



WCRA NEWS

JANUARY 2017

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND
HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

**POLAR EXPRESS SETS
NEW RECORDS**



GENERAL MEETING

The **General Meeting** of the WCRA will be held on **Tuesday, December 20 at 1930 hours** at Rainbow Creek Station, corner of Willingdon and Penzance in Burnaby

Entertainment will be announced at the meeting.

ON THE COVER

Polar Express 2016 heads for the North Pole on Sunday, November 27. This year's train had two F units for power and nine cars in the consist, and will set records for number of passengers carried. The event is fully sold out as we go to press. (Don Evans photo)

JANUARY CALENDAR

- **West Coast Railway Heritage Park open daily 1000 through 1600k.**
 - NOTE—Closed December 25, 2016 through January 2, 2017
- Sunday, December 25—Merry Christmas everyone!
- Sunday, January 1—Happy New Year 2017
- Wednesday, January 11—Newsletter deadline for the February 2017 issue
- Tuesday, January 31—WCRA General Meeting, 1930 hours, Rainbow Creek Station

EDITORIAL

THANKS FOR THE RECOGNITION—COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

My appreciation to all at WCRA for the recognition as this year's winner of the Best Contribution to the Newsletter award. This sent me back through the files to discover that I

The West Coast Railway Association is an historical group dedicated to the preservation of British Columbia railway history. Membership is open to all people with an interest in railways past and present. We are a non-profit British Columbia society, registered as a Canadian charity. Membership prices are as follows, **Please note that GST must be added to all fees:**

Senior \$50 (\$52.50), Individual \$55 (57.75), Family \$65 (68.25) **E Members (electronic newsletter only) are \$35 (\$36.75) Senior, \$40 (\$42.00) individual and \$50 (\$52.50) family.** Other categories are:
- Junior Member (age 18 and under) \$ 30 (\$31.50)
- Sustaining Member \$100 (tax receipt) **plus** membership type regular fee
- Life Membership \$700 (\$735) individual life / \$1,200 (\$1,260) family life

All memberships include the monthly newsletter, Heritage Park admission (except Special Events), mini rail rides and discounts on food and merchandise. The Association holds a monthly meeting on the last Tuesday of the month at 1930 hours in Burnaby at Rainbow Creek Station in Confederation Park. Apply through www.wcra.org or mail to WCRA, PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2.

edited my first issue of WCRA News in Summer 1979.....and recalling that in those days, the newsletter was handwritten and then typed before being copied and distributed.

Editing WCRA News over these many years has been a favourite volunteer activity for me, something I very much enjoy doing. But it wouldn't be anything without you—our readers all over the world, and the many contributors who provide articles, news and photos that help us put it all together every month. One of my great joys as editor is hearing from you—with comments on the articles and stories, with the pointing out of typos and other transgressions, and with new submissions for inclusion in the publication.

So, I wish to share this recognition with all of you—thanks for your ongoing input and support. Together we have produced over 30 years of monthly publications, and hopefully many more to come.

WISHING YOU ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY 2017

Yes—it's that time of the year again—they seem to keep coming faster and faster! To all of you from all of us at WCRA, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thanks for all your support and may it continue into 2017.

Don

ASSOCIATION NEWS

FROM THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

The November General Meeting was also our annual festive dinner and awards night, and a lovely crowd of 55 gathered at the Accent Inn in Burnaby for a social hour and sumptuous turkey dinner. It was especially great to see some of our long time members whom we haven't seen so much recently there, including **Dorothea Matewish, Colin Dathan, the Lighthalls, Nini & Dave Durward** and many others—thanks to everyone for coming.

Director **Jeremy Davy** welcomed everyone to the dinner and then turned the evening over to President & CEO **Craig McDowall** who said some opening remarks. There were two birthdays in the room—guest **Bob** (who brought Dorothea) and **Rob Misjak**—Happy Birthday was sung by all. Craig then turned the event over to **Donna Simon**, who looked after getting each table up to the buffet. The buffet was lovely—with an assortment of salads and cold cuts, and then a sumptuous turkey dinner with vegetables, mashed potatoes and turkey dressing—and fresh carved turkey onto our plates. Yummy!

Following dinner, MC Craig was back and invited **Don Evans** up to advise the members of the great funding we received from Canada Cultural Spaces to help us towards acquiring the Squamish MP2 locomotive shop. Then the balance of the evening turned to the 2016 awards.



Corporate Support Award—this was awarded to **Roman Metal Works Ltd.** of North Vancouver in appreciation of all the hard work and support they have given to the BCER 960 project in help with steel fabrication etc.

The award (photo left) was received by Roy who was there with his wife. Presenter was **Mike McGaw**.

Newsletter Contribution Award—**Jeremy Davy** took the stage for this one, and noted a shift in the recognition this year for the newsletter—instead of it going to a

contributor of an article the award went to long time editor **Don Evans**. Don was recognized for more than 30 years of editing the monthly publication—his first issue was July—August 1979! Don thanked everyone and noted that the newsletter is his favourite volunteer role with WCRA.

Preservation Award—No contest this year, the preservation project completion of 2016 was for sure Pacific Great Eastern steam loco #2. It was noted that the work went far beyond what any expected for a cosmetic job-10,800 hours! on this little gem and how well received its reappearance has been. **Mike Lloyd** led the PGE #2 Restoration Team on this project and the award will be presented in Squamish.

Volunteer Award—Jeremy Davy made this presentation to long time member and always active volunteer **Bill Marchant**. (photo right) Bill works in a variety of roles, has served in the past as a Director, looks after the entertainment for the monthly meetings, and is an active participant on the restoration of BCER 960



these days. A most deserving recipient.

Media Award—This went to **Julia Piper**, Entertainment Editor at the Pacific Newspaper Group for her always being able to find ways to include our events in the Vancouver Sun and The Province. Craig McDowall advised that she was not able to be in attendance due it being deadline night for her next morning weekly feature on what is going on around town.

New Generations Award—This award went to **Peyton Liscomb**, who is a Junior Member of WCRA and a regular volunteer at the Locomotive 374 Pavilion.

Peyton does a great job greeting our guests and explaining the history of the 374 and the role it had in the founding of Vancouver. George Game made the presentation to Peyton. (photo right)



Special Award—Gordon Bell spoke to this award, which went to **David Walmsley** for the multitude of things he has done for us since he (and his beautiful car Pullman Spirit) arrived in Squamish last year. David is a talented and hardworking volunteer with a great positive attitude - be it welding, repairing cars and locomotives, or teaching young people skills and helping them learn. We are so fortunate to have David and his positive outlook as part of our operation—thanks David.

That wrapped up the awards, the 50 / 50 draw was held (won by Director **Corinne Lonsdale**) and then the evening wrapped up after a couple of announcements.

MEMBER NEWS

Our thoughts and best wishes are with long time staffer **Tomo'o Oshikawa** on hearing that his father passed away in Japan on November 26th.

Also in the sad news department, we report that long time member and active volunteer **Len Brown** passed away November 12, 2016. Len was the consummate steam buff, a part owner of an M4 steam engine in the UK and would be around steam anywhere it was to be. He was

also a regular engineer on the mini rail and a volunteer at the Locomotive 374 Pavilion. His service was held November 24 and was well attended including several from WCRA. My favourite personal photo of #2860 is this one of it chugging out of the Heritage Park in 2007—and yes, that's Len in the red shirt on the "footplate", right where he wanted to be!



Now for better news.....

We welcome to membership.....

- Frank Barnhouse of Vancouver;
- Kelsey Ferguson and family of Garibaldi Highlands;
- Chris Manuel of Squamish;
- Virginia Mason and family of Squamish;
- Michael Rood and family of North Vancouver

We welcome back to membership:

- Tatania Lee and family of Squamish

(J.D.)

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

If your label reads 11/30/2016 then your membership has expired, if your label reads 08/31/2016 then this is your last issue. If you are an electronic news subscriber, please watch for

an email noting pending membership expiry. Please renew—we need you all as members if we are to continue to be able to preserve British Columbia's railway heritage. (J.D.)

VOLUNTEER HOURS - Reporting

As part of the supporting information provided when seeking funding from other organizations the WCRA relies heavily on the hours that our volunteers generously donate while carrying out the activities of the Association.

Everything you do for WCRA counts (except attending monthly general meetings) ... volunteering at the Heritage Park or as Custodian at the 374 Pavilion, serving on a committee, attending board meetings or working on Association related projects at home; — all hours are important and all hours count.

WCRA is required to report Volunteer hours given annually at the Heritage Park to the BC Safety Authority and to include them in the Park's Safety Management System statistics. As a minimum - Please separate your hours into Time spent at the PARK and OTHER when you report them.

Please submit volunteer hours for 2016 as soon as you can as they need to be included in the Annual Report. Last year we recorded an incredible 34,000 hours—thank you!

Please let **Donna Simon** know the time you have donated. You may do so by email to **membership@wcra.org** or by calling 604.815.0812 (604-484-2791 toll free from Vancouver calling area) – both phones have voicemail. If you prefer to send your information by snail mail you can address it to Donna at PO Box 2535, Garibaldi Highlands, BC V0N 1T0.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES - Mileage

Don't forget that all mileage incurred while doing the Volunteer activities you report are eligible for a Tax Receipt by way of a Cheque Swap.

Unsure how to do this? For assistance contact Jeremy at **membership@wcra.org**, or calling either of the numbers above. (D.S.)

WCRA TRIVIA #336 - By Ryan Cruickshank

In both of Ian Fleming's James Bond novels "*Live and Let Die*" (1954) and "*Goldfinger*" (1959), Bond travels on what American passenger train?

(Answer on page 18)

COLLECTION

STANLEY PARK TRAIN GOES ON DISPLAY

The original Stanley Park train went on display at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park on Saturday, November 26 as part of the North Pole Display for Polar Express. Exhibited are the locomotive, tender and one reconstructed riding car (thanks to Trevor Mills and our shop forces). A special dedication plaque was made recognizing the Humphrey family for storing and caring for the train over the years, and donating it so it wasn't lost. Now it is back for everyone to see, and following Polar Express it will remain on display in the CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre. (Photos page 8 and rear cover November 26, 2016 by Don Evans)



A sad note to all of this was the passing on of **Ted Humphrey** on November, 24th. In letting us know of this, son Chris noted, “Dad mentioned several times since the garage tour <summer 2016 that resulted in the donation of the train to WCRA> how much he enjoyed the visit. Especially how everyone was so respectful and excited about the train. On behalf of the Humphrey family I want to thank you for your enthusiasm and interest in Dad’s little train. He was content knowing that lots of people will be able to see it and enjoy his contribution of a little piece of Vancouver history”.

Our thoughts and condolences are sent to the Humphrey family on Ted’s passing.

THANKS

- **To Jim Battrum** for the donation of a collection of his father’s (Doug) railway photographs and books to the WCRA Archives. He also donated some safety cones and snow fencing that we can use for Heritage Park operations
- **To Rick Antonson** (Author and past CEO of Tourism Vancouver) for the donation of a collection of railway books to the WCRA Archives. His recent book *Whistle Posts West* is a collection of train stories from around our area.

WEST COAST RAILWAY HERITAGE PARK *Home of the Royal Hudson*



POLAR EXPRESS 2016 WILL SET RECORD

Dates this year are four weekends - November 26 / 27, December 3 / 4, December 10 / 11 and December 17 / 18. Go to www.wcra.org and click on the blue “Purchase Polar Express tickets” tab at the top to buy your tickets. As with previous years, guests are invited to really experience the Polar Express and come dressed in their housecoats or pajamas. There will be fun for everyone with some additional new elements also added this year. Thanks to the addition of an extra coach from Rocky Mountaineer and fully sold out trains we expect to have a record 15,000 guests at Polar Express this year!

POLAR EXPRESS OPENS TO A SELLOUT CROWD

Polar Express 2016 sold out all 2016 trips by November 15th, but thanks to the loan of a coach by Rocky Mountaineer we were able to open ticket sales again to the relief of many who were afraid they would be disappointed this year. The additional coach pretty much sold out in two days for the opening weekend, and then filled quickly for the three coming weekends once they were opened for sale the following Monday—all trains now sold out.

Coach RMR 5704 was delivered to our siding in Squamish by CN on the rainy morning of

Thursday, November 24. Not long after, our crew picked it up with CPR S3 #6503, moved it into the Heritage Park, turned it on the turntable and switched it into the Polar Express consist. The train was powered up, all mechanical and safety inspections completed, and the train was declared ready to go. (Don Evans photo, November 24, 2016)



The Polar Express 2016 train is quite a consist this year (as can be seen in the photos on both front and rear covers of this issue). Power was our Canadian Pacific FP7A #4069 and Canadian National FP9A #6520 (in primer paint), followed by generator car WCXX 9622, coach WCXX 5623 *Porteau*, coach WCXX 5652 *Capilano*, coach WCXX 5596 *Paul D Roy*, coach WCXX 3223, coach WCXX 3218 *Bill & Dorothy Lahr*, coach WCXX 5569 *Harry & Margaret Bluck*, coach RMRX 5704, and business car WCXX 008 *Alberta*.

Saturday morning November 26 and it is show time. Our cadre of volunteers starts arriving and checks in to their positions. Guests start streaming through the gate. The Will Call tent is busy issuing those special Golden Tickets to everyone. It is cold and wet (all day) but warm spirits prevail as everyone pitches in and all comes off as planned.

The first train departs a few minutes late (due tardy guests) but we are underway. As the train arrives back (at the North Pole) things are up and humming. The usual features are there, the mini rail ride, Santa and Mrs. Claus, Herpolshiemer's Toy Shop (**Gordon Hall's** great Christmas toy train display), Letters to Santa, gingerbread cookie decorating, build a wooden train workshop, and more. New this year is our vintage printing press turning out Christmas Cards for sale, and The Ice Cave—in the PGE CarShop where PGE #2 is decorated and open for whistle blowing and bell ringing, and there is a bouncy castle, mini golf and other activities. Also new this year—hot food available fresh from our new kitchen trailer.

Every train is full both this day and Sunday, November 27—but the flow works well and all are very happy. We get lots of “Awesome event” comments, as well as “See you next year” as

Our guests depart. One weekend down, three to go!

(Photos below—North Pole, Don Evans—train ready to depart, Keith Anderson)



FUNDRAISING

RING OF SUPPORT PAVERS—GREAT FOR CHRISTMAS

Do you have someone special that is really hard to find the perfect Christmas gift for? Someone special that you wish to remember? Then look no further.....

A reminder that our Ring of Support paver stones are still available. Get Your Name Carved in Stone (or of someone you wish to honour or remember) and the completed stone will be placed in our supporters garden at the Mac Norris Station.

Call Ken Tanner at 604-898-9336 in Squamish or Jennifer at 604-681-4403 in Vancouver and we can help you. There is also an application form at www.wcra.org Thanks for your support to the WCRA (K.T.)

DIRECT MAIL CAMPAIGN

It's that time of year when the WCRA conducts its annual Direct Mail campaign. As a CRA registered charitable organization, we rely on the generosity of our donors who support the many railway restoration projects that we do. Please consider a donation this year, and thanks to all of you who have already responded.

CANADA CULTURAL SPACES FUNDING ANNOUNCED

Saturday, November 26 was a special day for the WCRA, as our Member of Parliament, **Pamela Goldsmith-Jones** came to the West Coast Railway Heritage Park to announce funding in the amount of \$1 million to assist with the permanent acquisition of the Squamish MP 2 shop. The announcement was made in the "North Pole" which was full of happy people just arrived off the Polar Express. Also in attendance for the event was our MLA, **Jordan Sturdy** and author and former Tourism Vancouver President **Rick Antonson**.

WCRA President Emeritus **Don Evans** introduced our MP to the crowd from a small stage set alongside the restored business car British Columbia. The official news release follows:

Government of Canada Supports the Preservation of Railway Heritage in Squamish

West Coast Railway Association receives funding to purchase and improve railway shop

November 26, 2016 – Squamish, British Columbia – Department of Canadian Heritage

Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of Parliament (West Vancouver–Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country), on behalf of the Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage, today announced \$1 million in funding for the West Coast Railway Association in support of its heritage preservation and expansion efforts.

The funding, provided through the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund, will be used towards purchase and renovation of a former BC Rail work shop, including a 3-storey office facility on the west side of the building and its surrounding 5 acres. The shop will allow the West Coast Railway Association to maintain, protect and preserve its historic collection of locomotives and railcars.

Quotes

“Canada’s history is built on connecting our nation from coast to coast, thanks to our railways. Every train track is emblematic of our hard work and perseverance. The Government of Canada is pleased to invest in the West Coast Railway Association as it continues to protect and honour this treasured part of our past.”

—The Honourable Mélanie Joly, Minister of Canadian Heritage

“The success of the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in Squamish is a testament to the dedication and hard work of over 1,500 volunteers. We are proud to support the West Coast Railway Association and its ongoing journey to preserve railway heritage in British Columbia for all Canadians to enjoy.”

—Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of Parliament (West Vancouver–Sunshine Coast–Sea to Sky Country)

“The West Coast Railway Association is delighted to receive this funding from the Department of Canadian Heritage to assist in the project to permanently acquire the Squamish railway shop. The Association has leased this facility for the past 11 years and it has been a key asset in the preservation and restoration of Canada’s second largest heritage railway collection. The shop has become an integral part of what we are able to accomplish at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in Squamish.”

—Don Evans, President, West Coast Railway Association

Quick Facts

- The West Coast Railway Association, established in 1961, is a non-profit society with a mandate to preserve British Columbia’s vintage locomotives and railcars. They operate the West Coast Railway Heritage Park in Squamish, a 12-acre site replicating a turn-of-the-century railway town including multiple buildings, a train station, a mini-rail and the CN Roundhouse and Community Centre.
- The organization has the second largest collection of vintage locomotives and railcars in Canada

The Canada Cultural Spaces Fund supports the improvement of physical conditions for artistic creativity and innovation, as well as the improvement, renovation and construction of arts and heritage facilities, and the acquisition of specialized equipment.

Following the announcement, the group chatted with many of the guests and then headed for the *Alberta* railcar for a ride on the Polar Express.....in this photo by Don Evans on board and ready to roll we have MP Pamela Goldsmith-Jones, Riley (Rick's grandson), conductor Dai Yates, Rick Antonson, MP's Assistant Deanna, and MLA Jordan Sturdy.



This is a very important piece of support for WCRA, as it has leased and operated these very shops for 12 years now. The shops have been home to many of our significant restorations, as well as being the maintenance base for our operating locomotives and railcars. Without this facility we would not have been able to make the shift into operating trains and the major events (such as Polar Express) that have resulted. It is a really important piece of infrastructure, has allowed WCRA to create several new jobs, and resulted in significant new economic impact to the community.

This announcement is very exciting but the work is not complete as yet. WCRA has to also provide some private sector funds towards the project, and work with the Province of BC—while underway—is not yet complete. Our thanks and appreciation to the Ministry of Canadian Heritage for this incredibly important piece of funding that supports our mandate of preserving Canada's second largest heritage railway collection.

McLEAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTS WCRA

We were most pleased to hear (as we go to press) that the WCRA has received a \$5,000 grant from the McLean Foundation. These funds will be put towards the development of our new Experiential Learning approach at the West Coast Railway Heritage Park. We thank the foundation for supporting us in the new initiative. (K.T.)

LOCOMOTIVE 374 PAVILION

Our visitor count for November was 2,003 which was 81 people less than last November. The YTD Total is 38,438 Visitors. With the poor weather in October and November our visitor count is definitely down. Let's hope for another mild winter.

Thanks to Peyton and Rob for helping decorate the 374 locomotive for Christmas. Also thanks to Jeremy and Donna for the extra Christmas Lights. **Gordon Hall** has confirmed he will be setting up a model train with a Christmas theme for the local kids to watch. This will bring in a few more visitors. Thanks Gordon! Without the Mini-Rail running it will be a much quieter December than in past years.

Sad news this month as we have lost one of our long-term volunteers. **Len Brown** succumbed to illness on November 12. (seen here in the cab of locomotive 374) He will be very much missed at the Pavilion by the 374 Crew, Roundhouse Staff and local residents. Len was a great asset to the 374 Pavilion with his dry sense of humour and knowledge of trains. He will be very hard to replace.



On a happier note, our own 374 Volunteer, **Peyton Liscomb** has been named the recipient of this year WCRA's New Generation Award. Peyton was very surprised when he was called up and presented the award.

We are located at the corner of Davie St & Pacific Blvd. Just across from the Canada Line Yaletown/Roundhouse Station. Winter Hours are 11 to 3. The Roundhouse and 374 Pavilion will be Closed December 24 to January 2.

Please drop in for a visit to the Historic CPR 374 Locomotive and our volunteers. (G.G.)

FEATURE ARTICLES

FROM THE STEAM CHEST - DECEMBER 1961

Thanks to **Craig McDowall**

CNR

Though the 'noodle' CN paint scheme was approved months ago, old paint stock was still being used until exhausted. The Montreal shops were out of the old paint colours, so have been painting diesels in the new scheme but the Transcona shops in Winnipeg only ran out of the old paint stock in November. One of the first units to be repainted in the Transcona shops was #1252 (complete with silver numbers) which is now assigned to Edmonton. Mostly freight units have been repainted to date, but two passenger units - #6508 & #6617 were just completed. To date, no passenger cars have been repainted . . they are concentrating on motive power first it appears.

A 1400 HP diesel? Four locomotives of this output appear to be on CN's roster. A product of Montreal in early 1959 with serial numbers 82589 to 82592, these appear to be the only diesels of this HP ever built anywhere in North America. A V type 12 cylinder engine suppliers the power to four motors mounted on trucks of the A1A-A1A arrangement. They are road switchers with low hoods whose short hoods are very unique in that they are only two feet in length and only contain electrical controls. These engines are numbered 1800 - 1803, are classed MR-14's and assigned to Montreal, where they have worked since new. However #1802 toured Western Canada in in the summer of 1959. It was equipped with a new air brake system termed 26L, and was demonstrated to enginemen across the system.

What will happen to #5114? This is the big question in Edmonton. The October 28th steam fan trip came off very well and even included a steam generator car in the consist to help in conserving steam. The city ordinance requiring no whistling at crossings was rescinded for this one day and the hogger made sure everyone knew what a real whistle should sound like! She was to be sent for scrapping after the trip but for some reason, the CN crews removed her main rods and then placed her in the 109th Street Roundhouse. There is obvious demand for more fan trips but the CN says it needs a \$20,000 overhaul in January if she is to run again. But she had just undergone a major overhaul only 18 months prior in July 1958 when she was converted from coal to oil at Stratford, ON. There is word that the Alberta government is establishing a provincial museum and that #5114 could be a feature in the facility.

CN steam arrives in Vancouver! A large number of steam engines: one ten wheeler, four Pacifics, two Mikados and six Consolidations, one 4-8-2 and a 2-10-2 all arrived in one train. The only problem is they all arrived in pieces in a large number of gondolas destined for Vancouver Steel Ltd.

Pacific Great Eastern Railway

Gas Electric car #107 was in the shops during November for removal of the burned out traction motor (which occurred on the WCRA fan trip on August 5th). The motor was to be inspected and a decision made whether to repair it or not. Diesel #587 has been shopped and when seen in November where it was noted she had roller bearing trucks and dynamic brakes installed.

The test paint scheme (solid green with orange lettering, hand rails and pilot stripes) on diesel #575 that has been seen for several months now is apparently official as a second unit, #562, was in the shops recently for repainting in the new scheme. The only change from the test scheme on #575 is with the number which is now in large numerals on this side of the cab.

BC Forest Products

BCP's speeder #122 (from the abandoned Port Renfrew operations) was spotted recently, off rails, in a small field near Beach Ave between the Granville and Burrard Street bridges(?). It is probably up for sale , that being the only logical reason why it would be bought to Vancouver.

Northern Alberta Railway

The last of the NAR steam roster, 2-8-0 #72 and 2-10-0's #51, 52, 57, and 101 were all torched during the last week of October and the first week in November at the Premium Steel plant in Edmonton.

RAILWAY NEWS

DOMES TO THE U.S.....Four VIA Rail Skyline dome cars went on lease to the US to add capacity to the Polar Express train in Middleton, Wisconsin (an Ed Ellis line). Sent south were VIA 8501, 8503, 8510 and 8512. (J.M.)

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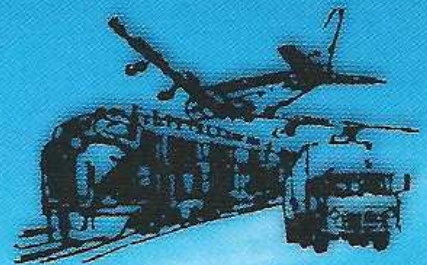
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**ISSN 1204-07
Vol. 57 Issue 1**

Editor Don Evans
Distribution Jeremy Davy & Donna Simon

Contributors:

J.D. Jeremy Davy
G. G. George Game
J.M. Jim McPherson
D.S. Donna Simon
K.T. Ken Tanner

Send contributions to the WCRA PO Box, direct to the editor at #28 - 2133 St. Georges Ave., North Vancouver, B.C. V7L 3K5, on the Internet to <news@wcra.org>, phone news to (604)988-3435(res) or fax to (604) 986-7660. Check us out on the Internet at <www.wcra.org>

**Contact us: Tours 604-524-1011 / 800-722-1233 Heritage Park 604-898-9336 Office 604-681-4403
CN Roundhouse & Conference Centre 604-898-1082
www.wcra.org**

TRIVIA ANSWER

Seaboard Air Line's "Silver Meteor" from New York City to St. Petersburg. Bond also travels on the Orient Express in "*From Russia With Love*" both in book (1957) and film (1963).

BACK COVER

Top—Polar Express 2016 at Squamish with FP7A 4069 / FP9A 6520 leading nine cars through the CN yard and across Government Road on November 27, 2016. (Don Evans photo)

Bottom—The original Stanley Park train debuts at the North Pole November 26, 2016 as part of the Polar Express event. (Don Evans photo)



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Published monthly by West Coast Railway Association
PO Box 2790 Stn. Term., Vancouver, B.C., V6B 3X2
www.wcra.org

ISSN 1204-072X
Vol. 57 Issue 1

Canada Post, Canadian Publications Mail Sales Product Agreement #40007853