



the CANORA CHRONICLE

"Capturing history – Building community"

2015 ANNUAL GENERAL SOCIETY MEETING

The Canadian Northern General Meeting will be held on April 25 at 1:30 pm at the Camrose Station. Following the meeting, a special centennial interpretive presentation Canada's Third Transcontinental will be shown.

CAMROSE STATION WORK BEE

April 7 at 1 pm | Clean-up of the outside buildings and reorganizing artifacts and displays. Everyone is welcome to join in.

BIG VALLEY SPRING CLEAN-UP

*Saturday, May 9 - 10:00 am
Lunch supplied for volunteers.*

Whether you have just an hour or several hours, any help is appreciated and valued.

MEETING CREEK ANNUAL SPORTS WEEKEND

June 13 and 14

Enjoy the day at the East Central Historic Society Linear Park Trail with a knowledgeable guide in the beautiful Meeting Creek valley. Take a guided walk east and west of the historic 1913 restored Canadian Northern Railway Station and 1917 restored Alberta Pacific Grain Elevator.

The Meeting Creek Annual Ball Tournament commences Friday evening through Sunday. Unserviced camping is available. Concession is open Saturday and Sunday for brunch with great homemade food including pies and baking.



Help us to increase our followers and "Like" us on Facebook!

Acknowledgements

The Canadian Northern Society sincerely thanks the following members and supporters for their recent cash donations received with membership renewals: Les and Donna Langille of Stettler, Dean and Lorrie Tiegs of Edmonton, Les Kozma of Edmonton, Alice Watts of Big Valley, Lois Campbell of Camrose, Ernest Beskowiney of Benalto, Cec Atkinson of Sherwood Park, Florence Johnston of Big Valley, Richard Gibbons of North Battleford, Michael Westren of Calgary and Wolf Kirchmeir of Blind River. Also thanks to Ray Taylor of Bashaw, Clayton Jones of Surrey, J.F. Munsey of Edmonton, Gerry Piro of Camrose and Charles Bohi of White River Jct., VT. Thank you also to Grant Bailey of Nepean, ON, Ernest Shatz of Osoyoos, Margaret Levesque and Ernest Petrusa of Big Valley, and Carl Leaman of Westport, CT, for their cash donations received with their annual membership renewals.

We would like to welcome Tim Berezniuk of Camrose as a new member to the society. ***To all our members and loyal supporters who have continued their memberships for 2015 – THANK YOU!***

Thank you to the Women of the Moose, Camrose, and the Camrose and District Thrift Shop for their donations towards our children's school programs. Thank you to Sandra Beaudoin of Hanna for the generous cash donation towards the society, and the memorial donation in memory of Gus A. Annas towards the Hanna Roundhouse project. Also thanks to the local Hanna donations that were made towards this project.

Sincere thanks to Charles W. Bohi, long time member from White River Jct., VT, for directing his donation for an article written in *CN Lines* Magazine toward the Canadian Northern Society's efforts.

Thank you to Jeanette Schandl for her membership renewal and generous memorial donation to the society in memory of Joseph Schandl.

Thanks to Shawn Smith, and Liam and Adam Smith, the society's youngest members and volunteers, for their winter checks on the Meeting Creek Station and for snow removal off the platform.



Meeting Creek Station on a brisk Feb. 1, 2015 afternoon.

©Lorrie Tiegs Photography

THE RAILWAY KING

SIR WILLIAM MACKENZIE



Celebrate an exciting part of Canadian history with the Canadian Northern Society's tribute to the 100th anniversary of the Canadian Northern Railway's last spike – "The Railway King" – Reader's Theatre 2015.

April 17 - 18 | 7PM

**Location: Calvary Pentecostal Church
4920 48 Street, Camrose**

Adult: \$15 per ticket

Child: \$7.50 per ticket (5 and under free)

Purchase Tickets:

- **Camrose Heritage Railway Station**
- **By phone at 780-672-3099**
- **By email to canadiannorthern@telus.net**
- **At the door prior to performance**

Supporting Partner Accommodations

The Norsemen Inn is offering rooms starting at \$99 per night (plus taxes) to visitors staying in Camrose for the performances.

To book your reservation, call 1-877-477-9171.

Tour Package Details

Combined tour and play performance package includes a guided tour of the 1911 Camrose Heritage Railway Station and Park site followed by an escorted trip to Meeting Creek, AB to enjoy a guided tour of the 1913 Canadian Northern Station and 1917 Alberta Pacific Grain Elevator.

Tour Time: 1 p.m.

Tour Duration: 2 to 4 hours

Tour Location Start: Camrose Heritage Railway Station, 4407 47 Avenue, Camrose

Adult: \$20 per ticket

Child: \$10 per ticket (5 and under free)

(Prices include Story Reader's Theatre Performance)

Tour package tickets must be purchased in advance.



For more information about "The Railway King" – Story Reader's Theatre, visit

www.canadiannorthern.ca

CAMROSE NEWS & EVENTS

The last few months have been busy ones at the station and that in turn means our volunteers have been busy. The 2014 Christmas season got off to a great start with the Linen and Lace Tea and opening of the Christmas gift shop on Friday, Nov. 7. Many people stopped in for tea and a delicious dessert in our beautifully decorated tea room and a browse through the gift shop (which spilled over into surrounding parts of the station thanks to the multitudes of donated items of everything Noel). Many thanks to Carol Roy, Sharon Ofrim, Barb McDonald, Bruce Smith, Diana Nickel, Robbie O'Riordan, Dorothy Lysons, Ann Goddard, Carol Rawson, Mae Uhrich and students, Carl and Aii, for their help.

The gift shop was open Fridays during November and early December, bringing many local and area residents in for a bit of Christmas shopping at budget prices. This kind of exposure is invaluable and we are indebted to Mae, Ann Goddard, Carol Rawson and Robbie for their help in making the shop such a special destination.

On December 6 we had our Cookie Walk and Tea, a much-anticipated event that always draws a crowd. A long line-up of customers, many with cookie tins in hand, were waiting for the doors to open. This event has become a tradition for many locals. We had great success and the cookie walk alone took in over \$1000 while the tea brought in \$300 and the quilt raffle another \$75. Sales from the gift shop totalled nearly \$1000 for November and December. The proceeds will pay for our new and much-needed snow blower. *To all of the volunteers who baked cookies and made jellies, honey, loaves and candy, and everyone who worked at the cookie tables, in the tea room and the gift shop, thank you for your contributions towards making this event such a*

success. Thank you Carol Roy, Sharon Ofrim, Florence Sommer, Ann Goddard, Mae Uhrich, Aii and Carl (our Canada World Youth students who finished at the station mid December), Ann Reitan, Carol Rawson, Gladys Douglas, Elizabeth Bagdan, Barb McDonald, Diana Nickel, Ed Kusalik, Dorothy Lysons, Bruce and Glenys Smith, Gladys Kupka, Robbie O'Riordan, Shirley Loewen, Pat Mah, Gina Freeborn, Karen Smith, Shirley Peters, Val Simms and Minota Dundas; also special mention to Eleanor White for the beautiful scarves, mittens and slippers knitted for the gift shop and Ann Goddard for the aprons, christening dress and other lovely home-made items.

2015 promises to be a good year, judging from the interest and enthusiasm shown at the Friends of the Station meeting held January 13. Present were: Florence Sommer, Diana Nickel, Sharon Ofrim, Carol Roy, Carol Rawson, Dorothy Lysons, Pat Lyseng, Elizabeth Bagdan, Ann Goddard, Robbie O'Riordan, Ann Reitan, Barb McDonald, Sandra McLay, Eleanor White, Cathie Bartlett, Gina Freeborn, Gladys Douglas, Theresa Mazure, and Lindsay Aiken. Upcoming events for 2015 were discussed and plans made for the most immediate event, which is the Story Reader's Theatre, April 17 and 18 at the Calvary Pentecostal Church Theatre. Ann Reitan and Carol Rawson volunteered to sell tickets at the door; Therese Mazure and Sandra McLay volunteered to handle refreshment sales. Thank you to our wonderful cast, director and volunteers for our Reader's Theatre. Practices for the play are well underway and we hope all the Friends of the Station will encourage everyone they know to come and support this great event. The cast includes: Dean Tiegs as Sir William Mackenzie; Val Simms, Director and plays Margaret, Sir William Mackenzie's wife. Glenys Smith plays Kate and Cathie McGinnis is the stage

manager and plays Bidy. Donny Loewen plays David Blythe Hannah, Bill Thompson plays Donald Mann and Coleen Nelson plays Katherine. Thank you to Lorrie Tiegs for her volunteer design work in preparing all our advertising for this event. Thank you to Robbie for cutting apart all the printed tickets for *The Railway King*. Tickets are now on sale, contact the Camrose Station to purchase yours.

There will be an organizing and cleaning of outside buildings and setting up for spring season commencing the afternoon of April 7. We need to have the buildings ready for tours on April 14. Volunteers so far are Carol Rawson, Therese Mazure and Ann Goddard. Cleaning will start after the next Friends of the Station meeting, which is set for April 7. We'll gather at 9.30 am for coffee, tea and cookies; meeting to start at 10 a.m. Those who volunteered for cleaning please bring a bag lunch as cleaning will start after lunch. If you are interested in lending a hand to our cleaning efforts, please contact the station.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to two new volunteers: Pat Lyseng and Cheryl Haworth. Welcome aboard! As well, we'd like to remind everyone about the Youth Mentorship Program. If you know of any students interested in volunteering at the station please call the station.

We have received a \$500 grant from the Battle River Community Foundation for interpretive signage for the Victory Garden. Thank you to the Battle River Community Foundation for this wonderful grant. A dedication for the Victory Garden will be July 25 at 2 pm.

We have also applied for a grant with Alberta Historical Resources Foundation to cover half of the cost to replace the eavestroughs on the Camrose Station. We have applied

for two grants for two summer students with the Heritage Canada Foundation and Young CanadaWorks.

We have already had many wonderful donations this year to our White Elephant Gift Shop. Camrosians have started their spring cleaning and enjoy donating to our Station. Thank you to Mae Uhrich for organizing all the donations and making our gift shop look so nice and to all who have donated! Thank you to Carol Rawson for the many days she has spent at the station accessioning the many items that have been collected at the station. Thank you to Cathy Paetz of Edmonton for the donation of books to our library. Thank you to Donny Loewen for the donation of a printer and ink, Bruce and Shawn Smith for the snow removal this winter at the station and thanks to Sharon Ofrim and Carol Roy for cutting and sorting field cards for the discovery kits for the Linear Park created in Meeting Creek. Thank you to Yvon who helped identify problems with our internet access in the tea room and to Karen Smith for her technical support whenever we run into problems. Thank you to Shawn Smith for the donation of two laptop computers that will make a huge difference for volunteers working on different projects at the station, including our summer students.

We would like to say farewell to and wish **Gina Freeborn** the best in her future endeavours and thank her for her time and efforts as the past Station Coordinator. Gina has resigned her position and we would like to welcome our new Station Coordinator, **Pat Reiter**. Pat retired last year and is planning to make herself available for various work hours. Pat has many skills in customer service, marketing, event planning, advertising sales, newspaper writing, and photography. Her talents and knowledge of training staff will benefit the society as we work with new volunteers. She is a leader and

has expertise in signwriting as she completed the NAIT Commercial Signwriting program. Pat loves gardening and completed the U of A Master Garden program. She enjoys working with children and in the past was a Day Home provider. Pat enjoys history and is looking forward to being a part of our Canadian Northern team. Pat and her husband have two grown children and reside on an acreage in Meeting Creek. *Welcome Pat!*

HANNA ROUNDHOUSE UPDATE

We are hosting a CNR reunion of retired, semi-retired and employed CNR workers at the 1913 CNoR roundhouse on August 7 to 9, 2015. If you would like to share ideas for this event, please contact Sandra Beaudoin.

Email to: Sandra.beaudoin1@gmail.com

Further details to follow on this event will be posted at www.hanna.ca and the Canadian Northern Society website at www.canadiannorthern.ca.

What do you call an early AM volunteer? ...A DewSomething

ORGANIC MASTER GARDENER PROGRAM RUNS IN 2015



The Organic Master Gardener Certificate Course started for the second season on January 20 at the Camrose Heritage Railway Station and Park. Twelve enthusiastic students have enrolled. Half the students are from Camrose while the other half are coming from Kingman, Tofield and Bawlf. This year the instructors are Bernice Kadatz, Takota Coen, Ed DeLong and Eleanor White. This course runs once a week from January til the end of April. These students will also be welcomed throughout the spring, summer and fall as many hope to complete their volunteer hours by working in the gardens at the station. We welcome them as future organic gardeners and stewards of our earth through their organic practices.

We are now taking bookings for our May and June school programs. These interactive programs are curriculum based programs for ECS and grade four classes. Spots are filling up. We are looking forward to a lively spring! Anyone who wishes more information or to book a program can do so by contacting the station or emailing white.eleanore@gmail.com.



On Saturday, April 11, the Camrose Heritage Railway Station will be hosting a *Creating a Healthy Garden Workshop* from 9:30 am to 4 pm.

The workshop will include combinations of organic practices that result in healthy gardens managed without synthetic chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides. Participants will have an opportunity for hands-on exercises that solve problems in their own garden. Cost: \$50 per person; \$45 per person for Gaia College Students or Horticultural Society Members. Beverage and morning snack included. Space is limited, please register early!

ALBERTA PRAIRIE RAILWAY STAFF AND CANADIAN NORTHERN SOCIETY MARK CENTENNIAL

January 23, 2015: Management and staff and several friends of Alberta Prairie Railway and the Canadian Northern Society celebrated the 100th anniversary of the completion of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway—which marked the completion of Canada's Third Transcontinental Railway on January 23, 1915.

Of course, Alberta Prairie has a genuine historical affinity with the old Canadian Northern—operating between Stettler and Big Valley on the old Battle River/Stettler Subdivision, and on vintage Canadian Northern steel.

A great Ukrainian meal prepared by Karen Smith was served at the Canadian Northern depot at Camrose, topped with a special cake to celebrate the occasion. Thank you to Karen for her time and efforts in preparing this meal to mark a special day in Canadian Northern history.



Above: Kelly Gillespie (left) and Shane Snideman of APR with the celebration cake.

Right: The honour of cutting the cake went also to Karen Smith, who has a Canadian Northern family connection—her great-grandfather was the first water tank pumpman on the Canadian Northern mainline at Chipman, east of Edmonton, in the heart of Ukrainian country!

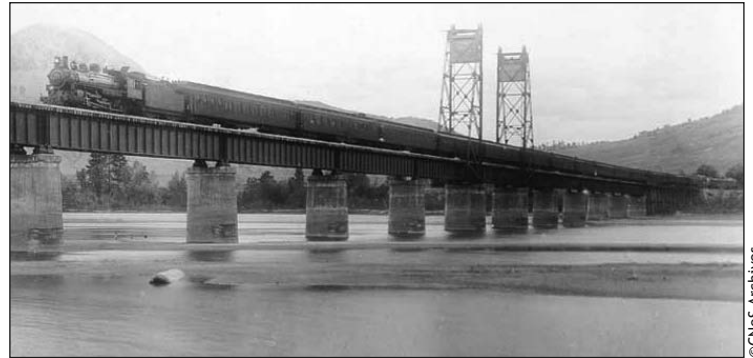


LAST SPIKE CENTENNIAL PLANS IN KAMLOOPS

On January 23, 1915, rails from the east met rails from the west at a small ceremony attended by construction workers just west of Basque, British Columbia. This marked the completion of Canada's third transcontinental railway—unquestionably a monumental business and engineering achievement that was made possible by the founders of the Canadian Northern Railway—Sir William Mackenzie and Sir Donald Mann.

To mark this occasion, and the official opening of the Canadian Northern Railway between Quebec City and Vancouver that took place later in 1915—a special centennial celebration will be held in Kamloops, British Columbia on Friday, June 19, 2015. The public is invited to join this community-based celebration.

The celebration will feature a special railway excursion sponsored by the Kamloops Heritage Railway that is planned to be led by an original Canadian Northern Railway steam locomotive. A ceremony that includes a re-enactment of the last spike, and introductions of several honoured guests who have family connections with the old Canadian Northern Railway will take place—along with an opportunity for photographs.



Opening of the Canadian Northern Railway - westbound special train at Kamloops, October 1915.

In addition, several railway historical groups and local museums are planning weekend activities, and a special field trip is planned to the Basque region for those interested in railway photography on Saturday, June 20. Tickets will be on sale starting in May for these events.

A special interpretive presentation *Canada's Third Transcontinental* has been created by the Canadian Northern Society and will be available for viewing.

Canada's Third Transcontinental is also available to be presented at appropriate functions and events during 2015 for the Centennial. If interested please call Shawn Smith at 780-679-4008.

For the latest event details visit:

Canadian Northern Society | www.canadiannorthern.ca

Kamloops Heritage Railway Society | www.kamrail.com

Several events to recognize the Centennial are planned throughout 2015.

Visit our website for all the details.

www.canadiannorthern.ca

MEMOIRS OF AN ASSISTANT CANADIAN NORTHERN AGENT — CAMROSE 1948 TO 1949

by Alvin Myhre

Originally written in October 2011

Some 65 years ago, two high school lads looking for adventure applied to the CNR Regional Office in Edmonton for employment and became Assistant Agents at the CNR depot in Camrose, beginning in July 1948. Their assignment was for one year. Both boys had dropped out of rural Alberta high schools with parental consent after completing Grade 11. The memoirs that follow describe the work experiences of these two trainees who aspired to become future station agents. This was during an era of vibrant optimism following the Second World War.

The railway ran strictly by the clock, and the two young bucks were told by the freight shed foreman on day one that if they wanted to keep their jobs they must arrive prior to 0800 each morning. Duties were assigned upon arrival in the office and the two boys headed for the box cars on the industrial track to begin unloading and distributing the goods that had arrived by train from Calgary, Edmonton, and beyond. Once the seal on a box car door was broken and recorded, the heavy work began. Each boxcar was heavily laden with freight that had to be divided into lesser carload lots and then moved to other boxcars for distribution to the smaller stations on the branchlines radiating out of Camrose.

Heavy items such as crates of food, cases and kegs of beer, 90 pound bags of cement, bundles of shingles and other building supplies—were all handled by hand. Unloading these heavy items and distributing them to another boxcar was exhausting work to lads of seventeen years. To ensure that they were always on the job, the foreman kept a watchful eye on the new recruits. One day the foreman witnessed the two Assistants carrying only two one-dozen cases of beer at a time, and immediately insisted that they carry three at a time to get the job done more efficiently. The two Assistants would soon learn to obey the line of authority and at the same time developed a lifetime respect for hard work. Each Assistant Agent earned the sum of \$1004.18 for the first six months of work.

After each eight-hour shift, the tired young men would find their way downtown to the “home away from home” across the CPR tracks from the Alice Hotel. The path to downtown from the CNR depot led by the Byers Flour Mill and the large “Sunny Boy Cereal” billboard. On one occasion the two decided to stop at the Alice for a cold one before dinner. They made a cautious entry, being underage, but were not put to the test—either looking of age or appearing in dire need of refreshment.

The freight and passenger trains that operated through Camrose were pulled by steam locomotives that needed continuous maintenance. At designated locations along a line they would refuel with coal or oil, and take on water. Meeting the trains was an exciting event for young and old in the community, and local storekeepers depended on the regular deliver of various goods and food. Chartered banks in some towns further depended upon the railway to transport money to cash pay cheques and keep the local economy moving. The local post office also depended upon the railway to handle the Royal Mail, delivered in huge canvas bags. Local grain would also be handled in boxcars, for delivery to export terminals or large flour mills. In addition, stock cars were filled with locally raised cattle and other livestock and taken by rail to the meat packing houses in larger centres like Edmonton or Winnipeg.

During our time at the Camrose station several schedules were in place on the CNR. A mixed train service ran from Vegreville to Alliance and return. We packed many boxcars for places like Galahad, Forestburg, Heisler, and Rosalind. Similar services were operated northeast to Kingman and Tofield, south to Duhamel, New Norway, and Bashaw, and south on the Stettler Subdivision, ensuring places like Viewpoint, Edberg, Meeting Creek, and Donalda were provided with freight service.

To groom the Assistant Agents for the

position of Station Agent (or later Train Dispatcher), the two young men were provided with a telegraph key and sounder plus a copy of the “American Morse Code” to learn this new language of “dots and dashes.” Once mastered, this knowledge of Morse tends to



The CNR freight shed in Camrose during its final years.

remain with a person for a lifetime. A good telegrapher could readily identify another sender by the tempo and rhythm of his or her transmission. The telegraph lines which crossed the country, have now been replaced by modern communication and the internet. The last official commercial telegram was sent in 1972.

Work at a railway station was a complex job. In addition to managing the office, one handled copying and delivery of train orders (instructions essential for the safe movement of trains), sent and received telegrams, reviewed freight tariffs, prepared bills of lading, arranged to deliver freight, balanced the station books, prepared reports, sold train and steam ship tickets, performed yard checks, made up train lists, and performed other assigned duties. It was a great way to learn railroading.

In anticipation of expected changes on the horizon, the writer of this memoir obtained a nine-month leave of absence at the end of his first year of work to complete his high school education. The CNR generously granted similar leaves for study at the U of A. Each summer between University sessions, I worked as an Assistant and Relief Agent. Many valuable experiences and wonderful memories were gained while I worked on the railway during those years; however, that 1948-49 year at Camrose station was especially memorable.

CANADIAN NORTHERN SOCIETY 2015 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

CAMROSE HERITAGE RAILWAY STATION EVENTS

Saturday, April 11, 2015

Creating a Healthy Garden Workshop (9:30 am to 4 pm)

The workshop will include combinations of organic practices that result in healthy gardens managed without synthetic chemical fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides. Participants will have an opportunity for hands-on exercises that solve problems in their own garden.

Cost: \$50 per person; \$45 per person for Gaia College Students or Horticultural Society Members. Beverage and morning snack included. Space is limited, please register early!

April 17 and 18, 2015

Story Reader's Theatre, *The Railway King*

All details on page 2 of this issue or visit our website.

Saturday, May 16, 2015

Opening Day for the Station and Park (10 to 5 pm)

Meander through the thirteen historical gardens at the Camrose Heritage Railway Station and Park and watch the G-scale train as it courses through heritage model buildings in the Morgan Garden Railway. Relive the past through interpreted or self-guided tours of the restored Canadian Northern Station, the Speeder Shed filled with historic track vehicles and tools and Watchman's Shed with its artifacts. At the bunk house, view new railway commodity, survey, communication and maintenance of way displays. Inside the station you will find homemade cookies and beverages for purchase Tuesday through Saturday, from opening day until the end of August. Saturdays in July and August enjoy a menu of homemade desserts made from local products. Find unique treasures in our White Elephant Gift Shop. Bring your children and grandchildren to play in the Children's Secret Garden, complete with a large wooden play train and sand box. Admission by donation.

Saturday, May 30, 2015

Plant Sale and Swap (10 to 5 pm)

Purchase or swap some of the many plants that grow so abundantly within our station gardens or have been donated by community members. Also available will be various White Elephant gardening pots and yard items. Donations of plants, garden and yard items are gratefully accepted. Purchase carrot cake and a beverage to enjoy inside the station's King George Room, sit in the sun on a trellis seat, in the vine-covered gazebo or on the station platform. Station and park admission by donation.

Also available through the summer (July and August) are group tours of the station and gardens followed by dessert. Themed tours are also available. Please contact the station to enquire about cost and available times.

Saturday, July 11, 2015

Annual Garden Tour and Victorian Luncheon

Enjoy several local private gardens and experience an incredible homemade luncheon in the historical railway station. The day starts at 10 am for an organized tour of several private gardens in Camrose and the surrounding district, finishing with a guided tour of the spectacular Railway Station Historical Garden Park. Our theme for the Station garden tour this year will be organic pest management. Meet at the station to receive a map and instructions. Our Victorian Luncheon will be served in the beautifully decorated Station Tea Room and the King George Room following the tour.

Preregistration is required; cost is \$25 per person (includes luncheon) paid by cash or cheque.

July 14 through 18, 2015

Garden Tour with Victorian Dessert

An interpretive garden tour of the Victory Garden and 12 spectacular flower gardens followed by dessert and tea served in the Victorian atmosphere of the station's King George Room or Tea Room. Individual or large group tours welcome! Tours for this event will be given anytime between July 14 and July 18. Tours need to be booked in advance; cost is \$10 per person. Our hours of operation are from 10 am to 5 pm. Book your tour today by contacting the station at 780-672-3099, or email us at canadiannorthern@telus.net.

July 25, 2015 - Victory Garden Dedication

Join us at 2 pm in dedicating our newly developed Victory Garden acknowledging the contribution made by citizens of Camrose towards World Wars I and II. Our garden features companion planting, researched organic practices that result in healthy plants without the use of herbicides and pesticides. Tour our organic gardens and view the 75th anniversary displays celebrating World War II. Carrot cake and beverages will be available for purchase in the tea room. Adopt a small area of the garden for the summer and help make the park more beautiful. This is a great child-parent or child-grandparent project and an opportunity to learn hands-on.

Saturday, August 1, 2015 - Tribute to Prairie Women

Join us at 2 pm to celebrate women's stories and contribution to our area's settlement. Learn through

story and discussion about the vast impact that women made upon the development of our region. You are welcome to take part by wearing a hat or clothing from an earlier era. Homemade berry desserts will be featured in the Station Tea Room.

Saturday, August 15, 2015

Founders Days Festival (10 to 5 pm)

Exciting events are hosted across the City of Camrose, celebrating the founders and history of our community. At the Camrose Heritage Railway Station, we will be holding a Firebox Festival with fun children's activities. Adults will be entertained by the Station Swing Band in a beautiful garden party atmosphere, so come dressed in garden party attire! Young and old can ride the Mirror Lake Train with our characters from 'The Island of Sodor,' like Sir Topham Hat. A light lunch and homemade pie and desserts will be available to purchase. For a full schedule, see www.camrosefoundersdays.com.

Friday, November 6, 2015

Opening Day of White Elephant Christmas Gift Sale and Tea (10 to 5 pm)

Enjoy Christmas shopping for unique items in our gift shop on opening day. In addition to our regular White Elephant Gift Shop we have an entire room dedicated to the festive season! Bring a special friend and enjoy some tea and scones in our beautiful seasonally decorated Station Tea Room. The White Elephant Christmas Sale will be open every Friday from November 6 to December 4 from 10 am to 5 pm. Donations of gift items are greatly accepted for this fundraiser.

Book the Station's Tea Room for your private event or Christmas party this season.

Saturday, December 5, 2015

Annual Cookie Walk, Tea and Christmas White Elephant Sale (1 - 4:30 pm)

Get a taste of an old-fashioned Christmas as you join us at the festively decorated Camrose Heritage Railway Station and Tea Room. Our volunteers cook up delicious homemade cookies—buy a few or get your entire Christmas supply! It is a great way to stock up on Christmas goodies including traditional carrot puddings, homemade jams, and Christmas loaves for the holiday season. You will also find a great selection of gluten-free baking. Sit awhile in the beautifully decorated Station Tea Room or

King George Room and join us for an afternoon cup of tea and fresh desserts. Shop at our wonderful White Elephant Sale for unique gifts and Christmas decorations. Donations of gift items for the sale are greatly appreciated.

MEETING CREEK STATION AND ELEVATOR EVENTS

Saturday, June 13, 2015

Canadian Northern Society Linear Park Guided Walks

Enjoy the day at the East Central Historic Society Linear Park Trail with a knowledgeable guide in the beautiful Meeting Creek valley. Take a guided walk east and west of the historic 1913 restored Canadian Northern Railway Station and 1917 restored Alberta Pacific Grain Elevator, or take a Discovery Pack that has identification field cards and interesting hands-on activities. Learn the history of the area and tour the station and elevator. The Linear Park runs along the abandoned railway line and is one of the last sites intact for migrating birds in Alberta. It teams with diverse flora and fauna. Guided walks will be held throughout the day on Saturday. Join us in the evening for star gazing.

Sunday, August 23, 2015

Prairie Fun Days at Meeting Creek (10 am - 5 pm)

On August 22 and 23 explore many exceptional locations in scenic Camrose County on a self-guided driving excursion. Enjoy special events and scrumptious local foods all weekend. Encounter imaginative hay bale art along the way. On Sunday, August 23, a unique experience for all can be found at the Meeting Creek Station and Historic Elevator. Enjoy tours of the station and elevator, ride the track car and enjoy homemade pie. Horse and wagon rides for all ages will be available. Children's activities include scarecrow decorating, crafts, games and creative play.

For more information, visit Prairie Fun Days on Facebook or contact the Camrose Heritage Railway Station at 780-672-3099.

For further information on events, to become a member or volunteer please contact:

www.canadiannorthern.ca

Follow us on Facebook

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

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