



Jasper-Yellowhead
Historical Society

2008
Annual Report

Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives
Annual General Meeting
April 21, 2009.

Table of Contents

Page 3 Agenda

Page 4 April 8, 2008 Minutes

Page 8 President's Report

Page 9 Museum Manager's Report

Page 11 Archives Report

Page 13 Collections Report

Page 16 Exhibits Report

Page 18 Financials

JASPER-YELLOWHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7:00pm. April 21, 2009

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Approval of Agenda
- 3) Approval of AGM April 8, 2008 Minutes
- 4) Reports
 - 4.1) President (M. Cameron)
 - 4.2) Treasurer (F. Kofin)
 - 4.3) Museum Manager (K. Byers)
- 5) Business Arising from the Minutes
 - 5.1) Election of Officers (H. Robinson)
 - 5.2) Appointment of Auditor (F. Kofin)
 - 5.3) Membership Fees
- 6) New Business
 - Brainiac Award
 - Volunteer of the Year Award
- 7) Adjournment

Special Presentation by Aaron Osicki

Lead Archaeologist, TMX Anchor Loop Project

Past Human Use of the Athabasca and Miette River Valleys:

Archaeological Discoveries Associated with the TMX Anchor Loop Project

JASPER-YELLOWHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Minutes of April 8, 2008

1) Call to Order

Meeting called to order by President Mike Cameron 1903 hrs.

2) Approval of Agenda

J. Couture/B. Bell Carried

3) Approval of AGM Minutes April 25, 2007

B. Bell/F. Kofin Carried (as amended)

M. Cameron accepted responsibility for seconding J. Couture's nomination for Historian

4) Reports

4.1) President's Report (M. Cameron) Accepted as Information.

Overview: Jasper Park's Centennial Year has been a good year for the Society. Museum attendance, memberships and donations have all increased. Our exhibits and events have been well-received. Our financial woes have been brought to the attention of the public, the Municipality and Parks Canada and as a result we have received increased support. The Board has met with the Municipal Council and together are working towards the long-term viability of the Society and Museum.

4.2) Treasurer's Report (F. Kofin) Accepted as information

H. Robinson and M. Wasuita have been appointed as auditors of the financial statement that is still in progress. Expenses are high than receipts. J. Couture asked about "reimburseables" of \$4,900 being on the expenses but not the income.

They represent money from Parks Canada for the printing of Jim Taylor's book. Must be looked into.

MOTION to accept the Financial Statement .

F. Kofin/J. Couture Carried

4.3 Manager's Report (K. Byers) Accepted as information.

Karen presented a slide show that highlighted the many and varied activities of the Museum staff and Society members. Being the Park Centennial year it was busier than usual but the fabulous staff of the Museum staged high quality exhibits and events that were well received. Karen noted: the Rough Trails and Wild Trails Exhibit, Sheila Couture's displays at the Activity Centre, a mini-outings to the Fish Hatchery and the fall outing to the Whistlers ski hill.

The impromptu rescue of "the Lobstick" from the Athabasca River was an event attended by Parks Canada, the trail crew, the Park archaeologist, the Hiking Club, Society members and Museum staff. With archival data and manpower the Museum played a central role in that effort.

Karen was also pleased to have organized a site visit for representatives of the Alberta Museum Association and to have completed a new three year plan. Finally Karen thanked the Board, staff and volunteers for all their support.

4.4) Archives Manager's Report (M. Power) Accepted as information.

Revenues have increased from 2006 and steady progress has been made on the goals of promoting the archives within different areas of the community, completing a procedures manual and processing the backlog. This past year, being Park's Centennial was exceptional in the amount of requests and the revenues generated from those requests, but Megan will focus on new ways to increase revenues for the future.

4.5) Collections Report (D.D. Bartlett) Accepted as information.

The Collection Access Project was completed updating the collections database adding more photos and making it accessible to the public. A site visit from the representatives of the Alberta Museums Association helped address many issues and garnered much advice. Our collections were highlighted in a number of displays and exhibits this Centennial year including: displays at the Jasper Park Lodge for Winter Carnival and the Snow Ball on Outfitter, Dancing and Winter Carnival, a ski display for the Centennial Loppet as well as a Centennial display.

Collections was also busy working on the disaster plan. Organizing outings, the museum calendar, coffee hour and the continuous work of accessioning items. Dee Dee thanked her long time volunteers S. Couture, A. Hilworth and J. Blake for their invaluable help throughout the year.

4.6) Exhibits Report (V. Delill) Accepted as information.

The past three years has seen the museum create its own historical exhibits during the summer months including: Outfitter and Guides in the Glittering Mountains of Jasper, Rough Trails n' Wild Tales and One Room, One Teacher and a Yardstick. Funding has been received from partners such as Alberta Museums Association, CN, Parks Canada and the Municipality. The exhibits have been done on a "shoestring" budget with much volunteer labour. 2007 was a banner year for the JYMA with the Park's Centennial and with exhibits and special events attendance and awareness increased. In 2008 and beyond Val plans two in-house exhibits with one tied to the school curriculum. Val took a public programming course with AMA and hopes to develop more programs for members and visitors.

5) Business Arising from the Minutes

5.1) Election of Officers (H. Robinson) A slate was presented for 2008-2009) as follows:

President - Mike Cameron (Year one of new term)

Vice-President - Cynthia Ball (Year two of term)

Treasurer - Fred Kofin (Year two of term)

Secretary - Warren Waxer (Year two of term)

Historian - Joe Couture (Year two of term)

Mike Day- resigned

Director- Mike Wasuita

Director - Herb Robinson

Director - Shelly McQueen

Director - Bob Bell

Call for Nomination from the floor. No nominations.

MOTION that nominations cease.

J. Couture / M. Cameron Carried

Ex-Officio Directors of the Board confirmed for 2008-2009

Ken Walker - Representing Jasper National Park

Richard Ireland - Representing Municipality of Jasper

5.2) Appointment of Auditor (F. Kofin)

MOTION that the JYHS authorize to nominate an experienced auditor after the AGM.

H. Robinson/J. Couture Carried

5.3) Membership Fees (F. Kofin)

MOTION that membership fees increase as of May 1, 2008 to:

Single \$20.00

Family \$30.00

Patron \$100.00

F. Kofin/H. Robinson

Discussion: B. Bell asked if there was any reason why fees should not be higher?

Fees were to go up to cover the cost of servicing the membership.

R. Ireland stated he thinks the value of a membership is worth at least a \$10.00 increase rather than the \$5.00 increase (for single and family rates).

Amendment to the Motion: to increase Single and Family Membership fees by \$10.00 (Single \$25.00-Family -\$35.00) and leave the Patron fee at \$100

B. Bell/R. Ireland Carried

Discussion: J. Couture : there have been discussions at the Finance Committee meeting to introduce a Corporate membership.

H. Robinson: What privileges would it confer?

V. Delill: Possibly it could have a sliding scale for different size businesses.

It was suggested that it would most likely be bought for a goodwill donation rather than privileges.

MOTION that the Board/Finance committee further examine the Corporate membership.

J. Couture B. Bell Carried

Meeting Adjourned 1953hrs.

President's Report 2008

Michael Cameron

2008 has been an interesting year for our museum and archives. As always our numbers, attendance, membership, donations, exhibits and fund raising events have shown a steady increase.

We had the liquor and food concession for Centennial Park on Canada Day, which proved to be an eye-opening experience, but not as profitable as we had hoped.

We received a tremendous boost when Maligne Tours celebrated their "100 years of tourism at Maligne Lake" and we were the beneficiaries of the lakeside auction and as a bonus had a wonderful informal day with our Provincial Premier as well as several other prominent politicians.

The Taste of the Town continues to be one of the most anticipated events of the year. I would like to thank all the persons involved in making all our events successful. It takes a lot of effort from a lot of people front ground and background on behalf of the museum.

Inside our Museum things seem to be constantly changing with new showings, educational displays, new acquisitions and improvements. We have some serious projects ahead, our building sadly requires a new roof and our permanent gallery needs work. As well our gallery lights still need attention and we're always looking for ideas on how to best utilize our extra lot.

The Municipality came through for us with more money than we've ever received from them before, although still not as much as we had requested. They have recognized the importance of the archives and are entertaining talks on sustained funding for us. Parks Canada is also reviewing their relationship with the Museum. We had a serious look at moving into the provincial building downtown, to improve our visibility in the downtown core, but unfortunately the space was not suited to our requirements. We will continue to pursue finding a better location as time goes on. I would like to thank Karen and her staff, my fellow board members and all the volunteers for doing such a wonderful job.

Museum Manager's Report-2008

Karen Byers

I would have to say that 2008 was a rewarding but challenging year for the Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives. Early in the year we met with the municipality. We had hoped to get financial stability for the museum. The municipality hoped that we would move into the provincial building. We spent quite a bit of time gathering information, visiting the site and considering the options. We decided that if we moved we would gain a good location but not enough room to house the museum, collection and archives and still allow us some room to grow. We would also have had the Provincial court room right in the middle of our operation. We declined the offer. The municipality was disappointed but still gave us some very generous funding (\$65, 000) for 2008. We weren't sure what that meant for 2009 and neither were they. This year we are looking at \$43,000 of stable, cost of living indexed, funding to support the archives and collection. Now, at least we know where we stand. We wrote many, many grant proposals in 2008 and will continue writing more in 2009.

Last year was a year of great exhibits and programming. The coffee hours, mini outings and the Whirlpool and Lake Edith outings were fabulous and well attended by our membership. The Lake Edith Artists, the David Thompson Quilt, Bears in the Alley, the Mary Schaffer exhibit and Whiskey, Alpha Romeo were just a few of a long list of outstanding exhibits. We also had several excellent speakers, book launches and other special events to round out the year. Our own Bears in the Alley book has been a big hit and continues to sell well in our gift shop.

We also benefitted from other opportunities like David Prowse spearheading a museum geocache, Terry Mosher's coverage of the museum in Reader's Digest and Warren Waxer's idea for a museum inspired ale at the Brew Pub. Such great ideas!

The board of directors really worked hard on big fundraisers like Taste of the Town and the July 1st celebration and several board members quietly funded other projects for us during the year. In addition to fundraising and special events, the regular meetings, a board retreat and endless meetings about moving the museum, we were kept them very busy.

Our volunteers really worked hard, too. They planned outings and displays, helped in the gallery, researched artefacts, helped with special events, kept us organized in the archives and created amazing display items for our exhibits. One volunteer even came like clock work to pick up and deliver mail. You know who you are and we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

We received many donations in 2008. Members and non members donated money, their services, ideas, proceeds from their books and many hours of their valuable time. We were even included in the Maligne Tours Centennial celebration and received over \$18,000 from their auction.

The staff and volunteers rose to every challenge and we grow stronger every year. Thank you for your support and encouragement.

Archives Year-end Report for 2008

Meghan Power

January/February

Archives Revenue: \$18.91/ \$434.63

- Rodeo Queen records have been completed and uploaded to ASA, over 100 photographs of Rodeo Queen related events
- Continue to work through backlog: re-established contact with donors from 10 or more years ago in order to complete legal paperwork required for donation process
- Unique acquisition: Michel Wasuita donated a unique map from A.P. Coleman's travels – Thanks Mike!

March/April

Archives Revenue: \$152.96/ \$578.07

- ASA grant completed, final report submitted
- Letter sent to the new MLA, Robin Campbell mentioning the funding and the hopes that he will continue to support the Archives Society of Alberta with provincial funding initiatives, as did his predecessor, Ivan Strang.
- Unique Acquisition: Digitized Family movies from Max and Julie Winkler at the Brazeau warden cabin and CD of images taken by Travis Anderson during the construction of the new Southesk Cabin (Travis worked on the construction of the cabin)

May

Archives Revenue: \$504.37

- Steady with research requests
- Attended a workshop on FOIP (Freedom of Information and Privacy Act) and PIPA (Personal Information and Protection Act).

June

N/A

July/August

Archives Revenue: \$1,149.87

- increase in the number of requests coming from learning institutions
- Started the Joe Weiss digitization project with ASA and NADP funding
- U-Haul celebrated Habbakuk with unveiling of 'truck art'
- Unique Acquisition: 'She was an Angel of Mercy' – original sheet music from 1915, London

September/October

Archives Revenue: \$130.72 / \$130.72

- Visited by Curly Phillips daughter and grand-daughter. They donated some photographs and textual records and were very pleased with the archives.
- received some of the housing materials that I ordered through the extra funding made available through the ASA
- Jack Beder exhibits opens and Beder family attends opening
- Unique Acquisition: Son and daughter of Jack Beder donate an original work by their father, of Mt. Kerkeslin to museum, along with slides of their visit and stay at Pine Bungalows in 69

November N/A

December

Archives Revenue: \$105.00

- rehousing of rare books with supplies received through special funding

General Comments:

- 2008 Revenue: \$2,488.97 (2007 Revenue): 6,061.32
- Last year, at the end of my AGM report I made the following goals:
 - o Continue to focus on promoting archives within different areas of the community
 - o Continue to increase archive revenue
 - o To increase the number of fonds and photo graph descriptions on the ANA and InSight database
 - o Continue processing backlog

PROGRESS: I have continued with trying to promote archives in different areas of the community. The revenue is done from last year, but 2008 saw an increase in local researchers using the archives for various projects. Some of these projects did not involve publication and therefore less revenue, however, I think local usage is up from past years. The procedures manual is still a work in progress and backlog is one of those things that never end, but I have made great headway, I feel, in this area.

Goals for Upcoming Year:

- Continue to increase archive revenue
- To increase the number of fonds and photo graph descriptions on the ANA and InSight database
- Continue processing backlog
- Work on some virtual exhibits for website

Thanks to the Karen and the Board for the support and encouragement. It is a pleasure to work for both of you and a position that I truly enjoy.

Collections Report for 2008 Dee Dee Bartlett

Displays, Exhibits and Outings

- Mini-outings - Throughout the summer we each hosted a mini-outing. In June I hosted the outing at Centennial Park and featuring photos and information about baseball as well as the buildings which were located at the back of town adjacent to the ball field.
- Coffee Hour - During the winter months we each took turns hosting the museum coffee hour. Some of the topics I covered were; local newspapers, the ads were of particular interest; cameras and photography; buffalo in the park; and the government barns.
- Temporary Display Cases - There are a few display cases stored in the basement hallway and meeting room. Throughout the year I have created several temporary displays for them and change them regularly as needed.
- Warden Days - Warden Days were in Jasper this year in early September. I assisted Kim Forster and Ward Hughson with a selection of artifacts for the mystery tent.
- Val Delill has created several in-house exhibits this year. I assisted Val with the selection of artifacts for exhibits and also helped with the installation and removal of exhibits.

Volunteers

Thanks to the many volunteers who help throughout the year. Sheila Couture who is always ready to help and regularly creates displays at the Activity Centre. The accession committee: Glenda Cornforth, Cynthia Ball, Joe Couture as well as the staff; Karen, Val and Meg.

Parks Canada

- Kinder Morgan project - Work continues on the cataloguing and of the Parks Canada collection thanks to funding from Kinder Morgan.
- M.O.U. - The museum has Memorandum of Understanding (working agreement) with Parks Canada. We worked with Ken Walker from Parks to update this agreement. The agreement covers the permanent loan of many Parks Canada artifacts relating to Jasper. This collection continues to grow as more things are added regularly. This year Mike Dillon brought in climbing and rescue equipment, ski

boots and a field phone. Wes Bradford brought artifacts and brochures for the Bears in the Alley exhibit.

Other

- Retreat - The staff had an opportunity to attend part of the board retreat in February a good chance to connect with the board.
- Town Proposal - I helped Karen with the collections portion of the proposal sent to the Municipality of Jasper.
- Calendars - All staff helped with the photograph selection for the calendar
- Signal - I contributed articles to the signal new letter.
- Cleaning - We continue to do regular cleaning in the permanent gallery and storage areas.
- Public access - The public access computer in the gallery lobby area has been updated to include the recent additions to our database.
- Preventive conservation - Val and I attended a Preventative Conservation Course presented by the AMA and held in St. Albert in November. The two day course was well presented with lots of useful information.
- Policy - We are currently updating the Collections policy and the De-accessioning policy
- Hinton Visitors - Bob Udell & Katie Yaltie from the Foothills Research Institute and Shelley Anderson from the Forestry School in Hinton visited in November. They are developing a database system and policies and were interested in what we are doing here. They had a tour of our facility as well as a demonstration of our databases.
- Disaster Plan - We continue to meet monthly to develop a disaster plan in case of an emergency situation.

Accession Committee

The Accession Committee which meets monthly when possible consists of Cynthia Ball and Joe Couture (JYHS board representatives), Karen Byers, Megan Power, Dee Dee Bartlett, Val Delill, and Glenda Cornforth. The committee evaluates all incoming donations before they can be formally accepted. It is the committee's responsibility to ensure that all incoming donations meet with the museum's mandate and that we have the resources to properly care for them.

The museum received numerous new items in 2008. Some of the highlights are:

- Joy (Phillips) Maley – Curly Phillips pack saddle and pack hook
- Greg Horne – street banner for the 75th Anniversary of the Japanese Mount Alberta climb
- Bob Baxter – letter opener / ruler with advertising for Wm. Howe Coal Wood and Cartage, shopping bag from Baxter's Store
- Ron Stanko – set of Can-U-Canoe Race ball caps from his brother Mike
- Sheila and Joe Couture – ice bag, Marmot basin ski pass and ticket, horn barrettes made by Julie Winkler, glass jewelry by Leslie Isrealson and Melanie Rowe and "James Robinson" letterhead
- Tom Reed (via Bob Baxter) – curling sweater and tools
- Roy Everest / Totem Men's Wear – adding machine, three cash registers, sign making kit, pricing machine, a pair of ski boots in the original box and more
- Mike Wasuita – Parks Centennial banner, Jasper Dregs rugby shirt
- Arvon Hilworth – Jasper Bear figure used for curling trophies
- Bob Dowling – baseball bats and gloves
- Parks Canada – Peace tower flag from Ottawa which was presented given to the park on Canada Day and used in the flag raising ceremony
- Karen Byers – Columbia Icefield Snowmobile Tours souvenir playing cards, a selection of books from her teaching days at Jasper Elementary School
- Glenda Cornforth – flashlight used by her father during his railway days, portable bonnet style hair dryer
- Edith Gourley – Jasper souvenir booklet, Shell Service Station decals
- Brent Knibb – wooden survey peg
- Charlotte Fallow – wig mounts and appointment books from her hairdressing shop
- Wendy Bush – jacket which was previously owned by Lenard Jeck and also worn by Wendy
- Roman Bizon – a scale model of Middle Forks wardens cabin made by the donor
- Kelly Strasser – embroidered gauntlet gloves (they were given to her Aunt Dolly Shepard when she competed in the 1925 Jasper Rodeo Queen pageant)
- Elenor Bye – wooden desk and chair originally from the Jasper lumber yard
- Whyte Museum – Mary Schaffer photographs used in the summer exhibit "Secret No Longer"
- Jack Beder Estate – Jack Beder painting of Mount Kerkeslin
- Deb O'Bryan – Florence Mortimer water-colour painting, pencil sketch of Leslie Kinsey by Diane Way

2008 Exhibits Report Val Delill

Over the past year the museum has continued to create its own exhibits highlighting local history and local residents.

Since early in 2008 we have been looking for funding to support a programming/exhibits position. We have applied for over ten grants. All have been unsuccessful so far, including an Alberta Museums Association Staff Grant. It was 200% oversubscribed. They received 87 applications totalling \$1.7 million and were only able to fund 26 applicants a total of \$544,000.

I have been busy trying to line up the 2009 - 2011 to meet the 3 year planning cycle we need for exhibits in the Showcase gallery. I am also working on setting up a one year plan for the Alcove gallery.

2008 exhibits

Summer features

Bears in the Alley: among other places was an exhibit inspired by Bob Baxter's stories about chasing bears as a kid growing up in Jasper. In addition to the exhibit we created a kids area with activities including a game I made up on the theme of keep bears wild. The exhibit was extremely well received; however we were hard pressed to find funding to cover the exhibit. This brought home the need for a 3 year exhibit planning schedule, which will allow us the time to find funding for our summer feature exhibits.

Along with this exhibit I produced a book with the same title and it has been selling well in our gift shop. We have also succeeded in having Alpine Books carry copies for distribution. Friends of Jasper have also expressed interest in selling the publication.

Secret No Longer, Mary Schaffer's Jasper, 1908 and 1911 was brought in from the Whyte Museum of the Canadian Rockies. It was a very popular exhibit and brought in many tourists. It was promoted at Maligne Lake as well as by Parks Canada. When the show was over Ted Hart and Craig Richards of the Whyte Museum offered to donate us the prints they had reproduced for the exhibit. They have been added to the collection and are a wonderful legacy from the show.

Other exhibits

Festival of the Trees – Catalogue Shopping was created as a reminiscence of Christmases past when many residents had to rely on catalogue shopping. Residents enjoyed the show. Who doesn't remember leafing through an old Christmas Wishbook as a kid?

We hosted many other shows over the year including

David Thompson Bicentennial Quilts

Jack Beder Art Show

Sandy Robinson "Pre-Christmas Art Show and Sale"

Whiskey Alpha Romeo – A GenX look at understanding war

Jasper Artist Guild

Lake Edith Artists

Tristan Overy Art Show "Say it Don't Spray it"

Looking Forward to 2009

Erik Visser SOLO EXHIBIT "*Wildflowers*".

This summer we are pleased to have artifacts on loan from the Royal Alberta Museum to commemorate "*Jasper's First Tourist James Carnegie, Earl of Southesk*". As well we will be celebrating "*A Way of Life, A Legacy to Protect – 100 years of the Warden Service*" with an exhibit that highlights the heyday of the Warden Service. We are also hosting "*Cowpoke Episodes: Glimpses into Life and Times of a Canadian Cowboy*". Original works of art, poems, journals and memorabilia of Stan (Windy) Carr from 1907-1920.

"*Eric Mountjoy: Pioneer Geologist in Jasper National Park*" An exhibit that presents the story of geological mapping in Jasper National Park by well-known Geological Survey of Canada geologist Eric Mountjoy and his colleagues.