

THE WHEATLAND ROUNDUP

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YEAR END HOUSEKEEPING

It's that time of year when Little Big Town finally slows down. The summer excursion season for the Wheatland Express has come to a close with the final excursion on September 17th. The next planned excursions will be in October to join in on the Halloween festivities! The "Halloween Ghost Train Express" was a big hit last year and is expected to be even bigger and better this year!

As the leaves change color and we near the end of the year, local shops are beginning to prep their stores for the snow. Many of the store owners noticed a big increase in business with the new expansions made over the past year along with the Wheatland Express attracting tourists. One shop with an unexpected amount of traffic was Bill's Barber shop! He had a lot of customers that came to town for the excursions or to stop by Early's Seed and Feed but had to return for one of Bill's famous mustache services.

"It was a busy summer for me! This is the first year I have been open, and I am pleasantly surprised with the number of customers that needed my services. It turns out, there is a great deal of ranchers who desperately needed some sprucing up! Their wives liked their haircuts so much that they made me their main barber! I'm very happy with the amount of regulars I was able to pick up!" Said Bill the barber.

Another affair coming to a close is the race for mayor. All residents of the town have



submitted their votes and the count has begun to determine who the next mayor of Little Big Town will be. There is nothing left to do but wait for the verdict. The following are exclusive comments from each of the candidates:

"I cannot wait another moment. I have been working hard all year long trying to get as many votes as possible and to keep the people of this town happy with my work, but the waiting is the worst part." The current mayor of Little Big Town commented.

"This is my second year running for mayor in a row. I swear if I do not get voted in for mayor this term, I am leaving!" Taffy announced.

"Well, if I don't win the election this year, I always have my excursion train." Says Max Wheatland.

"I just know I would be the best at this job. I know the people of this town the best outta any of my competitors because, like them, I am a common man. Let's hope for the best." George said.

The election results will be announced next month and can be found here in your Wheatland Round-Up Newsletter. Stay tuned!

NOBLE NOTATION

FAMOUS NAMES

Written by Bill Noble

During that era that has become the “Golden Age of Rail Travel”- the late 1800’s to the mid 1900’s - travel by train was the pre-eminent mode of transportation. Trains provided the peak of technology and luxury spanning the gamut from slow, gritty freight trains to fast, glittering passenger expresses. Indeed, the word express was hijacked by the railways and came to define fast, direct, special trains with a touch of adventure and mystery. Similarly, “Limited” grew from simply describing a train that made only a limited number of stops along the way and was therefore faster and more efficient, to define the top echelons of passenger service.

From the earliest days of their existence, railways have provided a range of services. As it is today, the most important portion of any railroad’s business was freight. Quite literally, freight “paid the freight”. Railroads competed fiercely to entice shippers to use their line for the business of shipping coal, lumber and manufactured goods. Railways’ advertising copy sung the praises of fast, efficient service. Next up in the railroads’ workaday business came regular passenger service - local passenger trains that provided travel and mail service and hauled the everyday necessities of life to every town and hamlet along every branch line. These slow, ordinary trains with only a number to identify them, got on with the



business of everyday life - a bit grubby, nothing special but stolidly reliable. Radiating from larger cities on some railroads were commuter lines. These specialized trains, which still operate today, carry workers and shoppers from outlying bedroom communities to the downtown business districts. These trains provided basic passenger service to work and home - fast, no frills service. Commuter trains were crowded, often with double decker cars and special locomotives designed to accelerate the heavy trains rapidly for fast service. Commuter trains were often identified by unromantic monikers like “the 7:10 from Mount Royal”. A step up from local passenger and commuter trains came regular, long distance, intercity or transcontinental trains. These trains were equipped with baggage cars, coaches, basic sleeping cars, diners and dinette cars and observation cars - often “hand-me-down” equipment from previous generations of top-of-the-line trains. These trains, usually slower like local passenger trains, specialized in coach travel to all stations and usually had heavy consists of “head end” cars - mail, baggage and express. And finally, at the top of the line-up, came the stars - the special, deluxe expresses. Famous, named expresses.

Virtually every railroad in Canada and the US had a special train or trains that were the most famous on the road. Whether it was special equipment, deluxe service, signature dishes in the dining cars, exotic destinations or simply famous clientele, rail companies lavished the best on these trains and took advantage of the fame and advertising copy they generated. Top of the line trains that provided deluxe, on time, personalized travel reflected well on their parent companies and helped attract customers. Pick an image - fast, flashy, refined, reliable, dependable, fun-loving, comfortable - each railroad built their image with their top trains. And gave those images names.

A slim, typewritten list that was prepared by the Association of American Railroads in 1946 listed 636 named passenger trains operating in the United States and 30 in Canada. As an aside, the striking disparity in numbers between the two countries can be explained, in part, by the fact that our Canadian railway scene was dominated by two very large companies while the US had many smaller regional companies. That said, let's have a look at some examples of famous trains.

Arguably, the most famous name on the list was the Twentieth Century Limited that ran on the New York Central Railroad - the dominant road in the Northeastern US that was built and owned by the wealthy Vanderbilt family. The Century was an overnight, all sleeping car train that dominated the New York to Chicago

market. There were several other railroads that competed for that market, but the Century was the star. During the 1920's and 30's there was so much business that it was common for the train to run six or seven sections. Six or seven identical trains all full, all identically equipped with elegant gray pin striped cars, all providing world class cuisine and crisp clean sheets racing through the night within minutes of each other on exacting schedules. The Best.

There were rivals. The Pennsylvania Railroad's Broadway Limited ran on a different route but replicated the Century's service and timing. While the Broadway was favored by old-money wealthy travelers, it was a perennial runner up.

Travelling west from Chicago, the Sante Fe Railroad's all stainless-steel Super Chief carried the rich and famous of Hollywood across the continent. In an interesting twist, the Super Chief's original baggage car number 3430, that once carried the luggage of movie stars, has been painstakingly restored and serves us today on the Wheatland Express.

In the extensive list of names, there were trains with similar themed names.

There were destination names:

The Arizona Limited - Chicago to Phoenix
The Birmingham Special - New York to Birmingham and Memphis
The Omaha Limited - St Louis to Omaha
The Tulsan - Chicago to Kansas City and Tulsa

There was wildlife:

The Gopher - St Paul to Duluth

The Blue Bird - Chicago to St Louis

The Gull - Boston to Halifax

The Humming Bird - Cincinnati to New Orleans

There were names immortalized in story and song:

The City of New Orleans - Chicago to New Orleans

The Orange Blossom Special - Boston to Florida

The Silver Streak - the real one ran Kansas City to Lincoln

In Canada we had:

The Continental Limited - Montreal to Vancouver

The Ocean Limited - Montreal to Halifax

The Chinook - Calgary to Edmonton

But of all the named trains, one holds special memories. Canadian National ran little night trains with a coach and a sleeping car between Saskatoon and Regina. CN 7 and 8 passed through our little town, Girvin, around 3 in the morning. Not many people even realized it was named the Owl. It was just "the night train". One small boy would often be awakened by the locomotive whistle at the north and south crossings. Especially on bitterly cold, dark winter nights. He would lie in the dark, listening to the rumble of the train and the contented purr (or snore) of his faithful companion, Joannie, at the foot of the bed. Then he would snuggle under the covers and go back to sleep. Everything was OK. I think the Owl is my favourite named train.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

Name: Ondrea Richardson

Born: Grandora, SK

Currently Reside: Grandora, SK

Work History: Before working at the farm, Ondrea worked as a server at Pink Cadillac for 6 years!

Favourite Movie: Secretariat

Favorite Sport: Barrel Racing

Favorite Wheatland Railcar: Diner Car

Did you know: Ondrea has been riding horses for 12 years! She started with horse jumping but has gotten into barrel racing and loves it!





SPIKES SAFETY SCOOP

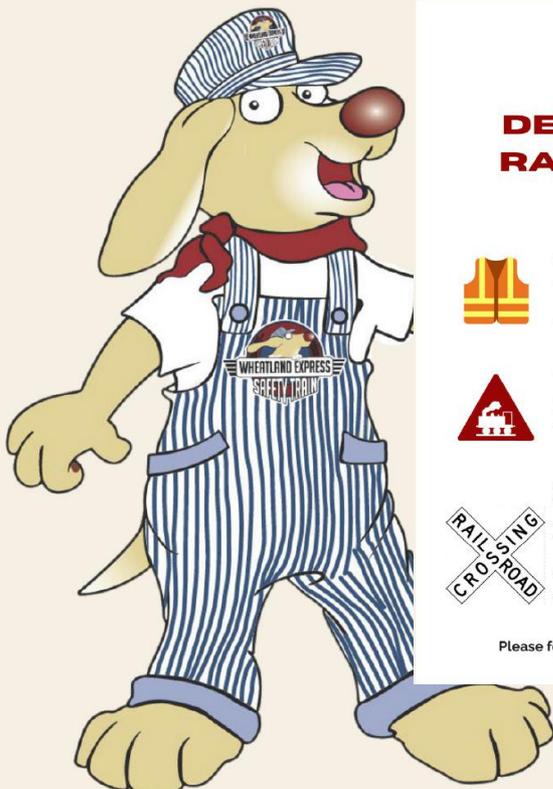
Hey there! It's me, Spike the safety dog, here! Can you believe school has started already?! I sure can't, summer is always way too short. Even though summer is over, there is something good to look forward to this September and that is Rail Safety Week! Rail Safety Week is a FULL week of teaching everyone about how to stay rail smart around trains. You guys all know how much I LOVE to teach about train safety! Here are some very important safety rules to remember whenever you are around train tracks. Always expect a train! Trains can run on any track, in any direction, at any time. Never walk or play on or along railroad tracks - this is dangerous and illegal. Always look for and obey all railway signs and signals. Never throw things at a train or put things on the railway tracks. I wish Rail Safety Week went all year long! Oh wait... It does! Remember everyone, train safety is important all year round! Always remember your safety rules and stay RAIL SMART!



-Spike the safety dog

Did you know a locomotive can have up to 18,000 horsepower?!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE; CANADIANSAFETYTRAIN.CA TO ENTER OUR CONTESTS!



Transport Canada / Transports Canada

DESIGN OUR NEXT RAILWAY SAFETY POSTER

Poster Specifications

- Posters will be printed in 11" by 17" in size for display in schools and other facilities.
- Poster may be printed as small as 5.5" by 8.5" for use as display on a web page. Please consider these dimensions when creating the graphics or choosing a typeface.
- Bright and highly visible colours suggested.

Poster Designs Must Include the Following

- Prominent display of the Wheatland Express Safety Train name and logo.
- A strong emphasis on Railway Safety.
- Include our website and social media handles.
- Use of Spike the safety dog is not required but may be considered a bonus.

Rules and Submission Requirements

- Submit your entry form and PDF file to info@safetytrain.ca.
- The winner must include all files for reproduction. Files become the property of The Canadian Safety Train Express Inc.
- All entries must be submitted by noon (CST) January 15th 2023.
- Railway safety information well as our logos can be found on our website www.canadiansafetytrain.ca as well as our Wheatland Express Safety Train Facebook page.
- Must be between the ages of 10-16 years old. Too young or old for this contest! Check our website or Facebook page for other exciting contests.
- 1st place Winner will receive a family excursion package (4 people) aboard The Wheatland Express Excursion Train. 2nd will receive \$200 and 1st will receive \$100- All donated by Great Sandhills Railway.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns, info@safetytrain.ca

Transport Canada / Transports Canada

Colouring Contest

Here's how to enter:

- Colouring sheets and contests entry forms can be found in our activity book on our website www.canadiansafetytrain.ca and/or on our Facebook page @wesafetytrain
- Colour your page- Remember, creativity counts!
- Email entry form and completed colouring page to info@safetytrain.ca
- **The contest deadline is January, 15th 2023 at noon (CST)**
- 1st prize winner will receive a family excursion package aboard The Wheatland Express Excursion Train (4 people), 2nd place will receive \$200 and 3rd place will receive \$100- all donated by Great Sandhills Railway.
- **The age group for this contest 3-4yrs of age.**
- Older than 9? Check out our website and Facebook page for more awesome contests!

canadiansafetytrain.ca

OPERATIONS UPDATE



Wheatland Express Safety Train

Last week was Railway Safety Week! We went out to Delisle for the "Delisle Safety Day" and had about 170 kids at our booth learning about railway safety! We have also received some contests already. Don't forget you can visit our website; canadiansafetytrain.ca to get your own activity book in either French or English along with our contests!



Wheatland Charities Inc.

Our last hold up for the year on September 17th raised a record \$1030.00, bringing our yearly total to \$6,024! Thank you to all that contributed throughout the season!

June 11th Train Heist raised = \$7,55.00

June 19th Train heist raised = \$703.65

July 10th Train Heist raised = \$630.10

July 31st Train Heist raised = \$980.00

August 28th Train Heist raised = \$1012.25

September 10th Train Heist raised = \$913.00

September 17th train Heist Raised = \$1030.00

On October 1st we will be contributing \$500 to a charity race at Century Mile in Edmonton : Female Jockey Charity to Support Ovarian Cancer



Wheatland Express Excursion Train

Wheatland Express Train summer excursions came to a close on September 17 with a sold-out train. Our last excursion The Great Prairie Train Heist had the highest amount of donations for our Charity Fundraiser.

We are now excited for the Halloween Excursions on October 28 and 29 which are already sold out. We can't wait to decorate the train for our valued customers to be AFRAID...VERY AFRAID.



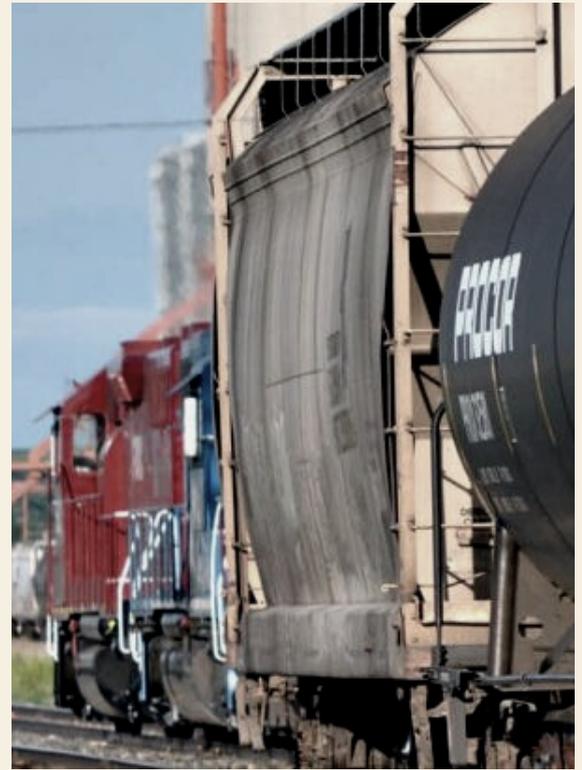
Wheatland Express Learning Centre

The baggage car is coming close to an end and we are so excited to put our exhibits in the car. The guys have been doing an amazing job and are currently working on the exterior of the car. Soon we will be able to share our displays in the new car and have everyone enjoy it as much as we do!



Great Sandhills Railway

Work Continues on the final baggage car and it will make its debut on the October 29th Halloween excursion! We have started to Winterize the equipment and will be preparing for the locomotive 3131 and the ballast cars to depart. As we expand at Unity we will be offering some of the employees an opportunity to move over to that operation. We will be building a new shop that will be big enough to hold the passenger cars and be able to more efficiently service the locomotives.



Western Canadian Railway Hall of Fame

Railway Employees have been an integral part of the building of Canada. The dedication that many displayed over the last 100 plus years has helped make Canada what it is today. We want to recognize those that committed their time and effort to the railway industry. You can nominate your mom, dad, grandmother, grandfather or even your mother-in-law. Entry forms will be available to briefly describe the nominee's service and special notations of community service or Railway firsts.

The winners will be awarded annually with their plaque honoring their selection being on display in the newly refurbished railway learning and history centre car. The nominee or the nominee's designate along with the person nominating will be awarded two tickets to a supper show and ride on the Wheatland Express!

Four Categories-

Operations: Train Crews, Dispatchers, Train Masters, Yardmasters, Superintendents

Maintenance: Track Maintenance, Car Repair Maintenance, Signal Maintenance

Builder: A person involved in non operating activities

Historical: A person that participated in any railway activity that no longer exists.

Entry Deadline: December 31, 2022

Open to all Railway employees past and present

STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSES MOUTH

HOW TIMBIT SEE'S IT

Neigh there. I'm Timbit, a reporter for the Wheatland Round-Up. My job is to keep the folks of Little Big Town updated to the goings-on on all things four-legged. It's time to meet one of our new up-and-comers! She may be little but her personality makes up for it. Let's go meet her!

Hello there Josie! I'm Timbit, do you have time for an interview?

"Hello Timbit! I'm still waiting for my lunch so I have lots of time! "

Perfect! I can't help but notice your interesting coat. What colour are you?

"If you look at pictures of me when I was first born I was all brown but now I have white freckles all over! As all of us foals grow up, we all shed our baby hair and turn in to our true colours. I am very unique because unlike the rest of my pals, my mom is grey. This means that as I grow up, I will shed all of my old brown color and turn fully grey too, just like her! Right now I'm working on losing the brown coat and my new grey coat is slowly growing so I have white and brown hair. Some horses stay like this even when they are grown up and that color is called "Roan". "

That is very interesting! You sure are smart Josie! We will have to check in with you again when you are older to see what you look like as a grey horse! I'm sure you will be getting even more white with your winter coat coming in very soon.

"Yes! All of our winter coats are starting to grow! You can feel winter in the air, that's for sure! I don't think my friends are excited for winter to come but I can't wait! It will be our first winter!"

I think I have to agree with your friends! After this winter it will almost be time for you all to start training for the race track. Are you excited for that?

" We all are! When we graze in the field, all of the foals race each other to practice! We love running - that's what we are bred to do and we are good at it!"

I wonder what I was bred to do... Probably be a reporter. That's what I'm good at!

What are your friend's names that live in your pen with you?

"I live with Bruno and Douglas . A lot of the foals born this year were born all brown with no leg or face markings. It's sometimes hard to tell them apart when they are all together, especially when we were all smaller. We are all good pals and soon we will all be living together for the winter."

Well I'm glad I got to meet you today Josie! Thanks for teaching me about your unique color! I think it's lunch time so I will see you around the farm!



2022 WHEATLAND EXPRESS SCHEDULE



SEPTEMBER

- 10 - Prairie Train Heist
- 17- Prairie Train Heist

OCTOBER

- 28- Halloween Ghost Train Express
- 29- Halloween Ghost Train Express

DECEMBER

- 02-Christmas Party With Donny Parenteau
- 03- Christmas Express
- 10- Christmas Express
- 11- Christmas Express
- 17- Christmas Express



STAY TUNED FOR ADDED DATES, TOURS
AND TRAVEL OFFERS!

www.wheatlandexpresstrain.ca
