



ORDER BOARD

Official Newsletter of the Calgary Model Railway Society

The Communications Medium for Railway Enthusiasts.

Volume 2, Issue # 1 - Feb 96

Report from the President:

Dale N. Sproule

The Railfan Slide Night of January 26 saw some 60 enthusiastic Society members see the photo works of three of Calgary's finest; Bob Hadlow, Tom Newton, and Rick Yaremko. The Society sincerely thanks these gentlemen for their presentations. The newly improved fire setting, complete with tiered seating was not full this year, but let's hope for better weather next year.

Barry Conn has stepped forward to meet a society request to become your layout coordinator. He will be looking for home layouts for Society members to visit, and some of his ideas would involve only a few visitors per layout at any one time, and the host knowing in advance who his visitors would be. Call Barry at 251-9334.

The upcoming Model Railway show, Supertrain 96 is later this month, Feb 24/25 at Mewata Armouries - a reminder that this is the only event that society members have to pay for, unless they are exhibitors. At 12:30 on Tuesday Feb 20, Mayor Al Duerr will proclaim the week of Feb 20-24 as Model Railroad week. This will take place in the atrium of City Hall. With any luck there will be some operating displays in the downtown area during the week. If you can help man one of these displays during Model Railroad Week, call Dave Stefanek at 279-4886. On Saturday Feb 24, at 12:30 the Mayor will officially open the show. We hope to have some media exposure for one or both of these occasions.

Posters are now available (call Bill

Marshall @ 249-6234) please help us advertise by distributing these where ever you can.

The CP Rail simulator will be there as well as more exhibits than last year. (31 up from 23). Supertrain 96 will also see a first time experiment for Calgary; commercial selling. Following the show last year, you the membership directed the '96 committee to include commercial selling as part of this year's show. The committee is responding with six commercial areas. We want the membership to tell the show committee what you think: good idea, bad idea, continue next year or not. As of this writing (Feb 5), the show committee has received two bidders to operate the concessions area, a decision to be made soon. We want your feedback in this area also. Since this is your show your opinion counts.

Of special note: the Edmonton Society of Model Railroad Engineers will bring their HO scale layout. The Salmon Arm modellers will bring their three modules (weather permitting) which won acclaim at the 1994 NMRA convention in Portland. Among the numerous door prizes are three rail trips for 2 (1 way only) VIA Rail from Edmonton to Vancouver, Royal Hudson from Vancouver to Squamish, and Calgary to Vancouver on the Rocky Mountaineer.

Volunteer Appreciation Night is something the Board of Directors wants to do to recognise the contributions made by those that have made your society the success it has become. The proposed night is to be in late April. Look for another special mailing at your door and get the

babysitter lined up. We want you to bring your spouse too. The evening will be a wine and cheese affair. A no-host bar will be available. The certificates and cheques from Supertrain 96 will be presented too. Location, date, and time to be announced soon.

The 6th division spring meet (*Golden Spike 96*) is approaching, set for Edmonton during the Victoria Day long weekend. I'd suggest that as many of you should attend. You'll meet and make new friends, see home layouts, models, the prototype railroad, and have a good time! See the upcoming events for more information and contacts.

A reminder that the current by-laws are available to all members from the Society Secretary, Al Hough, 289-8511.

Upcoming Events:

Selkirk Express 96

7th division Revelstoke Convention. April 5-7/96. For info and registration write Selkirk Express P.O. Box 1819 Revelstoke BC, V0E 2S0.

Golden Spike 96

6th division spring meet. Edmonton. May 17-20/96. For information contact Mark Johnson, 11428 77 Ave. Edmonton, AB T6G 0L8. phone (403)436-2480 or e-mail mark.johnson@arc.ab.ca

Supertrain 96

ADMISSION:
Children: \$2.00 (Age 3 - 12)
Adults: \$4.00 (Age 13 & over)

Upcoming Events:

continued

Family: \$3.00 (Parent(s) with their children 12 and under)

LOCATION:

Mewata Armoury 801 - 11 St. SW,
Calgary, Alberta

DATES AND TIMES:

Saturday February 24, 1996
10:00 am to 6:00 pm

Sunday February 25, 1996
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

FURTHER INFORMATION:

Barry 251-9334
FLEA MARKET: Maurice 251-7073

Lethbridge Model Railroad Club's Open House

March 16-17 1996. At their club house located in Gyro Park 10th Avenue and 15th Street South, Lethbridge, AB. No admission but donations will be accepted.

Contact Doug Wingfield at (403) 381-1369 or write: 75 Temple Crescent W. Lethbridge, AB T1K 4T3.

Red Deer Model Railroad and Hobby Show

March 30-31 1996 at the Westerner Exhibition. No other information available.

Volunteer Appreciation Night

April, '96. Details TBA.

Update From the Secretary:

Al Hough

A couple of weeks ago I sent in the renewal application for the society's certification with the Alberta Government. Can it be one year since we became "official"? The membership list continues to grow, and we have been very busy adding new names, address changes, etc. I would like to offer one last reminder regarding the CMRS Directory: if you wish your address and phone number NOT be included, please let me know immediately, as the project will be underway very soon. That's all for this issue, see you at the show.

Show Committee Report:

Dave Stefanek

We have confirmation that Feb 20-23 1996 will be declared Model Railway Week by Mayor Al Duerr at city hall on Feb 20 at 12:30pm, in the Municipal Atrium beside our display. We would certainly appreciate the attendance of any members who could be there. It would be nice to have a good crowd for the proclamation.

Mention must be made about the excellent work Maurice Despina and his committee have done in seeing that all individuals, groups, and clubs have space at the show. Including the applicants who crowded the application deadline. The show is full, all 20,000 sq ft of it plus some side rooms. The committee is currently preparing the conformations and floor plan for mailing to all the exhibitors. Thank you Maurice for a job well done.

We still have a requirement for some displays for the downtown exhibits. If you have a small static display, some structures, a diorama, or whatever which you would like to display, and are able to work the display for approx. 4 hours per day during the week leading up to the show, (Tues Feb 20 - Fri Feb 23) please call Dave Stefanek 279-4886.

Supertrain 96 Flea Market:

This year's flea market is being run by the Thursday Night Group. Tables are \$20.00/day To pre-book your table contact Maurice Despina at 251-7073 or fax 251-4976

Side Tracks:

Bits and pieces
Andrew Cocker

Bill Wiswell (286-2968) would like to hear from others interested in "G" Scale (Garden Railways) in live steam.

Its been 5 months since the CMRS went live on the Internet with it's own web page. For those of you that don't know what that means, a web page is an electronic document that is available to anyone that knows the url. (fancy name for address) Think of it as a bulletin board

poster that the whole world can read. Providing they know where to look. The CMRS page contains an introduction to the society, listings for several Alberta clubs, images of layouts, upcoming events, and a cut down version of the Order Board.

I know what you're thinking, if you need the address of the page in order to read it, then how do you get the address? People find out about most pages by visiting other pages with related content and following links or by using search utilities. The CMRS page is linked to approx. 80 other railway related pages around the world including the NMRA's web-site, and is registered to most of the major search engines. Ok, so what does this really mean, and what does it have to do with model railways? It means that as of February 4, 1996 nearly 1500 people from all over the world have read about our society. There are hundreds of clubs and societies that have their information posted on the world wide web. I've lost count of the number of railway related sites out there. A growing number of modelers use the internet as a tool to communicate with others and for research. One gentleman from Minnesota e-mailed me to let me know that he changed the dates of his westward trek to Vancouver so he could see Supertrain 96 when he passes through Calgary.

If you would like to take a look, point your web browser at:
<http://www.agt.net/public/ecocker/cmrs.htm>

If you have any suggestions for the Order Board or would like to contribute an article please contact us at:
The Order Board c/o Calgary Model Railway Society.
146 Cornwallis DR NW
Calgary, AB T2K 1V1

or via the internet: ecocker@agt.net
Submissions on PC formatted 3.5" disk please. All disks will be returned.

From the Caboose:
or hindsight is 20-20
Bob Hadlow

A couple of corrections right off the top. In my last column, I referred to the Bomb train as the "ethanol train", I should be more careful as it is the Methanol train. Wouldn't want to get into trouble with the Feds. My second error is in the reporting of the new CN Rail SD70's as having the Canadian Safety Cab. This is also incorrect as pictures show the units with just two windows at the front. I guess the American version of the Canadian Safety Cab has won the day! By the way the Canadian cab has four windows for those that count rivets and such things. I also mentioned that the new SD70's were in captive service between Montreal and Winnipeg via Chicago. I guess that CN considers Calgary some where between those places as #5606 was seen in Calgary and Brian Siman has the pictures to prove it. I guess CN is back to sending units anywhere on the system.

CN Rail has in fact placed an order with EMD for 105 new SD75's with an option for 70 more units. Santa Fe is the only other road which has purchased SD70's. Delivery of the first 105 units is expected to begin in June of 1996. This order is part of the plan where by CN Rail purchases 394 new units which will replace more than 500 older units including all of the SD40's which are fast approaching 30 years of age and all remaining ALCO/MLW power. These new purchases mean that the rebuilding program that CN had for SD40's stopped at the end of 1995. These units were renumbered after rebuilding from #6000 on up. The latest out is #6021. I have seen pictures of the SD40R's and got my first shot of one way back in July, leading at that!

CN Rail continues to downsize by reducing its employees by 1000 per year. Wonder who will be left to run the railroad let alone someone to fix it when all hell breaks loose!

CN Rail is now in the lease business as some traffic has slowed down for the winter. At last report, as many as 15 SD40's, (#5017, 5030, 5032, 5038, 5046, 5048, 5054, 5064, 5080, 5081, 5105, 5139, 5179, 5214, & 5224) and 3 GP40's (#9313, 9314, & 9316) are on lease to the

Union Pacific.

Speaking of the Union Pacific, they have taken delivery of their first SD90MAC in early November. This unit is equipped with the 710 series prime mover rated at 5000 horsepower, and will be re-engined when the new 6000 horsepower engine is available from EMD, probably late in 1996 or early 1997. The SD90MAC's are EMD's version of the winged Dash 9-40CW's/AC4400CW's. I would guess that the wings are required for better cooling.

Want to buy a railroad? Make an offer to BC Rail. Hard on the heels of the CN Rail privatization, the BC government is considering selling the BC Rail system. One thing in the BC Rail's favour is the fact that it has made a profit for nine of the past ten years. How's this for a rumour, as Montana Rail Link (read Dennis Washington) now owns the Southern Rail of British Columbia, formerly BC Hydro, it will probably take a run at the purchase of BC Rail whenever it is offered for sale. Makes sense to me!

All of CP Rail's 83 AC4400CW's have arrived! The last group arrived in light engine moves of 8-12 units on October 17, 1995. I saw #9576 on November 9, 1995, and that's the highest numbered unit I've seen so far. CP Rail and CN Rail are having some problems regarding the new units. After a couple of test runs, CN Rail is refusing to allow the AC4400CW's to operate over its tracks to the Robert's Bank Superport. CP Rail is having to use SD40-2's taken from other trains in order to complete their delivery of coal. Sure seems strange as the only difference between the CN Dash 9-44CW's and CP Rail's AC4400CW's is the DC vs AC traction motors. No reason has been give and negotiations continue. More to the soap opera later! So far the Locotrol 4 & software isn't installed so that they can run as Locotrol masters and slaves. The new Locotrol 4 is a portable unit while the previous Locotrol units have been hard wired, so if they are used on any train which has robots you'll see them paired with SD40/SD40-2's and in the trailing position.

Speaking of the railfan press. Take a look at the railfan magazines that are available in your local hobby shop. Trains, Railfan & Railroad, CTC Board, Pacific Rail News, Diesel Era, and Extra 2200 are six

publications that are worth buying and reading. Trains and Railfan run the gamut of steam and diesel, while the others are usually about today's railroading.

I hope that Santa was good to everyone this Christmas. I know that I lucked out when my kids and son-in-law gave me the new book on the BC Rail by John F. Garden. From the pictorial side, I think that its the best book I've ever seen when it comes to quality pictures and the written history of the BC Rail has helped me to understand that railroad a whole lot better. Its well worth the asking price.

Well enough for this issue. Please remember that if you are taking railroad pictures and are on Railroad property, you should have permission and to only "Take pictures and leave footprints"

Contributors:

- Dale N. Sproule
- Al Hough
- Bob Hadlow
- Al Oates
- Dave Stefanek
- Andrew Cocker - Editor

The Order Board is published four times a year by the Calgary Model Railway Society.

**Calgary Model Railway Society
Board of Directors**

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**Supertrain 96
Clinic Schedule**

Saturday, Feb 24:

11:00	Plaster Bandage Scenery	Al Peirce
12:00	Digital Command Control	Barry Conn
1:00	Dry Brush Weathering	John Twelftree
2:00	Basic Layout Wiring	Richard Johnson
3:00	Plastic Kit Construction	Byron Ellett
4:00	Foam Scenery	Al Hough
5:00	Tree Construction	Rick Reimer

Sunday, Feb 25

11:00	Plaster Bandage Scenery	Elmer Holm
12:00	Digital Command Control	Barry Conn
1:00	Dry Brush Weathering	John Twelftree
2:00	Basic Layout Wiring	Richard Johnson
3:00	Plastic Kit Construction	Byron Ellett
4:00	Foam Scenery	Al Hough