

Winter 2011

**KETTLE VALLEY**



## **KETTLE VALLEY COURIER**

### ***GM'S REPORT - 2010 A BANNER YEAR!***



**Ron Restrick**

As the Kettle Valley Steam Railway entered its sixteenth year of operation in 2010 it was with a sense of trepidation due to the economic climate that was taking place. BC Tourism forecasted a stalled growth of 2 percent of tourism visitors from 2009.

Furthermore, the BC Safety Authority was implementing changes to the Railway Act specifically effecting Heritage Railways under their jurisdiction in British Columbia. The organization with the support of its Board of Directors enabled the KVSr to develop a proactive position to meet the challenges that were before us. Through increased marketing initiatives, guest services and positive interaction with BC Railway Safety Authority we managed to exceed all expectations for 2010.

Ridership for 2010 was an astonishing nine (9) percent increase over 2009, setting a record of 28,173 guests who shared a multi-dimensional experience at the Kettle Valley Steam Railway. It is through the support of our members, dedication of volunteers contributing over 3,500 hours of volunteerism and staff that have raised the awareness of the Okanagan's Heritage Railway.

We are working closely with the BC Railway Safety Authority to ensure we meet the standards set out for

heritage railways through audit procedures and as well, developing a protocol with the BC Boiler and Pressure Vessel Authority who under the new legislation, are responsible for inspection of steam locomotives and the qualifying of Steam Locomotive Engineers and Firemen for heritage railways.

The 2010, sold out Christmas Express trips were increased to 10, carrying 1,381 guests. We purchased a 90KW generator to provide heat for the coaches and lighting for the Christmas Express and certainly, I am told, Santa and Mrs. Claus were quite pleased.

Improvements in 2011 include the reupholstering of the seats in Canyon View and Faulder coaches, replacing the CPR murals in each of the coaches with heritage pictures of the Okanagan and KVR, continued track upgrades, replacing tubes on the 3716 and tentatively installation of a storage track for rail equipment. To conclude, we are well positioned for 2011 and excited as the 2012 centenary of the 3716 approaches. To place this in context, the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the 3716, was built the same year that the Titanic sank.

#### Inside this Issue

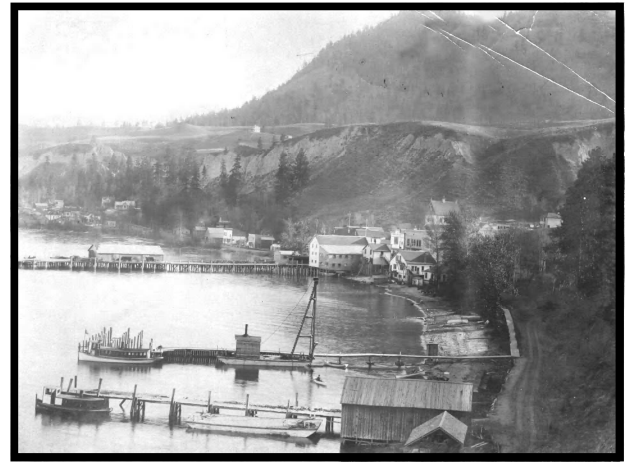
- Tourism Excellence Nominations
- Award Winning Author to speak at March AGM
- Coach Upgrades
- KVSr Featured in Upcoming History Television Series
- 2011 Season Schedule

# COACH UPGRADES

One of the projects on the 2011 job list is the replacement of the vintage coach murals in the Canyon View & Faulder Coaches. There are four of the CPR pictures in each coach which date back to the late forty's. The KVSR will replace them with heritage pictures of the KVR including the Trout Creek Bridge during its construction in 1913, Prairie Valley (originally called Millionaires Row), the Fyffe Street Bridge (before there was a Fyffe Street) and West Sum-

merland Station. We will be working with the Penticton Museum and Archives on finding more photos and enlarging the photographs to fit the allotted wall space at each end of the coaches.

There will be another big change in the coaches by the time the season starts. All the seats (a total of 132) will be reupholstered with brightly coloured red and burgundy material and some of the floor will also have been replaced. What a great face-lift for the Faulder & Canyon View!



Top: Fyffe Bridge

Above: Early Summerland

# TOURISM EXCELLENCE



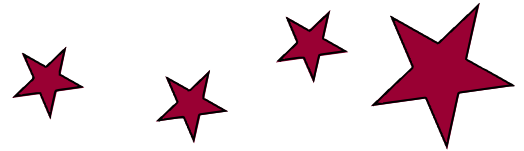
The Kettle Valley Steam Railway has been nominated for Tourism Excellence Awards in both Summerland and Penticton for 2010. This is the first time that the KVSR has been nominated in Penticton and the fourth time in Summerland. The winners will be announced at the Penticton & Summerland Chamber of Commerce Business & Community Galas on

January 29th and February 5th respectively. Win or lose the KVSR is proud to be recognized for "its contribution to Tourism promotion, its positive impact on the economic health of each community, working well with others, its leadership and its innovative marketing strategies."



If you are a fan of Kettle Valley Railway history you'll want to check out the first in a documentary series called Diaries of the KVR which chronicles the design and construction of the railway based on the journals of Andrew McCulloch - Chief Engineer. Episode One: The Story of Myra Canyon will be complete in the next month and includes interviews by CHBC's Mike Roberts with historian Randy Manuel. (One of which was filmed at the KVSR last fall.) For a limited time you can order the first episode free with an \$8.95 shipping and processing fee. Go to: [www.kvrdiaries.ca](http://www.kvrdiaries.ca) for details and promo video.

# WE ♥ OUR VOLUNTEERS



We are very proud of our wonderful team of volunteers. In 2010, our volunteers contributed approximately 3,500 hours of assistance to the KVSR. That's a lot of help! From the Board of Directors, track maintenance crew, coach hosts, gardening personnel and the "boys" that come in once a week throughout the off season to work on projects, we have a fabulous group of people that we appreciate very much. Some of them come in

occasionally; some of them are here almost daily in the operating season! We'd like to acknowledge:

- Sharon and Lloyd Unrau
- Linda Keil
- Marilyn Tamblyn
- Nancy and Lloyd Hawtin
- Bernie, Ann and Ian Saunders
- Connor Park
- Ted (High Tower) Harris
- Doug Campbell
- Eric and Sue Cooper

- Gerry Delaurier
- Leo Caumartin
- Dick and Avril Cartwright
- Jules Dore
- Murray Maxwell
- Ruth Manning
- Simon Nankivell
- Richard Hayter
- Bob Calhoun
- Teri Roberts
- Noreen Williams
- Erkin Sessler
- Dana and Debbie Giles
- Presley Praught

Eric Pearce

**The Board of Directors:**  
 Doug Clayton (President), Terry Zimmerman (Vice President), Ken Sewell (Treasurer), Dr. David Gregory (Secretary), Angie Milne, Jeanette Merrick, Dave Kuzik, David Wiens



Thank you so much for everything you do to keep the Kettle Valley Steam Railway on track! We couldn't do it without you!



Left: Long time volunteer and Board Member Bill Baker belts out a song with staff musician Felix Possak. Bill retired from the KVSR in 2010. Thanks Bill for your years of dedication! Right: Eric Pearce (Santa), Debbie Giles (Mrs. Claus) and Presley Praught (Elf) volunteered for all ten Christmas runs. Erkin Sessler did too. Thanks to all of you!



Mark Brett Black Press Photo

## STEAM ON THE KETTLE AUTHOR TO SPEAK AT AGM



Mark Saturday, March 26th at 1 pm on your calendar and join us for the Kettle Valley Railway Society Annual General Meeting. We

are pleased to have multi-awarding winning author Robert D. Turner as our guest speaker. Turner has written fifteen books (including Steam on the Kettle about the KVR), and over 350 articles on railway and steamship history. He is Curator Emeritus at the Royal

British Columbia Museum, where he was Chief of Historical Collections for many years. Among other projects, since 1988 he has been Project Historian at the SS Moyie National Historic Site at Kaslo, BC, where a major restoration is underway on the

world's oldest passenger sternwheeler. For his work on Canadian railway history he received the Canadian Railroad Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. Board Elections, Year in Review and financial report will also be featured at the AGM.

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### Kettle Valley Railway Society

President—Doug Clayton

Vice President—Terry Zimmerman

Treasurer—Ken Sewell

Secretary—David Gregory

Directors □ Jeanette Merrick, Dave Kuzik,  
Angie Milne, David Wiens

## ***KVSR WILL PARTICIPATE IN A HISTORY TELEVISION SERIES***

Train enthusiasts will have a once in a lifetime opportunity to help name our 3716 steam locomotive. The Kettle Valley Steam Railway will be featured in the upcoming fall series on History Television called "Name This". A documentary production company based in Toronto called Marble Media is developing the series which is about names, how people, places and things get their names and the stories behind history's famous names. Each episode will follow along as something or someone is named. You can go to the website [www.namethis.ca](http://www.namethis.ca) to submit your ideas for the best name.

Five names will be short listed with the winning name announced on the show. A promo will be filmed here in February and the segment will be shot in mid-March. If you would like to help us fill up the train during shooting - check out the website. We will post dates & times when the schedule is confirmed. Another T.V. note - Great Scenic Railway Journeys will air on KCTS again in March. Stay tuned!!

## Kettle Valley Steam Railway - 2011 Schedule

### Regular Season

#### Reservations Recommended

#### Spring Schedule

Opening Day – Saturday, May 14th @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm

May 14th – June 27th – Saturday, Sunday & Monday @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm

#### Summer Schedule

June 30th – August 29th – Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm \* Note that the regular runs July 3rd & July 31st at 1:30 pm are cancelled in lieu of Robbery Events

#### Fall Schedule

September 3rd – October 10th – Saturday, Sunday & Monday @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm \* Note that regular runs September 11th & 25th @ 1:30 are cancelled in lieu of Robbery Events

### Special Events □ Reservations Required

**Easter Train** – Saturday, April 23rd @ 10:30 am & 1:30 pm

**Mother's Day** – Sunday, May 8th @ 1:30 pm

**Great Train Robbery & BBQ Events @ 4 pm** (unless otherwise noted)

**Spring** – May 29th, June 12th, June 19th

**Summer** – July 3rd @ 1:30 & 4 pm, July 17th, July 31st @ 1:30 & 4 pm

August 14th, August 28th

**Fall** – September 11th @ 1:30 pm & September 25th @ 1:30 pm

#### Summerland Christmas Express

December 10th & 11th (Sat & Sun) @ 4 & 6 pm

December 16th (Friday) @ 5 pm & 7 pm

December 17th & 18th (Sat & Sun) @ 4 & 6 pm