

SASKATCHEWAN RAILWAY MUSEUM NEWS

The Saskatchewan Railroad Historical Association Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue #1

Winter 2013

Welcome:

Welcome to Volume 23, Issue #1 of the Saskatchewan Railway Museum News.

The Association's publication has been in hiatus since September 2010 when health issues forced Bill and Ann Heselton to step down as editors. Since then, one reoccurring issue discussed at Board meetings has been the need to resurrect our Newsletter. Given the rich heritage and accomplished editors that we follow, we are truly humbled knowing that we have big shoes to fill.

We plan on publishing the Newsletter Quarterly, highlighting Museum activities, news and upcoming events. We also plan to have articles on artifacts at the Museum and hope that you will find it informative and interesting.

We also encourage members to submit articles, photos or information on a project or activity, after all this is your newsletter.

Did you know?

The first issue of the newsletter was edited by member and President of the SRHA James Brock of Saskatoon. It was distributed on the 15th of May 1988. James Brock transferred to Edmonton in 1990 and there was a brief period when the newsletter did not get published.

In the summer of 1991 P.J. Kennedy of Vanscoy, Saskatchewan took over the editor's role. For many years the newsletter was published quarterly under the banner The Prairie Switcher. On October 1st, 2001 the SRHA Board approved a change of name of the newsletter to Saskatchewan Railway Museum News. Kennedy held the editor's position until his resignation in the autumn of 2005.

In 2006 Bill and Ann Heselton of Moose Jaw took over the responsibilities of the newsletter and it was at this time that the newsletter was digitally prepared and distributed to members and friends of the Museum. Initially experimenting with some "Special Editions" and publishing six times a year, the newsletter, since 2008 was published quarterly until September 2010, Volume 22, Issue 3 being the last published by the Heseltons.

(The information above was compiled by Bill and Ann Heselton, and updated for this issue)

Annual General Meeting:

This year's SRHA Annual General Meeting was held at the J.S. Wood Library in Saskatoon on January 26, 2013 at 2:00 p.m., with 15 members in attendance.

The first order of business was the circulation, review and adoption of the minutes from the 2012 AGM, followed by the Treasures financial report. Lynda Thiesen (SRHA treasurer) reviewed the SRHA's 2012 finances, and presented a motion to waive the requirement for an audit following which a vote was held and carried.

This year, award presentations were made at the AGM as there would not be a banquet to follow. There was only one award that being the Friend of the Museum presented to the Saskatoon British Car Club, accepted on their behalf by Bill Rafoss. The award was to acknowledge club members Don Lumley, Ed Aldred and Logan Derksen for the work that they did repairing the Trackmobile.

Stepping down from the Board in 2013 was Ron Adams, who had served as a Director and Chairperson in his Board tenure. For his dedicated service on the Board, Ron was presented with an engraved tie spike acknowledging his contribution to the SRHA. Unfortunately Ron was ill and unable to attend the meeting, so SRHA Treasurer Lynda Thiesen accepted on his behalf.

Chairperson Cal Sexsmith presented his report on the state of the organization, highlighting this year's accomplishments and some of the objectives for 2013.

Annual reports were once again made available to members at the AGM. Below is a list of the reports submitted.

- Chair's
- Treasures
- Gift Shop
- Tours
- Employment
- Streetcar
- Attendance
- Curatorial
- CCRH

The new Board of Directors for 2013 will consist of existing directors Cal Sexsmith (Chair) and Terry Enns who have one year remaining on their two year term, and Keith Flory who agreed to serve another two year term. Former Directors Fred Tatler and Bill Rafoss will return to the Board, each serving a two year term. Norm Dyck is a first time Director, and will serve a one year term rounding out this year's Board.

Following the installation of Board members, Chair Sexsmith called for a motion to adjourn the AGM.

Following the AGM members were encouraged to stay around for a special meeting to discuss ways in which we could increase our membership.

Several good ideas were brought forward by members in attendance, including the idea of possibly having two types of memberships. Chair Sexsmith commented that other related organizations have different types of memberships one for Members and one for Volunteers as not all who join necessarily have the same interests. There was also discussion about the formation of a membership committee that would oversee the integration and retention of new and existing members.

At the end of the meeting there seemed to be agreement that we need to do more to integrate new members into the organization once they have joined, but we also need to ensure that we are finding way to engage and reactivate our existing members.

New Executive on track for 2013:

Following the AGM it is a requirement that the Board of Director appoint from within, one member to chair the Board. Cal Sexsmith the outgoing Chairperson was acclaimed for 2013, having assumed that role of Chairperson midterm in 2012 when Ron Adams stepped down for personal reasons.

Coming on the heels of the strategic planning meeting held September 22, 2012 The Board of Directors has committed itself to making Membership one of their highest priorities for 2013. To that end a Membership committee will be formed, with the sole purpose of ensuring that new and existing members to the Association feel welcome and connected to the organization.

Other changes happening at the Board level will be less obvious but no less important. Chair Sexsmith had proposed a realignment of Board responsibilities in areas within the organization. The rationale behind the realignment was to allow the Directors to focus their efforts in one area, and ensure that the membership will know who to contact if they wish to participate, have an issue with something that is being done or just want to make a suggestion or comment.

The new board alignment and responsibilities are as follows;

Board of Directors – Chairperson Cal Sexsmith				
One Year	One Year	Two Year	Two Year	Two Year
T. Enns	N. Dyck	K.Flory	F. Tatler	B. Rafoss

Administration & Operations - Terry Enns							
Gift Shop	Planning	Finance	Nominating	Treasurer	Employment	Secretary	Education

Historical & Restoration - Cal Sexsmith/Fred Tatler							
Oban Tower	Curatorial	Sask Power	Caboose	Argo Station	S-3 Loco	Street Car	Work Cars

Historical & Restoration – Cal Sexsmith/Fred Tatler				
Can National	Can Pacific	Carleton Trail	Great West	Big Sky

Communications - Bill Rafoss/Fred Tatler			
Website	Publications	Ext - Display	Publicity

Membership - Norm Dyck/Fred Tatler			
Tours	Volunteers	Buy-a-Tie	Special Events

Maintenance - Keith Flory/Norm Dyck	
Shop Supervisor	Maintenance Coordinator
K. Flory	K.Flory

What’s happening at the SRHA?

In spite of what you might think, there is year round Museum activity taking place although not necessarily at the Museum. As noted below, members have been busy preparing displays, and staffing tables at festivals and train shows.

The Board has also been busy since the AGM preparing grant submissions for summer student funding which needs to be submitted by the end of January for Young Canada Works, and February for Service Canada.

The 2013 budget is developed in February by the Board for review and approval by the membership in March. The budget needs to take into account daily operational expenditures, planned maintenance and restoration projects, and staff funding requirements for the fiscal year which runs from November 1st to October 31st.

Museum News:

The Saskatoon Heritage Festival was held on February 3rd at the WDM. The Museum once again had a table at the one day event, which brings together several historically minded organizations together in one venue allowing the public access to information and

The Saskatoon Model Train Show was held on February 23rd & 24th, and was a successful venture for the SRHA this year. We came away with three new members and six potential members and/or volunteers.

WELCOME to our newest SRHA members;

January;

Oliver David Enns – Born to SRHA Members Terry and Nichole January 30, 2013

February;

Monique Mayer & Niels Koehncke – joined at the Prairie Rail Workshop Model Train Show
Christopher Fraese – joined at the Prairie Rail Workshop Model Train Show

March;

No new members

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Date:	Event:	Location:	Time:
April 27, 2013	General Meeting	Alice Turner Library	10:00 a.m.
May 3, 2013	Staff Interviews	Museum – Kopko Ctr	10:00 a.m.
May 4, 2013	Opening Work Bee	Museum	9:00 a.m.
May 11, 2013	Board Meeting	Museum	10:00 a.m.
May 13, 2013	Staff Orientation Day	Museum	9:00 a.m.
May 18, 2013	Opening Work Bee	Museum	9:00 a.m.
May 18, 2013	Museum Opening Day	Museum	10:00 a.m.
June 25, 2013	General Meeting and Work Bee	Museum	10:00 a.m.
July 1, 2013	Canada Day		
July 7, 2013	Railway Heritage Day	Museum	10:00 a.m.

If you have any comments or submissions. Please forward to the Fred Tatler fred.susan@sasktel.net , or Terry Enns terry.enns@sasktel.net	
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