



Volume 1 **International Mountain Section Newsletter** March 2006

*To Foster Advancement in the Science and Art of Rangeland Management*

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**President's Message**

Maynard Smith

The annual SRM convention in Vancouver was very interesting, educational, and well attended. I am happy to say that the IMS was well represented by both Albertans and Montanans. We "old timers" were very pleased to have a good number of younger members at the convention, some of whom gave presentations.

We had 26 sign in at our section meeting where Dennis Phillippi, VP of the SRM and Jeff Mosely, SRM board member reported on SRM activities and possible potential financial problems. We also had some lively discussions by the members in attendance.

Congratulations to Barry Irving who received the Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award that is given by the Range Science Education Council. All the range schools send one academic representative to the RSE which meets once a year at the SRM Annual Meeting. The University of Alberta Range Team also captured 6 awards in the undergraduate student competitions. The team finished 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Plant Identification Exam and 2<sup>nd</sup> on the Undergraduate Range Management Exam. Individual honours went to Dean Hystad (1<sup>st</sup> High Individual Combined, 1<sup>st</sup> High Individual URME, 5<sup>th</sup> High Individual Plant ID Exam) and Brenda Shaughnessy (3<sup>rd</sup> High Individual Combined). And speaking of awards, SRM-IMS honoured Duane McCartney from Lacombe, Alberta with the Trailboss award at the Fall Meeting in Pincher Creek, Alberta.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the summer tour and meeting in Red Deer. At this point in time Holley and I plan to be there.

**Trail Boss Award  
International Mountain Section  
Society For Range Management  
Pincher Creek, October 2005**

**Summary of Duane McCartney's achievements.**

Duane McCartney is a team leader who can bring together people from diverse backgrounds, specialties, and have them work together for the common good in range, forages, and beef cattle management. He initiated, coordinated, and cajoled 55 people to put on the world wide web a huge amount of published work dealing with range, pasture and beef cattle management. It was accomplished during a four year period. This web based information system addressed as [www.foragebeef.ca](http://www.foragebeef.ca) on the internet brings together scientific review papers, fact sheets and knowledge nuggets from all over North America. Currently this web site attracts about 3000 users per month from 40 different countries. Last December this extraordinary team was awarded the Agriculture Canada Gold Harvest Award for outstanding achievement. Much of the credit for this unique teamwork and effort lies with Duane McCartney, the 2005 International Mountain Section of SRM's recipient of the Outstanding Rangeman Award.

Duane received his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Guelph. He has been a research scientist at Canada Agriculture and Agri-Food Station in Melfort, Saskatchewan from 1979 to 1997. In that year he transferred to the Western Forage Beef Group at the Lacombe Research Centre of the same organization.

In his career with Agriculture Canada Duane has focused on the reduction of feeding costs for beef production in the aspen parkland. He has developed innovative year round grazing and winter management systems, different types of calving systems, pasture renovation and re-seeding techniques for improving bush pastures, and much more.

He is regarded as a top researcher in range, grazing, and beef cow-calf management systems. He is continually asked to present his research findings at grazing and beef conferences across Canada. He has published 55 scientific papers, organized numerous conferences including the International Grasslands Congress in Winnipeg and Saskatoon in 1997. This congress hosted 1100 people from 90 countries. He is currently the President of the Canadian Society of Animal Science.

Duane has been very active in the Society for Range Management; initiated the formation of a new Canadian Chapter for Saskatchewan and Manitoba; was director and president of the Northern Great Plains Section of SRM; served on SRM's Nominating Committee, and is currently chair of the Awards Committee. He represented the grazing and range industry on Canada's Expert Committee on Forage Crops for many years. Duane is also a family man with his wife Margaret and their six children.

**Minutes – Joint Meeting of the Pacific Northwest and International Mountain Sections,  
Society for Range Management – Pincher Creek, Alberta October 16, 2005**

In the absence of President Donna Lawrence (awaiting the arrival of her baby), 1<sup>st</sup> VP Maynard Smith called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm

**Bob France, Bob Drinkwater and Brian Haddow:** Provided an update on arrangements for the 2006 meeting in Vancouver, including suggestions on additional sources of financial support and the details of the trade show.

**Duane McCartney:** promoted the Excellence in Range Management award to the meeting and the process that will involve the development of a poster for nominees that will highlight their stewardship accomplishments. Excellence will be based on the quality of the poster. Nominations are made at a local section level first. A local award will then provide the foundation for a national award nomination. Deadline for nominations is April 30.

**Jeff Mosley – Board of Directors:** The new Executive Director, Jason Campbell will perform a dual role, representing SRM in Washington and also managing the Society from there. SRM has a new office in Denver. The sale of the old building has provided some reserve funds and the new building has the potential to generate revenue from cell phone towers located on the structure. Allen Press has taken over the publication of Rangelands and the Journal. Based on the advisory council meeting at Ft. Worth, it does not appear that any name change is imminent. Jeff stressed the need for nominations to the BOD and for members to volunteer for parent society committee service.

**Lou Hagner:** Looking for ideas on awards. Lou will be highlighting in the newsletter, the awards, their criteria, who to contact to facilitate a nomination and the deadlines

**Angela Burkinshaw and the Summer 2006 Tour:** Angela described the upcoming July 2006 summer tour that will take place in the Rumsey Parkland just north of Drumheller, Alberta. The area is considered to be the best remaining area of Plains Rough Fescue grassland in central Alberta.

**Bret Olson and the Montana Youth Forum:** Bret confirmed that Katlin Keough would be attending the youth forum in Vancouver with financial support from the IMS section, as confirmed at the summer meeting in Montana. No youth candidate has been identified from Alberta.

**Elections:** This was the first election that involved both mail-in and email ballots to conduct the IMS section elections. Owing to a computer problem, we were not able to open the email ballots until a later date. The ballots were subsequently counted and the following results were reported to the section members by email and now here in the section newsletter. Despite the short term computer problem, the election generated an excellent response with about 1/3 of ballots coming by mail and 2/3 by email.

The results of the recent election are as follows:

- **George Hirschenberger** as 2nd Vice President
- **Brian Thrift** as 1st year Director - Montana
- **Kelly Burkhardt** as 1st year Director - Alberta

Business meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

## **Notes from IMS gathering in Vancouver**

Wednesday February 15, 2006

28 members of the IMS attended the hour-long gathering.

Total attendance at the Vancouver annual meeting was outstanding, with more than 1200 participants.

### Summer Tour

The IMS Summer 2006 Tour will be held the 3rd weekend in July, northwest of Red Deer, AB.

### Fall Meeting

Preliminary plans are to hold the IMS Fall 2006 meeting in Great Falls, MT on November 3 and 4.

### Awards Committee

Lou Hagener (Chair of the Awards Committee) will write an article for the IMS newsletter informing members of the process for nominating people for awards and Lou will be encouraging nominations. Award nominations for the parent society are due November 30, 2006.

### Youth Committee

It was agreed that the IMS re-formalize its process for selecting delegates to participate in the High School Youth Forum at the annual meetings of the parent society. Tanya Thrift will work on this task with the Youth Committee Chair (Bret Olson). Kaitlyn Keogh from Nye, MT was the IMS delegate at the Vancouver meeting. Kaitlyn's presentation was entitled, "Mineral Study and Liver Biopsy, Is There a Correlation?". Kaitlyn did a wonderful job representing the IMS.

### Young Professionals Conclave

Matt Phillipi reported on the newly formed YPC, a subgroup within SRM intended to help people early in their careers become more involved with SRM and to help build and strengthen professional contacts among their peers. Matt, Steph Sever, Merrita Fraker-Marble, Heidi Olbert and others from IMS were instrumental in forming the group. YPC held a symposium and luncheon at the Vancouver meeting with 45 people in attendance. The newly elected officers for the YPC include 2 IMS members, Steph Sever (Bozeman, MT) as President and Brian Thrift (Dillon, MT) as Treasurer.

### SRM Advisory Council

Steph Sever reported on the SRM Advisory Council meetings held earlier in the week at Vancouver. The AC recommended to the SRM Board of Directors that SRM create a new contest for college and university students to be called the Rangeland Cup, a team problem-solving contest. The AC also recommended that the top 10% of students completing the Undergraduate Range Management Exam (URME) each year at the annual meeting be exempted from the exam required to become a Certified Professional Range Manager.

### SRM Board of Directors

Jeff Mosley and Dennis Phillipi reported on recent SRM Board of Directors (BOD) discussions. Budget deficits are being actively addressed and the BOD is exploring many options.

### SRM Annual Meetings

The program content of SRM Annual Meetings was discussed. Concerns existed with the growing numbers of symposia that summarize existing knowledge at the SRM Annual Meetings and the corresponding decline in numbers of technical papers that present new advances in knowledge. Also, it was suggested that the number of workshops increase and the number of symposia decrease. Finally, concerns were expressed that there were too many presentations, symposia, workshops, etc. at the Annual Meetings, and there may be a need to limit the offerings somehow so that people attending the Annual Meetings could attend a larger proportion of the presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 AM.

## **Mark your calendars, pack up your gear, and bring your enthusiasm!!!!!!**

The summer tour has been set for July 20th, 21st and 22nd. It will be held at Big Valley, which is west of Red Deer, Alberta, and will examine the Rumsey Block in detail. The Rumsey Block is the largest intact area of native prairie in the Parkland subregion and has many land use issues including grazing, oil and gas exploration, and a proposed coal-bed methane development. It's very unique topography (knob and kettle), as well as aspen encroachment add complexity to all land use decisions. Registration will be on Thursday night as well as a guest speaker to kick things off. All day Friday is reserved for presentations and field tours. The day will be rounded with a sampling of central Alberta cuisine at the Summer Tour Banquet on Friday night. Tour participants can hit the trail home after the ever important Business Meeting on Saturday morning.

### **Just a Reminder:**

**What:** SRM-IMS Summer Tour  
**Where:** Big Valley, Alberta  
**When:** July 20-22, 2006  
**Why:** Get informed, stay informed, inform others, with a whole lot of socializing and good food on the side  
**Who:** Come one, come all. Be there, or be something other than a circle

Why not stay awhile? Partake in some world class fishing. The Bow River downstream of Calgary is recognized internationally as a Brown trout sport fishery. Or if lakes are more your style, try Pigeon Lake, where a 50 walleye afternoon is considered a slow day. Or, if you desire something similar to basking in the sun, bring your canoe and plan a river float on the Red Deer River, it traverses badlands and valleys with a gentle current south and east of the city of Red Deer. If history is your passion, take some time and visit some of the community museums that rural Alberta is famous for. Distant history can be viewed at the Royal Tyrell Museum of Paleontology (International Heritage Site) at nearby Drumheller. Recreational interludes abound as Plains, Foothills, Mountains, and Forests are all in close proximity in southern Alberta

**Questions?** Contact Angela Burkinshaw at 403-309-3043 or by e-mail at [Angela.Burkinshaw@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Angela.Burkinshaw@gov.ab.ca)

Details to follow in the June SRM-IMS Newsletter.

### **Check out These Websites:**

<a href="http://vetgate.ac.uk">http://vetgate.ac.uk</a>	Animal Health Website
<a href="http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca">http://www.agric.gov.ab.ca</a>	Alberta Agriculture Website
<a href="http://www.pekisko.ca/">http://www.pekisko.ca/</a>	Rangeland Conservation Movement
<a href="http://www.srm-ims.org/">http://www.srm-ims.org/</a>	Your very own Website

## 2006 Executive

### President:

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### 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

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### 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

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### Secretary/Treasurer

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### Director, 1<sup>st</sup> Year

#### Montana

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#### Alberta

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## Committee Chairs

Newsletter Editor	Barry Irving	780-464-1813	birving@ualberta.ca
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History	Sherm Ewing	406-727-1091	sherm2@bresnan.net
Membership	Dr. Clayton Marlow	406-994-5744	cmarlow@montana.edu
Nominations	Dr. Art Bailey	780-487-5273	art.bailey@ualberta.ca
Public Affairs	Dr. Bret Olson	406-994-5571	bolson@montana.edu
Range Youth	Dr. Bret Olson	406-994-5571	bolson@montana.edu
Webmaster	Malcolm Adams	403-381-6207	webmaster@srm-ims.org

## SRM Honour Awards

The Society for Range Management honour awards program recognizes members and non-members who have made outstanding contributions to the science and art of range management. Now is the time to begin preparing nominations for individuals who deserve recognition. The deadline for applications is April 30. Details are available on the Member Only side at [www.rangelands.org](http://www.rangelands.org).

- **Frederic G. Renner Award**-- The premier Society award requires SRM membership and sustained accomplishments or contributions to range management during the last ten years. Includes honorarium.
  - **2006 Recipient - Gary W. Frasier**
- **W.R. Chapline Land Stewardship Award**-- Requires SRM membership and effective maintenance or improvement of range resources with lasting efforts. Includes honorarium.  
**2006 Recipient - Desert Land & Livestock: Gregg Simonds, Rick Danvir, Bill Hopkins**
- **W.R. Chapline Research Award**-- Requires SRM membership and exceptional and sustained research accomplishments related to rangelands. Includes honorarium.
  - **2006 Recipient - Dr. Gerald E. Schuman**
- **Fellow Award**-- Requires SRM membership, continuous for at least ten years, in recognition of service and contributions to the Society.
  - **2006 Recipients - None**
- **Outstanding Achievement Award**-- SRM membership not required. Awarded for outstanding achievement (eminently noteworthy) in any range management-related area. Organizations (e.g., agencies, commodity groups) are not eligible for this award. Teams, whose accomplishments are individually inseparable, are eligible.
  - The Outstanding Achievement Award has been subdivided into two groups: Research and Academia; and Stewardship (ranchers, agency professionals, consultants). Each group will be ranked separately. If enough nominations are not received in either group, then the balance to be awarded in any given year will be considered from the other group.
  - **2006 Research/Academia Recipients –**  
**Dr. Amitrajeet A. Batabyal**  
**Dr. Justin D. Derner**  
**Dr. Linda H. Hardesty**  
**Dr. M. Keith Owens**  
**Dr. Tony J. Svejcar**
  - **2006 Stewardship -**  
**P. Robert "Bob" Alexander**  
**Jeffery L. Printz**  
**Michel E. Tremblay**  
**Castleland Ranch: Ted & Olive Perrin**  
**Rangeland Health Team: Jeffrey E. Herrick, Mike L. Pellant, Dr. David A. Pyke, and Pat L. Shaver**
- **Outstanding Young Range Professional Award**-- Requires SRM membership and recognizes superior performance and leadership potential in any range-related area. Nominee must be less than 40 years of age on January 1st of the year the award is conferred.
  - **2006 Recipients - Jason C. Hohlt, Lee A. Knox, Melissa R. Teague**
- **Sustained Lifetime Achievement Award**-- Designed to recognize SRM members for long-term contributions to SRM and range management. Requires tangible evidence of outstanding lifetime contributions to the art and science of range management and continued SRM involvement at both the Section and Society levels.

# Memoirs of Vancouver



University of Alberta Range Team  
2<sup>nd</sup> High Team, Undergraduate Range Management Exam  
2<sup>nd</sup> High Team, Plant Identification Contest

Team Members: Tianna Magis, Kelty McIntyre, Kiley Gibson, Brenda Shawnessy, Dean Hystad, Darrin Sherritt. Presented by Angela Williams, President SRM



Dean Hystad  
1<sup>st</sup> High Individual Combined  
1<sup>st</sup> High Individual, URME  
5<sup>th</sup> High Individual, Plant ID



Brenda Shaughnessy  
3<sup>rd</sup> High Individual, Combined



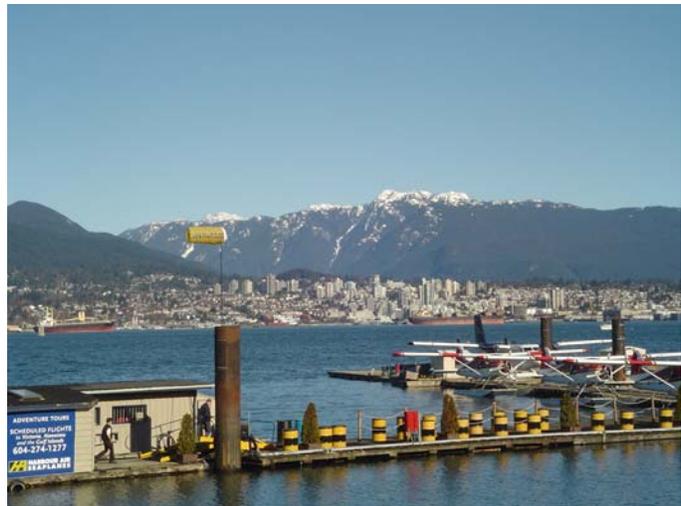
Future home of the communications centre for the 2010 winter Olympics in Vancouver harbour.



The west coast is known for its trees. This is an urban park in downtown Vancouver.



After a long week in symposia and sessions, a persons brain need some rest and blue sky to clear the air.



West Vancouver, across the harbour from downtown Vancouver, is one of the most heavily populated places on the globe.



If you are a kid from the prairies and suffer from boat envy, Vancouver harbour is a bad place to visit.



“Active Pass” on the ferry from Vancouver to Victoria is a place of active ocean current. Range types who can ID grasses out the truck window at 60 MPH, had difficulty telling seals from sea otters.



Totem poles and Thunder Birds are important icons in west coast Aboriginal People culture.



The “Monkey Tail” tree is a popular attraction at the Bouchart Gardens in Victoria on Vancouver Island. Just like a monkey, be careful if you grab it by the tail.