

# Time Lines

The Manitoba Historical Society Newsletter

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May / June 2008



W. Fraser

Stonewall's Church of the Ascension, built in 1882, with its parish hall behind, site of the 2008 AGM.

## MHS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Saturday, 31 May, 10:30 am

Parish Hall – Church of the Ascension  
291 - First Street West, Stonewall, MB

Hot lunch will be provided for \$16 per person, paid in advance by cheque, Visa, or MasterCard.

Please phone MHS office (204-947-0559) to confirm attendance by 28 May.

The annual general meeting begins at 10:30 am. At the conclusion of the business portion of the meeting, we will have a hot lunch prepared by the churchwomen's group in the parish hall. After lunch, our guest speaker is **Ross Thompson**, the mayor of the town of Stonewall. Mayor Thompson's presentation will be "History, Adversity and Opportunity: Why Ya Gotta Love a Small Town!" At the conclusion of the program, those interested will be able to view the interior of the church, which was built in 1882. Stonewall is 22 km from the north Perimeter Highway. Take Highway #7 north for 15 km and turn left [at stoplights] on Highway #67. Because the AGM is out of town, those needing transportation or anyone interested in volunteering to drive anyone

needing a ride please contact Carl James at 204-631-5971 and we will try to match drivers and riders.

All MHS members are invited and encouraged to attend our Annual General Meeting as we review the year past, consider the present state of the Society's affairs, and plan for the year ahead. We need your participation!

## Heritage Movie Theatre to be Demolished

The Rex Theatre is being torn down, along with the remainder of a block along Winnipeg's Main Street, to make way for an office building. Recently, heritage advocate and MHS member Christian Cassidy got a last look at the Rex, and he has put photos on the web. The Rex was constructed in 1912 and is believed to be one of the two oldest purpose-built movie houses in Canada. It was renamed The Regent in 1923 and in 1978 it became the Epic, an adult cinema. It was closed through the late 1980s and in 1990-91 there was a move afoot to create an aboriginal / country music venue out of it. That failed and the theatre closed for the final time in the early '90s. The City of Winnipeg has owned it since then and has made the decision to sell it for demolition.

See more photos of the Rex at [www.flickr.com/photos/christiansphotos/sets/72157604712641218](http://www.flickr.com/photos/christiansphotos/sets/72157604712641218)



C. Cassidy

**Years of neglect** are illustrated by debris covering balcony seats in the Rex Theatre, now under demolition.

## President's Column: Prominent Manitobans and Higher Education



MHS President  
Dr. J. M. Bumsted

Some years ago, I began researching and writing biographical sketches of Manitobans. A number appeared in my history of the Winnipeg General Strike, and many more in my history of the 1869–1870 Rebellion. More recently, I collected biographies of prominent or important Manitobans for a *Dictionary of Manitoba Biography* that

was published in 1999 by the University of Manitoba Press. One of the things that has struck me about this latter Manitoba biographical record, which presently consists of just over 1,700 entries, is the large number of Manitobans of subsequent importance who had enjoyed at least some higher education, often from the University of Manitoba or one of its constituent colleges. As a result, I recently sat down to attempt to convert impressions into hard statistics. I used the DMB listing as my sample. I could have collected several thousand more biographies, but assumed that the DMB list is fairly representative.

Tabulating educational experiences was harder than I had expected. I eventually decided to count only undergraduate attendance, doing my best to eliminate “colleges” which were essentially secondary school institutions and including only one undergraduate institution for each biography, although many attended several. The data often employed slightly different names for the educational institutions, sometimes reflecting change in nomenclature and sometimes the imperfect knowledge of whoever had supplied the original data, which I had employed to prepare the sketch. What to do with subsequent amalgamations was a problem. I kept those who attended the Winnipeg School of Art separate from those who attended the University of Manitoba, for example, although the School of Art would eventually become part of the university. Had I incorporated the WSA, there would have been twelve more U of M attenders. Moreover, should professional schools like schools of art or music be counted at all as institutions of higher learning? I decided in the affirmative. There

is no way of knowing whether my figures grossly understate the numbers of those who attended institutions of higher learning, but I assumed that educational accomplishment was something that was usually recorded for everyone, although I was not comfortable enough with statements of degree attainment to attempt to tabulate it.

What I discovered was that of the 1,706 biographies, 473 (or 27.7 percent) had attended at least one institution of higher learning. Of these, 181, or 10.6 percent, had attended the University of Manitoba, one of its constituent faculties, or an affiliated college. As far as the colleges are concerned, 59 (3.4% of the total biographies and just over one-third of the U of M affiliate attenders) had gone to one of the colleges: 22 had attended St. John’s College; 6 had attended Brandon College before it became independent; 11 had attended St. Boniface College; 6 had attended Manitoba College; 6 had attended United College; and 9 had attended Wesley College. Another 12 had attended the Winnipeg School of Art. College figures were much higher in the early period, of course, when the University of Manitoba was itself little more than the degree-granting component of a collection of colleges. Given the fact that until very recently higher education was very much the privilege of a small minority of Manitobans, these are all truly impressive totals, certainly suggesting that higher education had always been one of the principal routes to prominence in Canada. Perhaps even more impressive is the number of distinguished Canadian writers who attended the University of Manitoba or one of its colleges. Among well-known writers of fiction, for example, the list includes Lillian Allen, Patricia Blondal, Douglas Durkin, Edward Gill, Paul Hiebert, William Kurelek, Margaret Lawrence, Agnes Laut, Vera Lysenko, Martha Ostenso, and Adele Wiseman. Among well-known writers of non-fiction, the Manitoba alumnae include T. C. Boon, Kenneth Haig, Roderick McBeth, Marshall McLuhan, W. L. Morton, Jack Pickersgill, Roy Stubbs, and James Shaver Woodsworth.

Figures for the non-U of M institutions of higher learning are equally interesting. Next to the University of Manitoba, the second most important single supplier of undergraduate educational exposure to prominent Manitobans was the University of Toronto, with 50 listing attendance or graduation from the U of T proper and another 23 listing various affiliated colleges, for a total of 73. Another 11 of the prominent attended Queen’s University, and a

surprising 12 attended Victoria College, Cobourg (Ontario). Another 17 attended various other Ontario institutions of higher learning. This means that 113 (or just under one-quarter) of the prominent Manitobans with higher educational experience received it in Ontario. Given the importance of Ontario to the settlement of Manitoba between 1870 and 1914, this figure is as unsurprising. Together, Ontario and Manitoba provided the undergraduate educational experience for just over sixty percent of those prominent Manitobans with such experience.

Other jurisdictions fall well behind Manitoba and Ontario in supplying higher education at the undergraduate level. The third highest total was educated in Quebec, with 15 attending McGill and another 15 listing various Quebec seminaries, colleges, and universities (including one from Laval). Scotland was fourth on the league table of providers of higher education for prominent Manitobans. Twenty-six attended various Scottish universities, with 14 listing the University of Edinburgh, mainly its medical school. In the nineteenth century, medical school was often an undergraduate matter, especially in Scotland. Interestingly, the United States was only the fifth most common source of higher education for prominent Manitobans, with 20 listing various American institutions of higher learning. None of the American schools had more than two alumnae. Such figures suggest that the number of Americans immigrating to Manitoba was relatively small. English universities supplied even fewer higher educations than the United States, with only 7 of those prominent in Manitoba attending Oxbridge (5 at Oxford, 2 at Cambridge) and another dozen other institutions. The Maritime Provinces supplied a handful with undergraduate educations: 2 Manitobans attended Acadia, 3 Dalhousie, 2 Mount Allison, and 5 the University of New Brunswick. Beyond these clusters, the institutions of higher learning scattered widely across the British Isles, Europe, and Iceland.

We cannot make too much out of a few numbers. But it is interesting—and important—to note that the University of Manitoba has from its founding in 1877 been the dominant institution of undergraduate instruction for Manitobans who would achieve prominence in later life. That, of course, is as it should be.

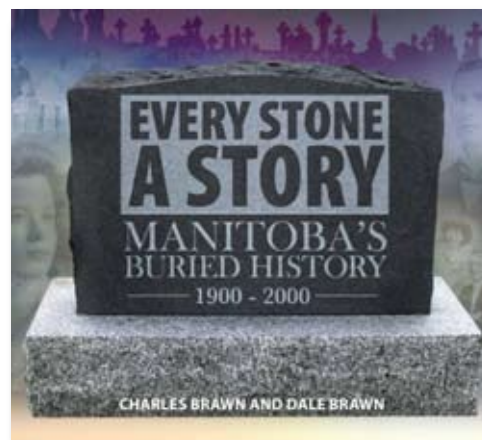
J. M. Bumsted

### Agricultural Hall of Fame 2008 Inductees

On 15 April 2008, the Manitoba Agricultural Hall of Fame Inc. announced its inductees for 2008. The seven individuals judged to have made a significant and lasting contribution to agriculture in Manitoba during their lifetime were:

- Dr. Helgi Austman (deceased)
- Eileen Brake
- Wallace Fraser (deceased)
- Dr. Margaret Newton (deceased)
- Gordon Sinclair (deceased)
- Fraser Stewart
- Welland Stonehouse (deceased)

Biographical details of these and former inductees are on their web site at [www.mts.net/~agrifame/](http://www.mts.net/~agrifame/)



### Manitoba's Buried History

A new book from Manitoba publisher Great Plains Publications was launched on 25 April at Brandon's Pennywise Books. Local historian Charles Brawn and his son Dale presented their new book *Every Stone a Story: Manitoba's Buried History, 1900–2000*. The book is a collection of stories gleaned from Manitoba's buried past. Each is illustrated with a photograph of a headstone and each describes the life, death and/or experiences of someone buried in a particular cemetery. The stories are often about the famous or infamous, but equally often they are about people little known outside their communities, but who have done something extraordinary. The stories are grouped according to their topics: politicians, artists, sportsmen and women, crimes and scandals, special people now largely forgotten, accidents and disasters, people who have been executed, and pioneers.

## Obituaries

**Dr. Anne Smigel**, a long-time educator and MHS member, died on 10 February. She taught in Oakburn, Poplarfield, Fraserwood and Winnipeg and then was principal at Ashland School and other Winnipeg schools for 25 years. She funded the Anne Smigel Scholarship at the Canadian Centre for Ukrainian Studies. She was active in many service organizations and was recognized for her achievements by receiving the Alpha Omega Woman of the Year Award, the City of Winnipeg Community Service Award and the Centennial Medal for Teaching Excellence. She received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Award from the University of Manitoba in 2004. She planned and promoted issues and ideas pertaining to education and health. After she retired when she completed 44 years in education, she took up oil painting and had two art exhibitions in Winnipeg.

**Jeanne Perreault**, a MHS member for many years, and an active supporter of heritage in St. Norbert died on 5 April. She taught at St. John's Ravenscourt School for 35 years. She served in many organizations: National, Provincial and Parish Councils of the Catholic Women's League, and the Fort Garry Library Board. She provided volunteer services in Pregnancy Distress Services and served as President of Heritage St. Norbert and Trustee in the Seine River School Division. She was a recipient of many awards for her volunteer work.

**D. Irene Charleton**, a long time MHS member died in Winnipeg on 10 April at the age of 86. She worked in Eaton's store for many years, before and after World War II. During the war, she was with St. John's Ambulance stationed in England. She was active in the Luxton Community Centre and was awarded a community service award in 1979. She and her husband enjoyed many bus tours, including tours conducted by the Manitoba Historical Society.

Prominent Winnipeg attorney **Harold Buchwald** passed away suddenly on 17 April at 80 years of age. A founding partner of the firm Buchwald, Asper, Henteleff (now Pitblado), he was active in numerous community organizations. He was appointed to the Order of Canada in 1993. He helped found the Business Council of Manitoba as well as Arts Stabilization Manitoba, and continued to serve both as a director. Most recently, he helped to promote his friend Izzy Asper's dream of building the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in Winnipeg and was a member of the Friends of Upper Fort Garry Gate.



W. Fraser

Upper Fort Garry Gate.

## Upper Fort Garry Site Saved

On 28 March the ten-month struggle of the Friends of Upper Fort Garry to save a part of the proposed Upper Fort Garry site from being developed as an apartment block ended when Crystal Developers walked away from the land deal that they had made with the City of Winnipeg. Earlier on that day the Friends were close to meeting their financial goal, which had been set by the City of Winnipeg. With a one million dollar pledge from the Manitoba Métis Federation, the Friends had raised a total of \$5.2 million from non-government sources and \$3 million from the federal and provincial governments. The land provided by the City of Winnipeg has a market value of about \$5.5 million. The purchase of the Grain Exchange Curling Club property still has to be worked out. The Manitoba government is working towards designating Upper Fort Garry a provincial park. Congratulations to the Friends of Upper Fort Garry and Heritage Winnipeg for their successful campaign and to all who donated to the cause.

### Welcome New MHS Members!

Phyllis Jivan  
Arthur Blankstein & Ken Ure

### Donations & Contributions

Thank You!

### MHS General Operations

Carl James  
Joan Goldsborough  
Rose Podruski  
Lee Gibson  
Robert McIntyre

## Dalnavert News

Dalnavert is becoming a “hot spot” for Moms and kids looking for a special place to celebrate their birthdays. From November through April, we had 17 birthday parties at the Museum—one more than we had in all of 2007!

The three-part birthday party package includes a guided tour of the Museum, a hands-on activity and a Victorian tea. The children can choose from one of four activities offered: butter making (in jars, not a churn); decorating a Victorian hat to wear on their tour; designing a Victorian calling card and carrying case; and creating a family Coat-of-Arms. The activities complement what the children learn on the tour and bring history to life.

The dining table is beautifully set with china cups and saucers, paper dolls and rose petals so they can experience the formality of a Victorian tea. We serve (decaffeinated) berry tea, lemonade and shortbread cookies, and Moms are welcome to bring cake, ice cream and other treats. Some party coordinators go all-out by asking guests to wear Victorian attire or choosing a specific theme, like a Teddy Bear Picnic.

The fee is \$9.50 per child, and two adults can accompany the group free of charge. Other adults who wish to go along pay the regular \$5 admission.

If you have friends or family with kids age 5–12, be sure to recommend Dalnavert as a unique option for birthday celebrations. We can help with party plans and suggest “goody bag” items available in our gift shop, like cast iron pencil sharpeners shaped like vintage stoves, laundry mangles, spinning wheels, etc., fun and funky magnets or mini-kaleidoscopes.

The Dalnavert Visitors’ Centre has hosted a variety of events over the last several months. Since November 2007, we have had bookings for a Christmas party, a Wine Club reception, a 50<sup>th</sup> birthday party, two wedding receptions, two anniversary parties, two wedding showers, two full-day meetings, two half-day meetings, and thirteen school tours.

In November, December, March and April, we had MHS or Museum events, birthdays or rental bookings every Saturday and Sunday - with very few exceptions! May is almost fully booked as well, with only three weekend dates available as of 12 April. As expected, most business meetings are scheduled on weekdays and we also take bookings for weeknight receptions.

Weekends are the most popular time for children’s birthday parties, for obvious reasons, but we have had them on school in-service days, too. During spring break, we had five birthday parties in a single week—a new record!

Rental bookings limit the number of slots available for Dalnavert events—rather a nice problem to have. However, we still reserve selected spots for Dalnavert programs, like the Grey Owl presentation and play-reading on 13 April and Spring Tea on 26 April.

The Visitors’ Centre provides a unique and beautiful setting for events large and small, with a maximum capacity of 75. Reasonable rates (\$125 for a half-day and \$175 for a full-day), a convenient downtown location and free parking in our attached lot are added incentives. In addition, of course, rental revenues help support Museum operations. You can even incorporate museum mini-tours in your event for only \$2.50 per person.

If you need a venue for a family party or business function, Dalnavert may be the perfect place. For more information, call us at 204-943-2835.

Watch for us on Prairie Public TV. If you are watching Prairie Public Television in May or June, you may see promo spots for Dalnavert Museum. PPTV generously offered us free airtime in lieu of payment for a rental function held in our Visitors’ Centre last September. They produced a 15-second public service announcement highlighting the Museum, Gift Shop and Visitors’ Centre that aired last fall. A second run of spots is slated to run 20 times in a variety of time slots this May and June.



V. Sawelo

Dalnavert garden “party” preparing for spring work on the grounds around the museum.



W. Fraser

Ross House Museum.

### Ross House Museum

Ross House Museum will open for the summer on 1 June. Several events will take place on the site before the museum opening. On 3 May, a walking tour of Point Douglas will leave Ross House at 11:30. Members of the MHS Historic Preservation Committee will be tour guides. The tour will be followed by a presentation by Urban Studies professor Nicolas Bigalo of a study project of his class at the University of North Dakota on the redevelopment of the entire Point Douglas on a multi-year plan. The event is an initiative of the Institute of Urban Studies of the University of Winnipeg. The event concludes with the Annual General Meeting of the Point Douglas Residents Committee.

Summerfest, a series of events, will be held during the summer at the amphitheatre in Joe Zuken Park. The events are jointly sponsored by the MHS Ross House Museum and the Point Douglas Residents' Committee. For more information, phone 204-943-3958. The museum will be open on 24 May from noon to 4 pm as part of Heritage Winnipeg's Open Doors event.

On 1 July, there will be the usual flag raising at Ross House, but it will be followed by a walk to the Norquay Community Centre where there will be a dedication/opening of the "Splash Park", with a BBQ to follow.

There is evidence in an old picture that a garden shed was attached to the summer kitchen of Ross House. Victor Sawelo, the manager of Ross House Museum, hopes that funding will be available to attach a similar shed to the existing summer kitchen building before the 2009 season.

### The 2008 David Thompson Brigade

Wherever David Thompson traveled, so did the voyageurs engaged by him. Just as the voyageurs were the backbone of the fur trade, the voyageurs under Thompson, in many respects were the backbone of his explorations. For over 200 years, the use of the canoe from the beginning of the fur trade era until near its end was a vital part of the transportation network of goods and also provided a mode of transportation for David Thompson in his many explorations. Following his crossing of Howse Pass in June 1807, David Thompson began his return trip in the spring of 1808 to report his findings to the partners of the North West Company. The bicentennial commemoration event is an opportunity to bring to the forefront a way of life that no longer exists and in turn re-ignite interest in our rich history, and the importance of the rivers that link Canadians all across the country. On 10 May over 160 participants will launch a brigade of north canoes from Rocky Mountain House National Historic Site and paddle through over 30 host communities in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba and north-western Ontario.

On 11 June, The Thompson Brigade will arrive in Winnipeg. An event at The Forks (Winnipeg) and Fort Gibraltar is being planned. Check the media for more information. The epic 63-day journey will cover over 3,600 km and end at Old Fort William on 12 July on Lake Superior, just in time for their annual Great Rendezvous. Follow the 2008 David Thompson Brigade via GPS Live Tracking and help us commemorate David Thompson, the greatest land geographer of his time. See the web page [2008thompsonbrigade.com](http://2008thompsonbrigade.com)

### Heritage News

The **Shoal Lake** History Book committee has generously donated a copy of their book—*Ripples on the Lake, Volume 2* for the local history collection in our library. The book is an update to *Ripples on the Lake, Volume 1*, published in 1984. It is dedicated to the preservation of the history of the Rural Municipality of Shoal Lake, the Town of Shoal Lake, and Oakburn. Shoal Lake will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2009. The Society sincerely thanks the committee for their donation. Copies of this book can be purchased by sending a cheque in the amount of \$50 to the Shoal Lake History Book Committee, Box 181, Shoal Lake, MB R0J 1Z0, or the Town of Shoal Lake,

438 Station Road, Box 342, Shoal Lake, MB R0J 1Z0. For further information about the book, history book committee or anniversary celebrations,, call, fax, or email the Town of Shoal Lake, Phone: 204-759-2270 Fax: 204-759-2690 Email: tnslake@mts.

The **United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada Manitoba Branch** held an open house at the Loyalist Resource Centre at 120 Eugenie Street in Winnipeg on 26 April. Members who join the UELAC, through one of its branches support Canada's constitutional monarchy and uphold the nation's distinctive political heritage to which their Loyalist ancestors contributed. To contact the Manitoba Branch for more information phone 204-489-7180 or email jmcarter@mts.net

The octagonal wooden railway water tower built in 1904 in **Glenboro** was recently destroyed by fire. The 104 year old tower, one of 75 built by the CPR between 1902 and 1925, was designated a provincial heritage site in 1997. The tower had its original cedar tank and was known to be the best example of an intact, fully equipped water tower in the province. The tower had provided water for steam locomotives, the village fire department, and area farmers.

On Saturday, 19 April the 26<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment Royal Canadian Artillery will begin its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations with a freedom of the city parade through the streets of **Brandon**. Subsequent celebrations include the 26 Field Regiment RCA Family Day on 7 June and the 60<sup>th</sup> Regimental Ball in November. Twenty-sixth Field Regiment RCA has a long and honourable history that can be traced back to the Manitoba Rangers organized in April 1908. The Regiment was active in both world wars and currently has members deployed in Afghanistan.

The *Rivers Banner* reports that work has begun on a history book on the community of **Rivers**. The target date for completion is September 2011. Residents are asked to submit family histories. Data have been compiled from past Rivers newspapers, including death notices, and information regarding service clubs, CNR, banks, Rivers Air Base and Lake Wahtopanah. Photographs of local buildings are needed. The chair of the history book committee is Dora Irvine. Meetings are held in the Prairie Crocus Regional Library on dates listed in Banner's community calendar.

*The Stonewall Argus* reports that a meeting was held in March to share ideas of what people would like to

see on the site of the former Quarry Park Interpretive Centre destroyed by fire on 11 November 2007. Building replacement costs of \$2 million are covered by insurance, but insurance on contents is limited to \$100,000. According to Mayor Ross Thompson, who facilitated the meeting, there was agreement on four elements: "The new interpretive centre needs to be environmentally and economically sustainable; it needs to be a multi-use facility; it needs to have an educational aspect; and it needs to be a showpiece for the town." A temporary administrative building will be used until the new building is completed.

The **Minnedosa** 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Homecoming events run from Saturday 5 July to Sunday 13 July. Check the web page [www.minnedosa.ca](http://www.minnedosa.ca). The Minnedosa Valley Views History Book Committee is publishing a second history book that will focus on the past 25 years from 1983 to 2008 and is collecting histories for families, businesses, churches, schools, sports, groups and organizations, special events, railway, museum, heritage village and historical buildings. If you have a story to share, or would like further information contact [historybook@minnedosatribune.com](mailto:historybook@minnedosatribune.com) or mail to History Book, c/o P.O.930, Minnedosa, MB R0J 1E0, or phone Maxine 204-867-3532 or Jennifer 204-867-3816.

Congratulations to *The Tribune*, **Minnedosa's** oldest independent business and the oldest weekly newspaper in the Canadian west, for celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in March 2008.

From 1 May to 3 May the **Sixth Annual Fort Garry Lectures in History** Graduate Student Conference will take place at the University of Manitoba. The conference aims to promote interdisciplinary dialogue and is open to graduate students from any relevant discipline in history.

From 24 September to 27 September the **43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference** will be held at Brandon University. Papers in all areas of history are welcome.

### MHS Book Club Schedule

The last meeting of the spring will be held on Monday, 12 May at 6:00 pm. There will be a potluck supper and books for next year will be selected. **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](mailto:jhbval@mts.net).**

## MHS Multicultural Dinner on the Asper Jewish Community Campus, 1 April

On 1 April, the MHS's annual multicultural dinner was held at the Asper Jewish Community Campus. Before dinner, there were tours of the campus, Jewish Heritage Centre and archives. After the meal there was klezmer music followed by a guest speaker.



W. Fraser

A tour of the Asper Jewish Community Campus archives.



W. Fraser

Dinner included such traditional Jewish dishes as potato latkes, matzo ball soup and cheese kugel.



W. Fraser

After dinner, guest speaker Dr. Allan Levine made a presentation on the history of the Jewish community in Manitoba.

## Winnipeg Doors Open: 24 and 25 May

Heritage Winnipeg's popular Doors Open takes place on Saturday, 24 May and Sunday, 25 May in various Winnipeg heritage buildings. As part of the Open Doors event, Ross House will be open for tours on Saturday, 24 May from noon to 4 pm. A list of other buildings that will be open to the public will appear in Winnipeg newspapers. For more information, phone Heritage Winnipeg at 204-942-2663 or visit the web site [www.doorsopenwinnipeg.ca](http://www.doorsopenwinnipeg.ca).

## Our Evolving Community

The factors that influenced where people chose to live a century or so ago included cheap, affordable housing, and close proximity to their jobs. One of the aspects of community development of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century that we are unlikely to see as strong a statement in 21<sup>st</sup> century communities is the development of "mom and pop" businesses—grocery stores, bakeries, butchers, cobblers, etc., that are linked closely to the communities in which they exist. The very existence of these small independent entrepreneurs was often one of the principle reasons why people chose to live where they did. Each of these contributed to the character of the community. In North Point Douglas in Winnipeg, a corner store once known as "Brothers" has evolved into a highly successful community outreach office. It is just one example of how a small store that served its community for years has been transformed into something else that is also an important element of a modern community.

Building on the success of the research and development that the MHS's Historic Preservation Committee had with regards to North Point Douglas community, the committee has decided to focus its attention on the social development of small businesses. Although the full context of the research has yet to be developed, the committee feels that one of the prominent aspects will be the evolving ethnicity that is tied to stores.

The committee invites MHS members to suggest addresses from within their own neighbourhoods, where they are aware that small stores or businesses once existed or have evolved. If you have a suggestion or information that might be useful to the committee's research please forward it to the committee's attention by way of Tim Worth's email address: [wsworth@shaw.ca](mailto:wsworth@shaw.ca).



## Margaret McWilliams Awards 2008

The MHS's Margaret McWilliams Award, one of the oldest of its kind, was established in 1955 as memorial to the late Margaret Stovel McWilliams, who served as president of the MHS from 1944 to 1948. An important figure in Manitoba and Canadian history, McWilliams advocated the preservation and documentation of the history of Manitoba. The MHS is proud to recognize and honour the literary achievements of those authors who, through their passion for the past and their craft, preserve our collective history. Congratulations are extended to the author which have been short listed for the 2007 Margaret McWilliams awards.

### Scholarly History

**Essential Song: Three Decades of Northern Cree Music** by Lynn Whidden, Wilfred Laurier Press.

**Influenza 1918: Disease, Death, and Struggle in Winnipeg** by Eysyllt W. Jones, University of Toronto Press.

**Making the Voyageur World: Travelers and traders in the North American Fur Trade** by Carolyn Podruchny, University of Toronto Press.

**Imagined Homes: Soviet Immigrants in Two Cities** by Hans Werner, University of Manitoba Press.

### Popular History

**Métis Legacy II, Michif Culture, Heritage and Folkways** edited by Lawrence J. Barkwell, Leah M. Dorion & Audreen Hourie, Gabriel Dumont Institute & Pemmican Publications.

**Arc of the Medicine Line: Mapping the World's Largest undefended border across the Western Plains** by Tony Rees, Douglas & McIntyre Publishing Group.

**Quiet Revolution West: The Rebirth of Métis Nationalism** by John Weinstein, Fifth House Publishers.

### Local History

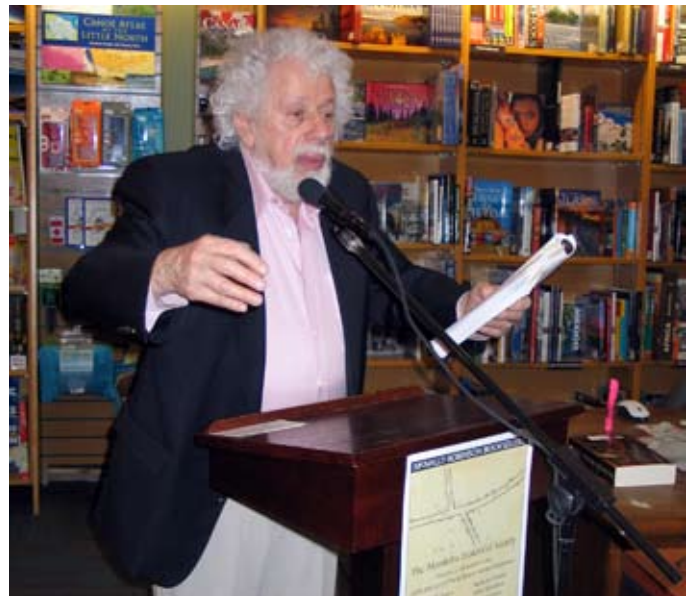
**The University of Winnipeg, Vol. II, the first 40 Years (1967–2007)** by Gerald Bedford, University of Winnipeg Press.

**A Glowing Dream: A Memoir** by Roland Penner, J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing.

**Lettres des tranchées: Correspondance de guerre de Lucien, Eugène et Aimé Kern, trois frères manitobains, soldats de l'armée française durant la Première Guerre mondiale** by Lucien, Eugene & Aime Kern, Letters chosen and presented by Claude de Moissac, Les Éditions du Blé.

**A Place Out of Time** by Alfred Silver, Great Plains Publications.

Readings from the works of the short listed authors took place at the Grant Park location of McNally Robinson Bookstore on 15 April. The winners were announced at the MHS's Annual Awards Reception on 27 April at St. John's College (University of Manitoba). The names of winners will appear in the next issue of *Time Lines* and on the MHS web site.



G. Goldsborough

Roland Penner read from his book *A Glowing Dream*, which is on the short list for a 2007 Margaret McWilliams Award.



G. Goldsborough

Books short-listed for the 2007 Margaret McWilliams award on display at McNally Robinson.

## North Norfolk - MacGregor Archives Preserves the Past to Enhance the Future

The North Norfolk - MacGregor Archives Inc. was established in 1986 to collect, record, house and maintain the history of the people in the municipality of North Norfolk and the town of MacGregor, Manitoba. The volunteer group is committed to fulfilling this mandate. The Archives is situated in the North Norfolk - MacGregor Library in MacGregor.

The Archives is currently working with local cemetery committees to record and update cemetery information. In the future, it will be photographing headstones to go with these records. All this information will be entered into an Obit/Cemetery/Military database, which will be available to the public. The Archives is also recording and scanning old school registers, recording centennial farms and compiling information of veterans as well as presenting displays for Manitoba Day and Remembrance Day.

The Archives is supported by annual grants from the R.M. of North Norfolk and the town of MacGregor. It received a grant from the North Norfolk-MacGregor Foundation that enabled the purchase a scanner and camera. With a grant from Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism the Archives is in the process of re-housing its collection. This entails transferring and re-filing material into an acid-free environment. The Archives can provide information for genealogists, historians and the general public about the municipality and the town of MacGregor.

Should anyone require, or wish to donate, information please contact Bev Anderson 204-685-0094, Sandra Rempel 204-466-2775 or Doris Bagnall 204-466-2708.

### 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 (Wednesdays, Thursdays, 1:00 to 5:00 pm). Cash (in person), 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.



Bob Talbot, University of Manitoba

Asper School of Business Dean Glenn Feltham (left) and Judith Hudson Beattie (centre) presented an MHS Centennial Business award to Pierre Blouin, CEO of MTS Allstream.

### MTS a Centennial Business

On 5 April, the Asper School of Business at the University of Manitoba held its third annual Manitoba Business Adventurers banquet at the Fort Garry Hotel. The dinner is intended to promote greater appreciation of Manitoba business history and, each year, a company of long standing is profiled at the MBA dinner. This year, the featured company was MTS Allstream (formerly Manitoba Telephone System), founded in 1908 by the provincial government of Rodmond P. Roblin. As part of the evening, an MHS Centennial Business award—of which the Asper School is the sponsor—was presented to Mr. Pierre Blouin, Chief Executive Officer of the company.

### Merger of Historical Organizations

On 6 March, the Boards of the Canadian Institute for Historical Microreproductions (CIHM) and the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) concluded an historic agreement to merge the CIHM and the AlouetteCanada initiative to create a new body with the official name of Canadiana.org. The new organization has a mandate to digitize Canada's information and knowledge resources and to provide them on the Internet. For more information about the AlouetteCanada project and Canadiana.org, visit the web sites [www.alouettecanada.ca](http://www.alouettecanada.ca) and [www.canadiana.org](http://www.canadiana.org).

## Events for Manitoba Day Celebrated Over Several Days Beginning on 10 May

Numerous events will take place on and around Manitoba Day (12 May), which commemorates Manitoba's entry into the Canadian confederation, in 1870.

On Saturday, 10 May, from 10 am to 4 pm, the Manitoba Genealogical Society's Open House will take place at their Library and Resource Centre at Unit E - 1045 St. James Street, Winnipeg, MB. Admission is free and open to all. There, you can begin discovering your family's piece of the genealogical puzzle from Manitoba and around the world. The MGS provide resources and assistance to anyone who may have an interest in discovering their family history. Many experienced and knowledgeable research volunteers with a love for genealogy and family history will be available to show you how it is done. For more information, contact the MGS at 204-783-9139 or 204-783-1632 email: [contact@mbgenealogy.com](mailto:contact@mbgenealogy.com) web page: [www.mbgenealogy.com](http://www.mbgenealogy.com).

On Monday, 12 May (Manitoba Day), the MHS Book Club will meet at Dalnavert Visitors' Centre for a potluck supper and selection of books for next year.

Monday, 12 May (Manitoba Day) is the deadline for submissions to the 2008 Young Historians Awards program is on this day.

There will be a display on Tuesday, 13 May, from 10 am to 5 pm, in the North Norfolk MacGregor Library featuring the twelve MHS Centennial Farm families recognized in the North Norfolk Municipality.

## Manitoba Historical Society to Celebrate Manitoba Week on 18 May

The Manitoba Historical Society brings the week celebrating the founding of Manitoba and its history with our fellow heritage organizations to a close with a special tribute to the history of music in the province.

On Sunday, 18 May, 1:00 pm at the Dalnavert Museum and Visitor Centre, the Society will be hosting a special event with Manitoba musician and author Owen Clark, with a reading and audiovisual presentation on his newly released book *Musical Ghosts of the Past 1914-1966* which was officially launched at the Millennium Library on 12 April. Enjoy a historical trip down Manitoba's musical



W. Fraser

Author and musician Owen Clark will speak on his new book on the Manitoba music scene of the past, in an event at Dalnavert Visitors' Centre on 18 May. All are welcome to attend.

memory lane, with the musicians, singers, nightclubs, theatres and music stores of a bygone era.

The program will also include a ceremonial transfer of the author's private photographs to the City of Winnipeg Archives, a presentation of his book to the Musicians Association and the Manitoba Historical Society, and book signing by the author. Books can be purchased at the event, with percentage of each sale going to the Lupus Society of Manitoba, for research purposes.

For this day only, our Dalnavert Museum is offering a special, "Half Price Day." Visitors can tour the museum for a half of the cost of usual rate of admission.

## Heritage Building Contest Update

We regret the delay in announcing a winner of our Winnipeg Heritage Building Contest. Look for it in the next issue of *Time Lines*.

## Centennial Organizations

At the MHS Awards Reception on Sunday, 27 April, Centennial Organization awards—given to non-profit groups that have operated in Manitoba continuously for over 100 hundred years—were presented to:

- St. Alphonse RC Parish, St. Alphonse (1883)
- St. Andrew's Anglican Church, Deloraine (1888)
- Brookdale United Church, Brookdale (1904)

The  
**Manitoba Historical Society** est 1879

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

- Regular Member (\$40)     Youth/Student Member (\$20)  
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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  
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\* See our web site ([www.mhs.mb.ca](http://www.mhs.mb.ca)) for annual membership rates in the USA and other countries, and for two- and three-year memberships.

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## Calendar of Events

For updates and more information, see [www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml](http://www.mhs.mb.ca/news/events.shtml)

- |               |   |                      |   |
|---------------|---|----------------------|---|
| <b>3 May</b>  | Walking tour of Point Douglas starting at Ross House, 11:30 am                                | <b>18 May</b>        | Owen Clark reading and audio visual presentation on his new book, <i>Musical Ghosts</i> , at Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 1:00 pm |
| <b>12 May</b> | Deadline for entries for Young Historians competition   | <b>24 and 25 May</b> | Winnipeg Doors Open, sponsored by Heritage Winnipeg   |
| <b>12 May</b> | Book Club pot luck and selection of books for next year at Dalnavert Visitors Centre, 6:00 pm | <b>31 May</b>        | MHS Annual General Meeting in Stonewall, 10:30 am   |
| <b>13 May</b> | North Norfolk MacGregor Library display of area Centennial Farm recipients                    | <b>1 June</b>        | Ross House Museum opens for summer season   |

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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](http://www.mhs.mb.ca)

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