museum. The project is relying on input from senior citizens in the area.

As **Morden** moved into its **125th anniversary** year a plaque was unveiled on 27 January honouring Alvey and Frances Morden. It was on their land that the township of Morden was established in 1882. The granite podium-style plaque has these words: "In 1874, Alvey Morden — hardy, courageous and filled with hope — left Walkerton, Ontario with his wife, Frances, sons Wilmot, Frank, Albert and David and daughter Elizabeth to settle in the West. The pioneer spirit of his United Empire Loyalist forefathers called him to the new west and his family was among the first to settle in the vicinity of present-day Morden. In 1882, the Canadian Pacific Railway was built on Morden's land, partly due to favourable inducements made by the Mordens, as well as the water supply from Dead Horse Creek. The homesteads of Frank and Wilmot Morden were selected for the future town site and the CPR named the town after the original owners of the property."

Also on 27 January, a new series of eight **Morden** heritage brochures was launched covering the following themes: pioneers, building a community, Morden mansions, people, business, schools, entertainment and the coming of the railroad.

2007 is the **125th anniversary** of the incorporation of **Gladstone**. Residents kicked off the anniversary year with a bonfire on 11 January. The real celebrations will coincide with the Gladstone Fair, Rodeo and Homecoming on eight to 12 August. A school reunion is also planned for that time.

Historical documents pertaining to **Neepawa** and surrounding communities are now housed in the **Beautiful Plains Archives** in an office in the courthouse in Neepawa. An Archives Board has been established to set policies and guidelines under which archival material will be accepted, documented and stored. Over 3700 school registers from the Beautiful Plains School Division have been turned over to the archives. The Board would appreciate donations of any material pertaining to the history of the area. If you have material that you do not wish to part with the archives would like to have the opportunity to scan these documents on a computer to create electronic archives. For more information, contact Alan Drysdale at his home (204) 476-2723.

Families wishing to have histories included in **Shoal Lake's** history project, *Ripples on the Lake* have to submit them to slhistorybook@goinet.ca or to Box 181, Shoal Lake ROJ 1Z0 by 31 March 2007. The book which will serve the Shoal Lake and Oakburn communities will be printed by Friesens in 2008, a year prior to the 100th anniversary of the town and the 125th anniversary of the Rural Municipality of Shoal Lake.

Winnipeg Free Press reports that **barber Jack Taylor's** records of the names and service numbers of 22,000 airmen who had a military haircut at the Royal Canadian Air Force No. 2 Manning Depot in Brandon are now a valuable resource at the **Commonwealth Air Training Program Museum in Brandon**. Taylor on his own initiative recorded the information in a stack of scribbled (known as the Barber's Book) which was donated to the museum when he died in the 1980's. The information has been entered on computers and is available at the museum. It has enabled descendants to get service records of family members who would not talk about their war experience.

Memories that you wish to share: The University Women's Club is holding a two-day writing workshop on Monday, 12 March and Monday, 19 March at Ralph Connor House with instructor Anne Fairley, Winnipeg writer and editor. Learn to capture significant memories in writing to share with family and friends. Memories of events, family members, a favourite home - your choice! The workshop runs from 10 am to 4 pm. Lunches are included. Registration fee including two lunches – \$100 plus GST for members and \$125 plus GST for non-members. For more information, contact Margaret Stinson (204) 488-8012, or stinsons@mts.net. Registration will be limited to 12 persons, so sign up early!

The **University Women's Club** presents a six part series on Manitoba's Early Women writers. Manitoba has a long and proud tradition of women writers. Those selected for the course include journalists, poets and novelists and they reflect the ethnic groups that have contributed to the cultural richness and diversity of our province. In an historical overview of about a dozen women, we will examine the writings of Martha Ostenso, Laura Goodman Salverson and Gabrielle Roy, who are considered our literary founders. Margaret Laurence and Adele Wiseman are also included. The speaker is Céline Kear, a past president of the MHS, who will speak on **Manitoba's Early Women Writers**. The series runs for six Tuesday mornings, 3 April to 8 May 2007 from 10 am to 11:30 am at the Ralph Connor House at 54 West Gate, Winnipeg. The registration fee is \$50 for UWC members and \$60 for non-members. For further details and registration, please contact: Janice at uwc@mts.net, (204) 954-7889 (voice mail available up to 10:30 pm) or Céline at (204) 475-3200.

Creative display techniques for your forgotten family photos: If you have been thinking about creative ways to display those forgotten photos you stored away in a shoebox or family photo album, this presentation is for you. Staff from the **Historical Museum of St. James-Assiniboia** will provide advice on safe storage and conservation methods. All participants will receive a reference package. Registration is required. The workshop is given at **St. James-Assiniboia Library**, 1910 Portage Ave, Thursday, March 8, 7:00 pm, to register: (204) 986-3424, and **Transcona Library**, 111 Victoria Ave. West, Thursday, March 22, 7:00 pm, to register: (204) 986-3950.

Brandon Sun Community News reports that the **Brandon Mental Health Centre Museum** must move all their artifacts into storage before the end of March so that renovations can be made in preparation for the move of the Assiniboine College to North Hall. More than 100 years of history is involved in the move. A great variety of artifacts include dental equipment, shock treatment equipment, old wheelchairs, lab equipment, tools, pharmacy items, nurse uniforms, clothing, and straitjackets. A new site for the museum has not yet been determined.

The Carillon reports that the Steinbach City Council approved grants to local organizations for more than \$530,000. The **Mennonite Heritage Village Museum** grant for this year was increased from \$35,000 to \$75,000. Museum executive Gary Martens told council that the museum cannot balance its budget with the funds that it generates on its own. The museum is struggling to pay off a substantial debt incurred in recent years.

The *Portage Daily Graphic* reports that the **Canadian Pacific Rail Station committee** is requesting that a CP 5000 diesel locomotive now located at the Alberta Rail Museum in Edmonton be moved to what will become Canadian Pacific Heritage Park. The the park will be next to the 114-year-old CP station in Portage. The station is in the process of renovation. The *Graphic* notes that "changes include the reconstruction of a wooden platform, outdoor displays of baggage waggons, painting exterior components of the building and restoration of wooden entryways." Fundraising is under way. The station committee hope to attract corporate sponsors. The committee will hold the Second Annual Antiques and Collectables Flee Market in the exhibition building at Island Park's fairgrounds on 3 June.

Important Reminders

- Please check the expiry date shown on the mailing label of your newsletter and renew your membership when due. Renewal can be made by mail, by phone, or by a visit to the MHS office on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 1:00 to 5:00 pm. Payment may be made by cash, cheque, Visa or Mastercard.
- Your donations are needed to support the ongoing work of the Manitoba Historical Society. Tax receipts are issued.

1912 Manitoba license plates

The help of MHS members, automobile license plate collectors, and others is needed to complete a database listing all 1912 plates issued in Manitoba. At present, the database includes information on 3,727 vehicles registered by mid-1912, including the owner's name, his/her occupation and address (latitude/longitude and, if applicable, street address), and vehicle make (Ford, Reo, E.M.F., etc.). An example is shown below. When completed, the 1912 automobile database will be made available for free access on the MHS web site, accompanying an article in *Manitoba History* on 1912 automobiling.



Andrew Osborn

Manitoba license plate 254 was issued to William C. Fraser for his Reo automobile. Fraser, a 55-year-old Presbyterian, farmed at 14-14-24 near Hamiota.

We would like to hear from collectors of 1912 Manitoba license plates. If they will share the number on each of their plates, regardless of condition, we will provide the above information, and any additional data that is available for particular plates, such as a biographical sketch of the owner.

If you have a 1912 plate, or know someone who does, please contact Gordon Goldsborough at 204-474-7469 (leave a message) or send email to webmaster@mhs.mb.ca.

New Prizes for Young Historians

In the last issue of *Times Lines*, we announced a new direction for the Young Historians Program focusing on those not eligible for the Heritage Fairs, students in Grades 10 to 12. Since that announcement, Jim Blanchard has come forward with the generous offer of \$50 first prizes for the first place winners in the three categories – Research Papers, Family History, and Historical Fiction. Added to the \$100 Dr. Edward Shaw top prize, this will help make the competition even more attractive. We are grateful to Jim for his continued support of developing historians.

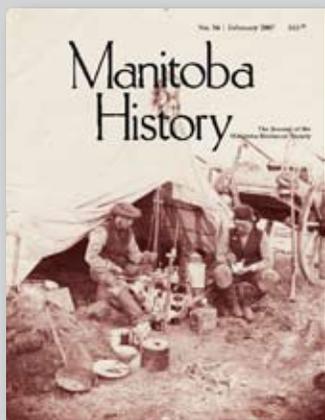
As mentioned in the last article, all entries should be on a Manitoba theme, and we are recommending submission by email to info@mhs.mb.ca, with a closing date of Manitoba Day, 12 May. Details and application forms are on our web site.

Judith Hudson Beattie,
Chair, Young Historians Committee

Centennial Farms

The following Centennial Farms have been designated since the last *Time Lines*.

R. M. of Gilbert Plains	John & Maria Myk Sharon (Myk) Kapenic	S.W. 34-23-21 WPM 1898
Ladywood	Shelley (Joba) Craig F. Joba Lorne E Joba	WNW 24-14-7 EPM 1906
Warren	Alfreda R. Stewart Donald & Beverley Stewart	SSW 34-13-1 WPM 1906



In the February 2007 issue of *Manitoba History*:

- To brew or not to brew: A brief history of beer in Canada
- Remembering John J. Conklin
- An environmental history of Killarney Lake
- The architectural legacy of Charles Wheeler
- J. W. Chafe: Winnipeg's renaissance man
- Macdonald papers at the Archives of Manitoba
- "Graven images of a closed society:" The Huron Hutterite colony, 1923
- Victorian virtual reality
- Bull in a china shop: Making fiction at the archives
- Historic commemoration: William Hespeler
- & more !

The
Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

I want to support MHS projects with the following donation:

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Calendar of Events

4 March Presentation at Dalnavert by Russ Gourluck, *Popular Local History: A Practical Approach*

12 & 19 March University Women's Club Writers Workshop

19 March Book Club Meeting at Dalnavert, 7:00 pm

24 March Dalnavert Spring Tea, 1:00-3:00 pm

3 April – 8 May (Tuesday mornings) at University Women's Club: Manitoba's Early Women Writers

16 April Book Club Meeting at Dalnavert, 7:00 pm

17 April Multi-cultural Dinner at Manitoba Japanese Cultural Centre, 180 McPhillips Street, 6:00 pm

7 May Book Club and Pot Luck at Dalnavert 6:00 pm

12 May Manitoba Day

12 May Deadline for entries to Young Historians Competition

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Membership fees for the Manitoba Historical Society are: Individual \$40, Family \$45, Youth/Student \$20, Non-profit Institution \$50, Corporations \$275 and Life \$575. Rates to USA and other countries are slightly higher. Two and three year memberships in the individual and family categories are available at a reduction. See the MHS web site for details.

Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

www.mhs.mb.ca

President: Dr. J. M. Bumsted
Office Manager: Jacqueline Friesen
Time Lines Editor: Bill Fraser, newsletter@mhs.mb.ca
Time Lines Layout: Salix Consulting

Office 304 - 250 McDermot Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 0S5
(204) 947-0559, info@mhs.mb.ca

Dalnavert 61 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1N7
(204) 943-2835, dalnavert@mhs.mb.ca

Ross House 140 Meade Street N, Winnipeg, Manitoba
(204) 943-3958, rosshouse@mhs.mb.ca