



Heritage News

Discover Crowsnest Heritage

ISSUE #22

February 17th, 2012

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WELCOME

FREE FAMILY DAY FUN!

One of the first statutory holidays to suggest the arrival of spring is "Family Day" on the third Monday of February. Symbolically it celebrates the importance of family life and offers Albertans an opportunity to spend time with their families. All provincial heritage sites, such as the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump and the Remington Carriage Museum will offer special family activities and free admission on Monday, February 20th.

Family Day was first held in Alberta in 1990. It was introduced into Saskatchewan in 2007 and Ontario in 2008. In 2013 British Columbia will begin celebrating this special day as well.

REMINDER

The Crowsnest Historical Society is looking for individuals interested in Crowsnest Heritage to sit on its Board. Elections will take place at their Annual General Meeting on Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 pm in the Polish Hall, Coleman (1406 82nd St.). An application form is attached at the end of this newsletter.



Crowsnest Family ca. 1915. Gushul Studio, Blairmore. Glenbow Museum Archives nc-54-3.

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Editor: Claire Allum
cnheritage@shaw.ca

A Crowsnest Heritage Initiative Project.

If interested in submitting an article, news piece, or update, please send it to cnheritage@shaw.ca.

THE CROWSNEST MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

7701-18th Ave. Coleman 403-563-5434



AGM Crowsnest Historical Society: Sunday, March 11th, 2:00 pm.

It will be held on Sunday, March 11th, at the Polish Hall, Coleman (1406 82nd St.) at 2:00 pm. It is a great time to **renew your membership** or join for the first time. Elections for the Crowsnest Historical Society Board will take place during the business meeting. After the elections, guest speaker Katherine Zilm will talk on the geological and cultural significance of

the Okotoks Big Rock and the inherent significance of it to bands of the Blackfoot Confederacy.

Crowsnest Pass Historic 2012 Calendars: \$10. There are a few calendars left for sale at the Museum. This calendar features unique photographs of the Crowsnest Pass taken during its historic development and housed in the Museum Archives. If you wanted to buy a copy of one of these images separately from the Museum, it would cost you \$15.

The Museum is open year round. Along with its displays and archives, it hosts a Gift Shop and runs tours and educational programs. Contact: cnmuseum@shaw.ca. Tuesday to Saturday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (6-16) \$6, Under 6 free, Families \$24.

**FREE ADMISSION: Family Day, Monday, February 20th.**

In celebration of Family Day the Centre is offering free admission. Staff from the Bellevue Underground Mine and the Crowsnest Pass Museum will be on site with artifacts and displays highlighting the unique history of the Crowsnest Pass. Two award-winning audio visuals will play throughout the day.

The Frank Slide Interpretive Centre is open year round 10:00 am to 5:00 pm . Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN (UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE)

Hwy 785 403-553-2731

**FREE ADMISSION: Family Day, Monday, February 20th.**

Celebrate the "Full Moon of the Eagle" on Family Day at Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump. Our special program will feature a traditional Blackfoot name transfer for Spirit the Eagle from the Alberta Birds of Prey Centre. Other activities include: Napi's Puppet Theatre, simulated archaeological dig program, children's face painting, arts and crafts, and guided tours of the 25-year old interpretive centre.

The Rick Hansen 25th Anniversary: Wednesday, February 22nd 11 am - 1 pm.

Twenty-five years ago Rick Hansen completed the Man in Motion World Tour. On this day, young members of the Blackfoot community will participate in the commemorative relay as we honour this historic cross-Canada journey. As part of our 25 Years of Storytelling at Head-Smashed-In, join Blackfoot Elders as stories are told of ancient buffalo runners and the buffalo hunting culture.

Along with its displays, the interpretive centre has audio-visual presentations, a cafeteria featuring bison burgers, a gift shop filled with First Nations handicrafts, and hosts tour groups and runs educational programs. Open daily 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Contact: info@head-smashed-in.com. Admission: Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22.

FORT WHOOP-UP NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Lethbridge, off Whoop-Up Drive. 403-329-0444

**TWOONIE ADMISSION: Family Day, Monday, February 20th.**

11:00 am – 4:00 pm; Twoonie Admission! Things get maple syrup sweet at Fort Whoop-Up National Historic Site this Family Day, February 20, 2012, as the French Canadian Association of Lethbridge makes their famous "Maple Syrup on a Stick" in their Sugar Shack down at the fort for their second appearance at this annual event. And new this year, traditional Blackfoot fry bread made by Melvina Brave Rock. With these and many more activities happening from 11 – 4, and with only a twoonie to get in to the third annual Family Day at Fort Whoop Up, it's affordable fun for the whole family!

Take a ride around the fort with your loved ones in a horse drawn wagon ride. Enjoy complimentary hot chocolate while listening to traditional music in the Saloon. Tour the fort on your own enjoying the sounds of the past and if you have time learn about local history with the "Voices from the Past" interactive exhibit installed in all rooms. Even enjoy our signature barbecued hot dog lunch, sponsored by Save-On-Foods, and then continue with an afternoon at the fort filled with blacksmithing, storytelling, rope making, steer roping and more. (Additional costs of a twoonie per person apply to all horse and food related activities).

The Fort is open weekends from 12 - 4 pm. Admission: Adults \$7, Seniors (65+) \$6, Students \$5, Under 5 Free. The Fort has a great gift whop filled with cowboy hats, jewelry, Blackfoot crafts and books. They will ship.

REMYNGTON CARRIAGE MUSEUM

623 Main St. Cardston. 403-653-5139

**FREE ADMISSION: Family Day, Monday, February 20th.**

The Remington Carriage Museum celebrates Family Day with an old fashioned kids' carnival featuring carnival games, old fashioned demonstrations and carriage rides (weather permitting). Game tickets are 25 cents each or 5 tickets for \$1. A leather stamping activity and carriage rides are \$2 per person. Visitors can also take part in The History Hunt, a fun and educational historical challenge in the gallery. The Family Day event runs from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. All activities are on a first-come, first-served basis. Program activities and prices are subject to change.

The Museum has the largest collection of horse-drawn vehicles in North America with over 240 carriages, wagons and sleighs. The 63,000 square foot facility features video displays, a fire hall, a carriage factory, a restoration shop, a working stable, carriage rides, carriage rentals, a restaurant and a gift shop. There are free guided tours. Group tours and educational tours are offered. Open daily 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Contact: info@remingtoncarriagemuseum.com. Admission: Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22.

FERNIE MUSEUM

491 Victoria Ave. (2nd St.). 250-423-7016

**The Power of Powder - Tracing Fernie's Ski Heritage: January 28th - April 30th.**

This special exhibit was put together to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ski hill. The story of the ski hill has become an important part of Fernie's story. It's had a huge impact on the economic, social and cultural aspects of this community. You don't want to miss this exhibit which takes up both floors of the museum. Powder Highway Productions has produced a short film based on the narrative, photos, and old film footage collected for the exhibit. This is a fun and entertaining way to experience the story.

The Fernie Museum & Visitor Information Centre is located in one of Fernie's distinctive heritage buildings at 491 2nd Ave. The building itself, an important example of Fernie's rich history, boasts a main floor exhibit hall with the visitor info centre, as well as a lovely Museum Gallery on the 2nd floor. Public washrooms are available on each floor. Our dual service as info centre and Museum allows visitors to discover a little about Fernie's colourful past while learning what Fernie and its businesses have to offer for recreation, entertainment, shopping, accommodation and services.

Stepping Back in Time

by **John Kinnear**

(All images property of author)

The fossil record is a fascinating one as it contains a remarkable history of who and what was around way before we showed up on this planet. A common prehistoric topic these days is dinosaur footprints, rare physical evidence that something long extinct walked by somewhere. Finding them is extremely uncommon and every child's eyes light up when you tell them that they are looking at the footprint evidence of some exotic prehistoric creature like an allosaurus or a velociraptor.

Coal mines occasionally expose a print here and there but given the way they tend to blow up things finding one is extremely exceptional. It usually happens when they mine past the blasted rock in a pit to an undisturbed plane and accidentally expose a thin veneer that contains trackways. They may not always be obvious and there is a trick to looking for them. The idea is to have the sun hit that exposed plane or surface at an angle so as to create a shadow in the often very slight depression that has been left behind. That gives them a bit of definition.



Typical exploration site exposures. Photo: John Kinnear.



Original discovery site overview. Photo: John Kinnear.

In thirty years of studying the rocks in the strip mine pits in the Line Creek valley there has only been a half dozen times that these magical discoveries have occurred and the thrill of their unearthing is always the same.

The most recent significant discovery was back in 2008 when an exploration road contractor suggested to me that he had exposed dinosaur footprints on a ridge being explored north of the mine site. I scoffed at what I thought was an amateur's guess at some curious bit of geology but boy was I wrong. A subsequent investigation revealed a tantalizing series of large rough ovals in a shale bed that had been exposed and carefully sloped by a backhoe.

A report of this interesting find along with some pictures found its way to a palaeontologist by the name of Richard McCrea from the Peace River Paleontological Research Center (PRPRC) in Tumbler Ridge,

BC. Rich and assistant Tyler Shaw liked what they saw and quickly organized a two week expedition to the site to see first-hand what had been uncovered. Rich McCrea had been out in the Elk Valley looking for trackways before but this one was for him the jackpot. He determined that the series of tracks were from very large dinosaurs known as sauropods also called informally "brontosaurus". This was pretty exciting stuff as up until then Canada had not a single record of sauropod dinosaurs either from footprints or bones. It was somewhat of a mystery why and palaeontologists were at a loss to explain.

McCrea had presented a paper at an international symposium in Arizona in 2005 detailing his discovery of this major group of dinosaurs based on isolated footprint blocks found in mine dumps in the Elk Valley. Now it appeared he had the full blown evidence of their presence with this trackway discovery.



Researcher Richard McCrea standing in a sauropod print. Photo: John Kinnear.

Trackways give much more information than single footprints, such as a better feel for the size of the track-maker, his habitat, how fast he was travelling or whether he was alone or in a herd. It was a fellow by the name of Robert McNeill Alexander, a British zoologist, who recognized that all tetrapods move as scale models of one another. Cats, dogs, camels, horses, all look the same at the same speed. He devised a formula using the leg length of animals and their stride length which he gets from their tracks. He then applied this formula to dinosaurs by measuring the fossil leg bones and their stride length which he gets from fossil trackways. Alexander was then able to calculate the speed at which “dino” was moving when he scampered, meandered, roamed, galloped or drifted by. Make no mistake about it. There were dinosaurs that could move as fast as the fastest mammals.

There are no less than 14 different measurements of a trackway you can take such as stride and pace length, width and length of foot, digit divarification etc. From this, one can determine if the beast was bipedal or quadrupedal, squatty like a turtle or sinuous like a lizard, slow like an alligator or fast like a velociraptor. Remember him, that hell on wheels fellow from Jurassic Park. A jogger’s worst nightmare.



Accidental exposure of a theropod trackway Photo: John Kinnear.



Sweet latexing of four prints in progress. Photo: John Kinnear.



Separate latexing of front toes of a print. Photo: John Kinnear.



Latexing of a smaller theropod exposure in same area. Photo: John Kinnear.

Rich and his assistant set about measuring and evaluating the prints and decided that the vulnerable exposed shale bed would never last two years. So a series of coats of sweet latex were applied to four of the prints to create a replica peel of the most prominent trackway. When they were done the 45 gallons of latex peel weighed between 200-250 kilograms and measured almost 10 meters by 3 meters. Fortunately it could be rolled up for a very careful trip back to Tumbler Ridge. The peel will be used to create high-fidelity casts for permanent research and display at the PRPRC, whose goal is to become the central repository and display center for British Columbia vertebrate fossils as well as an international center for palaeontological research and education.



Size 13 soon to disappear on sea shore. Photo: John Kinnear.

What an amazing story this is! If you contemplate all the footprints that man and animals lay down in a single day and how many of them survive it gives you an idea just how rare it is to find dinosaur trackways. A few years ago I left my size 13 footprint on a beach in Parksville, BC and as I studied it and the ripples left in the sand next to it, the picture of ancient prehistoric seashore came to mind. A few months later back at work I noticed that 135 million year old seashore from the Mist Mountain formation that straddles the Jurassic-Cretaceous boundary had been exposed at the mine with not a hint of a trackway on it. I wasn’t at all surprised!



Ancient sea shore exposure on Mist Mountain formation. Photo: John Kinnear.

John Kinnear is a writer and historian who lives in the Crowsnest Pass.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN (UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE)

Hwy 785 403-553-2731



HIKE TO THE DRIVE LANES: First Saturday of each month, May through October.

11 am - 3 pm. Bring a lunch. Phone to book. Blackfoot guides will lead these hikes.
May 5th, June 2nd, July 7th, August 4th, September 1st and October 6th.

CROWSNEST PASS DOORS OPEN AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL



Thursday August 2nd to Monday August 6th.

The festival has been extended by one day this year to accommodate new activities and celebrations. Keep this time open to volunteer and/or attend the many heritage activities that will be offered during the festival.

BOMBER COMMAND OF CANADA

1729 21st Ave. (Hwy 2 S) Nanton 403-646-2270



- Sunday, May 6th Salute to the Air Cadets
- Saturday, June 2nd Planes, Trains and Elevators
- Saturday, July 28th Joe English Memorial Fly-by
- Saturday, August 18th, The Calgary Mosquito

Lancaster Merlin Engine Run-ups.

May 6th, June 7th, July 7th, August 6th, August 18th and September 22nd.

Please confirm engine run-ups and their times by visiting the web site before the event: <http://www.bombercommandmuseum.ca>

UPDATES

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REMINGTON CARRIAGE MUSEUM

623 Main St. Cardston. 403-653-5139



NEW EXHIBIT FOR CHILDREN

An exciting new Miniature Horse Chuckwagon Race video interactive is currently under construction within the Horse University children's exhibit area at the Remington Carriage Museum. The exhibit puts kids in the driver's seat of two authentic miniature horse chuckwagons and is an opportunity to experience the bump and rattle of racing on a dirt track. The horses are miniature, but the thrills are full-sized because these little horses perform and run like they are champion stallions!

This interactive feature was designed and installed under the direction of the Creative Services section of the Alberta Historic Sites and Museums Branch, Culture and Community Services. The wagons were built in the Remington Restoration Shop, while the motion devices were fabricated in Edmonton by Kehoe Marine. The video presentation was created by Fission Media of Edmonton, utilizing footage shot at the annual Miniature Horse Chuckwagon Racing Championships held in Cardston last August.

The Remington Friends Society is a non-profit cooperating society working to enhance visitor experiences at the Museum. Funding for the project came from the Remington Friends Society along with a matching grant of \$21,528 from the Community Initiative Program of the Alberta Lottery Fund. The Program's mandate is to support community-based non-profit projects that benefit Albertans.

The Miniature Horse Chuckwagon Race video interactive will be up and running for public use this spring. Come in and take it for an exciting spin around the race track!

KOOTENAI BROWN MUSEUM

1037 Bev McLachlin Dr., Pincher Creek. 403-627-3684



THE VILLAGE POND

Outdoor Rink available for groups, families and classes.

Open weekdays 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

\$3 per person for 2 hours

All day \$12.00 skate

Group rate: \$50 includes: 2 hours rink time, bonfire, and shelter. Hotdogs and hot chocolate available at additional cost.

Come skate under the stars like our pioneers did! Weather may affect the times, and dates.

Call 403-627-3684 or stop in at Kootenai Brown Pioneer Village to book your outdoor skating party!

- February 17th. Alice Mary Norton is born in Cleveland. She became the well known American science fiction and fantasy author, Andre Norton.
- February 22nd. Andy Good, of Crow's Nest was in town this week to attend the burial rites of his mother who passed away at the hospital on Friday morning last. Blairmore Enterprise.
- February 26th. Coal miners in Great Britain walked out on strike. Eventually over a million miners joined the strike seeking a minimum wage guarantee.
- February 29th. LOTS! ...Lake City is the name of the Western Terminal Point of the proposed Crow's Nest Pass Electric Railway and is already tapped by the Pass line of the CPR...It is located by the shore of Crow's Nest Lake only a few miles east of the provincial boundary between Alberta and British Columbia. Blairmore Enterprise.
- March 1st. Emmeline Pankhurst was among 148 suffragettes who were arrested in London, after they began breaking windows in order to attract attention to their demand that women be given the right to vote.
- March 1st. Albert Berry makes the first parachute jump from an airplane near St. Louis, Missouri.
- March 7th. A bachelor club has been formed and the house of E. Morino on 8th avenue has been fitted up cozily, where a staff of ten of the unfortunate single chaps hope to detract their minds and attentions from family affairs and devote their leisure hours to bacheloric merriment. The name of the club is "Shamrock" but all the members are not natives of the Irish sod. Blairmore Enterprise.
- March 11th. The first Stanley Cup hockey game to be played in 3 20-minute periods was held between Quebec and Moncton. Previously the game was played in 30-minute halves.
- March 14th. Don't miss the big boxing contest in the Socialist hall at Bellevue on Monday night next. Preliminaries begin at 10 o'clock. Admission \$1.50 and \$1.00. Blairmore Enterprise.

BUNNY BONSPIEL MEMORABILIA

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MEMORABILIA NEEDED

The Crowsnest museum is asking for the loan of Bunny Bonspiel Memorabilia for a Museum exhibition celebrating the 65th anniversary of the historic curling event. If you have photographs, programs, crests, trophies or anything else from early Bunny Bonspiels that you would be willing to loan to the Museum, please contact Ian McKenzie at lynnian@shaw.ca.

SUBSCRIBE/UNSUBSCRIBE

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CROWNSNEST MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

"Take a walk through the past and connect with the future"

P.O. Box 306, 7701 18 Ave. Coleman, Alberta T0K 0M0
PHONE/FAX: (403) 563-5434 EMAIL: cmuseum@shaw.ca



Crownsnest Historical Society Application to serve on the 2012 Board of Directors

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

In addition to the above contact information, applicants are required to submit a one-paragraph summary of their career, volunteer, or board experience, as well as any other information that they believe is relevant in support of their application. This information will be distributed along with the ballots, at the Annual General Meeting on March 11, 2012. Applicants will also be given an opportunity to briefly address the membership, prior to the vote.

Applications can be mailed to the Crownsnest Historical Society, PO Box 306, Coleman, AB, T0K 0M0, or dropped off at the Crownsnest Museum & Archives at 7701 - 18 Ave., Coleman, AB. All applications must be received by February 18, 2012.

Other information for applicants:

1. Nominations for Board membership will not be accepted from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.
2. Terms for Board members vary from one to three years, and will be decided at the first Board meeting, based on the number of votes received. Executive positions will be decided at the same meeting.
3. Board meetings are held once a month, and average 2 to 2 1/2 hours. Special meetings are called as necessary.
4. Agreeing to serve on the Board of Directors is a serious commitment. Board membership involves significantly more than just attending meetings. The successful operation of the Crownsnest Museum and Archives depends critically on there being a well-functioning Board of Directors, with members who are willing to make a significant contribution of their time, energy, and skills. In addition to governing the financial and other affairs of the Society, the Board is responsible for the human resources, physical and archival assets of the Museum.
5. Successful applicants will be subject to a criminal record check.
6. Potential applicants who have further questions or who would like to learn more about Board responsibilities, should contact John Salus (403 563 4181), President, Crownsnest Historical Society.