



MHCS

CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 2017

MEDICINE HAT CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY EXECUTIVE

The Medicine Hat Christian School Society Executive consists of:

- Ryan Schindel
- Shauna VanderSpruit
- Jeffrey Stigter
- Joyce Stigter
- Jeremy Rattai
- Aaron Brost
- Tracey Malcolm

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Annual General Meeting Wed, Nov 8 @ 7 pm
- Christmas Concert Wed, Dec 20 @ 6:45 pm at the Cypress Center Auditorium
- Grandparents & Friend Day Fri, Apr 27
- MHCS Spring Fair (a.k.a. Fall Extravaganza) Sat, Apr 28

ONE STUDENTS' JOURNEY THROUGH MHCS

PAUL AASMAN

It was 1982, and I was all of 7 years old. I had just finished first grade. My parents and a lot of parents from my church seemed to always be planning. If it wasn't a meeting they had to go to, it was a fund raiser we all helped with. They wanted to start a Christian school in Medicine Hat. I didn't understand. I had a lot of questions for them. "Why are we doing all of this fund raising?" "Why are we building a new school?" "Why do I have to go to a new school?" "Why is the new school so small?" "Why aren't my friends coming to the new school?"

My parents were excited. In September my brothers and I started school at the new Medicine Hat Christian School, which was really just 2 classrooms in another school. We started the year off with a walk-a-thon. I was one of two students in grade 2. We shared

a class with the grade one students, and our teacher was Miss Groenwald.

Within a few years there were too many students for the two classrooms we had assigned to us. Some land was purchased on Rice Drive and the building began. Once again everyone had to help with getting the new site ready. I remember hand digging holes to plant spruce trees in. Sod was laid on just a small section behind the building, because there wasn't enough money yet to sod the whole property. There were many opportunities for community building and fund raising; the school became an extension of our church and family.

During my graduating year in 1989/1990 my classmates and I planted three trees along the boulevard in front of

the school. Mr. Slofstra, the principal at that time, told us that since there were 3 students in our graduating class and 3 trees, those trees were ours. We had to hand water them all year long.

Medicine Hat Christian School has grown beyond belief, but still that sense of community remains. Parents still feel a sense of ownership for the school, they want to see it grow. Being part of a loving, Christian community was a very positive experience for me, and I would not want anything else for my children.

** Paul and his wife Elisa have 4 children who all have or are attending Medicine Hat Christian School. Paul has just completed 6 years on the Society Executive. Thanks for your commitment to Christian Education!

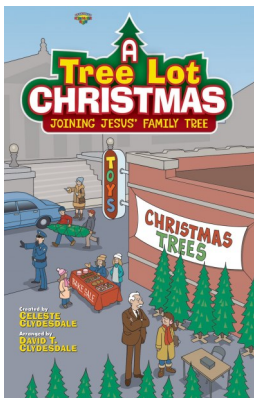
WE'RE CHANGING IT UP!!

Ye Olde Tyme Fair, Fall Extravaganza - different names but the same event, year after year after year. But wait! We're going to change it up this year. Instead of a Fall Event we're holding off until the weather turns nice in the Spring. So mark your calendars for April 28, 2018, because you won't want to miss this event of fun, food and fellowship!



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The MHCS students will be presenting “A Tree Lot Christmas” on December 20, 2017 at the Cypress Center Auditorium beginning at 6:45 pm.



This musical delivers the truth of God’s word as a group of kids sell trees outside of Mr. Carmichael’s toy store to raise money for children in need. Join the adventure as these compassionate and fun-loving kids demonstrate the powerful love of Christ to the greedy Mr. Carmichael and invite him into the family of God.



How would you like to support MHCS projects without it costing you anything? You can! By purchasing Gift Cards. The MHCS Parent Society raises funds for the extras in the school such as sports league fees, gym equipment, playground equipment and so much more. Through the FundScrip program, you can purchase gift cards and a portion of what you spend will be donated back to the school. For more information go to www.fundscrip.com and click on “Support a Group”. Enter the invitation code YP2DYQ and you will be brought to our page. Don’t forget to scroll down to watch the video that explains how Fundscrip works.

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...

Mrs. Annalora Horch was among the first teachers hired when MHCS opened in 1982. She and her husband and two young children had just moved to Medicine Hat from Winnipeg. She was invited to be interviewed for a teaching position but felt she needed to help her family settle into the new community. At her husband’s urging she made herself available for an interview and prepared a number of questions for the hiring committee. She was impressed with what she heard. “They had a strong board, numerous committees for different positions, a strong Christian philosophy, connection to an international Christian school organization. They were a new school but they sounded ready to launch Christian education in MH and I was

willing and ready to join forces with them.”

While Mrs. Horch taught all grades from Kindergarten to grade 9 at different times, she mainly taught grades 5 & 6. Although she loved teaching she was encouraged to apply for the position of Principal when it opened up. After much prayer and discussion with her husband she did apply and committed the decision to the Lord. She held the position of Principal from 1995 to 2008. “Teaching and administering are two different responsibilities but with the same goal: to give the best Christian education to the children entrusted to us. The school is an extension of the Christian home and we are all partners, the home, the school, and the church in raising the children God has

given us.” She sees the work she was able to do here with students and their families as a privilege. “My prayer has always been that MHCS continues to teach and graduate students who have a relationship with our Savior and who are willing to follow His leading.”

Annalora and her husband Phil are both retired. They like to be out in God’s creation enjoying nature and watching and tracking birds. Six months of the year they are in Medicine Hat, and six months they are just south of Tucson, Arizona “where the best North American birding exists”. In both places they enjoy being part of naturalist groups, and terrific churches. They enjoy reading and discussing ideas and current events. Visiting family and friends is

important too. “The days slip by easily when you have coffee klatches and exercise classes. Retirement is a wonderful time of life. I’m enjoying it very much.”

Thank you, Annalora, for sharing with us the path that God has lead you on!



Annalora Horch

Medicine Hat Christian School

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