



The Jasper Signal

Jasper-Yellowhead
Historical Society

SPRING 2007

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, April 25th, 2007



Bridgland Room

7 pm Meeting

8:00 Presentation

by Dr. Jim Taylor, Parks Canada Historian
on the history of the Jasper-Banff Highway.

Refreshments to follow.



Have You Seen This Man?

We have! Often. And so have you! 91 year young Fred Kofin has been a tireless volunteer for the Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society for many years.

He's been feeling a bit fatigued though! The Board of the JYHS is hereby issuing a "challepeal" to all members and friends of the Society.! Are there four or five of you that might be willing to lend your own volunteer time to the Society, and try to take up a little of Fred's load??

Some Very Serious Scat

The Finance Committee recently held a meeting in which the 2007 Budget was considered - as well as the generally dire financial straits in which we now find ourselves. The proposed budget is provided later in this article. As you may be aware, the Jasper-Yellowhead Museum and Archives has been in a deficit situation for the last several years, and the Directors have been covering daily operations with funds from the Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society.

Resources skilfully managed under the capable hands of treasurer Fred Kofin, designed for capital replacement, building maintenance and to facilitate the long term health of the organization, are instead being steadily eroded in order to supplement the ongoing operation of the Museum and Archives.

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The Jasper Signal

is a publication of the Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society that tells the story of Jasper's regional heritage both natural and cultural while presenting the activities and priorities of the Society. The Jasper Signal is named after Signal Mountain.

Submissions may be sent to:

Jasper-Yellowhead
Museum & Archives
PO Box 42, Jasper, AB T0E 1E0
Phone (780) 852-3013

Email manager@jaspermuseum.org

Mission Statement

"The Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society will promote awareness, understanding and appreciation of our regional heritage, both natural and cultural, to the residents and visitors of our community."

JYHS Directors 2006

President

Mike Cameron

Board Members

Cynthia Ball

Bob Bell

Mike Day

Fred Kofin

Dick Ireland

Shelley MacQueen

Herb Robinson

Ken Walker

Mike Wasuita

Warren Waxer

Some Very Serious Scat Continued . . .

We are truly blessed with a dedicated and hardworking staff! Are you aware that pay cheques have not been cashed by some in order to ensure we have funds in our accounts! While filling our hearts with gratitude, such gestures are of course unsustainable!

We are close to our wit's end. Should we toss in the towel? In the event of the Society folding in its responsibilities, the Municipality of Jasper becomes the custodian and owner of the Museum and Archives. At present, the Municipality grants the Society about \$27 000.00 towards Operations, and is our largest funding agency. Hopefully, the Municipality could staff and maintain the Museum. Is this a preferred option? Total expenses last year were about \$178 000.00.

We wonder whether the community would be prepared to offer, annually, \$10 per person in tax revenue to support a cultural institution like the Museum and Archives. Why don't you ask your neighbours, your councilman?

The Presentation Committee - responsible for putting together the PowerPoint used to provide information to the Town Council - has been considering ways of applying this approach to other possible fund raisers. We are interested in hearing proposals for the undeveloped land West of the Museum. We are interested in pursuing possible development opportunities at the old Firehall site. Your Historical Society is at a crossroads. Where are you? Have you any ideas?

JYHS Profit & Loss

January to December 2006

Income:

Total General & Administration 175,439.23

Total Cost Of Goods 16,553.57

Gross Profit

158,885.66

Expenses:

General & Administration 63,515.71

Grants 34,061.31

Personnel 95,903.82

Total Expenses

193,480.84



Do you remember Kobassa Kapers?



Kobasa Kapers mug
2007.34.01

We recently received a Kobasa Kapers beer mug to add to the collection. Ukrainian Days was a celebration held at the end of the ski season in the early 1970s. It was originally started by locals but was then taken over by the Chamber of Commerce and renamed Kobasa Kapers. The event was very popular and features Krazy Kart

races, Shumka Dancers, Hot Dog Skiing, Kween Kontest, and a BBQ at the hill, a dance at the arena, taffy pulling and more. The event even had its own mascots; Super Sausage (Bill Hawrylak) and Sasha Sausage (Karen McEwan).



Here two Kween Kontestants pose with Super Sausage (Bill Hawrylak). 999.07.32

By Dee Dee Bartlett

THANK YOU!

To all the staff at the Municipality for all the snow clearing you did for the museum this winter.

To the Friends of Jasper National Park and the Anonymous Donor for the tickets to the Snow Ball.

To Dong Han who worked into the wee hours to keep us wired together.

Congratulations

On behalf of the Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society, Warren Waxer, nominated Fred Kofin for the **Stars of Alberta Volunteer Award**. Although his name was not cemented into the Pedway Mall at the Legislature, he was named runner up and received a Provincial Award for his volunteering.

Congratulations Fred!

Our last Coffee Hour for this winter will be Tuesday April 24th at 11 am We hope to start up our summer mini outings in June.





By Ken Walker
Jasper National Park
David Thompson
Bicentennial Coordinator
852-6190



As most of you probably know, a whole series of events are being planned to commemorate the exploits of David Thompson and his wife Charlotte Small during the time they spent crossing and re-crossing the Rocky Mountains 200 years ago. While Jasper's festivities are focussed this year on our centennial other places in western Canada and the northwest United States are gearing up right now to celebrate the amazing feats of these two early travellers.

David Thompson Bicentennial Committee – this is the official group working in western Canada on all things David Thompson. Check out their website at <http://www.davidthompson200.ca>. They produce a periodic newsletter to keep you up to date on what's happening. They are also connected with a parallel committee in the U.S.

Glenbow Museum 'Mavericks: An Incurrigible History of Alberta' exhibit – This major exhibit opens on March 24 and sounds as if it is definitely going to be worth visiting. Their press release says that they have 'rolled dusty cases away and replaced them with new hands-on environments built to recapture the maverick spirit that shaped, and continues to shape, Alberta'. David Thompson and Charlotte Small are featured in the section called 'Uninvited Guests'. For more info: www.glenbow.org.

Canoes and canoes – If you're interested in getting a feel for the rivers that carried the canoes of David Thompson then consider joining one (or both!) of the expeditions that are going to follow in his paddle strokes. The **Columbia River Brigade** will follow the Columbia River from Canal Flats to Golden and then from Revelstoke to Trail from **Jun. 25 to July 8, 2007** in six-person voyageur canoes. It would be great if we could have one or more canoe filled by Jasperites – who's in? Contact me if you're interested and check out their website at www.canadianvoyageur.com.

Or, if you're ready for the full meal deal, how about a **70-day cross country canoe trip from Rocky Mountain House to Fort William** (Thunder Bay) recreating both Thompson's 1808 journey and the Canadian centennial canoe brigade of 1967? Still in the early planning stages, more information is available at info@2008ThompsonBridage.com or by writing to The 2008 David Thompson Brigade Society, Box 4324, Edmonton, AB T6E 4T2.

Rumour has it we might even have some voyageur canoes on the Athabasca River in the not too distant



Things David Thompson Cont'd ...

And Conferences:

1) 2007 Canadian River Heritage Conference

June 10 to 13 at the Historic Forks Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Highlighting the ties between history and rivers. <http://riverswest.ca>

2) The Montana Historical Society's Beyond Borders and Boundaries: David Thompson and the North American Fur Trade Conference is live on the MHS website at <http://www.montanahistoricalociety.org/research/library/dtnaftconf2007.asp>. Online registration, schedule of events, hotel information, and a map of Helena are all posted on the site.

3) Centre for Rupert's Land Studies 2008 Colloquium, Rocky Mountain House - The Colloquium will run from Wednesday evening, May 14th through to Friday evening, May 16th, with a pre-colloquium workshop planned for May 14th and a range of optional field trips offered May 17th-18th including a field trip up the Parkway to Jasper.

<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/academic/ic/rupert/collo2008.html>

Oral History Workshop

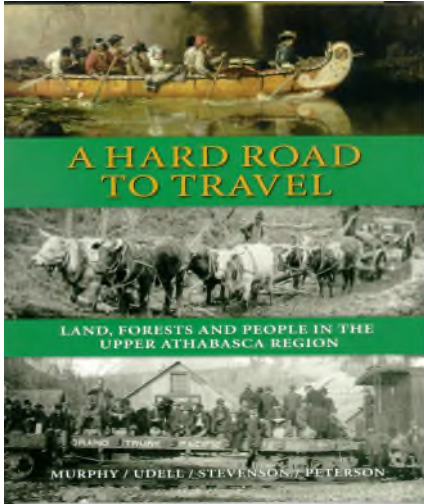
Over the winter months I have listened to many oral histories and transferred them onto CDs using a digital recorder bought last year with a grant from the Community Development Fund. These tapes are an amazing resource. Vicki Wallace completed a large oral history project in 2006 and added many tapes to our collection but we still have an extensive list of people to do. We have had several people approach the museum about working on oral histories in the past year so we thought it would be a good idea to run a half day workshop for anyone interested in learning about the process.

Doing an interview requires a commitment of time. Once a subject is chosen, some research has to be done and a list of questions created. Usually a pre interview is done so that the subject and interviewer have an idea of what kind of questions will be asked. An interview is then arranged. The length of the interview varies with the topic and time available but it's not unusual for it to last more than an hour.

After the interview is completed a release form is completed and a picture is usually taken to accompany the tape. One of the more difficult tasks is to create a transcript of the interview. This transcript allows researchers to focus on key areas of the interview without having to listen to it all. The tape, picture and transcript are then given to the archives and become a wonderful legacy for future generations. If you think you would like to work on this project please contact Karen at the museum 852-3013.



The Jasper Signal



Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives

is pleased to host a book launch for:

A Hard Road to Travel

By Peter Murphy, Bob Udell, Bob Stevenson & Tom Peterson

Thursday April 19th

7 pm at

Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives

400 Pyramid Lake Rd.

Bridgland Room

Wine & Cheese Reception

Presentation by the authors with book signing to follow.



JYMA

Historical Outing

The Mystery of the Missing Links

Sunday, May 20th 1-4 pm

Pyramid Beach Parking Lot

Do you know the location of the Pyramid Pines?

What was Project Habbakuk?

Do you know the location for the proposed Arthur Conan Doyle golf course?

These and other mysteries will be revealed at our spring outing!



GRANTS:

The lifeblood of small archives across Alberta

By Meghan Power

Archives across Canada are facing many of the same issues: they are usually small organizations barely able to maintain themselves with meager budgets, minimal hours of operation, and dwindling supplies of volunteers. One of the few opportunities for archives to attain more funding in order to properly maintain and preserve its records are grants that are offered on a national and a provincial level. This funding opportunity is an annual event and each year the majority of archives across the nation submit applications in the hopes that their project will catch the attention of the adjudication committee and be approved. Last year Jasper's archives was the fortunate recipient of a grant from the Archives Society of Alberta and the National Archives Development Fund. The project submitted was to appraise, arrange, and describe archival records that have been stuck in a limbo of sorts, otherwise known as backlog.

When historic records are donated to an archival institution, they are not usually processed immediately. First, they must be accessioned, which means they are formally accepted as a donation and a certificate of gift (legal document) is issued as a record of the donation and the transfer or ownership. Second, the records must be appraised; in other words, their historic value must be established, in order to determine how the archivist will arrange and describe them. The most important principle of this process is known as *respect des fonds*, which requires the archivist to maintain the provenance of the records and the original order of the records. The provenance refers to the individual, family, or corporate or administrative body whose activities resulted in the production of the records and original order refers to, as you may have already guessed, the ability of the archivist to arrange the records in the order they were accumulated and used by their creator. Next the archivist must describe the records, so that they will be accessible to researchers. Archival descriptions are governed by the Rules for Archival Description (RAD). These rules were developed by the Canadian Council of Archives and help to ensure that no matter where you are in Canada, historic records are described consistently, making it easier for researcher to locate information.

Perhaps this all sounds a bit tedious, but in between the tedium of sorting paper and ever so carefully removing rusty staples, emerges someone's story; a piece of history that was almost forgotten. With each fonds (collection) that is processed, the Jasper archives becomes more complete and offers researchers and visitors an unmediated glimpse of history and people who contributed to the history of the area. Upon the completion of the Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives Backlog grant

(Continued on page 8)



The World of Grants Continued . . .

project, here is a brief look at some of the historic records that are now available to the public: The Robert William Sandford fonds, which contain records about two of Jasper's great alpinists: Willy Pfisterer and Hans Schwarz; The Gillett family fonds, which contains beautiful and unique images of Jasper circa 1927 and photographs of the trains and wrecks along the CN line; The Harold Allen fonds, which contains military records from a young British man who signed on to serve in World War I in Jasper; The Jasper Senior High School Dramatic Society fonds, this photograph album contains over 100 photographs of on-stage and back-stage poses by Jasperites such as Gail Richards, George Andrew, and Luigi Tassone, just to name but a few; The Robert (Bob) Dowling fonds, which contains records generously donated by Jasper's favorite MLA covering the production of the Jasper Story, and early Jasper Chamber of Commerce records; and finally The Norman C. Lindhjem fonds, which contains photographs of a training and secret vehicle test program (the Weasel) that happened at the Columbia Icefields during World War II. Lindhjem was an American soldier and took part in the training. His photographs are a unique look at life at a military camp amidst a most beautiful yet treacherous environment.

The Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives is currently the second largest contributor to the Alberta Society of Archives's InSight database, there are currently over 5000 photographs available to the public. For a closer look at some of these remarkable photographs and thousands of others go to www.archivesalberta.org or through links provided at www.jaspermuseum.org.

Once again, thanks to the Alberta Society of Archives, The National Archives Development Fund and the Canadian government for making sure that our histories are not forgotten and remain available to all.

JYMA 002.24.097



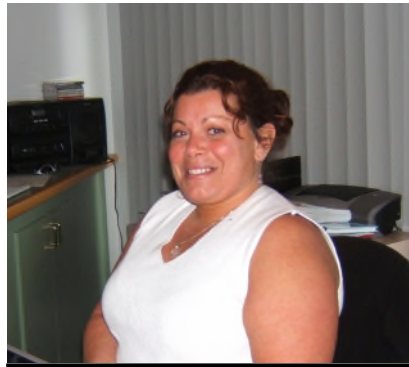
The Fantasticks 1967

Back Row: Tom Kofin, Ray Syrja, Gordon Ruddy, Mr. Don Ford
Front Row: Wally Froland, Ralph Burdeyney, George Andrew, Gail Richards



Gift Shop News

Well Spring is officially here! Soon the snow will be gone and Jasper will be blossoming once again. One place that is springing into action, pardon the pun, is the Museum Gift Shop! Our cozy little space is bursting with wonderful items that will interest all. When was the last time you paid us a visit? We offer a great selection of books, tee-shirts, posters, local artwork and jewelry, just to name a few of the items that may tempt you. We have a special on 2007 historical calendars. Great for keeping track of all those special occasions!



Lucie Doucet

There are some new and exciting additions this year. For Jasper's Centennial we have recreated a replica of the Jasper National Park buffalo entry plaque that was used from 1924 to 1940. This plaque was attached to the car bumper when a pass was purchased. It is available in limited quantities for the reasonable price of \$20.00 and can be purchased here at the museum. The buffalo plaque comes packaged with historical information and can be shipped within Canada for an additional charge of \$3.00.

For all those of you who appreciate jewelry, we now have available "Beads by Gosh". This line of jewelry is created by local artist Susie Wilgosh. Using materials from near and far Susie's creations are suitable for every occasion on your social calendar.

So come on down and visit us here at the Museum, we appreciate all of your support!

Jasper Yellowhead Museum and Archives

Museum

Summer Hours (May-Sept)

10am to 5 pm daily

Archives

Monday-Wednesday

9 am - noon & 1-4 pm

Admission

Adults \$4

Students & Seniors \$3

Members & Children 5 and under Free

Yearly Membership Fees

Individual \$15

Family \$25

Patron \$100

Gallery Schedule

The Alcove Gallery

Over the Wires

Enjoy this in-house exhibit featuring an old telegraph office, radios and telephones from Jasper's past.

Showcase Gallery 2007

From January to April we present Jasper Artists Guild Artists:

Monika Dery

The Magic of the Mushroom

March 30-April 15

Denise Parent

Ageless Patterns

April 20-29

"IT'S A COLOR-FULL LIFE"

Original Watercolors

by Sandy Robinson

May 4-27

Rough Trails 'n Wild Tales

A hundred years of stories

Celebrate Jasper National Park's

Centennial by visiting Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives'

feature exhibit.

June 9-Sept 3

Tuktu Prayers

The exhibition has been called Tuktu Prayers - Tuktu is Inuit for Caribou and the prayer is that Caribou will continue to be part of wild Canada for the centuries to come. Sept 14-30



National Park Vehicle Entry Pass



Thanks to the hard work of Rod Wallace and Keith Haevens,
the **Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives**
has created a replica of the
National Park Vehicle Entry Pass

The National Parks issued metal plaques to be attached to the radiator or front bumper of all vehicles entering the parks from 1925 to 1940. For the first three years these plates were issued without dates, using brass for 1925, copper for 1926 and aluminum for 1927. In later years, dates were added but the sequence of brass, copper and aluminum was continued. Minor modifications were later made to the design including a change from the walking buffalo (1925-31) to a standing buffalo (1932-40).

The Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives has created a replica of these plaques for Jasper's centennial year. **This limited edition plaque is now available at our gift store for \$20.00** or can be sent by post for a small charge for shipping and handling.



Need a meeting room?

\$30 per evening or

\$60 for a full day

We now have an LCD and
Overhead projector available

Website and E-Mail Addresses:

www.jaspermuseum.org

manager@jaspermuseum.org

archives@jaspermuseum.org

collections@jaspermuseum.org

exhibits@jaspermuseum.org

giftshop@jaspermuseum.org

2006 Patrons

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Ian Coates Family

Couture Family

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Dong Kwon Han

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Peak Automotive

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Thank You for your Generous Support

