



Look Outside the Box

SASKATCHEWAN COUNCIL FOR ARCHIVES AND ARCHIVISTS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



As I write this it is fall in Saskatchewan. Autumn has always been my favorite season. It reminds me of harvests as a small boy growing up in rural Manitoba. And today as a gardener, autumn is not only a time to harvest but also a time to prepare for the next year.

To stretch the analogy, autumn is a good time to start planning for archives. Both our Regina and Saskatoon Archives Week groups are already planning for the next Archives Week in February. As institutions many of us are busily planning projects and writing grants as another funding season begins. I'd ask each member

and each institution to consider adding strategic planning to their autumn list.

Our strategic plan is set to expire in 2011 and the executive is discussing a process for developing our next strategic plan. Some of you will remember the extensive consultations that went into the development of our current plan in 2006. The document that was then produced, SCAA Odyssey, 2006-2011: Charting our Journey, served as a blueprint for the last four years. Personally I feel that much has been accomplished from that plan. We have seen SCAA develop a strengthened communications model, continue to provide relevant professional development opportunities, launched a provincial grant funding program, enhanced our public awareness role, and acquired staff to manage it all.

There are, of course, items in the plan that remain. As we move towards a new strategic plan I would encourage members to familiarize themselves with SCAA Odyssey, and think about what we do well, what we do poorly, what we haven't done, and what new things we could do as we move forward. Soon we'll be asking your opinion as we develop our next strategic plan.

Mark Vajcner, SCAA President

Season's
Greetings!
All the best to
you and yours this
holiday season.

From the SCAA

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New Institutional Member

Clayton McLain Memorial Museum

The Museum at Cut Knife
different cultures...prairie neighbours



Just some of the exhibits you can see at CMMM, including the World's largest tomahawk.
Photos Copyright Clayton McLain Memorial Museum.



The Clayton McLain Memorial Museum (CMMM) is more than a museum. It has an amazing collection of artifacts and stories of the historically rich region around Cut Knife, Saskatchewan. Visitors may experience displays in the heritage buildings, wander through the park to view the outdoor exhibits, fish in the trout pond, stay in the quiet campground or just gaze at the World's Largest Tomahawk.

Stories and artifacts include those of Clayton McLain who had a passion for stories of prairie life that impacted the multicultural residents of the Cut Knife area. The events of 1885 were of special interest to Clayton. He collected related items and he interviewed individuals who were witnesses. After he passed away in 1968, the community helped his widow, Elizabeth McLain, open the museum in 1971. Today, over 17000 items are in the collections which help illustrate the Cut Knife area history.

In CMMM's care are Clayton's research documentation, many unique First Nations items and related materials, personal

papers and artifacts, photos, interviews and letters of other 1885 participants and of post-1885 First Nations life. As well there are artifacts, art, photos and papers relating to local businesses, schools, organizations, and individuals. Copies of the local newspapers, The Cut Knife Grinder and Highway 40 Courier, from 1914 to the present are in the collections.

CMMM is a non-profit organization with a progressive board of trustees. The museum and campground are open during the summer months and other times by appointment. The park, outdoor displays and Tomahawk are accessible year round. Staff is employed to manage the museum's operations in the summer.

For more information check out the internet site:
www.cmmcutknife.ca and blog at
www.cmmcutknife.blogspot.com.

- Submitted by: Lucille Bullerwell

Culture Days Event

Wrap Up

Monkeying Around with Archives - Regina

Saskatchewan Archives Board (SAB) celebrated Culture Days by hosting "Monkeying Around with Archives"; an event focused on exposing youth to the resources available in archival institutions in a fun learning environment. The day featured displays as well as quizzes and games, to make it interactive and entertaining. Just over 40 people attended the event and a large percentage was children, many of whom were part of the junior historical society at Government House, that attended as part of their monthly activity. Other participants included Regina Public Library's Prairie History Room (PHR), Athol Murray College of Notre Dame Archives and Museum, Saskatchewan Genealogical Society (SGS) and the Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists (SCAA)

- Submitted by: Trina Gillis, SAB



Sheila Ahmed, Trina Gillis, Krista Liggett, Susan Millen, May Chan, Lauren Bergren, Catherine Holmes, Paula Rein, Audrey Price and Terry McGarry



A microfilm machine.



May Chan assisting participants at the exhibit.



Saskatchewan Settlement Experience display.

Archives in the Attic - Saskatoon

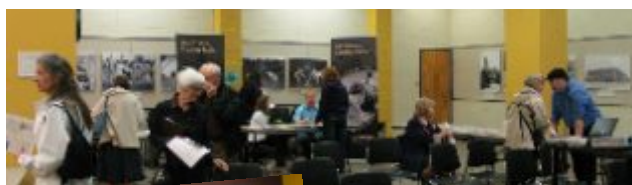
On September 25, a beautiful Saturday, the Saskatoon Area Archives Group, affectionately known as SAAG, held an event as part of Culture Days across Canada.

"Archives in Your Attic," the Saskatoon edition, was presented at the Saskatoon Public Library. Staff members of the Saskatchewan Archives Board (SAB), the City of Saskatoon Archives (COS), the University of Saskatchewan Archives and the Local History Room of the Library as well as a representative of the SCAA were all in attendance to help the public with questions on how preserve and protect their personal archives.

Nadine Charabin of the SAB, Jeff O'Brien of the COS and Cameron Hart of the SCAA gave presentations in the morning and afternoon on what to keep and how to best store their keepsakes. A total of 28 people attended the event and took in either the morning or afternoon presentation.

On behalf of the SCAA I would like to congratulate and thank all who organized and/or attended Culture Days events across the province. I especially wish to thank all of the volunteers who are essential to making these events successful and the institutions who support us by allowing their staff to volunteer their time to help make these events a focus in our communities.

- Submitted by: Cameron Hart, SCAA Archives Advisor



Above: Guests visiting the exhibits.



Left: Saskatoon Public Library's display.



Nadine Charabin delivering a talk on storing treasures



Dorothea Funk and an SPL staff set up their display.



Featured Archivist

Q & A with Graham Guest, Archival Historian

**Pahkisimon Nuye?áh Library System
(Northern Saskatchewan Archives)**

What was your first introduction to the archival world?

I had to retire from the government because I was 65, but that turned out to be a great age to start into archives, which previously I had known nothing about! It also turned out to be just up my street. I have had an ongoing interest in the history of the north since moving here 37 years ago, and own a collection of about 400 out-of-print books relating to the north. Also, my job as an information officer had included travelling the north and interviewing people about their lives and memories of the past. Excellent SCAA workshops have since provided me with technical skills, and the association has greatly assisted in the development of our archives.

What do you find most fascinating in the work that you currently do?

Exploring new donations of materials and organizing slides into archival preservers, documents into acid-free folders, videos and tapes into my inexpensive substitutes for Hollinger boxes, and wrapping the project up with labeling and finding aides. I also enjoy gathering photographs of the north from our collections and creating displays for various occasions.

If you had three wishes for your institution what would they be?

A fire protection system that doesn't soak the documents, more space to lay out interesting displays, and funding for experts to digitize our films and videos.

If you had funding to process one collection, what would it be?

We have a wonderful collection of 4H slides from the 1950s and 60s showing young people in 12 northern communities in their gardens and on achievement days with their produce and crafts: the project would be to digitize the slides and put them up on a website with captions and the background story.

What do you like most about the winter season?

Snowmobiling to our cabin on an island on Lac La Ronge, firing up the wood-stove, and relaxing with Suzanne over a gourmet supper, a bottle of wine, and a view across the lake of the sunset and later the northern lights.

What is your favourite place in Saskatchewan and why?

We like Saskatoon for its restaurants, shopping, and shows, but the answer has to be the same as for the previous question in both summer and winter.

What song makes you smile and sing along?

'All You Need is Love' by The Beatles. I'm old enough to have seen them come and go, but for me they've never gone . . .

An Advocacy Moment



A young Gordie Howe (#13) and his team the Saskatoon Bruins pose for a photo after winning a trophy in the Saskatoon Lions Midget league, ca. 1943. *Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room Photograph A-666 by Leonard Hillyard.*



Hockey teams, and war-time audience dressed mostly in military uniforms, stand at attention for the national anthem at the 19th Street Arena in Saskatoon. The clock bears a sign "Now is the time to buy Victory Bonds." *Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room Photograph A-665 by Leonard Hillyard.*

The Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room receives requests for its historic photographs from all walks of life. One of the most unusual arrived in late January of this year, when Local History Coordinator Dorothea Funk got a phone call from a former Saskatonian working as an aide to Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa. The aide explained that the Prime Minister, who is a big hockey fan, would be attending the Kinsmen Sports Celebrity Dinner - featuring guest Wayne Gretzky - on an upcoming visit to Saskatoon. The aide asked if the Local History Room had any hockey pictures for a small display which would showcase Saskatoon



Frank Boucher, former NHL star, behind the bench at a hockey game in Saskatoon, October 30, 1959. Boucher served as commissioner of the Saskatchewan Junior Hockey League between 1959 and 1967. *Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room Photograph B-6701 by Leonard Hillyard.*

and tie in with the Prime Minister's interest in hockey. Naturally, Local History was happy to comply and five images were chosen. Coincidentally, the Prime Minister's visit happened during Archives Week. In the course of providing the photos, Dorothea took the opportunity to point out to the aide that federal funding had played a direct role in selecting one of the images, as it recently been catalogued and made available through a project supported by the National Archival Development Program.

After the visit, the SCAA followed up with a formal letter to the Prime Minister acknowledging "the fundamental role that federal funding has played in the development of Saskatchewan's archival system." The letter also stated: For almost 25 years, funding from Library and Archives Canada (LAC) through the Canadian Council of Archives (currently

through the National Archival Development Program, NADP) has enabled archives to undertake conservation activities, contribute descriptions of collections to ARCHIVESCANADA.ca (the national online catalogue), train staff and volunteers, make holdings available through arrangement and description projects, and many more projects and activities that have contributed to preserving and making accessible Saskatchewan's documentary heritage.



Hockey star Gordie Howe, signing autographs for young fans at Eaton's Store in Saskatoon on July 15, 1968. *Saskatoon Public Library Local History Room photograph CP-5489-3 by Creative Professional Photographers.*

A few weeks later, the SCAA heard back from the Prime Minister:

During my time in Saskatoon I was fortunate to be able to peruse the photograph collection at the Saskatoon Public Library's Local History Room. Viewing the mounted hockey photos was extremely interesting for someone who is as passionate about the game as I am. On a personal note, I appreciated your gift of a calendar and note cards, which feature images of the province's landscape and people. I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the members of the Saskatchewan Council for Archives and Archivists for the important work you do as the custodians of your province's historical resources.

One never knows what a research request might lead to and the opportunities for advocacy it could create.

● Submitted by: Dorothea Funk, SPL Local History Room

Indian Head's Bell Barn Reconstruction Project Leads to Important Archival Donation



Bell Barn c. 1883 - Sask. Archives: GM-PH 405-1

When the Bell Barn Society held its Grand Opening of the Bell Barn Interpretive Centre on July 24, 2010, visitors not only saw the reconstructed historic round stone horse barn, but also, for the first time, numerous original historic records that had been safeguarded for over a century by members of the Bell and May families.

The Bell Barn Project was initiated on November 24, 2005, when Marg Hryniuk was writing the story of the Bell Farm for the book *Legacy of Stone: Saskatchewan's Stone Buildings*. She made the rhetorical comment: "I have not given up on getting something going re the restoration." Four and a half years later, the rejuvenated Bell Barn opened its doors to the public, not as a horse barn, but as an Interpretive Centre telling the story of Major William Bell, general manager and principal investor in the Qu'Appelle Valley Farming Company. The Centre also focuses on the impact that that the legendary Bell Farm had on the development of dryland farming in western Canada.

Among those who attended the Grand Opening event were 21 descendants of Major William and Catherine Bell.

These members of the Bell family did more than merely attend the ceremony and laud the Society for its achievement. They did more than make a major financial contribution to the fundraising campaign. The Bell family did what no other donor to the Project could do - they donated original Bell Farm documents, family and farm photographs, and the pièce de résistance - the Bell Farm Visitors' Register. That document includes the names and addresses of 308 people who visited the internationally renowned Bell Farm between August 1884

and December 1895. In August 2008 many of these records were given to the Bell Barn Society of Indian Head by Libby (Bell) MacAulay, a granddaughter of Major and Catherine Bell. Other records, including most of the photographs, were donated in February 2010 by another granddaughter, Sheila Whitaker. Unable to provide a secure environment for these important historical records, the Society, in turn, donated them to the Saskatchewan Archives Board in April 2010.

The importance of the Visitors' Register becomes evident when one considers that this is a potential source for 308 archival collections relating not only to the Bell Farm but also to other aspects of western Canadian history. Among the signatures and names



1885 Visitor's Log with Count Esterhazy - Sask. Archives: Accession 2010-208

recorded in the Register are those of such well-known dignitaries as Adelbert Anson, first Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Qu'Appelle, settlement promoter Count Esterhazy, and Governor General Lansdowne. Also signing the Register were members of the Bell Farm consortium that financed Saskatchewan's first corporate farm, neighbours from the region, and many American and overseas visitors who had heard about the famous Bell Farm and wanted to see it for themselves. Conspicuously absent are the names for various prominent people known to have visited the Farm, including Prime Minister Sir John A. Macdonald, North-West Mounted Police Superintendent James Morrow Walsh, and the federal government's North-West Rebellion military commander, Major General Frederick Dobson Middleton.

Included with the Bell family documents were various photographs of Major Bell, from the time he was in his early teens in the late 1850s or early 60s until shortly before his death in 1913, at age 68. They present a person of strong determination and commitment, from his years in the military and participant in repelling the Fenian Raids of 1866 and 1870, to his work at the Bell Farm, and his socializing with members of the Winnipeg Club, and travels on boats and in forests.



Descendants of Bell & May family 2010 - Dan Loran, Indian Head

Major Bell was also a keen supporter of the most recent technological equipment, and established Saskatchewan's first rural telephone system on his farm in 1884. He built portable round grain bins decades before they became popular throughout the West. Among his records there also exists the patent for a round steel grain bin, issued by the Canadian Patent Office in 1912, eight months before his death.

The Bell Barn Project also led to other historical records coming to light, the most significant of which was a letter written by Guy May on Christmas Day, 1882 to his relatives in Ontario. Guy was in charge of the horses stabled in the brand new round stone barn, and wrote his letter right inside that structure. The letter included a sketch of the barn's interior layout, and provided a functional description and measurements.



Guy May letter- Albert May, Regina

This document, preserved by members of the May family, was critical to our understanding of the barn's original layout, as that had been completely altered in the 1920s when the horse stable was converted into a cow barn. That letter was also on display at the Grand Opening, but only a copy resides with the Saskatchewan Archives; the original remains with the May family.

Copies of most of these historic records are on display at the Bell Barn Interpretive Centre, where they illustrate the

various stories that make the Bell Farm and Major Bell such important components of our prairie history. However, the reconstructed barn is still a barn - unheated and without any environmental controls. Therefore the original Bell family documents are all preserved at the Regina office of the Saskatchewan Archives Board. The Archives regularly acquires documents that record and illustrate the importance of people, places and events in the history of the province. The Bell family records are not only excellent examples of what the Archives collects, but also of how archival records can be used by others to better interpret our history. The family also has a collection of military medals, guns and trophies that belonged to their illustrious ancestor, and a suitable permanent Saskatchewan home for them is now being explored.

The barn is open for public visitation from May to September, and is open year around on request. In addition to its historic interest, the barn's massive loft can also be rented for such uses as: barn dances, family and school reunions, business meetings, art and craft shows, musical performances, wedding receptions and a variety of other functions. More information on the Bell Barn Interpretive Centre can be found on the Society's website at: <http://www.bellbarn.ca>.



Portrait of Bell c1910 - Sask. Archives: GM-PH 412-2

Frank Korvemaker is an archivist with the Appraisal and Acquisition Unit of the Saskatchewan Archives Board and was Chair of the Bell Barn Society of Indian Head during reconstruction of the Bell Barn (2006-2010).

Sources: Historical Records:

All historic images are part of the holdings of the Saskatchewan Archives Board (Accession 2010-208), except for the 1882 letter from Guy May, which is provided by Albert May.

- Submitted by: Frank Korvemaker, SAB

Saskatchewan Archives Board Remembrance Day Event



Fred Clipsham, Wes Kopp, Honourable Bill Hutchinson, and Linda McIntyre.

The Saskatchewan Archives Board held a public Remembrance Day event in honour of Saskatchewan's veterans on Thursday, November 4, 2010. Special guest participants included Lieutenant Governor Gordon Barnhart, Minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Archives Board, Bill Hutchinson, City Councillor Fred Clipsham and Wes Kopp, a veteran representing the Métis nation.



His Honour the Honourable Dr. Gordon L. Barnhart, S.O.M., Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan

The event was held at Government House and was well attended. The program provided a uniquely Saskatchewan perspective through a presentation of selected material from the Saskatchewan Archives' permanent collection. The selections included a letter to the editor of the Saskatoon Phoenix from 1916, an excerpt from an oral history relating WW1 experiences, a video clip and photos from the Guinea Pig Club, as well as letters written by a soldier during WWII to his family in Earl Grey, Saskatchewan.



Guests enjoying the reception.

The program was followed by refreshments and an opportunity to view displays from the Saskatchewan Archives Board, including photographs and a Victoria Cross, the highest military honour in the Commonwealth.

- Submitted by: Trina Gillis, SAB

October Workshops



Workshop coffee break.



Dorothea Funk and Krista Liggett.

Last month, the SCAA held two workshops in Regina. On October 20, attendees were treated to the annual free workshop "Basic Archives", which was presented by Cameron Hart, the SCAA Archives Advisor and hosted at the SCAA office. This workshop focused on the general practices of operating an archives and utilizing the standards of archival description.

Thursday and Friday were filled with a hands-on workshop with Jane Dalley. Jane is a conservator with, Dalley-Froggatt Heritage Conservation Services in Winnipeg. She has worked in the field of conservation for over 30 years. She began her career as a summer student at the Royal Ontario Museum in 1973, studied conservation at the National Maritime Museum in England, and bookbinding at the London College of Printing and Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts. Jane worked privately in Montreal for 5 years then spent 12 years as Chief Conservator for the Provincial Archives of Manitoba.



Jane demonstrates how to make a book support.



Rachel Wormsbecher and Kelly Attrell.

She authored The Conservation Assessment Guide for Archives, published by the Canadian Council of Archives in 1995. She has been involved in archival construction/renovation projects of various sizes over the past twenty years, including the construction of the 1996 Hudson's Bay Company Archives vault project. Jane now works as a conservation consultant for institutions on the local, national and international levels.

Participants in the two day workshop learned practical skills such as encapsulating fragile materials, creating book boxes and support as well as given a demonstration of the dehumidification process.

- Submitted by: Cameron Hart, SCAA Archives Advisor

Archives Week Update

Regina Area Archives Week Work Group

The Regina Area Archives Week Work Group (RAAWWG) met a couple of times this past fall to plan "Arts in the Archives". As was previously decided, there will be a single event in Regina for 2011 AW. This year's event will take place at the Royal Saskatchewan Museum on Wednesday, February 9. There will be exhibitor's tables before the event, and a reception after the event.

"Arts in the Archives" will demonstrate the Archives' influence on the Arts, artists, and the works they have created. Art works and Archival materials from a number of disciplines will be selected. These may include visual art, literature, music, theatre, architecture, film, and more.

There will be a series of presentations each consisting of a work of art, archival documentation, and some reflection on their relationship. The work of art could be the playing of a recording, display of an image or document, reading, or a performance. By pairing artistic work with archival documentation, the values of the Art and of the Archives are illuminated.

Saskatoon Area Archives Group

SAAG met on Thursday, November 18, 2010, to continue planning for Archives Week. The Saskatoon events include:

Archives Pavilion at the Saskatoon Heritage Festival -
Sunday, February 6

Spotlight on the Past: Celebrity Readings from Archives in Saskatchewan with Marla Cole Alice Kuipers, Les McPherson, Guy Vanderhaeghe, Peter MacKinnon and Eric Cline - Tuesday, February 8

Night at the Roxy: Archives Film Night with Peggy Sargeant - Thursday, February 10

More details will be added in the near future.

Archives Week Planning & Action Guide

The SCAA has constructed our 2011 Archives Week webpage at Archives Week 2011. The Saskatoon Area Archives Group (SAAG) and The Regina Area Archives Week Working Group (RAAWWG) have begun to meet to discuss plans. If you are planning an event during AW2011 please send a note with the details to scaa.advisor@sasktel.net or scaa@sasktel.net so we can add it to the site.

Also to aid its members in the planning and the conduct of an event, the SCAA has updated the Archives Week Action Guide for 2011.



Celebrate Archives during the Sixth Annual
Archives Week in Saskatchewan!

February 6th - 12th, 2011

For event information and details
please visit our website at <http://scaa.sk.ca>
or find us on Facebook!



Updates & Notes from the Committees

Communications Committee Update

We hope you enjoyed reading this issue of our newsletter.

A few changes have happened since our previous issue. Rob Paul (formerly of Diefenbaker Canada Centre) has stepped down from the Communications Committee and we would like to acknowledge all of his work on our committee this past year. We would also like to announce the addition of Christine Charmbury (Saskatchewan Archives Board) to the committee and we are so looking forward to working with her in the months to come. As the end of the year approaches, we like to give thanks to our many contributors who have helped to make this newsletter a huge success.

We also encourage you to drop us a line or two to let us know what you liked or disliked about the newsletter. Your feedback is extremely important to us so please let us know if you have any suggestions about an archivist or archives you would like us to feature or ideas for an upcoming article. All submissions can be sent to the SCAA office courtesy of amanda.perry@b-creative.ca

- May P. Chan, Chair, SCAA Communications Committee



CCA Banner

For the 25th Anniversary, CCA created a banner stand for each CCA voting member (provincial/territorial councils, professional associations and the Council of Provincial and Territorial Archivists). An Archives Awareness activity was held on the afternoon of October 22 in Ottawa at the Library and Archives Canada and a reception followed. The objective was to produce banners that will share a common look but also be personalized so they may be useful to

members, like the SCAA, for awareness activities after the event. The banner stands 7 feet tall and 3 feet wide with a depth of just a foot and a half, but packs away into a neat 3ft by 5 in. square container.

Grant Update

The deadline for the SCAA Institutional Grants was extended to November 24th. The Grants committee will meet on December 3rd to adjudicate the institutional grants. This will allow the SCCA sufficient time to notify the applicants if their grants have been approved prior to the deadline for the NADP grants (this is important for those institutions who are requesting an SCAA grant to use as matching funds for an NADP application).

The National Archives Development Program (NADP) is in transition this year and applications will be made available at <http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca/> on December 13. For those interested in applying, please contact Archives Advisor, Cameron Hart, at scaa.advisor@sasktel.net or (306) 220-2176 for more information.

Saskatchewan Roughrider 100 Year Anniversary Magazine

Saskatchewan History has just published a special limited edition of the magazine celebrating the 100 year anniversary of the Saskatchewan Roughriders. The Saskatchewan Archives Board, a not-for-profit agency of the provincial government, has been publishing Saskatchewan History, an award winning magazine, for more than 50 years.



This special, 40 page edition, has articles and photographs that cannot be found elsewhere including some historic photos that date back to the 1930's. Interesting features offer a unique look at the Riders in the community including Miss Roughriders through the years. In addition, every magazine comes with an entry form for a terrific prize - readers can win a boxed DVD set of the documentary On Roughriders: 100 years of Saskatchewan Roughrider Football plus a special vintage style Riders jersey that was recreated for the film series.

The edition sells for \$10.00 plus GST and shipping when applicable (10 copies or more = free shipping). If you are interested in purchasing a copy (or copies of the magazine - they will make great stocking stuffers) please contact the Saskatchewan Archives Board at 306-787-5792 (Regina) or 306-933-8325 (Saskatoon) to place an order.



December

SCAA Office will be closed Dec. 24 and will have limited hours from Dec 27 - Jan. 3 2011 for the holidays.

SAAG Luncheon - Dec. 16

January

RAA social & SAAG luncheon - Jan. 20

February

Archives Week - Feb. 6-12

RAA Social & SAAG Luncheon - Feb. 17

