



Mark Your Calendars!

Please take note and mark your calendars to attend the following:

Saturday, April 25

Meeting Creek station and elevator annual clean up, begins at 10:30 am.

Saturday, May 2

Big Valley Historical Society's Annual Potluck Dinner. All volunteers and supporters of the Historical Society and the Canadian Northern Society are warmly invited to bring a dish to the event and join in the fellowship. Dinner to be held at 6 pm.

Saturday, May 23

Annual General Meeting and election of Officers, Camrose Railway Station. Meeting begins at 1:00 pm. Deadline for nominations will be May 22 for the positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and four Director positions. Nominations can be sent to Dean Tiegs, Secretary.

July 31 to August 2

Big Valley Homecoming

Friday, August 7 & Sat., August 8

Camrose Founder's Days

Saturday, October 3

Meeting Creek Harvest Festival, details to be announced at a later date.

Fort Saskatchewan Station Declared Historic



Fort Saskatchewan Canadian Northern Station, July 2007.

Photo courtesy of S.I. Smith.

At 103 years of age, Fort Saskatchewan's Canadian Northern Railway Station has officially been declared a provincial historic resource, according to a provincial news release just before Christmas. Last March, city council gave its blessing to Tourism, Parks, Recreation and Culture to designate the station as a historic resource. According to the Heritage Resources Management Information System's website, the Canadian Northern Railway station is the only existing example in Alberta of a railway station built according to the railway company's 100-19 plan—a standard station plan first introduced in 1904. The stations were considered "special stations" placed only at significant points on the line. The Fort's CN Station is now home to the Fort Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Other sites declared historic resources at the same time as the local CN station include the Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator and the CP railway station in Paradise Valley, Strathcona Collegiate Institute in Edmonton, the Alberta Wheat Pool Grain Elevator and Bow Slope Stockyard in Scandia, the Isolation Hospital in Lethbridge, the St. Ambrose Anglican Church in Redcliff and the Whitecourt/Woodlands Meteorite Impact Crater.

(Fort Saskatchewan Record, Jan 6, 2009)

AN ARCHIVING PROJECT

Is anyone interested in preparing a list of all the archival railway and related periodicals that the Canadian Northern Society has collected over the years? The collection features *Railroad* and *Trains* magazines that date back to the 1940s. Over the last year, these magazines have been initially sorted and placed into plastic storage containers, now being stored in the Big Valley depot. If you are interested in sorting these magazines better and compiling a list, please contact the society.

Acknowledgements

The Canadian Northern Society expresses its sincere appreciation to the following for their generous cash donations:

- R.A. (Bob) Spencer of North Vancouver
- Gus Annas of Hanna
- Carl Leaman of Westport, CT
- James E. Lanigan of Calgary
- Mrs. Marlene Tiegs of Stettler - Marlene's donation is in memory of Lorrie Tiegs' father, Mr. Jerry Chaher.
- Carol and Murray Roy of Camrose
- Glenys and Bruce Smith of Camrose - In memory of Helen and Lloyd Kitchen.
- Shawn, Karen, Liam and Adam Smith of Camrose - In memory of Jerry Chaher.
- Les and Donna Langille of Stettler
- Finn and Mrs. M.C. Didrichsen of Stettler

- Ray Taylor of Bashaw
- Janine Carroll of Camrose
- Leslie S. Kozma of Edmonton
- Clayton and Ruth Jones of Surrey
- Dean and Lorrie Tiegs of Edmonton
- Donald J. McCartney of Toronto
- Mike Westren of Calgary

YOUR SUPPORT IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

The Canadian Northern Society extended its deepest sympathy to Dean and Lorrie Tiegs upon the passing of Lorrie's dad, Jerry Chaher of Kelliher, on January 17, 2009. Your executive sent a floral tribute to the Tiegs and Chaher families, and several memorial donations have been received by the society in memory of Jerry.

From the Canadian Northern Mail Bag

Canora Railway Station News:

The society received a letter recently providing an update on the activities of the fine folks who operate the Canadian Northern Railway Station Museum in Canora, Saskatchewan. They thanked our society for the support that we provide in covering the costs of on-going liability insurance for the operation of the heritage 1904 station each year.

Joy Stusek of the committee writes that the Canora group has recently applied for a grant to develop a storage area for their various displays at the station. They now have developed a large collection of local pioneer artifacts, including a long-distance switchboard originally used in the Canora telephone office. They conducted several events in 2008 including an open house and a hot dog sale during Communities in Bloom week. They also held a well-attended Christmas decoration sale.

The group is looking forward to the proposed re-building of Fort Livingston and Fort Pelly in the area (founded by the explorer Henry

Kelsey in the 18th century and later capital of the North-West Territories 1876-77). This historic site will no doubt draw additional visitors to the Canora region—and will provide an opportunity for the station to be showcased to the public.

Best wishes Canora for a great 2009 and keep in touch with us.

Member Mike Westren writes: "Congratulations on the work the Canadian Northern Society has done, and herewith my token continuing encouragement (thanks for the donation, Mike). The community and Alberta Prairie involvement is so vital to this success, including events like the annual Alberta Free-Mo (model) Meet held in Big Valley every August."

Carl Leaman of Westport, CT remarked "Keep up the Good Work! I really hope to visit some day."

On a similar note, long time member Chuck Bohi of White River Jct. VT says "Thanks for ALL your hard work, it's truly appreciated!"

Allan Johnston of Big Valley provided compliments to Lorrie Tiegs on her "concise, well-written, and well-designed information letter that accompanied the annual renewal forms. Keep up the great work." (Also thanks to Shawn Smith and Dean Tiegs for making that membership letter a success.)

R.A. (Bob) Spencer of North Vancouver writes that "I had an opportunity to drive by several of the Society's sites last September and they certainly look to be in good shape. No time for a visit—but maybe next year. Best wishes and good luck for 2009."

Thank you to all of our Canadian Northern members and friends of the society for your support!

Camrose Happenings and Summer Event Schedule

Upcoming special events include:

April 4 - Easter Egg Hunt and Hot Cross Bun Tea, 2:00 - 4:30 pm

April 11 - Storytelling Workshop, Developing a Historical Character, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

We are in need of people to assist with two upcoming workshops that require lunches on March 4 and March 25. Please let us know if you can help.

May 16 - Tea Room opens for the season. We will be open Mondays through Saturdays, with the Tearoom open Thursdays and Fridays 1 - 5 pm for tea and goodies; and on Saturdays 10:00 am - 5:00 pm for lunch, tea and goodies.

May 30 - Plant Swap and Sale, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Donations of plants and plant books welcome!

We are working on getting events onto websites and into any printed media we can. I have had the good fortune to attend the Boomtown Train Conference held in Camrose in February. Collaboration is becoming more and more prominent in the tourism industry. Some of the most interesting things I heard are that tourists want "purposeful travel"; tourists seek local dining cuisine (ingredients being grown or produced in the neighbourhood or purchased at the local farmers' market). A huge percentage of Alberta tourists are from Alberta. Because of this, much of the upcoming promotional efforts are staying in-province. With this in mind, it would be very beneficial for example to produce a brochure (and have it available electronically) showing the "Railway Stations of the Boomtown Trail," collaborating with Alberta Tourism, the Boomtown Train organization and the many Stations along the route. Equally, and something Glenys and I are working on is a one-day or two-day travel map to gardens in the area. At each stop, when the travel map is produced the tourist would receive a small envelope of seeds produced at

that garden. Each would give purposeful travel and appeal to a variety of interests.

The Camrose Station was successful in getting the AMA \$25,000 operational grant! With this we will be hiring a contract collections management coordinator, and as well there is some funding for me to attend workshop and courses. We also were awarded two AMA bursaries for me to attend AMA Museum Management Courses. The first one I will be able to take is on Research, February 27 and 28 in Hinton. We also want to thank the Battle River Community Foundation for the \$1500 grant to continue the security system project. I am also helping Glenys by taking on the tasks of attending some CREAM and Founders Day meetings.

Our Valentine's Day Supper was very successful again! There were so many people who helped with hostessing, food prep, baking, shopping, cleaning both prior to the event, during and after, and of course the amazing decorating! Thanks to Ted and Carol Rawson, Carol and Murray Roy, Dorothy Lysons, Robbie O'Riordan, Cheryl and Norm Prestage, Bruce and Glenys Smith, Ashleigh Dickson, Rebecca Bridger and Janine Carroll. Entertainment was provided by Lyndee Olson (classical guitar) and by two young college students.

Alberta's Promise hosted a very successful one-day conference at the railway station. Thanks to all who helped with the food prep for this, including Ann Reitan and Gladys Douglas, who baked nearly 100 muffins for this workshop and the two other workshop bookings!

Recent donations include:

- Wal-Mart - \$25.00 gift card towards meat for the Valentine Supper.
- Alma Falk - electric juicer
- Camrose Thrift Shop - \$50.00 gift certificate

- Glenys Smith - new blender and other kitchen items
- Janine Carroll - miscellaneous dishes in the Station Texaco Pattern
- Carol and Ted Rawson for their donation of all the potatoes and carrots for our winter bookings as well as Carol's many hours assisting in preparation.

Grants applied for are:

- Service Canada and STEP for students for the summer
- CIP for outside tables chairs Camrose and Meeting Creek, matched funding for speeder shed, sidewalks for Camrose
- Community Spirit Grant for speeder shed
- AMA for interpretive displays
- We have contacted Historic Resources, and our grant has been approved to reimburse the society for the painting of the Camrose Railway Station. We have not received the monies yet.

We have a new volunteer we would like to introduce and recognize. Barb MacDonald has taken the position of children's program coordinator!

Welcome also to Carla Thompson who has joined the staff and is helping manage the tearoom.

Janine Carroll

Q) Can February March?

A) No, but April May!

Whatever happened to the cow that was lifted into the air by the tornado?

Udder disaster

Camrose Summer Tea Room Schedule

May

May 16: OPENING DAY - HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH,
Tea & goodies, Open 10 am - 5 pm

May 21 & 22: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

May 23: HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm

May 28 & 29: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

May 30: GARDEN THEME LUNCH & SPRING CELEBRATION:
Open 10 am - 5 pm. Plant Swap and Sale.
Donations of plants and plant books are very welcome!

June

June 4 & 5: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

June 6: HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm

June 11 & 12: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

June 13: HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm

June 18 & 19: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

June 20: HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm

June 25 & 26: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

June 27: DOMINION DAY VINTAGE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm.
Celebrate a historical Dominion Day through special
displays and vintage lunch. Take a ride on our track
motor car.

July

July 1: Canada Day - CLOSED (Join in on the City of
Camrose celebrations)

July 2 & 3: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

July 4: HEALTHY HOMEMADE LUNCH, 10 am - 5 pm

July 9 & 10: Tea & Goodies, Open 1 - 5 pm

July 11: OLD FASHIONED GARDEN PARTY & CHOCOLATE
FESTIVAL, open 1 - 5:30 pm.

Join us for an exciting day including scrumptious
goodies, music and entertainment. Ride Jeppa's Train
and participate in activities, crafts and games for young
and old. Enter a chocolate item in the Chocolate
Festival contest for prizes. Prizes will be awarded for
children's and adult category. Enjoy a variety of tea
biscuits, fruit breads, chocolate and other tea items.
Ice cream, beverage, food and events included in price
of ticket. Vintage clothing optional. Purchase tickets at
gate or in advance. \$20 for a family of 4, \$8 for 12
years & up, \$4 for under 12 years. Includes food &
entertainment. Train tickets extra.

July 16 & 17: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

July 18: THE RAILWAY BEANERY THEMED LUNCH, open
10 am - 5 pm

July 23 & 24: Tea & Special Ukrainian Desserts, 1 - 5 pm.
Round Hill displays.

July 25: TRIBUTE to the DISTRICT of ROUND HILL, open
10 am - 5 pm, UKRAINIAN LUNCH, historical exhibits of
the area and a great community reunion! Story telling at
2:00 pm.

July 30 & 31: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

August

August 1: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm. Special feature at 2
pm with a speaker about victory gardens in Canada and
Camrose.

August 6 & 7: Tea & Goodies, 1 - 5 pm

August 8: CELEBRATION OF CAMROSE FOUNDERS DAYS.
Open 10 am - 5 pm. Country Fair with events for the
whole family. Storytelling, musicians, dancers, garden
tours, lunch and refreshments. Artisans and Crafters Sale.
Ride Jeppa's Train and participate in activities, crafts and
games for young and old.

Watch up-coming issues of the *Chronicle* and the
Canadian Northern website for further fall events!

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 or directly at their home:

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