



CHINOOK COUNTRY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2008

What's in a Name: Killarney/Glengarry

The Calgary and District Chapter
of the Historical Society
of Alberta

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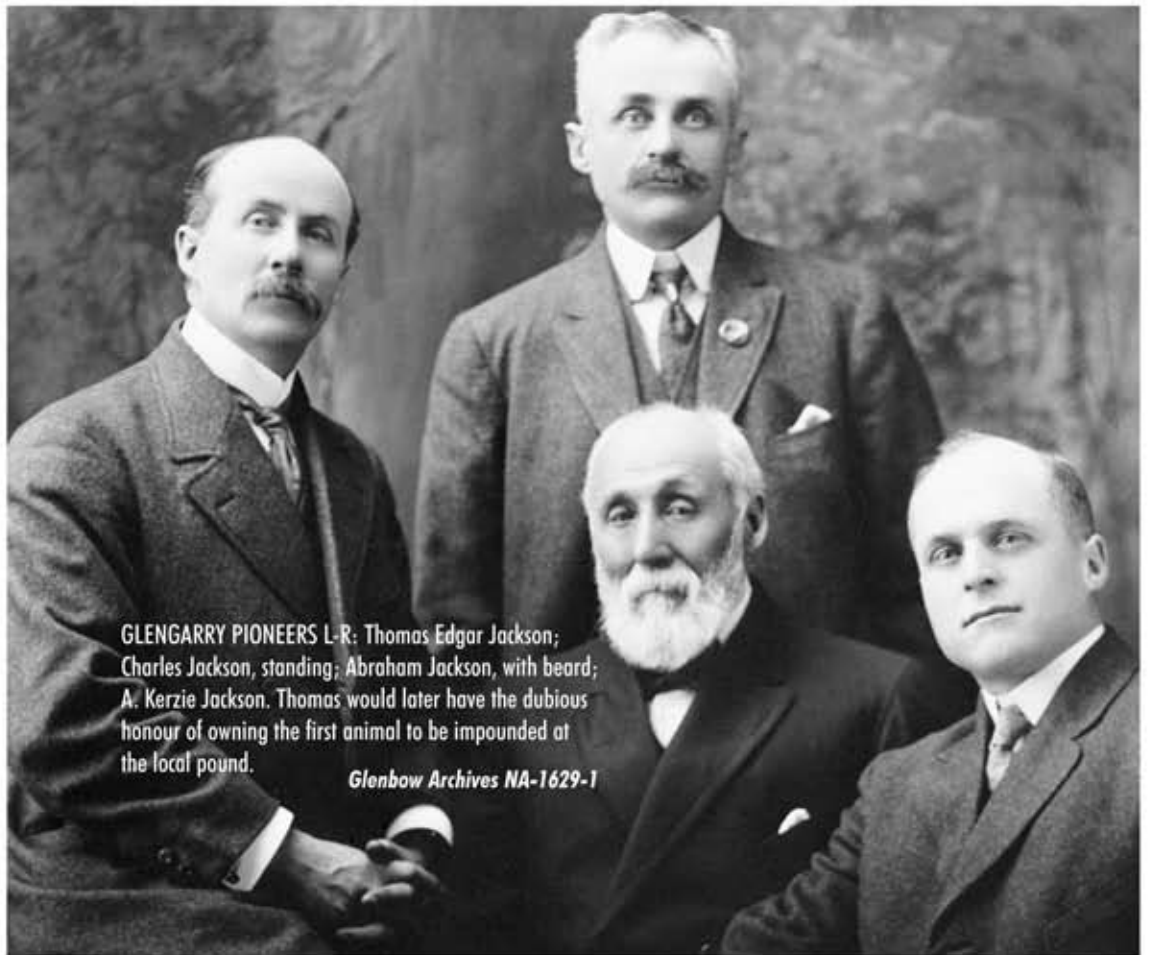
Website:

www.albertahistory.org/Chinook

The Vision of the Society:

"to promote a greater
understanding of Canadian and
Alberta history in Chinook
Country for people of all ages."

Chinook boundaries
are from Olds to Nanton,
from the B.C. to the
Saskatchewan borders.



GLENGARRY PIONEERS L-R: Thomas Edgar Jackson;
Charles Jackson, standing; Abraham Jackson, with beard;
A. Kerzie Jackson. Thomas would later have the dubious
honour of owning the first animal to be impounded at
the local pound.

Glenbow Archives NA-1629-1

Ever stop and wonder how Killarney/Glengarry community got its name? Well, read on anyway and amaze your friends with local trivia. Both profit-motive and sentiment played a part in the naming of the district. This, in turn, influenced those originally drawn to the area.

It would seem unlikely that the choosing of "Glengarry" had anything to do with a stormy

valley (the Gaelic meaning), or the traditional Scottish woolen hat so named. Rather, the name was brought west by Thomas Edgar Jackson and his family when they arrived from Ontario. They arrived approximately 100 years ago, and the ranch they founded bore the name of their past home in Glengarry Country. A portion of their land was subdivided prior to 1907. *—Continued on page 2*

Historic Calgary Week

Explore & Celebrate

Our Roots

July 25 - August 3, 2008

Volunteer Opportunity

Chinook Country Historical Society is organizing volunteers for the 18th annual Historic Calgary Week.

Events (such as walks, talks and tours) take place mornings, afternoons and evenings at various Calgary sites. You can visit www.chinookcountry.org to view the "Week at a Glance" or the full brochure.

Volunteers help with crowd control, hand out brochures, etc., and – at the same time – enjoy the presentation. An orientation session for all interested volunteers will be held in July.

If you are interested in helping out at one or more events or would like more information, please contact Carrol Jaques, Past President, Chinook Country Historical Society at 286-5955 or email her at: cjaques@telusplanet.net. -CCHS

—Carrol Jaques



From the President

Chinook Country Historical Society held its Annual General Meeting at the Danish Club on March 25, 2008, with a presentation by public historian David Finch. With great food, great company and David's informative and entertaining talk on the oilpatch booms and busts, everyone had a great time. Thanks to all the volunteers, to Shona Gourlay for bringing the event together, and to Laurel Halladay for her excellent work on the silent auction.

I would like to extend my appreciation to Chinook Country Board Members who are not returning to the board this year. We are grateful to Sheila Grogan for her diligent work coordinating past newsletter distribution, and Haifa Selo for her many years of handling a number of portfolios.

Serving on the CCHS Board this year will be Tom Hamp as President, Carrol Jaques as Past President, Henry Murzyn as Second Vice-President, Janet McMaster as Treasurer. The First Vice-President and Secretary positions are currently vacant. Other members of the Board are Robert Cormack, Irene DeBoni, Gary Ellis, Shona Gourlay, Laurel Halladay, Kristi Johnson, George Milne and Diana Ringstrom.

After the AGM, there were two more programs at Fort Calgary: Jack Dunn gave an informative and entertaining presentation on "The Westward March of the Northwest Mounted Police" at the April program; and Richard Parker gave a very



interesting talk on "Calgary's Story: A Planner's Perspective" at the May program.

Historic Calgary Week will be held from Friday, July 25 to Sunday, August 3. Our theme will be "Explore and Celebrate Our Roots". The event is being co-chaired by Gary Ellis and Carrol Jaques.

I look forward to seeing you all during Historic Calgary Week. -CCHS

—Tom Hamp



Get Published!

The CCHS Newsletter is always looking for submissions approximately 500 words in length. Please contact Ruth Kerr with any questions: rakerr2@telus.net -CCHS

—Ruth Kerr, Editor

Solutions to Crossword

(Crossword on page 4)

Across: 1. Mackay; 4. Sheriff; 8. Moose; 9. Kwong; 10. Del; 11. Lac; 12. Annet; 13. Vespa; 14. Ike; 16. Mission; 19. Devon; 20. Sushi; 23. Hobbs; 25. Grand; 27. Cal; 28. Mogul; 30. A.C.; 31. Eve; 32. Roy; 33. Tee; 34. Erik.

Down: 1. McNally; 2. Crowchild; 3. Arena; 4. Short; 5. Eng.; 6. Indus; 7. Fulham; 9. Kinsmen; 13. Veins; 15. Eaves; 17. Safran; 18. Nose Creek; 21. Island; 22. Chumir; 24. Buggy; 25. Grace; 26. Duerr; 29. LRT. -CCHS

Killarney Glengarry (cont'd)

Continued from page 1

John Craig and his family also came west in the 1800s. They purchased land from the C.P.R. in order to establish a ranch they named the "Prairie Home Farm". The homestead was sold and subdivided in 1907, becoming a part of what is now Killarney. A strong Irish name was chosen as the real estate companies of the day were in the business of luring specific European groups to the area. The Scottish "Glengarry" was already well-suited for this purpose.

Property sales peaked during the real estate boom of 1911-12. At this time, Niblock and Tall were selling lots in Glengarry and Killarney. Fred Kennedy, a Calgary Herald reporter in the 1930s wrote: "The transportation companies were pouring settlers in the country by the thousands, highly coloured literature was

distributed, and when the time was ripe, the greatest real estate boom that western Canada ever saw, was launched. Huge tracts of land were bought up by land companies at low prices, subdivided into 25-foot building lots, tagged with a fancy name, and put on the market at ridiculously high prices."

—
"Christmas deliveries...had to be discontinued because the men were too inebriated by the end of their routes."
—

Lots sold for as much as \$5,000 sight unseen. Two decades later, investors from across the Atlantic were shocked to learn that some of the properties near the city's edge were worth as little as \$25.

Right from the beginning, the residents of Killarney and Glengarry were aligned with each other. The "Glengarry and Killarney Rate Payers' Association" was formed in 1912. By 1920, the community had streetcar service, a fire hall, and a pound. As fate would have it, the first animal to be impounded was Thomas Jackson's saddle-horse.

In his 1933 article, Fred Kennedy also commented that "the Scots and the Irish never did find it difficult to live side by side, and so today the Glengarry and Killarney districts are among the best settled within the city limits." There was a time when people may have gotten along a little too well. Christmas day delivery of mail and milk eventually had to be discontinued because the men were too inebriated by the end of their routes.

Today's population is much more diverse than earlier this century. As we head into the summer holiday season, let's remember the hospitality and friendship of the past... Oh, and don't hitch up the team if you've had one too many. -CCHS

—Submitted by Geoff Brown

VOICES FROM OUR PAST

"Yesterday the Mayor Mr. Lucas informed me that a Chinaman at the Laundry on Stephen Ave., next to Hallidays confectionary shop, had been found to have the small pox. Steps were at once taken by the town authorities to isolate the case. All the Chinamen living in the house were sent to an empty shack across Nose Creek and I was asked to furnish a guard to see that they did not leave. The guard tent is pitched some distance from the shack and a sentry posted on a rise of ground in view of it. Last night the laundry and all its contents was burnt by the town authorities, they having determined to take stringent measures to prevent a spread of the disease."

—Report from A. Ross Cuthbert,
N.W.M.P Inspector at Calgary,
July 1, 1892

Submitted by Laurel Halladay

Upcoming Programs at Calgary Public Library

Prairie Pretenders: Grey Owl, Long Lance and Honore Jaxon

Professor Don Smith discusses three prominent individuals with Calgary connections, who re-invented themselves claiming Aboriginal ancestry.

Saturday, June 14
1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

4th Floor North – Meeting Room

Researching Calgary's Military History

Join experts from the University of Calgary and the Military Museums in exploring how to effectively research and write military history.

Friday, June 20
2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

4th floor North - Meeting Room

History of the Calgary Stampede

Renowned local author and Professor Max Foran explores the myths and realities surrounding the Stampede in this popular encore lecture.

Friday, June 27
3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

4th floor North - Meeting Room

Family History Coaching

Drop in on Saturday, June 21 for help with family research. Co-sponsored by the Alberta Family Histories Society.

Saturday, June 21
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

4th Floor North – Genealogy Area
No registration required

To register for these and other interesting programs go online to: calgarypubliclibrary.com/library/programs or phone 260-2620. -CCHS

—Submitted by Carolyn Ryder,
Calgary Public Library

Local History Crossword

(Solution on page 2)

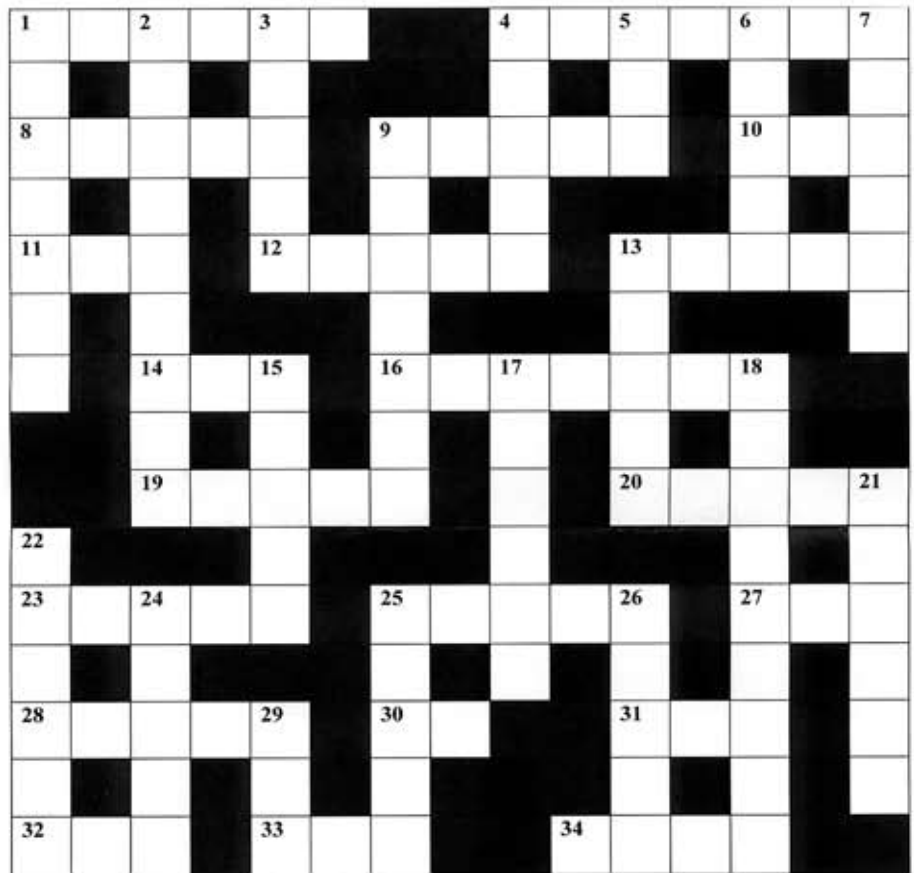
Across

1. Calgary's mayor 1949-59, Don -----
4. The YWCA shelter, ----- King House
8. A loop, lasso, or lariat
9. Lt. Gov. of Alberta, Norman -----
10. A computer key
11. West of Calgary, --- des Arcs
12. Kittiwake
13. An Italian motor scooter
14. U.S. Pres. Eisenhower's nickname
16. An older district in SW Calgary
19. Name given to the fourth Paleozoic period; also an English county
20. Japanese cuisine
23. Contemporary Calgary artist, Arlene -----
25. One of Calgary's oldest theatres
27. California (abbr.)
28. A business big shot; empire builder
30. -- Leighton, artist
31. Adam's spouse
32. Calgary alderman, 1961-71, --- Farran
33. A golfer's aid
34. Viking explorer, ---- the Red

Down

1. Calgary's first Roman Catholic Bishop, John Thomas -----
2. Former Chief of the Sarcee, David -----
3. Calgary's Max Bell -----
4. He organized Calgary's first high school department in 1889, James -----
5. High school subject (abbr.)
6. A hamlet on 22X, 17 km. southeast of Calgary
7. A colourful Calgary character in days of yore, Mother -----
9. A philanthropic organization closely associated with Calgary Stampede
13. Lodes, seams; blood vessels
15. Ex-Calgary Flame, Mike -----
17. Superintendent of the Calgary School Board, 1972-77, Dr. Carl -----
18. A stream in NW Calgary (2 wds.)
21. Prince's ----- Park
22. The newly opened Sheldon ----- Health Centre
24. A common sight on the prairies in the 1930's, the Bennett -----
25. Operated by the Salvation Army until 1995, the ----- Hospital
26. Calgary's 37th mayor, Al -----
29. Part of Calgary's public transport system (abbr.)

—Jennifer Prest



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874-7375

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Newsletter Submissions: The deadline for the Spring issue is **AUGUST 26, 2008**. Please send your article to Ruth Kerr at rakerr2@telus.net.

Membership

Please check the address label on your envelope and note when your subscription expires. Membership cheques are payable to:
The Historical Society of Alberta, PO Box 4035,
Station "C", Calgary, AB T2T 5M9

Individual membership	\$15.00	Family membership	\$25.00	Affiliate membership	\$55.00
Annual subscription	\$25.00	Annual subscription	\$25.00	(school, museum, library, historical society)	
Total	<u>\$40.00</u>	Total	<u>\$50.00</u>	Associate membership	\$120.00
Purchased together	\$35.00	Purchased together	\$45.00		