

Delta Marsh History Initiative, Steering Committee Meeting

9:00 am, 8 April 2008

Home of Shirley Christianson, Portage la Prairie

**Present:** Barry Bills, Shirley Christianson, Gordon Goldsborough (sec), Heidi den Haan, Bob Jones, Cynthia Jordan, Glen Suggett

1. **Minutes** of the last meeting (17 October 2007) were approved by consensus.

2. **Business**

- a) *Oakland history book* – No word on its progress, or on photos that Darlene Rice Doty promised to copy for us.
- b) *Delta photos* – These have not been copied because we had nearly all of them already.
- c) *Webb photos* – These show the bus line that ran between Portage la Prairie and Delta in the 1950s. They were given to Suggett.
- d) *Suggett update* – He has compiled text to date in a binder. Everything (text and photos) is on a computer at the Field station. He is now working on the Kirchhoffer story, delving into the Flee Island story again, and the Red Lake Indian band with a midget member (Short Bear) which became the Long Plain and Peguis bands, the 1901 Royal duck hunt, Pete Ward's interviews, Blue Ribbon Lodge, Bigelow story, James Ford Bell, Jimmy Robinson, Les Younghusband, Harry Atkinson, and the Murder Oak story (now appearing in the February 2008 issue of *Manitoba History*). He still has some interviews to do; he has done Andy Rutherford regarding the Macdonald air base, and Ken and Doug Hurst and their lodge at Souix Pass. He attended the Tin Town Fish & Game Dinner and got some information and photos. Still to do: a writeup on Tin Town, the Portage Country Club, the Lakewood Country Club, and the High Bluff Lodge.
- e) *Other topics* – Mackey has done some writing on farming, and Gamble has written some text too. On a related note, Bills reported that Gamble is very ill at Portage Hospital. Jones has written some draft text on muskrats in the marsh but he is still refining it.

3. **Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held at the home of Shirley Christianson (118 Wilkinson Crescent, Portage la Prairie) at **9:00 am on Thursday, 22 May 2008**.

4. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 AM.