



Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 44 No. 4

October – December 2012 / January 2013



48th Annual Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner

Saturday, 2 February 2013
Provencher Room,
Fort Garry Hotel

6:00 pm Cash Bar, 7:00 Dinner

Special guest speaker
Dr. Morris Mott

**"120 years of Manitoba
professional hockey, 1893-2013"**

Mott is a history professor at Brandon University and a retired NHL hockey player. He is uniquely qualified to speak about the history of the sport, as a backdrop to the recent return of the Winnipeg Jets. The Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame will provide a display of hockey artifacts, including the AVCO Cup. Tickets are \$100 each for MHS members and \$110 each for non-members.



The 48th Annual

Sir John A. Macdonald Dinner Tickets

Name of person ordering ticket(s) _____

Name to whom receipt should be issued _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal code _____

Phone/email _____

No. tickets _____ Total: \$ _____

(Each: \$100 members, \$110 non-members)

Special requirements (check as appropriate)

☐ Vegetarian ☐ Vegan ☐ Other: _____



MHS President
Dr. Annabelle Mays

President's Message

Another wonderful Manitoba summer has come and gone. I hope that everyone made much of the opportunity to get outside and enjoy the weather. In fact, as I write this we have just slipped from the early warm days of October so reminiscent of summer into the first blast of winter.

My second year as President of the Manitoba Historical Society began last June at the Annual General Meeting. It is hard to believe that more than a year has gone by since I took over this responsibility. I did spend some time over the summer reflecting upon the past year and what the Society had accomplished.

One of the important things that occurred throughout the year is that we continued with our efforts to

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61 Carlton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba
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achieve some savings in our budget by identifying areas that could be rationalized and handled more efficiently. Toward that end, the decision was taken to produce Timelines three times a year in conjunction with the publication of Manitoba History. Mailing the two together combined with steps to reduce printing and mailing costs resulted in some considerable savings.

It has become increasingly clear that one of the paths that the society needs to take is to become actively involved in working with other organizations. Not only is that an expectation increasingly held by funders such as the government but it makes sense to combine our efforts with other organizations to maximize our human and financial resources. Toward that end, we engaged in a number of partnerships throughout the year. For example, those of you who have been in the Visitor's Centre lately may have noticed the display in the glass cases along the wall. This exhibition, spearheaded by Jacqueline Friesen, is a joint venture with several other historical groups. We also joined forces with the Winnipeg Press Club to help celebrate their 125th anniversary. A successful application to the Winnipeg Foundation enabled us to produce this edition of the Manitoba Journal as a joint venture between the Manitoba Historical Society and the Winnipeg Press club. As you delve into it, you will see that this edition is devoted to the history of the Winnipeg Press Club.

As you all know, this year was a significant anniversary for the City of Winnipeg and the Manitoba Historical Society participated in this celebration in a variety of ways. Under the leadership of Dr. Harry Duckworth, we partnered with the Manitoba Museum and the Provincial and Hudson's Bay Archives to create an exhibit of artefacts and documents in the Museum germane to the Red River Settlement. Also related to the Bicentennial was a seminar held last spring in the Visitor's Centre and done in partnership with the Centre for Rupertsland Studies associated with the University of Winnipeg. Further, the Society's program committee partnered with the Hudson's Bay Archives to screen some recently repatriated footage about life in Canada's north in the early years of the twentieth century. As we move forward this year, the goal is to continue with the outreach to work cooperatively with other organizations.

Another goal for this past year has been to continue to focus on highlighting Dalnavert, not only as a museum destination, but also as a site for activities that build on Dalnavert as a resource to be incorporated into various events. In the summer, the lawns and gardens hosted activities for children and adults. In the fall and winter seasons, the Visitor's Centre and Dalnavert itself were the site of many different activities. Most recently, Dalnavert was the setting for a "promenade theatre" performance entitled "The Rise and Fall of the House of Dalnavert," the central character of which was "Dalnavert Copperfield." A series of nineteen skits, the play was a "conflation of the novel David Copperfield and the life of Sir Hugh John Macdonald." The skits moved from the front lawn and the balcony throughout the many rooms of the house while frequently involving the audience in the performance. Those who are familiar with the work of Ian Mozden and Doug Melnyk will understand when I say that the costumes and skits were exceedingly unique and the performance provided many laughs. Each performance was a sell-out and an extra one was added. The month of October highlights Phantasmagoria in Dalnavert and of course, December brings the annual readings of "A Christmas Carol, which involve both the Visitor's Centre and Dalnavert.

Our curator Jennifer Bisch has been working very hard to provide and attract creative programming to Dalnavert and I encourage our membership to attend these events in the Visitor's Centre and Dalnavert. Further, please make others aware not only of our events but also of the fact that the Visitor's Centre is available for rent to community groups, organizations and private individuals.

One of the most pressing goals of the upcoming year is to get a fundraising drive planned and underway. More about this will be forthcoming as the plans are put in place.

I just want to close by saying that I enjoyed my first year as President. Even though I had been on the executive for a few years there was still much to learn. Jacqueline Friesen, Jennifer Bisch, the Executive and Council all worked together to provide me with support whenever it was needed and I thank them all. I will continue to rely on them as we move into this second year and all that it might entail.

Annabelle Mays

Welcome New Members

Jim Cox
 Dorothy Davidson
 Shereen Farrell and Del Quiring
 Angela Fey
 Elizabeth Fenn
 Ethel Field
 Rose Marie Floch
 Sandra Gessler
 Hugh Grant
 Nathan Hatton
 Dr. T. Hechter
 Alan Player-Mason
 Lisa McDougald
 Alice Moore
 Bill and Margaret Owen
 Deirdre Malone
 Will Steinburg
 Linda Watson
 David Wayne
 Richard Wishart
 Martin Zeilig

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

General Operations

Aqueduct Foundation-Malaher Family Fund
 Maureen Cousins
 Dorothy Davidson
 William J. Fraser
 John Lehr
 Estate of Margaret Ann MacKenzie
 Robert D. McIntyre
 James Mitchell
 Robert B. McIntyre
 Margaret Morse
 Steven Place
 Cory David Schreyer
 Shirlee Anne Smith

Selkirk Settlers Symposium

Selkirk Settlers Bicentenary Committee

Dalnavert Museum Audio Tour Project

Film Training Manitoba

Ross House Canada Day Celebrations

Joseph Zuken Memorial Association & Trust
 Fund

Centennial Farm Program

Murray Automotive Group

Obituaries

Mary B. Perfect, a long-time MHS member, died at her home in Winnipeg on 15 August after a long life filled with many achievements. She was born in Pilot Mound, Manitoba and spent most of her life in Winnipeg. She attended United College, Winnipeg Normal School, and the University of Manitoba where she earned Bachelor of Arts and Master of Education degrees. Mary's professional career spanned over 47 years as a classroom teacher, Vice Principal and Principal. She taught mathematics and physical education and enjoyed the challenge of choreographing Gilbert and Sullivan productions. Her MEd thesis, "One Hundred Years in the Rural Schools of Manitoba" has been referenced as a major contribution in the educational history of Manitoba. She was an Isbister scholar, recipient of the W. A. McIntyre Proficiency Award, and Member Emerita of the University Women's Club. She received the Douglas Kemp Award from the MHS in recognition of her exceptional service in the promotion of our rural heritage and the Centennial Farms Program.

Dalnavert

by Jennifer Bisch,
 Chief Program Officer & Curator

The summer of 2012 was a busy one at Dalnavert! I would like to thank our summer student, Kayla, for her hard work without which we would not have been able to conduct our programs. Dalnavert's curriculum-linked education programs (for grades 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8) have been well received in their first year and we look forward to seeing even more students in the 2012/13 school year. It was terrific to see people out and about on a very hot Canada Day enjoying our refreshments, crafts, croquet and music from the Winnipeg Early Music Society. In June, July, and August we saw many families coming through our doors on Saturdays for our Treasure Hunt program. My Secret Garden was also a success, drawing more guests to the museum on Thursdays to learn about Dalnavert's garden and the Victorian language of flowers as well as to do a bit of planting to take home. The walking tour, Sir Hugh John Macdonald's Winnipeg (led in character by Ron Robinson) took place once again in partnership with the Millennium Library, which introduced dozens of Winnipeggers to a historic glimpse of downtown Winnipeg. On 9 September, Dalnavert also participated in the Downtown BIZ's Ciclovía festival by hosting a table on Broadway (featuring

moustache crafts and marbles), a croquet game and scavenger hunt on Dalnavert's lawn, and acted as the end point for the Tweed Ride that brought cyclists in vintage costumes from Assiniboine Park to the festivities downtown. From 14 September – 7 October, we also saw the production of Dalnavert Copperfield come to life after a 7-month residency with artists Ian Mozdzen and Doug Melnyk. The show was quite a spectacle and put Dalnavert in the spotlight for adventurous artistic programming, bringing in new audiences from all over Winnipeg. Thanks to everyone who came out to participate in one of our programs this summer!

We have many more events planned for Halloween and Christmas, so please book tickets soon for any of our upcoming performances. We also plan to launch our brand new Audio Tour in December so visit our webpage frequently or follow us on Facebook for up-to-date information about the launch as it comes available!

Christmas Events at Dalnavert

DIY Christmas Ornaments: End your tour every Saturday in December at our DIY Christmas Ornament station. Free with \$5 tour admission.

Ghosts of Christmas Past: A lecture on the Victorian fascination with Christmas ghost stories by Dr. Arlene Young. 9 December 1 pm. Free admission (museum tours \$5).

A Christmas Carol: Dalnavert's annual reading of Charles Dickens' most beloved holiday story. 13-15 December with Ron Robinson, 20-22 December with Celeste Sansregret. 7 pm. \$20+tax (adults), \$10+tax (youth).

Cricket on the Hearth: A family-oriented performed reading of this charming Dickens holiday classic 22 and 23 December with Ian Mozdzen. 1 pm. \$20 + tax (adults) \$10+tax (youth).

Ross House Museum

Ross House closed for the season on 31 August. Memorable events this year included launching of the Lord Selkirk stamp, Doors Open tours of the museum, school and other group tours and Canada Day celebrations. After the City removed the fence from the front yard, the grounds needed attention. The City provided five truckloads of soil and a pail of seed. The museum staff and the local Green Team

worked hard on the landscaping in the hot weather. Now the yard has never looked better. A tool shed was built behind the summer kitchen to facilitate maintenance in future years.



Victor Sawelo

MHS Past Presidents Harry Duckworth (left) and Gordon Goldsborough (right) were on hand for the May 2012 launch of a Canada Post stamp commemorating the Selkirk Bicentenary.



Victor Sawelo

Winnipeg city councillor Ross Eide and Point Douglas MLA Kevin Chief at the Canada Day 2012 celebrations at Ross House.

Congratulations to ...

David McDowell who was awarded the John Welsted Award for service to geography in the western interior at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Prairie Division of the Canadian Association of Geographers. A historical geographer, a high school teacher and an active member of the Manitoba Social Studies Teachers Association, he has promoted the inclusion of geography and history in the school curriculum. David recently co-authored *Trailblazers: The Lives and Times of Michael Ewanchuk and Muriel (Smith) Ewanchuk* which took a geographical approach to biographical writing, dealing with issues

of migration, settlement and ethnic integration. He has served as President of the MHS and Heritage Winnipeg and as Manitoba's representative on the board of Heritage Canada. He is currently a member of the MHS Centennial Farms Committee.

Corinne Tellier who was made a life member of the Association of Manitoba Museums at its Annual Meeting. Before retirement, Corinne was a classroom teacher and teacher-librarian in several Winnipeg elementary schools and a reference librarian for Winnipeg School Division. Because of her family's history she had a particular interest in the history of St. Norbert. She prepared research reports for the Manitoba Historic Resources Branch leading to the opening of St. Norbert Provincial Park in 1985. She is an historian for the Fort Garry Historical Society (FGHS) and takes a particular interest in the restoration and preservation of the houses at the heritage park. Her book *Revisiting St. Norbert* was published by the FGHS in 1996. She is also a member of the MHS Centennial Farm Committee.

Greg Thomas on his appointment as the Manitoba governor on the Heritage Canada Foundation, succeeding outgoing governor Cindy Tugwell. Retired from Parks Canada, where he had 30 years of experience in cultural resource management, Thomas was involved in the planning, development and operation of national historic sites across western and northern Canada. He served as an MHS President and was a member of Winnipeg's Historic Buildings Committee.

New Book Features Early Photographs of Winnipeg

In early twentieth-century Winnipeg, Lewis B. Foote (1873–1957) rose to become the city's pre-eminent commercial photographer. Documenting everything from royal visits to deep poverty, from the building of the landmark Fort Garry Hotel to the turmoil of the 1919 General Strike, Foote's photographs have come to be iconic representations of early Winnipeg life. But in *Imagining Winnipeg: History Through the Photographs of L. B. Foote*, just published by the University of Manitoba Press, historian Eryllt W. Jones reveals the complex artist behind the lens and the conflicting ways in which his photographs have been used to give credence to diverse and sometimes irreconcilable views of Winnipeg's past. The book features 150 of the 2,000+ Foote photographs held at the Archives of Manitoba.



Dave McKnight

Lord Selkirk with Premier Greg Selinger in the Legislative Building, 4 September 2012.

Lord Selkirk Unveils Plaque Commemorating Selkirk Settlers

In a ceremony on the south steps of the Manitoba Legislative Building on 4 September, the visiting Lord Selkirk of Douglas in Scotland, along with Premier Greg Selinger and Minister Eric Robinson, unveiled a plaque for the 200th anniversary of the arrival of settlers recruited by his ancestor, Thomas Douglas, the Fifth Earl of Selkirk. The plaque will be mounted inside the building as a lasting commemoration to the establishment, in 1812, of a permanent agricultural settlement in the area now known as the Province of Manitoba. Text on the plaque appears in English, French and Scottish Gaelic (the predominant language spoken by the Settlers).

Fort Garry Historical Society Meeting

The Fort Garry Historical Society will be holding a general meeting at 2:00 PM on Saturday, 17 November 2012 at the Pembina Trails Library, 2724 Pembina Highway. Dr. Eryllt Jones, professor of history at the University of Manitoba, will speak about her recent book, *Imagining Winnipeg: History Through the Photographs of L. B. Foote*. Refreshments will be served following the presentation.

Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame Awards

Five people were inducted into the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame at a ceremony at Portage la Prairie on 12 July 2012. The inductees are Wilf John Chegwin of Shoal Lake (posthumous), Edward Philip Hudek of Winnipeg, Herb Melbourne Lapp of Winnipeg (posthumous), Hayden Earl Tolton of Winnipeg, and Edward Tyrchniewicz of Winnipeg. Biographical details on the inductees can be found at www.manitobaaghalloffame.com/story.php?StoryID=21

Centennial Farms

The MHS gratefully acknowledges the Murray Automotive Group for their generous support of the Centennial Farm Award Program.

The following Centennial Farm awards have been made since the last issue of *Time Lines*.

Basswood	Susan Proven & Morgan Proven SE 35-15-19 & 18.5 ac of NE 35-15-19 WPM 1912 Keith Proven & Michael Carr 141.5 ac of NE 35-15-19 WPM 1912
Dauphin	Robert W. Needham ESW 20-24-19 WPM 1912 James A. Needham WSW 20-24-19 WPM 1912
Emerson	Richard & Florence Remus, Brian & Shauna Remus River Lots 77 & 79 Parish of Ste. Agathe 1910
Erickson	Allan & Sandra Hall NE 19-18-18 WPM 1912
Eriksdale	Ted & Linda Watson NE 16-21-7 WPM 1904
Ethelbert	Victor & Elizabeth Kuby SW13-30-22 WPM 1911
Foxwarren	George Graham & Patricia Beswatherick All of 9-18-28 WPM 1908 Shirley Ryan SE 24-18-28 WPM 1911 Julie (Ryan) & Kevin Bridgeman SW 24-18-28 WPM 1911
Gypsumville	Alexander & Mary Helen Szklaruk NE 19-32-9 WPM 1912
Justice	Bonnie (Outhwaite) & Ben Neighbour NW 17-12-17 WPM 1906

Killarney	Thelma (Watson) & Raymond Rollins SW 4-6-16 WPM 1892
Kleefeld	Rene & Rocio Ritchot River Lot 443 Parish of Ste Agathe 1912
Minnedosa	Murray & Brenda Abel W 32-15-18 WPM 1899
Morden	Gregory & Debra Petersen NE 25-3-6 WPM 1911
Mountain Road	David & Kristina Sawchuk WNW 7-17-10 WPM 1901
Notre Dame de Lourdes	Denis Berard N 34-6-9 WPM 1912
Oakburn	David & Helen Sytnyk SW16-19-22 WPM 1901
Roblin	Arlene Arnott NW 30-26-29 WPM 1907, SW 31-26-29 WPM 1909
Rosburn	Leonard & Betty Mychasiw NW 27-20-23 WPM 1912
Rosser	William Miller, Robert & Shelagh Miller S 31-12-1 EPM & NN 30-12-1 EPM 1912
Steinbach	Olga (Kachur) & William Bezditny NE 14-5-6 WPM 1901
Westbourne	Allan Hogarth, Bruce Hogarth NW 35-15-12 WPM 1912
125 Plus Recognition	
Killarney	Thelma (Watson) & Raymond Rollins SE 4-6-16 WPM 1887
Lenore	Larry & Jeanette Logan SW18-12-24 WPM 1887
Plum Coulee	Aron & Mary Rempel 84 acres of SE 1-3-3 WPM 1881
Portage la Prairie	Clarke & Noreen Munroe, Jared Monroe & Trevor Munroe SW 31-11-7 WPM 1872
Rivers	Kaye & Sharon Wolstenholme NW 17-13-20 WPM 1879
Russell	Jamie & Marianne Langford SW 3-22-28 WPM 1885
Solsgirth	John & Carolynne Nickel SE 20-18-25 WPM 1880
Strathclair	Wayne McCutcheon SW 5-17-21 WPM 1879

MHS Book Club Schedule, 2012–2013

Unless noted, meetings are on Mondays 7–9 PM at the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre. Please confirm attendance with Judy at 204-475-6666. Note: L= Leader, WPL = Wpg Public Library

19 November 2012

Robert McGhee, *The Arctic Voyages of Martin Frobisher: An Elizabethan Adventure* (2001, WPL 4 copies) L Carl James

21 January 2013

A. B. McKillop, *Pierre Berton: a biography* (2008, WPL 4 copies) L Cathy Phillipson and Judy Valenzuela

18 February 2013

Richard J. Gwyn, *Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald Volume 2 1867-1891* (2011, WPL 1 electronic) L Shirlee Anne Smith,

18 March 2013

Garrett Wilson, *Frontier Farewell: The 1870's and the end of the Old West* (2007, WPL 2 copies) L Carol Scott

15 April 2013

Dale Barbour, *Winnipeg Beach: leisure and courtship in a resort town, 1900–1967* (2011, WPL 14 copies) L Joe Upton,

20 May 2013

6 pm: Pot luck and choose books for next year.

Some of the archives and library holdings featured in the exhibit include:

- photographs of Humphrey Lloyd Hime, a surveyor and photographer who accompanied the Assiniboine and Saskatchewan Exploring Expedition in 1858 and took what are probably the first photographs of the Canadian West
- paintings of Peter Rindisbacher, an artist known for his depictions of the lives of settlers and Aboriginal people in the Red River Settlement
- the will and testament of Saulsteaux Chief Peguis, one of five chiefs who signed a treaty with Lord Selkirk to provide land for settlement a copy of an early Red River census conducted by the Council of Assiniboia in 1828
- a post journal which recorded a graphic description of the great Red River flood of 1826 as told by the Upper Fort Garry Hudson's Bay Company clerk Frances Heron
- records of the Matilda Davis School in St. Andrews, representing the development of Red River schools
- a plan of the Red River Colony surveyed in 1836 by George Taylor
- excerpts of baptism, marriage and death from Rupert's Land registers sent to the governor and committee of the Hudson's Bay Company around 1820
- a copy of *The Nor'Wester* from 14 February 1860, containing an article by Chief Peguis
- an image from Bishop David Anderson's flood journal title page, *Notes of The Flood at Red River*, 1852

Selkirk Bicentenary Commemorated by Exhibit at Manitoba Archives

Culture, Heritage and Tourism Minister Flor Marcelino invites Manitobans to visit the Archives of Manitoba and the Legislative Library at the Manitoba Archives Building to explore historical records and original publications dating back to the establishment of the Red River Settlement and the arrival of the first wave of Selkirk settlers 200 years ago. "People in the Red River Settlement created records and published newspapers," Marcelino said. "Books, photographs, maps, journals and records of church and government provide evidence of the kind of lives settlers lived 200 years ago. Fortunately, this documentary heritage has survived and is yours to explore at the Archives of Manitoba and the Legislative Library."

The Archives of Manitoba, including the Hudson's Bay Company Archives and the Legislative Library of Manitoba, are commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Red River Settlement with this exhibit of selected archival records and library materials. Public viewing of the material is available Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM at 200 Vaughan Street (at St. Mary Avenue) in Winnipeg.

Guided tours of this exhibition will be offered for a limited time. For scheduling details, please contact the Archives of Manitoba at 204-945-7586.

Heritage News

St. Boniface Museum has received strands of the rope believed to have been used to hang Louis Riel. Museum director Philippe Mailhot said an envelope containing five or six curled pieces of rope was donated by the daughter of Duff Roblin, a former Manitoba premier. Written on the envelope is the name of the captain who escorted Louis Riel from Batoche, Sask., to Regina, where he was hanged for treason in 1885 for leading the North West Rebellion. Today, most Canadians, particularly the Métis, have reclaimed him as a heroic patriot, founder of Manitoba and even a Father of Confederation. Louis Riel Day is holiday in Manitoba on the third Monday in February.



Bill Fraser

A housebarn at Neuberghthal.

Some members of MHS visited the **Neuberghthal Mennonite Street Village** south of Altona on 22 September. The village is one of the best-preserved single street Mennonite villages in North America. Long narrow farmsteads are perpendicular to the street. Homes include a house with a barn attached behind. The street village was declared a National Historic Site in 1989. There are eight housebarns in the village. A village heritage committee has been working on preservation, restoration and also educational projects. MHS members visited the Ron & Marilyn (Houser) Hamm Housebarn, which is privately owned, and the Friesen Housebarn Interpretive Centre, which is owned by the Neuberghthal Heritage Foundation. A committee also plans to publish a history book of Neuberghthal. The book of about 300 pages will sell for about \$50 plus shipping and handling. To order, send a down payment of \$30 to Neuberghthal History Committee, Box 365, Altona MB R0G 0B0 before 31 March 2013.

Thompson Dorfman Sweatman is celebrating 125 years in the Manitoba legal community. The firm is in the final stages of developing a historical document and a series of five videos. Visit their 125th anniversary website www.tdslaw.com/125 to access the first video: The Early Years (1887–1939).

The *Selkirk Record* reports that the **RM of St. Clements** presented the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal to Fraser Stewart in recognition of his contributions in heritage preservation and community service. As he presented the award, Mayor Steve Strang referred to the restoration and care of the 150-year-old Thomas Bunn's house on the Stewart property. The mayor noted that as a member of the St. Clements heritage committee Stewart spearheaded the development of a new heritage website that served as an educational tool that helped students in St. Clements and elsewhere develop appreciation of local history. The website also includes geo cache destinations to track local points of interest. In recent years, Stewart also worked to make the Lockport Dam Family Festival a success. He also helped initiate and mount historic plaques and helped develop oral history compilations.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports that fire destroyed a historic landmark in northern Manitoba, the four-storey Hotel Cambrian in **Sherridon**, northeast of Flin Flon on 2 June 2012. The hotel was built in the late 1920s or early 1930s. The Sherritt Gordon copper mine provided the main economic activity in the area until it closed in 1952. Most of the town's buildings were transported north where a new mine had opened at Lynn Lake. The last person to operate the hotel, Walter Shmon, bought the hotel in 1954 and relied mainly on tourism for business until the gold mine at Puffy Lake opened in 1987. The gold mine closed in 1989. Shmon at an advanced age continued to operate the hotel until it closed in the early 2000s. Residents at Sherridon failed in their efforts to have the hotel building designated as a historic site. Shmon died at the age of 95 in 2009 as the building was falling into disrepair. Commenting on the fire the mayor of Sherridon said, "It's unfortunate to see it happen. There's a lot of history there." In the Pas a twin to the hotel in Sherridon, also called the Hotel Cambrian, met a similar fate when it burned in the late 1970s.

The *Shilo Stag* reports that the **RCA Museum at the Canadian Forces Base, Shilo** officially reopened an improved Gun Park featuring 31 guns and vehicles

from the Boer War to the present. Some of the guns were captured by the Canadian army and brought back as trophies and symbols of their victories. The number of exhibits is projected to rise to 43 by 2014. The gun park has doubled in size to become the largest outdoor artillery exhibit in Canada. The artillery collection is now mounted on cement pads in a one-kilometre walk around the perimeter of the museum. There has been a large-scale repainting program for all the outdoor exhibits to conserve them for future generations. New interpretive panels provide information on the exhibits. The exhibit is accessible for seven days a week during daylight hours, weather permitting.

The Post Road Heritage Group continues to press forward in trying to restore what is left of Fort Dufferin, just north of **Emerson**. Many of the surviving buildings are in desperate need of repair. If buildings cannot be repaired but could be replaced by replicas, Parks Canada does not supply money for replicas. Fundraising is a major challenge. With adequate funds, Fort Dufferin could be a major tourist attraction. Important events in history took place here. It was the headquarters for the British-Canadian contingent of the International Boundary Commission and the focal point for the Northwest Mounted Police as they began a march west in 1874.

The **Souris Railway Museum** is one year old. It is moving ahead despite some setbacks and a decline in tourism caused by the 2011 flood. The *Souris Plaindealer* reports that enthusiastic volunteers who are former railroaders or descendants of railroaders are working on new displays. Two new items are a yard switch and a Roadmaster's inspection motor placed on rails in front of the station. Several picture exhibits are reminiscent of early Souris and the old station. The Railway Museum Committee is gathering photos of railroad employees for future exhibits. Railway museum Director Ferg Devins is grateful to all who donated artifacts and memorabilia or made cash donations for the development of the museum.

At a ceremony to be held at the Riverton-Hnausa Lutheran Church (53 Reggie Leach Drive East, **Riverton**, Manitoba) on Saturday, 20 October 2012 at 1:00 pm, Mr. James Bezan (MP for Selkirk-Interlake) and the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada will unveil a plaque commemorating the national historic significance of **Sigtryggur Jónasson**. All are welcome to attend.

Winkler Heritage Museum celebrated its first anniversary in August. The museum in Southland mall is filled with artifacts documenting Winkler's history of more than a century – toys to agricultural implements to Russian and Mexican passports and immigration documents. The Winkler Heritage Society set up a temporary exhibition in Winkler's City Hall for July and August: *Images* - 28 prints on Manitoba's recreational past presented by the Association of Manitoba Archives.

The grounds of the **Cooks Creek** Heritage Museum were the site of the 40th annual Heritage Day. Celebrations included a scarecrow decorating contest, blacksmithing demonstrations and a tractor display. New attractions included a "Passport Through Time" – a game to encourage children to explore various buildings to find out the past. A concert in the evening was hosted by St. Michael's Church to celebrate the church's 100th anniversary.

Wall murals have become a popular medium to celebrate and promote our heritage. The *Morden Times* reports on the unveiling of a mural on the wall of the old Chatterbox Café at the **Miami** School Reunion, 27–29 July. The mural depicts a steam engine, horse and buggy and Model T on the "old" main street of Miami. The *Times* also reports on the refurbishment and relocation of the mural of the Morden train station and Sir John A. Macdonald's visit to **Morden**. The mural is now displayed at the Morden seniors' Activity Centre.

A 10 by 24 foot plywood mural for the **Rivers** Train Station Restoration Project has been cut into 27 jigsaw puzzle pieces. The pieces have been affixed to the boarded-over windows of the train station. A sign will announce it as the only mural puzzle in Canada and that the mural will be put together on its frame—the "goal posts" at the south hedge of the station's park in 2017, the 100th anniversary of the station. It will give credit to the Whitehead Foundation for Western Manitoba's \$5,720 donation. Fundraising continues. Hometown Manitoba has donated \$1000 towards the project. A Rivers history book is also being prepared. Pre-orders are accepted with a deposit of \$45 to be sent to Rivers and District History Book P.O. Box 606 Rivers MB R0K 1X0

One of **Neepawa's** oldest homes, 483 Second Avenue, was demolished in July 2012. The house, built in 1890, had been unstable and unoccupied in recent years. It was a rambling building featuring interesting

roof designs and bay windows on the first and second storey levels. The first owner was a lawyer, John Wemyss. He was the paternal grandfather of Peggy Wemyss who later changed her name to Margaret Laurence. *The Neepawa Press* reminds us that Laurence as a child often spent her time while visiting the house looking out a circular window on the second floor and that she drew inspiration from it. The window has been saved and it now on display at the Margaret Laurence Home. John Wemyss died in 1926. A later owner of the house was a well-known doctor, Henry Harris Hutchinson who arrived with his family in 1936 and remained until his death in 1962.

The **Beausejour** Centennial weekend 3 to 6 August included a step into the past at the Pioneer Village Museum operated by the Beausejour-Brokenhead Historical Society. A new exhibit in the village is the William Struss memorial Barber Shop to remember a long-time community figure who died at the age of 98. Other village exhibits include Sebright schoolhouse, a log house, a community hall, a Canadian Pacific Rail station, a store, a blacksmith shop, and a Ukrainian church with a bell tower.

An interesting article in *The Interlake Spectator* "The heritage of Berlo Lives On" quotes from a booklet written by Wally Johannson titled *Berlo: A Gimli Heritage Community*. Berlo is northwest of Camp Morton. The first settlers to **Berlo** were people of German descent who arrived from Austria and set up the only strip farm community in the RM of Gimli. Their schools were named after famous Germans, the poet Goethe and the German chancellor Bismarck. Their St. Peter & Paul Roman Catholic Church remained until it was destroyed by fire in 1962. The only tangible reminders of the community along present-day Lake Forest Road today are a cemetery, eight or nine log buildings and some of the descendants that live in the area. Some names still found in the Gimli and Interlake area are Reichert, Marks, Franz, Dzydz and Gottfried.

At a ceremony on 29 September, the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada held a ceremony to commemorate the national historic significance of the **Ukrainian Labour Temple** (591 Pritchard Avenue, Winnipeg). Constructed by volunteer labour through 1918 and 1919, the Temple was a focus for Ukrainian culture and worker and farmer political activism. Because it was a rallying centre



Bill Fraser

The Ukrainian Labour Temple on Pritchard Avenue in Winnipeg was designated as a site of national historic in a ceremony in September.

for the trade union movement, it was raided by the police during the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike.

Brandon City Council voted to introduce a bylaw to declare the former First Baptist Church at 11th Street and Lorne Avenue estimated to be 107 years old, a historic site and will hold public hearings on the bylaw. If the bylaw is passed, the church where former Saskatchewan premier Tommy Douglas received his 1930 Brandon College degree would then be designated a municipal heritage site. Lorne Avenue was once known as the "Avenue of Churches" because of the number of large worship centres each with significant, and now historic, architectural qualities.

The old Union Bank Building in **Somerset** built in 1916 at the corner of Railway and Third Street has had many occupants over the years. Now it has become the custodian of local history under the name Somerset-Lorne Citizens Museum. The goal of the museum is "to preserve local history and educate the public of historical events of the past and present" The inaugural meeting was held on 24 July. Organizers will create a floor plan soon. Some feature exhibits will include a Somerset and area a military display and a First Nation display. Memberships are available to the public at \$15 for

Heritage Needle Arts Sale

Saturday, 24 November, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM,
Dalnavert Visitor Centre, free admission, more
info at www.winnipegembroiderersguild.ca

a single membership, \$25 for a couple and \$40 for families. The membership includes a quarterly newsletter Memberships, donations and inquiries can be made to Box 381, Somerset.

The Interlake Spectator records a very busy year for the **Gimli** Heritage Advisory Committee: activities involved the 125th anniversary of the RM of Gimli, ongoing inventory activities and the reprinting of some heritage publications. The committee produced *The Gimli Area Historic Cottage Owner's Handbook* which is a study Gimli area cottages. It was developed under contract with a University of Manitoba Architecture student Christin Burgess. The committee is also reprinting Wally Johannson's book, *Berlo: A Gimli Heritage Community* and is involved with heritage tours in Gimli and the surrounding area. Visit the website at www.gimliheritage.ca.

Thieves pried off eight plaques each valued at more than \$2000 from the Thistle Monument on Waterfront Drive in **Winnipeg** a few weeks before the appearance of Lord Selkirk on 8 September. The plaques were among the eighteen plaques provided by the St Andrew's Society that commemorated individuals and organizations such as the Queen's own Cameron Highlanders. The plaques had been were bolted securely to the monument on the Red River's west bank.

The Sou'wester reports that the **Charleswood** Historical Society and Citizens for Charleswood Habitat Preservation are looking at projects for Charleswood's centennial year in 2013. Len Roon, president of the Charleswood Historical Society, says "We want to have an active history...We know that the bison had come through by the millions... It really gives a foundation to local history that is quite amazing. It really makes Charleswood and Ridgewood South quite unique in the Canadian and North American context.... It's not just like any other suburb when we have all these vestiges of the past." The society recently received a \$7,500 provincial grant to start preliminary archaeological investigation of the land off Charleswood Road next to the Harte Trail. Van Roon explains that the Society wants to study bison living in the area, hundreds of years ago, now tentatively known as the Bison Pound Wetland, and to connect the area with new trails that intersect with the Harte Trail and lead to a large piece of grassland in Ridgewood South development. Victoria MacDonald, president of Citizens for Charleswood Habitat Preservation,

wants this piece of natural wetland to be preserved. However, this is on Qualico-owned land.

The Annual Canadian Museum of Rail Travel Gala will take place at the Royal Alexandra Room at the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel, **Cranbrook**, BC on Saturday 24 November 2012. The event is a fundraiser for the museum, set in the dining room from Winnipeg's historic Royal Alexandra Hotel that has been faithfully recreated as a museum. Dress is formal or costume. Tickets are \$505 per person with return transportation by luxury coach to Cranbrook and accommodation in the Prestige Rocky Mountain Resort. Individual meals are extra cost. For more information call Doug Belcher in Winnipeg at 204-334-2108 or 204-781-1912.

New Book on Manitoba's Movie Theatres

Winnipeg historian and author Russ Gurluck will launch his latest book at McNally Robinson Booksellers (Grant Park, Winnipeg) on Sunday, 28 October 2012, at 2:00 pm. Entitled *Silver Screens on the Prairie*, and published by Great Plains Publications, the book looks at Manitoba's early movie theatres.

For more than a century, Manitobans have gathered in theatres across the province to thrill to the magic of motion pictures. In larger centres, movie houses ranged from luxurious "picture palaces" to convenient neighbourhood cinemas. Most towns and villages, some with only a few hundred residents, had their own theatres or commandeered community halls that beckoned farm families to town on Saturday evenings. Beginning in the 1950s, drive-in theatres dotted the prairie and provided steamy-windowed memories that have outlived the sometimes-precarious screens. *Silver Screens on the Prairie* is a tribute to those theatres and what they have meant to generations of Manitobans.

Drawing on the memories of dozens of owners, staff members and theatre-goers, this book explores the enchantment of "going to the show" and the joys and challenges of being an exhibitor from the early days of motion pictures until the present time. The book celebrates movie houses of all kinds – from Winnipeg's palatial Capitol and Metropolitan to Clear Lake's distinctive log-cabin Park Theatre; from the unique fourth-generation Lido in The Pas to Brandon's cherished Strand; from flickering silent movies screened by itinerant projectionists in darkened dance halls to today's eye-tingling digital 3-D in stadium-seated multiplexes.

The Manitoba Historical Society est 1879

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Calendar of Events

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

- 19 November Book Club: *The Arctic Voyages of Martin Frobisher: An Elizabethan Adventure*
 9 December Ghosts of Christmas Past, Dr. Arlene Young, Dalnavert Visitors' Centre
 13-15 December A Christmas Carol, Ron Robinson, Dalnavert Visitors' Centre
 20-22 December A Christmas Carol, Celeste Sansregret, Dalnavert Visitors Centre
 22,23 December Cricket on the Hearth, Ian Mozden, Dalnavert

- 21 January 2013 Book Club: *Pierre Berton: A Biography*
 2 February Macdonald Dinner with speaker Morris Mott, Fort Garry Hotel
 13 February Book Club: *Nation Maker: Sir John A. Macdonald*
 18 March Book Club: *Frontier Farewell: The 1870s and the End of the Old West*
 15 April Book Club: *Winnipeg Beach: Leisure and Courtship in a Resort Town, 1900–1967*

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Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

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