

NEWSLETTER

LOCATED IN BRESAYLOR • SASKATCHEWAN • CANADA
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2017

OPEN JULY & AUGUST • SUNDAY & WEDNESDAY - FRIDAY • 1-4 pm
& BY REQUEST WHEN POSSIBLE - MAY to OCTOBER

Dear Friends & Supporters of Bresaylor Heritage,

It seems that May turned to June rather quickly, and who would complain, but now June is in a hurry too.

Like many farmers this spring - behind in seeding due to a variety of reasons (ground too wet, late cold rains, combining of last year's crop, and, in some places, severe drought) - so we too are running late. More accurately, I, Velma, am running late. I can't exactly explain, but I have lost facility in carrying out tasks that once came easily, including writing. Slowing down is the annoying result. And that's my sorry.

Meanwhile, Maggie Webb, with her own busy schedule, including her only daughter's wedding this summer, is co-editing this Newsletter again. So, here we go with another season.

The main plans for the Museum this summer of '17 - to receive visitors generally, and, of course, to hold the Annual Pot Luck Supper (and Quilt raffle), **July 23**. This is the 150th year since Confederation and the 135 since the original Bresaylor Settlement.

The Paynton History Book Launch will be the main event in this part of the country - August 5-6. The Museum will be open for long hours both days to accommodate all who are interested. Museum Board members have been involved with the History Book in various ways.



REMEMBERED

The passing of long-time Board member, Ross Currie, was felt deeply by all.

The Celebration of Life Memorial held for Ross on June 30 at Paynton filled the gym to capacity, and the many friends and neighbours so gathered enjoyed a delicious Beef-

on-a-Bun supper served by the family. Daughter Robin shared some of the family's remembrances of life with her Dad, her own sense of humour added to that of his, both of the rather wicked kind, made for many outbursts of laughter. Cliff Murphy added his own tribute to longtime friend, Ross. And Jean McPherson, paid tribute to Ross's contribution to the Yellowhead Ramblers Band, who were present to play in his honour - their lead fiddler.

Now, a year later, Robin, Clint and Rosemary each continue operating a portion of the farm. We wish them all the best as they carry on with what was central to Ross Currie's life - farm and family. Not to forget, the other contributions Ross made to community life, mentioned in last year's newsletter. Rest in Peace, dear friend.

"Just a Farmer, you said, and I laughed 'cause I knew
All the things that farmers must be able to do.
They must study the land, then watch the sky
And figure just when is the right time and why.
To sow and to plant, to buy and to sell,
To go to market with cattle and well....
You know the books that farmers must keep
To pay all those taxes and be able to sleep.
And you know the fixin' that farmers must do
When machines like mad monsters break a gasket or two.
I guess when God needed folks to care for this earth
He chose "just farmers" cause he knew their true worth.

Marie Ferguson is co-compiler with Roxanne Valliere (Irene Larmour, and Enola Valliere, special helpers) a mammoth undertaking and a job well done. Other Board members have assisted when possible.

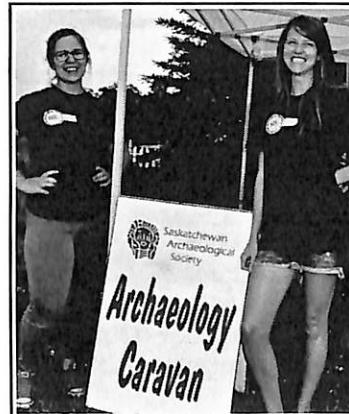
The Sayers family is planning a Reunion for the Sunday, August 6, at Paynton. The facility there is available and there is lots of room for camping. Other families are planning reunions too. I would encourage descendants of other original Bresaylor Settlement families (Taylors, Spences, Inksters, McDonalds etc.) to take this opportunity to have their own reunions, especially if they are planning to attend the book launching anyway.

We are most grateful for your letters and suggestions about the future of the Museum. That still remains undecided while we continue to edit, sort, record and try to make sound decisions about the Collection.

Have a pleasant summer, travel safely, and we look forward to seeing many of you at the Paynton History Book Launching and at the Bresaylor Museum.

On behalf of the Board of Directors - Don Ferguson & Marie Ferguson, Helena Caplette, Margaret Currie, Marion McDougall and Vicki Dutton
- We are, sincerely, Velma Foster & Maggie Webb.

The SASK Archaeological Society's travelling ArchaeoCaravan set up at the Museum on July 7. Estimated as many as 100 attended this event.



Helena Caplette served a Hotdog lunch, sponsored by Battleford Discovery Co-operative Ltd.



Nice bun, Kathy
Honolulu



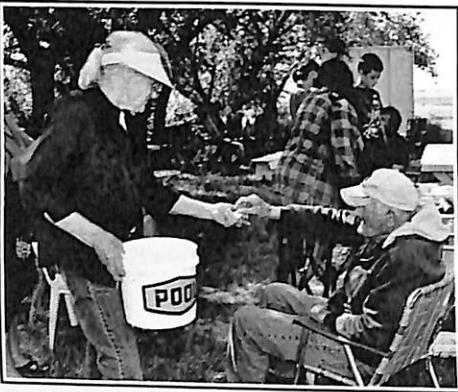
Also, the Clay Oven was fired up and some baking done under the supervision of **Mariann Taubensse**

POT LUCK SUPPER AND RAFFLES - JULY 24, 2016 WINNERS!

Wallace Gregson drew names for the early bird prizes on July 7 at the ArchaeoCaravan event.



2016 EARLY BIRD HALF-THE-POT DRAW WINNER - RACHEL CURRIE - \$73.



SUMMER QUILT RAFFLE: "Fancy Felines" was won by Ron Shaak of Delmas.

• Names drawn for complimentary tickets for the 2017 Raffle went to Shelley Sulz, Jill Bugg, Christine Pike, Rae Falcon, Helena Caplette, Leanne Huard, Herman Bremner, B. Chapman, Cooper Wakefield and Opal Taylor.

• \$20. Gift Certificate to someone present went to Eileen Lacoursiere.

WORDSEEK - WITH PIONEER FARE WORDS - A quote from the book "Out of Old Saskatchewan Kitchens" by Amy Jo Ehman:

"THEY GREW, RAISED, FORAGED, BARTERED, AND OFTEN DID WITHOUT. NOT THE 100 MILE DIET BUT THE HOME QUARTER DIET".

Those who solved the 2016 Wordseek - Bev Davis, Barbara Greig, Christine Pike, Helena Caplette, Nadine Parohl, John and Sharon Inkster. Nadine Parohl's name was drawn to win the prize, a copy of the book "Out of Old Saskatchewan Kitchens" donated by Margaret Currie.

Thank you to all who participated!

AND NOW 2017....EARLYBIRD 1/2 POT DRAW BY JULY 1, 2017

2017 QUILT RAFFLE - "FANCY FELINES" again.

Ron Shaak, winner of this quilt in 2016 has kindly donated the quilt back for re-ralle. (He liked the cats but the quilt was the wrong size for his bed. Better luck this year, Ron. And thank-you.)

This quilt was created by Marie Ferguson, Irene Larmour (in



photo), Faye Falcon, and Margaret Currie. (Regrets

that Faye and Margaret were not at the photo shoot.) Draw will take place at the Pot Luck Supper, July 23, 2017 at Bresaylor. (A book of 5 tickets is enclosed. More can be entered at your request.)

SUPPORTER CARD. At last years Annual Meeting, the Museum Board decided that the Supporter Card (promised for a long time now with a donation of \$5.) was no longer necessary, as it came with no particular benefits. So now a donation of \$10. or more will get you an official receipt and much appreciation. But no card.

FROM YOUR LETTERS: We have received many letters of encouragement about the future of the Museum. Special thanks for the interest, for the letters, the appreciation for the museum and for your hopes that it can continue. As usual, we seem to gather some new ones along the way. Welcome all.

• Writer Barbara Huck & Peter St. John, 9th Earle of the Orkneys, sent a helpful thought: "Your location is one good thing in your favour. Perhaps a really good coffee and light food spot would help...." From the hearts of Heartland Associates which continue to do well; their many fine books can be purchased on line. Check it out. • Mel Sundin drove from his home in Fairview, PA, to Malta, Montana, to attend his high school reunion in June of last year. His sister, Karen Perdreaux, was also attending her school reunion at the same time. Since she hadn't been to Bresaylor they decided to make a quick run to here from Malta. It was a pleasure to see Mel again and to meet his sister. Mel had, however, underestimated the distance to be covered, so, the quick trip to Bresaylor and back to Malta, added on to his drive back to Fairview, must have resulted in one tired traveller when he got home. We appreciate his continued interest in Bresaylor history and in taking the time to visit. Mel is still collecting information on Taylor, McDonald, Inkster, Spence and Ferguson families. His ancestor was Herbert Taylor, brother of the original Taylors, who left for the US. in the 1890s. The Colin McDonald's lost two more of their family in the past two years, leaving Mary (Siferd) and Lorraine (Fischer) the last of that generation. Their cousin, Grace (Dobie) Woodcock, pushing the 100 year mark, is still knitting and crocheting. Her 'Helping Hand' group "make things for children in hospitals...it's a good feeling to be still useful". Grace remembers when she first learned to knit; "The War broke out in '39 and the Red Cross sent bundles of karki yarn for us to knit socks for the army. We had the yarn but no needles. Offa Holmes had a bundle of wire the size of No. 11 needles so he cut sets of 4 needles for us all! I used them for years." Further she adds, "I hope all the people who want to keep the Museum are helping you." Glenys Oliver: "You all have a long row to hoe re: deciding the fate of your small

quaint and very interesting museum." "Good Luck." • Longtime supporter, Bertha Warner, it turns out, is a descendant of James Taylor, a younger brother of the original Bresaylor Settlement Taylors - Alex, David, Peter and Anne (Chisholm). James did accompany his siblings to this area but returned to Manitoba, and settled at St. Marks, MB.



We have asked Bertha to put together information on the James Taylor family for us. She is going blind from macular degeneration so this will take some time, and we do appreciate her effort. Ellis Taylor, grandson of the original David Taylor, turned 90 in March of last year. We understand his wife, Dorothy has passed away but we have no dates as of this time.

The famous McDougall Memorial United Church near Morley, AB, burned down May 22, 2017. The church was built in 1875 as part of the mission established by the Reverend George McDougall. That news was especially disappointing to Doug & Colleen Young. Doug's grandfather, George Young's, father Factor Harrison Young, was married to Elizabeth McDougall, daughter of the Reverend. And, an interesting connection to Ste. Anne's Church, Bresaylor; that same George Young married Kate Chisholm, daughter of Alex and Anne (Taylor) Chisholm. Kate's sister, Anne Chisholm, was married to George Stephenson, the architect who designed Ste. Anne's Church. Is that complicated enough!

Ste. Anne's Church update, Velma Foster.

Some of you will recall my having purchased the church (in 1974) and that by the end of the '70s it had become my studio and living space. That is, until the tornado of 1989 left it uninhabitable and in need of major repair. I was not able to afford the repairs necessary to prevent major deterioration of the building over the years. But, I still

hope that it may be possible to restore it.

Howard La Clare of Vawn, just across the N. Sask. River, is interested in taking on the job. He is doing repair work to All Saints Church, Langmeade, which was moved to a new foundation last fall. It is being restored.

As I have written elsewhere, I have always been grateful that the church did not disintegrate during that 1989 twister. Everything I owned at the time would have been scattered with the wind, including a collection of art works, my own and some by more gifted than me. Now, I hope to put that collection to good purpose, helping raise the funds necessary to take Ste. Anne's to an advanced recovery. If that act seems like folly, then I would put it up against many others going on in so many places in the world at this time. Frank Korvemaker, Archivist / Construction Historian, visited the church in 2015 and has completed a detailed report on the building - its history and current condition - with guidelines for restoration should it take place. In conclusion, he wrote, "Cosmetically, Ste. Anne's Church appears to be in sad repair. However, on closer inspection the overall structure appears to be sound, and the building can be straightened and repaired."

I appreciate this encouragement by one with such credentials. A note about his legacy (check out more on line) - two co-authored books, well worth a look are: "Legacy of Stone" — Saskatchewan's Stone Buildings" by Margaret Hryniuk & Frank Korvemaker, photographs by

Larry Easton. 2008.

"Legacy of Worship: Sacred Places in Rural Saskatchewan" by Margaret Hryniuk, Frank Korvemaker, Larry Easton Coteau Books, published 2014.

THE METIS ELECTION

Submitted by Judy Jamison

The Metis Election was held on May 27th with over 5000 people voting. According to 2011 census, 50,000 people stated they were Metis. It was a disappointing turnout from that perspective. However, many factors played into it. Too many candidates running for the right reason, but split the vote, too many events like grad etc. on Election day, as well as being on a Saturday. Western Region 1A had a low voter turnout, but many expressed being disillusioned from past election corruption! As well the majority of voters did not know anything about the candidates, and our region did not host a candidates forum.

Although this election was conducted by the federal government and chose election officials with great care, no money was spent on advertising.

Hopefully, the president elect heard and will act on the many concerns voters had at the several forums they did have throughout the province.

I hope and pray we can bring back pride to the Metis Nation of Saskatchewan and honour our ancestors!



Natasha (born Stoesser), adopted the married name Platt. Natasha is the daughter of Dale (Cote) & Othmar Stoesser of Calgary. June (Sayers) and Adrien Cote are her grandparents. When she separated and divorced she pondered over her name and was looking for a stage name, all about the same time. Reflecting on her own life and looking at the depth of history in all family names, Natasha chose the name Sayers dropping the "s" which was the original version of the name.

"The name Sayer had 2 syllables and began with an "S" like Stoesser. She explains, "Sayer as a name represents a story teller and a teacher!" And that is how Natasha sees herself and her life, and this is reflected in her music.

"The first nation people called music 'Medicine,'" Natasha explains. "I believe in the medicine of music." In her songs she tells of the passages of life and many themed stories. The Sayer name fit her. In addition to being a teller, the name honours the heritage of the family and the history of western Canadian Metis. The following is from Natasha's Bio:

"Songwriter, vocalist and multi-instrumentalist Natasha Sayer has been writing music since she was a very young girl. In the opening track of her new album "Notes to Self", Natasha remembers composing melodies, imagining notes dancing between 'Telephone Pole Barlines' on epic car rides to Saskatchewan around the age of six. She currently performs with two local bands: harmony favourites *Magnolia Buckskin* and eclectic indie pop group *The Fragments*. She is known for her powerful vocals, unforgettable melodies and her ability to engage an audience. Her children's album, "Big Bad Bantam Rooster" was nominated for a 2009

Natasha Sayer

in all family names, Natasha chose the name Sayers dropping the "s" which was the

Canadian Folk Music Award. Natasha is an elementary school music teacher who enjoys motorcycling, roller derby and lake swimming. She lives in Calgary with her two daughters Priya and Seren."

Her most recent album "Notes to Self" reflects her deep understanding of orchestral composition, and passages of life. With boundless energy for life, Natasha is now working on two albums at the moment, one a children's album!

Her music will be available for purchase in the museum gift shop and at the Sayers Family Reunion. Check out her website at natashasayer.com and on Facebook!

Paynton History Book

Paynton Through the Years

SAVE THE DATE: August 5/6, 2017!

PAYNTON IS HAVING A PARTY!

We invite everyone home to celebrate Canada's 150th birthday AND to launch Paynton's first ever history book! The weekend will include a musical presentation on Saturday afternoon, a catered meal for Saturday's supper, a pancake breakfast on Sunday morning, children's activities and a lot of time for visiting. Please join us!

You must pre-register! To do so, or to order a book or CD contact:

Enola Valliere 306-893-8002
Marie Ferguson 306-895-4825
payntonhistorybook@outlook.com



"FARM LIFE QUILT" .The Farm Life Quilt came into being in the 1930s. For 25 weeks in 1939 the Winnipeg Free Press Weekly printed one 6-inch square design of a farm animal or farm scene in its newspaper. These squares could be copied and embroidered and when all 25 were assembled, made into a quilt - a Farm Life Quilt. That year the grade 8 and 9 girls in Miss Julie Tierney's class made a Farm Life Quilt and raffled it off to raise money for the Red Cross. The quilt was won by Mrs. Bob (Gertrude) Inkster. In 1998 her daughter, the late Bev (Inkster) Frontain, donated it to the Bresaylor Museum.

A newly created Farm Life Quilt will be available for auction at the Paynton Homecoming. This quilt will be on display at the Paynton History Book Launch, August 5-6.



Margaret Currie working on the quilt to be auctioned.

The descendants of Henry Sayers are gathering for a family reunion on Sunday, August 6, 2016 at the Paynton School Grounds. This event will also be running along side the Paynton History Book launch being held on August 5, 2017 with a pancake breakfast the morning of August 6, 2017. They plan to have a complete SAYERS family tree and a bit of history of the whole Sayers family. On Facebook there is an event created under SAYERS FAMILY REUNION (2017)- 135 years, please share with everyone who is a descendant of Henry Sayers. Contact person for this event is Roxanne Valliere call or text (306) 895-3002, email: rockie_road15@hotmail.com, or Facebook message her.

• OBITUARIES •

Terrence Mitchell
March 13, 1947 – May 30, 2012

Donald Allen Rahrick
d. April 24, 2015

Audrey (Dymott) Kari
d. September 2015

Gordon McDonald
April 21, 1937 – December 15, 2015

Phenetta 'Penny' (nee Griffith) Chalowski
January 7, 1925 – March 16, 2016

June (McDonald) Johnstone
June 18, 1930 – June 02, 2016

Edna Meryl (nee Scott) Marynowski
d. November 10, 2016 @ 94 years

Elizabeth 'Betty' (Currie) Churchman
November 16, 1920 – October 11, 2016

June Spence (da. Rev. Ahab Spence)
d. December 5, 2016

Jean Paul Cote
December 8, 1928 – December 30, 2016

Joseph Alfred Wilson
September 26, 1927 – April 7, 2017

Roy Chiliback
d. May 4, 2017 @ 45 years

Maurice Prince
d. May 10, 2017 @ 86 years

Cecelia (Sayers) Bradley
September 16, 1932 – May 29, 2017



Congratulations to the **Lashburn Centennial Museum** on their 50th Anniversary! They held a celebration on June 10/11 with many exciting events. To list a few, a parade, music, cake and ice cream, supper and family dance, and Sunday breakfast and Cowby Church.

The **Lashburn Centennial Museum** takes pride in hosting a display titled "**Modesty and Respect: Religious Headdressing**" The topic of religious headdressing is one that everyone loves to have an opinion about, but almost no one fully understands.

This exhibition takes the opportunity to present the general tenets of a variety of world religions—all of which are represented right here in Saskatchewan—and how and why members of these groups might choose to express their beliefs through headdressing. This display is at the museum from May 26-June 25. Tours are available, contact Kathy at 306-285-7288 or Email: lashburnmuseum@gmail.com



IT'S HARD TO BRING A GOOD MAN DOWN—BUT IT CAN BE DONE!!

The Odyssey Of Cleophus Sayer(s) And His Family by Reg Wearley

"The Indians came and kidnapped us and took us to their camp. When my father found out what happened he went to the camp and talked them out of killing us. But they cut all of our hair off, gave us a team and wagon and told us to leave"

My grandmother (Rose Marie Elizabeth Sayer(s) Wearley) was about seven years old when this happened to her family. She told me the story when I was staying with her for a time when I was an early teenager. I remember that story very well and I can still see her in her rocking chair, looking out of her West window next to a small Coleman oil heater and smoking her pipe filled with Velvet tobacco. The story has haunted me for many years.

It must have been a rough and terrifying ride for the mother and her three children. The "Indians" were all dressed in war paint and yelling and whooping, as she recalls the ride. Likewise, the ride that Cleophus made had to be made fast as he was well aware of what might happen to his family and not even knowing if a tragedy had not already happened to them. He, too, had to have been terrified.

Cleophus Sayer, along with his brother Henry, the Bremmers, the Taylors and others were the first to settle and develop the Bresaylor area. He owned a homestead, built a large home in Bresaylor, and also had a trading post and livery stable in Battleford. He had previously set up a trading post in Qu'Appelle before leaving that area and migrating Westward. Note about this story. He seemed to be quite entrepreneurial and was a good businessman. Life was good for all in the Bresaylor area until the mid 1880's when the Riel Rebellion got well underway.

As I began to research my grandmothers' history it quickly became clear that there was very little mention of her father, Cleophus Sayer. I was curious about that and as I searched it became clear, based upon my grandmothers story, that he had actually taken his "history" with him when he was forced to rapidly flee, not only the Bresaylor area, but also Saskatchewan.

It was during the Rebellion that things fell apart for Cleophus family. Just why his family was kidnapped and were forced to

flee Saskatchewan we do not know. Why no other Bresaylor families were forced to leave we do not know. What I do know, or am convinced to be true, is that my grandmother's memory was quite accurate. The Rebellion was about at its worst. She said that their farm was 10 or 12 miles from the "Indian camp". Cleophus' farm is approximately that far from Poundmakers Camp. The knowledge of what happened at Frog Lake was very fresh in everybody's mind. Unprovoked killing could happen anywhere at anytime.

So it is not hard to imagine that Cleophus understood how serious his situation was. One can understand the terror that he must have felt as he and his family, in utter humiliation and intimidation, left "the Indian Camp". From what I have been able to find he was a popular and respected man. He had one of the larger houses in the area and so probably had many gatherings there. He and the Bremmers were very close and I cannot imagine Cleophus not having a hand in the operation of the Bremmers Trading Post which was located between Cleophus farm and his brother Henry's farm. One can only imagine the frame of mind he must have had in leaving everything he had worked for that was being taken from him in an instant. He had to be terrified as he fled for the safety of his family. In fleeing for their lives they essentially took their history with them. Very little history of Cleophus Sayer(s) is to be found in the currant Bresaylor history as a result. He left no family there to develop such a history. I hope that in some way this 'Odyssey' will enter the Cleophus Sayer(s) story into the Bresaylor history archives. It deserves to be there.

It is unclear how the family made their way clear into Montana. With no money or possessions the trip had to nothing short of heroic to say the least. The family located in Box Elder, Montana, which later became the center of the Rocky Boy Reservation. Cleophus never saw Saskatchewan again and in a very few years was so mentally debilitated that he had to be sent to the mental institution in Warm Springs where he died in 1887, a destitute and broken man. A good man "brought down" through no acts of his own. Many thanks go to Velma Foster, Bill and Helena Caplette and Diane Wilson for generously sharing their time and knowledge with me. Thanks also go to those in charge of the historical archives in Saskatoon, SK.

Some time ago Reg Wearley sent me, "Odyssey Of Cleophus Sayer(s) And His Family," and asked me to comment on it. Now, here it is, Museum Newsletter time and I still haven't sent him my personal thoughts on his account of events.

But, perhaps it's a good time to share this story. Someone else might have new insights or perhaps information about Cleophus Sayers that might be of help to Reg. And, with the Sayers family having a reunion this August, we will certainly see that everyone there will have received a copy. We will be pleased to print any new insights and information in the next newsletter.

Perhaps we will not find a definitive answer to Reg's queries, but we will have given thought to the events of that time, to the Rebellion, and too, how so many were affected by it.

Velma Foster

NOTABLE SASKATCHEWANIANS

DICK ASSMAN

SARAH BINKS

BRENT BUTT

J. DIEFENBAKER

JOE FAFARD

T. C. DOUGLAS

G. TOOTOOSIS

GORDIE HOWE

SINCLAIR ROSS

CONNIE KALDOR

A. LINKLETTER

J. WRIGHT

J. MITCHELL

R. ING

T. MASLANY

D	R	E	K	A	R	N	E	F	E	I	D	J	S
T	I	T	R	I	N	G	L	R	I	W	J	O	E
T	T	C	Y	C	H	I	E	I	W	S	M	E	S
U	M	D	K	P	E	H	A	D	R	I	I	F	O
B	A	O	I	A	C	G	R	E	I	N	T	A	O
T	S	U	L	S	S	N	S	R	G	C	C	F	T
N	L	G	S	E	H	S	S	E	H	L	H	A	O
E	A	L	T	I	N	T	A	M	I	T	A	E	R
R	N	A	K	T	O	G	E	A	S	I	L	D	T
G	Y	5	N	E	G	H	O	O	N	R	L	N	G
A	L	I	N	K	L	E	T	T	E	R	R	D	P
C	O	N	N	I	E	K	A	L	D	O	R	E	S
E	W	O	H	E	I	D	R	O	G	S	I	S	F
S	K	N	I	B	H	A	R	A	S	S	A	Y	O

WORDSEEK CHALLENGE by Margaret Curie, 2017.

The names on the list appear in the puzzle forward, backward, horizontally, vertically, diagonally. Circle the letters as you find each name. Then all the leftover letters are needed to complete the quote. Vowels are given, spaces for missing letters. Good luck.

SASKATCHEWAN... A _ O _ I _ I _

..... I E E E E

..... A O E I A E

..... O O E I E