



Saskatoon Heritage Society *Heritage Alert*

Number 2 2011-2012

December 2011

You are cordially invited
to ring in the new year at the President's Levee.
Please join your fellow members to discuss
Saskatoon Heritage Society Going Forward: Sharing Ideas.
We welcome your insights into our role, our goals,
and our direction for 2012 and beyond.



President's Levee

Sunday

January 8, 2012

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Marr Residence

326 11th Street East

Events and Happenings

Lyell Gustin Recitals Celebrate 100 Years of Gustin Musical Tradition!

One hundred years ago (in 1912) Lyell Gustin arrived in Saskatoon with his family. It was the beginning of his distinguished 70-year career during which he changed the tone and legacy of musical/cultural leadership and teaching in Saskatoon and beyond. The Lyell Gustin Recital Series of 2012 features artists raised and musically educated in Saskatchewan, celebrating Mr. Gustin's conviction and nurturing of the outstanding musical talent in this city and province.

Sunday, January 8, 2012 ~ Songs, Dances, and Fairy Tales!

Carissa Klopoushak, violinist, and Deborah Buck, pianist

Sunday, April 15, 2012 ~ Piano Masterpieces, Schubert to Schoenberg

Catherine Vickers, pianist

Tuesday, August 21, 2012 ~ Chamber Music for a Summer Evening

Oleksander Mycyk, cellist, and Sofia Mycyk, pianist

Recitals at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church,
436 Spadina Cres. East, at 7:30 p.m.

Pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m.; reception after the recital

A season pass makes a great gift for anyone, any time! Every purchase supports artists and the recital series. Season Pass for all three recitals: \$75 regular, \$60 student, available by mail from Deborah, tel. 343-0542; or at McNally Robinson, Yamaha Piano, and Darren's Music. Individual tickets, \$30 regular, \$25 student, at retail locations or at the door Further information:

www.gustinhouse.ca

Binder (Thoms) Homestead/R.M. of Bayne, No. 371. Saskatchewan

The Binder Farm located southeast of Bruno, close to Highway 5, was established in 1916. The original farmhouse still stands on 3.9 acres and is owned Mrs. Anne Lummerding, a descendant of the second owner of the farm. Mrs. Lummerding is seeking to sell the house and its associated land

to someone who is interested in maintaining the historic property. Mrs. Lummerding was a former member of our Society. We are including this information as a courtesy to her. Please contact her at 306- 682-1666 for further information.

***Mark Your Calendars to attend the
SHS Annual
Fundraising Dinner
Friday, March 2, 2012
Bessborough Hotel***

Further details to be announced

February is Heritage Month

This is an opportunity for our City to recognize those who spend time, money and effort to preserve Saskatoon's built heritage. The celebration begins with the Heritage Festival at the Western Development Museum on February 5, 2012. Saskatoon's Heritage Awards will be presented in Council Chambers before the City Council meeting closest National Heritage Day (Monday February 20th 2012). Attend both and honour our proud Saskatoon and Canadian heritage. For more about National Heritage Day, please visit Heritage Canada Foundation's Web site at HeritageDay.

St. Mary's Legacy Committee

A St. Mary's Legacy Committee has been formed to ensure that the heritage of the original school is remembered and celebrated. Members of the Heritage Society have attended several meetings and are working with the committee. We hope to make known and remind people of some of the great history of this first Catholic school built in Saskatoon. It has served both the city and the community very well for almost one hundred years.

President's Message

Dear Heritage Family:

As I write this message, we mourn the loss of some heritage heroes in our community. At the same time, a heritage miracle is unfolding.

I will always remember the exact place I was when I got the first phone call from the heritage angels that made this dream come true. I was on my parents' roof, installing a Cansolair* solar panel (a Canadian product that my father and I are distributing in our sunny and cold province). It was one of these heritage angels telling me that they had found the perfect future home and life project for me - an uncelebrated heritage home in the 'hood'. One month later, though I never expected to own a home at all, let alone an amazing heritage one, I am writing to you from under the pressed tin ceiling of Captain Andrews' homestead at 1706-17th Street West.

In 1896, the pioneering sea Captain Elisa Shelton Andrews built this structure, just over a decade after he brought the first ever load of lumber to Saskatoon down the river from Medicine Hat. He made port in Saskatoon with the intention of leaving shortly thereafter, but his employer - the Temperance Colonization Society - wasn't able to pay him for three months. By that time he had decided to stay and build a life in the area.

Although his original log homestead structure has since disappeared, he would have started building his more established life with the stone basement I sit and marvel over every night before I go to bed. Each stone was laid by the same hands that might have shaken the hands of Louis Riel, Gabriel Dumont, and the founding fathers of our city as they traveled aboard the river vessels that Captain Andrews ferried. The vertical logs that make up this home's construction were among the first to arrive to build our city. The willow and mud siding that sandwich these 14-inch thick walls still consist of the first earth turned here by foreign hands. The original cast iron furnace grates that warm me each night were the first to experience forced air heat through the very first furnace in

Saskatoon. Thankfully - and yet sadly - the original furnace from Moose Jaw no longer heats this home. The stories of the families that lived here, and the pioneering spirit of the Andrews family who first settled Pleasant Hill are documented at the Public Library Local History Room, the most valuable resource any homeowner can access. The dedicated people who have provided these resources deserve many pats on the back. It is there that the next generations of heritage lovers become excited about the history of our community and beyond.

This holiday season let us be thankful for the many miracles with which we are blessed, and tell those around us that they are loved. After all, the greatest heritage gift we can give our city is our heritage people.

Happy Holidays,

Adam

Participate in Saskatoon's Living Heritage

I love Saskatoon, and so, of course, I want to know its unique story. I want to see its living heritage - built and natural, physical and cultural - preserved, adapted if need be, remembered when there is no other option so that we can all understand, know and celebrate our origins. It is in honouring and maintaining our heritage that we can envision a future in which we uphold a high quality of life for all Saskatoon's citizens. I hope you do too. (You can fill in the forms and enter the colouring contest on the next pages.)

If you feel as I do, I urge you to join (or rejoin) the Saskatoon Heritage Society (see form below). I also ask you to participate in the process: to stand up for your beliefs by speaking up, by letting us know your thoughts, by helping with programming and ideas. There are several opportunities to do this **right now**. Attend pertinent Council meetings (including the upcoming Heritage Awards). Speak and/or write letters when you feel strongly. Let us know what you want to see in the SHS by attending the Levee in January. Volunteer for the Programming Committee (call Brigitte at 230-2647). On a lighter, but no less important, note: send us your ideas for renaming this newsletter. We want it to

reflect the continuum of heritage as it reflects on the past and into the future.

We look forward to hearing from you, meeting you, and having you participate.

Linda Epstein, Editor

In Memoriam

Joseph (Joe) Thomas Kuchta

July 2, 1961-November 16, 2011

Joe passed away peacefully at home and will now re-join his soul-mate and beloved wife, Georgie Davis. Together, Joe and Georgie were a remarkable team - contributing to the wellbeing of our community by standing up for the rights of people living with disabilities, speaking up and writing about our treasured built heritage, and by improving the overall quality of our civic dialogue and debate.

With the precision and mastery of a forensic scientist, Joe presented evidence-based articles on numerous civic issues from the River Landing-Mendel 'fiasco' to the impending tragic loss of the Traffic Bridge and Saint Mary's Community School slated for the 'rubble pile' as Joe put it. Regardless of where people stood with respect to such issues, Joe's ability to bring forward meaningful information and his tenacious civic watchdog ways changed the level and quality of debate in our City. Joe's blog, *Owls and Roosters* (circa 2006) and contributions to the local papers will be missed by many.

Perhaps the strongest lesson that Joe and Georgie together leave us with is to have the courage to add our voice to a deliberative dialogue about the issues that matter to us and to hold our civic leadership to account by doing so – exercising true democracy **Our deepest condolences to Joe's family and friends.**

Dr. Ronald Bremner

We are sad to announce the passing on October 21st 2011 of one of our longtime members, Ron Bremner. As a medical specialist in dermatology, Ron travelled the world, notably to Afghanistan and China, but found time to be deeply involved in his home community of Saskatoon after moving here with his wife, Muriel, and his young family in 1954. Ron was a founding member of the Saskatoon Nature Society (formerly the Saskatoon Natural History Society) and its first president. He and Muriel, were also strong supporters of Meewasin, the Zoo Society, the Friends of the Forestry Farm House and the Marr Residence. Ron was a faithful attendee of the Saskatoon Heritage Society's programmes. He and Muriel were always to be seen at the Society's lectures and other events, especially the President's Levee and our Annual Meeting. Things won't be the same without him!

We extend our condolences to Muriel and the family.

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Go to the last page for the colouring contest.

Saskatoon Heritage Society Membership & Renewal 2012

Renew your membership and keep up to date on issues; have a voice in decisions that affect our heritage. Visit our website at www.saskatoonheritage.ca for more information or to contact us by e-mail. With your membership you will receive our newsletter, Alert.

NAME : _____

ADDRESS: _____ Postal

Code: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Single Membership: \$15.00 Family: \$20.00 Senior: \$10.00 Corporate: \$30.00

Send your payment to Saskatoon Heritage Society, P O Box 7051, Saskatoon, SK S7K 4J1

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