



THE ORDERBOARD

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALGARY MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY



Stover's Shoe Supply is a backdrop kit released in 2008 by Peace Valley Scale Models and sold quickly at the 2008 Craftsman Structure Show which Geoff Southwood and Dale Sproule attended. Their story starts on page 5. Photo Credit: Dale Sproule

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President's Message

Wow! Hard to believe, but it has been over three months since my last report.

First, I hope you had a happy holiday season and you're already enjoying the New Year. Winter has certainly made life interesting for Calgarians this year – plenty of snow accompanied by an extended cold snap. While not good news for most people, for model rail- roaders this is great weather!! We can retreat into our model railroad rooms to build our layouts and work on our modeling projects!

Since the last report, the Board has met three times. The various jobs have been assigned and planning is well under way for CMRS activities for this year. Check the Board of Directors list in the Orderboard or the Web site to see who is responsible for which activity.

Our last event was the Fall Slide Night in November. Congrats to the organizers who put on a great event, with many interesting presentations. River Park Community Church has

proven to be a great venue to hold this event. If you missed the Fall Slide Night, mark your calendar for the Winter Slide Night on Friday February 13th, same location. Peter and his group have planned another great event.

Jeff Burk is hard at work organizing the Spring Mini Meet for Sunday March 15th. Looking over the planned lineup, it promises to be an excellent show. Of course, the CMT Annual Fleamarket will take place that morning.

Continued on Page 2



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

And planning is well underway for our main event of the year, SUPERTRAIN, taking place on April 18th and 19th. And no, the roof has not fallen in on this show!! Just before Christmas, the roof on the bubble at the Calgary Soccer Centre collapsed. The bubble is an auxiliary building, not part of the main Soccer Centre Building where our show is held. SUPERTRAIN will not be affected by the roof collapse.

We anticipate an exciting show again this year. And if you have not already done so, please volunteer some of your time to help make this show a success again. See Rob's report on page 4 for more details how the show is progressing.

One change will be taking place in next couple of months. Our web site is getting a new address. Jon Calon has more about this on page 3.

Hope to see everyone at Slide Night on February 13th!

*Brookes Harrow
CMRS President.*

2009 CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET

Here's another early reminder to vendors to get your items for sale ready. March 15th is coming soon!

The Calgary Model Trainmen's Club Annual Fleamarket will be held as part of the CMRS Spring Mini Meet.

When - Sunday March 15th, 9:00am to Noon
Where - Glenmore Inn, corner of Glenmore Trail and Ogden Road SE.

Tables (standard 2' x 8') are \$20.00. Over one-third of our tables are already booked. To book your table now or for more information, please contact me. My contact info is on page 7.

Brookes Harrow



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2009 SPRING MINI MEET

The clinic schedule thus far includes the following:

1) Geoff Southwood & Dale Sproule: De-Mystifying Craftsman Kits – 60-90min clinic – discussion on the differences between regular kits & Craftsman Kits, materials, tips, hints etc; includes a video

2) Roger Walker: Ponds & Water; 30-45min clinic – making realistic standing water

3) Roger Walker: Bricks & Mortar; 30-45min clinic – how to make realistic brick walls from standard pre-formed styrene sheets.

I'd love to have more clinics for the Mini Meet. If you want to do a presentation or clinic, please contact me. My contact info is on page 7.

*Jeff Burke
CMRS Mini Meets Director*

CALL FOR SUPERTRAIN CLINICIANS

I am looking for Volunteers to host a 15 to 20 minute mini-clinic or demonstration at SUPERTRAIN 2009.

The idea of these clinics is to get the general public involved in the hobby of Model Railroading. This year we want to have beginner clinics from basic wiring to small kit assembly. If you want to help or have any ideas please feel free to contact me at gcoopercows@shaw.ca or by phone in the evenings at 403-453-6494.

Thank you!

Gordon Cooper

For Sale

MRC Prodigy DCC Control system with 2 cabs - \$175 obo
5 HO scale Rapido Cars (CPR paint scheme) \$250 obo
Miscellaneous other cars and more.
For More information, call Rick at 403-850-8489



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WINTER SLIDE NIGHT 2008

The Fall Slide Night was excellent! (in my opinion, but then again I am biased). Following up on that, the Winter Slide Night will occur on Friday, February 13th, 2009 at River Park Church 3818 14a Street SW. The doors will open at 7:00pm, and the show will start at 7:30pm.

The theme of this slide night will be mergers and mixed consists. Have any pictures where none of the locomotives are from the same company? Or pictures of foreign power, for example a NS unit on BNSF? How about a whole mix of power? Examples: SP&S, with CBQ, with GN, with NP, with BN? Or more recently DRG, SP, and UP? You get the idea.

I'm looking for presenters willing to show approximately 20 minutes of material. Video presentations will be accepted this time, but the videos will have to be reviewed beforehand to ensure quality as well as compatibility with the computer or DVD player.

As always, potpourri will occur at the end of the show, so bring some slides of your own to share. Looking forward to seeing you there. E-mail me if you wish to present, or if you have any questions.

Peter Bouma
freemo54@hotmail.com

LAYOUT TOURS 2009

Layout tours are in the planning stage, I've had only 2 ideas since requesting new ideas for this years Layout tours. At this time, I think we will use the same format as last year, which is North layouts one weekend and South the following weekend.

I would like to request at this time that anyone who would be interested in showing their layout please contact me either by phone in the evening @ 403-453-6494 or by email at gcoopercows@shaw.ca.

We would like to have some new layouts this year. Anyone can show a layout in any stage of completion from basic benchwork to complete operating layouts.

Thank you!

Gordon Cooper

.ORG IS NOW .CA

Some of you more detail-oriented folks have noticed a "typo" in the Orderboard over the past number of months, and brought it to my attention. I'm referring to the web address printed at the bottom of every page, and the fact that it ended in .ca as opposed to .org. In actuality, it linked to the .org address. However in mid-March, the .org domain will expire as it is not being renewed. We discovered some time ago that we didn't own the domain name ending in .org, and instead of trying to legally obtain the .org address, we registered a replacement ending in .ca instead of .org. We've made all the changes (the .org stuff now points to the .ca stuff, but this goes away in mid-March.) and you can now use the new addresses and life will carry on as it has in the past. We're asking you to update any favourites, links, your membership cards, etc. to the new address. **Remember, .org is now .ca!**

Jon Calow

ER
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SUPERTRAIN 2009

SUPERTRAIN

As I write this, it is exactly three months until we swing open the doors at the Calgary Soccer Centre and welcome the public to Canada's Biggest and Best Model Train Show. Our preparations for the show are on track and progressing well.

Perhaps the most important point to make right now is that the collapse of the air supported bubble at the soccer centre in no way affects SUPERTRAIN. I have heard lots of people speculating about having to move the show and other dire consequences. SUPERTRAIN does not use the bubble, never has, and isn't likely to in the future. In fact, it would be better for us if the bubble was closed during SUPERTRAIN so that soccer and lacrosse players wouldn't be entering the building. Anyway, it's expected the bubble will be repaired long before April.

You should start to see advertising and promotion for SUPERTRAIN appearing in a variety of different forms - posters large and small, on the internet, in publications, on banners around the city, on radio and TV, and on signs. You can help promote SUPERTRAIN by telling your friends, family, and co-workers about the show and what they won't want to miss. SUPERTRAIN is truly a show for the whole family. Our Lego friends at SALUG are helping us to acquire a whole lot of Lego pieces for the kids to play with in the Play Area. This is a very popular feature at other shows. Our clinic and demonstrations areas will mainly feature presentations aimed at beginners and families who want to learn how to go from the basic train sets to the next level. Again this year, the good folks from Iron Horse Park in Airdrie will be bringing some of their ride-on trains. It's not only the kids who love the ride, and last year this attraction helped raise lots of money for the Food Bank.

Of course, SUPERTRAIN is also for the serious model railroader. The layouts and displays will always provide plenty of inspiration for our own efforts. We will have lots of vendors bringing lots of merchandise for sale, hopefully with some terrific bargains to be



had. We are also very close to confirming the participation of a major US based manufacturer who will present a couple clinics on the process of developing and producing accurate and detailed scale models.

The Saturday Night Gala at the Glenmore Inn is open to all CMRS members, not just exhibitors and vendors. Tickets are being sold through the usual process as part of the exhibitor Application packages. Tickets will also be available for individual CMRS members at

Slide Night on Feb 13, and again at the Mini Meet in March. Tickets are priced at \$24.00 each, and that includes a delicious meal, fun, fellowship and a few laughs, and the opportunity to participate in our Chinese Auction. Every year, we put together over two dozen prize packages, and they are won by a ticket draw. You buy your draw tickets and put them into jars in front of the prize packages you hope to win. There's always a few extra special prizes supplied by our generous and supportive vendors. Also we'll present the various Layout and Display Awards at the Saturday Night Gala.

Greg Cave's master list of volunteers is starting to fill up, but there are still lots of opportunities to get involved and help out. Please send Greg an email at greg.cave@shaw.ca if there is a task you would like to help with.

As always, if you have any questions about SUPERTRAIN, you can send them to info@supertrain.ca or call me at (403) 217-7575.

Rob Badmington
SUPERTRAIN 2009 Chairman

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DE-MYSTIFYING CRAFTSMAN STRUCTURE KITS

Time was when craftsman structure kits as we know them today were the norm for the construction of all types of buildings on model railroad layouts. By 1947, Bachmann's introduction of Plasticville USA® kits had changed all that and today the norm is the plastic kit. In fact in the time starved world of the 21st century the norm is rapidly becoming the Built & Ready® structures produced by Woodland Scenics. Just pull them from the box and place them on the layout.

Many of us have said that the limiting factor to our hobby is more time than money. Perhaps the recession will change that or maybe the increasing number of retiring boomers will have many rethinking their approach to the hobby and construction of layouts.

Whatever the case, the **Craftsman Structure Show**, now held annually in Mansfield, Mass. is leading the way in reopening a part of the hobby that for decades has had second billing. In 2007, Scotty Mason, Doug Foscale, and Jimmy Deignan conceived and piloted the first show. Attended by 250 enthusiasts, including CMRS member Geoff Southwood, the show surprised its founders by exceeding attendance and spending estimates by a large margin. The show, which was conceived as a way to bring manufacturers of craftsman structures together with builders and collectors, was a great success.

Buoyed by the success of 2007, the show was held again this past November 13-15th. This time CMRS members Dale Sproule and Jim Pilson, joined Geoff in a three-man Alberta presence at the show. The fact that 25 to 30 Canadians from B.C., Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec would attend along with hobbyists from the U.S., England, Mexico and New Zealand was testament to the drawing card that the show is quickly becoming. In all, 309 people attended this year's show.

Dale and Jim flew to Boston and traveled to the show aboard the MBTA (Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority) commuter train while Geoff flew into Providence, RI. The day before the show's commencement was reserved for a private viewing of George Sellios' Franklin & South Manchester model railroad. George is the manufacturer of Fine Scale Miniature kits that have since 1965 been the

gold standard of craftsman structure kits. Show registrants had to pre-register for one and a half hour time slots in which just 40 were allowed to visit and view at a time. It was 'visit and view' as no photography is allowed. Books and photo CDs were available. As Dale exclaimed, he just knew he had died and gone to railroad heaven!! No amount of pre-reading of illustrated articles can prepare you for what you will see if you ever have the opportunity to view George's layout. Housed on the second floor of an inconspicuous early 20th century main street building in Peabody, Massachusetts, it's a wonderland of George's work on both his own and others' structures. Naturally as a good businessman, George just happened to be selling his latest kit of "Butchers Way" and Dale came away with an autographed copy.

After the visit to the F&SM, it was off to Cape Ann for a walking tour around Gloucester and Rockport, MA and a hot cup of New England clam chowder. The tour re-affirmed why New England is the epicenter of the craftsman structure building industry. Around every turn is a scene fit for a diorama and the inspiration for yet another of Fine Scale Miniatures or South River Modelworks kit. We returned to Mansfield late on the 12th with a side trip to My Dad's Trains in the backwoods of Wrentham, MA; anyone remember Arno Rinck from Hungry Horse?

Registration began on the Wednesday at 6:00 PM and we were right into the first of the clinics that evening. The clinics commenced at 8:00 AM each day with the final clinic of the day concluding around 10:30 PM on Thursday and Friday and the show concluding with a recognition dinner on Saturday evening. The clinics were presented by a team of the who's who of craftsman model building in two presentation rooms. Most clinics were presented twice and some were repeated from the 2007 Show, so on average around 100 people participated in each presentation. Imagine sitting there listening, and taking copious notes from speakers the likes of Dave Frary, Doug & Anna Maria Foscale, Brett Gallant, Tony Koester, Scott Mason, Bob Mitchell, Brian Nolan, Dave Revelia, Lou Sassi, and Bob Van Gelder, to name a few. Many are regular contributors to Model Railroader,

Continued on page 6



DE-MYSTIFYING CRAFTSMAN STRUCTURE KITS (CONTINUED)

Railway Model Craftsman and Narrow Gauge & Short Line Gazette. We filled notebooks and came away inspired to redouble our own efforts in model building.

A contest room had submissions for best structure, best diorama in one square foot, best model on a peanut jar lid (go figure!!), and a couple of photograph categories. While the number of entries were down from the initial show, the quality was superb. On Saturday, Valley HO set up their modular layout in the lobby of the conference hotel.

A highlight for all attendees was the sales showroom of 33 manufacturers and suppliers to the craftsman structure hobby. Most brought built up samples of the kits they were selling. The class of the hobby was of course Fine Scale Miniatures and South River Modelworks. FOS Scale, BEST (Bollinger Edgerly) Ragg's..to Riches and others had simply great booths. Of interest to us Canucks was strong representation from RSM (Rail Scale Miniatures), Full Steam Ahead, and Mt. Albert Scale Lumber. We should be particularly proud of Dario LeDonne's RSM offerings. Based in Vancouver BC, they now have four product offerings and Geoff Southwood will photograph the building of RSM's first kit for the Mini Meet in March, more on that later. All three of us spent slightly more than the average attendee spend, which is reported to be approx. US\$500 each. We're looking forward to seeing Dale build his FOS Scale kit of "WKLO Radio" complete with flashing beacon at the top of the radio tower!! We all met great folks and can now put a face to many that are driving this part of model railroading forward.

After the show, attendees were invited to visit Jimmy Deignan's Penny Middle Division of Model Railroader fame. In addition, there was a public viewing of the Scotty Mason Podcast. Each month Scott, Doug and Jimmy discuss a whole lot of really neat modeling subjects including upcoming craftsman kits, methods, shows and more in 60-90 minutes. This can be accessed via the site, www.scottymason.com. The site contains links to past podcasts, each listed by topic.

Well CSSo8 is now history although some photos of it can still be accessed at www.nebrownstone.com/css2008.aspx. For

information on next year's show, go to www.craftsmanstructureshow.com. Next year's show will be November 12-14th 2009 at the same location in Mansfield MA. So many of the manufacturers and the show organizers are located in New England that it is likely that this will be the venue for years to come. It is well worth the investment in time and money to attend. The show organizers for 2009 have already announced that in addition to repeating this year's open houses three will be added; Dick Elwell's Hoosac Valley Lines, Bob Van Gelder's South River and Millville Railroad, and Scott Mason's Rutland Railroad.

Hold on!! Let's describe what we mean by a craftsman structure kit. It is a kit composed of above all priceless instructions and background on the prototype. To put it simply, it consists of an assortment of any or all of scale lumber, resin, styrene or hydrocal structural components, metal or plastic detail parts, and signs. It is all about three dimensional art that allows the modeler to create a customized piece that will fit on a shelf, in a diorama, or on a model railway layout.

To illustrate, Dale Sproule and Geoff Southwood will present a workshop on De-Mystifying Craftsman Structure Kits at the **Spring Mini Meet** to be held on Sunday, March 15th 2009. Aside from some helpful background, the presentation will contain a PowerPoint photo review of Dale's building of FOS Scale's Hokum's House of Burlesque and Geoff's building of RSM's Dewdney Trunk General Store. If any CMRS members have a craftsman structure kit that they would like to bring along and display, we would encourage you to do so along with the kit box and the instructions for all to see.

Lastly, we are very hopeful that Dario LeDonne will bring Rail Scale Miniatures to SUPERTRAIN in April. This will be an opportunity for all to see some of the finest work in the craftsman structure industry, and dare we say meet Canada's entry into the big time of this part of the hobby. So as you ponder what to do on those long winter evenings, as Doug & Anna Maria Foscale so aptly say on their promotional material, "Don't Just Stand There, Build Something!"

Geoff Southwood & Dale Sproule



SPRING MINI MEET
&
CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET

Brought to you by the
"The Calgary Model Railway Society"
&
"Calgary Model Trainmen"



March 15th, 2009

CMT Fleamarket:

9:00 AM - 12:00 NOON
 Look For Great Deals Everywhere
 VENDOR TABLES \$20.00 each

Admission:

CMRS Members free- please show your Membership Card
 Non-members \$5.00
 Memberships available at the door

For tables or info, contact **Garth Praestegaard** (403) 650-1391 or
Brookes Harrow (403) 201-4937, email: bharrow@nucleus.com

CMRS Spring Mini Meet:

10:30 - 3:30 PM
 Clinics - Displays - Vendors

Glenmore Inn, 2720 Glenmore Trail SE

Contact **Jeffrey Burk** for Mini Meet information at (403) 272-5546 (evenings) or
 E-Mail: jeffb@boltsupply.com

For Sale

N Scale layout on a 4x8' table, includes lots of track, cars, buildings,
 etc. For more info and for viewing, call Carl at 403-249-7178.

EDITOR'S NOTE

Many thanks to Geoff Southwood and Dale Sproule for their contribution to this issue! I certainly appreciate having this sort of stuff to publish. If you have something to share to the readers, feel free to send it my direction!

Deadline for the next issue is Feb. 16, 2009

Jon Calow

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COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

Items in Bold type are Calgary Model Railway Society events.

February 13, 2009 - Winter Slide Night, River Park Church - 3818 14A Street SW, Calgary, AB

March 15, 2009 - Spring Mini Meet & CMT Fleamarket, Glenmore Inn, Calgary, AB

March 29-30, 2009 - 2009 Thunder Creek Model Train Show, Moose Jaw, SK. For info, email: jhall@wdm.ca

April 18-19, 2009 - SUPERTRAIN 2009, Calgary, AB <http://www.supertrain.ca/>

July 5-11, 2009 - NMRA National, Hartford, CN. <http://www.hn2009.org/>

May, 2009 - Layout Tours. Details TBA

August 13-16, 2009 - Alberta Free-mo 2009. Big Valley Agriplex, Big Valley, AB. <http://www.calgaryfreemo.ca/>

September 17-19, 2009 - Northern Lights 2009, NMRA-PNR Regional, Edmonton. For info visit:
<http://www.northernlights2009.ca>

September 29-30, 2009 - Great Edmonton Model Train Show, Edmonton, AB. <http://www.mmr.ab.ca/>

September 27-28, 2009 - Railway Days, Heritage Park, Calgary, AB <http://www.heritagepark.ca/>

Do you have or know of an event which should be listed here?

Send an email to orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca with the details!