



the CANORA CHRONICLE

"Capturing history – Building community"

Up-coming Projects and Events

2011 MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE IN JANUARY!

Please send your membership to:

Canadian Northern Society
P.O. Box 1174, Camrose, AB T4V 1X2



Associate memberships
are \$10
Full voting memberships
are \$20

*Thank you for
your support.*



The Camrose Railway Station celebrates a centennial birthday in 2011! Historical calendars are for sale at just \$10 each, to give to family and friends over the holiday season. Limited supply! Funds raised will contribute to restoration and special projects at the Camrose Railway Station and Gardens.

The calendar is compiled from 1911 *Camrose Canadian* articles, pictures, ads and anecdotes—it is an extremely unique piece of memorabilia commemorating our 100th birthday and a wonderful Christmas present for friends and family! The 2011 event schedule is complete and printed in the calendar as well. Call the station at 780 672 3099 or email to canadiannorthern@telus.net to arrange getting your copy!



The above photograph is a Charles W. Bohi shot of the St. Paul depot in October 1980. Fred Fowler, a long time member of the Canadian Northern Society lived in the depot with his family for many years when Fred worked as an agent there.

The society thanks Fred Fowler for his 2011 membership renewal and for his continuous support of our society!

Please join us for a traditional Christmas carol and story evening on December 18, with a cup of hot chocolate or cider, as we celebrate the Christmas season 'round the Camrose station fireplace. 7-9 p.m. There is no charge for this event. Tell your own Christmas story, participation welcomed!

The Canadian Northern Society has won a 50/50 allotment from the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation on Saturday, March 26, 2011, at Rexall Place in Edmonton. We require volunteers as ticket sellers, money counters and ticket sorters. We have a bus leaving from Camrose at 4:15 pm for transportation to Rexall Place and back to Camrose later that evening. Please consider helping at this worthwhile project for the society. This opportunity will help raise about \$13,500 towards the school program at the Camrose station! Call 780 672 3099 and talk to Janine for more information or to confirm your attendance.

CAMROSE NEWS

During this special season we are very thankful for everyone who in any way enjoys the Camrose Railway Station and for all the hard work given! To all those who work on the Board of Directors—a huge thanks for all the work completed on our behalf! *To Bruce and Glenys for all the work they do at the Camrose Station—thanks!*

In addition our appreciation to:

- Alberta Prairie Railway - donation of four adult steam train tickets for our raffle
- Joanne Hildebrandt - organizing, working, and cooking for several of our fundraiser dinners
- Ron Bailey - donation of a large collection of survey equipment and manuals; a large collection of library books and for gift shop items
- Janine Carroll - 1940 dishes for the Meeting Creek Station and King George Room
- Jim Huber - mechanical help fixing a speeder
- Debra Jessop - organizing the gift shop, cleaning and other volunteering
- Donated books for the library from Jeanette Schandl, Shirley Schapansky, Kopach estate, Robbi O'Riordan
- Camrose Booster - \$100 donation
- Camrose Rotary Club - \$500 donation
- Battle River Community Foundation - \$500
- City of Camrose - \$2 200
- *Camrose Canadian* - allowing us use of their archival book from 1911 newspapers, for assistance designing our calendar and for advertising
- All volunteers who helped at the Meeting Creek Harvest Festival and to Barb McDonald for spearheading it; and to all the dedicated cooks who helped bake pies for Meeting Creek
- The gang of volunteers who decorated our station for the Christmas season
- Carol & Murray Roy - making Christmas puddings.
- Joanne Kusalik - donation of new wooden craft items for the gift shop
- We are extremely lucky to be part of a sharing community who donated so much wonderful merchandise to our gift shop - too many to mention but each and every contribution is very much appreciated.

Upcoming events:

Victorian Valentine's Day Dinner - Gourmet meal, historical setting, unique entertainment, February 14, 2011. Be sure to get your tickets for this delicious supper, enjoy our special entertainment and help support the station.

New School Program in Development

Spearheaded and developed by Glenys Smith and

Barb McDonald, the Camrose Railway Station is in the development stage of creating a new school program. The program, very simply explained, is grade 4 curriculum based, incorporating "out of the classroom" experiential learning with our historical setting, gardens and artifacts. The amazing station garden park prompted Glenys to add a "green" aspect to the program. We will also be continuing with our kindergarten, preschool and grade 6 school programs. Our intent is to hire a full time (or near to full time) Education co-ordinator. This staff person would also contribute to the adult programs including summer special events.

We are attracting donors and have so far been quite successful and very thankful. To date we have the Edmonton Oilers Community Foundation, the City of Camrose and the Battle River Community Foundation to thank for contributing towards this innovative project. We will continue to work to raise funds for this project.

~ Janine Carroll

TODAY IN CANADIAN HISTORY

Les Kozma, long-time society member, society historian, and author did an interview with CJSW 90.9 FM Calgary for their radio series called "Today in Canadian History". The interview can be found at <http://blogs.cjsw.com/todayincanadianhistory>. Scroll down to 'November 24 - The Canadian Northern Railway is completed to Edmonton'.

The Camrose Station library will be receiving a copy of this production. Thank you Les for doing this interview on behalf of the Canadian Northern Society.

2011 Camrose Station and Garden Events

February 14

Victorian Valentine's Day Gourmet Dinner

April 16

Annual Hot Cross Bun Tea & Children's Easter Egg Hunt

May 21

Opening Day for the Museum, Park & Tearoom

May 30 - June 4

Plant sale & Swap

June 22

Celebrating First Nations

...more events to highlight in upcoming issues.

GLENYS SMITH RECEIVES HONOUR FROM ALBERTA MUSEUMS ASSOCIATION



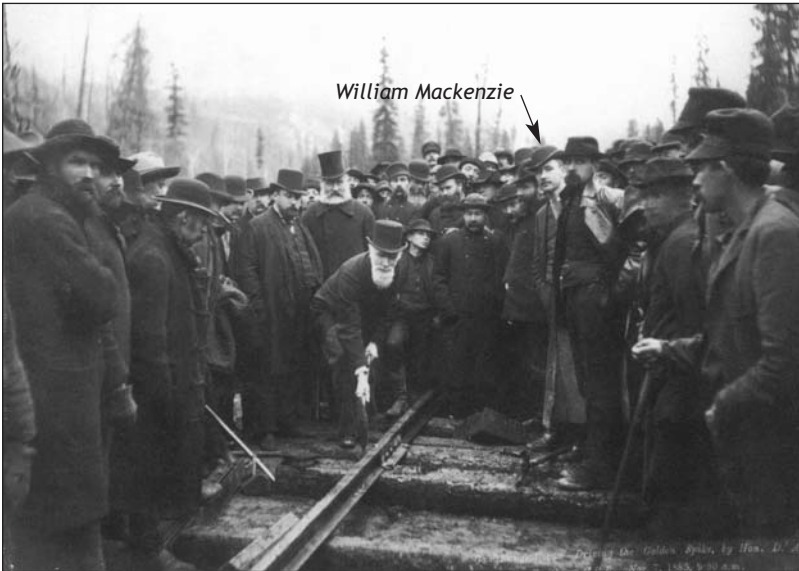
Glenys Smith (middle) receiving her Outreach Award.

Glenys Smith, Chair of the Camrose Railway Station Park and Morgan Railway Garden, was honoured on September 24 at the Alberta Museums Association Awards Gala held in Edmonton.

Glenys received the Outreach Award, for her work with storytelling as a way to reach out into her community. The Outreach Award recognizes outstanding people and projects that strive to reach new audiences and engage their communities in the purpose or work of the museum. Glenys has dedicated her retirement to the Camrose Station, most notably in presenting stories of important community and railway figures in fun and unique ways to Camrose and area residents and schools.

Congratulations Glenys and thank you for your dedication to this craft!

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LAST SPIKE



©Canadian Northern Archives

The famous Last Spike photograph. William Mackenzie, who would later found the Canadian Northern Railway, is present.

OTTAWA, November 7, 2010 - The Honourable James Moore, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages, today announced that the Government of Canada will now officially recognize November 7 as National Railway Day.

November 7, 1885, was the day the final spike was driven into the Canadian Pacific Railway at Craigellachie, British Columbia, marking the completion of Canada's most important railway system.

"The construction of the transcontinental railway united a collection of provinces into a nation," said Minister Moore. "It is fitting that this great national project, immortalized for many years in novels, poetry, and song, should be recognized with a special day that will encourage Canadians to reflect on the importance of nation building and to remember those who suffered through adverse conditions to build this railroad."

"The famous ribbon of steel united Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific, encouraged the settlement of our Prairie and Western provinces, and allowed goods, services, and people to flow from coast to coast," said Dean Del Mastro, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage, who attended a special Parks Canada commemoration of the driving of the last spike in British Columbia. The Canadian Pacific Railway was founded in 1881. The first transcontinental train left Montréal, Quebec, and Toronto, Ontario, for Port Moody, British Columbia, on June 28, 1886.

At the November 7 ceremony at Craigellachie, Fred Green, President and CEO of the CPR, echoed the speech from 125 years earlier: " 'All I can say is that the work has been well done in every way.' These are the words of CPR's legendary builder, William Cornelius Van Horne. . . . For decades, the CPR was the most efficient means of traversing the continent, and the only way to access remote locations. CP provided an economic lifeline between the commercial centres of North America and we earned a worldwide reputation as Canada's scenic highway to some of the continent's most unexplored natural wonders. . . . CPR was instrumental in building the Canadian west. As construction of the mainline moved westward, the location of many towns were largely determined by the needs of the railway. As the towns grew, the railway station became the centre of social and commercial activities, from delivery of goods to the transport of people as stations were erected, new names were needed for maps - think of Banff, Moose Jaw, Revelstoke, Sparwood, Calgary and, of course, Craigellachie. . . . Coinciding with the 125th anniversary of the driving of the Last Spike is the same milestone for Canada's system of national parks. While Van Horne had been advocating for the establishment of a national park since 1883, it wasn't until CPR track workers re-discovered the mineral springs at the location he named Banff that the government passed the order in 1885 to set aside the land for Canada's first national park, then named Rocky Mountain Parks."

MEETING CREEK UPDATE

After a heavy windstorm damaged one of our platform awning light shades this fall, we had the four light receptacles rewired with a heavier base in order to prevent such damage in the future. At the same time the contracted electrician was on site, we had two new exterior electrical outlets installed for convenience in future repair work and activities. As well, we had a new plug installed in the freight shed cellar in order to keep the sump pump running year round, thereby preventing the build-up of water that has been a challenge for us underneath the depot for many wet years—such as this past summer.

The storm windows are now up and the station is again ready for another winter.

We have asked Graham Chillingworth, our contractor, to look at rebuilding the window in the grain elevator office engine room as the priority project for spring of 2011. He is working on the historical design for this project at present.

What do reindeer hang on their Christmas trees?



Christmas trees?



Horn-aments!

ATHABASCA'S TRAIN STATION TO GET NEW LOOK



©Athabasca Heritage Society

A view of the station in 1988.

Athabasca's Canadian Northern Railway Train Station was built in 1912 to facilitate travel to the North. This station is the same plan as the station in Big Valley, Alberta. Athabasca's station stands today in its original form as a valued heritage resource and a monument to the town's importance as a gateway port.

In August 2010 the Athabasca Heritage Society signed a lease agreement with the Town and began plans to restore the building. The society has decided to concentrate in the first year on the two rooms at the east end of the building (baggage and waiting rooms). The baggage room (and the express room at the other end) have both sagged over the years due to floods washing away the silt under the grade beams. The baggage room is currently being underpinned and levelled. During the winter a few windows and freight doors are expected to be built with work on these two rooms starting in spring 2011. The Athabasca Heritage Society plans to bring the building back as close as possible to how it looked when built in 1912. This will require extensive work since all of the windows and exterior doors were previously replaced, and almost all of the interior plaster is missing.

Once the community sees progress the society hopes they will be forthcoming with a lot of help. There are some casino funds available and the town of Athabasca has donated \$109 000, all of which helps towards matched grants, so the Athabasca Heritage Society is hopeful that the necessary funding will become available as needed for this worthwhile project.

For more information or to donate to the Athabasca Heritage Society please visit www.athabascaheritage.com or email Katie Russell at krussell@athabascau.ca.



The Canadian Northern Society wishes to extend a Merry Christmas to all our members, volunteers and supporters.

May 2011 be a joyous one for you all!

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

Canadian Northern Society, P.O. Box 1174, Camrose, AB T4V 1X2 / Ph: (780) 672-3099 / Email: canadiannorthern@telus.net

Editors: Dean and Lorrie Tiegs / Ph: 780 484 4038 / Email: secretary@canadiannorthern.ca; Contributor: Shawn Smith

Design and Layout by Whale Tail Graphics • (780) 484-4038 • www.whaletailgraphics.ca