



INDUSTRY TRAILBLAZERS: 2006

Jess C. Nowicki

A third generation railroader, Jess spent his life educating and promoting the Canadian Pacific Railway. Born next to the CPR at Suffield, Alberta, he spent his career not only working for the railway as a trainman and conductor, but collecting books, photographs, and memorabilia related to the CPR's rich history. He was also instrumental in the community of Medicine Hat receiving their heritage diesel locomotives for their downtown park. At 90 years old in 2005, Jess could tell the stories from a first hand perspective as his dad and grandfather built the railroad west.

Later in his career, Jess was especially well known as the "Trainman" on the Park Car of the famous "Canadian" passenger train between Medicine Hat and Field, where he was known to give impromptu history lessons and show old timetables to the traveling public. His basement in Medicine Hat was filled with letters and newspaper clippings from travelers the world over, thanking him for his time.

As the classic CPR conductor, Jess Nowicki is a railway hero, deserving of his induction to the Hall of Fame in 2006.

Jess Nowicki passed away peacefully at his residence on Saturday, October 4, 2008, at the age of 93 years.

Joseph Earl Shaw

Joseph Earl Shaw was born in the Canadian Northern Railway depot at Condie, Saskatchewan on June 3, 1916. His father was the station agent at the time. Joseph Shaw grew up railroading and after a few years with the CN as a telegrapher in Saskatchewan, he was transferred to Edmundston, New Brunswick for the winter of 1940. He spent the remainder of his railway career in Edmundston.

Railroading was in Earl's blood, first as a station agent, a telegrapher, a dispatcher, and a chief dispatcher, until his retirement due to bad eyesight at the level of Trainmaster in 1978.

He was known for his great humanity and great management style which endeared him to all who have known him. His legacy has outlasted his career, and in the Maritimes, the name "Earl Shaw" is still known by many in the railway fraternity.

Max Jacquiard

Max Jacquiard has become one of the most respected artists in Canada in his specialized field of painting images of trains. A printer by trade, Max has been painting steam trains exclusively since 1981. These powerful acrylic images on canvas conjure up visions of the strength and romance of the steam trains that have been a part of his life since his early childhood in both Flin Flon, Manitoba, and his later move to British Columbia.



Max is a member of the 'Society of Steam Era Artists of America'. The evocative nature of Max Jacquiard's paintings have captured the imaginations of steam buffs across Canada and the United States. His paintings now grace the walls of many North American homes and corporate offices.