

# ORDER BOARD

*The Official newsletter of the*

## Calgary

# Model Railway Society

The Communications Medium for Railway Enthusiasts

**January 2006  
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### *Internet Addresses*

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## Message from the President

By the time you read this, the holidays will have come and gone, and all the New Year's resolutions have long been broken (for some of us anyway!). Hope your holiday season was delightful, you received lots of train goodies, and I wish all of you a happy and prosperous new year.

In October, I had the pleasure of visiting the Rocky Mountain Garden Railroaders club. I was very well received and I think we all learned a few things about how CMRS and Supertrain work, and how RMGR works. Thank you for having me, and the CMRS looks forward to even a better relationship with your club in the future. I also had the pleasure of visiting with Cantrak, with very much the same results. We received great news from John Wrinch of Short Bank Lines, he informed us they had the most successful Boomer auction ever! Why do I mention these things? Because it's all about communication. It's about trying to let you know what CMRS is all about and what the society can do for you. If there are any other clubs out there that would like myself or another of the board members to visit you, let us know!

For those of you who are still not sure about what we are about, I will try to explain, to the best of my ability, what we try to do. The CMRS is a Society that was formed to serve the Calgary model railroading community. That includes clubs and individuals alike. If you have an auction, or a seminar, upcoming clinics or fundraisers, or any other type of event coming up, let us know. We will be happy to help advertise and promote your function (Sometimes at no cost to you as we do have a budget for some of these kinds of things). The CMRS sponsors several events throughout the year, like mini meets, slide night and railfan activities which are mostly funded by the Society, as your entrance costs are generally covered by your \$10 membership. (Some of the more expensive out of town events may require some additional costs by attendee's). The cost of the Orderboard alone is more than your \$10 membership fee! What a deal!

But the biggest event that the CMRS puts on every year is Supertrain. Supertrain is not a separate entity unto itself, as some people may believe. Supertrain is fully funded and financially backed by the CMRS. The chairperson is appointed by the CMRS and must report to the board. There must also be a board representative if the chairperson is not already on the board. The profits from the show is what helps determine the budget for the CMRS for the following year and also helps guide the CMRS as to the amount

of payouts to the various exhibitors. This way, the Society always makes sure we have enough in the reserve fund so that in the event of a disastrous show, we can still pay the expenses and run the Society for the following year. (As to the payouts, please read the Supertrain report for more info.)

Supertrain is also the time we need you, the membership, the most. This year we will need close to 120 volunteers. Have you put your name down yet? If you have not been contacted or seen an e-mail from us, let me know, and I will get you on somebody's list! Since you were going to attend anyway, why not volunteer. Now you get into the show for free and we pay for your parking. Another great deal!

Also, as a reminder, if you have thoughts of being a board member in the future let us know. This year we will need at least two new people, as Gord and I cannot sit on the board again, our 6 years are up. Gord is also looking for someone new to look after the Orderboard. He has done an exceptional job and he is to be commended. If you are interested, let Gord or I know.

Until next time  
Mike B



## EDITORS NOTE

**The next deadline is February 24, 2006.**

The next Order Board will have the information on our Spring Mini Meet and the Calgary Model Trainmen's Flea Market.

Thank you to all of this month's contributors. Our events list is a bit lean. If you are in the know please let me know of interesting dates to add to our calendars!

-Gord

## Slide Night 2005

Slide Night 2005 will be remembered as an evening of great photos, good food, and more pictures than we had time to present. The crowd started gathering early at the Burnswest Theatre in Fort Calgary on November 9th, with a final total of about 90 members and guests. At 7:30 the show began with a presentation by Tom Newton on Ottertail Through the Years. CPR's bridge over the Ottertail River a few miles west of Field, BC has been a favourite location for railfans for a long time, due to the scenic curve, easy access from Highway 1, and interesting trains. Tom's pictures showed how trains have changed since the 1970's from first generation diesels pulling 40 foot boxcars, through SD-40's hauling 100 ton covered hoppers, to today's AC-4400's on double-stacks trains.

Bob Hadlow showed pictures of a huge variety of colourful locomotives passing through Alberta, as leased and run-through power. His photos went as far back as first generation Alcos from Union Pacific, right up to the newest demonstrators from EMD and GE. John Simpson showed us a fascinating collection of slides from the past, covering a wide range of subjects and locations. The pictures of Calgary's C-train system under construction were especially interesting, as were some shots of Calgary's streetcars in action. After the pizza and refreshment break, Gary and Roz Miller's presentation on bridges demonstrated the incredible variety of structures railroads have used to span rivers, ravines, and gorges. Some of the bridges were shown in more than one location, as the railroads have salvaged and moved them to new places where they can serve in a second life. All sorts of wood, steel, and concrete bridges were shown, both familiar and obscure.

The Society's own digital projector was put to good use for the next three presentations. First, Bob Whetham of Cranbrook showed us "Critters" from all over the world. Many of us acquired a new appreciation for the tiny locomotives that are found in all sorts of industrial operations. We marveled at the sometimes ingenious, and sometimes just plain weird critters Bob has found on his travels to the Far East, Cuba, South America, and close to home. I was especially impressed with the homemade conversion of a steam switcher into a diesel-powered unit. The shop didn't even bother to take off the cylinders.

Gord Smith followed up with "Critters 2", a tongue in cheek presentation that featured animals as well as trains in the pictures. Gord has also traveled the world to bring the audience pictures of donkeys, horses, and oxen pulling rail vehicles, not to mention the station dog and a few yard goats.

Chris Davidson, a CPR conductor working out of Calgary, has combined his fine photographic skills with some unique opportunities to take pictures where ordinary railfans can't get. Chris covered the Laggan Sub west from Calgary to Field, and highlighted not only the trains and the scenery, but also some of the colourful characters he works with.

Traditionally we end Slide Night with a Potpourri session, where everyone is invited to show a few of their favourite slides. The first part of our program went so long that, unfortunately, we only had time for one more presentation. John Wrinch showed some fine shots of the Kamloops Heritage Railway's ex-CN 2141 steam operation out of Kamloops. I offer my sincere apologies to the members who brought slides to show, but were unable to present them.

This was the first Slide Night that we showed both traditional slides and digital pictures. From my viewpoint, the digitals on the screen looked as good as the others. Who knows, maybe this new-fangled computer thing will catch on.

On behalf of the CMRS, I would like to thank the Brotherhood for their help in organizing and running the show, and especially each of the presenters, who spent so much of their own time putting together their excellent presentations. Thank you also to Vince Wehnes who ran a 50:50 draw to raise money for Trains For Kids, our program to donate train sets to needy families at Christmas. And finally, thanks to the CMRS directors who manned the membership and entrance tables.

Rob Badmington

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## Supertrain 2006 Report

Supertrain 2006 is fast approaching and the committee has been very hard at work. And what a committee we have this year! Outstanding! Advertising has been spectacular. The new posters are exciting thanks mostly to Dale Sproule, Rob Badmington, Tony Whalen and our new printer Jim Owen! (The advertising committee) What a concept, and each size poster is virtually the same giving us consistency with our campaign. We will have them at the LRT stations this year, in four shopping malls, the hobby shops, the Grain Academy and also the five or so you have received with this package. And thanks to great pricing from Jim Owens shop, **Econolith Press**, 3603 2nd St NE, we are still under our advertising budget to date. (As a note, CMRS pays for all of its expenses and it is a policy that we do not solicit for free or donated items. Jim's costs are completely covered).

This years posters are exciting and vibrant and do not belong in the garbage. Please take a few minutes when you are out and about to put some up. If you can't put them up personally, perhaps you can pass them on to family members who can help you put them up. Advertising is the key to the shows success, so please help out where ever you can.

Speaking of helping out, Supertrain is also the time we need you, the membership, the most. This year we will need close to 120 volunteers. Have you put your name down yet? If you have not been contacted or seen an e-mail from us, let me know and I will get you on somebody's list! And since you were going to attend anyway, why not volunteer. Now you get into the show for free and we pay for your parking. Oh, I almost forgot, club and exhibitor members. It is a lot easier on your Supertrain committee to hand out the high number of **free** badges, you request, when a good portion of your club gives us 2 hours of their time as a volunteer. (Hint! Hint!) (The cost of those free passes also come straight off the bottom line and affects payouts)

And speaking about Supertrain payouts... **First of all, I want to remind everyone, that Supertrain is about promoting the hobby of model railroading and not about the money!** I also believe (and would hope) that all the clubs and individuals out there would still come and display their models if there was not a payout. But we are not naive to the fact that most clubs and individuals do count on the payout for their club funds, and to pay for some of the expenses of coming to the show. And most are grateful for what they do receive. Secondly, the more successful the show, the more there may be to spread around. That's why

getting these posters up somewhere is so important to the success of the show.

When I went to visit a couple of the clubs, one of the items that the club members were not aware of was how payouts were determined and that there even was a formula! So here is what I know about payouts.

**Points** are awarded and then a dollar value is assigned to the points, to determine a payout. The Supertrain committee tallies the points and submits its recommendation to the CMRS board for final approval and payout. So if you have an issue with the payouts, take it up with CMRS, not one of my hard working, volunteering, Supertrain committee members!

**Now how do you get points?** Points are awarded in several categories; travel, popular vote, size of layout and evaluations. Travel and popular vote are self evident, except that you must be more than 50 km away from Calgary to qualify for travel. Size of layout, up to a certain size is also a criterion. But remember, size is also "factored" to the scale of the model. For example, if an HO size is calculated at 1:1, N is 1:2, O is 1:5, and G is 1:25. So a G scale layout 30' x 40' would "factor" to the same size as an HO 7.5' x 10' layout. So bigger is not always better! **Lastly, and probably the most important**, throughout the day on Saturday, several "evaluators" (usually 15 to 20) go around and "mark" your display. This is not a contest-judging platform. But the evaluators do look for several things. 1-**Quality and presentation**; How does the display look overall and how well is the modeling generally done. 2-**Operations and detail**; Does the layout run? Or is it constantly having electrical and derailment problems? The public gets turned off very fast if the layout is broken down. 3-**Interaction** with the public. Do you talk with the public? Do you explain how and why you do this? Do you have videos or displays to go along with the layout? especially if normally your main layout is at another location or in the garden most of the year. 4-**Public Interest**; How many people are crowded around, dying to see your layout? The average marks are then tabulated, points are added up, and a payout is determined. Hope this sheds some light on payouts.

Finally, to all the committee members who work so hard, to all those lucky exhibitors and displays who got their applications in on time and were lucky enough to get into this years show, have lots of fun, and here's hoping we have a successful show. I hope I will see you all at SUPERTRAIN 2006!

Mike B  
Supertrain Chairman

## Layout Tours 2006

Hello! Everyone, allow me to introduce myself, my name is Jim Owen and I am the new Layout Tour guy. I am now requesting layouts for the April tour month. There are a few changes in place for tours this year as follows:

1. ALL layouts displayed must be by CMRS members only! This is to comply with CMRS insurance coverage.
2. ALL guests to the layouts are requested to politely show their CMRS Membership card to the host/hostess upon arrival to said venue.
3. Be polite, ask questions and DO NOT touch unless permission is granted by the host/hostess.

Finally, we are trying to run tours over 3 weekends:  
1<sup>st</sup> Saturday or Sunday – North  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday or Sunday – South  
Last Saturday or Sunday - Garden Railway Day. Hopefully Mother Nature will help with the weather.

In closing, please email me at [jamesrichardowen@yahoo.com](mailto:jamesrichardowen@yahoo.com) and let me know if your layout is open for a tour.  
Thanks,  
Jim

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Call: Brookes at 201-4937 email: [bharrow@nucleus.com](mailto:bharrow@nucleus.com)  
Or: Garth at 235-1731

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## Poster Placement

You ask, 'Where might I hang these new colourful posters?' How about dentist and doctors offices, or Sobeys or Safeway or Co-op, or your barber or hairdresser, or where you work? How about community centers, where your kids or grandkids go to school? Then there is the liquor store on the corner or the service station. How about your local coffee shop, or breakfast hangout, or pub? Or the bowling alley, pool hall, rec center, or the University, or SAIT? Anywhere you go that has a bulletin board will usually accept these kinds of posters, and being in color, they will stand out nicely!

Our success depends on a crowd! Please help spread the word!



## Membership Notes

Is your membership up-to-date? The year your membership expires is shown to the right of your name on the Order Board envelope address. If it's time to renew, please visit the membership booth when you come to Supertrain.

Our paid membership total at present stands at 208. Membership cards and receipts will be available at the membership desk at Supertrain



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# Saturday Night Extravaganza

CMRS is pleased to inform the membership, Supertrain 2006 Exhibitors/vendors and volunteers that the Saturday Night Extravaganza will again take place in conjunction with Supertrain 2006. The format will be much the same as last year. Draw tickets for many prizes will be available at this function.

**Saturday Night Extravaganza is open to all CMRS members, Supertrain 2006 exhibitors/vendors, Supertrain 2006 volunteers, and spouses,** Tickets sold out fast last year. You are reminded that tickets are limited, therefore please avoid disappointment and act now to purchase your tickets to this exciting event. This is a catered function; therefore we must know the head count by Feb 10 2006.

**Included:** Hot meal, dessert, coffee & tea and lots of fun

**Cash Bar** open at 5:30

**Ticket Price** \$10.00 (per person). No new tickets will be sold after Feb 10. We will try to help resell surplus tickets for people.

**Location** Grandstand 4<sup>th</sup> level Stampede Park

**Date** Sat Feb 18<sup>th</sup> 2006 5:30 PM

Please note the following:

**To order your tickets, please contact Glen Judd at 707 Sherman Ave, SW Calgary AB, T2W 0N3 Ph 252-4367.**

Tickets must be paid for when ordered.

All tickets will be available for pick up at the Supertrain show, information booth. If you cannot pick up your tickets at the show let us know, and we will arrange to have the tickets available at the grandstand

**All tickets must be purchased by Friday Feb 10 2006. No tickets will be sold at the door (Grandstand)**

ORDER FORM

.....  
**Supertrain 2006 Saturday Night Extravaganza, Feb 18, 2006**

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**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **PH** \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Tickets required @ \$10.00 EA \_\_\_\_\_

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## Appreciation Night

Appreciation Night is our way to say thank you to so many volunteers throughout the year. We recognized individuals with certificates and plaques for their contribution to the success of CMRS.

Appreciation Night 2006 will be on held on Friday May 12 with a new twist. As we mentioned to you at our AGM, the evening is a costly affair. In the past, as members you only paid \$ 12 or less per ticket. CMRS subsidized the balance. For the people who purchased their tickets and not show up to this event, the club has just subsidized the 'no shows' the full cost. Therefore, for our next Appreciation Night, tickets to this event will be \$ 30.00 each and when you show up at the event, we shall reimburse you \$ 15.00 per ticket. So, as you can see, this is still a very good deal.



**Tickets will be available at Supertrain** Information desk and the Spring Mini Meet. Please plan to get yours at that time. Remember, this event is for members and their spouses / family.

Appreciation Night 2006 will be fun, educational and lots of good food. A 'Fun Casino' and guest speaker are planned for that evening. Guest speaker and topic to be determined later. For those of you who do not know what Fun Casino is, I'll explain below. Award presentations, raffles and auction will round out the evening.



### FUN CASINO

- Each person will be given a pre- determined amount of play money for the evening.
- Casino tables will be set up around the room.
- You decide which game(s) or table(s) you would like to play. You do not have to be an expert, as this is fun. The dealer may pay out play \$\$ whether you are winning or losing because this is fun.
- You can play as individuals or make up teams and spread yourselves out around the room.
- After a pre-determined amount of time, play will cease.
- Then we will hold an auction for those

wonderful large railfan photos we all love to receive. (Some photos will be raffled off during the evening). Now you get to spend all that play money. You may bid as individuals or join forces. You may want to pool your winnings so that you may bid higher. A group could bid on the photos and then you hold your own raffle within. I'm sure some of you will find creative ways to play the games and bid on the photos.

- You may also win bonus play money by answering questions correctly throughout the evening.

It is that simple. Everyone should finish the evening with some play \$\$ in their hands so that they may participate in the auction. So, please join us for a fun filled evening on May 12, 2006.

The number of tickets for this event is limited. To avoid disappointment, please get your tickets early.

Maurice Despins, CMRS VP  
Appreciation Night Chairperson

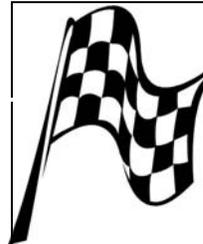


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## Spring Mini Meet & CMT Flea Market

The Spring Mini Meet and Annual CMT Flea Market will be held on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> at the Glenmore Inn in Calgary. We will be in the same rooms as the Fall Meet & AGM. We have a few clinics booked and confirmed but are in need of more. Please let me know if you or someone in your clubs would like to do a clinic or presentation. They can be anything that you would like to present to your fellow model railroaders, so don't be shy. It can be a short "how to" clinic, a video, slide show, a longer "how to", or a "hands on" type. Be creative. We also have space for clubs, individuals and vendors to display so please let us know what you may need.

This is our third year hosting the CMT **Flea Market**, and we are taking reservations now for table rentals. We have taken several calls already so don't delay. If you're interested in cleaning out some of your old railway stuff, this could be the venue for you. You can contact either me (272-5546 – [jeffb@boltsupply.com](mailto:jeffb@boltsupply.com)) or Brooks Harrow (201-4937) to reserve your table(s). Please note that **lunch will not be provided during this event**, only beverages. However the Glenmore Inn hosts a great restaurant, as well there are others in the immediate area for your dining pleasures.

We will be posting the clinics, and any changes on the web site over the next several weeks, and at the CMRS booth during SUPERTRAIN. Please check it out to see what is going on. If you don't have Internet access, please feel free to contact myself directly (403) 272-5546 most evenings.

-Jeffery Burk

## Keller OnBoard

There is a modelers group, which is still supporting the old Keller OnBoard analog throttles. A colleague of mine in the US and I are attempting to collect Keller documentation and manuals.

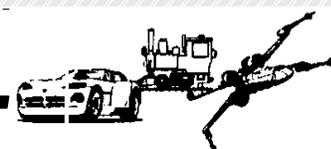
If anyone still has some Keller stuff they are not using, I would like to add it to my extensive collection. I use this collection to trade with other Keller users, provide spare parts or replacements for damaged components. If anyone has any Keller documentation (especially the later documents after 1985 and Keller digital) I would like to borrow it to make PDF files. The current documents are on my website at: [www.sutul.org](http://www.sutul.org). Also, if anyone is still using the Keller system please get in touch with me at [sutul@telus.net](mailto:sutul@telus.net). I have a lot of information on making the system work better.

## Fall Mini Meet / AGM

I would like to thank our clinicians for putting together some great clinics and presentations as well as the assistance of our Board of Directors. Alex Reed put together a very informative and well attended photo presentation on Traction, complete with handouts. Rick McPhee worked hard and long to put together a great Airbrushing and Painting clinic with some hands on. Thank you to all who helped Rick with providing extra spray booths and helping to set up and assisted during the clinic. Ian McAurthur provided a clinic on Digital photography for all our hopeful shutterbugs out there. I put together an impromptu clinic on weathering (sorry Rick). A big THANK YOU to George and John Simpson for manning the front admittance desk, as well to Doug Cannon for his photo coverage of the day's events. The AGM was extremely well attended and well behaved. We voted (railroaded) in our new members of the board. As well, there were many displays and mini clinics that were provided by our local vendors, clubs and members. Our Modelling Challenge produced some very nice displays. Hats off to those that took up our challenge. I apologize for the clinics not being as well organized as we had planned. We had a few last minute cancellations and no shows that kind of threw a wrench into the days' plans. We are working on ways to prevent this from occurring, but it only works if you can help by putting together a clinic, presentation, or volunteer to help set up, plan or organize these events. We need new bodies and ideas going forward instead of calling on the same familiar faces to help out.

We are very happy with the new location for our semi-annual meets. The Glenmore Inn has met and exceeded all of our expectations, and they are eager to be part of our Spring Mini Meet and CMT Flea Market. They commented that we were a great venue. I was informed by some of their staff that several families from out of town that were staying at the Inn that weekend happened upon us, and we gave them free admittance to see the displays and trains. They felt very welcome and we were very receptive to them during their visit.

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## Show & Tell

### **BIG REMINDER:**

Don't forget about the SHOW & TELL for the Spring Meet. The Buzzword is INDUSTRY. Please check out the November Orderboard, page 6 for information and ideas.

## **Model Railroad Events Schedule**

\*items in bold are Calgary Model Railway Society events

**February 18 & 19, 2006 – Supertrain 2006, Big Four Building, Calgary. 9:00AM to 5:00PM**  
**Tickets: Single\_ \$7.00, Under 12\_ \$4.00, Family\_ \$15.00 (less \$1 for Food Bank donations)**

March 4 & 5, 2006 All Aboard 2006 - Prairie Rail Workshop, Saskatoon, Sask. 21st Annual Train Show.  
At the Western Development Museum in Saskatoon

**March 19, 2006 – CMRS Spring Mini Meet & CMT Flea Market**

March 25 & 26, 2006 – Thunder Creek Model Train Show, Moose Jaw, SK.  
At the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw

**April – Layout Tours – sign-up now to display your empire**

**May 12, 2006 – Appreciation Night**

July 2 - 8, 2006 – NMRA National Convention, *Independence Junction*, hosted by the Mid-Eastern Region  
at: Philadelphia, PA - <http://www.nmra.org/2006/>

August 12 & 13, 2006 – Alberta Free-mo, Big Valley Agriplex, Big Valley, AB.  
Info: <http://www.calgaryfreemo.ca/index.html>

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

Calgary Model Railway Society  
Box 63033, 2604 Kensington Road, N.W.  
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The PNR 6th Division Presents...

# **THE ROCKYVIEW EXPRESS**

## **SPRING MEET**

May 19, 20, 21 - 2006

Calgary, Alberta

See [www.RockyViewExpress.com](http://www.RockyViewExpress.com) for further details

# BOARD of DIRECTORS- Positions and Responsibilities

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President / Supertrain - Mike Borkristl  
C M T – h-720-4195 w-203-1970  
E-Mail: mike@tricordesigns.com

Membership – Ian McArthur  
Independent h-932-6134  
E-Mail: sutul@telusplanet.net

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

V.Pres. & Appreciation Night - Maurice Despins  
Independent- h-281-5916  
E-Mail: mptech@telusplanet.net

Layout Tours – Jim Owen  
Cal-O-Rail - h- 226-1903  
E-Mail: jamesrichardowen@yahoo.com

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

Secretary – Marshall Ouellet  
Independent- h- 289-4430  
E-Mail: bakouel@shaw.ca

Rail Fan Events – Ken Staples  
Independent h-280-8700  
E-Mail: akstaples@shaw.ca

MiniMeets - Jeff Burk  
RM Garden Ry h-272-5546 w-209-6505(204)  
E-Mail: jeffb@boltsupply.com

Treasurer - Rick Walker  
Independent – w-277-7226  
E-Mail: trainsandsuch@telus.net

Individual directors have separate responsibilities.

Please contact the appropriate director for information on the area of your concern.

**The Order Board**

## Postmaster:

Return  
Undeliverable  
Canadian  
Addresses to:

## 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 accepted for an annual 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