



SPARKS OFF THE ANVIL[®]



Newsletter Of The Saskatchewan Western Development Museum

January – March 2015 Volume 39, Edition 1

Editors: Corinne Daelick & Kristine Flynn

GEORGE SHEPHERD LIBRARY ONLINE

By Warren Clubb, Research/Library Coordinator



Warren Clubb shows off the WDM's Eaton's catalogue collection on CTV Saskatoon Morning Live on November 13, 2014.

WDM Photo, Kerry Lubchenko

The catalogue of the George Shepherd Library at the WDM can now be searched online. Wdm.ca/library will take you to the Library webpage where you will find the link to the online Library catalogue. Our Library contains a great collection of reference material - Saskatchewan history, house plans, agricultural machinery, fashion, tools, price lists, paint chips, car repair and many other subjects. Now, thanks to new software, we are able to offer online public access to our catalogue records.

If your search turns up something interesting, your next step is to register to use the Library. You will find the registration form on the Library webpage or on the online Library catalogue page. Registration creates your own account that will enable you to save searches and request material. The Library is non-circulating so if you want to use material you have to visit us in the WDM Curatorial Centre at 2935 Lorne Avenue in Saskatoon. Our hours are 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Monday-Friday. If you cannot visit, you can send us an inquiry (by email, phone, mail or fax) and we will try to answer

your question.

Our new software is Library Solution Version Two (LS2) from The Library Corporation. Conversion of our catalogue records to this software is complete, including editing the records before we went online. We have over 10,000 items catalogued and we are adding more from our holdings of uncatalogued material. We have a backlog because the WDM has been collecting printed material since the late 1940s and has had Library cataloguers for only a portion of that time.

You can keep up to date with the items we are adding by subscribing to our Recently Catalogued RSS feed to receive notification of recently catalogued items. You can also have your own RSS feed for any searches that you have saved for your particular area of interest.

Making material available to users is one of the Library's goals. The online catalogue is a way of reaching this goal. Try it and see what we have.

WDM WELCOMES NEW STAFF

The North Battleford WDM welcomes Karen Richardson as acting Administration Assistant/Gift Shop Manager during Jolene Renas's maternity leave. Karen was born in London, England but grew up in North Battleford where her family has deep roots. She has a long history with the WDM starting as a volunteer and then joining the staff as a summer student in 2008. She has worked for the Museum on and off over the past six years. Currently Karen is working toward her BA in Humanities from Athabasca University. She is passionate about the WDM and is looking forward to the year ahead. Welcome back Karen!



Karen Richardson Photo



NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM

Cheryl Stewart-Rahm, Education/Volunteer Coordinator

We are looking forward to another exciting year at the North Battleford WDM. We hope you will join us.

On display through April is the exhibit **100 Years Ago – Remembering WWI**. This exhibit features four First World War artifacts from the WDM collection – each with its own Saskatchewan story. In conjunction with the exhibit, we will be showing the video series **Stories of Courage: Saskatchewan Second World War Veterans Remember**. This series was launched by the Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport in late 2014 to acknowledge the sacrifices of Saskatchewan veterans.

Grade 6-8 Teachers: Don't miss this great learning opportunity to share the First World War exhibit and Second World War video series with your students along with the WDM school program, **Saskatchewan Wartime Contributions**. This school program teaches students about Saskatchewan's participation in the world wars and about life on the homefront. The program is available January through April (excluding Mondays, January–March). For more information and resources visit the WDM website at wdm.ca/EdPrograms/discoveryboxes/19.htm. The WDM offers education programs for all grades throughout the school year. Check out our website at wdm.ca to learn more.

We will be hosting our **Cowboy Poetry** event on March 7 with cocktails at 5:30 pm followed by a roast beef supper at 6 pm. Advance tickets are only \$30.00 each. This year's poet, *Doris Daley*, hails from southern Alberta. She was twice named top female cowboy poet in North America and was the first Canadian, male or female, to be named top cowboy poet by the Academy of Western Artists. For tickets call the North Battleford WDM at 306-445-8033.

Mark your calendar for **Blues & Brews** on April 18. Our entertainment this year is the *Transcontinental Blues Band* from Saskatoon. For a sample of what you'll hear on April 18 check out the band's Facebook page at facebook.com/TranscontinentalBluesBand. There will be good times, music, food and great company. See the next issue of *Sparks* and our



Renowned cowboy poet Doris Daley will perform at the 2015 Cowboy Poetry event on March 7 at the North Battleford WDM.

Doris Daley Photo

website for more details.

Want to help the North Battleford WDM while getting a chance to win great prizes? Pick up your ticket for the **Great Escapes Vacation Lottery**. 100% of net proceeds will be used for restoration of the **Heritage Farm and Village** buildings. There are still 11 draws to be made on the great vacation prizes. Only 500 tickets will be sold. Tickets are \$100.00 each and are available at the Museum.

WDM ARTIFACTS - WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?



Did you know the first Automated Teller Machine in Canada was installed in Regina in 1976? On display at the Moose Jaw WDM is one of Saskatchewan's first ATMs. This ATM was donated to the WDM in 2001.

WDM Photo

The WDM is the largest human history museum in Saskatchewan with a collection of nearly 80,000 artifacts. At the Curatorial Centre the Collections Department catalogues and manages these artifacts. Collections staff work closely with Museum Technicians in our Museum locations who care for the artifacts on display.

Often we are asked where our artifacts come from. Most are donated by people like you. The WDM strives to collect artifacts that reflect various aspects of Saskatchewan life including items from the recent past. An artifact does not have to be "real old" to be of interest to the WDM. The WDM is much more than a pioneer or tractor museum. We collect artifacts that show the Saskatchewan spirit, represent who we are, tell a Saskatchewan story, depict an historic event, reflect the immigrant experience or illustrate our skills, innovation and know-how.

Have you ever wondered how to donate an item to the WDM? Start by contacting your nearest WDM or the Curatorial Centre at 306-934-1400. Provide us with your contact details including a phone number and email (if applicable). Next provide us with as much information as you can about the item. We would like to know

who used it, where it was used, who made it and when, where it was made and its condition. Do you have a story about it? Stories and photographs of the item are a great asset.

What happens next? An Acquisitions Committee meets weekly to discuss all offers. The Committee will make a decision based on significance to the Saskatchewan story, how many similar artifacts are in the WDM collection, its condition, how it fits into exhibit plans, its heritage value and whether we have a place to put it.

If the WDM decides to accept your item you will be asked to sign a donation form which transfers unrestricted ownership to the WDM. Once the donation form is signed the artifact will be catalogued, photographed and the information will be entered in our artifact database. Then it will go into storage or be put on exhibit. Often, artifacts are stored for future exhibits or research.

The WDM appreciates all artifact donations. We recognize our artifact donors with a certificate of appreciation and by acknowledging donors in our *Sparks Off The Anvil* newsletter and Annual Report.



MOOSE JAW WDM

By Jackie Hall, Program/Education Officer

Happy New Year! The New Year is an excellent time to reflect on how much has been accomplished in 2014 and to look forward to the coming year. Thanks to our volunteers who help us in so many ways. For example, the Moose Jaw steam volunteers had a terrific 2014 running the WDM Short Line many summer weekends and giving 2500 people the steam train experience. We look forward to firing up the engine again in late May 2015. The *Vintage Aircraft Restorers* are one year closer to completing the Vickers Vedette. The Vedette replica will be a huge addition to the aircraft collection in Moose Jaw. You can see their progress at wdm.ca/mj/var.htm.

Don't miss your chance to see **The Noble Experiment: Temperance and Prohibition in Canada** in Moose Jaw. This exhibit from the *Peterborough Museum and Archives* is at the Moose Jaw WDM until January 25. Canadians have been arguing about alcohol for at least two hundred years. This fascinating bilingual exhibit tells the story of those who championed temperance and those who fought it every step of the way.

Our first event of 2015 will be our celebration of **Heritage Day** on Saturday, February 14. To mark this day celebrating Canadian history, we are offering a series of films in partnership with the *Yorkton Film Festival*:

- *The Orkney Lad: The Story of Isabel Gunn* is the story of the first European woman who came to western Canada in 1804 as a man working for the Hudson's Bay Company.
- *Fire and Fury*. Set in Montreal in 1734, a tragic event forever changes the life of a slave and of the entire city. It's a mystery where love, secrets and betrayal collide.
- *Catch the Westbound Train* highlights the unique history of the Great Depression in Vancouver and influx of transient men that arrived with it.
- *Loyalties* is the story of two Nova Scotian women - one white and one black - who discover they are related due to the legacy of slavery in the United States.
- *History's Courtroom: A Woman's Worth* is the story of Irene Murdoch's loss of half the family ranch in a divorce settlement that leads to a change in family law.

The Moose Jaw Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club is in the planning stages of another **Thunder Creek Model Train Show**, March 21 & 22. This event features a variety of model train displays from across the prairie provinces. The attention to detail and scale of the layouts is astonishing. If you have an interest in model railroading or admire craftsmanship, you won't want to miss this popular annual event.

Hope to see you soon in Moose Jaw!

SASKATOON WDM

By Scott Whiting, Education/Public Programs Coordinator

After another busy holiday season the Saskatoon WDM would like to thank our visitors, members, volunteers and staff for making the **Shaw Toy Tree** drive such a success. The donated toys were distributed by *Care and Share Saskatoon* to brighten Christmas for less fortunate children.

For the third consecutive year, the WDM is partnering with the *Saskatchewan Environmental Society* to offer the Grade 7 program **Smarter Science Better Buildings**. This award-winning program offers students an opportunity to explore changes in energy efficiency and water conservation from the days of sod houses to the present, and focuses on ways we can improve the efficiency of our homes and other buildings.

We are thrilled to offer a memoir writing class this winter. Facilitator Glorie Tebbutt will lead **From Table to Page: Writing Down Those Important Stories** every second Thursday afternoon from January 15-April 23. The eight sessions will be conducted as a workshop where participants will have an opportunity to read their work aloud to other members in the group and benefit from their feedback and suggestions. No writing experience is necessary. The facilitator will help participants learn what constitutes helpful feedback and how to give feedback. The registration fee for the program is \$190 for non-members and \$171 for members. Space is limited! For more information contact the Education Department at 306-931-1910 or email at saskatoon.ed@wdm.ca.

On February 1 the Saskatoon WDM will play host to the **Heritage Festival of Saskatoon** from 12-5 pm. This year's theme is *Young Saskatoon: Celebrating the Youth of Our City*. All are invited to explore the **rich diversity of Saskatoon from past to present** through the variety of **heritage and multicultural-themed displays and interactive exhibits**. Entertainment on two stages will include children's entertainers, dancers, singers and musicians. Admission to the WDM is free for the afternoon. For more information, please visit heritagefestivalofsaskatoon.com.

The Saskatoon WDM is pleased to host two very different exhibits in our galleries. On display until April is **Big Bert**. On loan from the *Royal Saskatchewan Museum*, Big Bert is a replica of a 92 million year old crocodile found on the banks of the Carrot River. In February we welcome **The Noble Experiment: Temperance and Prohibition in Canada** from the *Peterborough Museum and Archives*. The exhibit explores the temperance movement in Canada as well as those who fought against it. The Noble Experiment will be at the



Record-breaking crowds attended the 2014 Heritage Festival of Saskatoon, February 2, 2014.

WDM Photo, Julie Jackson

Saskatoon WDM in February and March.

Looking for something to do with the family during the February and Easter school break weeks? Stop by the Saskatoon WDM each afternoon from 1-3 pm, February 17-20 and April 7-10 as Museum volunteers share their skills and knowledge. Dressed in 1910 period costumes, volunteers love to answer your questions about Boomtown. Stop by the Boomtown Café for a tasty treat or check out the fantastic selection of books, food and gifts in the Museum Store.

The Saskatoon WDM is pleased to partner with Prairie Rail Workshop to host the **All Aboard 2015 Model Train Show** which takes place February 21 & 22. This is the 31st year for this event. There will be an amazing array of model train layouts on display. For more information on this event please contact Prairie Rail at allaboardtrainshow@gmail.com or visit their website at prairierailworkshop.com.

For January, February and March our Museum hours are Tuesday - Sunday from 9-5 pm. For more information, or to find out what is happening at the Museum, please call 306-931-1910 visit our website at wdm.ca.



UPCOMING EVENTS

MOOSE JAW WDM

Open Tuesday-Sunday 9 am-5 pm

CLOSED Mondays Jan.-March

Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*

Call 306-693-5989 for information

Sept. 2014-Jan. 25 **The Noble Experiment** exhibit
from Peterborough Museum and Archives
February 14 **Heritage Day**
March 21-22 **Thunder Creek Model Train Show**

NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM

Open Tuesday-Sunday 9 am-5 pm

CLOSED Mondays Jan.-March

Shop at *The Loft*

Call 306-445-8033 for information

Dec. 2014-April **100 Years Ago: Remembering WWI** exhibit
March 7 **Cowboy Poetry**
April 18 **Blues & Brews**

SASKATOON WDM

Open Tuesday-Sunday 9 am-5 pm

CLOSED Mondays Jan.-March

Enjoy the *Boomtown Café* Daily specials weekdays

Shop at the *Museum Store*

Call 306-931-1910 for information

Sept. 2014-April **Big Bert** exhibit on loan from the
Royal Saskatchewan Museum
February 1 **Heritage Festival of Saskatoon**
Feb. 4-Mar. 29 **The Noble Experiment** exhibit from
Peterborough Museum and Archives
February 17-20 **School Break Week programming** 1-3 pm
February 21-22 **All Aboard 2015 Model Train Show**
April 7-10 **Easter School Break programming** 1-3 pm
April 18 **Pioneer Threshermen's Club Flea Market**

YORKTON WDM

Open 9 am-5 pm Tuesday-Friday and 12-5 pm weekends

CLOSED Mondays Jan.-March

Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*

Call 306-783-8361 for information

February 15 **Heritage Day**

WDM CURATORIAL CENTRE

Call 306-934-1400 for information

February 27-28 **Introduction to Sculptural Beadwork**
March 10-24 (Tues & Thurs) **Intermediate Sculptural Beadwork**
April 24-26 **Advanced Blacksmithing**

E-SPARKS

Are you still receiving *Sparks Off The Anvil* via regular mail? Would you be interested in getting the latest news from the WDM via email instead? Then drop us a line at info@wdm.ca, subject line **Email Sparks**, as we'd be happy to add you to our email list. Don't forget to add this WDM email address to your list of safe senders so there won't be any delays in receiving your next issue of *Sparks Off The Anvil*.

WDM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ken Azzopardi, Chair – Regina	Dennis Naphin – Yorkton
Diana Ireland – Moose Jaw	Raymond Sadler – Biggar
Janice Hobbs – Saskatoon	Dave Whitehead – North Battleford
Susan Lamb – Saskatoon	

YORKTON WDM

By Carla Madsen, Education/Special Events Programmer

School programming for 2014 wrapped up on a festive note as the Yorkton WDM hosted 792 preschool and elementary children during the **Celebrate Christmas Past** program. Many thanks are extended to the volunteers from the *Museum Explainers Group*, the *Yorkton Threshermen's Club* and local retired teachers. Additional bouquets of thanks go to the *Yorkton Threshermen's Club* and *Yorkton Antique Auto Association* for their program sponsorship.

The first event of 2015 is our annual celebration of **Heritage Day** on Sunday, February 15. This year's theme, as designated by *Heritage Canada The National Trust*, is *Main Street: At the Heart of the Community*. The buildings that line main streets across the country hold volumes of social and economic history. Along with new developments, this varied landscape weaves a story of past accomplishments and future prospects. Annual partners in this event include the *City of Yorkton* historian and *Heritage Advisory Sub-Commission*, as well as the *Yorkton Chapter of the Saskatchewan Genealogy Society*. The event runs from 2-5 pm and everyone is welcome to join us.

Regular meetings of the *Yorkton Threshermen's Club* have resumed and are held on the second Saturday of each month. Plans for the **60th Threshermen's Show and Seniors' Festival** to be held on August 1 & 2 are already underway. Anyone interested in joining the Club to help preserve and demonstrate techniques of the past are welcome. For further information, contact the Museum at 306-783-8361.

The *York Colony Quilters Guild* continues with its weekly gatherings at the Museum each Wednesday at 10 am. Technique sessions and workshops are held throughout the year, with time devoted each week for discussions on personal projects and work on the Guild's many charity projects. For further information on the Guild and its activities, please call Mary Ann Zuk at 306-782-2566.

The Yorkton WDM galleries and gift shop are open Tuesday to Friday, 9 am-5 pm, and Saturday and Sunday from 12-5 pm. We are closed on Mondays from January through March and on statutory holidays. Call 306-783-8361 for more information.

ARTIFACT DONORS

Recently, the WDM received donations of artifacts from:

Shirley Atkinson - Saskatoon	Don Robson - Saskatoon
Lynn Belcher - North Battleford	SaskTel Pioneers - Regina
Thom Cholowski - Saskatoon	Saskatoon Funeral Home - Saskatoon
Gail Lynn Dick - Morinville, AB	Mervin Sogz - North Battleford
Tom Driedger - Etobicoke, ON	Gordon Stueck - Leader
Dick Frederickson - Saskatoon	Katheryna Zurakowski - Yorkton
Rollie Gore - Saskatoon	
Gwenna Moss - Winnipeg, MB	

Sparks Off The Anvil is published six times a year by the Western Development Museum Curatorial Centre, 2935 Lorne Avenue, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7J 0S5. Copyright 2015 Western Development Museum. Phone 306-934-1400 Fax 306-934-4467 Email: info@wdm.ca Website: wdm.ca Please direct all comments to the editors. The WDM is a network of four museums located at Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Saskatoon and Yorkton. Supported by the Province of Saskatchewan.

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twitter.com/SaskWDM
[youtube.com/skwdm](https://www.youtube.com/skwdm)

