

1
October 2016

KOMOKA RAILWAY MUSEUM



NEWSLETTER



The Ontario Trillium Foundation is an agency
Of the Government of Ontario

In June 2016, the Komoka Railway
Museum was inducted into the North
American Railway Hall of Fame

Komoka Railway Museum
131 Queen Street
Komoka, Ontario
519-657-1912

www.komokarailmuseum.ca



The next regularly monthly meeting is scheduled for
Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 7:30 pm

SEE YOU THERE!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR: Concerning the September 2016 newsletter. I apologize for not being able to distribute the September newsletter to you. I was under the weather for a few days and by the time I had time to tackle the newsletter, it was getting close to the time to produce the October newsletter and some of the September newsletter was outdated, so I decided to bypass the September issue.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy time with family and friends

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

- Began work on the interior of the baggage car. Doorways done. Waiting for roof to be sealed. Then start on the interior.
- Revamp waiting room in the station. Working on 1880's bench. To get the second bench. In progress.
- Clean out and freshen up the caboose to include in tour. To start.
- Scrape and paint the station. Completed.
- Stain the ramp to baggage car. Completed.
- Repairs to the deck. In progress. Seeking grant for wood to replace portions of deck in spring.
- Update website. In progress.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are always needed for all sorts of projects at the museum. From painting to dry walling to being a guide on Saturday mornings to assisting Ed with the live steam to working on the baggage car. Consider giving some time to help the museum. We could even work in some time for students needing their 40 hours for high school credit. Please contact the museum and we would be delighted to find a project for you. Community groups would be welcomed to provide volunteer manpower.



TRACKSIDE

The running season is now over for the year and it was quite a season beginning with the Shunpikers on Mother's day, Komoka Fest in June and the Canada Day celebrations being in Komoka this year as well as the regular Saturday and Sunday steam ups. Number 4 ran exceptionally well the only casualties being melted fire bars and a return crank that managed to work loose the middle of August but this was soon put right.

The new passenger car proved 4 inches too tight for the Hamilton track so will be used only at Komoka and the old one re-furbished for Hamilton next year. 6 of the 8 bearings were replaced in the trucks. Mike and Vernier showed the cause to be oversize journals soon remedied but it was noted that the wheel flanges were getting a bit thin. Thoughts of new wheels were contemplated but the venerable wheel lathe operator says he can save the wheels albeit a size smaller but he could only do it on a Sunday when there was no one to watch him, does double time have anything to do with it?

Trials with a mixture of hard and soft coals together showed great improvements at maintaining boiler pressure and deterring clinkers, a 50/50 mix was the main staple but caused a dirty exhaust, next year or even during the off season a 60% Anthracite and 40% Pocahontas will be trialled. There is a limited quantity of Welsh Steam Coal that is used on special occasions until more can be imported but the neighbours haven't complained yet about the smoke so experiments will continue, oil or gas are not options to be considered.

The electric #3 seems to have a traction motor that may need re-winding. It will be removed and out-shopped ASAP.

The track suffered greatly with the heat of summer but given a kind fall and early spring the "umps, oilers and wows" should be fixed with alacrity. Surprisingly, the super elevation in the curves held up well perhaps because the joints were so tight due to the heat.

The vegetation control crew will tackle the line side weeds one more time before the snow comes. There is a very low growing ground covering weed that seems to choke out larger weeds such as thistle, burdock, lamb's ears and dandelions, some enquiries will be made and if so then this weed will be encouraged, stay tuned.

Ed Spencer

EDITOR'S NOTE: A big thanks to Ed and his crew for running the live steam over the summer. All the little kids and the "big" kids as well, enjoyed the rides around the track.

SOME RAILWAY HISTORICAL ITEMS FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER WHERE THERE SEEMED TO BE A LOT HAPPENED:

October 27th 1856 The Grand Trunk completes the final section of the Toronto to Montreal line

October 3-4, 1873 Grand Trunk Railway converts line from Stratford to Montreal to standard gauge.

October 26, 1874 Grand Trunk Railway converts lines east of Montreal to standard gauge

October 9, 1877 The *Countess of Dufferin* arrives at St. Boniface on a barge and was the first locomotive in Manitoba and the Prairies.

October 24, 1903 The *National Transcontinental Act* passed to expand rail into Western Canada

October 1, 1905 The Grand Trunk assumes control of the Canada Atlantic system.

October 13, 1914 The Algoma Central and Hudson Bay Railway is opened from Sault Ste. Marie to Hearst ON.

October 17, 1917 First train over the Quebec Bridge over the St. Lawrence

October 21, 1918 The Mount Royal Tunnel in Montreal is opened for rail traffic

October 4, 1922 The Canadian National Railway becomes a corporate entity

October 16, 1954 A train north of Port Elgin hits a washout as a result of hurricane Hazel where 2 died and one person was injured.

October 31, 1965 Canadian National introduces *Rapido* passenger service between Montreal and Toronto

October 17, 1966 The Montreal subway starts operation

October 31, 1982 Last revenue running of the *Turbo*

October 1988 CN Rail abandons last part of railway in Newfoundland

October 31, 2002 BC rail ends 88 years of passenger service between North Vancouver & Prince George

Here is a link that you might find of interest about the world's oldest monorail:

<https://blog.ospe.on.ca/community/historic-feat-engineering-wuppertal-schwebebahn/>

For those of you who do not have computer access. Here is a picture of the monorail.



October 2016



WE WISH OUR VERY SPECIAL YOUNG FRIEND, MILES, A SPEEDY RECOVERY AS HE HAS NOT BEEN WELL LATELY AND HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO VISIT THE MUSEUM. WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING HIM AGAIN SOON.

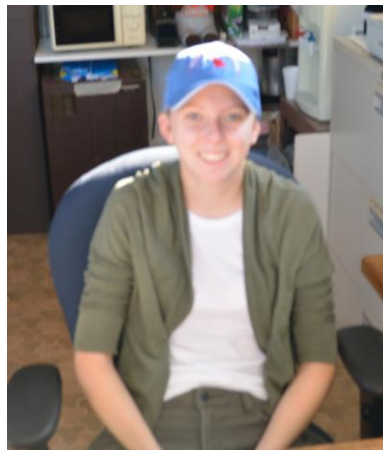
BILL OSBORNE SENDS WORD THAT HE IS ANTICIPATING REJOINING OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AGAIN IN NOVEMBER AFTER RECUPERATING FROM HEALTH CONCERNS. SEE YOU THEN.

KOMOKA, OUR MASCOT, RECENTLY CELEBRATED HER SECOND BIRTHDAY AND POSED FOR SOME "OFFICIAL" BIRTHDAY PICTURES.

Komoka is an expert in plumbing, cleaning, bed making and all sorts of activities and is very eager to help out anyway she can.



THANKS TO HALEY AND NICHOLAS OUR SUMMER STUDENTS FOR A JOB WELL DONE



MUSEUM HOLDINGS

Periodically, there will be items that the museum receives that may be duplicates, do not fit in with the scope of the museum's collections or have been donated for the museum to sell. Some items may be better housed in another museum/historical location or traded or put up for sale.

There will be a small shelf temporarily in the station masters room of the station that will hold the items that you can make your selection from.

FUTURE EVENTS

For more details check out the websites with all the shows listed by following the links below :
<http://www.collectorshows.ca/> and <http://www.railwaypages.com/>

TOY & COLLECTIBLES SHOWS

- Kitchener Collectibles Expo October 2, 2016
- London collectibles Expo October 9, 2016
- Ancaster Collectibles Extravaganza October 23, 2016
- Woodstock Toy & Collectibles Expo October 30, 2016

MODEL TRAIN SHOWS

- Brampton Model Railway Show October 1 & 2, 2016
- Soper Valley Annual Model Railroad Show October 15 & 16, 2016
- Woodstock Model Train how and Sale October 16, 2016
- Harriston Boomers MRC Model Railroad Auction October 19, 2016
- Niagara Model Railway Show October 30, 2016
- Kitchener Model Train Show and Sale November 6, 2016
- Hamilton & Ancaster Model Train Show November 13, 2016
- Whitby Model Train Show November 19 & 20, 2016
- Barrie Veterans Train & Hobby Event November 19, 2016
- Dundas Flea Market November 26, 2016
- Scarborough Open House November 17, 2016
- Brantford Model Train how and Sale November 27, 2016

NOSTALGIA & SMALL ANTIQUE SHOWS

- Kitchener Collectibles Expo October 2, 2016
- Ancaster Nostalgia Show and Sale October 8, 2016
- Woodstock Show and Sale November 13, 2016

WEBSITES OF INTEREST	WEBSITE ADDRESS
Niagara Railway Museum	http://www.nfrm.ca/
Toronto Railway Museum	http://www.trha.ca/news.html
St. Jacobs & Aberfoyle Model Railway	http://www.stjacobsmodelrailway.com/
Heimbürger House Publishing (Railroad Books)	www.heimburgerhouse.com
Charlie Smiley Videos	www.cspmovies.com
North American Railway Hall of Fame	http://www.narhf.org/

AN INVITATION

To those who know my Mom, Kae Oatman, there is an open house to celebrate her 90th birthday on Monday, October 10, 2016 from 1-3 pm in the Fellowship Hall of Poplar Hill Christian Church, 9890 Ilderton Road (Poplar Hill). Cards and best wishes only.

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS

The Komoka Railway Museum is a registered charity and your donations of \$20.00 or more can be receipted for income tax purposes. Any donation of any amount is always welcome and very much appreciated.

Submissions due by October 23, 2016 for November 2016 newsletter

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The newsletter is available via email instead of via Canada Post. Let me know if you would like to receive the newsletter via e-mail.

Like our Facebook page, Komoka Railway Museum