

# ARCHITYPES

Legal Archives Society of Alberta Newsletter

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## ALBERTA MAVERICKS AT LASA HISTORICAL DINNERS

by Stacy Kaufeld

At this year's historical dinners, author Aritha van Herk detailed many of Alberta's legal mavericks. She explored many of the characters whom, by her own definition, were Mavericks. She defines a Maverick as "a unique character, an inspired or determined risk-taker, forward-thinking, creative, eager for change, someone who propels Alberta in a new direction or who alters the social, cultural, or political landscape."

### LASA Welcomes Everett Bunnell, Q.C. as new President



At its AGM on March 3, 2010 LASA elected a new President, Everett Bunnell, QC a lawyer with the Macleod Dixon law firm in Calgary. LASA welcomes Ev as our new President and thanks Ken Mills who successfully led LASA through the transition since Graham Price stepped down last year.



Speaker Aritha van Herk enjoying the evening. Pictured here with Graham Price, QC.

In fact the subtitle of her after-dinner speech was "What They Do When We're Not Looking!" van Herk wonderfully mixed career with hobbies, and explored individual Mavericks as unique individuals who happen to be lawyers or judges. She entertained the crowd with amusing stories and anecdotes of many of the characters in Alberta's legal community and did a wonderful job of intertwining interesting stories with significant moments in Alberta's history.

The speech illustrated the fundamental connection between Alberta's history and its legal heritage. Lawyers and the law have played a pivotal role in the development of this province. In fact, Alberta was at the cutting edge in many areas. Even before she could even vote in a Federal or Provincial election, Lillian Ruby Clements was the first woman admitted to the bar in Canada in 1915.

*...continued page 2*

van Herk also described the correlation between lawyers and business, lawyers and politics, lawyers and sports and lawyers and the military.

Throughout the speech, she also introduced the audience to the more personal side of the legal profession and drew upon archival research and famous stories that have made the rounds through the legal profession over the years. She also drew upon several of her own personal experiences, including encounters with the Hon. Mr. Justice Clifton O'Brien and Arnold (Spud) Moir, Q.C.

Although her speech mainly focused on the more noble Mavericks in the profession, van Herk did not shy away from some of the more controversial individuals, such as Peter Petrasuk and Michael Liknaitzky. Certainly not the most ideal figures to

point towards as pioneers of the legal community, they are nevertheless important in understanding the continuous development of Alberta's legal system.

van Herk's speech celebrated the careers and the fascinating personalities that symbolize Alberta's legal system. She was thought-provoking and entertaining and more than capable of illuminating the interesting, informative and sometimes humorous side of the legal profession.

Thank you to everyone who attended and for making the evenings both memorable and successful. LASA would especially like to thank the Benchers, many of whom attended the Calgary dinner, and the Law Society of Alberta for their continued support.



## LASA CELEBRATES 20 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

# Legal Archives Society of Alberta



Graham E. Price, QC receives an Honorary Membership from LASA at the 2009 Historical Dinner (presenter Perry Mack, QC).

On January 18, 2010 LASA celebrated its 20-year anniversary and a few weeks later, at its AGM on March 3, 2010, LASA elected Everett Bunnell, QC as our new President. Besides Ev and Ken Mills, who generously served as LASA's Interim President, LASA has not had another President. At the historical dinner in September 2009, LASA presented Graham Price, Q.C. with an honorary lifetime membership. Graham served as LASA's President for 19 years from its inception in January 1990 until April 2009. LASA is grateful for the work and effort of Graham in continuing to preserve and promote Alberta's legal heritage. We wish him all the best in his future endeavours.

LASA is most fortunate to be able to count on former staff, supporters, and volunteers who remain connected to, and vital participants in, our organization. Volunteer participation occurs on many levels including participation on our Board, supporting the organization through donations and volunteering time at our annual casino to name just a few.

LASA was incorporated as an outgrowth of the Law Society of Alberta Heritage Committee in 1990 and remains to this day intricately connected to the Law Society and its operations.



***LASA's condolences go out to the friends, family and colleagues  
of John B. Ballem, William J. Haddad and Alan D. Hunter.***

## **Remembering**

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**JOHN B. BALLEM, Q.C., FEBRUARY 2, 1925 - JANUARY 9, 2010**

*by Brenda McCafferty, LASA Archivist*

LASA was sorry to learn of the recent passing of Calgary lawyer and noted author John Ballem, QC. We enjoyed working with Mr. Ballem during the formation of our exhibit highlighting the role Alberta lawyers have played in the oil and gas industry. Mr. Ballem was a strong supporter of LASA and was a donor of several significant records relating to his legal practise in Calgary. A complete series of the books he authored are available in LASA's library.



John Ballem poses next to his photograph highlighted in the 'Mavericks' display at LASA's Historical dinner in Calgary. As a noted author, Ballem embodied the 'creative' Maverick description.

Oil patch lawyer John Ballem wrote extensively on Alberta's oil industry from its early days through the tumultuous 1980s. His novel *The Oil Patch Quartet* is a compilation of four books focused on the topic: *Barons*, *The Devil's Lighter*, *Oilpatch Empire*, and *Death Spiral*. In addition, Mr. Ballem was a horseman, aviator, adventure traveler, legal scholar, and Past President of the Calgary Zoo! Some of Mr. Ballem's additional achievements include: member of the Crime Writers of Canada, the Probus Club of Calgary and the Air Crew Association of Alberta: Southern Alberta Branch, the 2009, recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for Legal Scholarship.

When John Ballem arrived in Calgary from the east (born in New Glasgow, N.S., educated at Dalhousie University and Harvard), he worked for a time as in-house counsel for Imperial Oil.

Coincidentally, in 1962 my own mother (who worked as secretary in Ballem's office during the sixties, and remembers his exceptional writing ability and impeccable grammar), worked in his office at the Calgary based American oil company Phillips Petroleum (later Pacific Petroleum). Through his connections in equestrian circles, John Ballem helped introduce my mom to members of the riding community and in July 1962, my mother, sponsored by her community, became a Calgary Stampede Princess.

**THE HONOURABLE WILLIAM J. HADDAD, Q.C.,  
(NOVEMBER 26, 1915 — FEBRUARY 7, 2010)**

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The Honourable W.J. Haddad, Q.C. graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Laws in 1941 and was admitted to the Alberta Bar on November 4, 1942. Upon graduation, he served in the Royal Canadian Navy as a lawyer during World War II, achieving the rank of Lieutenant. He was President of the Edmonton Bar Association in 1954 and received his QC in 1957. Haddad was appointed to the District Court of Alberta (since combined with the Supreme Court of Alberta) in 1965 and was elevated to the Appellate Division in 1974. He retired in 1980.

*...continued on page 4*

LASA featured Haddad in its 2002 'Sports' themed Historical Dinner. During that time, the following information was uncovered about his sport prowess:

W. J. Haddad was Manager of the University of Alberta hockey team for two years and was President of the Men's Athletic Board. During the 1950's and 1960's, W. J. Haddad was first a Director, then Vice President of the Edmonton Eskimo Football Club. He was also President of the Eskimo's Touchdown Club for five years running. An excellent golfer, the Hon. Mr. Haddad, Q.C. served as President of the Mayfair Golf and Country Club in 1973 and over the years has been the recipient of several prestigious golfing awards.



The Hon. William J. Haddad, Q.C. (at far right) at LASA's 2002 Historical dinner with The Hon. W.A. Stevenson, O.C. and The Hon. S.A. Friedman, Q.C.

## ALAN D. HUNTER, Q.C., (AUGUST 17, 1937 - APRIL 6, 2010)

Born in Vancouver, British Columbia in 1937, Alan Hunter received his education at UBC, graduating with his Law degree in 1961. After graduation, Mr. Hunter moved to Calgary and articulated to The Hon. D.C. Prowse at the Fenerty firm. He was called to the Alberta Bar in 1962. In 1971 he branched out with Bill Code to establish the firm 'Code Hunter' where both men, in the years to come, emerged as leading Canadian counsel. He was awarded QC in 1982. Having been first elected as a Law Society of Alberta Benchers in 1981, he gave many years of service to the Law Society of Alberta which culminated in his appointment as President in 1988-1989. He was made an Honorary Professor of Law at the University of Calgary, Chairman of the Board of the Alberta Law Reform Institute from 1989 to 1998, and received the Law Society of Alberta and Canadian Bar Association Distinguished Service Award in 1995. Mr. Hunter also received the Law Society of Alberta Certificate of Appreciation in 1998. Alan Hunter was a honorary member of the Board of Directors of the Environmental Law Centre, and an Emeritus member of the American College of Trial Lawyers, the Federation of Defense and Corporate Counsel and the International Society of Barristers. He was also on the Advisory Committee of Calgary Legal Guidance and on the Advisory Board of Pro Bono Alberta.



## From the Vault

### Farewell to the Chief! Chief Justice, Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta The Honourable Allan H. Wachowich retires, March 8, 2010

LASA was honoured to contribute a small display for the March 8, 2010 retirement dinner for The Hon. Allan H. Wachowich. We are also pleased to announce the recent receipt of his professional archival papers and photographs. The papers are a welcome addition to our holdings and include a wonderful series of correspondence and important judicial and legal papers extending back 50+ years over an active career.

With funding provided by the Archives Society of Alberta (Access to Holdings program) and the National Archival Development Program (NADP), this past fall and winter were busy processing months at LASA as we hired two contract Archivists (David Mittelstadt and Ewa Gniazdowska) to complete the arrangement and description of the following archival fonds:

- The Court of Queen's Bench, administrative series (records donated by The Hon. CJ Allan H. Wachowich)
- The Honourable W. Kenneth Moore, QC
- The Honourable Ronald Martland, QC
- Calgary Bar Association, oral history series - LASA completed the digital migration of 54 oral history cassette tape interviews conducted with members of the legal profession during the 1980's.





# Upcoming New Releases and Great Deals on LASA Publications!

**LASA is slashing its prices on the following books:**

- o *2010 Calendar* - Archives Society of Alberta - historical images of sport in Alberta - \$5
- o *Foundations of Justice* by David Mittelstadt - \$20
- o *Just Works - Lawyers in Alberta 1907-2007* - Regular \$75, now \$50!
- o *Law West of the Bay* by J.W. McClung - \$20.00 (hard cover); \$10.00 (soft cover)
- o *In the Name of Justice* by Azmina Suleman - \$20.00
- o *Milt Harradence: The Western Flair* by C.D. Evans - \$10.00
- o *A Guide to Alberta Courts: The Art Book* by Tzak (artwork) and J.Mahony (text) - \$5.00

**Watch for these new LASA releases coming soon:**

- \* *Lords & Ladies of the Western Bench* - a new and updated 2nd edition of the 1997 publication authored by Louis Knafla.
- \* **100 Year History of Alberta's Court of Appeal** - hot on the heels of BC's commemorative publication is Alberta's anticipated book by author David Mittelstadt!

## New Faces

### Ewa Gniazdowska

#### Joins LASA staff

Ewa Gniazdowska joined LASA as the Administration and Development Officer in October 2009. She initially came to LASA to work on a summer contract where she digitized over 50 oral history interviews, prepared preliminary finding aids, and catalogued 20 new accessions.

Ewa holds a Masters degree in Mathematics from a university in Poland and spent much of her life working as a high school math teacher. After immigrating to Canada, she started a new career working in a high-tech fiber optics company in Ottawa. There she led and supervised a group of 150 employees. Later, she took on a new role as a Quality and Documentation Specialist, a position which helped develop her interest in document management. As a result of these opportunities, she decided to pursue her certification and enrolled in the Archives and Records Management program at Algonquin College. In pursuing her studies she realized that she was very interested in archives, and that her dream job would be to work in an archival repository.

In 2008, she moved to Calgary and continued learning about archives. An internship at the University of Calgary Archives with a wonderful Archivist, Lisa Atkinson, gave her a great deal of practical knowledge and fortified her interest in this subject.

Accepting the summer contract started a relationship with the LASA team that evolved into the permanent position she now holds. Her present responsibilities include providing support to both the Executive Director and the Archivist. She enjoys both roles equally – the financial management duties and requisite organizational duties align well with her logical/mathematical skills, while the opportunity to work with Brenda (LASA Archivist) on archival tasks fulfills her dream of working in an archival repository. ❖



Welcome to the Legal Archives Ewa!

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# Announcements

- LASA has a new website that will be launched in June 2010. Check back for changes to the layout and increased archival content! We will publish an announcement concerning the change to our domain name and inquiries to our old email and website will be redirected automatically.
- LASA has slashed its book prices! See page 5 inside for a listing of the new prices.
- LASA will be hosting its annual historical dinners in the fall of 2010. Stay tuned for further information. The dinners are held in Calgary at the Fairmont Palliser Hotel and in Edmonton at the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald. All proceeds go towards maintaining LASA's many historical programs such as displays, oral histories, publications, research services and of course, the archives.
- Did you know that LASA's 2010 annual fundraising campaign is underway? Please consider making a donating to preserve legal history!

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