



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2010

Mark these dates on your calendar!

All members & interested persons are invited to attend any of these events. Monthly meetings are held on the second Monday of the month - all members are welcome. We value your input.

Volunteer Pot Luck Social	October 23, 2010	6:00 pm
Business Planning Session	November 15, 2010	1:30 pm
Christmas Church Service	December 3, 2010	7:30 pm
2011 Chuckwagon Cookout	June 25, 2011	
2011 Annual Show	July 29 to 31, 2011	

Volunteer Potluck Social

Summerview Hall on Saturday, October 23rd starting at 6 p.m. Everyone welcome, whether you currently volunteer or have done so in the past.

Christmas Church Service

December 3rd, 7:30 pm in Heritage Acres Church. Pot Luck Social will follow in the Summerview Hall. Please bring sandwiches or sweets. Coffee, tea, paper plates, cutlery provided.

PRESIDENT'S RAMBLINGS

Looking back at my notes from last fall I see that I was talking about the cold, wet summer that we had. It seems that not much has changed this year! We should not complain too much however as we can still use some moisture. With the nice weather, as of late, we can hope for a nice fall.

We started off the summer with a bang: the Annual Chuckwagon Cookout was a huge success, as per usual. Frank manages to muster his gang to put on a great meal straight out of the old west every year. We moved on to our Annual Show where we featured the "Horse". We had a great turnout for the show and they were not disappointed as there were around 20 teams of horses out for them to see. We had a great demonstration in the hay field, which I believe would rival anything in the world. We had good crowds viewing the field demonstrations as well. The barn dance got a bit wet at times but Alvin and his gang never missed a note, the emergency lighting came on and the dancing continued! There were many other horse related things to see at the show and I received many favorable comments from the visitors. The grand opening of Heritage Station was a great success. Anyone that has not been in to see the marvelous model train layout should make a point to have a look the next time that they are on site. We have received good news regarding Heritage Station: the long-awaited word has arrived and we have received a matching grant to help pay for this building.

On the organizational side we have extended the contract for our Museum Manager, Bill Kells, for the off season. Bill will work part-time from the first of October to the end of April. We are working on finding a way to allow us to continue funding a Manager beyond this time.

A long term project has received the final approval and we should see the next three windmills begin construction soon.

I hope to see as many of you that can make it out to the Pot Luck Supper & the Business Planning session. We will review our progress to date and look into the future to see which projects we feel that we can accomplish, at the Business Planning session. Your views and ideas on what the future of your club should hold are very important.

Please feel free to call me at any time if you have any suggestions for improvements or changes to your club.

Rick Bell 403 628 2764

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Well the summer season at Heritage Acres has come to a close and I think by all accounts it was a pretty good one. Not for the same reasons most Museums would say they had a good season, like the visitor count was up, more tour busses etc. For us it was good in the sense we were able to identify and start to work on initiatives to become a popular tourist site and make next year's season much better. Initiatives like marketing, exhibit development, organizing in and around the buildings and grooming the site. I said it in my last report and will say it again, the volunteer commitment and contribution at Heritage Acres is simply fantastic and it is evident everywhere. The site looked great, the buildings looked great and all aspects of the Chuck Wagon Cookout and the Annual Show went like you had done it a million (well 20+) times before. It truly was my pleasure to experience all of that for the first time.

We were very fortunate this summer to have received a number of significant donations of artifacts, several in particular, to complement the exhibits in the Log House. Firstly, a donation of several beautiful pieces of period furniture from Pat Watson; then, a donation of a wonderful old 1920s couch and chair from Pauline Warren. And lastly, a significant collection of several hundred pieces of household, garden and small farm artifacts from Carol Simpson helped make a charming little cabin. Why, we have people wanting to move in there all the time now!! Even Carol's Mom, God bless her. While putting away equipment after the Annual show this year we took the opportunity to further expand the exhibits, adding the Gifford shop Quonset as a tractor display building. We also utilized the entire interior of the new display building as exhibit space to interpret the history of Southern Alberta Agriculture from 1880 to 1960. We staged a grain wagon in the elevator and will work next on the Antique car building before the 2011 opening. Ya just gotta come and have a look!!

Our volunteers were assisted this summer by the efforts of a youth volunteer group called Katimivik, both before and during our annual show. I can't say enough about this organization and it is sad they will no longer have a presence in Pincher Creek. They helped groom the site, paint inside the log house, the office fence and in Crystal Village, they took stats at the gate during the show, helped with children's games and on and on, having lots of fun in the process. Their contribution, positive attitude and youthful presence was truly welcomed and appreciated by all the regular volunteers. I think the icing on the cake came when they asked if they could host their Lethbridge and Crowsnest Pass counterparts at the Barn dance during the Annual show. We witnessed 27 young adults thoroughly enjoy themselves, a few crazies even danced in the rain!! Mercie Katimivik! You will be missed.

The train station, "Heritage Station" - who can say enough about that? To watch the volunteers show up day after day and transform every manner of material at their disposal into what we see today is truly a magnificent creation. The guys doing the woodwork, laying track, electrical etc. and the ladies following closely behind (sometimes passing) adding the landscape. It was an extremely enjoyable process for me to follow. The result of this "work in progress" was a big hit at our annual show. Great job all!!

I am sure by now that most of you are well aware of the fact we will be joined at our Annual Show next year by the International Harvesters Collectors' Club (Chapter 38). This is Western Canada's largest International collectors club. It is such a big deal even the Lewis (John Deere) families are excited about it. On October 16th we will host their Board of Directors at the site, have a great lunch, and start the planning process for next year's show. They will be bringing with them, to the Show, approximately 150-200 pieces of equipment, vendor booths and will be holding their AGM at our site. Mark it on your calendar and call all your International friends to bring their treasures and come join us. It will be fun!!

I am truly grateful for my contract being extended, as I can now continue to build on what I have worked with the club to get going to date. Thank you to all for the wonderful opportunity.

Bill Kells

General Manager

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