

CP picnic was fun despite being railroaded inside

Plenty of food and games made up for rain

By Lois Gilmore

Although the weather did not cooperate, CP Rail's 2nd Family Safety Day Picnic went ahead as scheduled a little over two weeks ago. Originally planned to be held at Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, it was hosted at the Schreiber Recreation Centre instead.

At the registration desk, each child was presented with a balloon, while the adults received



Butch St. Jean prepares for the Spike Driving Contest while Wayne Buchanan keeps an eye on the timer. photo- L. Gilmore

key chains and 'furkins' with a safety slogan attached. There was something for everyone in the capacity crowd of approximately 900.

The hungry crowd, which consumed 840 hamburgers, 1700 hot dogs, 1400 doughnuts and 1500 cups of coffee — to name just a few of the food items served — came from as far away as Thunder Bay and White River. The picnic was for employees as well as CP Rail retirees.

As well as renewing old acquaintances, events included a Treasure Hunt, races, Spike Driving Contest, Fish Pond, Hockey Shoot, Horse Shoes, Bingo, and of course a Dunk Tank.

Prizes consisted of stuffed animals, piggy banks, toys and silver dollars. A prize went to every child, and there were trophies for the adults.

The climax of the picnic was the Attendance Draw. Major prize winners included: Michael Imbeault who won a Yamaha Bravo TS snow machine and two helmets donated by CP Rail; A. A. Morris and M. P. Valentino each won a mountain bike donat-

ed by the U.T.U. and B. of L.E.

Other draw prizes from CP Rail included: radios; sleeping bags; car emergency kits; tricycles; and first aid kits. There were also weekend trips for two donated by various merchants from Thunder Bay.

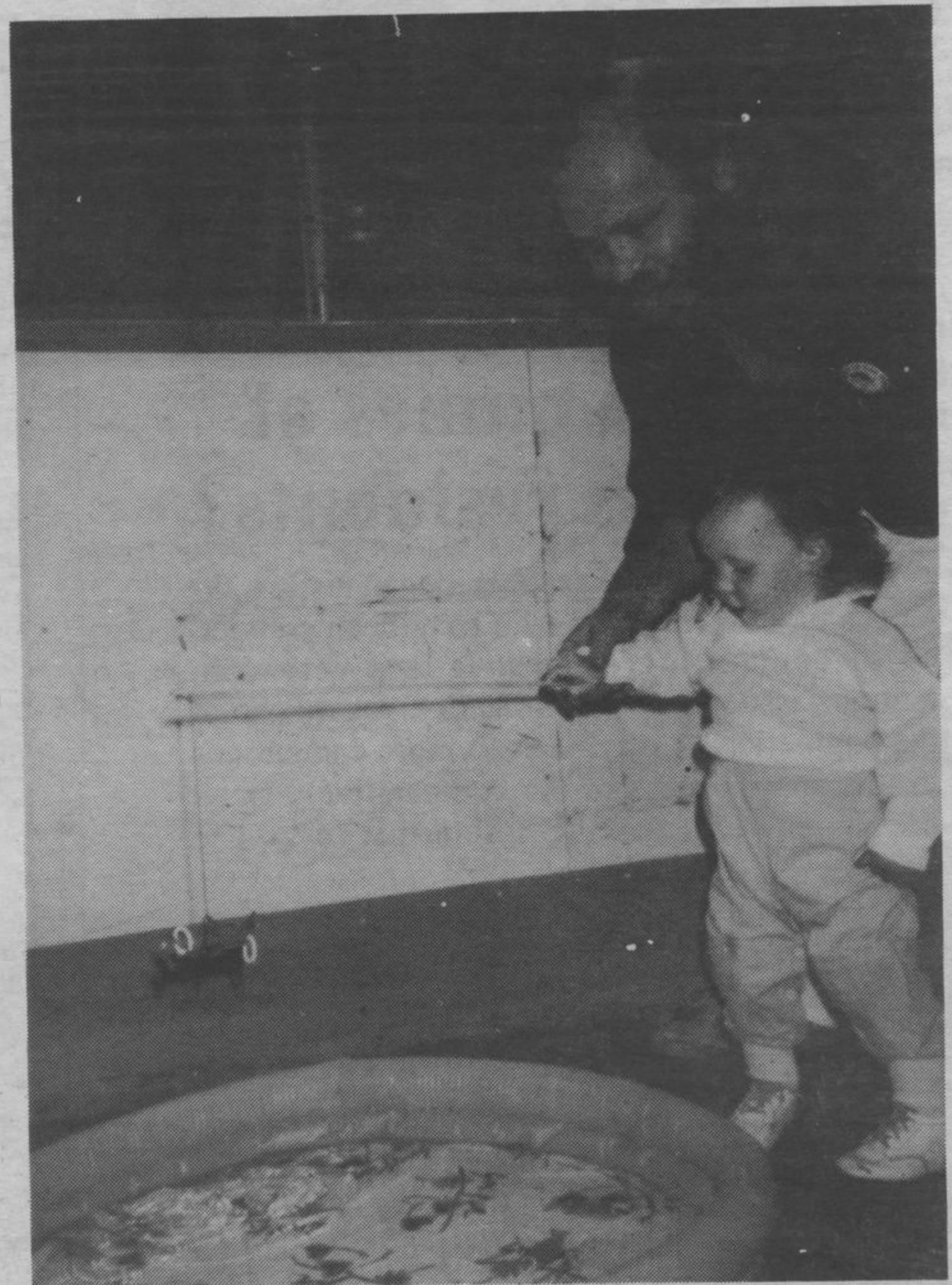
Other winners were:
Treasure Hunt champ - William Wheeler
Horse Shoes - This event was rained out, so a draw was conducted to determine the three winners.

Men's Spike Driving Contest:
1st - Wayne Parise
2nd - Bob Fummerton
3rd - Yvon Cormier

Women's Spike Driving Contest:
1st - Ileana Wheeler
2nd - Joyce Buchanan
3rd - Billie Joe Keating

Right: Bill Collinson helps his son catch 'the big one' at the Fish Pond during the CP Rail picnic held in Schreiber.

photo by Lois Gilmore



Rosspport converting old caboose into new museum

By Judi Sundland

The Rosspport Historical Society, which was formed last year, had a dream of a museum to house its colourful history. This year, that dream will come true.

Although Rosspport is known as a fishing village, the railway has also played a part in establishing the history.

Not only was the hamlet renamed in honour of Walter Ross, a contractor who built this section of rail, but the trains have hauled everything from fish to iron from the village.

In July, the group received word that they had acquired a CP Rail caboose which was built in 1945 and weighed 22 tons. After the excitement settled, work began as 22 tons is no light matter! Land had to be found, rails had to be laid and plans had to be made to move her from the rails to a stationary home.

Thanks to the cooperation of community members as well as the members of surrounding com-

munities, the fist spike was driven on July 28 by Dave McCullough.

Donations of fill and manpower were received to secure the ties and prepare the site. After weeks of searching, Lebrun Construction volunteered their crane to move the caboose off the tracks to her permanent home. That was on the '8'th day of the '8'th month of 1988, which is considered exceptionally lucky by the Chinese to begin any venture.

The Historical Society still has a long way to go before the members have an operable museum. However, this is the beginning. Not only has the community rallied to support the "Friends of the Museum" campaign, but many have already donated photographs, memorabilia, and articles of interest.

With the threat of the caboose being a 'sight of the past,' community members employed by the railroad are excited about being part of the last run the 'Rosspport Express' will take this month before coming to rest in her new place of honour.

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