The Orderboard

Newsletter for The Calgary Model Railway Society

A wonderful holiday display awaits visitors to Heritage Park during the "Once Upon a Christmas" event happening each weekend from the 21st of November through the 20th of December in the Baron's Snooker Hall. David Beck and Jeffrey Burk pass along information about the event on page 3. Photo Credit: Leo de Groot.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Let me begin by thanking the two Board members who are leaving this year - Jeff Burk, as RMGR group representative, and Gord Cooper, as an Independent representative. The contributions of both to the Society are much appreciated.

As well, I would like to welcome the two new Board members - Marvin Burk from RMGR and Monty Schnieder as an Independent. Thank you for offering your skills and abilities to the Board. I, along with the other Board members, look forward to working with both of you. The responsibilities and jobs for each Board member will be determined at the first meeting of the new Board in November and will be posted on our website.

Thank you to the members who attended the AGM and Mini-Meet on Sunday. We were able to offer lunch this year and as usual the Glenmore Inn took excellent care of us.

The AGM is an important event for the Society – it is an opportunity for the membership to set direction for the Board by choosing or ratifying who will represent the members and by discussing and approving the upcoming Budget.

We are in better financial shape this year and should be able to fund additional events given enough member interest. Some activities are already proceeding, as seen by Linda's report in this Orderboard. Also, the full SUPERTRAIN Committee will have met to begin planning for the 2010 show. Volunteers are always appreciated and more information on requirements will be coming.

If you have any ideas, suggestions, comments, or just things you would like to see the Society do, please email me or catch me at one of the events. Even complaints are better than silence so feel free to express those as well. I also hope to get out to see many of the clubs over the next year.

As this is the last Orderboard before Christmas the Board wishes all a Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year.

As a reminder, the next Society event will be Slide Night on Friday November 13th. Hope to see you there.

Rick Walker
CMRS President

SUPERTRAIN 2010 REPORT

Not a lot to report on yet. The planning process is well underway by the time you see this Orderboard. The full SUPERTRAIN Committee met this week to discuss the upcoming show, following on meetings held previously by the Executive Committee.

SUPERTRAIN

To date, we have received requests from four vendors interested in attending this year. All four are new to SUPERTRAIN.

We will be sending Richard information and material to put up on the website. This will include the Application Request Form which is in the process of being finalized. As Rob Badmington mentioned in the last issue, exhibitors and vendors from 2009 will not need to submit the Application Request form again.

For now, vendors should be making plans to attend. Exhibitors, too, should be getting their layouts and displays ready.

There is always the need for more volunteers at the show. Greg Cave will be coordinating the volunteer lists again. Since this is a big job, assistance would be most welcome.

As well, we are always on the lookout for volunteers to assist with the SUPERTRAIN Committee. In particular, there is a real need for one or two people to assist Rob with sponsorship and advertising. Sponsorship is one area we haven't been able to develop to its fullest potential. If you know anyone with expertise is this area, please let Rob know at info@supertrain.ca.

We expect we will have more to report in the next Orderboard. Remember, the show is April 17 and 18, 2010. More info at www.supertrain.ca!

Brookes Harrow
Registrar- SUPERTRAIN 2010

FALL SLIDE NIGHT

Fall Slide Night is quickly approaching. The Fall Slide Night will be on Friday, November 13th at 7:30pm at River Park Church 3818 14A Street SW.

We have some exciting presentations to view on Friday. Ian Mears will present slides of railroads around Manchester, England including a look at the world's first railway station, and a historical railroad. Also some slides will be shown of Peru in the 1970s. John Wrinch will present slides of a trip to the Cumbres and Toltec scenic railroad. As always, we will have a potpourri section towards the end of the evening.

I am still looking for a couple presenters to show either digital or traditional slides. Sorry, we aren't showing video at this Slide Night.

Since this is Friday the 13th, why don't we put on a show called the worst nightmare aka clean and dirty? So dig out your photos of clean and dirty locomotives, rolling stock etc. to show either during the main event or during the potpourri part of the evening.

For more info, or to make a presentation please contact me at freemo54@hotmail.com.

Peter Bouma

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ONCE UPON A CHRISTMAS

Over the past 3 or 4 years, the Rocky Mountain Garden Railway Society has been involved with Heritage Park. We started with the 12 Days of Christmas and are now involved with the revised Once Upon A Christmas. We as a club put in around 200 hours just setting up the layout in Baron's Snooker Hall. We take over the 3 pool tables with a very festive large scale layout. The guys spend their time setting up the track layout and electrical, and the women dive in to create a one of a kind Christmas and holiday layout full of colors, sounds and glitter. Our members then volunteer another 200 plus hours manning the display and layout for the 10 day event as well as a few Lamp Lighter dinner events. The public reactions are always great. We get to see some of the same visitors year after year coming down to see what we have assembled for each year's displays. Aside from having a great time running our trains, it's the looks on the children's' faces as they "glue" themselves to the edge of the display, watching every train as they pass by, finding all the little vignettes and listening to all the festive sounds encompassing the layout. This is by far our biggest club event to help promote the hobby to the public.

Heritage Park holds numerous events and activities for the whole family during the Once Upon A Christmas event. Shopping, plays, displays, and of course, the festive singing and frolicking brings the best of the holiday season to life. The days of operation at Heritage Park are Saturdays and Sundays, starting November 21, and ending December 20th. The park is open from 9AM to 4PM. Please try and make time to come down and take in the many activities the park has to offer for the Holiday Season.

David Beck & Jeffrey Burk

Wanted

I am looking for the January and February 1997 issues of Railroad Model Craftsman or permission to make copies of the articles by Dick McEvoy in the issues for my personal use.

I can be contacted by phone, cel 403-651-6165, home 403-547-7421 or email cabguy@telus.net. – ***Bob Hall***

For Sale

2 brand new in the box MRC 1415 Prodigy Advance2 DCC Walkaround Handheld Controllers, $100.00 each. For info, contact Bruce at 403-247-0223 or henwood1@telus.net

MEMBER APPRECIATION

Wow! I can't believe I've been on the CMRS Board of Directors for a year. My portfolio for 2008/2009 was Member Appreciation.

Let me start out by saying that I've enjoyed every Membership Appreciation Night we attended. I was very disappointed that the 2008 dinner was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales.

In December 2008, we sent out a mass email to CMRS members asking for their input on whether we should continue having a Membership Appreciation Night at the Glenmore Inn or possibly at a different venue and what time of year would be good for people. We followed up with a request in the Orderboard asking people to give us their input about this event.

At the AGM held on October 18th, we displayed a pie chart which summarized the responses. 30 people out of possible 335 gave us their input. That's less than 10% of the membership. 10 people thought we should stop having a Member Appreciation event and put the money towards Rail Fan events. 20 people suggested continue with Member Appreciation but in a modified format to keep costs down.

When I presented these findings at the AGM, I posed the question "What do you want?" Mike Borkristl proposed we combine SUPERTRAIN Saturday Night with Membership Appreciation Night since a number of people Mike spoke with said SUPERTRAIN Saturday and Membership Appreciation were too close to each other and they could not afford both.

Gord Smith suggested we display the names of the volunteers at the dinner and mail the certificates. [Ed. note: We had planned on doing exactly that at the AGM, but ran into time constraints leading up to the event. See the accompanying story at right for more information about this. -Jon]

I will be talking with the organizers of SUPERTRAIN Saturday to see how we can combine the two events for 2010.

If you have any comments, suggestions or would like to discuss Member Appreciation further please feel free to contact me. Please see the Board of Directors listing for my contact info.

Linda Laroche

VOLUNTEER CERTIFICATES

At the AGM, Gord Smith suggested we display the names of the volunteers at the combined SUPERTRAIN Saturday / Member Appreciation dinner and mail the certificates. We may display the names but the certificates will be mailed before then.

Originally, the plan was to display the names at the AGM and have the certificates available for pick up at the AGM. This didn't happen for various reasons for which I, and the rest of the Board, do apologize. We hope to have the certificates available for pick up at Slide Night on November 13th. Any certificates not picked up will be mailed.

Over 160 people volunteered at the various CMRS events such as Mini Meets, Slide Nights, Layout Tours and SUPERTRAIN. In case you were wondering that's close to 50% of the members. A big THANK YOU all everyone that helps make these events successful.

See you at Slide Night.

Linda Laroche

2010 CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET

Here's an early heads up for vendors to start gathering your surplus equipment for sale at the Fleamarket. As in the past few years, the event will be held as part of the CMRS Spring Mini Meet.

Date - Sunday March 14th, 2010

Time - 9:00 am

Location- Glenmore Inn, corner of Glenmore Trail and Ogden Road SE

Table rental will be $20.00 this year. To book a table, please contact me. My contact information is on page 7 in the Orderboard.

Brookes Harrow

NEW TO THE CMRS BOARD

[As is customary following an AGM where we elect new Board members, I'm allowing our new Board members to introduce themselves. -Ed.]

My name is Marvin Burk and I have been a member of the CMRS since September 2006. I am presently a member of the Rocky Mountain Garden Railway Society. I have always had an interest in model trains and modelling, generally through my son Jeffrey, but not to the level that I am now involved in the hobby. Professionally (now retired), I worked in the Industrial Electrical field with a specialty in the Industrial Controls and Automation and now do Electrical work on model trains. I look forward to working on the CMRS Board.

If there are any questions or comments that arise, please contact me 403-995-3319 or by e-mail at burkpm@telus.net.

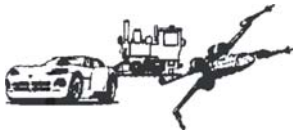
Marvin Burk

I bought my first train kit in a box for $50.00 in 1976 in Montreal but never did much there or in Winnipeg until moving to London, Ontario in 1980 where I built my first layout and started to learn about the hobby. In 1986 I moved back to Calgary and bought a house with an unspoiled basement which after drywalling I proceeded to fill with a layout. I made the mistake of telling my wife that I wanted to redo a large section and she said let's buy a new house instead so in 2004 we moved to a new and larger basement and I am presently building a new layout. I have a freelanced layout set around the year 2000 so I have been getting rid of my early time period and industry cars that no longer fit.

This past May I retired from my position of Production and Facility Manager for Theatre Calgary after 23 years.

Monty Schnieder

CHINOOK & HOBBY WEST



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2011 2012				HEAVY LINE INDICATES ELECTION YEAR			GAIL MYERS	MARVIN BURK	BROOKES HARROW	JON CALON

Abbreviations: TNG – Thursday Night Group
CMT – Calgary Model Trainmen's Club
IND – Independent, not representing a club
RMG – Rocky Mountain Garden Railroaders Society

RAILFAN EVENT

At the AGM, we asked if people were interested in a ride on the Alberta Prairie Railway from Stettler to Big Valley on August 14 or 15, 2010.

We would charter a bus to take us from Calgary to Stettler, board the train for Big Valley where we would have dinner and a tour of the Alberta Free-mo display before hopping the train back to Stettler and then returning to Calgary. About 20 people indicated they would be interested so we will pursue this event.

Photo from Rocky Mountain Rail Society

We have put the request in for the Alberta Prairie Railway group to run 6060 that weekend, but we'll have to wait until January at the earliest to see if the request can be accommodated. If you'd like a photo run-by, let us know and we'll let them know and hopefully they'll agree to the request...

Stay tuned for more info in 2010 as plans start to come together.

Jon Calon & Linda Laroche

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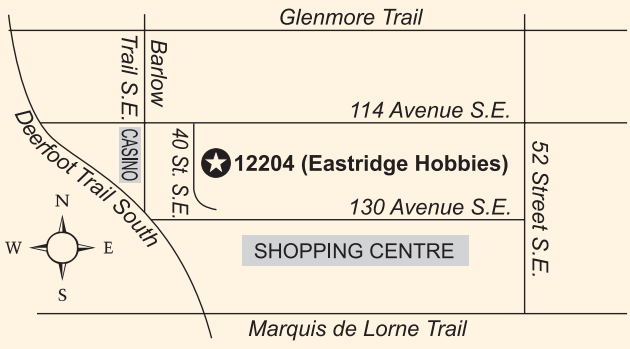

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

And another AGM is behind us, and thanks to everyone who came out to support the Board in passing the budget and actually participating in an honest-to-goodness election! For the first time in a very long time, we actually had ballots and a proper election happening between Ed Kurianovich and Monty Schnieder. Thanks to Garth Praestegard and Mike Borkristl for doing the scrutineer duties for the election which saw Monty Schnieder join the board for the next year. Welcome to the Board Monty!

* * * *

I had the pleasure of attending the Boomer Auction on the 17th of October, mainly for selling some surplus rolling stock from my collection, but also to see what stuff people are considering surplus and auctioning off. Compared to a few years ago, the number of DC power packs was way down (with the conversion of layouts to DCC) and the amount of N scale stuff was up. Those in the audience who were interested in N scale stuff managed to score some real bargains. Sadly, little to no G scale stuff on auction which either says that nobody wants to unload stuff or it's being sold elsewhere. In any event, lots of good deals, some rare stuff to be had, and a fair amount of fun. If you haven't attended one of these events, they can definitely be some good fun, but do remember to bring some cash in case something you've been wanting comes up for sale.

* * * *

My list of coming events is still quite short. I've searched as best I can for events to notify you guys of, but I know that I'm missing some. Please pass any events you know of into my e-mail inbox!

The deadline for the next issue is Jan. 18.

Jon Calon

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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 twice free of charge for members (provided they are relatively small), and a $15/year charge for business card size commercial ads. Assistance with ad design is also available. Contact the Editor, Jon Calon at orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca for details.

Deadline for submissions to the next issue is January 18, 2010.

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 July 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 (for the time being) to:

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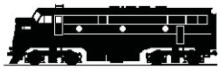

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CMRS MAILING ADDRESS

Recently, we received a notice from Canada Post, advising our postal outlet on Kensington Road is closing as of October 31st. Unfortunately, the postal outlet they wish to move us to is rather out of the way for everyone on the Board, so we're investigating other suitable locations. We have six months of forwarding on our old location. We will have the new address in the next Orderboard.

Jon Calon

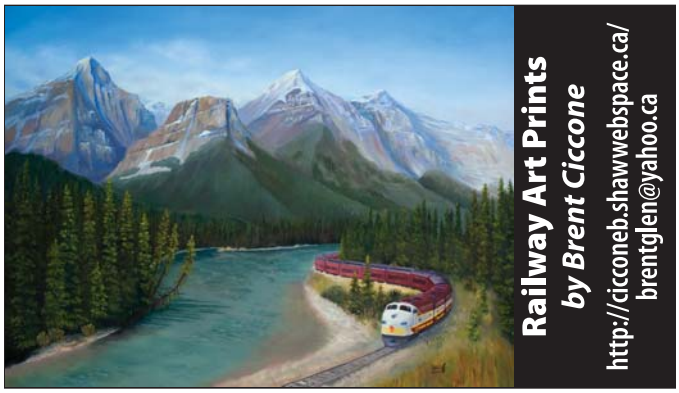
INTERESTED IN MODEL RAILWAY OPERATION?

The EMRA is holding its first open operating session on Saturday, November 28, from 1:00PM - 5:00PM in Edmonton.

Learn about Car Cards & Waybills, yard and mainline switching, and operating on a large model railroad.

Contact Peter Ulvestad, ulvestad@telus.net, if you are interested.

Rick Walker



CHASING A DAYLIGHT

In July, Southern Pacific Daylight locomotive 4449 made a run on BNSF from Portland, Oregon to Minneapolis, MN with a number of private cars. This was a ferry trip to Trainfest 2009.

Rick Walker and I made a trip to Sandpoint, Idaho to follow the train across Marias Pass to Shelby, Montana. It was a marvelous weekend. We watched the fourth of July fireworks from the balcony of our motel, enjoyed 4449 steaming through Essex, and spent some enjoyable evenings with some CMRS members we met up with.

Ian McArthur

COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

Items in Bold type are Calgary Model Railway Society events.

November 12-14, 2009 – Craftsman Structure Show, Mansfield, Mass. http://www.css09.com/

November 13, 2009 – Fall Slide Night, River Park Community Church, Calgary, AB.

November 14-15, 2009 – Trains 2009, Burnaby, BC. http://www.bctrains.org/

November 28, 2009 – Operating session at EMRA, Edmonton, AB. Email ulvestad@telus.net for info.

February 12, 2010 – Winter Slide Night, River Park Community Church, Calgary, AB.

March 14, 2010 – CMT Annual Fleamarket & CMRS Spring Mini Meet, Glenmore Inn, Calgary, AB.

April 2-4, 2010 - Shuswap Rails 2010, Salmon Arm, BC, http://www.salmonarmmodelrailway.com

April 17-18, 2010 – SUPERTRAIN 2010, Subway Soccer Centre, Calgary, AB.

Do you have or know of an event which should be listed here?
Send an email to orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca with the details!