

February

2009



L.W.A.S.

Newsletter

Vol. 20 #1

# The Ignitor Newsletter

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*LIVING THE PAST FOR FUTURE  
GENERATIONS*

Upcoming Events

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**ON FEBRUARY 21, 2009**

**AT 6:00 PM**

**AT**

**THE HOOPER BUILDING**

THIS EVENT IS A **POTLUCK** SO  
PLEASE BRING A DISH FOR  
EVERYONE TO ENJOY!

**Door prizes would be greatly  
appreciated. We will also be  
holding a 50/50 draw.**



The Leduc West Antique Society's Exposition Park has expanded every year since it was purchased in 1992; check out highlights of the new buildings and current upkeep needed for 2009 in this newsletter.

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** - By Walter Burak

Let me begin by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and all the best for 2009. The society had a very successful year in 2008. A recap of some of the highlights would include:

1. Completion of the Harvey Richard's Building,
2. A donation of two stone pieces honouring the Alberta Pioneers and the Leduc West Antique Society volunteers,
3. A very successful July Exposition and Country Harvest,

(Continued on Page 2)

The Ignitor

Official Publication of the  
Leduc West Antique Society

Jennifer Erin Bodnar – Editor

(780) 465-4041

jenbodnar@hotmail.com

A VERY QUICK LETTER FROM THE EDITOR – Jennifer Bodnar

If you have any interesting hobbies, experiences or events that you would like to write about and/or include in Leduc West Antique Society's premier newsletter "The Ignitor" please contact me at

JENNIFER BODNAR  
428 TWIN BROOKS CRESCENT  
EDMONTON, ALBERTA T6J 6V2  
(780) 465-4041 (PHONE & FAX)  
[JENBODNAR@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:JENBODNAR@HOTMAIL.COM)

Please note that all articles are subject to an editing process.

Your 2008 Executive

[www.leducwestantique.com](http://www.leducwestantique.com)

President: Walter Burak	780-986-0054
Vice-President: Dallas Arnholtz	780-387-4378
Secretary: Jennifer Bodnar	780-465-4041
Treasurer: Ron Bodnar	780-465-4041
Directors: Elmer Shukalek	780-462-1415
Norm Miller	780-454-1877
Marilyn Saramaga	780-470-0006
Keith Evenson	306-825-6871
Ann Grabatin	780-387-4555
Curtis Henkelmann	780-986-0836

(Continued from President's Message – by Walter Burak, Pg. 1)

4. The musical addition of the Country Legends during the July Exposition,
5. Great support by the volunteers, exhibitors, entertainers, vendors and financial sponsors,
6. The purchase of a used Toro 16' grass mower, which provided a welcome addition,
7. Mature elm trees planted behind the bleachers, and
8. The initial start of the construction of a Storage/Restoration Workshop, the LWS Service Building.

As for the future, our July show will include Richard and Deborah Popovich. This couple has performed in over 3,000 shows on the Settler based Alberta Steam Train. Their show is entitled "100 Years of Music" and you can buy tickets for \$20.00 per person. Marg, myself and some other LWS couples saw their performance in Warburg last November and were all very impressed. Many people we talked to mentioned they would gladly return for another show. I think everyone who attends the performance in July will be greatly entertained with the Popovich show.

Ron Bodnar's building, the Esso Service Station is starting to take shape. Hopefully, the indoor bathrooms will be ready for the July Exposition.

With our agreement with the Edmonton Power Historical Foundation we have plans to replace the former Engine Building. EPHF has already paid \$60,000 for their rent lease to cover the first five years with the remaining payment for the next five years to come later. A 60'x104' storage workshop, straight wall structure, has been started with the grade beam completed. We have applied for the Community Spirit funding, which could be up to \$25,000 and also CFEG, which is capped at \$125,000 with a 50/50 matching ratio. Our casino is slotted during the July-September 2009 period. Hopefully it won't be during the show! This will generate additional funds. Our hope is to have this building completed by the fall of 2009.

People seem to get nostalgic about a lot of things they weren't so crazy about the first time around!

## PARK NEWS – Marg Burak

I can't believe 2009 is already here. I've been retired not for nine years and I think I'm working a lot harder now than when I actually got a pay-cheque. The only positive side is now I get to pick and choose what I want to do – not what the curriculum tells me I have to do. However, even with this so-call freedom certain things have to be done at the right time or it becomes a no-win situation.

We have an absolutely gorgeous site. So now, IT'S PROJECT TIME AGAIN!!!! Thistles, dandelions and weeds have a mind of their own. If you don't control them immediately you'll have thousands more. Sound familiar?! For example, the thistles along the railroad track get cut once a year before the snow. The area looks beautiful for the two days of the show. Unfortunately, the thistles continue to grow and seed. The whole grassed area where the cars park is full of little thistles. Most of it was sprayed last fall but the weather got too cold. At \$500.00 a gallon for chemicals one has to be conservative. It has to get finished this spring. Wally bought a 15 gallon sprayer, which he puts on the little cart Elmer made for me. I hook this up to my golf cart. It's surprising how much one can spray in a day. If anyone wants to give it a try...be my guest. It's kind of neat!

Now at the same time the weeds are coming up in the flower beds along with the volunteer plants because they weren't all cut back last fall. So there's plants to move and weeds to spray. Oh, by the way, thistles have made their way into the beds. These have to be sprayed with a small hand sprayer – even to the point of using a toothbrush or Q-Tips. All this while the grass is growing and has to be cut. However, the mower has to be serviced. You know, blades cleaned and sharpened, oil changed, rad blown out with the compressor, etc. Now the mower doesn't go close enough to the building, therefore the weed trimmer has to be used. This also needs to be serviced, along with the little lawn mowers. This job continues all summer! I need help so I book the Correctional guys. That means another project. There's shopping to do. I can't feed the Corrections fellows just hotdogs and burgers because then I lose two hours. Since they're only there for four hours, part of that time is spent eating and coffee break. Also, they need to be supervised when they work, therefore, it's easier to cook something at 11:00 pm for the next day. Thank goodness Bill Smith comes to clean-up. Oh, I forgot that Marilyn also cleans up the concession area well in advance so we can use it. I also appreciate the casseroles Marilyn puts in the freezer.

Somewhere around this time the garden has to get ready for planting. Oh shoot, Wally's taking our bobcat and auger back to the farm and I didn't get the lilacs moved from among the roses or plant the shrubs by the lake, which were potted two or three years ago. Since I have to wait for the little tractor to be serviced so I can work up the ground I'll have time to get the other planting done. After the garden is planted it doesn't take long for the weeds to grow here – often before the plants come up. Then depending on how much moisture we had from the snow or how much spring rain we get, watering begins around the site.

(Continued from Page 3)

By the middle of May the Founder's Building needs to be cleaned, equipment moved out and the floor washed to get ready for the Swap Meet. Tables need to be set up and cleaned. These can stay up for the picnic and later for the Annual Exposition and Country Harvest.

There's a lot of work to do before the Annual Exposition. Along with the usual outdoor work I had mentioned, which goes on continuously, this year the bleachers need much work. They need a new face lift. There's repair work, along with scraping and painting. Also, the entertainment bleachers still do not have the siding put on. Each year when it's mentioned someone comes forward and says they'll do it. However, this has been going on for quite a number of years and it still isn't done. I'm not sure when the horse events are going to be back, this is an insurance issue, but those bleachers are in a bad state of repair and in need of paint. Along with that, the weeds in the corral have to be sprayed earlier and then the ground worked up. The last thing we need is those weeds and thistles to get away.

Another major project is the verandah on the Ohrn Home. Many of you wanted the house moved to the site, but no one wants to continue to look after it. If the verandah isn't repaired it just may fall down. We need someone with carpentry skills. Ralph and Mary Ohrn built a beautiful walk-out last fall but I don't think we can expect them to climb ladders to repair the verandah.

I still haven't finished landscaping by the front of the garden. Harold Gulde is going to build a miniature "Seven Dwarfs" style house. Then I'll be able to plant the grass and flowers. I planted apple trees and Amur maple trees last fall by the garden, only the rabbits got hungry and made quite a mess to the trees and fruit shrubs. Hopefully, the trees will survive...the rabbits sure didn't!

As always, there pruning on the willow and spruce trees. We now have a long chain saw so we can cut quite

#### **EDMONTON POWER HISTORICAL SOCIETY - Willi Viehmann**

Since our last report in "The Ignitor" we have constructed a "Vault" in our building to store and protect our historical documents and pictures. Not much activity has taken place, due to the inclement weather. However, that doesn't mean we were sitting still. As many of you are aware, the Rosedale Power Generating Station, which is the oldest Power Plant in Edmonton, has been decommissioned. Many of our members have worked in this plant and have fond memories of this station.

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We have spent some time at the Rosedale Station during the past months, taking pictures of the equipment and preparing a list of items that we consider to be of historical value and we would be interested in having donated to us. Those items would be a great enhancement to our museum. Hopefully, we will be successful in obtaining some of the items.

We intend to hire another student for the coming summer season. The purpose of a summer student is two-fold - our intention is to keep our museum open to the public during the summer and have some help doing so and we also require someone to help us with cataloguing and filing of our exhibits and documents. As you all know, volunteers are hard to come by and the student would be a great asset to achieve this goal. We have already applied for funding from various Government sources to cover most of the expenses associated with the student help.

Should any of the Leduc West Antique Society members have a family member or friend who is considered



#### Year 2009 Events

##### May 23 **"Country Swap Meet"**

A great variety of sale items including Antiques and Collectibles

##### July 25 & 26 **"Leduc West Antique Exposition"**

Living the past with the whole family. Display and demonstrations of early equipment, antique tractor pulls, vendors, entertainment  
Featuring: Vintage Farm Equipment

##### September 12 **"Country Harvest"**

Antique tractor pull championships, antique farming demonstrations and displays, vendors, entertainment.

#### TRIVIA

1. How many bones are there in the human body?
2. What fraction of an iceberg shows above the water?
3. How many nights are there in the story of the Arabian Nights?
4. Which was the second James Bond movie?
5. What is the oldest known vegetable?

(Answers below)

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#### DID YOU KNOW?

Big Ben is a famous clock in London, and it sports very large hands on each of its four faces. The hour hands are nine feet long and the minute hands are 14 feet long.

The car industry is always looking for unique names for its

## **KOLLECTOR'S KORNER – Bill Smith**

Where has the year 2008 gone? Seems like there were endless things to do but so few hands; however, we are survivors. Mother Nature was very unkind to us. I have never seen such a dry summer. Luckily we had a dugout and never lost a tree. However, the geese were sure they would be minus a swimming hole. Thankfully we have a fair amount of snow to replenish our supply.

Our supporters didn't disappoint us as the July Exposition had a marginal increase in attendance. We were fighting some mighty big events. The Air Show at Wetaskiwin, the Edmonton Exposition, Lac St. Ann, Bruce Rodeo and the list goes on. Also, the price of gas was at an all time high. It's a wonder that we had any tractors or antique cars show up at all. However, collectors are a hearty bunch and didn't let us down. Heat wave and all they were there. The ones I felt sorry for were the little animals in the petting zoo.

Our flowers and garden were second to none. I am afraid that "Green Thumb" is going to wear out. I hear it is worn off to the first knuckle! Ah well, two more to go Marg, then we'll get you a Pogo Stick to dig with!

Parking seems to be doing much better with the nice trees planted along the east-bound road to the RV parking. With the people movers and the railroad rides, no one had to wait very long for transportation. I never heard one complaint this year over cars being trapped in.

What a difference a year made to the site. More trees, more roads, more things to look at and just wait until the public lay their eyes on the Bodnar Building (Esso Service Station). What with the proximity to the concessions and Main Street, we sure did plan it well.

We have a lot to be thankful for.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT – Marg Burak**

Thanks to all the members who turned in their updated forms. There was some concern regarding the signing of the clause "I agree to abide by the rules and regulations of the Leduc West Antique Society". I did not have time to go through the LWAS archives to locate the exact date when these rules and regulations were first incorporated. I do believe they probably were in use since the beginning of the Society's events. The revised "Rules and Regulations" were adopted in April 2003. The motion was made by Anna Heinrichs and seconded by Bob Hill. A copy of the new "Rules and Regulations" accompanied the exhibitor letter that was sent out to all exhibitors in April of 2003. I'm quite sure it was also included in the newsletter to all members. This should

clarify some of your concerns. If you have not sent in your new form please bring it along to the Annual Meeting or mail it in. Ann would really appreciate an updated list.

Also copies of the LWAS By-Laws will be available at the Annual General Meeting.

All yearly members should pay their dues before the Annual Meeting. If you wish to change to a lifetime membership that would be wonderful.

Editor's Note: The new "Rules and Regulations (2003)" have been included in this newsletter on page 8. Should you require the old "Rules and Regulations" please feel free to contact me at (780) 465-4041 or via e-mail at [jenbodnar@hotmail.com](mailto:jenbodnar@hotmail.com) and I will be happy to provide them to you.



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**ESSO SERVICE STATION UPDATE – by Ron Bodnar**

It has been some time since the Esso Service Station Project was started and progress has been slow. It seems that contractors just have it too good; however, we did manage to get the shell up and a metal roof should be on shortly. Windows and doors are on their way.

We hope to have the bathrooms ready for the July Exposition and all the building completed this year.

We will be running water, gas and telephone from the Service Station to the Leduc West Antique Society Service Building early in the spring to allow for landscaping around the Service Station.

**TRIBUTE TO JULIE BODNARUK – by Marg Burak**

It is with great sadness that I tell you of the passing of Julie Bodnaruk. Julie was taken on October 19, 2008 after a short encounter with cancer. She was a very active members of the Leduc West Antique Society. She served on the Executive for three years and was in charge of the concession for two years, as well as volunteering in various other areas. I remember the first year on the Executive she was determined to put up posters directing people to where the bathrooms were located. Julie made these great big posters and then put little sticky dots on them to indicate the wash rooms. She wasn't too happy when the toilet got moved. Her biggest love at the Exposition Park was to work at the North Gate, welcoming in all exhibitors. She was a very friendly person and loved by all who knew her. Most of the exhibitors Julie knew by name and if not, she'd know them by the next year. She would always have so many stories or fun anecdotes to tell. I remember back in the 1990s, when we moved the first batch of trees from the farm to the site, I had to go to Calmar to get something to drink and I stopped at the Esso Station. Julie was there working in the office. When she found out what I came for I ended up leaving with a box of Dixie cups, lots of pop, chips, and more...and it didn't cost a dime. She was just great. There is on other thing I won't forget about Julie and that was all the waiting and waiting and waiting – Julie was always late, so eventually I would just tell her to meet me at the Park, then I could carry on with my work. We'll all really miss you Julie. PS – You trained Paul well!!

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## LEDUC WEST ANTIQUE SOCIETY RULE AND REGULATIONS (New – January 2003)

1. It is compulsory for all exhibitors to have Liability Insurance coverage. Forms must be completed and signed.
2. All operators of steamers require a valid operator's certificate and all steam engines require a valid Pressure Vessel Certificate.
3. All exhibitors and vendors are responsible for the care and security of their own equipment and displays.
4. LWAS will not be responsible for any theft, damage, or loss of anything on display.
5. LWAS would like to have each exhibitor display a sign to give some of the history of the article displayed.
6. All questionable equipment must receive approval by the Safety Committee before operating.
7. Extra precautions must be taken when operating around groups of people:
  - a. Use of barriers for crowd control and/or moving it.
  - b. Check for safety by walking around it before starting equipment.
  - c. All equipment shall be operated at a slow and reasonable speed.
8. The number of persons on a machine, which is in motion, shall be limited to one with the following exceptions:
  - a. The operator is under 14 and is accompanied by an adult.
  - b. Steamers and large tractors which require an operator and a spotter.
9. Children allowed on a tractor while the engine is running must be sitting in a secure position. No one is allowed to sit on fenders or stand on a moving tractor.
10. Vehicles and tractors equipped with starters, that are parked, must have the key removed, coil wire or battery terminal disconnected and out of gear.
11. No equipment shall be left unattended while the motor is running.
12. Stationary engines, when running, must be roped off at a distance of 4 feet from the display.

13. All horse or oxen equipment shall have a driver plus one person at the halter when not in motion.
14. A fire extinguisher should be on hand when refueling engines.
15. During the parade, all people shall stay clear of the parade route.
16. During the Tractor Pull Events all people must stay clear of the track.
17. No **ALCOHOL or DOGS** are allowed outside the camping or parking area.
18. **TRACTOR PULL PARTICIPANTS**: You must weigh in – scale on the show field. You must attend the Safety Meeting. You must sign the form certifying that you have done so. Tractor operators should be extra cautious when pulling out after their pull.