

ORDER BOARD

The Official newsletter of the

Calgary

Model Railway Society

The Communications Medium for Railway Enthusiasts

**September 2002
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Internet Addresses

CMRS Homepage Address - <http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org>
Order Board Newsletter Address - <http://calgarymodelrailway.org/orderboard.html>

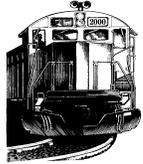
Editor: Gord Smith

President's Message

It is that time of year again. We need to clean the track and get ready for another season of Model Railroading. I am sure we all want to spend as much time as possible with our models. With this in mind we are trying something a little different this year. We will be holding the AGM during the lunch break of the Mini-meet on October 6. The main advantage of this is that we get an extra evening to work on our layouts.

This is my last Presidents message and I would like to congratulate and thank my fellow board members and the SuperTrain committee for all the successful efforts and the contributions over the past year.

- William Cameron



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September 12 & 13, 2002 FIELD, BC

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e-mail: 96@96.ca

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Our Next President's Appeal

A message from our incoming president:

As our summer time winds down and we start thinking about heading into our basements for another winter of modelling, it also marks the time for the new year of the Calgary Model Railway Society. The first AGM that I attended a few years back almost saw the demise of your Society. But an enthusiastic group of people came forward to right the ship (or boxcar). Since then, your Society over the past four years has flourished and we have seen some significant and exciting progression in the size of membership and the activities that we participate in. This is due to the dedication of the members of your Society. Alas, this year will see the turnover of SIX board members! It has been a pleasure working with all of them and we thank them for all their time and hard work. As sad as I am to see them move on, I am excited to be working with new faces, and new ideas and new points of view. Is that person YOU? I have been quietly asking, (or telling) people that they will be part of the new board, but I am still looking for more recruits. Should I name names? You know who you are! Without board members, and active participants, your Society will die. The stronger and the more enthusiastic the participants, the stronger your Society will be. If you are interested, e-mail me or call me or talk to any current board member and we will fill you in on what to expect. The time commitment is a lot less than you might think and enthusiasm will be your strongest asset.

As your current vice-president and also your treasurer, I can tell you the Society is financially strong and we are looking at some exciting activities for the upcoming year, but they cannot happen with just a handful of people. The AGM is on Sunday, October 6th combined with a mini-meet and a few surprises. I hope to see a full house and a large list of candidates. Please, step up and give your society a little of your time.

From the top of my soap box,

Mike Borkristl

Letter of Thanks

June 26 - CMRS Tours the Royal Canadian Pacific & the Canadian Pacific Railway Pavilion

The members of CMRS are grateful for the Royal treatment extended to us by Jean, Sally, Morgan and David Walker, Managing Director. A train is simply hardware. The four of you brought it alive with your comments and personal attention.

The invitation up to the pavilion, the refreshments, the director's welcome at the end of the coach, and the tours in small groups, all allowed us to experience the same special ambiance you are creating for your guests. Thank you for giving us a unique evening.

I asked our members what they thought, and here are some of their comments.

"I really appreciated the opportunity to tour this exclusive train in small groups with excellent, personable hosts."

"It really is nice to not only have the tour but also the behind the scenes comments and sorties. I put in a lot of miles traveling on the CPR when that was the only way to go. Everything was first class then but I'm sure your clients are given a whole new meaning as to what is first class. It brought back a lot of memories as I walked thru the cars. Thanks to our hosts. It is very apparent that they do a first class job.- Nick Nicholson "

"I can't say enough about how much my wife and I enjoyed the tour, and we're starting to save our pennies for a trip! To put it into a few words, the tour was exceptional, with very knowledgeable and affable hosts who seemed to love their train as much as we would like to ride it. Thank you very much to the Royal Canadian Pacific group for their time and generosity.- Dennis Jones"

"I was very impressed with the level of service provided for the CMRS group. CPR provided refreshments, staff to serve the refreshments and 4 senior members of staff to act as tour guides, all for a group of enthusiasts who are unlikely to become paying guests on the train. I doubt if many other companies would do the same in this day and age."

The tour was interesting and informative. The interiors of the cars have been refinished to a very high standard while retaining the fine mahogany woodwork. Most of the guest rooms are certainly a "cut above" the originals and the service provided is exceptional. David Walker, Jean Lesourd, Sally Pierce and Morgan Burgess did a fine job as our hosts. Thanks, Denis McWilliams "

"I'd like to thank you and your staff for the excellent tour of the Royal Canadian Pacific train this evening. I found the overview of the train from historical, anecdotal, architectural, culinary and business perspectives to be a welcome

compliment to the well-paced tour of this magnificently restored train. Your friendly, personable manner and willingness to provide clear answers to many questions made this tour particularly enjoyable for me, and I'm sure for the rest of my fellow CMRS members, too. Thanks to each of you for making yourselves available to us on an evening "in town" - I really appreciated it.

Could you please forward my thanks to Morgan, Sally and your marketing manager, David.

I hope that this exciting business venture continues to be a lucrative and enjoyable one for all involved! Thank you again. Bob McMechan"

"This was a fabulous tour that Karen and I enjoyed immensely! We hope to ride this tour train someday! Thanks for the wonderful hospitality. Regards, Karen & Bruce Elliott"

My wife and I would also like to thank David and his team for a job well done. It was a special privilege extended to our Railroad Society that allowed us such an opportunity to view this magnificent piece of Canadian history. David's light hearted commentary was great and he would definitely make a great host for a five day trip. He had wonderful insights into the life and times of each car. Thanks Again! Len & Anita Kipta"

"Thank you all very much for the tour of the wonderful Royal Canadian Pacific. It is pleasing to know that a piece of Canadian history can still be experienced, not just viewed, and is within reach (though not easy reach - I'm saving up my pennies) of most people. I am glad that people have taken the initiative to restore and protect this equipment so that it may still be enjoyed for years to come. I would also especially like to thank I believe it was Ms Jean Lesourd (black dress) who, upon finding that I missed most of the information on the tour inside due to the size of the last group to go through, personally took me through again so that I didn't miss anything. Again, to all who organized and presented this, thank you. Christopher M Mulders, C.E.T."

"On our behalf, would you please convey a very sincere "Thank You" to David Walker and his colleagues for hosting our CMRS group earlier this week. Getting such a personalized tour of the Royal Canadian Pacific was a real treat, and we enjoyed the evening very much. Thanks again to you as well for organizing a really great CMRS event. Regards, Teresa and David Bates."

"On behalf of my family (Barry, Rhena, Alyssa) I would like to express my gratitude for the tour we had. I was impressed with the enthusiasm they showed in their work despite them knowing that most of us will not have the opportunity to take the tour in the near future. They gave us the inspiration to save up and work toward taking a tour on the train somewhere "down the line". It also makes me envious of them for working at a first class employer like Canadian Pacific Railway. Barry Crispin"

So there you are. Thanks to you all.

The Calgary Model Railway Society
Rolf Stengl Director, Railfan Tours

Railtour Survey

Mike Gibbons writes:

I had the good fortune to take a one day trip to Field and back, on the Royal Canadian Pacific. The trip was for mobile testing of some on board communication equipment. This was done in short order, and the rest of the day was to enjoy the ride. All along the way people were waving at us and vehicles were pulling over to see the historic cars. The exhilaration was immense.

A journey like this should not just be for the rich. I believe that there is a considerable demand for an affordable day trip. I contacted CPR and they listened with great interest. However to prove the point we need to get some feedback from as many people as possible to take to them. Please answer the following questions and either mail them to Mike Gibbons @ Mountain Princess Tours, 141 Marquis Place, Airdrie, Alberta, T4A 1Y8 or by Email at mgmmelec@telus.net or drop this form off at the MiniMeet.

Please pass this survey on to as many people as you can. With your help this can happen.

NOTE: This survey can also be taken on line at <http://www.ironhorsepark.com>

Please circle your preference, 1= most preferred, 2=acceptable, 3= least preferred

Which route would you prefer to ride?

- | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1. Golden and back | 1. | 2. | 3. | | | |
| 2. Edmonton and back | 1. | 2. | 3. | | | |
| 3. Lethbridge and back | 1. | 2. | 3. | | | |
| 4. Medicine Hat and back | 1. | 2. | 3. | | | |
| 5. A 2 day trip with overnight accommodation | | | | 1. | 2. | 3. |
| 6. Christmas trip to Golden and back | | | | 1. | 2. | 3. |

How much would you be willing to pay for a day trip? (circle one)

1. Up to \$100
2. Up to \$150
3. Up to \$200

How often would you take such a trip? (circle one)

1. Once
2. Once a year
3. More often

What services would you like to see on the train? (circle one)

1. No services bring own food
2. Snack service
3. Full meal service

Other suggestions:

This information will only be used by the people conducting the survey and will not be shared with any other organization other than Canadian Pacific Railway.

Name

Address

Tel #

Sponsoring a New Club

Interested in forming a 'new model railway club' here in the city?

The Bow Valley Model Railway Club is assisting with the formation of this new club.

For further information please call:

Jim Bernhardt	256 - 2330
Bill McLeod	271 - 3915
Kerry Air	720 - 2720
Dave Walling	282 - 6425

BOOMER AUCTION

South Bank Short Lines
23rd Annual Model RR "Boomer Auction"
Saturday, October 19, 2002
St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
703 Heritage Drive, S.W.

Set up/display/viewing: 1000 hrs.

Auction starts: 1300 hrs.

Dining car open 1100 hrs. to 1500 hrs.

Admission: Under 6 yrs. - free, 6 to 16 yrs. - \$1.00,

Over 16 yrs. - \$2.00

Vendor charge: - 10% of sales

Info: Allan Peirce, 619 Woodsworth Rd., S.E.
Calgary, AB. T2J 1M6
Phone/Fax: (403) 278-6786
e-mail: peircea@telusplanet.net

FOR SALE

2 - Athearn SD40-2's CPRail Systems multi flag

2 - Athearn GP50's Burlington Northern orange/black nose

2 - Walthers Trainline Alco FA-1's Great Northern

These engines are each equipped with DIGITRAX DT120 chips. Asking \$60.00 each.

Phone: Kevin Jalving 686-4652



The CMRS membership directory will be available at the AGM on October 6th. They are also available to members upon request from the director responsible for membership. The membership list is for personal use, and not to be redistributed for commercial purposes.

ATTENTION: NEW CLUB(S)

If a new club wishes to have an operating layout, the capital expenses involved for basic items such as wood, hardware, and of course trackage, are far from trivial. There is also considerable construction time required to achieve operation. In light of the fact that Irene and I will be leaving our family home to live in an apartment about two years from now, I have some proposals which might be of interest to (a) new club(s) or an individual. We must find new homes for many of our possessions. One candidate is my basement layout. Its 8'X20' open oval design was built in sections, some of which I have used in shows.

There is still much work (scenery, connector plugs between sections, etc) which can/should be done. The outer track oval is Code 70 dual gauge HO/HOn3 with a radius of about 4'. The innermost oval with some passing sidings is a combination of N-scale and HOn2.5'. Between these ovals is Code 100/95 trackage with Peco turnouts and a Fleischmann turntable.

The replacement value for the materials is more than \$2000. I would prefer not to butcher this layout for parts and would sell it cheaply or donate it to an organization such as a boy's club, particularly if there could be a receipt, which would reduce my income tax.

For an assured good home, I offer some light tables, which I have used at shows. They are based on a 4' grid and suitable for many scales. When displaying, I have used Roco, Kato, etc "ready laid" track on them.

Finally, I have designed a very light, flexible modular system which I demonstrated at SuperTrain two years ago. Some modules have interchangeable scenery inserts. I have a number of "blank" module frames available and have sawn wood for more. This project was quite expensive but I would make these units available to a club desiring to build a top quality module layout.

Personally, I envisage an international theme with different modules representing different countries as I have a large collection of rolling stock, buildings, etc from different countries. However, I am as flexible as the system! For better realism, I plan to use code 83 track on the mainline and Peco code 75 for yards.

If someone prefers Code 100 for mating with NMRA RP modules, transition tracks can be made.

Would interested clubs and individuals please call me at 282-7558 or e-mail me at roystrains@hotmail.com.

- Roy Krouse

A MODULAR DESIGN FOR CALGARY MODELERS.

As our February train show has become more popular, people have been inquiring about new groups or clubs with modular layouts. Right now there are no new clubs or groups. Quite a few round-robin groups exist, some more formal than others. Most of the modular club layouts are actually sectional layouts that must be assembled using a set number of modules in a specific order and design. These groups usually have a maximum number of members that may actively participate. There are pluses and minuses to this type of club.

I propose a truly modular, 100% inter-changeable design that will permit the greatest flexibility in design and set-up possibilities. This could be organized as a collective (group) rather than a formal club. This would allow the maximum number of people to participate and permit a level of commitment that suits individual needs.

Recently the NMRA module design was published in the Order Board. This sparked a thought process that would potentially meet the needs of the Calgary modeler. A tried, tested & true module with limited scenery capability (track up front, scenery & buildings behind), usually assembled into a large oval with roundy round train operation. A solid but outdated design.

After many years of development, a new generation of HO module design has been gaining popularity. Its name: **Free-mo**.

Free-mo module design is based on a single track mainline centered on the 2-foot width. Any length of straight module (within reason) may be built. Various angles of corner module may be used to assemble any shape of layout. Rather than try to assemble a continuous run oval, Free-mo runs from multi-track staging return loops or staging yards placed at each end of the assembled modules.

The only down fall is the limited capacity of a single track mainline. When using the Free-mo system an individual may have to build 3 or 4 modules to assemble a decent length passing siding. Besides the

cost and time involved in building these extra modules an individual would have to set-up these 3 or 4 modules. Even with help, this is stressful and time consuming. What if the individual didn't show up with his passing siding modules?

The best solution might be using the original Free -mo design and applying a double track mainline, splitting the mains an inch each side of the module centre line. There are many advantages to this. Each modeler could build just one module (This will accelerate the set up and tear down process) and include a single crossover built with a pair of #8 turnouts.

Some modelers may want to include a control point; a matched set of right and left crossovers. By incorporating these crossovers into the modules, passing arrangements and operating flexibility is built right into any layout design. Modules can be flipped 180 degrees to get the proper mix of right and left crossovers in the correct spot for maximum train handling flexibility. The control system used by these modules is DCC. This train handling technology has made the true flexibility of Free-mo a possibility.

As you can see, I'm very excited about the potential of this modular design. For those interested, more information can be obtained at:

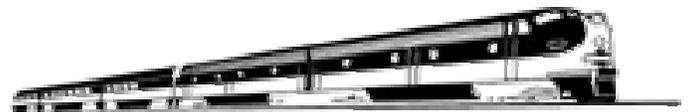
www.free-mo.org/

You may want to check out the related literature & links category and click on the Northwest Trainmasters site, which has clear and detailed information.

A table will be set up at the fall mini-meet with information and a possible display. In the meantime, I look forward to hearing your feedback on this new exciting module opportunity. I can be reached at:

cnvanveen@shaw.ca

-Carl Van Veen



Deadline for the next OrderBoard is October 10, 2002. Please forward any submissions, reports, articles and ads to: gord.smith@shaw.ca

Model Railroad Events Schedule

*items in bold are Calgary Model Railway Society events

September 7 & 8, 2002

High River Model Train Show 'My First Layout'

Bob Snodgrass Recreation Complex, 228 -12 Ave. SE

Times: Saturday: 10 AM to 6 PM, Sunday: 11 AM to 4 PM

Admission: Adults \$2.00, Children \$1.00

Contact Richard Murray 652-5352 e-mail; rgmurray@zidim.com

September 12 & 13, 2002

Spirals IV Conference

Field, B.C.

Contact Dave Chornell 1-780-486-0234 e-mail: 96@96.ca

September 28 & 29, 2002

Great Edmonton Model Train Show

Mayfield Inn Trade Center, 16615 -109 Ave. (Mayfield Road)

Sat. 10 AM – 5 PM, Sun. 10 AM – 4 PM

Admission: Under 18 & Seniors \$3, Adults \$5, Family \$10

www.mmrf.ab.ca

October 6, 2002

Fall MiniMeet 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

CMRS – Annual General Meeting 12:00 Noon

Informative and interesting clinics

Best Western Hospitality Inn (South), 135 Southland Drive, SE

Admission: Members free, non-members \$5

October 19, 2002, Saturday

23rd Annual Model RR "Boomer Auction" – South Bank Short Line

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church - 703 Heritage Drive, S.W.

Set up/display/viewing 1000 hrs. - Auction starts 1300 hrs. - Dining car open 1100 hrs. to 1500 hrs.

See our ad on page 3 for more details.

November 13, 2002

Slide Night 7:30 P.M.

Best Western Hospitality Inn (South), 135 Southland Drive, SE

Admission: Members free, non-members \$5

February 15,16, 2002

Supertrain 2003

Big Four Building – lower floor

Calgary Model Railway Society **memberships can be purchased or renewed at any of our events** or by mail. Cost is \$10 per year (September to September).

Calgary Model Railway Society
Box 63033, 2604 Kensington Road, N.W.
Calgary, Alberta, T2N 4S5

BOARD of DIRECTORS- Positions and Responsibilities

Phone Numbers H- Home B - Business F - Fax

President - William Cameron
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E-Mail: william.cameron@shaw.ca

Vice President/Treasurer – Mike Borkristl
Independent – 203-1970 / 720-4195
E-Mail: tricor@canuck.com

Secretary – Mary-Ann Whalen
Independent 274-4063
E-Mail: mawhalen@shaw.ca

Supertrain Chairman – Barry Conn
Independent – 251-9334
Email: barry.conn@shaw.ca

Appreciation Night/Layout Tours - Don Wakelam
Cal-O-Rail - 271-8137
Email: wakelamd@telusplanet.net

OrderBoard/Publicity- Gordon Smith
Bow Valley Club– 239-2514
E-Mail gord.smith@shaw.ca

Railfan Tours - Rolf Stengl
Independent- 288-7805
E-Mail stengls@shaw.ca

Membership- Vince Wehnes
Thursday Night Group 236-7986/250-2950
E-Mail ironhors@telusplanet.net

Special Events - Randy Baldwin
RMGR – 256-1753/201-3801

Tony Whalen
Independent – 274-4063
E-Mail: twhalen@shaw.ca

Individual directors have separate responsibilities. Please contact appropriate director for information on the Area you want to know about.

For Commercial Advertisers, please contact the
Publicity/OrderBoard Director for rates and approval prior to submitting Ads to the Editor.

Mailing Address

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Calgary, AB T2N 4S5

Web Pages

Order Board Newsletter Address: <http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org/orderboard.html>
CMRS Homepage Address: <http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org/>

Classified Advertising

Do you have some model railroad related items you would like to sell? If so, consider putting an ad in the OrderBoard. Ads will be free for members (assuming they are small and don't take more than a few inches of space). Commercial ads (business card size) are also accepted for a setup fee of \$10.00. A good selection of Computer Clip Art (Railroad -Related) is available to spice up your ad. E-Mail gord.smith@shaw.ca