



the Orderboard

newsletter for the **Calgary Model Railway Society**

September
2006

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Message from the President

Have you ever found yourself saying, “Where did the time go?” If you are younger than 25 years old when you read this, probably not, but if you are over 40, you have for sure! We were discussing it recently on the wonderful train ride to Banff on 2816. Kudos go to Rob Badmington and Rick Walker for organizing a great day and another super CMRS event.

What prompted the conversation was about the CMRS events we now organize compared to years ago. So I got to thinking about where it started for myself. Years ago, I used to attend a train show at Mewata Armoury, not knowing what or how it came together, but I was in awe at some of the displays I saw. Then I would go back to my own layout and rip it apart. Well, it was about 8 years ago I was working on my layout, we had about 45 miles of block control wiring underway, knobs, rotary switches and toggles everywhere and then progress rears its ugly head! Along comes affordable DCC. Being a lone wolf modeler at the time, I turned to a local Digitrax dealer for help. I got lots of great help, and found out I could get rid of about 150 knobs and 43 miles of wiring!! But what I was not prepared for was what was in store for me from then on in the world of model railroading in Calgary!

Next thing I know, I am working security as part of that train show that had moved to the Stampede grounds and it was called Supertrain. Next thing was, “you know, you should really join the CMRS.” So I was invited to go down to the AGM in some hall in Kensington and check it out. (I had just recently retired from the Central Zone Referee Board after 12 years of service, dealing with 600 members and \$120 K per month. So I thought going to this type of meeting, a model railroad meeting, after 12 years of the politics involving minor hockey and dealing with hockey parents, should be fun and be a piece of cake!)

What I was not prepared for was the disarray that

followed. I actually had to buy a membership for myself and my young son so the society had a quorum! And the society had over 120 members. Board members did not sit together; some did not even show up! It was a shambles. It looked like the beginning of the end. As the meeting digressed, I certainly did not like what I was witnessing. This was a hobby for heavens sake, and I thought this was supposed to be fun! There were not many people there having any fun. But one thing that happens in all groups, if you are not careful, politics will ruin a great thing in a hurry!!

At that point I was faced with a choice now that I had spent my \$20 to join this society. As you all know, when faced with something you do not like, you have many choices. You can simply stay quiet and let the volunteer do the job they volunteered for. Or you can complain and gripe, whispering in the background, which always tends to cause more trouble. Or you can speak up, say something, and then back up your concerns by volunteering to help and try to make things better. So, being the very quiet, shy and introverted person that I am, guess what I did!!

Well, now its six years of board time later, 4 years looking after the books, twice as president, emcee at three Appreciation nights and two Saturday night events (my wife still reminds me of a comment I made at one!), still a Supertrain volunteer and now chairman for the third straight year. What a blast it has been for me. And for all of you, the good news is, after this year's AGM, you will finally be rid of me and these presidents' reports! (Oh stop cheering!!)

But since that night in Kensington, your society has had 6 very strong boards. The financial concerns of the society have been well managed and maintained, Supertrain gets more successful every year, members and clubs communicate much better than they ever did. The Society puts on more successful events than ever before and the AGM gets record attendance every year! (Of course feeding us all helps) But I believe most everyone shows up because they really care

about the society and its direction. I certainly do.

Granted, there are still issues that need to be worked on. It never fails to amaze me that no matter how hard a volunteer tries, very few people give praise and so many more are even quicker to criticize. I applaud all those that volunteer and are not afraid to try new ideas. Some will fail and some will be very successful, but at least they are trying. Old ideas tend to be tried and true, but sometimes they have to be let go of, no matter what the policies say. Sometimes you have to fail to move forward. That is how progress is made. This society should consider themselves lucky to have so many good volunteers that work hard, dedicate their time, and take chances.

My point to all this was not to be negative, or complain. Just to be honest, call it like I see it, applaud the society on its wonderful progress and simply to reflect on what I have seen happen to the society in the last 6 years. The CMRS has grown tremendously, and is certainly much stronger than it was several years ago. At least at AGM meetings we all sit together! It has been a lot of fun trying to make a difference for the society, I have made some great life long friends along the way, and I am proud to think, that with the help of a lot of good people, I may have played a small part in the strength of the CMRS today. And so I say "so long" to my role in the society at this time, and I am sure I will see you at some future event and I hope I can still remember your name!

My goodness, "Where did the time go"?

Mike B

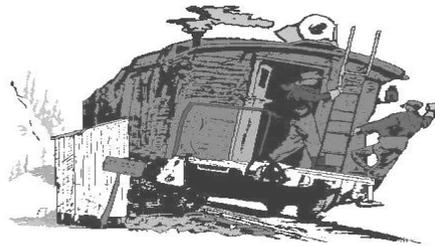
PS - I would like to take the time to say this once more as I feel it is very important to all of us in the CMRS. This is a great hobby, lots of great people with a common interest and it is supposed to be lots and lots of fun! But one thing that happens in all groups, if you are not careful, politics will ruin a great thing in a hurry!! Please do not let that happen.

This hobby has so many aspects, from the initial dream, design, benchwork, track, scenery, buildings, locomotives, rolling stock, animation, lighting, photography, history, and operations. All levels of experience can be accommodated from the armchair modeler to the museum quality craftsman.

As Mike has just said, the time has flown by! Six quick years. The highlight of my board stint would be the number of people I have met, and friends made. If you want to start meeting some of the 360 plus great members now in the society, try volunteering. Right now Jeff is looking for help with the Fall Mini-Meet and AGM. Give him a call and make some new friends.

The next Orderboard deadline is October 15, 2006.

-Gord



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Empress 2816 Labour Day

EDITORS NOTE

Excursion

Labour Day 2006 will long be remembered by 128 CMRS members and guests for the wonderful weather, spectacular scenery, and especially for the delightful round trip excursion to Banff. CPR Empress 2816 was spotless as she pulled up beside the Canadian Pacific Pavilion to board the waiting crowd.



CMRS members started gathering at Engine 29 in front of CPR Headquarters well before 8 o'clock. Once the train pulled in, lunches and soft drinks were loaded, while Brookes Harrow checked in each passenger. The crowd climbed on the train and took their seats in the Dominion or the Smoky Smith coaches. The orderly boarding procedure ensured a departure right on the stroke of 9 AM. After meeting an eastbound double stack train at Mewata, Engineer Bill Stetler saw nothing but green signals ahead for almost two hours.

CPR's route west follows the Bow River closely, through foothills scenery unseen by any motorist. Many people took advantage of the open doors of the vestibules and baggage car to take photos or just to listen to the sounds of the train as it made track speed westward.



Upon arrival at Banff a few minutes before noon, delicious box lunches made by Ovira Pasta were

handed out as the passengers detrained at the depot. Most people waited on the platform while the train backed up over a kilometre so it could rush past them again on a photo run-by. Then, the engine and tender uncoupled and ran down the siding to turn on the wye at the east end. There were plenty of "Platform Superintendents" watching closely as the tender coupled to the Lambert Point business car with barely a nudge.



Soon it was time to reboard the train for the return trip. After a meet with another stack train at the east end of Banff siding, we were off for some fast running to Ozada. There the crew checked over the steam engine's running gear, and applied some grease in all the right places. Off we went again through Morley, Radnor, Mitford, and Cochrane.



All too soon the skyline of Calgary appeared, and the ride came to an end back at the Pavilion, right on time. I think everyone agreed that it was a terrific excursion.

It takes a lot of help from many people to put a trip like this together and keep it running smoothly. The plan for the trip began with Doug Phillips who put the right people in touch with each other to get things started. I would especially like to thank Leslie Pidcock, Linda Patterson, and Kevin Hryszak of the CPR, for their help

in organizing the trip, along with many other CPR employees who kept everything safe and on time. Of course, without Engineer Bill and Fireman John operating the locomotive, and their loyal crew of helpers who assist with the maintenance, we wouldn't have had the 2816 to enjoy.



Rick Walker put in many hours keeping track of the finances, passenger lists, and organizing the sales through Trains & Such. Jim Owen provided the ticket folders and inserts. Many others helped out with the lunches, beverages, coolers, packing up garbage, and many other tasks. To all of you, a huge thank you. The Trains for Kids fund raised \$211 from donations at the drink coolers.

About all that is left is to start thinking about next year's excursions.

Rob Badmington

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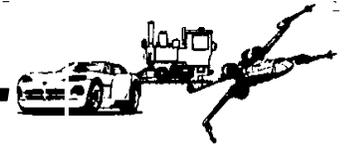


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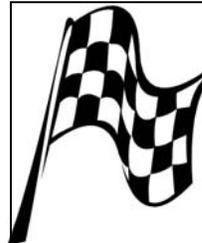
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Slide Night 2006

As the days get shorter with Fall's approach, it must mean that Slide Night is coming soon. On Wednesday Nov 8, CMRS members will gather in the Burnswest

Theatre at Fort Calgary for another entertaining evening of railroad pictures. This year, we will have a special presentation by Tom Price, a third generation railroader and historian. Those that attended the NMRA Spring Meet in Calgary earlier this year already know what a fascinating presentation Tom will give us. Combining great photography, interesting and obscure facts about CPR's history, and a lively and humorous dialogue, Tom will truly entertain the crowd.

As always, we will have a number of other themed presentations, and finish the evening with a potpourri session. If you have slides or digital photos that you would like to show, please contact Rob Badmington by email or phone at 217-7575.

Doors will open at 7 PM and the show will start at 7:30. Beverages and light snacks will be available at the break. See you there.

Rob



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Photo Wanted CN 2504



I'm modeling CN2504 and I need photos showing the details on all sides. If you can help please call. Philip Gormley 780 - 986 - 3583

HELP NEEDED!!

***We are still looking for more clinics for the FALL MINI MEET /

AGM. If you are interested in putting together a clinic of any kind, please contact Jeff.

*** If you are interested in helping set-up, tear down, man the admittance desk, crowd control or any of the numerous other tasks that may require assistance, please contact Jeff.

***If you or your club is interested in putting together a display for the Fall Mini Meet / AGM Please contact Jeff .

***Vendors - if you are interested in acquiring a table at the Fall Mini Meet / AGM, please contact Jeff for costs & availability.

Jeffrey Burk
CMRS
(403) 272-5546
jeffb@boltsupply.com

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- Pair of Atlas Classic RS-3's #8426 & 8449 in CP multimark paint - \$120 each
- President's Choice Hudson Trainset \$86
- President's Choice Bullet Nose Betty #6060 \$120

Phone: Philip Gormley 780 - 986 - 3583

Canmore Museum & Geoscience Centre

I am the Curator at the Canmore Museum & Geoscience Centre. We are working on an exhibition called Negotiating Place, which explores the complex relationships between human activity and wildlife habitation in the Eastern Bow Valley. As part of the

exhibition we are looking at the CPR - its construction and effects on the environment, as well as its impact on industry and land development in the region.

I discovered your organization (CMRS) while exploring the history of the CPR and the various sidings in the region and had a question for you. Are you aware of any members with a particular interest in the CPR and its influence in this particular region? I am wondering if anyone has ever made any replicas of the local trains or buildings. I would be interested in knowing if there is anything Canmore-based (or even the Eastern Bow Valley) being pursued by train enthusiasts.

I would appreciate anyone who could be of assistance, with any thoughts or suggestions they would have on this matter.

Edward van Vliet, Curator

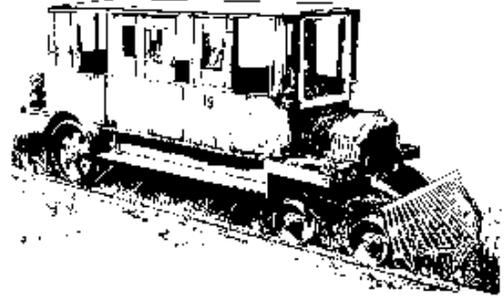
Email: etechne@yahoo.ca

Canmore Museum & Geoscience Centre

Classified Ads

Do you have some model railroad related items for

sale, or perhaps something rare that you want? Consider an ad in the Orderboard. Ads are run free for members (providing they are relatively small). Business card size commercial ads are accepted for an annual fee of \$10.00. We have a selection of clipart to spice up your ads.



Memberships

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). Membership forms can be printed from our website:
<http://www.calgarymodelrailway.org/docs/member-app1.pdf>

And mailed along with payment to:

Calgary Model Railway Society
Box 63033, 2604 Kensington Road, N.W.

Model Railroad Events Schedule

*items in bold are Calgary Model Railway Society events

September 16 & 17, 2006 Great Edmonton Model Train Show: info: <http://www.mmrf.ab.ca/>

September 17, 2006 – Show & Swap Meet, Missoula, MT. 10:00AM to 4:00PM info: www.missoulamodelrail.org

October 14& 15, 2006 – Model Railway & Hobby Show, Chilliwack, BC

October 14, 2006 – Southbank Short Line's Boomer Auction, Calgary, AB

October 15, 2006 – CMRS Fall Mini Meet & AGM

Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail, SE, Calgary, AB Doors open at 9:30AM. AGM at noon.

November 8, 2006 – CMRS Slide Show – at Fort Calgary

February 17 & 18, 2007 - Supertrain 2007 - Big Four Building on the Stampede Grounds, Calgary, AB

May 17-21, 2007 - Pacific Rails 2007 - University of Victoria Conference Centre, Victoria, BC

For info: Canadian Association of Railway Modellers. www.caorm.org

See the Boomer Auction Poster on the coloured insert.

BOOMER AUCTION

RULES

1. All items put on display **MUST** remain on the table and be included in the auction.
2. Reserve bids are only permitted on **BRASS MODELS** (locomotives & rolling stock).
3. Only **BRASS MODELS** may be sold/traded privately prior to the auction.
4. All items sold “**as is**”
5. All sales final and in cash.

TEST TRACK

Prior to the auction, a test track, operated by a member of **South Bank Short Lines Association**, will be available to test locomotives and to provide documentation of operating condition for reference by the Auctioneer during the Auction.

RAFFLE

1. A raffle of model railroad Items will be held.
2. Tickets will be available at the door.
3. Drawings for raffle item(s) will be conducted during the Auction.
4. The timing of the drawings will be at the discretion of the Auctioneer.
5. Winning ticket holders **MUST** be present to claim the item(s).

DINING CAR

Sandwiches, donuts, coffee, soft drinks, etc. will be available between 1100 and 1500 hrs.

GENERAL

1. **South Bank Short Lines** does not make any representation as to the condition of the items offered for sale with the exception of whether or not a locomotive operated when tested prior to the auction.
2. **South Bank Short Lines** does not accept any responsibility for the security of items placed on display.
3. **South Bank Short Lines** will charge a commission of 10% of sales.

ATTEND THE BOOMER AUCTION AND HAVE A GREAT TIME

South Bank Short Lines Association