



The Jasper Signal

Jasper-Yellowhead
Historical Society

Spring 2013

A Joint Jasper-Yellowhead Historical Society & Hinton Historical Society

Spring Outing at Old Entrance

JYMA 2006.79.305



Sunday May 26, 2013 from 2-4:30pm
The bus transporting JYHS members to the outing
will leave the Museum at 12:45 pm
Contact the Jasper-Yellowhead Museum &
Archives 780-852-3013 to book your seat
Bring a lawn chair & a cup
Refreshments will be served

Directions to the Spring Outing for people driving their own vehicles:

Drive east on Highway 16 to Highway 40 north. Set your mileage indicator to 0. Turn left onto Highway 40

Cross the bridge over the Athabasca River. Wish it Happy Birthday! It is 100 years old this year.

After the bridge watch for the sign for Old Entrance and turn left onto access road at the top of the hill.

Do not drive into Old Entrance. Turn right onto the road to Brule.

Drive past Mountain View Estates. When your mileage indicator reads 15 km., there will be a gravel pull off on the left side of the road. Pull off and park here for a preview talk by Tom Peterson.

Inside this issue:

President cont2&3
Fundraising3
Exhibits4
Meet Vicki Templeton5
Meet Kevin Gedling5
Volunteering6
The Wall7
Gallery Schedule8
Hours & Contact8

H** NO, WE WON'T GO! (Or... Dispelling the Many Myths of the Museum Re-Location)

By JYHS President Herb Robinson

The Board of Directors of the Jasper Yellowhead Historical Society has become aware of a few misconceptions regarding our location and the possibilities for re-locating that have been considered over the years. We would really appreciate it if our supporters could help dispel such myths, and advocate on our behalf regarding the facts.

Of course, this is preaching to the choir! We also hope that those detractors – or misinformed – might become supporters, or perhaps at least become better informed! More than one person, for example, has apparently suggested that we have “blown many opportunities”. In a brief chronology

Continued on p. 2



Continued from p. 1

The Old Fire Hall Location

The Municipality funded a feasibility study in 2002 to explore our relocation to the Old Firehall. What a splendid idea! A Federally-designated Heritage Building housing a Museum and Archives, located next to some other very cool architecturally and historically significant buildings – the Post Office and Information Centre – and the certainty of “walk by” traffic!

Mr. Murray Frost, the cultural building consultant commissioned to do the report, reinforced a concept that has been central to our thinking on re-location since day one, essentially:

“If re-location does not provide an improvement over your current situation, then don’t move”

Mr. Frost provided five scenarios for our consideration, ranging from building a Category A Museum adding on to and restoring the Old Firehall, to operating the Old Firehall as a satellite retail location, earning income there as well as driving traffic to the main Museum.

A building cost of c. \$250.00 sq. ft., due to special climatic and environmental controls required for museum collections and artifacts made the first scenario untenable. Granted, this was for a “top of the line” facility, and costs could be lowered by constructing a museum of reduced standards and limited possibilities for such things as hosting travelling displays. (The reduced standards - Mr. Frost recommended against).

Of greater significance, JYHS understood that expansion into the current parking area adjacent to the Old Firehall was not an option. This by itself precluded any move because the Old Firehall was not large enough to accommodate our needs.

Though it was another scenario explored, Mr. Frost included a recommendation to avoid separating our Museum and Archival functions due to inefficiencies of operation – two staffs, duplicated infrastructure requirements such as washrooms etc.

We did undertake a satellite operation in the Old Firehall in the summers of 2003 and 2004, and this confirmed his perspective. Little additional traffic was generated to the Museum, and we barely broke even on the experiment after much effort and thinly spreading our resources.

The Former Marketplace Mall/Alberta Liquor Store Building

In 2008, the JYHS was offered the possibility of occupying the space currently housing the Court House, Community Outreach Services, Adult Learning etc. This location was much better for walk-by traffic than the current one and the size of the space looked suitable. There were concerns about parking, but the Board toured the space with Municipal staff and seriously considered this option.

Unfortunately, the Court House was situated between the two empty spaces that were available. This raised the prospect of “inefficiencies of operation” once again. A letter was written to Alberta Justice and Alberta Infrastructure proposing a land swap; the Court could move to the Museum location, and JYHS would re-locate our Museum and Archives to this building. Apparently, a Court located downtown, utilized a few days a month, was deemed to be of greater value. We never received replies to our letters.

Partnership with Current Library Redevelopment

Say what!?! Well – we were never invited. Perhaps because our space requirements would have been prohibitive given the other groups that were either looking for or were offered space.... We were puzzled – it surely was no secret that JYHS had over the years tried to improve our struggling existence, which a location nearer to tourist traffic would certainly enhance. But no proposal, no “visioning”, no formal contact whatsoever. We’ve searched our corporate memory to see where we might have dropped the ball. It appears we never had the ball.



Continued from p. 2

Going Forward

It looks like we're going to be in or current location for some time. We've been at the table – when aware or invited – to consider alternatives. This includes a Sawridge First Nation proposal years ago to partner with Parks and perhaps develop a Conference/Interpretation - Information/Museum Centre. We are prepared to consider any alternatives – given that we are moving forward and are better off than with what we currently have.

What we currently have . . . a Museum and Archives for Jasper to be proud of with no debt and an empty lot that could potentially be developed. The operation is not thriving – true. We are consistently tapping into dwindling reserves – both in terms of money and the energy that is the lifeblood of a volunteer Board. Perhaps what we “have” is not good enough. However, we also have our “choir”. Continue to sing, and perhaps bring along a few newly informed with you. We don't think we've “blown” any opportunities. We're just waiting for the right one – and maybe this means we have to generate it ourselves.

We Couldn't Do It Without You...

In March we started the Repair Our Roof Campaign which was “Buy 1 Square Foot for \$25”. With the donation from the Jasper Fire Brigade (\$10,000), penny drive, door to door canvassing and donations via our website, as well as proceeds from the ticket sales from the United Church Thrift Shop Fashion Show, the “Women of the Willmore Wilderness” Film and Book Launch and Totem Spring Run Off, that were generously donated to our campaign, we have been able to raise \$45,000 to date. Thank you to the Jasper Fire Brigade & the generous people of Jasper. And just not Jasper, but all over Alberta, BC and even as far away as New Zealand. We couldn't do it without you.

Anna Marie Couture, JYHS Fundraising Committee Chair

Thank you to our volunteers:

Penny Drive:

Sheila Couture

Door to Door Canvassing:

Agnes Hisey

Dee Dee Bartlett

Herb Robinson

Joe Couture

Karen Byers

Kevin Gedling

Lee Chorley

Margaret & Roger Matlby

Mike Cameron

Noriko Stevens

Pat Wilson

Shelley MacQueen

Vicki Wallace

Women of Willmore Wilderness:

Dwain Wacko

Herb Robinson

Joe & Sheila Couture

Mike Wasuita

Susan Feddema-Leonard

Vicki Wallace

Totem Spring Run Off:

Dwain Wacko

Heather Young-Leslie

Joe & Sheila Couture

Kevin Gedling

Noriko & Mark Stevens

Vicki Wallace

Church Thrift Shop Fashion Show:

Ev Clarke

Wayne Kennedy

Arvon Hilworth

CKUA Radio

CTV

Tekarra Color Photo Lab

The Fitzhugh

Jasper Chamber of Commerce- Patti

Pavlov

Tourism Jasper

The fund raising is still on going.

Penny donations are still being

accepted, contact Sheila at

852-4949 or drop off at the museum.



Exhibits

By Val Delill

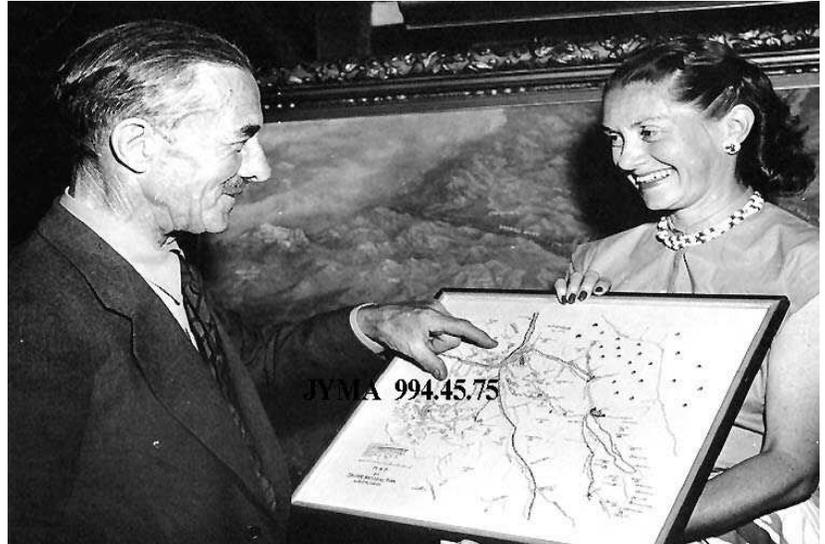
Jasper Remembers

Marilyn



In 1953 Marilyn Monroe was in Jasper to shoot the film, *River of No Return*. Many Jasper residents have fond memories of meeting her that summer and we will share those memories and snapshots along with images taken by local photographer Ray O'Neill.

The exhibit runs May 9- Sept 22



The Ups and Downs of Jasper's Trails

Jasper's trails have evolved since the first explorers cut out routes through the forest decades ago. Many trails have been added, some have been improved and others have all but disappeared under deadfall. From David Thompson to the Park Centennial, this exhibit showcases some of our favourite maps of the area.

The exhibit runs May 30 to Sept 22



2012 Volunteers of the Year

Wayne Kennedy, Bert Wade and Arvon Hilworth gave countless hours in 2012 to design, build and run an HO scale model railway for the Showcase gallery.

The model train was a real crowd pleaser, and the volunteers also helped Exhibit Designer and Coordinator Val Delill set up a Lionel scale train in the Fred Kofin Historical Gallery for continued enjoyment by our visitors.



Welcome to Vicki Templeton

We are very happy to welcome Vicki Templeton to our museum staff. Vicki brings a wealth of experience to the gift shop manager position and we are very lucky to have her at the helm. You'll notice a new vibe the minute you walk through the door and we are seeing many exciting changes in the gift shop. Be sure to drop by, introduce yourself to Vicki and check out the new merchandise.



Introducing Kevin Gelding Parks Canada Partnering & Engagement Officer

Hello Jasper Museum members! I am happy to join you as the new Park Liaison on the Museum board of directors. I am looking forward to a long and positive stay here in this incredible community and look forward to all the opportunities that exist to help maintain and improve the great relationship between Jasper National Park and the Museum's many dedicated volunteers and staff that make it a wonderful place to visit.

Coming to Jasper, I most recently was working and living in Fort St. James, BC - 6 hours to the west and serving as the Product Development Officer for the National Historic Site there. Living in FSJ gave me a strong understanding and appreciation for the critical importance of protecting and cherishing cultural heritage and sharing it with others to enjoy and experience - a community that in many ways mirrors Jasper in having a population of locals highly in tune with their historical roots. Previous to that, I've been a park interpreter in Banff, an interpretive hiking guide for Discover Banff Tours, English teacher in Japan, Aurora Tour guide in Yellowknife a lot of other interesting roles in the Rockies as well. I'm very excited to bring my love and passion for nature and heritage interpretation to my role here in Jasper and look forward to helping to communicate Jasper's past and present to both residents and visitors alike. I take a lot of pride in helping build great and lasting relationships between people with a passion for parks - so to work with you as the JNP Park Liaison is going to be a real privilege.

Beyond work, you will probably see me on one of Jasper's trails hiking or biking, at Marmot on good days for some skiing or possibly of crawling around in the bush with my Pentax SLR trying to get the best view of some wildflower that I can. I have a wife and a daughter who is just going to school this September, and we all look forward to getting to know many more great people in town and elsewhere.

Feel free to give me a call or drop me an email anytime - 780-883-0486 or kevin.gedling@pc.gc.ca - if you'd like to chat about the park, museum, history or anything else that's on your mind.

Have a great summer!



Volunteer Opportunities

By Kevin Gedling JYHS Parks Canada Liaison

JASPER NATIONAL PARK IS LOOKING FOR SOME VOLUNTEERS TO HELP IN A VARIETY OF ROLES FOR SUMMER 2013

Become a Park Steward On Your Own Schedule Begins~ mid June 2013

We're busy looking for a group of 6-8 people to act as occasional on-call. You'll be asked to help out whenever you can on projects relating to the environmental stewardship of the park, restoration of certain cultural resource sites and possibly to help with various volunteer labour needs that may arise from time to time. There is no minimum commitment, as you will just be joining a volunteer pool of other interested people like yourself. Say YES to the projects you are available for and help out once or as many times as you can throughout the summer. Great for people with short notice on their own schedules or availability. Ideal for people looking to get some short term experience. Park Stewards will also be able to volunteer in the fall and winter on opportunities as they arise.



Caribou Ambassadors~ Help Inform and Make a Difference, Begins Mid June 2013

We're looking to get 6 people from around the region to contribute several times a month from June-October, helping to spread information and awareness about caribou country and the importance of this SARA species in Jasper National Park. You'll be volunteering in areas, sometimes with Parks Canada staff and sometimes with other Caribou Ambassadors. Training is a 2-3 day commitment and volunteers must contribute an average of two times per month throughout the period. Ideal for folks who want to make a lasting difference and know their availability well in advance.

Group Volunteers~ Many Hands Coming Together

If you are part of a special group or service club wanting to give back to your national park, why not organize a group volunteer activity? For summer 2013, Jasper National Park is encouraging groups to conduct their own litter picks at trailheads, day-use areas and selected hiking trails with a lot of activity. Get your bags and gloves and then contact the volunteer coordinator to find out the best place for your group to help with!

Friends of Jasper National Park, Jasper Yellowhead Museum, Hostelling International and many others have a wide range of volunteer opportunities available including trail work, clerical help, cultural resource assistance and work bees of many kinds. For details, email: jasper.volunteers@pc.gc.ca or benevoles.jasper@pc.gc.ca



The Jasper Signal

The Arena Wall is almost complete!



*In 1961 the opening of the new Jasper Arena was celebrated when the Edmonton Oil Kings and the Edmonton Flyers faced off in an exhibition match. The Edmonton Flyers won the game with a score of 7-6.
October 28, 1961*

Thanks to the hard work of the arena committee and everyone who donated, the arena wall is almost complete. The last pieces will fall into place very soon. Above is the plaque for the 1961 opening game and the matching plaque will say:

"In 2011 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Jasper Arena the Edmonton Oil Kings and the Prince George Cougars faced off in an exhibition match. The Prince George Cougars won the game with a score of 2-1. September 10, 2011."

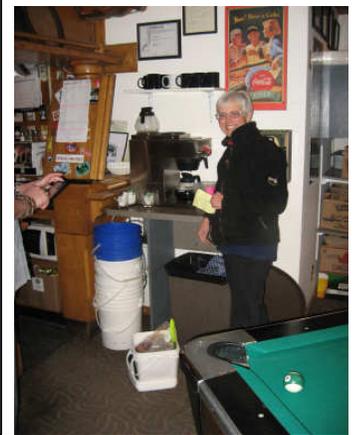
Penny Pitch Update



To date the total of pennies donated is
\$2333.59.

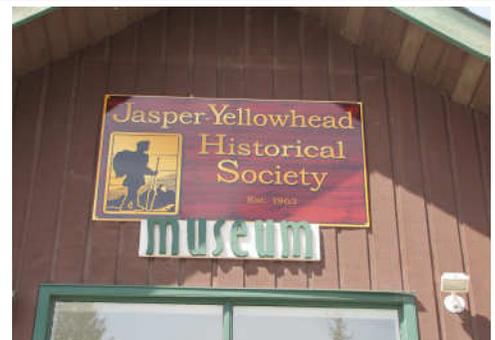
The collecting has slowed down but the Pennies are still rolling in. We will continue to collect them until the source dries up.

Among the many groups who have already donated their pennies are Ecole Des Rochers (left) and the Whistle Stop (right).



Thanks!

You might have noticed a new sign above the front door. This was created by Hugh Lecky at Tekarra Color Lab in honour of the JYHS 50th Anniversary. Hugh also created and donated our wonderful fundraising thermometer!





Jasper-Yellowhead Museum & Archives

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

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

Karen Byers

manager@jaspermuseum.org

Dee Dee Bartlett

collections@jaspermuseum.org

Val Delill

exhibits@jaspermuseum.org

Vicki Templeton

giftshop@jaspermuseum.org

780-852-3013 museum

Showcase Gallery 2013

Jasper Remembers Marilyn

May 9-September 22

In 1953 Marilyn Monroe was in Jasper to shoot *River of No Return*. This exhibit features Jasper residents' memories of that special summer complemented by personal snapshots and the classic images of local photographer, Ray O'Neill.

The Ups and Downs of Jasper's Trails

May 30-September 22

Jasper's trails have evolved since the first explorers cut out routes through the forest decades ago. Many trails have been added, some have been improved and others have all but disappeared under deadfall. From David Thompson to the Park Centennial, this exhibit showcases some of our favourite maps of the area.

Alcove Gallery 2013

Fitzhugh to Jasper - We've come a long way

January 10- June 2 - a photo retrospective

The town of Jasper started its life with the name Fitzhugh, in 1913 it was changed to match the park. We share views of town from its humble beginnings through the 1950s.

The Adventure Zone

June 7-September 2

This indoor space is a great option for the whole family to explore activities related to Jasper.

Activity Centre Displays 2013

May until August 31 - Jasper Then & Now

August 31 - November 30 - RCMP in Jasper