



# THE ORDERBOARD

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALGARY MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY



Layout Tours are taking place later this month. A couple of Calgary Towers grace the backdrop of Richard Johnson's Canadian Pacific layout, available for viewing on April 28th. Photo by Richard Johnson

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## President's Message

I cannot believe how fast time is going by. We no sooner finished Supertrain, and we're right into the Spring Mini Meet. How many attended the Spring Mini meet / Flea Market? I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. I attended Dale's Styrene seminar as a participant and enjoyed it tremendously. Now, to find the time and follow through on this commitment. Before the seminar started, I had the opportunity to take a quick glance at all the stuff for sale at the Flea Market. Wow! There were lots of pickings and some great things for sale. I trust most of you who attended found what you were looking for.

I'm really excited about the upcoming events. In April we will have the pleasure to visit some fellow modeler's layouts. We are very fortunate to have some great people who will open their homes to us so we can get a glimpse of their layout. This is a good time to ask your fellow modeler for ideas, tips, or how did they do that and so forth. Then in May, we have our member appreciation night. I don't think we have a breather in June. I believe Gail is planning something for June or maybe July. So keep checking the web site.

Easter is very close. The garden RR guys must be chomping at the bit to get going. Now is

their turn to put their magic to work. Let us know what you are doing. Garden RR are exciting to see/visit. I heard Jeff say he's planning to devote his whole summer to Garden RR; or maybe I dreamt that.

I encourage the membership to go on the layout tours and participate in Appreciation Night. These are fun events and a good opportunity to meet fellow train buffs. I'm sure we all have lots to talk about.

Keep on modeling and most importantly have fun.

*Maurice Despins  
CMRS President.*



## CMRS SPRING MINI MEET & CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET

We held our annual Spring Mini Meet and CMT Annual Fleamarket on Sunday March 18th at the Glenmore Inn. The day was packed with the flea-market running until after lunch, and clinics and displays throughout the day. This year, the Glenmore Inn arranged our venue a little different for us. They moved all of our events rooms down, which gave the CMT Flea Market incredibly more space than ever before. The crowds started lining up for the flea market around 8:30 and kept fairly strong throughout the morning. The sellers really enjoyed the extra space to spread out, and it made it great for the bargain hunters with the wider aisles.

A special thanks to the CMT volunteers that helped set up, man the admissions tables and helped to co-ordinate the day. A big hand goes to Brookes Harrow for all of the extra work that went into the Flea Market planning and implementing.

We had seven clinics going throughout the day. Leo de Groot put together a presentation on the 3rd PlanIt computer layout planning program. Lorne & Tracy Rouleau put on a clinic on Building Scale Chain Link Fences. Greg Cave continued his History of the Silk Trains with a presentation. See page 5 of this issue for part two of the silk train article, dealing with modeling the silk cars. Jon Calon (DCC Tech Wizard) put together two clinics back to back, on Decoder Pro, and Panel Pro with help from fellow Free-mo members. Dave Stoneham of the Rocky Mountain Garden Rail-roaders presented Building Large Scale Aluminum Bridges. A big topic for the big guy presenting it. And Dale Sproule created a new series of clinics on Modeling Railroads. His first clinics which was well attended was a Hands on Clinic "Building with Styrene", where attendees built a scratch built Styrene Structures. Most clinics were very well attending and enjoyed.

We are working on the Fall Mini Meet and AGM which will be held on October 14th at the Glenmore Inn. We are looking for Clinics and lots of displays. If you or someone you know would like to put on a clinic, or bring something for our Bring & Brag, please let us know. This event is for the members and the betterment of our hobby. Everyone come out and participate.

*Jeffrey Burk*

## YOURS IN MODELING

As announced in the January 7, 2007 issue of the Orderboard, the Diorama Contest featuring the lowly boxcar is now ahead of us for the Fall 2007 mini-meet. I'm proposing that you take that boxcar or yours and work up a diorama theme around it. The diorama can be any size, and scale.

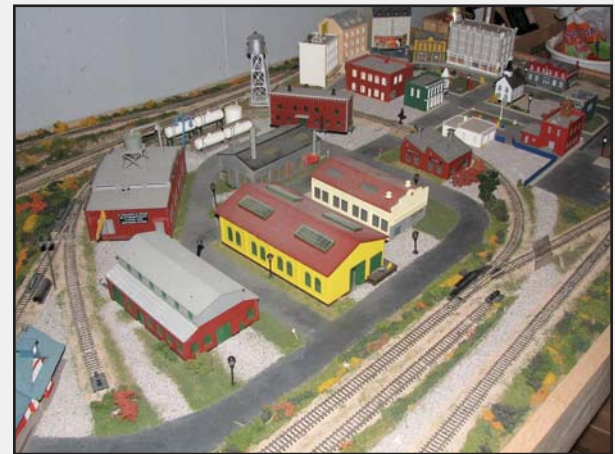
A boxcar on a piece of track would be your starting point. I'll leave the rest up to your imagination. Perhaps your boxcar got stranded on an abandoned stretch of track, it could be next to a loading dock, it could be one of many boxcars in a scene. Stuck for an idea? Look through a magazine or go look at the prototype for inspiration. Perhaps your diorama entry will even fit into your layout? The boxcar dioramas will be featured at the Fall 2007 mini-meet with votes cast by those attending and one CMRS member will take home a \$50 gift certificate to their choice to a local train hobby shop. You can enter as many dioramas as you wish as an individual or as a group. Good luck to all.

*Yours in modeling,  
Dale Sproule*

### N Scale Layout For Sale

We have for sale, a 9'X3' N Scale Model Train layout with oak fascia. A close relative built this to pass the time when he was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer. It was 90% finished before he passed away three years ago. We know there is someone out there with his passion who would enjoy it much more than we are able to. The negotiated selling price includes the layout itself, all trains and modeling supplies we have left.

Please call Shawn at 280-5192 for further details.





**FROM THE EDITORS DESK**

Y'know, it's absolutely amazing how fast time goes. Especially when you're preparing for a pair of clinics at the Spring mini-meet. Wire up a test/programming track, wire up LED's on a module, do some updates to the software to ensure the most current version is on the computer and then try to work some semblance of a plan for presenting the material. Add to that the time involved in getting a correction written and published (many thanks for everyone's acceptance of the "Backtrack" issue via e-mail despite the fact they requested a hard copy of the Orderboard) and out the door. I suppose I should've seen the writing on the wall and nixed one of the clinics due to lack of preparation. My apologies to those who I kept awake at my Panel Pro session. I should've just shut the projector off and let you all sleep.

Last issue I put forth a challenge to identify a location and I guess I really stumped the entire membership as I didn't get one specific guess. One person suggested it was "Somewhere in Ontario", but couldn't be more specific. The shot was taken from the Park car of VIA's Canadian at Doncaster on CN's York sub, just after we finished backing up on the Bala sub all the way from Union Station, some 16 miles worth of running. We were in the midst of wying the train so we could head north facing the correct direction. A grade separation project on the Newmarket sub at Snider prevented the train from taking it's usual route, so we were treated to a "Cab" ride through the Don Valley, with one of the engineers whistling (the Park cars are equipped with air whistles, fed off the trainline) at grade crossings the entire way up. A very rare treat to say the least and a day I will never forget.

*Jon Calow*

**The Deadline for submissions and ads for publication in the next issue is April 27, 2007.**

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**CAN YOU HELP ME OUT?**

I have 4 of these LRC kits from Rapido Trains which I would love to see being pulled by my VIA P42 locomotive. The problem is that I have no time available to put them together and paint them. The resin kits were produced by Kaslo and I've started removing the flash from a couple of the shells. If you've built and painted resin kits and you're interested in making some money for your time and effort, please drop me (Jon) a line. E-mail address is [orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org](mailto:orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org) or phone 685-0139 and leave a message.

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### CMT FLEAMARKET

The 2007 CMT Annual Fleamarket was held on March 18th at the Glenmore Inn in conjunction with the CMRS spring Mini Meet.

The Fleamarket was a great success again with a record number of vendors and many buyers. Judging by the number of bags and boxes leaving with buyers, there were many great bargains to be had. And vendors left at the close with greatly reduced quantities of items. (Unless they were like me and bought more great items to replace the ones sold!)

A special thank you to Trains and Such for their generous support of our Draw Prize once again by providing a good selection of prizes. And thanks to everyone who bought tickets- we had three draws for the main prizes of locomotives and two supplementary draws for Atlas boxcars.

Thanks to the volunteers who made the morning run smoothly. And also thanks to Jeff Burk for his hard work in organizing the event, especially in providing the Glenmore East room to us. Everyone was most pleased with the room!

Stay tuned, we are already planning for next year and looking for ways to improve the event. So start setting aside your surplus equipment and plan on joining in on the fun. I've already started a box!

*Brookes Harrow*

### LAYOUT TOURS

The layout tours are set for Saturday April 21 and Saturday April 28, 2007 and the following layouts have been offered:

Saturday, April 21	Saturday, April 28
Kicking Horse	Kicking Horse
CMT	Cal-O-Rail
The Grain Exchange	Rick McPhee
Mike Borkristl	Ed Hopkin
Stan Parker	Richard Johnson
Neil McKay	Gaston Moreau
Roger Walker	Al Crance

The core hours for viewing will be 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Some layouts will be open a little earlier or may stay open later. Exact viewing time for each layout will be published on a separate brochure that will be mailed out the week of April 9, 2007. Please respect the hours posted and do not arrive before or after the times listed. The brochure will have the locations, viewing times and a brief biography on each layout.

Looking into holding a Garden Rail tour in July as a result of an idea was put forward at SuperTrain. The benefit would be the weather is expected to be nice and the gardens have had a chance to fill in and in bloom. Feedback is welcome on this idea and if there are any people with layouts that would like to participate please let me know. Also a potential date would be welcome.

*David Walker*



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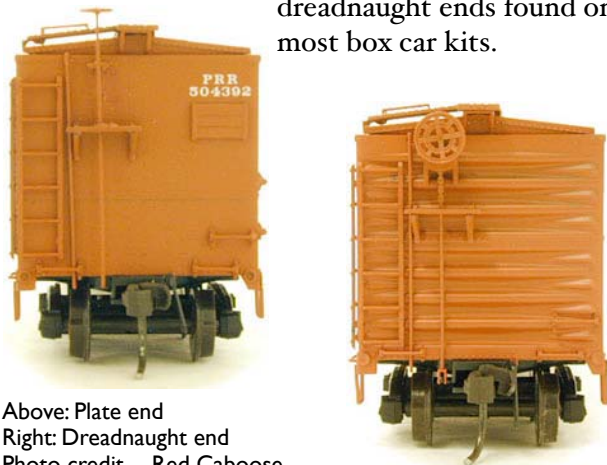


# MODELLING THE CPR SILK TRAINS BY GREG CAVE

Part one of the silk train article dealt with the fascinating history of the silk trains on the Canadian Pacific Railway. Part two deals with modelling the silk cars in at least two of its iterations.

Prior to the construction of the specialized silk cars in the mid to late 1920s, baggage cars and reefers were the primary equipment used by the CPR and CNR for shipping the raw silk across the country. Older style wooden baggage cars and wooden reefers are readily obtained at hobby shops, often painted appropriately. For modelling CPR it should be remembered that the lettering used in that early era was the Extended Gothic font style which was used until 1928 by the CPR.

To model the original 1920s steel box cars one would have to locate or construct a box car with flat plate ends, rounded roof and express or reefer trucks. These silk boxes did not have the usual dreadnaught ends found on most box car kits.



Above: Plate end  
Right: Dreadnaught end  
Photo credit - Red Caboose

Red Caboose manufactures a 1920s model of a Pennsylvania Railroad X29 box car which has strong similarities to the CPR silk cars or one could be scratch built to size and detail. The steel boxes were 44 feet in length with a 6 foot steel panel door. By sanding extra-neous elements and applying new riveting a good facsimile can be created. Early specialty silk cars constructed between 1925 and 1927 used the Extended Gothic font and later ones constructed in 1928 used the Extended Roman style font.



Red Caboose model of the PRR X29 Boxcar. Photo credit Red Caboose

Andy Wegmuller from Vancouver has created museum quality resin models which very accurately replicate the original steel box car. Unfortunately, these are sold out and no longer available.



Model of original steel box car used in silk service by Andy W Scale Models

The specialized steel box cars constructed for silk train service were later converted for other use. Many were converted during the 1940s into Express Baggage cars with two small windows installed on each side with vestibule end doors and baggage car style side doors and renumbered in the "4400 series". These were commonly found on mainline through trains in passenger and express service and are seen as photographs in many of the BRMNA Canadian Pacific in the Rockies series publications.

Right: Converted Through Baggage/Express car. Photo credit Stan F. Styles/Gary Oliver



Andy Wegmuller is creating a resin model of the 1940s converted through baggage/express car which he expects will be available in April of 2007.



1940s converted through baggage car Photo credit Andy W Scale Models



A potential kitbash model is found in the Walthers converted troop kitchen car. This model has similar vestibule ends and outlines for the side windows in the approximate correct location. The side door opening must be enlarged and a baggage door installed. Further, the trucks should be changed to the CP express car style with 36 inch wheels.

With shortening, rivet detailing, sanding, painting and decaling this model would make a credible and attractive addition to any modellers CP passenger train consist for that era.



Walthers converted troop kitchen car. Photo credit Walthers

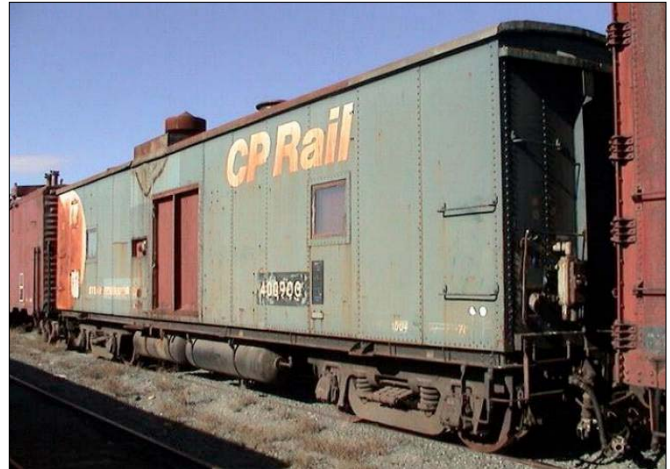
During the mid 1960s some of the original silk cars were converted into ROBOT units which contained the receiving and control equipment used for mid train slave units in that era. Don Bain mentions on page 19 of Volume Nine of the Canadian Pacific in the Rockies series “Canadian Pacific placed the equipment in a separate car because it was thought it was more practical to have it available at all times rather than losing it temporarily when the slave unit was being serviced. At that time it was not recognized that frequent servicing of the remote equipment was necessary to avoid radio problems.” Now, the radio electronics are housed in the nose of the mid train slave units.



ROBOT control car. Photo credit Bob Eley

Obviously, the Walthers converted troop kitchen car could be used to model a ROBOT.

The final rebirth of the silk cars is found as a “steam generator” car. These units were created to supply supplementary steam heat to passenger coaches during the winter months and later to create the scalding steam used in vegetation control along CP right of ways in British Columbia.



Steam generator car Photo credit Gordon Hulford

Gordon Hulford, a CP employee in Victoria, has numerous photographs of the vegetation control equipment assemblage posted on the Fallen Flags website.



Vegetation control equipment. Photo credit Gordon Hulford

A fastidious modeller would spend time and effort ensuring that the model would be of true to scale length with appropriate detailing of rivets, brackets, steps, ladders, brake assemblages, trucks and decaling. My patience is more along the lines of the 36” rule for viewing. Whatever your preference – Go For It!

**Credits**

Andy W. Scale Models - Andy Wegmuller – <http://www.readytrain.com>

Wilco van Schoonhoven – <http://www.mountainrailway.com/>

Bob Eley - photographer

Vancouver Public Library, Special Collections

Fallen Flags and Other Railroad Photos – <http://www.rr-fallenflags.org/cp/cp.html>

Gordon Hulford, Railfan photographer



### APPRECIATION NIGHT

Friday, May 25, 2007 at the Glenmore Inn will be the setting of our annual CMRS Appreciation Night. Cocktails begin at 6pm, dinner at 6:30-7:30. There is a cash bar. This night belongs to members to salute all the countless hours of work that you, dedicated CMRS members have put into running of the Society. A brief 30 minute light and humorous presentation by Tom Price of CPR will precede the ever-popular fun casino from last year. Remember it won't cost you any real money to participate in the casino, but the return is well worth your attendance and participation.

Ticket sales continue at \$30 each and can be obtained in one of several ways:

- 1) Call me at home at 274-4852 to arrange for tickets.
- 2) e-mail me at sproules@telusplanet.net to arrange for tickets, or
- 3) I'll be at Trains and Such for 2 Saturday mornings to sell you tickets. Dates and times are Saturday, April 21, 11am-1pm and Saturday, April 28, 11am-1pm. I'll take cash or cheques but ticket sales do have to end on May 11th.

*Dale Sproule*



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### WANT TO BE A CONDUCTOR?

Heritage Park operates daily from Victoria Day weekend until Labour Day. In addition, it will operate special Thomas the Tank Engine excursions the weekends of May 5/6 and 12/13. Regular Park



Engine 2023 takes a spin on the turntable at Railway Days 2005. Photo by Jon Calon

operations continue after Labour Day until Thanksgiving on a weekends only basis. This year, Railway Days is

taking place September 29/30 when we operate freights and double-headers, all which require conductors on board.

The train operates with two or three conductors depending on the day of the week and conductors work two days on and four days off.

Work as a conductor allows participants to enjoy the steam operations as well as to interpret history for school children, families and tourists alike. People from all over the world ride the train. Conductors look out for train safety and ensure on time performance between the three stations on the line. What better way than to enjoy history, trains, and earn money towards model railroading!! With a work schedule of two days on and four days off there is plenty of time for golf too!!"

Ideally our conductors are mature individuals that bear a physical likeness to the conductors that would have worked the train in 1915. The job requires lots of activity on and off the train as conductors are required to greet passengers, collect tickets, and assist passengers in boarding with their children and strollers. The uniform is supplied by the Park's costume department.

If you wish to join the crew, please submit an e-mail or letter of interest to Geoff Southwood no later than by April 25, 2007.

E-mail: [geoffsouthwood@shaw.ca](mailto:geoffsouthwood@shaw.ca)  
Mailing address:  
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ADVERTISING

Do you have some Model Railroad related items for sale, or perhaps something rare you want?

Consider an ad in the Orderboard. Ads run free of charge for members (provided they are relatively small), and a \$10/year charge for Business card size commercial ads. Assistance with ad design is also available. Contact the Editor, Jon Calon at [orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org](mailto:orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org) for details.

**Deadline for the next issue is April 27, 2007**

MEMBERSHIPS

Calgary Model Railway Society memberships can be purchased or **renewed at any of our events or by mail**. Cost is \$10 per year, running from June to the following June and can be purchased in upwards of 3 years in advance. Membership forms can be printed from our website. Completed forms and payment can be mailed to:

Calgary Model Railway Society  
Box 63033, 2604 Kensington Road NW  
Calgary, AB T2N 4S5

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

*Items in Bold type are Calgary Model Railway Society events.*

April 21-22, 2007 – Thunder Creek Model Train Show, Moose Jaw, SK

May 5-6, 12-13 – Day out with Thomas the Tank Engine, Heritage Park, Calgary, AB

Pre-ticketed event, for more info: <http://www.heritagepark.ca/>

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

For more info: Canadian Association of Railway Modellers, [www.caorm.org](http://www.caorm.org).

**May 25, 2007 - Membership Appreciation Night, Glenmore Inn, Calgary AB**

June 2-3, 2007 – Big Train Show, Ontario, CA, USA. <http://www.bigtrainshow.com/>

June 27-30, 2007 – 23rd Annual Garden Railway Convention, Las Vegas, NV. <http://2007.ngrc.com/>

August 29-Sept. 1, 2007 – National Narrow Gauge Convention, Portland, ME.

August 18-19 – 4th Annual Alberta Free-mo, Big Valley Agriplex, Big Valley, AB

September 22-23 – Great Edmonton Train Show, Edmonton, AB <http://www.mmrf.ab.ca>

September 29-30 – Railway Days, Heritage Park, Calgary, AB <http://www.heritagepark.ca/>

October 13, 2007 – South Bank Short Line Assoc. 28th Boomer Auction, Calgary, AB

**October 14, 2007 – Fall Mini-Meet & CMRS AGM, Glenmore Inn, Calgary, AB**

**Do you have an event that should be listed here?**

**Send an e-mail to [orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org](mailto:orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.org) with the details!**