



ARCHIVES

Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

January 2017; Volume XXVIII, Number 1

P.H.S. Lunch and Learn Meeting – Wednesday, January 25, 2017
**Winston Churchill's 1929 Visit to the Wildly Successful
Turner Valley Oilfield during the Boom**

by David Finch – Historian and Author

Winston Churchill visited Alberta during the big Turner Valley Oilfield boom of the late 1920s. Deeply in debt and disgraced after his government was defeated in the 1929 election, the statesman escaped public scrutiny at home for a tour of North America. He traveled in style in Canada - in a private luxury rail car lent to him for the purpose by an admirer. Find out how Churchill financed the North American tour, his impressions of the continent - daily letters to his wife Clementine provide perspective, and how much he invested in Canada's great oil field as a result of his tour of the Turner Valley field and the Turner Valley Gas Plant in 1929.

David Finch holds the Master's Degree in Canadian History from the University of Calgary and is the author of more than twenty books about the Canadian West. His most recent publication is "Shapers, Makers, and Originals: The Story of SAIT's First 100 Years".

Time: 12 noon, Wednesday, January 25, 2017

Place: Calgary Petroleum Club

319 – 5 Avenue SW, Calgary; Cardium Room (but check marquee)
Business casual dress.

Cost: P.H.S. Members and Student Members \$30 and Guests \$35 (most welcome).

Only cash or cheque at the door. Payment can be made in advance by credit card or by e-mail. Please advise payment method with reply.

Lunch: Soup, sandwiches and cookies. Gluten-free? Vegan? Advise with reply.

NOTE: Instructions for registering for the Luncheon:

Reply, if you wish to attend, to: Micky Gulless at 403-283-9268 or
micky@petroleumhistory.ca by noon, Monday, January 23, if not sooner.

Those who register but do not come, or cancel after the deadline, will be invoiced.

Those who do not register by the deadline may not get a seat.

The Bull Wheel



Call for contributions and speakers: The Petroleum History Society values your input. If you have an article that you'd like to see in *Archives* or if you have a talk that you'd like to give, please get a hold of us. Contact President Clint Tippett at the address indicated on page 3.

Free Student Memberships Available: The Petroleum History Society offers free membership to full-time students until the end of the year in which they graduate. They will receive the same benefits as regular members – *Archives* newsletters and invitations to our events. Membership applications are available at: www.petroleumhistory.ca/about/index.htm#join.

Members Alternate E-mail Addresses: We like to keep more than one e-mail address in your membership record in case you change e-mail suppliers or work e-mail addresses. However, if you wish, we can stop e-mailing to both your addresses. Just send an e-mail to micky@petroleumhistory.ca advising which is your preferred address and we will stop sending to the secondary one.

2017 Dues Renewal: You either have already or will shortly receive your renewal notice for the new year. We have chosen to keep our dues level despite slightly higher costs, in part in recognition of industry conditions. Life members will receive a notice requesting confirmation of their contact details. Prompt payment would be a service to our volunteers. Donations are, of course, at your discretion and are greatly appreciated.

New Books of Interest: P.H.S. Director Doug Cass always has his eye out for new publications that contain content relevant to the Canadian oil industry. For this month, these and a few others are:

- Winegard, T. 2016. *The First World Oil War*. U. of Toronto Press, 416 p., \$36.95.
- Sandwell, R.W. (ed.) 2016. *Powering Up Canada: The History of Power, Fuel and Energy from 1600*. McGill-Queen's University Press, 496 p., \$37.95.
- Wright, C. 2016. *Arctic Cargo: A History of Marine Transportation in Canada's North*. Self-published, printed by Marquis Book Printing, available through Nautical Mind Bookstore, Toronto, 571 p., \$44.95.
- Jacobs, D. 2016. *BP Blowout: Inside the Gulf Oil Disaster*. Brookings Institute Press, 192 p., \$31.99.
- Moose, S. and White, K.H. 2016. *Fueling Freedom – Exposing the Mad War on Energy*. Regnery, 312 p., \$36.99.

Ironic History: Two recent developments echo old history – although the modern media have apparently never noted the parallels in their coverage.

The **first** is the revelation that a very small amount of animal fat or tallow has been used in the production of the new Bank of England plastic and pliable five-pound notes to allow them to feed smoothly through counting machines. The first predictable outcry came from animal rights activists who protest the connection to the killing of animals. Next came the environmental crew who claim that the use of cows or sheep also creates, as collateral damage, greenhouse gases. The last group who had concern were Hindus and Sikhs who have religious objections to such animal connections. The historical aspect relates to the Indian Rebellion (previously “Mutiny” for all you imperialists) of 1857. This major conflict on the Indian Subcontinent pitted local troops against the forces of the East India Company. It was sparked by many things but amongst them was the introduction of a new Enfield rifle that had cartridges that were pre-greased with tallow and lard to allow for easier loading. Some coatings were beef-based and some were pork-based – so they managed to alienate both Hindu and Moslem troops. Whoever invented these new banknotes must have forgotten the tragic outcome of the earlier use of these substances. The **second** parallel relates to the current fentanyl crisis. Much of this opiate is apparently manufactured in China and exported globally, wreaking havoc. Police authorities are desperately seeking the cooperation of the Chinese authorities in attempts to control this distribution. Those of you familiar with the history of the Far East will remember the First (1839-1842) and Second (1856-1860) Opium Wars. While broadly concerned with the opening of China to Western trade, a key trigger to the conflicts was the desire of the British to balance their accounts with China given that Britain was importing huge amounts of tea, porcelain and silk. The nasty way that they chose to even the score was the importation of opium into China from plantations in India. This naturally led to a major addiction problem, opium dens, etc. in China that sparked the opposition of their governing authorities – and ultimately conflict with the Western powers. It is ironic that now the shoe is on the other foot and it is Chinese drugs that are having a devastating effect on Western populations.

Actions Mimicking Literature: A while ago we mentioned the book “*Tarstopping*” by C.R. Horne that involved the occupation of Calgary by anti-oil sands activists. Although the venue is different, this dynamic seems very similar to the situation on the Dakota Access Pipeline at Standing Rock in North Dakota. In the book the protest eventually melts away of its own accord. I guess we will see what happens in the U.S. with a new pro-industry President.

Editorial Comment: Please note that unless otherwise indicated, all contents of this newsletter have been created or assembled by P.H.S. President and *Archives* Editor Clinton Tippet.

Archives is published approximately eight times a year
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REMEMBRANCES AND LIVES LIVED (with thanks to the Calgary Herald)

We feature folks who were prominent historically but also individuals who made contributions in their own way and collectively form the core of our industry

BOULWARE, Genia Kelly. Born May 8, 1927 at Stamps, Arkansas and passed away November 21, 2016. Genia had an idyllic small town childhood growing up in Plain Dealing, Louisiana. She dated handsome young men who soon went off to war, dressed to the nines for the Church socials, and worked at her father's soda counter and small movie theater, one of the first in the area. She was swept off her feet on the basketball court by the dashing referee, who soon became her husband, Bob. From the basketball court and small town Louisiana, he carried her off to bigger cities and bigger adventures before, finally, they settled in Calgary in their grandest adventure yet of raising a family, all while being the perfect host for many suppers with friends. Genia was a strong partner of Bob's involvement in the pioneer days of the "Oil Patch" as a member of the Ladybugs group of the C.S.E.G. (Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists), Doodlebug Club and the annual Oilmen's Golf Tournament. Genia will forever be known for her steel magnolia personality and southern warmth and charm that she brought to the cold north.

ROBERTSON, Glenn. Born April 18, 1925 at Sherman, Texas and passed away November 14, 2016 at Fountain Hills, Arizona. Glenn was born as the second of two children to Joe and Addrue Robertson of Sherman, Texas. He was raised on a family farm and maintained his easy demeanor and southern drawl for his entire 91 years. Glenn completed his Bachelor of Science of Electrical Engineering at Texas Technical College in 1947 and his Master of Science in Electrical Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology in 1949. During his tenure at Chicago, Glenn served his country in the Navy and was stationed in Pensacola, Florida and San Diego, California. It was while studying for his Master's degree in Chicago that he met Elizabeth Wade, a student nurse at the time, who became his wife of 28 years. Upon graduation in 1949, Glenn married Elizabeth and began his long and distinguished career with Shell Oil in the U.S. and Canada. Glenn started his career with Shell Oil as a seismologist (geophysicist) doodlebugging his way throughout the southern United States in his early years. Advancement placed him in Calgary in 1953 where he formulated new seismic exploration techniques within the disturbed belt of the Alberta Foothills. Subsequently he was instrumental in the discovery of the Shell Waterton No. 1 well in 1956-1957, resulting in the Shell Waterton complex which is still in production today. Additional discoveries in Alberta include Panther River, Sarcee, Morley and Savanna Creek. In 1958, Shell transferred Glenn and his family from Calgary to New Orleans, subsequently to Denver, and then again to New Orleans where he was Chief Geophysicist for Shell's Southeastern E&P Region. In 1970 he moved his family from New Orleans to Calgary where he was responsible for Shell Canada's offshore East Coast exploration. Advancement led to his final position of Vice President of Exploration for Shell Canada where he headed the exploration team that ultimately made the discovery of the massive Caroline sour gas field.

In 1978, Glenn said a final farewell to his wife who passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. Glenn retired from Shell in 1983 after 32 years of ingenious service receiving the standard gold watch and a lifetime pension. Glenn married a second time and upon retirement from Shell, Glenn and his new wife Della, moved to Rancho Bernardo, California. In California, Glenn took up his newfound passion of golfing and became an active Board member of the

Rancho Bernardo Golf Club. Glenn was known for his three hole-in-ones at this course. He remained in California making many friends, golfing, all the while entertaining family and friends. In 2011 at the age of 85, Glenn moved one final time to Fountain Hills, Arizona. In his younger years, Glenn was an active tennis player arranging frequent matches with his family, friends and work associates. He enjoyed travelling with his wife and children on many camping, fishing, boating and water skiing adventures wherever they were currently living. Glenn lived a full and joyful life. He was a kind and polite man; well respected by those who knew him.

JONES, Derek Stephen. Born June 18, 1934 in Halifax, Nova Scotia and passed away November 29, 2016. Derek (known by family and friends as Deke) was raised in Halifax. He graduated from Dalhousie Law School in 1960 and headed west to start work with City Services in Calgary. He soon opened the law practice of Burstall, Clarke, Jones & Coady with his friends and partners. Deciding that law wasn't his passion Deke embarked on a successful career in the oil and gas industry. He founded Kenesen Resources and was a co-founder of Argyll Resources. He later served as a director of Northrock Resources and Enerplus. Deke and Suzanne spent many warmer winters at their home in Sun Lakes, Arizona where they made new friends and enjoyed many games of golf. A favorite gathering place for family and friends was their cabin at Panorama. Many happy memories were made there and will continue. Deke made friends easily, both near and far. He was warm, generous, genuine and caring. He carried his perpetual positive outlook with him everywhere and even throughout his final days.

READ, John (Jack) Ernest. Born January 28, 1927 in Unity, Saskatchewan and passed away November 29, 2016. Jack was the last surviving member of the five children born to Frank and Lillian (Annie) (née Wilson) Read in Unity, Saskatchewan. Prior to his marriage to Anne on July 22, 1952 in Barthel, Saskatchewan, Jack worked on the family farm and took jobs logging and working on harvesting crews, the latter taking him into the southern United States. After Jack married Anne, they settled in Loon Lake to farm and live in "the house that Jack built" where they welcomed into the world their first two children, Douglas and Darlene. Jack and family moved to Kindersley, Saskatchewan where he took on a job as an auto-body repairman, a skill that would come in useful later as his kids had "rhubarbs" with their cars. It wasn't long before Jack found his lifelong career in the oil business, taking a job with Dowell of Canada. Jack trained and obtained a designation as Oilfield Technical Engineer with Dowell, while moving the family to Estevan, Saskatchewan. His brief transfer to Weyburn, Saskatchewan welcomed Randy, their third child. Another move to Estevan allowed them to welcome their fourth child, Ronald. Jack was a Station Manager in Estevan and took the opportunity to move to Medicine Hat, Alberta in 1972 and Edmonton, Alberta in 1975 as his career progressed. He worked in several locations in the Arctic, including drilling ships. The family moved to Calgary, Alberta in 1978 when Jack took on a Completions Superintendent role at Dome Petroleum. This was the last house move they made, much to Anne's delight! Post-Dome, Jack worked as an independent oilfield consultant for a number of years and then settled down to enjoy his retirement.

ROBINSON, William George "Hugh". Born December 29, 1921 in Edinburgh, Scotland and passed away December 8, 2016. Hugh moved to Canada at the age of four. He attended school at Central High School in Calgary and then at Upper Canada College in Toronto. Hugh enlisted in the armed forces in 1942 and served as a lieutenant in the artillery in Europe. After returning to Calgary he earned his Chartered Accountant designation and in 1949 joined the Eric Harvie group of companies, which transitioned to the Devonian Group of Charitable Foundations, through to his retirement in 1984. He was an active member of the Petroleum

Accountants Association. Hugh developed life-long friendships with those he met through work and at events such as the Oilman's Golf Tournament. These friendships continued throughout his retirement years enjoying bridge, billiards, curling and golf. Hugh had a passion for golf which he shared with his late wife Nonie and their family. He joined Earl Grey Golf Club in 1942. He enjoyed competition with his regular golfing friends, and in the club, city and provincial tournaments. He truly loved the comradery of his many friends met during these years in Calgary as well as on winter golfing vacations.

GAFFNEY, James Lloyd. Born March 1, 1936 in Kronau, Saskatchewan and passed away December 3, 2016. Jim attended High School at Campion College in Regina, and excelled in the Royal Canadian Air Cadets. He earned a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Texas and returned to Canada to work in the oil industry. After marrying Donna in 1962, Jim found he was spending too much time away in the oil fields and left engineering to earn a law degree at the University of British Columbia. After moving to Calgary, Jim began his career as a lawyer at Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas. It was there he became a respected international energy lawyer and traveled the world. Later he worked for Amoco Canada as General Counsel. He retired in 1992, but remained active with contract work. He also enjoyed his favorite hobbies: painting, woodturning, and golf.

PAP, Andrew "Andy". Born April 16, 1934 in Ocsod, Hungary and passed away November 30, 2016. Andy immigrated to Canada in 1956. He graduated in Engineering Physics at the University of Toronto in 1962, and worked for Amoco Canada/BP for 38 years before retiring in 1990. Andrew was a distinguished member of A.P.E.G.A. and C.S.E.G., winning several awards throughout his career. His passions were his family, his gardens, and his workshop.

SUTHERLAND BROWN, Atholl. Born June 20, 1923 in Victoria, B.C. and passed away December 9, 2016. Atholl graduated from Oak Bay High School, Victoria, B.C. and joined the Royal Canadian Air Force at age 18. He was soon part of the Royal Air Force in Burma where he flew 48 missions as the pilot in a two-man Bristol Beaufighter, a twin-engine fighter-bomber, during the Second World War. The war years were recounted by Sutherland Brown in his book *"Silently Into the Midst of Things: 177 Squadron RAF in Burma, 1943-45"*. Sutherland Brown was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service. After the war, Sutherland Brown went to university, earning a Ph.D. in Geology at Princeton. He retired as Chief Geologist for the B.C. Geological Survey. Geology was a passion for the rest of his life. Sutherland Brown wrote two other books. *"Searching for the Origins of Haida Gwaii: Adventures While Mapping the Geology of the Islands, 1958-1962"*, which described not only his geological work but included character sketches of people he met there. He also wrote a book about his father, who was known as Buster, *"A Canadian Patriot and Imperialist — The Life and Times of Brigadier James Sutherland Brown"*. Geologist Nick Carter worked with Sutherland Brown for many years with the province of B.C. and the two became friends. Carter described the Haida Gwaii work as *"one of Sutherland Brown's landmark achievements."* Sutherland Brown was a leader in initiating detailed geological description of mineral deposits around B.C., complemented by papers putting them into a regional geological framework, Carter said. *"This was landmark stuff as well,"* the first documentation of this kind in B.C. That work was carried out at a time when B.C.'s mining sector was booming and new mines were opening. Geologists held Sutherland Brown in high regard, Carter said. He was *"one of the big names in the local geological and mining community."* [Obituary courtesy of the Times Colonist, Victoria.]



Petroleum Industry Signage

(L - Mexican fuel price protest; R - Pumpjack Awareness at Leduc)

Well Productivity Facts

The Dec. 5, 2016 issue of Oil and Gas Journal contained an article (pp. 55-60) by Rafael Sandra and Donald Goddard titled “*New reservoir-quality index forecasts field well-productivity worldwide*”. It contained a large body of information on wells rates in different places around the world. Canada, for example has wells that average approx. 70 bbl/d. We get used to that and think it is normal. The U.S. is even worse with an average of 20-30 bbl/d. Contrast this with some of the best fields in the world: Ghawar (Jurassic) in Saudi Arabia was found in 1948. In 1981 it has 332 wells producing an average of 16,500 bbl/d each. The Bonga Field (Miocene) in Nigeria was found in 1996 and by 2006 was producing an average of 20,200 bbl/d each from 10 wells. In the Gulf Coast, the Thunder Horse Field (Miocene) was found in 1999 and by 2009 was producing an average of 22,400 bbl/d each from 9 wells. Canada’s Hibernia Field (Cretaceous) was found in 1979 and in 2000 was producing 14,400 bbl/d each from 10 wells. [I wonder how this compares to some of the early economic models used by Hibernia owners?]. Finally in an October 26, 2016 article in P.H.S. corporate member Josh Groberman’s boereport.com, author Kevin McCormick indicated that Alberta’s Schoepp No. 1 well at Golden Spike (Devonian) flowed at a peak rate of 14,440 bbl/d in 1966. That’s not too shabby.

CANADA'S PETROLEUM PIONEERS 2017 CALENDAR

This publication from Soul of Canada is the latest in Randal Kabatoff's History Showcase series. It was and may still be available for purchase at the Calgary Petroleum Club front desk for \$20.00. In previous years, Randal had a sales arrangement with Chapters but I didn't see any of the 2017 edition in their stores in 2016. Inquiries can always be made directly to Soul of Canada at 14224 Stony Plain Road, Edmonton, Alberta T5N 3R3 or through their toll-free number at 1-877-452-0601. Their website is info@soulofcanada.com. The development of Randal's exhaustive content has been supported by the Government of Alberta. The P.H.S. is recognized as a participant in this process and we return the favour with this publicity.

Besides a comprehensive descriptive timeline, the 2017 calendar B&W format features:

January: Peatland reclamation. An intact well pad creates an island in an otherwise flowing peatland ecosystem.

February: Leduc: an ancient tropical ocean reef holds oil. Alberta's economic basis shifts from mainly agriculture to petroleum changing the province forever.

March: Northern Alberta's petroleum boom spreads to Cold Lake. The petroleum industry is quickly replacing the federal government as the chief employer and source of investment.

April: The Hudson's Bay Oil and Gas Company. Looking to make use of their mineral rights, the Hudson's Bay Company built a petroleum giant.

May: Peace Country oil exploration hints at hidden wealth. Early oil drilling in the Peace River region of Alberta and British Columbia had underwhelming results.

June: Orphan wells – an epidemic of the petroleum industry. When wells no longer produce it is an expensive job to close them in and some companies simply cannot afford it.

July: The Queen Charlotte Basin in British Columbia. Off the coast of British Columbia lies a huge potential for petroleum production tied up in political maneuvering.

August: Helium development sparked by the First World War. Canada started helium production which was, until 1963, almost exclusive to the United States.

September: Nova Scotia's Atlantic Ocean natural gas bounty. Nova Scotia has more to offer than just seafood with expansive gas fields that could rival Alberta.

October: Canadian remediation company works globally. NELSON Environmental Remediation delivers expertise and on-site environmental liability elimination.

November: The iron horse carries Alberta black gold. The development of railway tank cars for hauling oil – the trials and tribulations of early transport.

December: Northwestern Alberta's petroleum treasure trove. Rainbow Lake, Zama City and High Level all owe their existence to the oil fever in the post-Leduc era.