

THE CANORA CHRONICLE

"Preserving Railway Heritage for Community and Economic Benefits"



Canadian Northern Society
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Dominion of Canada
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Annual Potluck Dinner

Big Valley Historical Society—Canadian Northern Society community potluck dinner will be held on April 1, 2006. Mark your calendars now!

Don't miss this annual feast. Everyone is invited. Bring a dish of your choice and enjoy the fellowship and fantastic home-made cooking of 'small town Alberta.'

Supper begins at 6 p.m. Join us for pre-dinner fellowship at 5:15 p.m. Please let Fran Stuber know at (403) 876-2349 if you are attending to coordinate the dishes and the numbers to prepare for. *See you there!*

Annual Meeting

Canadian Northern (Meeting Creek) Historical Society will hold its annual general meeting and election of officers on Saturday, April 29, 2006. The meeting will be held at the Meeting Creek station beginning at 1:30 p.m. All are welcome.

Nominations for the following positions are now being accepted: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Directors. Nominations may be provided in advance to the Secretary, Canadian Northern Society, Box 142, Big Valley, Alberta, T0J 0G0 or secretary@canadiannorthern.ca.

There will be a clean-up work bee at the station prior to the meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. A lunch will be served for volunteers prior to the annual meeting. Please join us if you can!

Grain Elevator Web Site

The Alberta Grain Elevator society has launched a new web site: www.grainelevators-alberta.ca. We encourage our members to visit the site. It contains some excellent information on Alberta's remaining grain elevators, including the Meeting Creek and Big Valley site.

Grand Opening

The official opening of the Canadian Railway Hall of Fame Pavilion Site at Big Valley, Alberta, is Saturday, May 27, 2006 at 5:00 p.m.

You are welcome to join us in Big Valley for our opening ceremony. We will be joined by patrons from a regular Alberta Prairie Railway Excursion Train. For those who wish to experience a "ride into the past", we have booked a block of tickets aboard the steam-powered train that will depart Stettler, Alberta, at 2:20 p.m. on May 27, arriving in Big Valley for the opening ceremony and a barbeque beef dinner. The train will return to Stettler at 7:25 p.m. Please e-mail your RSVP to sismith@cable-lynx.net should you and a guest wish to enjoy this special opportunity to 'travel by train to Big Valley.'

For further information and details, please visit the Canadian Northern web site at www.canadiannorthern.ca or call Shawn Smith at (780) 608-0183.

The society is seeking volunteers to help set up hall of fame signage on Saturday, May 13, at Big Valley, at 10:30 a.m. Volunteers who can help put the finishing touches on the Railway Hall of Fame pavilion prior to its dedication on May 27 are welcomed.

Along These Lines Book and DVD

Limited numbers still available! *Along These Lines* books and our special Centennial edition *Along These Lines* DVD.

Please contact Brent Cheek for more information or to order these great centennial items.

Brent Cheek - Phone: (780) 448-5885
E-mail: brent.cheek@railamerica.com

With the DVD now available to complement the book this makes a perfect gift for any railway enthusiast!

Acknowledgements

Sincere thanks to all members who gave cash donations with their membership renewals:

R.N. Coleman, Calgary, AB
Clayton F. Jones, Surrey, BC
Mrs. M.C. Didrichsen and Finn Didrichsen, Stettler, AB
Murray and Carol Roy, Camrose, AB
Mrs. Marlene Tiegs, Stettler, AB
Donald J. McCartney, Toronto, ON
Carl W. Leaman, Westport, Connecticut USA
Mia Mather, New York, New York, USA

Member Mrs. Nancy J. Westland of Englewood, Colorado, sends best wishes to the Canadian Northern Society for a great 2006 with a special hello to long-time member and friend Ron Bailey.

Charles Bohi of White River Jct., Vermont, USA, writes "You people do great work. I'm glad to be associated with you." Thank you Chuck—your society appreciates your long-time support as well. Many of our members will know Chuck as the co-author with our own Les Kozma of a wide range of railway historical publications, including the all-time favourite *Canadian National's Western Depots*.

Thank you to Rick Kargaard of Big Valley for his donation of the sump pump and plastic hose, part of the continuing upgrade of the basement mechanical and water shed systems in the Big Valley station.

Sincere thanks to Community Pride supporter Lorne Parkin of Big Valley for his generous donation to the Canadian Railway Hall of Fame Pavilion.

Thank you to Bruce and Glenys Smith who donated their Alberta Prosperity Cheques to the society. Thank you to Shawn I. Smith for a similar donation.

A note from Mike Westren:
Calgary, January 26, 2006

Please find enclosed a renewal for 2006 plus a cash contribution for the Canadian Northern Society.

I would like to comment on the success of an ancillary event, the Calgary Free-mo Model Railway Weekend in early August (held in Big Valley), a brilliant idea! A strong suggestion was made at Heritage Park Railway Days in Calgary in July that "guest appearances" would be welcomed. A few of us from South Bank Short Lines club decided to accept the offer. My own experience kind of went as follows.

Helene and I arrived on the Saturday morning, in motorhome STEAM, even if diesel powered, bringing with us an HO-scale rendition of the Alaska Railroad flag train the *Denali Star*. Our expectation had been, quite honestly, to make a couple of runs, pack up our train to make room for others before we outlived our welcome, and carry on our merry way. The "honorary dispatcher", however, kept calling for "The Alasks." The upshot was that we finally departed Big Valley late afternoon on Sunday! Make no

mistake, this is not a complaint. We fully intend to be back this year, it is already firmly marked on the calendar. Events like this can only be good for the rail movement as a whole: well done to everyone concerned.

(Editor's note: The dispatcher must be Harry Stuber—he is the man behind the event for the Canadian Northern Society. Thanks, Harry!)

Welcome New Members

The society would like to welcome new members:

- Alice Kittler, Mirror, AB
- Mickeal Noon-Ward, Big Valley, AB
- Valhalla Filtration, Big Valley, AB
- Granny's Fudge Factory, Big Valley, AB
- Shirley Berri, Big Valley, AB
- Darcy Greig, Big Valley, AB
- Doug Brown, Big Valley, AB
- Robert Authenac, Big Valley, AB
- Wayne Fraser, Big Valley, AB
- Ester Kargaard, Big Valley, AB
- Ernie Petrusa, Big Valley, AB
- Don Saar, Big Valley, AB
- Allan Saar, Big Valley, AB
- Rod Catorior, Big Valley, AB
- Mel and Lois Millier, Big Valley, AB
- Big Valley Café, Big Valley, AB
- Bernie Penner, Stettler, AB
- Action Plumbing, Stettler, AB
- Lloyd and Helen Smith, Stettler, AB
- Bernie Gaboury, Trochu, AB
- Ken Dobos, Camrose, AB
- Ted and Carol Rawson, Camrose, AB
- Kurt Bagdan, Camrose, AB
- Shelly Simpson, Camrose, AB
- Merv and Anna Mae Domanko, Camrose, AB
- Don Rowe, Strome, AB

*Thank You
for your
support!*



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*Proud supporter and volunteer of the Canadian Northern Society
and the design and layout of this publication!*

design@whaletailgraphics.ca

www.whaletailgraphics.ca

Camrose Railway Station and Park 2006 Themed Events

From Saturday of the long weekend in May until Saturday of the long weekend in September, enjoy the Camrose Railway Station and site. The station and historic site buildings are open Monday through Saturday. The Tearoom is open Thursday and Friday 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. for tea and goodies and Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. for lunch, tea and goodies. The tearoom can be booked for group lunches, garden or historic tours, adult and children's groups on the days the tearoom is not open. All donations and food sale profits go directly into the station and site maintenance, restoration and historic programming. Don't forget to visit the Camrose Centennial Museum and historic downtown Camrose.

May 20 OPENING DAY

Pioneer Lunch, Tea and Goodies 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

May 25 and 26

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

May 27

PIONEER GARDEN THEMED LUNCH 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Event: Grandparent/Parent Child Planting Day
starting at 10 a.m.

June 1 and 2

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

June 3

PIONEER LUNCH 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

June 8 and 9

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

June 10

PIONEER THEMED GERMAN LUNCH 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

June 22 and 23

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

June 24

PIONEER THEMED LUNCH 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Tribute to Icelandic Immigrants. Artifacts and stories of an
Immigrant Icelandic family.

June 29 and 30

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

July 1

PIONEER LUNCH (DOMINION DAY) EVENT
*Annual Yard Sale across the alley west of the station at
4621 45 Street, Camrose*
Sale Times: Friday 9 a.m.–6 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

July 6 and 7

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

July 8

Old Fashioned Garden Party and Chocolate Festival,
1–6 p.m. Live band and outdoor dance floor. Train Circus
Theme this year with rides on Jeppa's train. Crafts and
games for young and old. *Enter a chocolate item in the
contest for prizes.* Enjoy a variety of tea biscuits, fruit
breads, chocolate and other tea items. Ice cream,
beverage, food and events included in price of ticket.
Purchase at gate or ahead of time. Call 672-3099.

July 13 and 14

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

July 15

PIONEER LUNCH THEME—'The Railway Beanery.'

July 20 and 21

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

July 22

PIONEER LUNCH THEME—Tribute to Heather Brae
Immigrants featuring the McDonald Family. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

July 27 and 28

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

July 29

CLOSED FOR BIG VALLEY JAMBOREE

August 3 and 4

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

August 5

PIONEER WAR TIME LUNCH THEME—'Tribute to the War
Years' featuring the music coordinated by Morley Riske.
sing along with Dolores Schultz, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

August 10 and 11

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

August 12

PIONEER LUNCH THEME—Tribute to our Polish Immigrants,
10 a.m.–5 p.m. Story and poetry with Edith Jensen at 2 p.m.

August 17 and 18

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

August 19

First Nation LUNCH THEMED CAMROSE FOUNDER'S
DAY. 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

August 24 and 25

Tea and Goodies 1–5 p.m.

August 26

PIONEER LUNCH THEME UKRAINIAN BUFFET.
10 a.m.–5 p.m.

August 31 and Sept. 1

Tea and Goodies 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

September 2

PIONEER LUNCH 10 a.m.–5 p.m. *Last Day of Regular
Opening. Thank you for your patronage.*

Camrose Highlights

A work bee was held on January 31. Carol Roy sewed labels onto hats, conductor suits, etc., and acquisition numbers were put on the labels. A start was made by Shelly on relabelling the artifacts with a new, more permanent system using a liquid label material and sealer. We will continue to work on this project over time. Bill Douglas and Bruce worked on sealing paper archives. Murray Roy sorted past *Chronicles* and organized binders. Carol Rawson, Dorthy Lysons and Gladys Douglas housecleaned and reorganized the kitchen. Thanks to Dorothy for her wonderful fresh muffins.

The Valentine Victorian supper was a great success. Brett Brown of the *Camrose Booster* did a wonderful article explaining our kitchen project as well as the event. The supper was a gourmet meal in beautiful Victorian surroundings decorated by Carol Roy. Linden Olson played his classical guitar through the meal. Five of the Augustana Choir members sang for a half hour after supper. I would like to thank the volunteers who came and prepared the meal and assisted with set up and serving: Murray and Carol Roy, Anna Mae Domenko, Bill and Gladys Douglas, Bruce Smith, and Dorothy Lysons.

The Saint Patrick's supper will be held on March 17 this year. We are serving a new menu and the sing-along will be led by Dolores Schultz. It is always a fun evening.

I would like to acknowledge the wonderful contribution of Cathie Murray over the last few years. Cathie wrote our cookbook, which is now being revised as we sold them all and have orders for more. Her inspiration, knowledge, and competence in food preparation was a great asset. Cathie's wonderful sense of humour and patience has added enjoyment to our volunteers' and students' time at the station. We sincerely thank her for all that she has done.

Rebecca Bridger has her own catering business, but has agreed to prepare food at the station for events and our summer themed meals. We will be having baking bees to make pies, muffins and cookies prior to opening the Tearoom. They will be on May 10, 11, and 12. If you can help please call the station at (780) 672-3099.

We are already well booked with workshops, group bookings and children's programs for the spring. I will be giving a workshop on setting up children's programs here at the station to the museums who belong to CREAM on April 25. It will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thank you to Gladys Douglas for hosting a pyrogy-making afternoon on March 1 at her home. The pyrogies will be frozen for our Ukrainian day in August.

Thank you Helen Kitchen who has been phoning for meetings, etc. This is a great help to us.

Student applications are in to SCAP and STEP. Both our students have agreed to come back if we are successful with the grants. The City of Camrose has agreed to pay a 10-hour-a-week position for administration for Camrose Railway Station. Shelly Simpson will be our new administrator. Shelly has a degree in anthropology and comes well prepared for this position. We want to sincerely

thank the City of Camrose and all the work Lloyd Johnson went to on our behalf to attain this position. This will free up more time for me to be in the garden and to coordinate volunteers and programs.

The Alberta Museums Affirmation program has taken considerable time to complete. We must now prove every 5 years that we meet the definition of museum in order to attain funding through their organizations. Meeting Creek and Big Valley have chosen not to apply, related to the large amount of work involved.

We want to thank the following organizations for their funding of projects this summer and the people who are already working on the projects' preparation. We have received: \$24,700 from the Alberta government's Community Facility Enhancement Grant for our kitchen addition and platform replacement. Monies made from the casino on March 23 and 24 will go to match the grant. The Battle River Community Foundation donated \$500 toward the walkways and pergola to the north station garden. An interpretive sign is being made for the Station Garden. Murray Roy is building a trellis chair to be placed by the shrub bed to which the path will lead. Bruce will facilitate the building of the walkway and pergola.

Alberta Museums donated \$269 toward the repair of the CN push cars. The Wildrose Antique Collectors have approved the \$2000 for the repair and shingling of the tool house roof. Rob Stagg will complete this in this summer.

I would like to acknowledge the following donations of time and materials. Bruce Smith for painting, repair and reorganizing the waiting room and operator's office, Murray Roy for repairing the drawers to the agent's ticket wicket, Carol Roy for sewing of aprons and pinafores, paper products from Helen Kitchen, potatoes for booked group dinners by Carol and Ted Rawson, small portable oven, Mixmaster, baking pans by Glenys Smith, large tablecloths donated by Robbie O'Riordan and Sharlene Ravensborg, and \$800 toward the replacement of the station upstairs windows by Bruce and Glenys Smith.

We are planning a work bee day on April 29 at Meeting Creek. We will supply the hot dogs and lunch. Come along and enjoy the history and fun of working together in this beautiful setting.

Glenys Smith

About The Chronicle

The Canora Chronicle is the quarterly newsletter of the Canadian Northern Society—a registered charity dedicated to providing community service through heritage tourism initiatives.

The editors may be contacted through the Canadian Northern headquarters (see page 1) or directly at their home:

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