



# The Jasper Signal

Jasper-Yellowhead  
Historical Society

Spring 2014

## Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society Spring Outing at Miette Hot Springs



Photo courtesy of Jasper National Park

Sunday May 25, 2014

from 1-4 pm

Refreshments will be served.

Meet at the picnic area  
below the Hot Springs Buildings.

Bring a chair & mug.

## President's Review

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Thank you to those Society members who attended the Annual General Meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>. Thanks also to Historian Joe Couture and Vice President Mike Cameron, as well as members at large who participated in the "Skiing in Jasper" presentation and discussion that followed the formal meeting. Commemorating Marmot Basin's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, many interesting stories were told!

You may have heard – hopefully – that during the meeting portion the possibility was raised for a Special General Meeting, which requires 21 days' notice to the Membership. This type of formal gathering would be required, for example, if we were to contemplate folding our tent and passing on the assets of the Historical Society – essentially the Museum and Archives – to the Municipality, which is what our Bylaws indicate would happen if we were to pack it in.

It was important to raise this possibility – spectre? – due to the persistent and nagging fact that our Society continues to struggle with funding our existence. We

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## Board Profiles



Vonna Arsenault

I have resided in Jasper for 65 years. My history with the Yellowhead Historical Society goes back to the early 1980's when Mary Porter and I, prompted by Rory Flanagan were historians for the Society. We worked in the basement of the old library accepting new accessions, and getting information for various groups requesting it. Our source of information was largely from a file contributed by Constance Peterson. At that time Mrs. Gifford was doing a good job cross-referencing the huge fund of knowledge which Mrs. Peterson had compiled. It was my job to report to the Historical Society meetings on what we had accessed and sorted. This was when members such as Doris Kensit and Ken Cook were involved.

Later, I assisted Marg Johnson with various fund-raising projects as we were just getting underway with the present building housing the archives. Further to that, I was a Board member in the 1990's only briefly due to my heavy commitment to my family and my occupation as a teacher in Jasper.

I have been a long-standing member and contributor to the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society thanks to the persistence of the late Fred Kofin.

Presently, I am on the Board of Directors for the Jasper-Yellowhead Society as a representative of the Municipality of Jasper. I believe that our Museum is essential to the culture and well-being of our town and that our history is invaluable, and must be preserved.

## The Gift of Giving

Do you want to leave a lasting legacy in your community? A donation to the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society in your will is one way to meaningfully contribute to the education and well-being of future generations of Jasperites.

Donations given through a will can provide a tax benefit to your estate. A tax receipt can be issued for cash donations in wills the same way tax receipts are issued for other donations. Cash is not the only asset you can donate. Donating RRSPs may avoid the taxation of those RRSPs. Donating shares in a corporation or investments may also avoid capital gains taxes. You should talk to your accountant about the tax consequences of donating RRSPs or investments prior to doing so.

It is recommended that you inform the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society of your donation either by letter or by providing them with a copy of the page of your will with your donation. If you are considering putting restric-

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## Hot Diggly Dog!

The Museum has purchased a Hotdog cart..... The cart use to belong to Mike and Cyndi Day who ran it for a few summers on Connaught Dr where the fruit stand use to be.

The idea behind purchasing the cart is it would be used to raise much needed funds year after year for the Museum. It could be used for events such as Canada Day, Dark Sky, Jasper in January - Street Party, Farmer's Market, Folk Festival, just to name a few. The nice thing about the cart is it is self contained, water, cooler, steam tray, bbq, propane tanks and one is not running around looking for a bbq, propane, etc.



The Town has approved the cart for fundraising proposes and has issued a business license.

And after some elbow grease, and thank you to Sheila Couture and Cesar Argueta, the cart was inspected by Wen Li with the Alberta Health Service. The cart has passed its inspection and it now has a Food Permit. Wen has recommended the Home Study in Food Safety for Special Events course for volunteers who work the hot-dog cart.

Anyone interested in volunteering, taking the Home Study Food Safety Course, or know of events, functions, which the Hotdog Cart can be part of, please contact Anna Marie Couture

[board@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:board@jaspermuseum.org). or 780-852-2292

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tions on the donation then you should talk to the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society first to be sure that your restrictions can be accommodated.

For more information on donating to the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society in your will you should talk to your lawyer. A donation in your will can provide a lasting impact in the preservation of Jasper's colourful history.

Christopher A. Stolfa

Lawyer

[chris@stolfalaw.ca](mailto:chris@stolfalaw.ca)



## Museum Collection

Dee Dee Bartlett

We recently did an inventory of our Jasper Souvenir Dollars and came up with this list of missing coins. If you have one of these coins and would like to donate it to our collection, please contact Dee Dee Bartlett at [collections@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:collections@jaspermuseum.org)

1983	<i>Wolves</i>	1996	<i>Two Bucks - Deer</i>
1984	<i>Cougar</i>	1998	<i>Grizzly Bear</i>
1986	<i>Canada Goose</i>	2000	<i>Mt Alberta Ice Axe</i>
1988	<i>Deer</i>	2001	<i>Year of the Great Bear</i>
1989	<i>Skier - Marmot Basin 25 Years</i>	2002	<i>Eagle - Wonderful by Nature</i>
1990	<i>Caribou</i>	2003	<i>Cougar - Wonderful by Nature</i>
1992	<i>Grizzly Bear</i>	2005	<i>Ram - Alberta Centennial</i>
1993	<i>Elk Cow and Calf</i>		

## Winter Coffee Hours

Our coffee hours have become an overwhelming success with many new faces participating and adding to the stimulating mix. When we start up in the fall we'd like to invite the community to become guest presenters. If you have a topic you'd like to share, please contact [manager@jaspermuseum.org](mailto:manager@jaspermuseum.org) and we will put you on the calendar. Coffee hours run each Tuesday morning at 10:30 from November–March

## Lifetime Membership

At the AGM on April 15<sup>th</sup>, a motion was put forth to the membership as a recommendation on behalf of the board regarding a new Life time Membership.

- ◆ Lifetime Membership would be \$500 per person with a tax receipt of \$500. This motion was carried.
- ◆ Lifetime Members would get the same entitlements as members, free unlimited museum admission, 10% off all purchases at the museum gift shop, the semi-annual newsletter, use of the member's library and invitations to special events.
- ◆ Members would receive a special edition laminate life time membership card.
- ◆ Life Time memberships can also be purchased as a gift & in memory of someone. They would make that perfect birthday, Christmas or anniversary gift for that person who just has everything.

For more information or to purchase a Lifetime Membership, please contact Shelley MacQueen via e-mail at [shel29@shaw.ca](mailto:shel29@shaw.ca) or at 780-852-5949.



## Murphy Stump

We don't often add new displays to our Kofin Gallery but we were delighted to receive this one, delivered by Peter Murphy himself. The display is made up of a cross section of a lodgepole pine from the Whirlpool Valley donated by Parks Canada that Peter mounted on a beautiful base with a hinged top. He also created an interpretive document that explains the unique features of this tree and its history from the mid 1700s. It has already received rave reviews from museum visitors!



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focus far too much energy and effort on staying alive at the expense of developing and enhancing the programs and stewardship of Jasper's story which forms our basic mandate.

The motivation was to recruit more active participation on the part of our membership – it's getting tiring for the small group of stalwarts, and the demands aren't getting less, but growing. This is likely unremarkable to those in the volunteer sector – this isn't news to anyone who volunteers with organizations.

The fact remains that our Museum and Archives is strengthened due to the dedication and efforts of volunteers. It is healthy that your membership supports and drives our purpose and the direction that our Society takes. It is healthy that there is an independence and grass-roots element at the core of our enterprise.

With the taking of a deep breath, we shouldn't need a motion at this time to ask the Municipality to take over the direction and operation of Jasper's Museum and Archives. But our current successes or future viability can't be taken for granted.

There are three areas in which you – our membership – might consider offering your expertise or assistance. Put Special General Meetings into the future. In the meantime, let us mobilize one or two or three Committees that will, with added enthusiasm and focus, in no particular order, make recommendation to the Board and Membership for:

**Long Term Funding:** We need predictable, recurring funding so we can spend less time selling hamburgers on events like Canada Day and more time taking care of infrastructure and programming. The municipality has two "culture" expenditures in the Municipal Operating Budget. Check it out and draw some conclusions about per capita support. See the article in this issue from Chris Stolfa regarding the possibility of bequests through wills. (Thank you for your presentation to the Board on this matter, Chris! And the article!)

**Lot Development:** We need to explore something similar to the Whyte Museum of the Rockies in Banff that funds 70% of their budget through a Foundation that operates retail, real estate etc. that was bequest by the Whyte family. Few bequests to date – but we do have the lease to an adjacent, empty – valuable – lot. Let's explore it seriously!

**Technology/Programming:** It appears that we have significant support from Axia Supernet, the company that operates the Alberta government intranet infrastructure, to deliver fibre optic capability to our organization. This supports voice-video programming over the internet with appropriate bandwidth to allow us to deliver quality programming to a world-wide audience.

If you have interest, expertise or enthusiasm to be involved in any of these endeavours, please let us know - soon. Over the next few issues of the Signal, we will be profiling our current Board members – the first one in this issue – but you know those you might get in touch with! Alternatively, drop a line to [board@jaspermuseum.com](mailto:board@jaspermuseum.com)

Herb Robinson, President



## CSIA Award Winners Joe Couture & Tom McCready



Tom McCready & Joe Couture were inducted into the Canadian Ski Instructors Alliance (CSIA) Alberta Region Hall of Fame on April 5, 2014 at the CSIA Alberta Region's Annual General Meeting part of the CSIA Spring Fling at Marmot Basin. Fay and 3 of her grand adults attended the ceremony where Fay received Tom's plaque.



Tom McCready has a long history of skiing in Jasper from when he was a young boy on his first pair of skis made by his Uncle Jack Hargreaves. He and his brother, George, would ski from town up Whistlers down into Whistlers Creek; camp overnight in a cabin before proceeding over Marmot Pass and down Portal Creek and back to town.

In 1953 Fay & Tom's wedding was delayed a week as the Marmot Derby was scheduled at Marmot and Tom had entered the downhill & giant slalom. Fay's rationale was "What is one week out of the life of a marriage." Tom was the head patrol man for 11 years (1953-1964) at Whistlers Ski Hill where he also taught Alpine and Cross-Country skiing and coached the Jasper Ski Team. In 1954 Tom passed his CSIA course, which was held at Maligne Lake as there wasn't enough snow at Whistlers. When Marmot Basin opened in 1964 Tom had the concession for Marmot Basin Ski School and was the Director until 1974. Tom & Joe Couture managed the Ski Shop & Ski Rentals at Marmot 1970-74. You might remember watching Tom teach Ernie Afaganis cross-country skiing and Joe give Ernie downhill instruction on the CBC TV Series Snow Motion in 1974. Tom retired from the Marmot Basin Ski School in 1974/75.

Joe Couture came to Jasper in 1964 and taught skiing at Whistlers' Mountain for Guy Christie. In 1965 he was a ski instructor for Tom McCready at Marmot Basin Ski School. The next year he qualified as a ski coach and coached the Jasper Ski Team. 1966 was a busy year for Joe as he helped organize the Canadian Ski Coaches Federation and was chair of the Alberta Region of the CSIA as well as on the National Board of the CSIA. In 1968 Joe started the Fall Ski Show Tour to promote skiing and ski holidays in western Canada. Initially there was only Marmot Basin on the tour but it morphed into including many of the ski areas in Western Canada. The Fall Tour ran until 1990. Joe joined Tom as co-director of the Marmot Basin Ski School in 1969/70.

In the mid 70's Joe was instrumental in starting the Canadian Professional Ski School Association of which he was president for a number of years. Joe was the Marketing Director for Marmot Basin from 1975 - 1980. 1983/84 was the last season that Joe ran the Marmot Basin Ski School. In 1987 Joe planned the first CSIA Spring Festival at Marmot Basin. In 1988 he was on the organizing committee for Interski in Banff.

Skiing was a big part of Tom & Joe's life.



## Shipping Container

In 2012 Val Delill applied to CN for a grant but, instead of a financial contribution, she requested an in kind donation of a used shipping container. We were quickly running out of room to store her exhibit materials and we also needed a new home for our book sale donations as Fred Kofin's silver trailer was in a sad state. For awhile we didn't hear anything and we began to give up hope but thanks to Warren Waxer and Greg Cronkright, our dream started to look like a reality.



This spring we got word that a container was being readied for us and it was then we learned that it was 53 feet long! When we finally got word it was going to be delivered to us, we had to think about how to move it into place. We asked for help from several people in the community and, while they all wanted to lend a hand, either their equipment was busy or wasn't big enough to do the job. In the end, it was Murdock Bowen of Jasper Construction and his team who volunteered to work their magic. We also have to thank Clark Builders' for the use of their forklift and Justin who gamely worked along side Jen, Gord, Dallas & Murdock to muscle the beast into position. While it might not look like a thing of beauty to most people, we are delighted with our new addition and John Ogilvy is working on plans to install it in a better location where it can be easily accessed by the loading dock. A big thank you has to go to Jim Vena who helped make our dream a reality. He told me he is looking forward to coming back to visit Jasper and that CN is always looking for ways to help in communities where their employees work and live-especially in Jasper which continues to be a key terminal in their network.



## Summer Mini Outing Schedule

May 20 Government Barns  
Meet on the front porch of the museum  
June 10th Jasper Jr. Sr High School  
Sheila Couture hosts  
Meet at the entrance to the school  
July 15th Topic TBA  
Jack Templeton hosts  
August 19th Old Firehall  
Kevin Gedling hosts  
Meet in front of the bays.



## Congratulations

to the  
2013 winners of the :  
Brainiac Award  
Janice Yeaman & Wayne  
Kennedy,  
&  
Volunteer of the Year  
John Ogilvy

## BOOK SALE

We will once again accept your gently used books. Please drop them off in Fred's Book Nook or give us a call if you plan to bring more than a box or two. Please do not bring: encyclopedias, Reader's Digest condensed books, text books or books that are damp or dirty or have no cover. Our summer book sale will start July 1st long weekend and run until Labour Day.

## STASH of CASH

You have very generously donated your pennies to the Jasper Yellowhead Museum, \$3,349.29 worth!  
Now we are accepting donations of nickels, dimes, quarters, loonies & toonies.  
If you have a container of coins, loose or rolled and don't know what to do with them donate them to the Jasper Yellowhead Museum.  
The Museum can put them to good use.  
Drop them off at the Museum or call Sheila Couture 780-852-4949 for pick-up.

## TWINS IN JASPER

Outreach Exhibit Museum Display Case  
Jasper Activity Centre Lobby  
September - November 2014  
Inquiries about being included in the Exhibit:  
Sheila Couture 780-852-4949





## Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives

400 Bonhomme Street, Jasper, Alberta (across from the Jasper Aquatic Centre)

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

### Summer Hours :

#### Museum

10 am to 5 pm daily

#### Archives

Wednesdays

9 am - noon & 1-4 pm

Please phone for appointment

780-852-3240 archives

#### JYHS Board

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

#### Karen Byers

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

#### Dee Dee Bartlett

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

#### Val Delill

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

#### Vicki Templeton

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

780-852-3013 museum

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

### Showcase Gallery

May 4-30 Just Jasper - Lake Edith Artist Guild show and sale  
A biannual event where the Lake Edith guild showcases its talent.  
Artist reception May 18, 3-5 pm

### June-September Jasper Artists Guild

We are happy to provide a venue for Jasper's talented artists until they settle in their new home.

Oct 10-Nov 16 Great War Centennial Commemoration  
100 years ago the Great War began and, even though all our veterans from WW1 are gone, we will not forget their sacrifice.

### Alcove Gallery

#### Apr 14- June 15 Jasper Elementary School Exhibit

The Jasper Elementary School opens its first exhibit at the museum in celebration of the Jasper school centenary.

#### June 14 - Sept 28 From Boulder Bungalow to Information Centre: 100 years of service

A natural meeting place for residents and visitors everyone has memories of the "Boulders" as it was called in the earliest days of Jasper. Visit the museum as we share stories and facts so you may learn more about the building's history.

#### Sept 11 - Jan 5 2015 Jasper Dark Skies

Jasper is the second largest dark sky preserve in the world. Come see why this is an important designation for Jasper National Park, it's not just for sky watchers!

### Activity Centre Displays

#### Jasper's Churches

April - August 2014

Twins

September - November 2014