

# ANNUAL REPORT



2004-2005

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# **Annual General Meeting 2005**

First Christian Reformed Church  
7:15 pm May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005

## **1. Agenda**

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2004
3. Receive the Annual Report
4. Approval of the Budget for 2005 – 2006
5. Election of Officers
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. Chairman's Remarks
8. 2005 Resolution of Respect
9. Adjournment

# Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Alberta Family histories Society  
First Christian Reform Church  
Calgary, Alberta  
May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by the Chairman George Lake. It was determined that there was a quorum of at least fifty members present.

## 1. Approval of Agenda

MOTION: (Mary Arthur, Seconded Charlie Hansen) that the agenda for the meeting be approved: CARRIED.

## 2. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: (Ken Reese, Seconded Dave Embury) that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held May 5, 2003 be approved: CARRIED.

## 3. Annual Report

MOTION: (Ronna Byam, Seconded Alan Peers) that the Annual Report be received: CARRIED.

## 4. Approval of the Budget for 2004 – 2005

The budget for April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 as set out at page 9 of the Annual Report had been approved by the Board on March 15, 2004.

MOTION (Gordon Lane, Seconded Lorna Laughton) that the budget as presented be approved CARRIED.

## 5. Amendment to Bylaw Article VIII

MOTION (Mertie Beatty/Gordon Lane) that the following new sections be added to Bylaw Article VIII:

### *MEMORIAL FUND*

*Section 3. The Society shall maintain a Memorial Fund in memory of members who have died. Contributions of money for the Fund may be made by any person, whether or not a member of the Society.*

*Section 3.2. The Treasurer shall:*

*(a) hold all monies in the Memorial Fund separate from all other money and assets of the Society;*

*(b) account separately for all money held in the Memorial Fund;*

*(c) invest the money of the Memorial Fund from time to time in such a way as to preserve its capital value;*

*Section 3.3. Income earned by the Memorial Fund shall be transferred, as and when paid, into the operating accounts of the Society to be used as decided by the Board from time to time.*

CARRIED.

## **6. Amendment to Bylaw Article XII**

MOTION (Mary Arthur/Helen Backhouse) That the following new section be added to Bylaw Article XII:

*Section 3. Notwithstanding any actions under ARTICLE XII, Sections 1 and 2 above, upon dissolution of the Society any funds resulting from activities under the Alberta Gaming Commission, and held in separate bank accounts required by the Alberta Gaming Commission, shall be donated to the Glenbow Archives in Calgary.*

CARRIED.

## **7. Election of Officers**

The Nominating Committee under the Chairmanship of Ken Runquist presented a slate of nominations, as follows:

Chair	Gordon Lane
Past Chair	George Lake
Vice Chair Finance & Budget	Alan Peers
Vice Chair Facilities	Alan Cassley
Recording Secretary	Linda Murray
Treasurer	Ronna Byam
Directors	Mary Arthur (Computer SIG)
	John Holladay
	Caroline Phillips
	Freda Stewart

MOTION (Mertie Beatty, Seconded Charlie Hansen) that the report of the Nominating Committee be received.

CARRIED

The nominees were declared elected by acclamation.

## **8. Appointment of Auditor**

MOTION (Gordon Lane, Seconded Ronna Byam) That D. Mellafont be appointed Auditor for the coming year.

CARRIED.

## **9. Chairman's Remarks**

## **10. Adjournment**

MOTION: (Mary Arthur) that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned (7:53 p.m.)

# Financials

## 1. Auditor's Report

**Financial Statements – Year Ending 31 March 2005**  
**Alberta Family Histories Society**  
**AUDITORS' REPORT**

April 27, 2005

D. Mellafont  
P.O. Box 575  
Bragg Creek, Alberta  
T0L 0K0

Alberta Family Histories Society  
P.O. Box 30270, Stn 'B'  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2M 4P1

### Auditors' Report

I have examined the Statement of Expenditure and Revenue and the Balance Sheet of the Alberta Family Histories Society for the year ended March 31, 2005. This financial information is the responsibility of the Organization's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial information based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that I plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial information is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial information. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial information.

In my opinion, I found these financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Alberta Family Histories Society for the period 2003 April 1 to 2005 March 31 applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

  
D. Mellafont  
Financial Coordinator

## 2. Balance Sheet

	31 Mar 2005	31 Mar 2004
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Operating Account	\$8,680.93	\$8,311.76
Seminar Account	\$1,009.22	\$168.99
Accounts Receivable	\$61.00	\$63.39
GST Rebate Receivable	\$716.41	\$670.92
GIC Investments	\$8,152.66	\$7,992.37
Accrued Interest Receivable	\$102.53	\$126.12
Advances / Floats	\$600.00	\$950.00
Inventory for Sale	\$816.90	\$449.25
Prepaid Expenses	\$1,008.71	\$3,364.07
Total Current Assets	\$21,148.36	\$22,096.87
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
Library Books	\$11,000.00	\$11,000.00
Equipment & Furniture	\$26,710.32	\$24,190.60
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(\$19,483.54)	(\$17,423.81)
Net Fixed Assets	\$18,226.78	\$17,766.79
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$39,375.14</b>	<b>\$39,863.66</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$360.00	\$123.35
Deferred Revenue	\$952.04	\$1,313.33
Total Current Liabilities	\$1,312.04	\$1,436.68
<b>EQUITY</b>		
<b>Members Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	\$38,426.98	\$40,858.11
Current Earnings	\$441.12	(\$2,431.13)
Transfers to / from Other Funds	(\$805.00)	\$0.00
Total Members Equity	\$38,063.10	\$38,426.98
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY</b>	<b>\$39,375.14</b>	<b>\$39,863.66</b>

### 3. Income Statement

	31 Mar 2005 Current Year	31 Mar 2004 Previous Year	Budget 2004/2005
<b>Income Received from:</b>			
Refunds	\$0.00	\$239.25	\$0.00
Membership Fees	\$13,064.09	\$12,844.70	\$13,800.00
Interest Income	\$137.37	\$307.91	\$158.00
Sale of Publications	\$1,715.18	\$735.63	\$1,450.00
Sale of Advertising	\$638.00	\$342.21	\$500.00
Course Fees	\$981.00	\$1,256.00	\$900.00
Sale of Pins	\$375.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Query Fees	\$1,301.24	\$607.13	\$1,000.00
Photocopier Revenue	\$234.90	\$155.02	\$100.00
Equipment Rentals / Sales	\$907.50	\$354.50	\$550.00
Sale of Refreshments	\$213.97	\$216.26	\$300.00
Sale of Tickets	\$470.75	\$567.50	\$400.00
Brags	\$32.50	\$34.00	\$40.00
Library Fines	\$54.00	\$42.00	\$50.00
Seminar Income	\$7,417.09	\$0.00	\$0.00
Donations	\$847.91	\$1,442.70	\$400.00
Grants	\$5,726.00	\$1,570.96	\$1,000.00
Honorariums	\$150.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Total Income	\$34,266.50	\$20,765.77	\$20,648.00
<b>Funds Spent for:</b>			
Audit Fees	\$250.00	\$250.00	\$250.00
Insurance	\$749.91	\$786.40	\$843.00
Postal Box Rental	\$0.00	\$153.53	\$0.00
Depreciation	\$2,059.73	\$1,568.44	\$1,600.00
Web Site	\$532.43	\$381.62	\$776.00
Internet	\$120.00	\$50.00	\$120.00
Paypal Fees	\$83.36	\$0.00	\$0.00
Bank Charges	\$35.60	\$6.14	\$0.00
Rent	\$7,200.00	\$4,312.50	\$7,200.00
Cleaning Expenses	\$40.85	\$46.35	\$200.00
Telephone	\$458.55	\$465.72	\$480.00
Courses / Training	\$0.00	\$69.00	\$0.00
Membership Fees	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Printing / Production	\$7,282.85	\$7,069.87	\$6,000.00
Photocopying	\$723.44	\$649.98	\$875.00
Postage	\$1,514.61	\$1,428.83	\$1,940.00
Advertising / Promotion	\$121.73	\$0.00	\$0.00
Office Supplies	\$1,056.30	\$533.78	\$325.00
Equipment Expenses	\$383.73	\$717.69	\$100.00
Library Acquisitions	\$1,403.02	\$1,578.58	\$1,029.00
Book Repair	\$35.88	\$181.12	\$0.00
Prizes / Awards	\$124.01	\$169.50	\$100.00



Refreshments Supplies	\$227.27	\$257.58	\$230.00
Software	\$34.12	\$98.31	\$0.00
Storage	\$105.00	\$105.00	\$105.00
Transportation / Parking	\$212.17	\$0.00	\$0.00
Honorariums	\$50.00	\$275.00	\$75.00
Seminar Expenses	\$8,365.31	\$0.00	\$0.00
Library Relocation / Improvements	\$655.51	\$1,991.96	\$0.00
Total Funds Spent	\$33,825.38	\$23,196.90	\$22,248.00
<b>Net Income</b>	\$441.12	(\$2,431.13)	(\$1,600.00)

#### 4. Memorial Fund

##### Balance Sheet as at 31 Mar 2005

##### Current Assets

Memorial Fund Savings Account	\$ 1,295.21
Total Current Assets	\$ 1,295.21

##### Equity

Current Earnings	\$ 1,295.21
Total Equity	\$ 1,295.21

##### Income Statement from 01 Apr 2004 to 31 Mar 2005

##### Income Received From:

Interest Income	\$ 0.21
Donations	1,295.00
Total Income	\$ 1,295.21

##### Funds Spent For:

Total Funds Spent	\$ -
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<b>Net Income</b>	\$ 1,295.21
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## 5. Brian W Hutchison Scholarship Award

### BALANCE SHEET

	31 Mar 2005 Current Year	31 Mar 2004 Previous Year
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Scholarship Fund Account	\$1,930.46	\$998.99
GST Rebate Receivable	\$1.74	\$0.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$1,932.20</b>	<b>\$998.99</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Retained Earnings	\$998.99	\$0.00
Current Earnings	\$933.21	\$998.99
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>\$1,932.20</b>	<b>\$998.99</b>

### INCOME STATEMENT

	31 Mar 2005 Current Year	31 Mar 2004 Previous Year
<b>Income Received From:</b>		
Interest Income	\$0.24	\$0.59
Donations	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,000.24</b>	<b>\$1,000.59</b>
<b>Funds Spent For:</b>		
Bank Charges	\$0.00	\$1.60
Photocopying	\$18.06	\$0.00
Postage	\$48.97	\$0.00
<b>Total Funds Spent</b>	<b>\$67.03</b>	<b>\$1.60</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$933.21</b>	<b>\$998.99</b>

# Budget 2005/2006

## Income to be Received From:

1250	GST Refund	400
4120	Membership Fees	13000
4140	Interest Income	100
4210	Sale of Publications	1370
4220	Sale of Advertising	250
4230	Course Fees	600
4235	Sale of Pins	300
4250	Query Fees	800
4260	Photocopier Revenue	120
	Equipment Rental /	
4270	Sales	0
4310	Sale of Refreshments	150
4320	Sale of Tickets	350
4330	Braggs	30
4410	Library Fines	50
4710	Donations	400
4720	Grants	4300
4730	Honorariums	0
	Total Income to be Received	22220

## Funds to be Spent For:

5110	Audit Fees	250
5120	Insurance	800
5140	Depreciation	2060
5150	Website	50
5160	Internet	120
5170	Paypal Fees	50
5210	Bank Charges	50
5220	Rent	7200
5225	Cleaning Expenses	300
5230	Telephone	445
5240	Courses / Training	70
5250	Membership Fees	50
5310	Printing / Production	6600
5320	Photocopying	750
5330	Postage	2055
5340	Advertising / Promotion	75
5350	Office Supplies	550
5400	Equipment Expenses	650
5510	Library Acquisitions	1300
5520	Book Repair	0
5610	Prizes / Awards	150
5620	Refreshment Supplies	220
5630	Software	400
5640	Storage	105
5650	Transportation / Travel	325
5710	Honorariums	400
5830	Library Improvements	0
	Total Funds to be Spent	25025

**Net (2805)**

**Net before depreciation (745)**

# Nominations

## 1. Nominating Committee

Chair	George Lake (ex-officio)
Members	Bob Crowle
	Lorna Laughton
	Inge Leavell
	Don Park (ex-officio)

## 2. Nominations

Chair	Gordon Lane
Past Chair	Vacant
Vice Chair (Facilities)	Brad Trew
Vice Chair (Finance)	Alan Peers
Recording Secretary	Linda Murray
Treasurer	Ronna Byam
Director at Large	Mary Arthur (Computer SIG)
Director at Large	Donna Kirkwood
Director at Large	Freda Stewart
Director at Large	Bev Swan

# Chairman's Message

A year has past since I became Chair of the Society; it seems to have been both a short while and forever. This is in most part to my taking on too many jobs as volunteers left the various committees.

The objects of the "Alberta Family Histories Society" are as follows:

- To promote the study of family history and genealogical research;
- To encourage and instruct members in accurate and thorough family history research;
- To assemble, preserve, print and publish information relevant to family history study;
- To raise funds for any of the foregoing objects, and to accept donations, gifts, legacies and bequests;
- To use any profits or other accretions to the Society in promoting its objects without material gain for its members.

Last year the Society had a dearth of volunteers for some of the core jobs such as Program committee, Editorial committee and website maintenance. All three of these committees help to address the first three primary goals as stated in the above extract from the Society By-Laws. I am happy to say that, with thanks to the Herculean effort of the Nominating Committee, that the volunteer situation for the three committees has largely been alleviated.

Once again the Helen Backhouse, her Library staff, our regular Library fixer-uppers and a group from the local prison moved the Library. This time it was only from the basement to the ground floor but the effort required was still the same as the move to this current location.

The casino that was approved by the Board in 2003 is going ahead and will take place in the spring of 2006. After pre-viewing all the casino locations it was felt that the Stampede Casino on the Stampede grounds would be the best location for us. George Lake will continue to head up the Casino committee – so anyone wanting to volunteer can see him.

We are coming to a close on the first year of the Brian Hutchinson Scholarship Award and the Scholarship committee has managed to iron out a lot of wrinkles to allow the Award to go ahead with greater efficiency in the coming years.

Gord Hulbert has resigned as Seminar Chair after putting off two very successful events over the past four years. His dedication to these events and ensuring their success has been tremendous and he deserves all the accolades he has received. I'm sure that he would say that he could not have done it without all the volunteers that helped put the events together but he was the glue that kept it all together.

Gordon Lane  
Chairman

# Activities

## 1. Facilities

### **16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility (Library).**

The library has seen quite a few improvements this year, many coming from donors. For improvements to the back-door fortifications we thank John Doyle. The windows are now equipped with blinds, and we thank Shirley Simmering for special pricing on the main window blinds. Donations included carpet (Gordon Williams), bathroom mirror (Freda Stewart), swiffer (Mary Arthur), three drawer filing cabinet (Louise Pannenbaker), 3 new chairs (Celtic SIG), fan and wall clock (Nancy Carson), and bathroom supplies from the Legacy SIG. Storage space continues to be a problem.

Keeping the space clean is a responsibility under the rental agreement with our landlord. The Board obtained a quote from a professional cleaning group to clean the library once per month. The amount required proved beyond our financial means and so a policy of “users clean” was approved. The groups who use the facility are now required to clean the library approximately once per year, and a schedule has been provided to group leaders. The Board was the first on the list and three Board members cleaned the library in March. A wet-dry vacuum has been purchased to make the job easier.

In February one of the front windows was broken and the landlord is going to replace it with a wooden panel, so the library will lose some natural light.

### **First Christian Reformed Church.**

Major structural changes to the church over the last year have not seriously interfered with our monthly meetings there. Our accommodations at the church will see some improvements over the next couple of months (April, May) as the church completes its program.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Cassley,  
Vice-chair Facilities.

## 2. Program and Education

### **PROGRAM**

The program committee consisted of Millie Drinkwater with Blair Barr helping find three speakers for the year. Gordon Lane assisted, where possible, when Millie had work commitments to find speakers. The sessions were well attended through all the turmoil of the year in spite of the renovations and unexpected program changes. The Collectibles and Antiques session was well attended and gave the regular members' collections event a new twist which was appreciated by the members.

General Meetings have been held monthly on the first Monday of each month, except on stat holidays when they were held on the second Monday of the month. The exception to this was the February meeting which was held on the first Saturday of the month. All meetings have been held in the First Christian Reformed Church. Due to the renovation work being carried out in the building there have been some adjustments to locations and access but overall meetings have gone relatively smoothly for the members. It has caused some issues for the setup volunteers but they coped very well with the various situations. Program topics were as follows:

### **Basics Program**

#### **2004**

April	Online Archives in Canada	Ronna Byam
May	Preserving Photos	Irene Oickle
June	Getting Ready for Summer: Research Projects	Kay Clarke
September	Family history Center	Wendy Pitcher
October	Preparing for Salt Lake City	Millie Drinkwater and Lorna Laughton
November	Bookbinding	Kurt Nagel
December	Calendars	Xenia Stanford

#### **2005**

January	None	
February	Alberta Heritage Digitization Project and Our Roots	University of Calgary
March	Border Crossings and what's new at the Family History Center	Claire Neville

### **Main Program**

#### **2004**

April	Interpretation of Canadian Military Records by a panel from the Calgary Military History Society	
May	The British Isles - A panel of AFHS members will discuss the latest developments in English, Welsh, Scottish, and Irish research.	
June	Volunteer Appreciation Night AFHS Special Interest Groups will have displays set-up to show members what their various groups have to offer Genealogists.	
September	Settling the Northwest	Xenia Stanford
October	Wills and Probate	Norma Lendrum
November	Riley and McCormick	Mary Guichon
December	Adoptions	Wendy Fraser

#### **2005**

January	Antiques and Collectibles	Jason Kreuzer
February	How to become a Professional Genealogist- or act like one	Janice Cushman
March	"To Mark Our Place" Early History of Fort Macleod Cemetery including NWMP	George Kush

## **EDUCATION**

The members of the Education Committee in 2004/2005 were: Kay Clarke, Diane Granger, Doug Hay, Sheila Johnston, Norma Lendrum, and Bruce McKenzie. The Committee members teach genealogy courses and / or offer Newcomers Orientation during the break at Society meetings.

The genealogy courses have always consisted of two one-day seminars on a variety of topics. The content has been continually revised and is currently as follows:

Level I – Getting Started, Use of Charts, Organizing, Census Records, Vital Records, Interviewing, Correspondence, Calgary Family History Centers, Computing and the Internet;

Level II – Maps and Gazetteers, Source Citation and Principles of Evidence, Land Records, Calgary Resources, Immigration Records, Old Handwriting, Creating Family Histories, Wills and Probate.

Improvements and revisions in content and delivery are always being considered; for example, many of the topics have recently been set up as PowerPoint presentations. We have expanded our advertising campaign – distributing flyers at meetings, at the seminar, to the Public Relations Committee, to the AFHS Library, to the Calgary Public Library, and to the Family History Centre – in the hope of attracting students.

Every year, the University of Calgary Fifty Plus program asks us to present courses for an honorarium of \$300 per course. Level I was held in November 2004 but Level II, scheduled for February 2005, was cancelled. Subsequently we were told that our courses would not be offered next fall, but after discussion with the 50+ course coordinator, we have proposed a different format of four three-hour courses in one semester which is being advertised in the fall calendar. For AFHS members only, Level I was held in November 2004 and Level II was held in January 2005. Evaluations by students in both University of Calgary and Members Only courses continue to be extremely positive.

As of March 2005, the Education Committee is involved in a public relations project with the Calgary Public Library. Bill Campbell was contacted by the CPL and presented their proposal to the Board, who approved it. At least twelve volunteers are required so that two can volunteer at the CPL for two hours on the last Saturday of May, June, September, October, November, and December 2005.

We have sold most copies of the “Family History Workbook for Beginners” written by Kay and Diane three years ago. They were bought at the AFHS seminar, at meetings, and by various interested individuals. Xenia Stanford sold four at her internet genealogy course at the University of Calgary in March. Diane has revised the Workbook so that it can be passed on to the Editorial Board for publication and sale.



### **3. Library**

Now that the Library has been in the upstairs location for over one-year, this move has proved to be very advantageous for the library volunteers and the members. We have had much greater use of the facilities on an ongoing basis with 1,777 people visiting us to use the Library on 238 days between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2004 and March 31, 2005. With a store- front location it has encouraged people to walk in off the street to see who we are and what we do. Some of those people have become members.

The continued number of open hours for the library is still a large factor in our being of service to our members and the public in general. None of those open hours would be possible with out the many volunteer hours put in by the 33 members. Many thanks for all their time and helpfulness.

Because of financial constraints over the past few years we have not been able to increase our special purchases as much as our membership deserves. We have been able to continue with journal exchanges, additions to current series, and to purchase a few of the many items that have been suggested to us. We wish to thank the many members and friends who have given us substantial donations of books, journals and maps this past year.

My thanks for the help and support of the Library Committee consisting of Olive Carlin, Lorna Laughton, Donna Kirkwood, Ethel McDonald, and Lois Nicholson.

Respectfully submitted,  
Helen Backhouse, Chair Library Committee

### **4. Projects**

The Projects Committee of the AFHS with Lynda Alderman's great organization finished transcribing and photographing the markers in Queen's Park Cemetery during the summer and fall of 2004. Carol Lylyk and Judie Riddell take the databases and check them against the official records in the Queen's Park Cemetery Office for accuracy and new entries are added. Each section is transferred to a Section CD which then becomes available at the AFHS Library and also to the members of the Query Committee. CD IV: Queen's Park Cemetery, Calgary. Sections A-F (with 9,700 records) is nearly ready for release and sale for \$25.00; this CD will have the data and interactive photos for Sections A-F along with the Jewish records for Section E. Sections A-F, H & I and P & PC indexes are complete and available online and CDs of the full data for each of these sections are now available at the AFHS Library. We have now finished publishing on the website 25,000 records out of some 50,000 burials in this cemetery. The Project Committee gives a super big thank you to all of those who donated numerous hours to help with this really large project. The names are:

Mertie Beatty, Bill Logan, Janice Armstrong, Susan Snowdon, Barb Hausegger, Alison Horwood, Ronna Byam, Kay and Glen Clarke, Linda Holdaway, Peter Taylor, Eleanora

Wilson, Marlene Roy, Claire Neville, Colleen Hauswirth, Peggy Franko, Lorna Theroux, Marion Firman, Caroline Phillips, Wayne Mackenzie, Kelli Taylor, Heather Jaremko, Spencer Field, Marlene Knott, Carol Lylyk, Lynda Alderman, Lil Myers, Judie and Bob Riddell, Heather Williams, Louise Pennebecker, Eloise Wigglesworth, Gary Manthorpe, Kay Jamieson, Jean Carter, Agnes Bulmer, Lorraine Jacksteit, Rosemary Kry, Alan Muise-Benner, Lil Meyers, Jackie Duncan, Dan Noble and Gail Rossum. The volunteers who are doing the Chinese transcriptions are Frank and Linda Lau, Stephen Yu, Linda Chan, Rob Lui and Sam Tang.

The fall of 2004 saw the release of CDIII: The Cochrane Cemeteries and More. This was our first interactive CD with Photos. It was developed by Gerry Riddell (an IBM programmer) who donated many volunteer hours to complete this project. This CD was first offered for sale at the Seminar.

CD sales for April 2004-March 2005 were: Volume 1- 9 total; volume 2 – 15 total and volume 3- 6 total.

Over the past year Judie Riddell, Marlene Knott and Myrna Waldroff have retired from handling queries and we thank them for the many hours they generously gave over the years. Their duties have been taken over by Mabel Kiessling and Linda Holdaway. There were 349 queries over the year coming from Canada, U.S., British Isles and Australia.

Currently coordinating the records of Births, Marriages and Death records from old Calgary newspapers is Kay Clarke who has taken over from Marlene Knott. There are currently several people actually recording this information. The plan is to access information to 1910 with data going on-line as soon as we can make it available. We are currently working on the 1902 Calgary Herald and the 1905 Weekly Albertan. We are also producing a database of previously recorded Deaths and Births in the Calgary Herald of June 1976 to February 1977 which will go on-line as soon as it is finished. Thank you to every one who has helped with this project.

Respectfully submitted by the Projects Committee  
Heather Jaremko, chair

## **5. Public Relations**

The major activity of the PR Committee for the past year was the work related to the successful Family-Roots 2004 Expo-Seminar in October. It involved close communication with both the print and electronic media in both the Calgary area and nationally.

In May 2004 the Society participated in the Calgary and Area Heritage Fair aimed at increasing awareness of Grade 4 to 9 students in our Canadian heritage. Judges were provided, a staffed display was shown and an award presented to a winning student.

The Society engaged in a number of opportunities for displays, including a Seniors Fair provided by the City of Calgary, the open house of the Canadian Association of Retired Persons and the Chinook Historical Society (Historic Calgary Week). The Society is intentionally aiming at encouraging younger generations to pursue genealogy and so it was possible to become involved in supporting school teachers at both the kindergarten and junior high level.

Several speaking engagements were arranged including the Heart to Heart Society, the Chinook Rotary Club and church and seniors groups. Some of these occasions involved our well-established Getting Started Workshop. Several of the latter were held in collaboration with the Calgary Public Library.

The Society began an aggressive planned outreach into the community aimed at greater co-operation with the School Districts, the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede, the Chinook Historical Society, Heritage Park and the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. An especially exciting project has been undertaken with the Calgary Public Library in which our members have been invited to participate in a guiding program to commence this spring. This project is directed at the beginner in genealogy that may not even be aware of the existence of our Society.

Again, we stress the need for ALL MEMBERS of our Society to take some degree of ownership of the Society's plans for growth. Every member is encouraged to find ways in which the Society can present itself to the general public. There are countless opportunities to increase awareness of both the benefits of family history research and membership in the Alberta Family Histories Society. Our primary mission is to 'brighten our image' in this community.

## **6. Publications**

The Chinook did win an award, the Elizabeth Simpson Award, for content which is due to the contributions but obtaining contributions is still somewhat of a challenge. With the formation of an editorial committee, thanks to the Nominating Committee, this will hopefully be alleviated.

The Chinook was published by Gordon Lane and has now been taken over by the editorial committee chaired by Ken Rees. Ken has been the editor of the Breeze for the past year and will be handing this over in September to a new volunteer. The Breeze has some of the same challenges in getting information to be contributed in a timely manner and it is often been photocopied at the last moment because of this.

The Chinook moved printers this year and the costs are slightly lower but printed to the same standard. One advantage with the new printer is that they will make small changes without any additional charges. The printers are now invoicing the Society for the publication and submissions, proofs and delivery to Dave Wake is all done without having to go to the printers. This has eased the burden on getting the Chinook published each quarter.

## 7. Volunteers

This is the second year that volunteers have been asked to track their hours for work carried out on behalf of the Society. The hours recorded are less than the previous year but it is felt that more hours have been given by volunteers this year than last.

One of the uses of the hours recorded is to enable the Society to recognize the work of the volunteers and this may be putting off some volunteers as they may not wish to be in the limelight. However another important function of using the hours is to enable the Society to offset those hours against grant money. Some grants, such as the Alberta Community Project (CAP), will allow the use of volunteer hours to offset matching monies required to obtain a grant. The volunteer hours used at Family Roots allowed us to obtain a grant of over \$4000

This last year we only had 105 people record their hours.

Admin	641.5
Library	935
Projects	2964.75
Program/Education	279.5
Publications	316.5
Public Relation	200
Memberships	0
Queries	350
Family Roots 2004	986.75
Meeting Setup/Take Down	98
1911 Census	248
Recording Queens Park	880
Total	7020

## 8. Website

With special offers from our ISP we have increased our disk space to 600 Mb from 400 Mb at no charge to the Society and we have taken advantage of special offers on registering our website to make more savings during the year.

The Cemetery indexes were changed from individual files to a database system that allows for different types of searches. For instance if a person only knew the town their ancestor was buried in they can extract all indexes for that town, similarly for a cemetery or they could search across all cemeteries using a last name or partial last name.

The website has generated some sales for Project publications and has generated most queries that the Society receives. It was used to generate a large number of pre-sales for Family Roots 2004 and has taken advantage of the Paypal system to generate income.

The 1906 transcription is about 58 % complete, with 470,000 persons' information transcribed. Alberta has the smallest population and the most enthusiastic response, so we have 90% of our province completely transcribed. Overall, the effort has very much slowed down. Transcribers are needed for the more isolated (especially northern) parts of the Prairies.

Gordon Lane has been acting as Webmaster with Eileen McElroy working as Assistant Webmaster to ensure the Aid section is maintained. The Nominating Committee has gathered some names together and this year's plans include forming an active website group to maintain and improve the website.

## **Special Interest Groups**

### **1. Atlantic Group**

#### **MEETINGS**

The Atlantic Special Interest Group met bi-monthly, beginning in September of 2004. Meetings were held in the Alberta Family Histories Society library. The group met 4 times during the year with between 8 and 12 members in attendance

#### **OTHER**

- \* Kettle purchased for library on behalf of Atlantic SIG
- \* Two (2) Steelcase workstations donated to library on behalf of Atlantic SIG

### **2. Beginners Group**

We started the year in October 2004 with a meeting on "What the Alberta Family History Society is all about" and a discussion on what the group objectives should be for the year. Gary Manthorne and Velma Boyer gave presentations on our experiences as new members of the AFHS and how we had benefited from our involvement with the Society.

Since October, we have had a meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month. Group attendance has varied from 8 people initially to 13-15.

Velma Boyer

### **3. Celtic Group**

Celtic SIG meets monthly except July, August and December meeting on the last Wednesday of the month. Most meetings have subjects presented by members of the group. The SIG along with the Board are sponsors of the visit by Dr Trainor and Mr. Mullan from the Ulster Historical Society.

### **4. Computer Genealogy Group**

#### **The Computer Genealogy Group**

The group held 10 meetings since March 31, 2004. We had an average attendance of 32 at our monthly meetings, from a total of 99 members who attended one or more meetings. 69 of those 99 have indicated that they are members of the AFHS. Membership in AFHS is not a requirement for the SIG or SIGlets, but all groups encourage joining and are generally run by AFHS members.

The SIG has SIGlets based on specific computer programs, which meet separately. At each of these meeting various parts of the program are discussed and help is given with any problems that arise.

Notices of these meetings are posted on the web, dist-gen and in the breeze

#### **Family tree Maker SIGlet**

Met 8 times

Produces handouts, copies of which have been left in the AFHS Library Attendance has been around 12.

AFHS membership for people attending FTM meetings continues to be well over 90%.

#### **The Master Genealogist SIGlet**

The Master Genealogist SIGlet met 9 times during the year with an average attendance of 6 and a high of 11. The attendance has increased with the release of version 6.

#### **Legacy Users Group**

The Legacy users group met from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month at the AFHS Library, 712 16th Avenue NW. The May and October meetings were canceled. There were no scheduled meetings during July and August, 2004

We were fortunate to have Ken and Beverly Rees present a demonstration of the FAMILY HISTORY CD program at our April 2004 meeting. Ken Runquist did a program on Creating Calendars and a demonstration of PDF995 at the June meeting and Getting Started at the November meeting. The September meeting was the

Organizational meeting for the new year. Charlie Aubin covered The 12 Step Check List in December, The Ultimate Guide To Sources In January and Mastering Events And Chronologies in March. Lorna Laughton did a great presentation on How To Use The To-Do List at the February meeting.

We have ninety-seven people listed as using the Legacy program but only forty-three of these attended at least one meeting during the fiscal year. We averaged fifteen members per meeting, with a record thirty-two attending the December meeting.

The basic Legacy 5.0 program is free for anyone to download from the web site at [www.legacyfamilytree.com](http://www.legacyfamilytree.com), or from the AFHS Library. Version 6.0 will be coming this summer. We welcome all new users to our SIG meetings.

Charles W. Aubin

### **Reunion Users Group**

Met 12 times, attendance hovers at 3, from a group of 10, most are AFHS members.

## **5. English Welsh**

The English/Welsh Group met 8 times this year (third Tuesdays of the month at the AFHS library). Thirty-three AFHS members participated, with an average attendance of 13.

Topics were:

- (1) Presenting material in a form to appeal to our descendants;
- (2) Old postcards (with English-recipe cakes and biscuits);
- (3) Pre-1971 English coinage (with sums in pounds, shillings and pence to tax our brains);
- (4) Dialects and odd name/place pronunciations (with taped examples including Stanley Holloway's "*Albert and the Lion*");
- (5) Christmas traditions (with tea and mince pies);
- (6) Maps (including a fascinating geophysical map);
- (7) Occupations (when we heard about weavers, brick makers, miners, smelters, policemen, mariners and silversmiths)
- (8) the armed forces (with tea and hot cross buns) when we heard about those who had served in the Sudan War, the Boer War, WWI and WW2, rounded off with tales of life in WW2 England for civilians and German prisoners-of-war.

The group had a table at Family Roots and its prominent and eye-catching satellite map of the British Isles encouraged many visitors to stop and chat.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Williams

## 6. French Group

A number of interested people signed up at Family Roots. Also two French speaking AFHS members were interviewed for the French Channel of Radio Canada (CBC). So far I have not had time to coordinate any meetings and no one has volunteered to assist. I have not submitted update on local and online resources. However, I am continuing to build a large French and French Canadian database and hoping to submit at some point to AFHS library. Currently it has close to 100,000 individuals in several different databases since Family Tree Maker is unable to support anymore than roughly 20,000 individuals since there are multiple marriages for most and my notes are extensive. I will be trying to convert this to another software in the future.

Volunteer hours on the database have not been counted because these are relevant to my children's ancestry as well as that of many clients. Other activities would perhaps be 5 hours in the 2004-2005 period.

Chair: Xenia Stanford

## 7. Métis Group

The Métis SIG is evolving but is not formal at this stage.

Those who have roots where their ancestors had Métis scrip go to the Glenbow and use the excellent resources there.

At the Glenbow, Ms. Robin Kirk will be taking over Geoff Burtonshaw's regular hours, Tuesday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Geoff will continue to come in regularly although he has now officially retired.

Meanwhile a number of descendants of Eastern aboriginals, who did not come through the west and be given Métis scrip, have contacted me. This is an area not covered by the Glenbow and these people do not qualify for an Alberta Métis status card but have been able to become members of either the Canadian Métis Council – see <http://www.canadianmetis.com> - or the Métis Community of Eastern Canada (La Communauté métisse de l'Est du Canada) - see <http://www.metisduquebec.ca/en/comwest/communaute.htm>

I have been dealing with a number of people wishing to pursue their Eastern Métis roots, including my own children! Their native ancestry was confirmed while I was helping a person who descended from a sister of one of my children's ancestors. I was able to find a number of documents confirming the native ancestry. Generally this is a more difficult area since there are no scrip records as there are for the prairie people, such as my sisters-in-law whom I have helped in the past. Thus the Métis SIG has gained a new significance for me in the last year or so.

Since much of the research conducted for paying clients or family interests, the number of volunteer hours has been low – roughly 10. Some of this was spent trying to convince those with links pointing to spoofed sites to correct them. This has met with some but not



total success – e.g. some well-known and respected sites still point to Redrival as the link for the Canadian Métis Council.

Chair: Xenia Stanford

## **8. ONTARIO Group**

The Ontario SIG was formally organized in September 2004. Our monthly meetings held the fourth Monday at 7:00 pm at the AFHS Library have been well attended. To date our discussions have included Ontario Censuses, Ontario Resources at the AFHS Library, the Evolution of Ontario, Post-1869 BMD Records, Pre-1869 BMD Records, and Land Records. We also share a website of the month. Members of the group also have the opportunity to share and discuss their research problems. Our future plans include purchasing items pertaining to Ontario research for the AFHS Library.

Ronna Byam

Chair, Ontario SIG

## **9. Ukrainian Group**

The number of interested people has increased over the past year. A list of those interested in meetings (virtual or otherwise) has been compiled with their names and areas of interest. As soon as permission is obtained the list of names and areas will be provided to AFHS to place on the website. Also plans are to update this part of the website.

Many members wish to meet face-to-face. In the past few people attended meetings other than celebrations. However, we will try to organize regular meetings and see how they do this fall.

Meanwhile a group has been set up on Yahoo. Currently it is open to the public and some prefer not to join. However, many people who did not know of the Ukrainian SIG have joined. The group is at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ukrainiangenealogy/>

Chair: Xenia Stanford

# Board of Directors

## Elected:

Chair	Gordon Lane
Vice Chair	Alan Peers
Vice Chair	Alan Cassley
Recording Secretary	Linda Murray
Treasurer	Ronna Byam
Director at Large	Mary Arthur
Director at Large	John Holladay
Director at Large	Caroline Phillips
Director at large	Freda Stewart

## Ex-officio

Past Chair	George Lake
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## Appointed:

Membership Secretary	Don Park
Chairs	
Library	Helen Backhouse
Program/Education	Millie Drinkwater
Publications	Gordon Lane
Projects	Heather Jaremko
Public Relations	Bill Campbell
Seminar	Gord Hulbert

Webmaster	Gordon Lane
Editor, Breeze	Ken Rees
Editor, Chinook	Ken Rees

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