



# SPARKS OFF THE ANVIL<sup>©</sup>



Newsletter Of The Saskatchewan Western Development Museum

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Editors: Kristine Montgomery & Leslee Newman

## WINDS OF CHANGE *By Kathy Morrell, WDM Volunteer*

**Winds of Change** is a new exhibit at the Saskatoon WDM. The display features past, present and future: the wind turbines of the period 1920 to 1940 in rural Saskatchewan and wind as a present and future alternate energy resource.

It is a welcoming exhibit. There are interactive components for the kids – buttons to push, wheels to turn and lights that wink on and off. There are the wind turbines of the past – the pull for those fascinated by the history of a time not so long ago. There is an explanation of wind energy for everyone, but school children in particular. There is a video that captures the minute-to-minute operation of the three wind turbines that stand outside the Museum door. This exhibit is for everyone.

“In our exhibit, we wanted to present the past, but just as importantly we wanted an illustration of the present and future possibilities of wind,” explained Brian Newman, WDM Exhibits Coordinator. “We wanted our own turbines, equipment designed and produced in Saskatchewan.”

In front of the Saskatoon WDM now stand three turbines. The towers stand 14 metres high, the blades three metres in diameter. And no, the WDM is not about to meet its power needs from the three turbines that stand sentinel to the Museum’s hopes for the future. To power the building at peak load would require more than 86 turbines similar to the three on site. However, the initiative has become a demonstration site for education both past and present.

In **Winds of Change**, the curatorial staff shows an on-going commitment to telling the Saskatchewan story, the past of a province steeped in innovation. The exhibit makes use of artifacts from the WDM collection of more than 85,000 objects. The historical alcove, only one of three that make up the exhibit, includes wind turbines from the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. Some were made on Saskatchewan farms. It is estimated that there were 6000 wind turbines in the province at the time. The system was hooked up to a bank of batteries that powered electric lights and the all-important radio, the link to news about grain prices and such entertainment as Fibber McGee and Molly, Lux Radio Theatre and Hockey Night in Canada.

During the 1930s, the number of radios in the province doubled. Zenith offered a special price on a turbine if the purchaser bought a six volt radio. The play proved a winning marketing strategy for the time. Later, farm



A Grade 8 student from Buena Vista School’s Ecoquest program explores Winds of Change at the Saskatoon WDM.

*WDM Photo: Kristine Montgomery*

families acquired other appliances such as toasters, washing machines and the appliance most valued by Saskatchewan women – the electric iron. In the 1950s, most farmers discontinued using wind turbines when the power grid was extended throughout the rural areas of the province.

Video screens in the exhibit show the three turbines and a weather station outside the Museum. The latter indicates wind speed and directions as well as temperature, humidity, total rainfall and current precipitation. It features an explanation of wind as an energy resource. Atop the display stands the figure of a young girl, her skirts billowing in the wind. In her hand she holds a spinning pinwheel – a symbol of the generations to come and the future of Saskatchewan innovation.

The WDM continues to seek out ways to improve its energy efficiency, to live the message of its new exhibit, the **Winds of Change**. Enjoy this new permanent exhibit at the Saskatoon WDM.

### ARTIFACT DONORS

*Recently, the WDM received donations of artifacts from:*

- |                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Kenny Beaven - La Ronge         | Margaret Hewson - Indian Head         |
| Merle Bocking - Saskatoon       |                                       |
| Dennis Roy Briggs - Saskatoon   | Frank Korvemaker - Regina             |
| Paulette Bulmer - Saskatoon     | Bruce Pendleton - Saskatoon           |
| Sylvia Cory - Saskatoon         | Saskatoon Gateway Players - Saskatoon |
| Nicole Gibson - Maple Ridge, BC |                                       |
| Gary Headington - Saskatoon     | Flo Wagner - Saskatoon                |

### WDM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Carol Bruce - Saskatoon
- Winston Elashchuk - Yorkton
- Don Fox - Moose Jaw
- Jack Hay, Chair - Bradwell
- Kevin Kurulak - Biggar
- James Phelps - Cochin
- Dean Redman - Moose Jaw
- Rena Weikle, Past Chair - Cut Knife



# NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM By Cheryl Stewart, Education and Volunteer Coordinator

It's summertime and the WDM is open seven days a week from 9 am to 5 pm! Stroll through our 35 buildings depicting a small town in the 1920s. See our indoor exhibits including a gallery of vintage vehicles, an eclectic collection of horse-drawn and mechanized transportation, an exhibit on home and farm chores called *The Jolly Life of a Farmer's Wife*, and our new exhibit - *Winning The Prairie Gamble: The Saskatchewan Story*.

Don't miss celebrating family fun at the North Battleford Western Development Museum. The Museum hosts six weekend experiences. Meet us at 1 pm on Sunday, June 6 at the **Gospel Jamboree**. Entertainment includes Copper Creek, Country Mile, Sharon Rose, the Borschneck Family, Dale Updike, Living Faith Chapel Worship Team, and the Long Road Home.

Then comes the **Horsing Around** weekend June 12-13, when Museum volunteers and staff hitch up vintage equipment and offer rides in horsedrawn vehicles. From 10 am to 5 pm, discover much

about the role of the horse in our farming history. Watch a competitive driving obstacle course and take in the parade and entertainment on the outdoor bandstand. Best of all, enjoy horse and wagon rides, a treat for all ages.

Mark your calendars for a super family weekend - the Innovation Credit Union **Family Weekend** is July 3- 4, 2010. Enjoy a petting zoo, wagon rides, face painting, water park, children's games and activities with prizes, scavenger hunts and a dog show. Don't miss Flying Bob's performance on July 3 at 1pm. He performs an energetic and hilarious variety show highlighting physical comedy, audience participation, balancing, juggling and vocal impressions. Also on July 3 at 1 pm, everyone's favorite balloon guy will be here. Watch as your balloon gets twisted into your favorite animal. Treats will be available to purchase at the concession.

On the weekend of July 17-18, from 10 am to 5 pm daily, plan to attend our **Gas & Steam**

**Powered Weekend**. Tractor buffs, try your skills at our tractor obstacle course. We supply the tractor you show your skills! Compete in our plowing competition starting at 2:30 pm both days. Back by popular demand, thrill to the mighty Parade of Power! Volunteer owner-operators, bring your vintage tractor to our show!

Later this summer, come to the **Roaring 20s and Car Show**. Experience the daily lives of your great-grandparents or great-great-grandparents on August 7-8 from 9 am to 5 pm. Then the WDM's **Inspirations Trade Show** from September 10-12 is a show for everyone. Museum visitors can enjoy exhibits from local businesses including home-based businesses, crafters, Saskatchewan-made products, antiques and collectibles. See what the Battlefords community has to offer.

Take advantage of our WDM memberships and enjoy all our summer weekends. For more information please call (306) 445-8033 or visit our website at [www.wdm.ca](http://www.wdm.ca).

# MOOSE JAW WDM By Jackie Hall, Program/Education Officer

If you have ever visited the Moose Jaw WDM you probably spent some time in the aviation gallery. A mainstay of the Museum, a leader who inspired members of the *Vintage Aircraft Restorers*, a man who conceived and realized dream after dream, was Don O'Hearne. We mourn Don's death in April at the age of 94 years. Don began volunteering at the WDM in 1982 and since then had contributed more than 5000 hours to researching and reconstructing many of the aircraft in the Museum and to sharing his love of aviation heritage. Don O'Hearne touched many lives and left his legacy at the Moose Jaw WDM.

Life is all about endings and beginnings. Again this year the Moose Jaw Youth Regional Heritage Association held its **Heritage Fair** at the Museum on May 6-7. Fifty-six future historians, curators and designers, students from grades 4 to 9, shared their knowledge on a variety of historical subjects.

We kicked off the year with a volunteer barbeque to let everyone know what we were up to. The Short Line did not open the season on the long weekend in May as has become a tradition at the Moose Jaw WDM. This year, the Short Line lies in pieces at the WDM Curatorial Centre in Saskatoon. Stay tuned this summer for news of the Short Line's new lease on life.

June is always a busy month, as teachers everywhere will agree. On June 3 we hosted

**Museum Learning Day** where children from across the province saw how a telegraph worked, milked a cow and enjoyed many activities thanks to our talented volunteers. On June 5, the Moose Jaw Shrine Children's Festival organizers added an educational Museum element along with other fun and games.

Coming up on June 26 from 11am to 4 pm is the **Motorcycle Show and Shine**. Registration is free. Motorcycles must be in place by 1:30 pm to be judged. Prizes are presented for Best Stock, British, Custom, Rat, Touring, Sport and Other Bike. The day will offer a barbeque and beer gardens in support of *Ride for Sight*. There will be motorcycle games and a trick riding demonstration.

BIG news! For the first time, Moose Jaw's **Canada Day** celebration will be held on the Museum grounds. The Moose Jaw Canada Day committee is planning a day of activities. People sporting Canada paraphernalia will receive \$1 off WDM admission. Find that maple leaf T-shirt and join us for fun and celebration at the Museum on **Canada Day** - July 1.

This summer we will also be offering a variety of theme weekends: July 2-4 - Canada Days; July 10-11 - Weather Days; July 17- 18 - Rail Days; July 31 to August 2 - Saskatchewan Days; August 7-8 - The Fifties; August 14-15 - Aviation Days; August 21-22 - Health Care. On July 24 is the **Community**

**Playday** with a wide variety of activities for children two years old to seven years old. Get the colouring contest at [http://wdm.ca/mj/play\\_day.html](http://wdm.ca/mj/play_day.html). Join us on these weekends for family fun - a scavenger hunt, crafts, films or other activities. Call (306) 693-5989 for more information.

Watch for children's day camps. July 14 is **Space Camp** for children five to seven, while July 15 is **Space Camp** for children eight years to 12. July 29 is **Pirate Camp** for children five to seven years. **Voyageurs Camp** for children eight to 12 years follows. All camps run from 10 am to 4 pm. Campers must bring a brown bag lunch. The cost is \$30/ child (\$25 each for WDM members). Space is limited. Call (306) 693-5989 for more information or to register.

The Museum welcomes summer staff: Ellen Chomey as Programming assistant; Daniel Okerstrom in Visitor Services; and Jo-Vonne Dick as Museum Technician assistant.

Until the end of July, enjoy **If These Walls Could Talk**, a photographic exhibit of Saskatchewan buildings in decline. In late August we are looking forward to a visit from **Hunter of the Prairie Sea**, an exhibit from the Royal Saskatchewan Museum. Put the Moose Jaw WDM on your summer calendar of great places to visit. Call (306) 693-5989.



## WDM CALLIOPE SUMMER TOUR

The long-time coordinator of the WDM calliope summer schedule is Ken Lorenz. Ken makes the schedule, drives the calliope trailer around the province and attends to the boiler at each site. Musician Arlene Shiplett joins Ken on the calliope jaunts. Arlene brings an unmistakable magic to the calliope keyboard. Under Arlene's touch, the calliope whistles a happy tune.

Enjoy the sights and sounds of the WDM calliope in action this summer at one of these Saskatchewan events.

June 5	Town of Allan 100th Anniversary Parade
July 3	Town of Kenaston 100th Anniversary Parade
July 10-11	<i>Pion-Era'10</i> at the Saskatoon WDM
July 31 - August 1	<i>Threshermen's Show &amp; Seniors' Festival</i> at the Yorkton WDM
August 10	Exhibition Parade in Saskatoon
August 16	North West Territorial Days Parade in North Battleford

Ken Lorenz spends at least two hours stoking the fire in the calliope's boiler before each performance.

WDM Photo: Ruth Bitner



# SASKATOON WDM

By Corinne Daelick, Education and Volunteer Coordinator

**Pion-Era'10** is just around the corner and we're celebrating 100 years - Boomtown 1910-2010. We invite everyone to a homecoming celebration at 1910 Boomtown on July 10 and 11. We know that Boomtown isn't really 100 years old, but that's no reason not to celebrate the fictitious landmark. Come home to Boomtown. The Museum grounds will come alive with the sounds of an old-time harvest during the *Story of Threshing* in the Pioneer Circle at 10:30 am and 3:30 pm on Saturday and 3:30 pm on Sunday. The *Parade of Power* of steam, gas and horse drawn vehicles display their power after the threshing show. Listen to the hum of stationary engines, the buzz of the sawmill and the musical sounds of the WDM calliope.

Children's activities take place under the big tent in Boomtown Park. The tent opens at 11 am with activities and games going on throughout the day. Take part in old fashioned games, fish pond or milk our cow. Enjoy the entertainment of the Wacky Wizard and make crafts at the Mendel Art Caravan.

The WDM Women's Auxiliary members have been busy baking bread for Grandma's Kitchen so that visitors can enjoy a slice of homemade bread and jam with a glass of lemonade. Food booths will also be open offering everything from perogies to ice cream to popcorn and more.

There is plenty of going on inside the Museum as well. We have an impressive array of entertainers lined up to perform on the Boomtown Station stage. Entertainment includes musician Raymond Richards, fiddler James Steele, a square dance demonstration by the Hub City Square and Round Dance Association and a fashion show featuring clothing from the WDM collection. Enjoy cowboy poetry with readings by Rick Kroczyński in the Education Room.

Saturday events include the **Harvest Pancake Breakfast**, \$3.50 per person, from 9-11:30 a.m. Enjoy your pancakes and sausage to the music of *Debbie & Barry* in Butler Byers Century Hall. Sunday at Pion-Era opens with the **Hymn Sing and Church Service** on Boomtown Street at 10 am. Following at 11 am enjoy a full Sunday Brunch with *Skye Sterling*. Tickets are available until July 11 from the Museum Store or by calling 931-1910. The cost is \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and children 12 and under. This cost includes your **Pion-Era** admission. Enjoy breakfast while you take a memorable journey through the music of the 1930s, 40s and 50s.

As an extra bonus, Skye Sterling will be performing a special concert on Saturday evening. The concert takes place from 6-8 pm in Butler Byers Century Hall. Tickets are available at the door at a cost of \$10 per person. Please note that the concert is *not* included with your Pion-Era gate admission. For more information on **Pion-Era'10** please go to [www.wdm.ca](http://www.wdm.ca).

Thanks to our stellar group of volunteers, the Saskatoon WDM is pleased to offer extra summer programming from Tuesday, June 22 until Thursday August 19. Visitors are invited to enjoy blacksmith demonstrations in the outside shop on Sunday afternoons and visit with interpreters in Boomtown buildings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Pay a call on the Women's Auxiliary while they demonstrate how to make ice-cream or butter or watch them quilt in the Boomtown Parlour on Tuesday afternoons. Send telegrams on Wednesday afternoons with the Morse Telegraph Club and sing-along with the WDM Singers in St. Peter's Church on Thursday afternoons.

Children from ages 8 - 11 (Grades 3-6) are invited to join us for the **Living History Pioneer Kids Camp**, July 19-23 and August 16-20, 1- 4:30 pm. WDM Members: \$70/ Non- Members: \$80. Children will experience pioneer life through games, crafts, stories and other activities. Children can come dressed as a pioneer (optional). Please register before June 30 by calling 931-1910.

Congratulations to the winners in the Women's Auxiliary 2009-10 raffle. The thrilled winners are Noella Nutting of Saskatoon who won the quilt and Trinity Emond who won the rug. Tickets for the 2010-11 raffle are now on sale in the Women's Auxiliary Parlour in Boomtown.

We are pleased to welcome two new faces to assist with public and school programs at the Saskatoon WDM. Michelle Durell is joining us until December, 2010. Michelle will be coordinating the summer camps and the Hallowe'en program, and leading the Grade 1 Christmas program. Summer student, Melissa Allan, will be coordinating activities for the *Pion-Era* children's tent, assisting with camp, and working as a Museum interpreter for the summer. We welcome Michelle and Melissa to the WDM.

The Museum is open seven days a week from 9 am to 5 pm. If you would like more information on our upcoming Saskatoon WDM events, please call us at (306) 931-1910 or visit the WDM website at [www.wdm.ca](http://www.wdm.ca) and click on Saskatoon.



# YORKTON WDM

By Carla Madsen, Education/Special Events Programmer

On Sunday, June 20 we will be hosting a special afternoon at the Museum in honour of **Father's Day**. From 2 to 4 pm, donuts and refreshments will be served, plus there will be special gifts and door prize draws for the gentlemen in attendance.

Our **Movies at the Museum** series will be back this summer as we partner with the *Yorkton Film Festival* to show entries from their collection. In addition to the free screenings, guests will have the opportunity to participate in an ice cream making demonstration and enjoy some of its homemade goodness. The **Movies at the Museum** events will be held on June 13, June 27, July 11 and 25, beginning at 2 pm each day.

Canada's 143rd birthday will be celebrated in style at our annual **Good Old Fashioned Family Picnic** on Thursday, July 1. The WDM will again be teaming up with Tourism Yorkton, City of Yorkton Leisure Services and the Department of Canadian Heritage to host a fun-filled event from 12 noon to 4 pm. Everyone is invited to join us for live musical and dance entertainment, novelty booths, games and races, restored fire truck rides, art and antique vehicle displays, horse rides, children's entertainment, and much more. Free birthday cake will be served and concessions will be open throughout the afternoon with traditional picnic fare. An opening ceremony will be held at 12:30 with a colour party of pipers, RCMP, Legion members and local dignitaries. And best of all, admission to the grounds is free for everyone! WDM members will also receive free admission to the Museum galleries. Celebrate with us and show your Canadian spirit.

**Museum Day** takes place on Wednesday, July 14. Children will learn about pioneer life by taking part in activities like butter and ice cream making as well as some fun craft activities, old fashioned games, stories and museum tours. The event runs from 1 to 4 pm; see the WDM website for scheduling details to be announced. Children are admitted free when accompanied by an adult paying admission. WDM members also enjoy free admission – just another benefit of your WDM membership!

The **55th Threshermen's Show & Seniors' Festival** is fast approaching on July 31 and August 1. This year's Special Exhibit will feature "Seeding Throughout the Years" as well as a fun extra feature on Sesame Street. Further event details, including an event brochure, will be included in the next edition of *Sparks*. More information can also be obtained by calling the Museum at (306) 783-8361.

We are excited to announce a new program coming in August – **Children's Pioneer Days!** From August 10 to 12, we will be offering activities for kids in a "mini-camp" style from 10 am to 2 pm each day. The event will be open to boys and girls between the ages of 9 and 12 years. Pre-registration will be required as the program will be limited to 12 registrants. Watch for more details which will soon be available on [www.wdm.ca](http://www.wdm.ca) and in next month's *Sparks*.

The Yorkton WDM is open Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm and weekends from 12 to 5 pm. Our summer hours commence on June 28 when the galleries and gift shop will be open from 9 am to 5 pm daily. For further information on our activities, please call (306) 783-8361.

## WDM AND MAS

Staff at the WDM were part of the team of Saskatchewan museum people who organized the Saskatchewan Museums Association in 1968. Forty years later, the WDM and Museum staff remain supportive of the work of the Museums Association of Saskatchewan (MAS). At the MAS Annual Conference in Saskatoon on May 27, Wayne Fennig, North Battleford WDM Manager, continued on the Board of Directors, and was selected Vice President by his colleagues on the Board. He was joined on the MAS Board by Heather LeGars, Collections Assistant at the WDM Curatorial Centre.



Wayne Fennig and Heather LeGars.

WDM Photo: Kristine Montgomery

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## MOOSE JAW WDM

Open daily 9 am-5 pm

Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*

Call (306) 693-5989 for information

June 26	Motorcycle Show & Shine
July 1	Canada Day
July 2-4	Canada Day weekend
July 10-11	Weather weekend
July 14	Space Camp
July 17-18	Rail weekend
July 24	Community Playday
July 29	Pirate Camp
July 31-August 2	Saskatchewan Days
August 7-8	The Fifties weekend
August 12	Voyageurs Camp
August 14-15	Aviation weekend
August 21-22	Health Care weekend

## NORTH BATTLEFORD WDM

Open daily 9 am-5 pm

Shop at *The Loft*

Call (306) 445-8033 for information

July 3-4	Family Weekend
July 17-18	Gas & Steam Power weekend
August 7-8	Roaring Twenties and Car Show
September 10-12	WDM Inspirations Trade Show

## SASKATOON WDM

Open daily 9 am-5 pm

Enjoy the Boomtown Café Daily specials weekdays, breakfast specials weekends

Shop at the *Museum Store*

Call (306) 931-1910 for information

June 22 - August 19	Summer Programming afternoons
July 10-11	Pion-Era 2010
July 19-23	Living History Pioneer Kids Camp
August 16-20	Living History Pioneer Kids Camp

## YORKTON WDM

Open from 9 am-5 pm weekdays, 12 noon-5 pm on weekends until June 27

From June 28, Open daily 9 am - 5 am

Shop at the *Museum Gift Shop*

Call (306) 783-8361 for information

June 20	Father's Day 2-4 pm
June 27	Movies at the Museum
July 1	Canada Day - Good Old Fashioned Family Picnic
July 11	Movies at the Museum
July 13	WDM in Yorkton Exhibition Parade
July 14	Museum Day
July 25	Movies at the Museum
July 31-August 1	55th Threshermen's Show and Seniors' Festival
August 10 - 12	Children's Pioneer Days

# NEW MEMBERS

*New members joining the Museum are:*

Wayne Anthony - Moose Jaw	Kara Johannson - Moose Jaw
Trish Auser & Mike Fagan - Regina	Aaron & Kate Kading - Saskatoon
Aimee Beaudry & Sean Haynes - Dundurn	Alexey Klyashtorin & Elizaveta Petelina - Saskatoon
Tanya Bell & Mark Chovan - Saskatoon	M. Kocher - Saskatoon
Colin & Shannon Bendell - Saskatoon	Ed & Bev Korchinski - Saskatoon
Owen & Tracy Bertram - White City	Shane Kril - Saskatoon
Sam Butler & Erica Bird - Saskatoon	James Labossiere - Battleford
Ken & Pat Crush - Langham	Tyler & Chandra Mierau - Saskatoon
Amos & Winona Cunningham - North Battleford	Brian & Pam Molnar - Saskatoon
Kelly Delong - Caronport	Larry & Lisa Neufeld - Martensville
Ashley Dennis - Saskatoon	Henry Neufeld - Hague
Tammy Elliott-Reich & Ryan Reich - Saskatoon	Garnet & Susan Packota - Saskatoon
Sarah Faux - Moose Jaw	Dana Philipation - Moose Jaw
Nick & Charissa Flaman - Saskatoon	Lorne & Crystal Piatt - Saskatoon
Lisa Fleming - Saskatoon	Tyler & Jayme Pochynuk - Saskatoon
Greg & Christel Galbraith - Saskatoon	Philippe & Priscilla Roy - Bushell Park
Troy & Jennifer Gallant - Wolseley	Logan Runnalls - Caronport
Kevin & Shannon Gray - Moose Jaw	Steve & Joanne Sanche - Saskatoon
Ryan Has - Saskatoon	Doug Sieben & Jackie Maloney - Battleford
Darcy & Suzanne Henderson - Saskatoon	Jay & Christy Stockdale - Regina
Blair & Debrah Holland - Colonsay	Dustin Swanson & Andrea Darychuk - Moose Jaw
Vida Hooshmand - Saskatoon	Don & Tammy Tanner - Radisson
Dwayne & Heather Howatt - Saskatoon	Travis Waldner & Jodi Ingram - Langham
Cecil & Sandra Hussick - Battleford	Fred Warren - Fort Qu'Appelle
Jennie Irving - Moose Jaw	Brad Weflen - Chilliwack
A. Isaak - Saskatoon	Mike Wiclawski - Regina
Conrad & Corrie Iskra - Saskatoon	Chris & Kate Yarniski - Moose Jaw
Bill & Annette Ivan - Outlook	Scott & Tammy Zdunich - Saskatoon

**Sparks Off The Anvil** is published six times a year by the Western Development Museum's Curatorial Centre, 2935 Melville Street, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7J 5A6. Copyright 2010 Western Development Museum. Phone (306) 934-1400 Fax (306) 934-4467 Email: info@wdm.ca Website: www.wdm.ca Please direct all comments to the editors. The WDM is a network of four museum branches located at Moose Jaw, North Battleford, Saskatoon and Yorkton. Supported by the Province of Saskatchewan.

