

Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

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President's Report to Annual General Meeting, 29 May 2010

The year 2009–2010 has been an eventful one for the Manitoba Historical Society, with a major reorganization of our administrative structure, and the launch of two new programs. The first completes the consolidation of the two largest parts of the Society's activities, the Society business office and the Dalnavert Museum, made possible when the Office moved to the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre. The new programs are intended to raising the Society's profile throughout Manitoba by increasing our role in providing heritage information to the public, and celebrating what we know of our past.

Reorganization. Details of the reorganization of the Society's affairs, with the creation of two new full-time employee positions and reassignment of some responsibilities, was explained in *Time Lines* for March/April 2010. As noted there, the position of



G. Goldsborough

Dr. Gerald Friesen, Professor of History at the University of Manitoba, gave a fascinating talk at the 2010 AGM on the findings of a national survey about the views of Canadians on history.

Director of Dalnavert Museum was discontinued in January. Following approval of the new organizational structure by the MHS Council, Jacqueline Friesen, our business Manager, was appointed to one of the two new positions, that of Chief Administrative Officer. A search committee was struck to fill the other new position, that of Chief Program Officer and Curator, Dalnavert Museum. This position has been widely advertised, and when the competition closed, on 15 May, we had 25 applicants, several of whom are clearly very well qualified for the position. Interviews will be conducted during the first week of June, and we plan to have the position filled very soon after that.



MHS President
Dr. Harry Duckworth

The main effect of the reorganization is to assign all financial aspects of the Society's activities to the Chief Administrative Officer, while the Chief Program Officer and Curator will be responsible for Dalnavert Museum, including the development of new programs, exhibitions and activities that will increase public interest in the Museum. Both officers will report directly to the Executive of the Society's Council. The Manager of our other Museum, Ross House, will report to the Chief Program Officer and Curator, while supervision of the Dalnavert Gift Shop, and commercial bookings of space in the Visitors Centre, are the responsibility of the Chief Administrative Officer. Since January, Jacqueline Friesen has been bringing the financial information together, putting all the accounts on the same basis, and preparing the ground for a unified budget for all the Society's activities. The current situation is reflected in the audited statements for 2009–2010, in the Treasurer's Report. During the next few months, the operating expenses will be carefully examined,



G. Goldsborough

Recipients of the 2009 Margaret McWilliams awards for excellence in writing about Manitoba's history attended the AGM to receive their certificates. Joining MHS President Harry Duckworth (centre) were Robert Talbot (left) and Allan Levine (right). Talbot won for his biography of former Manitoba Lieutenant-Governor Alexander Morris (1826-1889) while Levine was recognized for his history of Manitoba's Jewish community. Ralph Friesen, the third McWilliams winner who wrote a history of early Steinbach, was unable to attend the ceremony. See the MHS web site at www.mhs.mb.ca/news/mcwilliams2009/winners.shtml for more details.

and a complete budget for fiscal 2011–2012 will be prepared, with input by the Executive, the Chief Administrative Officer, and the Chief Program Officer and Curator, so as to be ready for consideration by Council in November 2010. A significant part of the Society's resources are specifically earmarked for Dalnavert, and these restrictions will be carefully respected. The consolidation of all our business operations under one Society officer has led to an unvarnished picture of how we are doing financially and it is clear that we have several problems to solve. Getting the picture clear, however, has been an essential step, and I am confident that we will be able to adjust to our situation.

Homes of Memorable Manitobans Program. In last year's President's Report, it was stated that Ross Metcalfe was chairing the Committee to prepare for the launch of the Society's program to put plaques in front of the houses of Memorable Manitobans. Ross negotiated an important agreement with the Manitoba Real Estate Association that will cover the cost of installing ten plaques during calendar 2010, with more planned for future years. The City of Winnipeg has indicated a willingness to sponsor further plaques. Although he remains on the Plaques Committee, increasing pressure of work forced Ross to hand over the chair to James Kostuchuk, who has

overseen the planning since last September. Besides the other Committee members, Joyce Wawrykow and Gordon Goldsborough, I have also taken part in the process. The program was launched just in time for Manitoba Day 2010, and we are now awaiting the delivery of the first five plaques. The houses to be recognized in this first batch are those of Prime Minister Arthur Meighen (at Portage la Prairie); campaigner for votes for women Nellie McClung (in the Wolseley district of Winnipeg); Victoria Cross winner Alan McLeod (at Stonewall); Group of Seven painter Lemoine Fitzgerald (in St James); and co-founder of the order of the Oblate Sisters, Marie-Joseph du Sacré-Coeur (in St Boniface). These plaques will be installed in the latter part of June, or perhaps early July. We are now inviting nominations of further homes of memorable Manitobans from the public, with a nomination form on the Society website. A blue-ribbon panel, of professional historians, will be used to review suggestions, to make sure the Manitobans are truly memorable, and that the historical information is correct. More plaques will be selected and installed before the end of 2010 and further ones in future years, continuing as long as suitable candidates are brought forward.

Historical Sites of Manitoba project. Another Society initiative, set in motion a couple of months ago and described in the last issue of *Time Lines*, grew out of a proposal, several years ago, to publicize small museums across the province, and raise public awareness of them. Means of communication have greatly changed since then, and Gordon Goldsborough, our webmaster and a member of the Executive, suggested that the project should be web-based, rather than using billboards as originally proposed, and should be built around an interactive map. This model would also permit many more points of interest to be included. Gordon has created a web resource called Historical Sites of Manitoba, which aims to show the exact locations of sites of all kinds—buildings and sites of buildings, plaques, cairns, statues, sites of events—throughout the province. Each site location, once on the map, is hyperlinked to a photograph, and to further information as available. The map can be used to plan historic jaunts or investigate unfamiliar places. The number of sites on the map is growing rapidly, but much work will be needed, as the exact location must be determined (using GPS technology) before a site can be inserted. Volunteers are needed to help with this, and the Society has purchased a GPS device which can be loaned for the project as needed.

In addition, the Historic Buildings Committee of the City of Winnipeg is hiring a GPS-equipped student to locate all the appropriate sites within the city limits, in the course of this summer. This will add several hundred sites.

In this connection, I have to compliment Gordon Goldsborough on the obvious success of the Society's website, which he administers. Among the resources to be found there, which he has assembled either on his own or with the help of students and small grants, is the new Historic Sites web feature; a collection of brief biographies of Manitobans, now including thousands of individuals; and some web tools of particular interest to genealogists. Almost all the back issues of Society publications, and past and current issues of *Time Lines*, are also available on the website.

I also extend compliments to Bill Fraser for his work as the editor of *Time Lines*. He has made it a valuable guide to historical and heritage events, not just those sponsored or organized by the Society, but by other organizations across the province. He also locates and summarizes news from a variety of media sources on important topics of historic interest, such as threats to heritage buildings; announcements of books on Manitoba history; and inquiries from researchers.

Congratulations are also due, once again, to Carl James, a long-time member of Council who has served the Society in many essential ways. Carl was the recipient of the Kemp Award for 2009–2010, for exceptional service to the Society. This award was made at the Macdonald Dinner in February.

Also under congratulations, James Kostuchuk, a high school teacher at Portage Collegiate and a member of our governing Council, received a Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence last fall.

The Society sponsored the Speak Up Heritage Forum, on 19 January. This was a public consultation, part of the Speak Up Winnipeg project to collect information and public opinions for the new Plan Winnipeg. Organized in collaboration with Donald Luxton Associates, a consulting firm, the Forum discussed how the City of Winnipeg deals with heritage places, particularly when the ambitions of new development endanger historic buildings or spaces. The Forum, I am told, was the best attended of the Speak Up Winnipeg forums, and there certainly was a lively and informed discussion on matters that clearly are deeply felt in the community. Don Luxton's final report is now on the city of Winnipeg website. I hope that his recommendations will help the city move towards a more transparent way of deciding the fates of historic places in Winnipeg.

The Society arranged and sponsored a number of successful events and activities during the year, as can be seen from the Committee reports. At the Macdonald Dinner, on 2 February, the guest speaker was Jerry Gray, chair of the executive of the Friends of Upper Fort Garry, whom I invited to give us an account of the Friends' experience in their heroic and costly project of saving the Upper Fort Garry site. The Multicultural Dinner, held at the Belgian Club on 21 April, was a sold-out affair in which the Society greatly enjoyed an evening of delicious food, intriguing Belgian beers, charming entertainment, and warm hospitality. Besides this dinner, the Program Committee has continued its success in organizing a variety of other events. The Book Club has an enthusiastic and dedicated following, and the Young Historians Committee continues to attract interesting projects from students. The Centennial Farms, Centennial Business, and Centennial Organization programs have recognized more awardees, whose longevity reminds us of the importance of continuity in an era of change.

Welcome New Members

Heritage Committee of the Association of
Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of
the Province of Manitoba

Carman/Dufferin Municipal Heritage
Advisory Committee

Jean-Marie De Clercq

Viktorija Eronosoya

Brian Grubber

Les Oysteryk

Leeann and Douglas Thompson

Kenneth Tyler

Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

Terence Brennan

Gregory P. Buchanan

Muryl Geary

Dr. & Mrs. Sam Loschiavo

Cory Schreyer

H. A. Skene

Leeann and Douglas Thompson



Matthew Mymyn

Folk dancers performed during the MHS Multicultural Dinner on 21 April which, this year, focussed on the Belgian community of Manitoba. Other entertainment was provided by singers Ray Platin and Eveline Platin-Cruise.

My thanks, as usual, are due to the Executive of the Society, particularly to Francis Carroll, who is retiring from the position of Secretary after four years of devoted and cheerful service. Bob Coutts continues his success as editor of *Manitoba History*. I've already mentioned the contributions of Bill Fraser, as editor of *Time Lines*, and Gordon Goldsborough, as webmaster. I also thank Linda Neyedly, Director of the Dalnavert Museum until the position was discontinued; Victor Sawelo, Manager



G. Goldsborough

Ross House staff (2010) include, left to right: Matthew Lafrerière, Nelson Rivas, Réal Dubois, and Victor Sawelo (manager).

of Ross House; and Jennifer Bowden, who has been acting as Linda's and then Jackie Friesen's assistant since last fall. Finally, Jacqueline Friesen, who assumed the duties of Chief Administrative Officer in February, deserves the Society's particular thanks for her detailed analysis and care of all our business affairs, and also for taking over the management of Dalnavert on an interim basis while the search for the new Chief Program Officer and Curator is completed.

Harry Duckworth, President

Chief Program Officer and Curator Appointed

The MHS Executive and the Search Committee are delighted to announce the appointment of Jennifer Bisch as our new Chief Program Officer and Curator of Dalnavert Museum.

Jennifer is a local curator of museum and film exhibitions. Her education in Social Anthropology from the University of Winnipeg and York University has trained her to examine history through the role it plays in memory and everyday life. In 2005, she conducted her Master's thesis field research in her hometown of Inwood, Manitoba, which explored memory, economics, photography, and nostalgia as elements of local history and culture. In her curatorial work at the Costume Museum of Canada, she connected with visitors through exhibits that explored clothing design, production, and its role in Canadian social history. Her curated film programs have engaged audiences with new and historical works of Canadian cinema through calls for original films and post screening panel discussions with artists and experts. She is currently involved in committees at the Winnipeg Film Group, the Winnipeg Art Gallery, the WNDX Experimental Film Festival, and the Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library. Jennifer is excited to be joining the Manitoba Historical Society as the new Chief Program Officer and Curator, Dalnavert Museum, and looks forward to meeting audiences both familiar and new.



Jennifer Bisch,
Chief Program Officer &
Dalnavert Curator

Young Historians Winners

Recipients of the 2010 Young Historians awards were as follows:

FICTION CATEGORY

George Bryce Award. **Emily Wilson**, "That Gold Rush", St. Mary's Academy. First place: **Emily Wilson**, "That Gold Rush", St. Mary's Academy. Second place: **Victoria Weir**, "A Memo on a Scandal", St. Mary's Academy. Third place: **Isabelle Anderson Gregoire**, "Nellie McClung", Balmoral Hall.

RESEARCH CATEGORY

Edward Shaw Award. **Hélène Morakis**, "He Ho: The Significance of the Festival du Voyageur", Grant Park. George Bryce Award. **Hélène Morakis**, "He Ho: The Significance of the Festival du Voyageur", Grant Park. First place: **Hélène Morakis**, "He Ho: The Significance of the Festival du Voyageur", Grant Park. Second place: **Carmen Provinciano**, "From Furs to Fortune", Balmoral Hall. Third place: **Cynthia Xu**, "The Red River Floodway", Grant Park.

Heritage Fairs 2010

On 6 May three divisional Heritage Fairs were held in Manitoba. The MHS awarded fifty-five participation certificates to all Manitoba-based projects at the Selkirk Heritage Fair. Special awards were presented at the other two Fairs, as follows:

RED RIVER HERITAGE FAIR

Ben Anderson, "The Buffalo Hunt", J. B. Mitchell School. **Madison Westdal**, "The Winnipeg General Strike", Linden Christian School. **Jamie Roy**, "L'histoire du Whiteshell", École

Réal Bérard. **Sarah Munhall**, "Winnipeg's Gift to the World (Rh vaccine)", St. Mary's Academy

ST. JAMES HERITAGE FAIR

Amber Vandenburg, "Mennonites of Manitoba", Voyageur School. **Danton Unger**, "The Dirty Thirties", Golden Gate School. **Mary-Clare Jackson**, "Tom Lamb", Golden Gate School. **Braden Wilson**, "Winnie the Pooh, Eh!", John Taylor Collegiate

All grade four to nine Manitoba students who participated in the Heritage Fairs are to be congratulated on the great variety of subjects and the quality of the research and final product. Sincere thanks to the teachers, parents, and judges for their effort in supporting the Manitoba Heritage Fairs.



Sarah Munhall

Cécile Alarie-Skene



Jamie Roy

Cécile Alarie-Skene



Madison Westdal

Cécile Alarie-Skene

View historical sites all over Manitoba at this new feature on the MHS web site:

www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/sites

Archival Scientific Drawings

The University of Manitoba Archives & Special Collections has made 108 hand-crafted botanical drawings and charts of Dr. A. H. Reginald Buller (1874-1944) available online. The drawings included in this digital collection were discovered by faculty of the University's Botany Department in Dr. Buller's original map cabinet. They consist of hand drawn, inked, and watercoloured botanical diagrams and charts. Several of the drawings were commercially produced although the majority of them were drawn, inked and painted by Dr. Buller himself. It is presumed that Dr. Buller used these drawings in his lectures. The original drawings date from 1905 to 1920 and are very large in size, often exceeding 3 or 4 feet in height. They are intricate in their design and beautiful to look at. One requires no knowledge in the field of botany to appreciate the artistry exhibited by Dr. Buller in the production of these lecture aids. Yet those with an interest in biological sciences will appreciate the drawings on an even greater level. View the drawings at <http://umanitoba.ca/libraries/units/archives/digital/buller/index.html>.

CHA Opposes Scrapping of Census Long Form

The Canadian Historical Association, Canada's leading organization of professional historians, recently released an open letter to the federal government, expressing its dismay at the announced intention of the government to cancel the long census form as part of our national census. It believes that this decision will significantly diminish the ability of Canadians to understand our country, and it will impair the capacity of future historians to write the history of Canada.

The CHA concerns are threefold. First, the census decision was apparently made without consultation with the population data research community, both university-based and genealogical researchers. Expert users from these groups have asserted that the elimination of the long census form will harm current efforts to understand trends in Canadian society. Second, abandonment of the comprehensiveness of the census will greatly reduce

its usefulness as a historical source in the future. The optional character of the National Household Survey will result in uneven and unreliable measures of the questions contained in that form, preventing historians of the 22nd century from developing a comprehensive picture of Canada in our own age. Third, in scrapping the collection of comprehensive data, the government appears to be abandoning major social constituencies such as women who have used the aggregate data captured in the long census to identify anomalies and inequalities in Canadian society.

The CHA is asking the federal government to reconsider this decision and to reinstate the long census form. It also asks for a commitment to ensuring that these records will be made universally available to researchers within 92 years' time, in keeping with current practice.

New University Course in Oral History

This September, the History Department at the University of Winnipeg will offer a new course in Oral History. This seminar course introduces students to setting up an oral history project, including preparing for, conducting, and processing interviews. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to set up an oral history or other interview based projects to further their university studies, as well as for museums, historical societies, and community organizations (neighbourhood associations, clubs, businesses, etc.) The multidisciplinary methods of oral history ensure its relevance across the university curriculum. Students involved in interviewing projects will find this course of interest.

Projects in which students will have an opportunity to participate this year include a new long term project with residents of a Winnipeg inner-city neighbourhood. Students may also bring their own ideas on projects to the course.

The course will be offered on Wednesday, 2:30 PM to 5:15 PM in the new Oral History Lab/Classroom 2B22 of Bryce Hall. A number of classes will be held off-campus (e.g. Ukrainian Labour Temple, Manitoba Archives, Manitoba Museum, etc.)

For those interested in the course, please contact Dr. Nolan Reilly, Co-Director of the Oral History Center and Professor of History at the University of Winnipeg at 204-786-9011 or n.reilly@uwinnipeg.ca.



A sample plaque in the new MHS “Homes of Memorable Manitobans” program, based on the London Blue Plaques, will commemorate the homes of noteworthy Manitobans. The plaques will be mounted on metal posts in the front yards of the houses, so they can be read easily from the sidewalk or street. Actual size of the oval is 20 inches wide by 14 inches high.

Homes of Memorable Manitobans

The Homes of Memorable Manitobans program is organized by the MHS with sponsorship of the Manitoba Real Estate Association. The five plaques to be installed so far, with locations, are as follows:

- Home of suffragist **Nellie McClung** at 97 Chestnut Street (Winnipeg), from 1911 to 1914
- Home of artist and Group of Seven member **Lemoine Fitzgerald** at 30 Deer Lodge Place (Winnipeg) from 1924 to 1956
- Home of Prime Minister **Arthur Meighen** at 131 Dufferin East (Portage la Prairie), from 1918 to 1928
- Home of soldier and Victoria Cross recipient **Alan McLeod** at 292 Main Street (Stonewall), from 1899 to 1918
- Home of **Alma Laurendeau (Marie-Joseph-du-Sacré-Coeur)**, co-founder of the Oblate Missionaries of St. Boniface, at 279 Provencher Boulevard (St. Boniface), from 1882 to 1904

The initial five selections were made by a committee of James Kostuchuk (Chair), Ross Metcalfe, Joyce Wawrykow, Gordon Goldsborough, and Harry Duckworth. The MHS website now has a page where anyone can nominate other homes of Memorable Manitobans, and a number of nominations have already been received—more are welcome, at any time. Future nominations will be vetted by a panel of professional historians, and the current house owners approached for permission to install the plaques. It is intended to install at least five more plaques this year, with more to come in future years, as funds permit and as long as suitable candidates are brought forward.

Obituary

The Honourable Duff Roblin, PC, OM, LLD, DCL died on 30 May 2010 in Winnipeg. He was the grandson of Sir Rodmond P. Roblin who was premier of Manitoba from 1900 to 1915. Duff Roblin was born in Winnipeg in 1917. He was first elected to the Manitoba Legislature as an Independent Progressive Conservative in 1949 and was re-elected in five subsequent elections. He was chosen Leader of the Progressive Conservative Party in 1954 and was elected premier in 1958 and remained in office until his retirement in 1967. He is remembered for his reform, improvement and expansion of the educational system and for advocating and building the Red River Floodway. He was appointed to the Senate in 1978 and was leader of the government in the Senate from 1984 to 1986. After retirement he chaired an important provincial commission on post-secondary education.

The Manitoba Historical Society was privileged to have Duff Roblin as a member. And we appreciated his active support of the Society’s financial campaigns.



Archives of Manitoba, Personalities - Roblin, D #1. N19416.

Dufferin Roblin (1917-2010) served as Manitoba’s Premier from 1958 to 1967.

Heritage Seeds

Dalnavert Garden Heritage Seeds are available at our Dalnavert Gift Shop. Buy these exclusive Dalnavert Garden seed varieties that would have been sold in 1895, such as "Grandpa Ott's" Morning Glory, "Miss Willmott" Sweet Pea, and our special Bridal Mix. Dalnavert Garden Heritage Seeds are three dollars per packet, with proceeds going to help support our Dalnavert operations.

Santa's Helper Wanted

The Winnipeg Santa Claus Parade is heading into its 101st season of bringing the magic, wonder and excitement of the holiday season to the young and young at heart of Manitoba. The Parade is looking for a volunteer researcher/writer to help capture the history of this special community and family tradition. Would an MHS member be interested in becoming one of Santa's Helper in Winnipeg to help facilitate this project? If so, please email the Parade Manager, Ron Mark, at 7323info@WinnipegSantaParade.com.

Heritage News

Arson was suspected when **Winnipeg's historic Barber House** at 99 Euclid Avenue in North Point Douglas was severely damaged by fire on 7 June. Earlier fires and vandalism damaged the log structure in the past, repairs were made and a high chain link fence was installed. A week before the fire the City of Winnipeg turned over the house and property to Sisters Initiating Steps Towards a Renewed Society SISTARS. The group planned to build a community day care centre and the historic house was to be redeveloped as a drop in centre for seniors. It is not known if the house can be saved. The estimated cost of replacing the roof and making other necessary repairs is \$200,000. Barber House was often referred to as the oldest house in Winnipeg. Various sources date the construction of the house between 1862 and 1867. The house is a rare local surviving example of oak Red River Frame construction, based on the French "post on sill" technique. It was designated a Manitoba Heritage Site in 1987. For interesting information on Barber House and its owner, E. L. Barber, read the Spring 1974 *Manitoba Pageant* article by Lillian Gibbons on the MHS web site.



W. Fraser

A view of Winnipeg's historic Barber House after it was damaged by an arson fire in early June.

The **RM of Springfield** has recently reprinted. *Springfield: First Rural Municipality in Manitoba 1893–1973*. The history was originally published to celebrate the municipality's centennial. It is still in great demand. The books may be purchased at the municipal office or the Springfield Library.

A community-based exhibit "From Manila to Manitoba" celebrates fifty years with the Filipino-Canadian Community in Winnipeg. The Filipino Youth in Action brings us this display of portraiture, replicas of documents, photographs, and oral histories surrounding the waves of Filipino migration to Winnipeg. The exhibit is displayed from 18 June to 26 September in the Festival Hall at Manitoba Museum. This is a community exhibit by Aksyon Ng Ating Kabataan (ANAK), Inc.

The *Winnipeg Free Press* reports that plans were unveiled for the new **Upper Fort Garry Park** on 12 May. Jerry Gray, chair of the Friends of Upper Fort Garry said that \$10.3 million has already been banked and that a further \$9 million is needed to complete the project within the next five years. Gray said that site preparation begins this fall and actual construction will begin next spring. The Friends of Upper Fort Garry have purchased the Grain Exchange Curling Club and plan to demolish it next year. Plans show a 23,000 square foot building that will house an interpretive centre, theatre, library and offices. University archaeological students will dig in the site this summer to determine the foundations of the buildings that were inside the fort.

The **Neubergthal Street Village**, a national historic site in **Altona**, will be upgraded courtesy of Parks

Canada. The federal government will contribute up to \$20,895 to help preserve the Eddie Schmidt Housebarn in the Mennonite street village. Tory MP Candice Hoepfner made the announcement Wednesday in Altona. “Commemorating our heritage does not just mean remembering the past, but also using the past to enrich our present lives and help build our future,” she said in a release. “Neubergthal Street Village has retained much of its original character and provides an exceptional heritage experience for visitors. Preserving the Eddie Schmidt Housebarn will enhance that experience.”

Visitors to Brandon’s **Daly House Museum** will soon be able to immerse themselves in the splendour of an authentic Victorian Garden. The museum’s committee is gearing up for the construction of a Victorian Garden in the lot directly next to the museum at 122–18th Street. When complete, the garden will serve as a social garden for the community and a green space for people to quietly connect with the past, says committee president Murray Graham. “We hope that not only would people come to see the park, but that they would get



G. Goldsborough

A model of the proposed park at the site of Upper Fort Garry was unveiled at a ceremony on 12 May.

Centennial Farms

Makinak: James and Jean Bothwell, SW 20-22-16 WPM 1909, SE 19-22-16 WPM 1910

Caliento: Peter Jaman: SE 10-2-8 EPM, 1904

an all-over refreshment of the spirit while they are there,” he said. The area will be used for functions by the museum and other community groups.

The *Westman Journal* reports there is growing support in Brandon to name the new bridges over the Assiniboine River the Bachinski Crossing, in honour of a pioneer family in the city’s **North End**. The Bachinskis were one of several families from Eastern Europe who settled in “the flats” area of Brandon in the early 1900s. Naming the bridge after the Bachinski family would be a tribute to the family and also to other Ukrainian and Polish residents of the city. The Bachinskis were market gardeners. A son, Mike, flew more than 50 missions for the RCAF during the Second World War and received a distinguished Flying Cross for his achievements. After the war he and his father operated a market garden. Mike Bachinski died in 1995. His house is now the site of the Riverbank Discovery Centre. A plaque on the grounds honours the Bachinski family.

Tourism packages are available for **St Claude, Manitoba**. You will be welcomed at the Manitoba Dairy Museum by local experts who have spent many years in the dairy industry and involved in local history. See how cream and butter were made in the early part of the last century. Visit the restored one-room school and sample the life of the pioneers. After a copious lunch go to jail— or rather— visit the newly restored village lock-up dating from the 1890s. Have your picture taken behind bars. After serving time, visit the award winning gardens. After afternoon tea finish your tour at the intriguing church designed by the renowned architect Etienne Gaboury. The price for the tourism package is \$39 per person. This is the price for a group visit and does not include transport. For reservations phone 204-379-2679 or 204-379-2323. The village also has two geocaches. For details visit www.geocaching.com. See the world’s second-largest smoking pipe, constructed in commemoration of early settlers who came from Saint-Claude in the Jura region of France, where the main industry was the manufacture of smoking pipes. The smoking pipe is 6 metres long

and 1.5 metres high, and weighs 195 kilograms. St. Claude is near the junction of Highways 2 and 240. For more information phone 204-379-2382.

The **Turtle Mountain—Souris Plains Heritage Association** is providing two tours and a book this summer to promote the area's history to residents and visitors. Summer student Teyana Neufeld has organized the tours since 2008. The first tour this summer will take place in the Turtle Mountains on 28 July. The tour will go across the mountain, starting from Deloraine, moving in a loop from west to east. Participants will see different historical sites and geological formations and hear different stories about the area. A second tour will be on 19 August in the RM of Edward, including Pierson and Melita. In 2009, Neufeld created an award-winning book *Vantage Points* using stories from the 2008 tours. A second book will incorporate stories from this year's tours and some previous work as well. The association also put out 20 geocaches. The *Brandon Sun* explains "Geocaches are physical treasures hidden in locations, accessible through websites. Hunting for them has become a major international pastime. Each TM-SPHA geocache includes postcards and historical information on them ..."

The **Threshermen's Reunion and Stampede in Austin** will be held from 29 July to 1 August. A new attraction is the people cart attached behind the horse-drawn sulky plough. The three-wheel cart seats two people and allows them to watch the sulky plough closely while working.

Le Coq Club in **Ste Rose du Lac** has donated \$15,000 to the Town of Ste Rose du Lac for exterior restoration of Maison Dollard House, a former school that was designated a heritage building. The building now houses the Ste Rose Library and is the meeting place for the Knights of Columbus and other groups. Weekly bingo is held there. Le Coq Club is a voluntary organization that has made significant contributions to local projects.

The **Ukrainian Musicians Association Hall of Fame** was officially opened on 29 May at Rhodes Hall in Selo Ukraina near Dauphin. The event honoured 40 musicians with the Manitoba Legendary achievement award. The Hall of Fame includes memorabilia from Ukrainian musicians in Canada and the United States. This August during Canada's National Ukrainian Festival six more artists will be inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The **Beautiful Plains Museum in Neepawa** held an apron show in the Viscount Cultural Centre from 19 June to 3 July. Over 100 aprons from the 1920s to the present were on display. Aprons from the 1920s and 1930s were bib aprons usually made of flour sacks decorated with colourful stitching. In the 1940s heart aprons and half aprons appeared. Aprons became more ornate and frilled to "look good for the boys coming home." Aprons of the 1950s were often designed for special purposes such as entertaining, cooking, gardening and sewing.

Nintieth-anniversary celebrations were held at the **Franklin** Memorial Hall on 13 June. The hall was built in 1919–1920 in memory of lives lost in the First World War. It was the social centre in the Second World War for airmen from several countries who trained at the Neepawa air base. Part of the hall is now a museum. It includes artefacts from the area and a replica of the Franklin CPR station. There is a special room in the museum which recreates the station agent's office.

The Valley Leader reports on the **Rural Permit Teachers'** reunion at the Prairie Homestead a museum north of Elm Creek. Between 1940 and 1962 over 7,000 high school students, mostly in grade 12, took a six week crash course to become a teacher for a year in small rural schools throughout Manitoba.

No one individual did more to establish the Icelandic presence in North America than **Sigtryggur Jónasson**, the first Icelander to settle in Canada (1852 to 1952), the "**Father of New Iceland**" and a champion of the new spirit of Canadian pluralism. During his extraordinary lifetime, Sigtryggur served both the Icelandic community and Canada in many ways, as a pioneer community leader, immigration agent, entrepreneur, captain, editor, publisher, civil servant, philanthropist, Member of the Manitoba Legislature, etc. Icelandic River Heritage Sites Inc. intends to commission a sculpture of Sigtryggur and erect a life size statue of the "Father of New Iceland" on the site of his historic homestead, now the site of Riverton's Centennial Park. Donations and bequests are tax deductible. In 2008 the New Iceland Heritage Museum made application to the Canadian National Historic Sites Directorate to have Sigtryggur Jónasson declared a "Person of National Historic Significance." This application has been supported by a Historical Services Branch researcher with a recommendation that the commemoration be situated at Riverton—Sigtryggur's home community

and the site of his administration as the elected head of New Iceland. Confirmation of the designation is expected in 2010. For more information see the website www.Icelandicriver.com. Direct all correspondence and contributions to IRHS at Box 555, Riverton, MB, R0C 2R0.

The *Morden Times* reports new developments at the **Pembina Threshermen's Museum**. Five buildings on the museum grounds were designated as municipal heritage sites in September 2009. The Reimer log house 1878, Braun log house 1885, Roseisle United Church 1891, Morden CPR Station 1906 and Pomeroy School 1909. The museum inherited hundreds of artefacts from the former Morden and District Museum in 2009. The annual September Reunion Threshing Days has been changed to the September long weekend Friday and Saturday, 3 and 4 September. Visit the website at www.threshermuseum.com

The *Morden Times* reports on the launch of the **Pembina Valley Passport Adventure 2010**. Interactive exhibits from 19 museums within the Pembina Valley were displayed at Winkler's Southland Mall. Passports are free and available at every museum. Passports list the participating museums and people receive a stamp in the passport for each museum that they visit. Passports are entered in a prize draw at the end of the season. The 19 museums are: Neubergthal National Historic Site, Plum Coulee Museum, Crystal City Community Printing Museum, Marringhurst Heritage House and School, Golden Prairie Arts Council, Roland 4H Museum, Gallery in the Park, Dufferin Historical Museum, Darlingford School Heritage Building and Museum, Archibald Historical Museum, Pembina-Manitou Log House Tourism Centre, Miami Railway Station Museum, Canadian Fossil Discovery Centre, Manitoba Baseball Hall of Fame, Pembina Hills Arts Centre, Morris & District Centennial Museum, Manitoba Dairy Museum, Saint Claude GAOL Museum, and Manitoba Threshermen's Museum.

MHS Executive Committee Elected at the Annual General Meeting

Harry Duckworth – President
Annabelle Mays – First Vice President
James Kostuchuk – Second Vice President
Gwyneth Jones – Treasurer
Gordon Goldsborough – Secretary
Dennis Butcher – Member-at-Large
Joyce Wawrykow – Member-at-Large

MHS Book Club Schedule, 2010–2011

Unless noted, meetings are on Mondays 7–9 pm at Dalnavert Visitors' Centre. Please confirm attendance with Judy at 204-475-6666. WPL = Winnipeg Public Library

- 13 September, guest Allan Levine, *Coming of Age: A History of the Jewish People in Manitoba* (2009) (WPL 20 copies)
- 13 October (Wednesday), Stuart Houston speaking on *Tommy's Team: The People Behind the Douglas Years* by Stuart Houston and Bill Waiser (2010)
- 8 November, *Loyal Till Death: Indians and the North-West Rebellion* by Blair Stonechild and Bill Waiser (1997, WPL 11 copies) leader Maggie Keller; [alternative: Rudy Wiebe, *Big Bear* (2008) (WPL 11 copies)]
- 10 January 2011, Icelandic heritage suggested reading: George J. Houser, *Pioneer Icelandic Pastor: The Life of the Reverend Paul Thorlaksson* (1990, 1 copy WPL)
- 14 February 2011, guest Donna G. Sutherland, *Nahoway: A Distant Voice* (2009) (WPL 3 copies), leader Shirlee Anne Smith
- 14 March 2011, John Boyko, *Bennett: A Remarkable Life* (2010) (WPL on order) leader Jim Alward
- 11 April 2011, Charlotte Gray, *Flint & Feather: The Life and Times of E. Pauline Johnson, Tekahionwake* (2002, WPL 5 copies) leader Céline Kear
- 9 May 2011, 6:00 pm: potluck dinner at Dalnavert, choose books for next year

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 or phone. Payments can also be made in person at the reception counter at the Dalnavert Visitors' Centre during regular operating hours, Wednesday to Sunday. 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 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) Nonprofit Institutional Member (\$50)

I want to support the MHS with the following donation:

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

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

Please use my contribution:

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

Make cheques payable to "Manitoba Historical Society" or pay by:

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Calendar of Events

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

- 31 August Ross House closes for the season
- 13 September MHS Book Club Meeting at Dalnavert;
 Guest: Allan Levine *Coming of Age: A History of the Jewish People in Manitoba*
- 13 October Stewart Huston speaking on *Tommy's Team: The People behind the Douglas Years* by Stewart Huston and Bill Waiser at Dalnavert

- 30 September MHS tour of St. John's Cathedral Cemetery. More details will be available in the next *Time Lines*.

Homes of Memorable Manitobans

Nominate the home of a noteworthy Manitoban to receive a commemorative plaque:

www.mhs.mb.ca/docs/homes

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Membership fees for the Manitoba Historical Society are: Individual \$40, Family \$45, Youth/Student \$20, Non-profit Institution \$50, and Corporations \$275. Rates to USA and other countries are slightly higher. See the MHS web site for details.

Manitoba Historical Society, est 1879

www.mhs.mb.ca

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