



# The Jasper Signal

Jasper-Yellowhead  
Historical Society

Spring 2010

## Fred Kofin Tribute

April 30, 2010 was the JYHS tribute to Fred Kofin's long service as the society's treasurer. JYHS Historian, Joe Couture, acted as master of ceremonies and many friends and family members shared their "Fred" stories. Later the museum staff helped Fred unveil the sign for the Fred Kofin Historical Gallery. The evening continued in the Showcase gallery where the crowd enjoyed the extensive displays highlighting Fred's accomplishments over his many years of volunteering in Jasper.



Joe Couture looks on as Fred Kofin reads the dedication from the JYHS.



## 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 Membership

Individual \$25  
Family \$35  
Patron \$100

## JYHS Directors 2010

President  
Bob Bell  
Board Members  
Cynthia Ball  
Mike Cameron  
Rico Damota  
Jake Derksen  
Fred Kofin  
Shelley Mac Queen  
Herb Robinson  
Ken Walker  
Mike Wasuita  
Historian  
Joe Couture

## Special Presentation

Join us Friday, June 18  
at 7 pm

for a special presentation  
by Ross MacDonald  
National David Thompson  
Committee

Putting a Face on David Thompson

Bridgland Room JYMA  
Everyone welcome.

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## New JYHS President, Bob Bell

, Bob Bell

I was raised in Jasper where I attended school - grades 5 through 12 at Jasper Jr. Sr. High. I have two brothers, Tom and John. My mom (Pat) still lives here. I worked summers and between school at Marmot, The Jasper Tramway, many gas stations, and Brewster Transport. I left Jasper in 1970 to manage Fortress Mountain - then on to Grouse Mountain in North Vancouver - completed an industrial electrical apprenticeship and then to Kimberley ski area and then I worked for Cominco and a local electrical contractor. Starting in 1977 I worked 22 years as a ski lift inspector in BC., living in Kelowna for the majority of the time. In 2000 I started a six year engagement with an insurance company whose head office is in Ontario. I continued to live in Kelowna and worked across the country from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island doing risk management consulting for 130+ ski areas. In 2006 I returned to Jasper and to Marmot Basin as VP Maintenance & Operations- to the place I had always called home with no plans of leaving anytime soon.

I grew up around many of the names that are a part of our early local history -Fred Brewster, Vern and Doug Jeffery; Nora Findlay; Len Jeck; Fred Kofin, Joe Weiss, Bruno Engler, Joan Robson, Doris Kensit, the Kiefer family, Toby Rayner, Bill Ruddy, Jimmy Simpson and many more. My biggest regret is as a kid one never really realizes what history is all about, who these folks were and the influence they had in Jaspers early days and how it would affect my future.

I am committed to the ideals and goals of the JYHS and the museum. We are at a critical crossroads and decisions made over the next while will directly affect the survival of the Society and the museum. I am not about to watch it disappear. Coming back home after being away made me realize the importance of local history and also how local connections to more recent Jasper history has been lost but to a few. I believe that I have a lot to offer in terms of direction and tenacity and am proud to help where I can.

### JYHS Volunteer Opportunities:

The JYHS is looking for volunteers to coordinate the book sales and/or sale of the chocolate covered almonds. These activities have proven to be important fundraisers for the JYHS and we thank Fred for all of his hard work with this over the years.

Canada Day 2010

Interested in volunteering on Canada Day?

We need people to help set up, take down and man a variety of venues.

Please call Karen if you would like more details about what is involved for either of these opportunities.



Pine Bungalows, located in beautiful Jasper National Park.

For your summer getaway, weekend retreat or whatever your reason, come visit us.

Check out our Website at [www.pinebungalows.com](http://www.pinebungalows.com) for a list of Discovery Weekends and much more that we have through-out the summer.



## Museum Spring Outing to Jasper House June 27, 2010 from 12-4 pm. JYHS members only

The 2010 museum outing is Sunday, June 27 at Jasper House, one of Jasper National Park's four National Historic Sites. The trip to Jasper House is a bit of an adventure but we hope to see many members make the trek. We'd like to encourage as much carpooling as possible. Please call Karen at 852-3013 if you can offer or need a ride.



As usual we will set up a tent with coffee and goodies. Please bring your own lawn chair, mug and water bottle. Sunscreen and insect repellent would also be a good idea. The only "facility" is the outhouse at Devona Cabin, about a km. from our tent-watch for the LAST CHANCE sign.  
**Directions:**

On Highway 16 drive east of Jasper and turn off at the Snaring campground road. Follow that road past the Ewan Moberly buildings, the Snaring warden station, through the gate at Corral Creek and continue about 11 kms. until you see the JYHS outing sign indicating the turnoff through a gate to the Devona Warden cabin. Follow the signs past the cabin to the clearing by the railway tracks (approx 4 kms.). We'll set up our tent there. Later, people who are capable of the 20 minute walk to Jasper House will explore the site as a group. The trail is NOT maintained but will be marked.

Celestine Lake Road is rough and winding and is one-way so you must follow the in and out times. We will have the Devona gate open at 11:15 and close it at 4:15. Please plan your trip in between 11 and 12:00 and head out between 3:30 and 4:30 and carpool if possible.

## Mystery Object



A student in Saratoga Springs, Utah found this key in a used couch that his family bought. The key is about six inches long. One side has the crest of Canada with the words "Key to Canada". The other side has "Jasper National Park" with what appears to be a mountain scene. The key has a patent date of August 25, 1925.

We have been unable to find any information about the key. Has anyone seen anything like this before? Any ideas on what occasion it may have been associated with or was it merely sold as a souvenir?

Thank You to:  
Al Brady for fixing our dishwasher  
free of charge.

Anna Carnell and Sue Cesco for  
the beautiful rock mosaic in  
our garden.

Deb O'Bryan  
for the multitude of bedding plants.



## Archives



## New to the Archives

In March of 2010 the archives received a small bundle of old postcards generously donated by historical society member, Keith Spencer, a past president of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada. The bundle of postcards included some interesting images of early Jasper/Fitzhugh including an image of one of the cabins at the GTP engineer's camp at mile 113 back in the day (presently Snape's Hill).

These early postcards were often taken by amateur photographers that were equipped with a camera, such as the Kodak Brownie, which allowed for the average photographer to create a postcard camera negative and even place identifying words on it (usually in white print) and then have it printed on a divided back postcard stock (divided back postcards date from March 1 1907 - 1915, often known as the golden age of postcards).

Postcards created by professional photographers or companies usually had copyright information or the photographers name written on the front of the image or on the reverse side. One of the postcards donated by Mr. Spencer, appear to have been created on a personal camera. It is titled, "No Name Mt. Jasper Park." I am putting out the challenge to our members to put on their sleuthing hats and see if we cannot locate this mountain and perhaps find out if it has since been named.

You can email the archives with your suggestions at:

[archives@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:archives@jaspermuseum.org)

Sources:

<http://www.co.seneca.ny.us/history/Postcards%20History.pdf>

## Community Spirit Program

The goal of the Community Spirit Program is to increase individual charitable giving to help support Alberta's non-profit and charitable organizations. The program is donor-driven, meaning it recognizes and encourages Albertans to support their favourite organizations. The money you give to the museum is matched by this program. This year we received over \$9000 because of **YOUR** generous donations .  
Thank You !



A new herd of buffalo plaques will be arriving at the end of June.





## Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives

[www.jaspermuseum.org](http://www.jaspermuseum.org)

**Phone:**

780-852-3013 museum

780-852-3240 archives

**E-mail Addresses:**

**Karen Byers**

[manager@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:manager@jaspermuseum.org)

**Meghan Power**

[archives@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:archives@jaspermuseum.org)

**Dee Dee Bartlett**

[collections@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:collections@jaspermuseum.org)

**Val Delill**

[exhibits@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:exhibits@jaspermuseum.org)

**Lucie Doucet**

[giftshop@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:giftshop@jaspermuseum.org)

### Summer 2010

Mini Outing

Line up:

**June 15**

Pyramid Island

Meet at Pyramid Island

**July 20**

James Fahey

Meet at Centennial Park

**August 17**

Snape's Hill

Meet at Snape's Hill  
(End of Geikie Street)

**September 21**

Lake Edith

Railway

Call the museum for  
more details.

780-852-3013

**Summer Hours :**

Museum

May-October

10am to 5 pm daily

Archives

Monday-Wednesday

9 am - noon & 1-4 pm

Please phone for appointment

**Calling all Railway Buffs,**  
Railway Workers Past and Present &  
Model Railway Enthusiasts



**The Museum is planning a railway exhibit for the summer of 2011 and your input is needed. Join us for a meeting at the museum**

**Thursday July 8 at 7pm**

Or contact Val at 780-852-3013 [exhibits@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:exhibits@jaspermuseum.org)



## Gallery Schedule 2010

### The Showcase Gallery

David Thompson: 200 Years Later

June 11-September 26

This exhibit, created by the Canmore Museum and Geoscience Centre, marks the David Thompson Bicentennials (2007-2011) and celebrates Thompson's story and epic travels.

Jasper Under Covers

October 1-November 14

A show by the Tonquin Valley Quilting Guild combined with antique quilts from the museum's collection.

### The Alcove Gallery

A History of Aprons

April 15 - June 15

Who were the first to wear aprons? What were aprons used for? These questions are answered in the exhibit "A History of Aprons".

David Thompson Video Gallery

June 25 - September 6

We will be running two movies daily at 11 am and 3 pm. Both are under one hour in length.

*Shadows of David Thompson* at 11 am

*Digging Water: A Voyage by North Canoe* -

*David Thompson*  
200 Years Later

DAVID THOMPSON IN THE ATHABASCA PASS, 1810

Pen and Ink drawing: David Thompson in the Athabasca Pass, 1810  
Source: Library and Archives Canada/Credit: C. W. Jeffery/Charles William Jefferys Estate, C. 070298

June 11 to September 26, 2010

Jasper-Yellowhead  
Museum & Archives  
400 Pyramid Lake Road  
(across from the Aquatic Centre)

## 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](mailto:manager@jaspermuseum.org)

## Thank you to:

Alan Butler for donating his fabulous portrait of Fred entitled "Dignity".

Hugh Lecky for donating the printing for Fred's beautiful guest book and our new banners.

Super A for their

Community Loyalty Program

**A message from Fred:**

Although I have retired as treasurer, I am still active in membership and you can help me by renewing your 2010 membership as soon as possible.



**Jasper-Yellowhead  
Historical Society Membership**

Box 42  
Jasper, Alberta  
TOE 1E0  
Phone: (780) 852-3013  
[www.jaspermuseum.org](http://www.jaspermuseum.org)

Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like updates by e-mail? \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Levels:**

Individual: \$25 per year  
Family: \$35 per year  
Patron: \$100 per year

Membership entitles you to free unlimited museum admission, 10% off all purchases in the museum gift shop, the semi-annual newsletter, use of the member's library and invitations to special events. Patrons receive a \$65 (family) or \$75 (individual) tax receipt.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archive 2010 Membership Survey

1. How long have you been a JYHS member?

Less than 1yr    1-5yrs    5-10 years    more than 10 years

2. How often do you visit the museum?

Never    less than twice a year    4 or 5 times a year    more

3. Do you take part in any programs?

Talks?            Yes No    \_\_\_\_\_

Outings?         Yes No    \_\_\_\_\_

Coffee Hours?   Yes No    \_\_\_\_\_

4. Do you get our e-mail updates?    Yes No    \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you been to our web site? Facebook Site?    Yes No

\_\_\_\_\_

Suggestions for exhibits/displays:

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Suggestions for programming:

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Things you'd like to see more/less of:

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Please mail to Box 42, Jasper, Alberta TOE 1E0  
or drop in the box at the front desk of the museum.

Thank you.