

# ORDER BOARD

*The Official newsletter of the*

# Calgary Model Railway Society

**The Communications Medium for Railway Enthusiasts**

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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*

## Message from the President

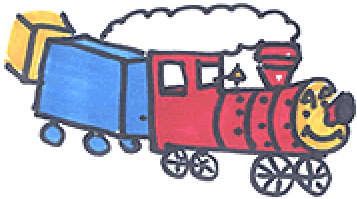
As warmer weather approaches a lot of us start emerging from the Basement Empire we are creating and head out into the sun! For some of us, the hobby goes dormant for a while, except perhaps on rainy days. But for "G" scalers (and larger) this is their best season to create and I hope the weather co-operates for them.

'Tis also the most popular season to venture out with the camera and chase a few real trains. I urge you to please be careful! For those who attended Member's Appreciation Night and listened to Tom Armstrong's fantastic presentation, you realize the importance of being careful and paying attention. Tom's program was excellent, informative and heartfelt and we thank him for attending. Thanks also to "The Brotherhood" for the 20 beautiful large photos we used for door prizes, Jean Cooper for the 5 "N" scale spike diorama door prizes, Gord Smith for the use of his photo's for the table selection, to Rolf Stengl for organizing the entire night and to any one else who I missed and volunteered. Another well attended event with the help of great volunteers. I hope those of you who attended enjoyed yourself and you spread the word about this night to recognize your efforts.

As my term winds down, it was a pleasure volunteering for you, I met a lot of new friends and I had a lot of fun. Thanks to all of you and I hope you help our incoming President, Rick Mcphee, as much as you all helped me.

- Mike

PS. From the desk of the treasurer: For those of you who received Supertrain payouts, my apologies for the small typo in the letter. It was supposed to say Supertrain, Not SuperBrain!



### 1978 - 25 YEARS AGO

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## From the Editor

There have been a couple of occasions recently that I have sent out email notices or reminders. From our 310 CMRS membership list, we have on record 182 email addresses, of those 33 are no longer valid.

At the Fall Mini Meet / AGM we will have printouts displaying the information we have on file, so when you renew your membership, please verify and update our records.

The **deadline for the next issue is August 22, 2003**, but I do welcome submissions at any time.

- Gord Smith



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Checkout our extensive 'Events' calendar

## RAILFAN EVENTS

### Canada Day July 1 at Alstom's Ogden Shops

This special event will feature train rides using an SW1200 pulling a cut of cars. Mayor Dave Bronconnier will be present as will the RCMP. Also putting in an appearance will be ALCO S3. The Rocky Mountain Rail Society (6060) is putting this event on. Starts between 12 Noon and 1 PM.

### STAY TUNED FOR SOME SUMMER FUN

CMRS is attempting to put together a **BBQ and picnic** at the **Iron Horse Park in Airdire, Alberta.**

It will be a **family outing** with a **bring your own picnic** for several hours of fun in a railroad atmosphere. **July 27<sup>th</sup>** is the date tentatively booked (times to be confirmed).

Our hopes are to have live steam miniature locomotives in operation to take the family for rides around this wonderful facility. To tempt you please take a look at their website [www.ironhorsepark.com](http://www.ironhorsepark.com).

This will be for the members and families of the CMRS and should prove to be a great day. We hope to have the event confirmed in the next couple of weeks so please check our website for further details.

[www.calgarymodelrailway.org](http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org)

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## VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

It was a real pleasure for me to help recognize all the volunteers at Membership Appreciation Night. The Glenmore Inn put on a wonderful meal for us and everybody seemed to enjoy the prizes they won. If you didn't attend, don't miss next year's event.

Speaking of volunteers, that is the subject of my column this time. In particular, I am still looking for volunteers to help with the CMRS website. Our webmaster would like to publish more material, but gathering it is a big job for one person. If you would be interested in helping gather photos, articles or other publishable material, or would like to contribute to the website in some form, we need you. Please give me a call at 289-7770 or email me at [rick.mcphee@shawbiz.ca](mailto:rick.mcphee@shawbiz.ca) if you would be willing to help.

I will be asking for volunteers again at the Annual General Meeting in the fall. So please consider any and all suggestions and comments you have about the website and let me know about it.

- Rick McPhee

## Backdrop Painting

By Calgary Artist Brontie Tkachuk

"I recently did a railroad backdrop for a couple in NE Calgary. I enjoyed their layout and doing the backdrop very much, and would like to do the same for other railroaders."



[www.members.shaw.ca/coats](http://www.members.shaw.ca/coats)

236-2160

# SUPERTRAIN 2003 – Final Report

## Committee:

Supertrain 2003 Chairperson: **Maurice Despins**  
Admissions/Finance Chairperson: **Brookes Harrow**  
Security Chairperson: **Mike Morisset**  
Facilities and Operations Chairperson: **Glen Judd**  
Banners Chairperson: **Ross Dubber**  
Poster Chairperson: **Hans Foltinek**  
Advertising Chairperson: **Rolf Stengl**  
Guest Relations Chairperson: **Bob Hadlow**  
Promotions Chairperson: **Tony Whalen**  
Resource Personnel: **Mike Borkristl, Barry Conn**

## Location and Date:

Supertrain 2003 was held in the lower level of the Big Four Building at Stampede Park on Saturday and Sunday Feb 15 & 16, 2003. This was Family Day long weekend in Alberta. On Friday Feb 14, a team of volunteers began the floor layout at about 9 AM and Stampede Display started shortly thereafter to set up commercial booths, etc. Exhibitors started to arrive about 12 PM to set up their displays. The majority of set up work was completed by 10 PM Friday. Approximately 52,000 sq. ft. of floor space was used. The Stampede Board used the balance of space (8,000 SF) for their concession. Doors were opened to the public on Sat and Sun from 9 AM to 5 PM.

The committee has booked Supertrain 2004 for the same Family Day weekend in Feb 2004, Feb 14 & 15.

## Marketing and Promotions:

Advertising exposure remained the same as last year with some minor site changes for our banner locations. In fact, we had 8 Banner sites this year for a two-week period. Hobby Shops in neighboring provinces and States received posters during the summer as in past years. Information was sent to Model Railroad magazines for inclusion in their "upcoming events" section. Newspaper ads were placed in the Calgary Herald and Calgary Sun. Large poster ads were placed at various C-Train Stations.

The Calgary Herald did an article, which was printed in Sat Feb 15, issue. Radio station 66CFR conducted a live interview with Supertrain 2002 Chairman on Sat Feb 15, just prior to 8 AM. Global TV conducted interviews and their early morning show on Sat Feb 15 from the exhibit hall. Other news media visited the show and conducted interviews, took photos, etc. during this event.

Chinook Hobbies and Trains and Such advertised the show on their outdoor marquis. They and other hobby shops supported CMRS by displaying posters and handing out Supertrain flyers to their customers.

Our marketing strategies are successful and working very well. We should continue doing what we are doing as it is

very effective. The attendance is basically at its max. In the last 2 years, our paid attendance exceeded 14,000 people.

## Exhibits:

1. No. of Jr. exhibits: 11 ( AWESOME)
2. No. of adult exhibits : 21 layouts 12 displays
3. No. of commercials; 32
4. No. of special interest group displays: 4
5. Administrative: 4
6. No. of Alberta displays from outside Calgary: 17
7. No. of displays from outside Alberta: 16
8. No. of entries not in last years show: 18
9. Increase in entry applications: 24%
10. Increase in exhibitors: 12%

A Peoples Choice Vote was conducted on Saturday for the favorite display. Sunday morning an overall winner was announced, as well as three runners up positions.

First Place: Edmonton LaBaJa

Runners up: Edmonton N Scalers, Sipping and Switching Society, and Southern Alberta Lego Users Group

## Attendance:

Our paid attendance was slightly under last year's figures. On Saturday, the total paid attendance was 7,487, 68% being adults and 32% being children. Sunday the total was 6,722, 65% being adults and 35% being children. Saturday accounts for nearly 53% and Sunday nearly 47% of total attendance. These figures do not include the number of exhibitors and volunteers in attendance, which adds approximately 700 more people on the floor.

As in the past, our attendance is basically at its max. The current venue is great for us and we should strive to improve the quality and variety of exhibits for the public to view. I firmly believe that quality and variety impacts the success of Supertrain in years to come. We host Canada's largest show, now our objective is to make it Canada's best as well as largest. Claiming to be Canada's best is a perplexing task that would require an independent body to assess each show. Therefore, we should avoid the phrase 'Canada's best' in our advertising as years go by, even though many individuals may inform CMRS that Supertrain is the best.

## Financial:

Supertrain 2003 operated close to our proposed expense budget. We had several unexpected expenses, however, in the overall scheme, we are close to budget. Revenue expectations are slightly higher than proposed budget. Financial details will be available at the Annual General Meeting in the fall.

### Community Responsibility:

This year we continued our support of the Calgary Interfaith Food Bank by providing a discount of \$ 1.00 off admission price if the person brought a food donation. The Food Bank took in 2260 lbs of food, about 700 lbs more than the previous year. They also received \$1053.67 in cash, which was up quite a bit from the previous year. In addition, the Food Bank is given the opportunity to raise funds by operating a coat check.

Our relationship with the Food Bank is very good and we should continue to support them as they support us by looking after the coat check, which takes up a lot of time and manpower. A local Scout troop volunteers their time to assist the Food Bank. Both the Food Bank and Scout troop wish to participate next year.

We also create good relations with Scout groups by offering group rates, which are not publicized for obvious reasons.

Not for Profit organizations that demonstrate community spirit are more likely to receive a number of breaks and favorable attention from the press.

### Volunteer Help:

A special thanks to all the volunteers who stepped forward and gave us their valuable time and energy to make this show a great success. Activities for the show start about ten months prior to show dates. Volunteers are needed on the organizing committee. As time progresses, more volunteers are required. At time of Supertrain, hundreds of volunteers are required. They are the backbone to this important event. Supertrain has gained such popularity, many people/visitors look forward to it. Some even plan holidays around Supertrain.

I look forward to a second year as Supertrain Chairman and working with all you volunteers.

Maurice Despina  
Supertrain 2003 Chairman

## New Locomotive Sale

**HO Kato SD9043MAC in Canadian Pacific paint**

**It is brand new in the box, asking \$180**

**Athearn Genesis F3 A-B-A set, Atlantic Coast Line purple & silver paint scheme. Beautiful engines**

**Brand new / never run. \$400 for the set of 3.**

**Contact Vince at 236-7986, or email: feroequn@telus.net**

Pictures available

## For Sale Used Equipment

**Athearn: Locomotive AC-4400 CP 9515 \$60;  
GP-38 \$50; Pulpwood cars E/W loads and knuckle  
couplers \$12 each. Round House: Ore Cars taper side  
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Tucker 251-3906**

## SCANNER SALE

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## Moving Sale

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**Athearn rolling stock including:**

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40 foot box car Canadian National

50 foot box car Northern Pacific

50 foot tank car NATX

40 foot wooden motif Canadian National Caboose

**Walthers Morris Snowplow, Canadian Pacific**

**TechHI loco motion 1500 transformer**

**\$200 for the works or sell separate**

**Call Doug 241-0985 Northwest Calgary**

## LAYOUT TOURS 2003

On behalf of the Board and myself, I would like to thank those modellers who opened their homes to visitors. It was great to have so many layouts for others to look at, especially at so many different stages from benchwork to beautifully finished. It was unfortunate we had Mother Nature sent us a snowstorm for the day of the last tour.

To all of those who didn't get out, you missed some very interesting sites. Hopefully you will be able to attend a few locations in 2004.

Speaking of next year the tours will again be in April (dates to be announced). Please be prepared when I make the call for participants to show your "STUFF". If we could double the number of layouts, that would be terrific. Once again the layout can be at any stage and the modeller can be young or mature. We want to include a variety in order to inspire others with their projects and make this the very enjoyable, relaxing and of course rewarding hobby it can be.

Again to all showers and viewers thank you very much.

- Bain Spielman, Director CMRS.

### There's a Light At the End of the Tunnel

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## ROB'S TOUR VIEWS

I took the opportunity, along with many other CMRS members, to visit some fine layouts during the Annual Layout Tours. For me, this is one of my favourite events on the CMRS calendar. I really enjoy seeing other people's layouts, comparing their techniques with my own, and getting ideas and inspiration. I also enjoy talking with the hosts. You can meet some very interesting people this way.

No matter how large and complex, or small and compact, or what scale a layout is, I always find something memorable. Among other things, on this year's tours I rekindled fond memories of watching Great Northern trains in orange and green, was intrigued by what will become a fantastic representation of CPR's climb up through the Spiral Tunnels, and found someone else who likes trackwork details as much as I do. I also noted that you can make an effective spray booth out of a discarded cardboard box, and can have a heck of a lot of fun switching dozens of industries. Unfortunately, time and circumstances prevented me from getting to all of the layouts.

I know from experience that opening up your layout for multiple visitors can be both a gratifying and a terrifying prospect. If nothing else it can serve as a great motivator to complete projects, which may have slipped onto the back burner. I intend to use such motivation to get more done on my own layout, as I will offer to display it on next year's tour. I hope others will take up the challenge too.

Thank you to all of this year's hosts, for your hospitality, inspiration, and time. And thanks also to the organizing committee who put the tours together. Great job by everyone!

- Rob Badmington



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## ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Volunteers needed for the Supertrain 10th anniversary celebration committee. We would like to provide a fun event Saturday evening of Supertrain. Please contact a CMRS board member with your ideas and to help out.

## Saskatchewan's Wooden Grain Elevators

Lamenting the swift and almost total disappearance of Alberta's wooden elevators, High River's loss being the most recent. It seems prudent to visit our neighbouring province of Saskatchewan. Many of their sentinels have also fallen, and I would consider all to be on the endangered list.

Looking at the concentration of rail lines across southern Saskatchewan in the 1996 edition of the Canadian Railway Atlas, it quickly becomes obvious why our two major carriers wanted to reduce marginal mileage. Consequently a number of lines have been substantially shortened, some have been closed down, and some sold off.



A number of shortlines have sprung-up across Saskatchewan. The Carlton Train operates two branches, south from Meadow Lake, and south from Prince Albert. With their roadrailer Western Star highway tractors, Southern Rails Cooperative operate their own line north from Avonlea, and the Red Coat Road & Rail line west from Pangman. The Great Western Railway (pictured above) based in Shaunavon operates west from Assiniboia.

CP's mainline still hosts a few of the wooden structures. On the Maple Creek sub, one remains at Tompkins, two at Gull Lake, and one at Swift Current. On the Swift Current sub, still standing are two in Herbert, two in Morse, one in Chaplin, one at Parkbeg, and two in Mortlach. Mainline train frequency makes it pretty easy to catch a train passing these elevators.





Off the beaten track there are still some elevators standing, but don't take any of them for granted. Knocking these structures down, not only to save on taxes and insurance, but prevents them from being operated in competition by independent shippers. One such independent loads cars at the former Pool elevator in Neville, offering farmers lower loading fees than charged by the grain company operated facilities.



Where the railway has been pulled up, grain companies may be more likely to sell the buildings to local area farmers. Case in point would be CN's former Central Butte sub where in 1999 a number of elevators were left standing after the line was lifted.

The town of Kipling is found on CN's Glenavon sub, which runs east from Regina. Kipling's former station is now preserved as a Bed & Breakfast. Nearby, the two elevators at Neelby and another at Bender are an oddity. All in poor repair and unused, yet they defy vandals and time and still stand proudly beside long abandoned roadbed. No longer found on my maps, I'm left wondering were these on a CN spur line, or a CP line? Or was the CN line simply relocated about 2 miles to the north? Perhaps hot summers and harsh winters have exaggerated the passage of time.

- Gord Smith

## Notes from the Membership Desk

We are redoing the membership form for the upcoming season. For mail-in renewals a form will be included in the next Orderboard. If you are attending the Fall Mini Meet/AGM you may renew at the door.

We particularly want to update email addresses. - Ross & Ardell Dubber

# Model Railroad Events Schedule

\*items in bold are Calgary Model Railway Society events

June 14 & 15, 2003 - Steam at Fort Steele, BC #1077 is expected to be running in regular service. The Dunrobin was in need of repairs and unlikely to be steamed.

July 9-13, 2003 National Garden Railway Convention; Sacramento, CA, USA <http://svgrs.org/convention/conv1.htm>

July 13-19, 2003; NMRA National Convention, Toronto, Ont, CAN

July 18-20, 2003; NMRA National Train Show®, Toronto, Ont, CAN

**July 27,2003 – Family Picnic & hopefully train rides at Iron Horse Park, Airdrie, AB (tentative)**  
**Bring your own picnic lunch & refreshments. Check our website for times and confirmation**  
[www.calgarymodelrailway.org](http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org)

September 20 & 21, 2003 - Great Edmonton Model Train Show - Mayfield Inn Trade Center, Edmonton, AB  
More info at [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca) or call show chairman Jim Baker @ (780) 430-7595  
Times: 10 AM to 5 PM both Saturday & Sunday Address: 16615 – 109 Avenue (Mayfield Road)  
Admission: adult \$5, under 18 & senior \$3, 3 & under free Free Parking

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## October 4th & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - MODEL RAILWAY WEEKEND in Calgary

### CLINICS, DISPLAYS, MANUFACTURES & RETAIL SALES

**Doors Open at 8:30 AM, Clinics begin at 9:00 AM till 5:00 PM**

Watch the website for details [www.calgarymodelrailway.org](http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org)

#### **Calgary Rail Prototype Modelers Meet – Saturday, October 4**

Abbydale Christian Fellowship Church, 1352 Abbydale Drive, SE, Calgary, AB

Clinics now confirmed

Bill Kerr **confirmed** for 100th anniversary of the Frank Slide

LAYOUT TOURS (out of town attendees only)

Two confirmed for open house Friday & Saturday nights

#### **Calgary Model Railway Society Fall Mini Meet & CMRS AGM - Sunday, October 5**

Best Western Hospitality Inn South, 135 Southland Drive, SE, Calgary, AB

Clinics now confirmed

Jim Pilson **confirmed** Computer generated Back-drops.

C.P. Police **confirmed** Clinic on R/R property security.

Jim Scott **confirmed**. Model R/R historian, collector, and what's it all worth.

John Morris **confirmed** Assembly of resin kits.

Stafford Swain confirmed C.N. & C.P. Box Cars

Maurice Despins **confirmed** Styrofoam Scenery & tree construction. (Hands-on clinic)

Steve Grczy **confirmed** A detection and signal system adaptable to analog & digital train layouts.

Dr.George Barr **confirmed** Inexpensive & simple manual switch machines.

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October 18, 2003 - 24<sup>th</sup> Boomer Auction - St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Drive, SW, Calgary, AB  
Set-up/Display/Viewing 10 AM, Auction 12:30 PM. Admission: Under 6 – free; 6 to 16 - \$1; over 16 - \$2.

November 8 & 9, 2003 – Regina Model Railroad Show – Cochrane High School, 1069 – 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., Regina, SK

**November 12, 2003 – Slide Night** - Burnswest Theatre at Fort Calgary, Calgary, AB

**Feb 14 & 15, 2004 – Supertrain 2004 – Big Four Building, Calgary, AB**

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).

# BOARD of DIRECTORS- Positions and Responsibilities

Phone Numbers H – Home W – Work C – Cell Fx - Fax

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

Membership - Ross Dubber  
Independent h-281-7325 fx-238-1973  
E-Mail: tinyteddie2@shaw.ca

Slide Night - Rob Badmington  
Independent h-217-7575 w-319-3204  
E-Mail: badmingt@telusplanet.net

Railfan Tours - Paul Douglas  
Independent h-807-3592

Layout Tours - Bain Spielman  
Cal-O-Rail - h-282-7819 c-560-1896  
E-Mail: bainspielman@shaw.ca

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

Secretary/Appreciation Night - Rolf Stengl  
Independent- h-288-7805  
E-Mail: stengls@shaw.ca

Vice President / MiniMeets - Rick McPhee  
Thursday Night Group h-289-7770  
E-Mail: rick.mcphee@shawbiz.ca

MiniMeets - Randy Baldwin  
RM Garden Ry h-256-1753 w-201-3801

Supertrain Liason - Marshall Ouellet  
Independent - h-289-4430  
E-Mail: bakouel@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

Calgary Model Railway Society  
Box 63033, 2604 Kensington Road N.W.  
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](mailto:gord.smith@shaw.ca)