

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 41 No. 4
May / June 2009



Edward Kennedy
President and CEO,
North West Company
Guest luncheon speaker at the
2009 Annual General Meeting

Annual General Meeting of the Manitoba Historical Society

Saturday, 13 June 2009

AGM – 10:30 am

Dalnavert Visitors' Centre, 61 Carlton Street, Winnipeg

Gourmet Luncheon – 12.30 pm

Amici Restaurant on Hargrave at Broadway,
a short walking distance from Dalnavert

All MHS members are encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting at 10:30 as we review the year past and plan for the year ahead. We need a quorum and we value your participation!

There is no cost to attend the AGM. The gourmet luncheon is \$25 per person. Please confirm attendance by 5 June through the MHS Administrative Office at 204-947-0559. Luncheon payment must be made in advance by cheque, Visa or MasterCard.

A limited amount of free parking is available in the Dalnavert parking lot. Paid parking (\$2) is available in the Impark lot on the west side of Carlton Street, just north of the Ellesmere Block.

MHS Honours Gabrielle Roy for Manitoba Day

The MHS celebrates Manitoba Day with an event at 2:30 pm, Saturday, 9 May at La Maison Gabrielle Roy, 375 rue Deschambault in St. Boniface. Organized in partnership with the board of La Maison, the event commemorates the 100th birthday of one of Manitoba's distinguished authors. **Dr. Carol Harvey**, an internationally recognized scholar of French Literature and specialist in the work of Gabrielle Roy, will give a lecture. There will also be a tour of La Maison, including a display of artwork depicting the author. Light refreshments will conclude the event. All who plan to attend are asked to contact the MHS at 204-947-0559.



La Maison Gabrielle Roy

W. Fraser

President's Column



MHS President
Dr. Harry Duckworth

Not long ago, I heard on the radio about a software company that is having great success with one of its products. This is a suite of programs that large businesses can use to “manage” their electronic data, particularly their internal e-mails. The idea is to know where all copies of any of these messages reside, so that they can be

utterly eradicated, once they are no longer needed for business purposes. All companies know that they will eventually be sued over something or other, and modern court processes require the disclosure to the petitioner of all documents (which more and more mean e-mails) that are potentially relevant to the case. If a firm can get rid of any e-mails that it no longer needs, there will be less to disclose. It all makes sense, but it's an example of trends in society that will make things harder for the historian of the future.

Another of these trends revealed itself about ten years ago, when the national Privacy Commissioner attempted to have the detailed returns of the 1906 Census of Canada destroyed. He acted on the grounds that Alberta had been promised, when that province entered Confederation, that the data to be collected in the upcoming Census would remain private. The old Census returns, of course, are among the most useful sources for social historians, not to mention genealogists, and there was a powerful outcry. Some would have been aware that precisely this destruction of detailed Census returns has taken place in Australia, to the frustration of people trying to trace their ancestors there. In the case of Canada, another officer of government, the Librarian and Archivist of Canada, reminded his colleague of the Archives' statutory duty to keep and protect government records, including the old Census returns. In the end, the returns were not destroyed, but in fact have been digitized, and are readily available on the Internet. But the episode was deeply disquieting to many people, in particular for the lesson it taught — that a new societal trend, aimed at the protection of

personal privacy, had unexpectedly put the privacy of the dead ahead of the needs of present and future investigators of history.

The evidence from which historians construct their understanding of the past has often survived by accident. Important scraps of documents are sometimes found, used as filler, within the bindings of later books. Mediaevalists are familiar with the palimpsest, a piece of parchment whose writing has been mostly scraped off so it can be used again, but the original text can still be discerned. I remember reading, many years ago, about a letter concerning one of Robert the Bruce's campaigns, full of unknown details, which had been discovered under the secondary writing on a palimpsest. Papers can be squirreled away and forgotten for centuries, like the unique archive of the fourteenth-century Italian merchant, Francesco Datini of Prato. Masses of documents can be protected by a misadventure, like the English probate registers that were inaccessible for many years because the door to the room where they were stored opened inwards, and a heavy bookcase had fallen against it from the inside.

But most records are lost, sooner or later, making the survivors the more precious. Children, in the fog of grief, destroy their late parents' letters, or surrender the house contents to professionals who know how to dispose of them. Simple stupidity plays its role, like the construction project that led, last March, to the undermining and burial of the archives of the city of Cologne under tons of rubble. There are the fires — the burning of the Royal Library at Alexandria (perhaps started by Julius Caesar), or the loss of Lord Selkirk's papers only 70 years ago. And there are the casualties of war.

We do have fine examples to the contrary, where historical materials have been deliberately preserved with great success. Magnificent collections of government records are held by some long-lived countries or cities. Winnipeg has the archive of the Hudson's Bay Company, a collection exceptional because it is so complete. Most businesses dispose of their records, as well as they can manage it, and as soon as they are no longer needed for their original purpose. Thus it is that the successful, long-lived businesses leave few records, while the unsuccessful ones, those whose papers were pulled into court and never retrieved, whose records most often survive.

I have an uneasy feeling that things are getting worse for the survival of the documents that will allow

future historians to get their insights into our world. The materials are certainly getting less dependable. From our vantage point, we can contemplate the steady march from stone-cut inscriptions, to baked clay tablets, to parchment, to rag-based paper, to modern acidic paper, to digital media. Had the older materials not been as durable as they are, we would know very little about the distant events that they record. And now it is troubling that our modern world is throwing up new, well-focused challenges to the survival of the historian's materials. One should not get too sentimental about the calculated disappearance of millions of internal company e-mails, of course. But legal processes that encourage all documents of a certain class to be hunted down and extirpated, or laws that inspires bureaucrats to destroy our records out of a concern for the privacy of those long dead, must be seen for what they are, and for what they are doing. They are threatening our history. Those of us with a love of history must keep our eyes open.

Harry Duckworth



E. Bethune

Members of the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg, shown here in front of Dalnavert, attended the annual MHS awards ceremony in full regalia (L-R): Bob Darling, Harry Duckworth, Tim Flook, Archie McNicol, Robert Tisdale, and John Perrin. They presented to the MHS a history of their Society written in 1971.

MHS Centennial Organization Award to the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg

In 1871, a group of Scottish immigrants to Manitoba, many of whom would later (in 1879) set up the MHS, established the Selkirk St. Andrew's Society of Manitoba. It was given formal recognition by the Manitoba Legislature in March 1896 as the St. Andrew's Society of Winnipeg. Its primary purpose

is to preserve and promote Scottish culture in Manitoba and, secondarily, to promote recognition of the historic contribution of Scots and those of Scottish descent to the building of Manitoba. A Centennial Organization Award was presented to Mr. Tim Flook, President of the St. Andrew's Society, at the annual MHS awards ceremony on 19 April.

Welcome New Members

Donna Alexander
Daniel Blaikie
Jennifer Bright
Brad Coe
Ewen Mosby
Mel & Sharon Myers
Linda Skeoch
R. Keith Smith
Paul Tiguely

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

Abe & Bertha Arnold
Garry Brickman
A. Barrie Campbell
Lorraine Cook
Joan Goldsborough
Carol Holm
Carl James

Sir. John A Macdonald Dinner

Silent Auction

Dalnavert Museum

Manitoba Historical Books Recognized by Association of Manitoba Archives

Recent books by two MHS members will be awarded 2009 Manitoba Day Awards by the Association of Manitoba Archives, at a ceremony on 7 May at the Archives of Manitoba. The Manitoba Day Awards recognize users of archives who have completed original works of excellence which contribute to the understanding and celebration of Manitoba history.

Musical Ghosts: Manitoba's Jazz and Dance Bands, 1914-1966 by Owen Clark was nominated by Jody Baltessan of the City of Winnipeg Archives.

With One Voice: A History of Municipal Governance in Manitoba by Gordon Goldsborough was nominated by Chris Kotecki of the Archives of Manitoba.

Congratulations to Owen and Gordon!

Centennial Farms

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

Birtle	Ron & Jean Barteaux	S 18-16-27 WPM 1907
Durban	Nicholas Dutchyshen	NE 23- 34-29 WPM 1904
Glenora	Edwin & Edith Lundgren	N 22-3-13 WPM 1902
Lac du Bonnet	George & Louise Ylonen	NW 5-15-11 EPM 1909 98 ac
McCreary	Frederick Scott	SE 23-21-16 WPM 1908
St. Lupicin	Marcel et Yvette Dufault Luc et Marceline Dufault	n.e. 10-6-8 OMP 1893 o.s.e. 10-6-8 OMP 1893

Winnipeg Free Press Archive Available Online

<http://archives.winnipegfreepress.com>

More than two million pages of the *Winnipeg Free Press* are now available online. These pages, dating back to 1874, are fully searchable by name, keyword and date, making it easy to explore historical content, research family history, or simply read about a person or event of interest. High-quality, full-size reprints of any page in the archive can be purchased.

From the day the first edition rolled off the press in 1872, the *Free Press* has been an integral part of Winnipeg and Manitoba. The newspaper is just two years younger than Manitoba, which joined Confederation in 1870, and two years older than Winnipeg, incorporated in 1874.

Full-sized prints (30 by 22 inches) of entire pages are available for \$29.95 each. These reproductions are printed on acid-free, double-weight paper with archival ink. Shipping and handling is \$15.00 each or \$18.00 per order. Additional charges apply to orders shipped outside Canada.

Rates to access the online archive of *Free Press* pages are as follows: \$99.99 for a year, \$15.99 per month, \$9.99 per week, or \$3.99 per day.



G. Goldsborough

MHS President Harry Duckworth (left) presented Margaret McWilliams Awards for excellence in written work about Manitoba history to (L-R): Jack Bumsted, Louise Duguay, and Bernard Bocquel.

Margaret McWilliams 2008 Awards

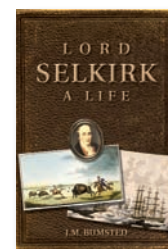
On 19 April 2009, the 2008 Margaret McWilliams Awards were presented as follows:



*The Importance of Being Monogamous:
Marriage and Nation Building in
Western Canada in 1915*
by Sarah Carter
University of Alberta Press

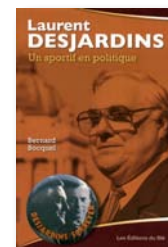


*Pauline Boutal: Destin
d'artiste, 1894-1992*
by Louise Duguay
Les Éditions de Blé



Lord Selkirk: A Life
by J. M. Bumsted
University of Manitoba Press

*Laurent Desjardins:
Un sportif en politique*
by Bernard Bocquel
Les Éditions du Blé



*A Son of the Fur Trade:
The Memoirs of
Johnny Grant*
edited by Gerhard J. Ens
University of Alberta Press

MHS Multicultural Dinner 2009

This year's dinner, coordinated by Patricia Forsythe and the MHS Program Committee, was held on 24 March at the Polish Combatants Association Hall.



W. Fraser

An assortment of traditional Polish dishes were served, shown here by Patricia Forsythe.



W. Fraser

Magda Jurak Blackmore gave a presentation entitled "The Second Generation of Polish Immigrants in Manitoba."



W. Fraser

After the meal, the Iskry Dancers provided some lively entertainment.

Summer Office Hours

The MHS Administrative Office is open to the public Wednesday and Thursday of each week from 1-5 pm. Other times are by appointment.

The office will be closed from 12 June to 3 July. Regular hours will resume the week of 6 July.

MHS Book Club Schedule

11 May, 6:00 pm: Dalnavert Visitors' Centre; potluck and selection of books for next year.

It helps the club's preparations for refreshments and seating if those planning to attend let Judy Beattie know at 204-475-6666 or jhbval@mts.net.

Heritage News

Congratulations to **Dr. Jack Bumsted** who won the national J. W. Dafoe Prize for his biography *Lord Selkirk: A Life* published in the fall of 2008 by the University of Manitoba Press. The Dafoe Foundation will formally present the \$10,000 prize on 20 May. His book was one of 77 books submitted for consideration. In 1988, he received the Dafoe Prize for a book published by the McGill-Queen's University Press, *18th Century Prince Edward Island*. Dr. Bumsted is past president of the Manitoba Historical Society.

The **RM of Hamiota** is planning 125th anniversary celebrations for 16 July to 20 July 2009. Work has begun on an aerial map of the RM. It will include markings of all historical sites, century farm locations and much more. The anniversary committee is looking at a project that would honour the communities of Oakner, Pope, Decker, Lavinia, and McConnell as well as elevator sites at Pitlochry and Chumah. The Hamiota Fair will include a variety of events. For a slide show and information on Hamiota go to www.hamiota.com. Please direct inquiries to the Hamiota Municipal Office at 204-764-3050 or email info@hamiota.com.

Donations to the **Inglis Elevators Endowment Fund** can be made by sending a cheque to the Living Legacy Community Foundation, Box 1343, Russell, MB, R0J 1W0. All donations over \$20 are acknowledged by a tax deductible receipt issued by the Foundation. So far, \$18,256 has been raised. Any money raised for

the endowment will stay in the fund in perpetuity with interest shared with the Inglis Area Heritage Committee on an annual basis. The goal is to raise at least \$100,000 that would result in an annual grant of around \$3,500 towards operating expenses. Please mark your cheque "Inglis Elevators Endowment Fund."

Manitoba Agricultural Museum has Canada's largest collection of operating vintage farm machinery from 1900 and beyond. The collection includes over 500 implements as well as a pioneer village with over 20 buildings. It is located on a 50-acre site three km south of the junction of #1 and #34 highways, near Austin. There are camping and picnic facilities, and a souvenir shop. This spring the grandstand will be getting a new roof, which will give spectators a much-needed reprieve from the heat. On Seniors' Day, 2 June, the museum offers a full day (8:30 am to 4:30 pm) of activities including tours of the museum, such as displays of threshing and baking of cinnamon buns in an outdoor bake oven. A noon meal is provided in the Museum's dining hall. Handicap shuttles are in operation and bus tours are welcome.

The **Threshermen's Reunion**, 23 to 26 July, offers something for everyone. The expo themes this year are construction equipment and multiculturalism. All museum exhibit buildings are open, including 20 in the Homesteaders Village. A free grandstand show each afternoon features a parade of vintage farm equipment and contests such as a stooking and sheaf tying demo, and a threshing competition between gas and steam driven threshing machines. There is a rodeo each evening to Saturday, and the evening ends with free dance on an open-air dance floor. There are several food booths on the Museum grounds featuring fast foods and full meals. Souvenirs of the museum are available in several locations. Handicap parking and shuttles are available. A shuttle service operates throughout the day and evening in the parking lot and on the museum grounds. The museum daily gate admission is Adults \$5.00, Seniors and Students \$4.00, Family \$15.00. The Threshermen's Reunion daily rate is Adults \$10.00, Students \$8.00, 5 & under free. For more information phone 204-637-2354, Fax 204-637-2395 or mail to Box 10, Austin, MB, R0H 0C0.

On 5 February, the *Carillon* reported on two books on rural Manitoba by **Cynthia Faryon**, a writer and owner of Cindy's Restaurant in La Broquerie.



W. Fraser

Doug Dobrowolski, President of the Association of Manitoba Municipalities, attended the recent MHS awards ceremony to present a donation from sales proceeds of the AMM's recent book *With One Voice: A History of Municipal Governance in Manitoba*. Accepting the cheque on behalf of the MHS were book author Gordon Goldsborough (centre) and Harry Duckworth (right). We thank the AMM for their generous gift!

The books were launched at McNally Robinson Booksellers in Winnipeg last fall. *The Dream* is a 64-page story of **W. P. Davidson**, a pioneering entrepreneur and a land developer in Manitoba, with black and white photos and text. *A boy, a farm, a dream* is the story of early settlers in Marchand who arrived in the 1920s and '30s and includes the Davidson story. *The Dream* and *A boy, a farm, a dream* are available at Derksen Printers in Steinbach and Cindy's Restaurant in La Broquerie.

W. P. Davidson was far more than a successful dairy farmer—he was far ahead of his time. In 1909, he bought 200,000 acres of mainly swampland in southeastern Manitoba south of Marchand. Unlike many land developers, he did not subdivide and sell unproductive wet farmland to unsuspecting settlers from abroad. He sold "package farms" which included 160, 320 or 640 acres, a barn with a silo, a house, 10 dairy cows and a team of horses with a wagon. He sent out advertisements and pamphlets to Europe and beyond, and attracted 70 families to homestead on his land. In 1920, Davidson built six 230-ft. dairy barns where workers milked more than 1,000 Holsteins and introduced milking machines and the electric power to run them. He established The Manitoba Dairy Farms Ltd. where farmers could take their milk and obtain feed for their cattle. Before he died in 1954, he donated land to the Manitoba government, which later became the first wildlife

management area in the province, named The Watson P. Davidson Wildlife Management Area.

At **The Royal Canadian Artillery Museum** check out the new temporary exhibit *Some Other Guns*, which runs until 29 July 2009 or check out the 5-year exhibit in the Manitoba Hall of Honour of the Victoria Crosses and medals of two Manitobans, Captain Christopher O'Kelly and Sergeant Robert Spall. The RCA Museum is in Building N-118, Patricia Road, CFB Shilo. Hours of operation are Monday to Friday, 10 am to 5 pm.

The Western Canadian in Manitou reports on a new initiative to promote museums in southern Manitoba. Last year four local museums in the Pembina Valley initiated a **Passport Adventure** program. In 2009 there are thirteen museums participating. The four original partners are: the Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre, the Darlingford School Heritage Museum, the Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame, and the Morden Pembina Threshermen's Museum. Nine other museums have joined: the Archibald Historical Museum (La Riviere), the Dufferin Historical Museum (Carman), the Gallery in the Park (Altona), the Log House Tourism Centre (Manitou), the Manitoba Dairy Museum (St. Claude), the Morris District Centennial Museum, the Pembina Hills Arts Council & Gallery (Morden), the Railway Station Museum (Miami) and the St. Claude Gaol Museum (St. Claude). Free Passports listing the thirteen partners will be available throughout the Pembina Valley region in mid-May. When museum visitors have seen as many museums as they wish they drop off an entry form at one of the participating museums. At the end of the season, names will be drawn and prizes will be awarded.

Resources for genealogists and local historians are becoming more available in different parts of Manitoba. The *Central Plains Herald-Leader* on 28 February reported on dedicated volunteers, with assistance from an archives advisor with the Association of Manitoba Archives, working with photographs and other documents of the North Norfolk-MacGregor Archives in the North Norfolk MacGregor Library in MacGregor. *The Brandon Sun Community News* columnist Beth Wall on 19 March reported on some of resources for genealogists in Western Manitoba. Many of these resources would be of value to other historians as well. The McKee Archives on the second floor of the library building at Brandon University has *The Co-operator*, 1925 to

2000 and the *Brandon Daily Sun* 1900 to 1917. Brandon University Library has the *Brandon Sun* other than 1900 to 1917 on microfilm. The Carberry Plains Archives in the basement of the Carberry Plains Library in Carberry now has a website. Boissevain and Morton Regional Library and Archives has microfilm for the *Boissevain Recorder* and the *Boissevain Globe*. The Minnedosa Regional Archives has the *Minnedosa Tribune* on microfilm. The South West Branch of the Manitoba Genealogical Society located in the Lower level of Knox United Church in Brandon has a wealth of material on genealogy.

At the AGM of the **Mennonite Heritage Village** the curator, Roland Sawatzky, reported that the museum acquired 1192 artefacts recovered by 26 university students and staff from an archaeological dig at Blumenhof at the farmyard of Cornelius S. Plett. The artefacts included pieces of pottery, window glass, butchered animal bones, wood from flooring, square cut nails and bricks. An edu-kit of the Plett housebarn (the first Russian-Mennonite housebarn to be excavated in an archaeological manner) is being created for the Mennonite Heritage Village school program.



W. Fraser

A 125th celebration banquet was held on 18 April at the Arden Hall. The Arden Crocus Festival began in 2001 with the dedication of a 9 feet tall steel crocus monument. Thousands of wild prairie crocus bloom each April at a local heritage site in Arden. The crocus festival was celebrated this year on 2 May at the Arden Community Hall and the curling rink.

The **RM of Lansdowne** celebrates its 125th anniversary on 9-12 July. There will be tours of the municipality featuring former schools, churches and cemeteries in

Arden, Florenta and Mekiwin. On Friday, 10 July, there will be a seniors' tea. On 11 July, there will be a parade and a homecoming supper and social. On 12 July will be an interdenominational church service. Register on-line at www.ardenmb.ca/anniv.htm or email to kenstories@mts.net. Those who pre-register before 9 July 2009 get their name put into a draw for a copy of *The Beautiful Plains Story* history book. For more information phone the RM of Lansdowne office 204-368-2202 or: rmlansdowne@inetlink.ca or phone Leah Dear at 204-368-2403 or email ldear68@hotmail.com.

MHS Centennial Organization Award to the Manitoba Association of Optometrists

In 1909, the Manitoba Optometry Act gave the Manitoba Association of Optometrists its power as the regulatory body for the profession in this province. The Association is responsible for licensing and granting registration certificates to optometrists and, through the years, it has promoted the adoption of quality and educational standards by its members. At the recent MHS awards ceremony, a century of excellence in the practice of optometry was recognized by the conferring of an MHS Centennial Organization Award on the Manitoba Association of Optometrists, represented at the ceremony by Executive Director Laureen Goodridge.



G. Goldsborough

Laureen Goodridge (left) accepts a Centennial Organization Award on behalf of the Manitoba Association of Optometrists. (Note they are both wearing eyeglasses!)



G. Goldsborough

On 19 April, the congregation of Sturgeon Creek United Church, represented by John Junson (right), Chair of its Board of Trustees, received an MHS Centennial Organization Award from President Harry Duckworth. The church had its beginnings from a Mission established by the Methodist Church Conference at St. Charles in 1893. The congregation overcame such disasters as a fire in 1922 that destroyed its building and early records, a sewer backup in 1949 that again destroyed records, and another fire in 1992. The church is now located on Winnipeg's Thompson Drive.

Special Book Offer to MHS Members

The Hudson's Bay Record Society published, over a span of several decades, a remarkable collection of documents relating to the fur trade in Canada. Most of the volumes in the HBRs series are now out-of-print. However, four volumes are still available for purchase at a special discount offered to MHS members by The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at The University of Winnipeg.

#29	<i>Simpson's Letters to London, 1841-1842</i>	\$40
#31	<i>Letters of Charles John Brydges, 1879-1882</i>	\$30
#32	<i>Fort Victoria Letters, 1846-1851</i>	\$30
#33	<i>Letters of Charles John Brydges, 1883-1889</i>	\$30

The two volume set of Brydges' correspondence (#31 and #33) may be purchased as a set for \$50. Shipping is extra. Please contact the Centre for the amount.

These volumes are available from:

The Centre for Rupert's Land Studies at
The University of Winnipeg
515 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3E 2M1
204-786-9003
rupert.land@uwinnipeg.ca



The Metropolitan Theatre

W. Fraser

Metropolitan Theatre Renovation

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports that work on the long-awaited restoration and redevelopment of the historic 2300-seat Metropolitan Theatre will be under way this summer. Canad Inns will be converting the 90-year-old movie house to a “super supper club” providing food, beverages and entertainment. The facility will also cater to special events such as high school graduations and corporate functions. One night a week, it may also operate as a nightclub. The original plan to include a Rock and Roll Museum on the site has been cancelled.

Canad Inns acquired the theatre from the City’s CentreVenture Development Corporation in 2007. In the first phase of renovation, a false canopy will be removed and the original front façade will be restored. Bricks will be re-pointed and there will be interior backlighting for new windows that will be installed. A small building immediately south of the theatre will be demolished to provide a parking lot. In the second phase of the restoration, the original theatre seats will be removed and a multi-level floor with dinner tables and chairs will be built on each level. The existing 2,000-square-foot stage will remain. Although the interior of the building has suffered some water damage through the years the damage was minimal because the City and Canad Inns has kept it heated since it became vacant in 1987.

The *Free Press* notes that Canad Inns’ development agreement with CentreVenture on this heritage building “calls for it to restore as many of the Met’s original design components as possible, including

the front facade, main entrance and mezzanine. Some elements destroyed during previous renovations also will be reconstructed.” Canad Inns will qualify for between \$500,000 and \$1 million in city heritage credits over the next ten years. Federal or provincial funding may also be available.

Do We Need a New Manitoba Flag?

by Paul Armstrong, MHS member

The current flag of Manitoba serves our province well by featuring some of Manitoba’s history. As a member of the Manitoba Historical Society, I believe that it is important to remember our past and to pass this information onto upcoming generations. Let us not discard this flag. However, a flag that represents our future could be created to supplement our current flag. The two flags could be displayed together, or separately, or alternately, depending on the situation.

While the bison is our provincial symbol and represents our past, I suggest that the Golden Boy should be utilized to represent the future of Manitoba, perhaps as a provincial mascot. A flag with this icon as its centrepiece might accomplish this objective. I have created a flag employing the Golden Boy, and it appears on my website <http://manitoba-eh.ca/flag.htm>. Note that below the flag is the rationale for each of its parts.

I realize that having two flags is unusual. However, to my knowledge, the rules are not “carved in stone”; so let’s show the rest of Canada that our province is innovative and progressive. So many events happened in Manitoba first (see www.manitoba-eh.ca), and this will be one more on the list that we may “boast” about. I had forwarded this flag to the NDP for consideration at their recent conference, but a resolution was not presented.

I can be reached at paul-armstrong@mts.net.

Correction from previous *Time Lines*

The article titled *The Margaret Scott Nursing Mission: A Labour of Love* made reference to The Winnipeg Women’s General Hospital. It should have simply said The Winnipeg General Hospital, as there was no Women’s Hospital in existence at that time. Thanks to Anne and Alan Crossin for picking up on this error, repeated from the original source material!

Dalnavert Museum

In case you have not visited Dalnavert for a while, following is a refresher on museum hours, admission rates, rental fees and MHS member discounts.

Dalnavert is open Wednesday through Sunday, all year-round. From September to July, our normal operating hours are:

Wednesday - Friday	11 am - 4 pm
Saturday	11 am - 6 pm
Sunday	Noon - 4 pm

The Museum is closed on Monday and Tuesday although we sometimes accept rental bookings on these days.

During the summer months, from Canada Day to Labour Day, our weekday hours are extended by two hours each day. We open at 10 am and close at 5 pm, to accommodate tourists and day-trippers. Our weekend hours stay the same.

Guided tours take approximately one hour, so the final tour of the day departs one hour before closing.

Admission rates are very affordable at \$5 for Adults, \$4 for Seniors (Age 65 and Up), and \$3 for Youth (Age 5-17). Our special \$12 Family Rate covers a maximum of two adults and three children under 18. Children under age 5 are always admitted free.

The Gift Shop is open the same hours as the Museum. However, Museum admission is *not* required to come in and browse. As an added incentive, *MHS Members receive a 10% discount on gift shop purchases upon presentation of a valid membership card.*

Visitors can view the exhibits in the auditorium free-of-charge, provided the room is not being used for a meeting or rental function. If you are planning a special trip to see a particular display, please call and check whether the room will be open to the public at the time you hope to visit. (The number is 204-943-2835.)

(The current exhibit on the Margaret Scott Mission and Philanthropy in Winnipeg will be “up” until 29 April. It will be replaced by a display on honeymoon destinations in the early 1900s - illustrated by vintage postcards.)

Facility Rentals

The Museum hosts dozens of rental functions each year, ranging from children’s birthday parties to

bridal showers, business meetings, weddings and evening receptions of various kinds.

The auditorium seats a maximum of 75 guests, but is suitable for smaller gatherings as well. Pertinent details about rates and services are provided below. Our open and airy rental space features floor-to-ceiling windows with sweeping views of the Museum and grounds. Fully wheelchair accessible, the site offers free parking for up to 25 vehicles.

Classified as a licensed banquet facility, the space comes complete with a galley-style catering kitchen (with fridge, stove, microwave, dishwasher and prep area), plus china, glassware and cutlery for 36 guests.* We can arrange catering services for you, or you can make your own arrangements.

Six-foot long banquet tables, simple black chairs and white tablecloths are provided at no extra charge.

*For larger meetings and receptions, we can provide cups, saucers, sideplates, and teaspoons for 75 guests. We do *not* have full sets of dinnerware or cutlery for groups of this size.

Rental Fees

\$125 (plus GST) for a half day (4 hours or less)

\$175 (plus GST) for a full day (4 hours or more)

50% deposit required to reserve the space (\$62.50 or \$87.50)

Fees include use of the meeting and kitchen space, tables, chairs, linens, coffee urns, dishware, glassware, and cutlery, plus set up and take down.

Additional Fees/Services

\$50 cancellation fee applies on all bookings

\$25 per hour supervisory fee for functions held outside of regular Museum hours

\$2.50 per person for brief, add-on tours of the Museum (must be booked at least two weeks in advance)

Light Refreshments

\$1.00 per person for coffee/tea service (charged per half day)

\$1.50 per person for donuts, muffins, pastries and/or cookies (charged per half day)

\$1.25 each for bottled water, juice or soft drinks (charged on a use basis)

Audio/Visual Equipment

For speeches, presentations or entertainment purposes, our auditorium space offers a 10' x 10' ceiling-mounted projection screen, LCD projector and Internet capability.

Children's birthday parties have a different fee schedule. The three-part package, consisting of a guided tour, hands-on activity (choices include butter making, creating a Victorian calling card and designing a family coat-of-arms) and Victorian tea party, costs \$9.50 per child. This all-inclusive price covers the tour, craft supplies and refreshments — decaf tea, lemonade and shortbread cookies. Two adults accompanying the birthday group receive complimentary admission; other adult guests pay the regular admission fee.

If you are interested in booking the facility for an upcoming event, please call the Museum Director at 204-943-2835 (extension 1) to discuss your needs.



G. Goldsborough

Members of the Portage Health Auxiliary (L-R) Carol Baldaro, Valerie Bills, Iris Egan, and Maisie Moon accept an MHS Centennial Organization Award at the recent awards ceremony at the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre.

MHS Centennial Organization Award to the Portage Health Auxiliary

In the late 1880s, a train passenger passing through Portage la Prairie required emergency medical attention. A group of compassionate and community-minded Portage women proposed the use of a building that had been intended as a court house, but which stood empty, for the care of the ill passenger. With the endorsement of the local council, the building was made available and the women set about collecting furniture, bedding and other materiel. In so doing, the first hospital in Portage la Prairie was established.

The informal group gained formal recognition as the Portage Ladies Hospital Aid Society when the Portage Hospital was officially opened in 1899. In those early years, the ladies sewed all the hospital linens and supplied patients with blankets, gowns, and slippers. When a School of Nursing was established in 1901, the Portage Hospital Aid sponsored the School by hosting social events and graduations, and provided furnishings for the school residents. Fundraising projects have been, and continue to be, a major function of the group, all aimed at the care and comfort of the patient. In more recent years, the Health Auxiliary has helped the Hospital to acquire equipment that would normally be out of reach financially. In 1960 a cart service was implemented to serve patients on the wards and, in 1976, a gift shop was opened. Since 1967, the Auxiliary has sponsored a bursary to deserving Portage high school students undertake nurse training. In 1969, the organization took on the name Portage Health Auxiliary to synchronize with the provincial organization of Manitoba Health Auxiliaries. Today, the group serves the Portage la Prairie area comprising some 30,000 people.

At the annual MHS awards ceremony held on 19 April, the Portage Health Auxiliary was presented with a Centennial Organization Award.

Important Reminders

- Renewal invoices are sent to members, and are payable on receipt. Members are encouraged to help us reduce costs by checking their labels and sending in renewals when due. Renewal can be done by mail, phone, or visiting the

MHS office (Wednesday or Thursday, 1 to 5 pm). Cash, cheque, Visa or MasterCard are accepted.

- Your donations are needed to support ongoing work of the Manitoba Historical Society. Tax receipts are issued for all donations over \$10.

The Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

I want to renew or join* the MHS as a:

- ☐ Regular Member (\$40) ☐ Youth/Student Member (\$20)
☐ Family Member (\$45) ☐ Life Member (\$575)

I want to support the MHS with the following donation:

- ☐ \$50 ☐ \$75 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$ _____

Tax receipts will be issued for all donations over \$10.

Mail to:

Manitoba Historical Society
61 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, MB R3C 1N7
Telephone: 204-947-0559
Email: info@mhs.mb.ca

* See our web site (www.mhs.mb.ca)
for annual membership rates
in the USA and other countries, and
for two- and three-year memberships.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Prov _____

Postal code _____ Phone _____

Please make cheques payable to "Manitoba Historical Society"
or pay by:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Card # _____ Expiry _____

Signature _____

Charitable Tax Registration BN 12281 4601 RR0001.

Please use my contribution:

- ☐ Where the need is greatest ☐ Museums
☐ Awards ☐ Programming ☐ Other: _____



Calendar of Events

For updates and more information, see www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml

- 9 May** Point Douglas walking tour
starting at Ross House, 2:00 pm

9 May MHS Manitoba Day Event at La
Maison Gabrielle Roy at 375 rue
Deschambault, 2:30 pm

11 May MHS Book Club at Dalnavert
Visitors' Centre, 6:00 pm potluck
and select books for next year.

12 May Manitoba Day

- 12 May** Deadline for submitting entries to
the Manitoba Historical Society
Young Historians 2009 competition

23 & 24 May Doors Open 2009, presented by
Heritage Winnipeg

12 June - 3 July MHS office closed

13 June MHS Annual General Meeting at
Dalnavert Visitors' Centre at 10:30,
followed by gourmet luncheon at
Amici's Restaurant at 12:30

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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. See the MHS web site for details.

Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

www.mhs.mb.ca

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