

ORDER BOARD

The Official newsletter of the

Calgary Model Railway Society

The Communications Medium for Railway Enthusiasts

**November 2003
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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

Well, another modeling year is upon us. The days are getting shorter and a little bit cooler. This is an exciting time of the year. Soon you'll be dusting off all those modeling projects piled up on your workbench or maybe starting to build that layout you always wanted.

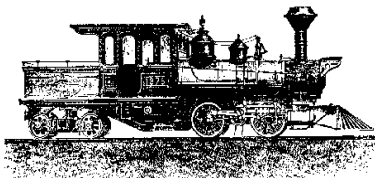
Your CMRS has already been busy with the AGM and fall mini-meet having taken place. I would like to welcome the new directors to the CMRS Board (a new directors list is at the back of this newsletter). Please feel free to contact any of us with your questions, comments and/or suggestions. This year is the 10th anniversary of the CMRS. We've come a long way from the humble beginnings of years past and I think this will be the best year yet. The fall mini-meet was one of the best I can remember CMRS having. If you missed it, don't miss the next one.

Slide Night is just around the corner and we will enjoy a new location. The theatre at Fort Calgary is one of the premier venues for this type of presentation in the city. Once again, the 'Brotherhood' will be putting on the show. Their slides are stunning and the commentary is usually amusing. Don't miss it!

Lots of exciting events are planned for the upcoming year, and as always, we need volunteers to help organize and staff them. There are all sorts of opportunities for you to volunteer to help out. The Supertrain show always needs helpers, but there are many other things that you can do to help.

I am looking forward to an exciting year. At the next event, tap me on the shoulder and say hello.

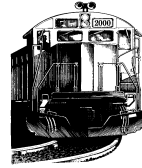
Rick McPhee



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From the Editor

Another year, another set of deadlines. Once again we hope to keep all of you informed of upcoming events, not just those of the CMRS but all the local clubs and groups in the model railway and railfan hobby. I need your help! Getting the CMRS information is the easy part; I just have to be at the board meetings. But for the other individuals or organizations who have something planned please give me a call 239-2514 or drop me an email:

gord.smith@shaw.ca

The planned issues and the submission deadlines are shown in the following chart.

ISSUE	DEADLINE
SLIDE NIGHT	PAST
SUPERTRAIN	JAN. 7, 2004
SPRING MINI MEET	FEB. 25, 2004
APPRECIATION NIGHT	MAY 5, 2004
AGM / FALL MINI MEET	SEP. 3, 2004

The plan is to have the Orderboard show up in your mailbox about 3 weeks prior to our events so you can put us on your calendar.

Sometimes an event and the Orderboard timing doesn't synchronize and you will receive an email. If you didn't receive an email about the open houses for CMT and Cal-O-Rail we don't have your email address. If you want to be on that list please email me or Ross Dubber and we'll update the records – include your name with that email.

I'll see you at some of our events.

- Gord Smith

Wanted

Unbuilt HO craftsman car kits: CN models

Call Marshall at 289 – 4430

Email: bakouel@shaw.ca

Notes from the Membership Desk

Thank you to all of the individuals who have renewed their membership for 2003-04 and welcome to the new members. For those who have not yet renewed their membership, please forward your registration and cheque to: **Calgary Model Railway Society, P.O. Box 63033, 2640 Kensington Road NW, Calgary, Alberta T2N 4S5.**

Membership cards will be available at Supertrain, however for individuals who are outside of Calgary and surrounding region, membership cards will be mailed.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about your membership at 281-7325 or e-mail dormerconst@shaw.ca
- Ross Dubber

Collection Opportunity

FOR SALE or FOR LOAN

Because of health problems, we will be moving from our home to an apartment. My international model train collection must be likewise downsized. In HO, I have models and kits of US, Austrian, Australian, Brazilian, Czech, English, French, German (early eras, East Germany, and DB), Japanese, etc. trains. There are also small lots of European TT and some Canadian O-scale. I have many buildings, mostly European, and unused HO and N scale versions of the excellent Fleischmann turntable. I will consider outright sales or loan/stewardship arrangements. The idea of the latter is that an individual or club interested in a distinct theme would be "loaned" rolling stock, locos, buildings, magazines, etc for that theme for a negotiated period of time. The receiver would treat the items as his/her/their own, keeping them in repair and building kits in the collection. At this point the bulk of my N scale and HO Russian collections have found good stewards. Hopefully, receivers of the models will include them in Supertrain and other shows. To this

end, I also have an ultra-light/very flexible modular system, which I described at the recent meet. It is for sale or loan subject to some improvements being made.

Roy Krouse 282-7558

Styrofoam Sale

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Assorted white Styrofoam sheets, cut and uncut, various lengths and thickness including 3 woodland scenic subterrain pieces. \$25.00 for the lot.

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Open House

Calgary Model Trainmen
November 1, 2003 (Saturday)
10 AM to 4 PM
619 - 12th Avenue S.E., Calgary, AB

CALGARY MODEL TRAINMEN'S CLUB

Permanent Layout in a 24 ft. X 75 ft. room
HO Scale Operation using Digitrax system
CMT operates the 1980's era fictional Chinook Western Railway, on a route south and west from Calgary through the Kananaskis to the US border.

Currently Accepting New Members

Apply at the clubhouse Wednesday evenings
619 - 12th Avenue, S.E.

Call: Brookes at 201-4937 email: bharrow@shaw.ca

LIONEL

Looking for older Lionel Equipment
Hal Altmann phone: 286-5554

Benchwork Best Practices

Over the years I have built a lot of benchwork, both for my own home layouts, and for a few club layouts as well. While working on my latest creation, I got to thinking about the materials and techniques that I use. These are what I consider to be my Best Practices.

All of the layouts that I used these methods on were non-portable. If you are building a portable or modular layout, somewhat different materials and techniques may be called for.

If there is one phrase that totally sums up my recommendations on building benchwork it is, "Screw it up!" This does not mean - "Do a Crappy Job." It means, 1) always uses screws, not nails to hold it together, and 2) put them in from underneath so you can remove them later if you need to. Every one of my previous home layouts has had to been taken apart due to transfers to another city. They all came apart fairly easily due to the use of screws, and even parts of my very first layout built over 30 years ago exist today in my current one. Driving nails causes lots of shaking in completed parts of the layout, and pulling them out also can do damage in undesired locations. Screws go in and come out with a minimum of fuss, especially with a power driver.

I highly recommend building your layout strong, and with good quality materials. The difference in cost between appearance grade lumber versus the bargain bin stuff might amount to \$20 for an average sized layout. You will probably throw away more than \$20 worth of twisted, knotty, bark-seamed junk if you opt for the cheap stuff. I use appearance grade 1x4's for most of my benchwork, and even when I need short pieces, I usually buy 12 footers since these come from the biggest, straightest trees. I like to buy my lumber from Totem because they always have a supply of the good stuff, and they let me pick out the ones I want. Even the best material will twist or warp a bit if not used quickly, so don't let it sit around for too long. You can pick out your own lumber from the bins in Rona-Revy or Home Depot, but I have found a lot of that wood will warp before you get it home.

I always use gold coloured deck screws for layout

building. They have a coarse thread, Robertson drive, and are available in many handy lengths. For attaching 1-by material (3/4" nominal thickness) I use 1-1/4" long screws. For going through 2 x 4's I use 2-1/2" screws. Again, I like to shop at Totem because these deck screws are available in bulk bins so I can buy just the quantity I need. You pay by the pound so you don't have to buy a whole package. I have seen a lot of people using drywall screws for their benchwork, but I find they are brittle and can break, and I don't like the Philips drive. The important thing is to standardize on one type.

More on screwing. Screws are meant to hold - not tighten joints together. Always use a clamp to hold the pieces together tightly before driving the screws in. You can never have enough clamps. Quik-grip style clamps are extremely useful because you only need one hand to apply them. Sometimes I use a Quik-grip to hold a joint until I can get a C-clamp onto it, then once everything is clamped into the right positions, I come back and put in the screws. This is especially important when you are leveling up roadbed. I drive the screws using a reversible power drill with a Robertson bit. For those hard to reach places, longer bits up to about 6" are available, and you can even get flexible extensions to go around corners. Where there is danger of splitting the wood, say within about an inch from the end, I predrill a pilot hole with a countersink bit. As much as possible, drive the screws perpendicular to the grain, not into the end grain.

I like using L-girder benchwork because it gives great flexibility in where you can put your cross-joists, legs, and risers. I use 1x4 lumber for the vertical side of the "L", and have ripped 2" wide strips of 3/4" plywood for the top flange. I use white glue and screws to hold the flange onto the 1x4. Where my layout is up against the wall, I attached the L-girder directly to the studs through the drywall with 2-1/2" screws. Elsewhere, I use 2x4 legs diagonally braced with 1x2's. I use 1x4's for the cross-joists attached to the top flange of the L-girder from underneath. This makes it simple if you need to relocate a joist later on because perhaps you want to put a switch machine right where the joist is. I space the joists about 16 to 18 inches apart.

I cut my roadbed from Sanded-One-Side 3/4" spruce plywood. I spike my track directly to the plywood and find fir is too hard to drive spikes into. With joist spacing of up to 18", you will not get any roadbed sagging with 3/4" plywood. I have seen too many layouts built with 1/2" plywood roadbed looking like a railroad across muskeg in frost-heave season.

Splices between segments of roadbed should be at least 8 inches long, made from the same plywood and attached with at least three screws on each side. If you use cork, Homasote, or some other roadbed material, I would still recommend using 3/4" plywood for strength underneath.

I have mentioned quite a few tools used for building benchwork. You can get by with hand tools if necessary, but if you can only afford a couple of power tools, I would recommend getting a jig saw and a reversible drill first. Cordless tools are nice, but only if they have enough power for the tough work. I actually prefer my old plug-in drill for a lot of jobs.

There are lots of different ways to go about building benchwork for a model railroad. These are methods that work for me. To sum up, I recommend:

1. Only use screws
2. Use good quality, heavy-duty material
3. Build it so you can change things easily if necessary
4. Get lots of clamps.

Rob Badmington

Space Problems

No place to run your train?
Want to build scenery but don't have a layout?

Here's the answer!

The new Colonel Belcher Care Centre. Roy Krouse kindly donated a layout to the new facility. Irving Jalving with help from many fellow modellers have moved and reassembled the layout. But there is lots left to do! Build scenery, building, fine-tuning or just running trains.

There are loops of track in 3 gauges, N, Hon3, and HO.

There is enough space to accommodate an entire group, or an individual.

Come and check it out. Bring your tools and your train!

Where? The Carewest Colonel Belcher
On Bowness Road NW across from Point McKay
For More Info Contact: Irv Jalving 249-9981 or
Roy Krouse 282-7558

Equipment Sale

**SD40-2 (snoot) BC Rail lightning strike by Kato
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LAYOUT TOURS 2004

I know it sounds a little early but if your layout just needs a push to get finished why not show it off in April. That should get some of you folks like myself who have piled STUFF on your layout all summer to clean it off and show other modellers what you are doing.

Remember again this year we are calling for layouts to be shown at **any stage** from basic framing to completed. The tours will be split to north and south, as it was this year and will be on two weekends. The south will be Sunday April 4th and the north side will be Saturday April 24th.

The dates and application form will be posted in Order Board and on the Web site. This year I will be posting the tour locations as I receive them to give you plenty of time to arrange your tour route, as I am sure you will want to see as many as can.

If you require any information please don't hesitate to contact myself bainspielman@shaw.ca or any CMRS Board member. I will also be leaving Layout Tour applications at the local trains stores and hobby shops in the early New Year. For those of you eager to apply I have enclosed in this issue an early application if you care to fill it out now.

Hope to hear from you.

Bain Spielman, CMRS Director
Layout tours.

Open House

**CAL-O-RAIL invites all C.M.R.S.
members & friends to an open house
at
our layout
Sunday November 16th.
From 11a.m. to 4 p.m.
Light refreshments available, bring the kids!
The address: 2020 19th Ave. S.W.
in the basement of the scout hall
turn off 17th. Ave. at Bankview video**

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At SAIT's Centre for Rail Training and Technology in Calgary, the future's never been brighter.

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Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship from
Edmonton may send a bus down to Calgary for
Supertrain in February. We need a full bus, last year it
wasn't.
Please contact Harold Lake at 780-456-1181.
Email hlake@connect.ab.ca
www.mmrf.ab.ca

Slide Night

Preparations are well under way for the annual Slide Night, upcoming on Wednesday, November 12th. The Brotherhood will make presentations on several topics of local interest. The goal is to entertain and educate the audience with the best of railroad photography. Featured subjects this year will include the Royal Canadian Pacific, prairie railroading, some historical equipment, and "Farthest from the Guardrail". As always, you are invited to bring 10 to 20 of your favourite slides to show during the "Potpourri" session.

This year, the venue is the theatre at Fort Calgary, which will provide everyone a comfortable view of the large screen. Refreshments will be available during the evening. The lights dim and the show starts at 7:30 PM. Hope to see you there!

Rob

LAYOUT TOURS FOR 2004

If anyone is interested in showing their layout (again at any stage) in 2004 please fill out the form below. I will be in contact with you to arrange the visitation.

The dates will be in April 4th – South side and April 24th – North side.

Name

Address

Phone Scale

E-mail

Or you can contact myself at:

bainspielman@shaw.ca

or by phone at 282-7819

Member Appreciation Dinner

“Great Moments of CPR Ingenuity” with Jonathan Hanna

Friday May 28, 2004

Glenmore Inn, Cocktails 6:00 Dinner 7:00

Tickets \$10 for members and spouses, available at Supertrain

Jonathan Hanna will be speaking about some of the colorful characters in CPR's past that are behind a sprinkling of "Great Moments of CPR Ingenuity!" Jonathan is presently creating this series for CPR's in house publication. Highlights will include CPR's founding, its Scottish heritage, the discovery of Rogers Pass, the birth of Canada's national park system, and more! All punctuated with photos, and Jonathan's own audience friendly style.

Jonathan B. Hanna, born June 10, 1954, in Montreal, received a French classical education at Collège Stanislas in Outremont before graduating from Concordia University, in 1979, with a B.A. in History. Hanna worked in Canadian Pacific Railway's corporate archives in the 1970s, photographic services and advertising in the 1980s, marketing communications and administration in the 1990s, before being appointed CPR corporate historian in 2000.

This event is your chance to enjoy a fine dinner with your spouse and friends, in a railway ambience, while recognizing all the volunteers that make our Society a vibrant organization.



The Calgary Model Railway Society Elected Board of Directors

	AFFILIATION								Was IND	
	CAL-O-RAIL	IND. #1	IND. #2	THURS NIGHT G	IND. #3	IND. #4	BOW VALLEY	R M GARDEN	Now CMT	IND. #6
2000	DON WAKELAM	WILLIAM CAMERON	BARRY CONN	VINCE WEHNES	RALPH HOPPER	PETER BERGHS	GORD SMITH	RANDY BALDWIN	MIKE BORKRISTL	MARY-ANN WHALEN
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2004 2005	BAIN SPIELMAN	ROB BADMINGTON	ROSS DUBBER				GORD SMITH	JEFFREY BURK	MIKE BORKKRISTL	JIM SCOTT
2005 2006							GORD SMITH	JEFFREY BURK	MIKE BORKKRISTL	JIM SCOTT
2006 2007										

HEAVY LINE DENOTES USUAL ELECTION YEAR

Model Railroad Events Schedule

*items in bold are Calgary Model Railway Society events

November 1, 2003 (Saturday) – Open House – Calgary Model Trainmen – 10 AM to 4 PM
619 – 12th Avenue S.E., Calgary, AB

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

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

Time: 7:30 PM

Admission: Members Free; Non-members \$5.00

November 16, 2003 (Sunday) - CAL-O-RAIL invites all C.M.R.S. members and friends to an open house at their layout in the scout hall basement. Address is 2020 19th Ave. SW (turn off 17th. Ave. at Bankview Video) Bring the Kids!
Light refreshments available.

Feb 14 & 15, 2004 – Supertrain 2004 – Canada’s Largest Model Railroad Show

Saturday & Sunday – 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM both days

Big Four Building, Stampede Grounds, Calgary, AB

Admission: Child (under 12) \$4.00; Single \$6.00; Family \$12.00

(\$1.00 off admission with a donation to the food bank)

Info contact: Maurice Despins at (403) 251 – 4976 or email: supertrain@calgarymodelrailway.org

March 20, 2004 – Spring Mini Meet

April 4, 2004 – Layout Tours – South side

April 24, 2004 – Layout Tours – North side

May 28, 2004 – Member Appreciation Night

July 4-11, 2004 - NMRA convention is set for Seattle,WA.

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 W – Work C – Cell Fx - Fax

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

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

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

Treasurer - Mike Borkristl
C M T - h-720-4195 w-203-1970
E-Mail: tricolor@canuck.com

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

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

Rail Fan Events – Jim Scott
Independent w-277-7226
E-Mail: trainsandsuch@telus.net

MiniMeets - Jeff Burk
RM Garden Ry h-272-5546 w-245-2818(107)
E-Mail: jeffb@boltsupply.com

Secretary - Rick Walker
Independent – w-277-7226

Individual directors have separate responsibilities. Please contact appropriate director for information on the Area of your concern.

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.
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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)