



THE ORDERBOARD

NEWSLETTER FOR THE CALGARY MODEL RAILWAY SOCIETY



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SUPERTRAIN 2010 is a distant memory, but the organizing committee is working hard on SUPERTRAIN 2011, which takes place at the Subway Soccer Centre in three weeks. Photo credit to Leo de Groot.

President's Message

Can you believe it's March already? I suspect people have been busy working at home on their layouts. This weather hasn't been conducive to outdoor activities. Let's hope that Mother Nature gets all her snow dumped before April 15th so we have a great weekend for SUPERTRAIN.

Rob Badmington has an update on how SUPERTRAIN is shaping up and what you can expect to see. I can't wait to see the layouts and displays that will be on exhibit. There will be an Orientation for SUPERTRAIN volunteers on Sunday, April 3rd at the Glenmore Inn. If you haven't signed up to volunteer come down and see where you can help.

The CMRS Spring Mini Meet and CMT Annual Fleamarket were held on February 27th. Several people commented that the Mini Meet was one of the best they had attended. Congratulations to Roger Walker on a great job organizing the Mini Meet. Would you be willing to present a clinic? Is there a clinic you'd like to see presented? Let Roger know as he is looking for ideas for the Mini Meet in October.

I must commend Brookes Harrow and CMT for all the hard work they put into organizing the Fleamarket. We'd like to hear your comments about the Mini Meet and Fleamarket.

John Wrinch is busy organizing the layout tours planned for May 28 and 29. John has been keeping it a secret as to which layouts will be on the tour.

There are still some tickets available for the Saturday Night Gala. Ticket sales will be cut off after the Volunteer Orientation on April 3rd. I suggest you call me 403-934-1372 or send me an email to reserve yours at appreciation@calgarymodelrailway.ca. You don't want to miss out on a great dinner and speaker.

See you at SUPERTRAIN.

*Linda Laroche
President, CMRS*



CMT FLEAMARKET

We are not sure of the exact count, but the CMT Annual Fleamarket has been held for over 20 years, and 2011 added another year to the count. The Fleamarket this year was held on Sunday, February 27th along with the CMRS Mini Meet.

Once again this year, the show was a success, even with attendance down from last year. 28 tables were sold and vendors brought a wide range of quality items to sell. And sell they did, judging by the steady parade of buyers carrying items out with them.

Thanks again to the generous support of Trains and Such, the Draw Prize was another success. We tried something different this year; instead of locomotives, we offered Trains and Such gift certificates as prizes. Daniel Charest was the big

winner of a \$200 certificate. Two \$50 certificates were won by Vince Wehnes and John Gullett. Three additional prizes were awarded; in HO, a TLT hopper, a TLT CP caboose, and an N-scale Intermountain freight car. Congratulations to the winners. Thanks to everyone who entered. And a big thanks to Trains and Such for once again generously supporting this event.

Also thanks to all who participated, whether as vendors, buyers or volunteers. You make this show the success it is each year.

Watch for our announcement about the 2012 show. After 20+ years, we can't stop now!!! (And I know Jon looks forward to my out-of-this world articles in the Orderboard to promote the event!!)

Brookes Harrow

CMT OPEN HOUSE

It's become a tradition now! Two weeks after SUPERTRAIN, CMT hosts an Open House. This year the Open House will be on Saturday April 30th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Come on down and see what we have been up to. For those not familiar with our layout, we have a permanent HO-gauge layout depicting the free-lanced Chinook Western as the railway travels southwest out of Calgary through Kananaskis to connect with the US border. If you have an HO-gauge DCC-equipped loco, bring it with you and take it for a spin around our layout.

The club address is 619 12 Avenue SE, just north of the Stampede grounds. Parking is available at the back and east side of the building, as well as on the street. There will be a nominal admission charge.

Look for us at SUPERTRAIN. After a couple of years absence, we put our modular layout on a diet and will have the slimmed-down and updated version at SUPERTRAIN. Stop by and say Hi to our members.

We look forward to seeing everyone. New members are welcome. If you can't make the Open House, we meet most Wednesday evenings after 7:00 pm (unless there is a Flames home game). Our website www.calgarymodeltrainmen.ca has more information, or contact me directly; my contact info is at the back of this newsletter.

Brookes Harrow

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Many thanks to the dozens of people who have answered the call for volunteers to help run SUPERTRAIN. It is truly a monumental job to line up people with all the various tasks to be done. Leo deGroot has done a terrific job of organizing the master list and sending timely messages to the membership. The leaders of the Admissions and Security areas, Julia Harrison and Steve Klein, personally contacted many people to fill each of the time slots on their schedules. Steve is also responsible for putting up and taking down our highly effective overpass banners, and again he lined up his own crew to assist.

All of our SUPERTRAIN volunteers are invited to the Volunteer Orientation Session to be held at the Glenmore Inn on Sunday, April 3rd, two weeks before the show. Doors open at 10:30am, with presentations describing Volunteer duties and responsibilities starting at 11:00am. A light lunch will be served at the conclusion. Volunteer Passes will be handed out at the session, speeding up the process to get volunteers into the Soccer Centre on show days. Thanks to Jeff Burk for arranging the Orientation Session.

We have been inundated with requests for space this year and we have decided to utilize some of the area on the Mezzanine level to accommodate additional displays and commercial booths. Fitting everything into the available space is an incredible challenge and it is hoped that the public will enjoy the extra exhibits. The only other

SUPERTRAIN



alternative would be to turn away applicants, which we would rather not do.

At the show itself, there will be two clinics presented which should be of interest to many members of CMRS. These are on the topics of DCC for scales from N to G presented by Ultimate Trains, and "How, What, When, Where and Why" by North American Railcar Corporation. The clinics will be on Sunday morning only, and hopefully those that are interested can get away from

their display and layout duties at a time when the public attendance is usually quite low. The other clinics to be presented are aimed at beginners in the hobby and will be run twice each day.

If you are coming to SUPERTRAIN to exhibit or volunteer, please remember to park in one of the warehouse parking lots across the street from the Subway Soccer Centre's main lots. Steve Ramsey has arranged with the warehouse owners to allow this, and will have signs up directing you to appropriate lots. For the families with young kids and strollers, as well as guests with mobility difficulties, having parking closer to the doors will be appreciated.

Included with this Orderboard (if mailed to you) are a couple of posters that you can put up at work or somewhere in your neighbourhood. If you know someone who has an interest in trains, or has kids or grandkids who like trains, please make sure you encourage them to come to SUPERTRAIN 2011. It will be a great show!

*Rob Badmington
SUPERTRAIN Chairman*



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MINI MEET REPORT

The February Mini Meet featured three clinics, a show and tell, and a panel discussion. The clinics were: a two and a half hour scratchbuilding clinic presented by Roger Marler (6 attendees), along with hour-long clinics on modeling roads (Elmer Holm, about 20 attendees) and layout automation (Richard Johnson, about 35 attendees). Richard's clinic was followed up by presentations at his layout a week later, with 8 participants on Saturday and two more on Sunday. All of the clinics were very well received by those participants who completed evaluations. Many thanks to Roger, Elmer and Richard for the work they put into preparing and presenting these clinics.

The show-and-tell attracted at least 17 participants. There was a good variety of excellent models from HO to Garden scale (I hope the N-scalers will bring models next time), and the room was constantly full of people discussing the various models. All those who completed the evaluation wanted to see another show and tell at the next Mini Meet, and I expect to organize one. Many thanks to those who carefully packed up, transported and displayed their models.

After lunch, Barry Conn gave an introduction to DCC programming, followed by an open panel

discussion. About 40 people participated, firing a huge range of questions at the panelists, Barry Conn, Richard Johnson, Dave Bedard and Brian Keay. The entire session lasted an hour and a half, and was very well reviewed by those who completed the evaluation. Thanks to Barry, Richard, Dave and Brian for sharing their knowledge.

The overall attendance at the Mini Meet was hard to determine. CMRS provided a free lunch, the order of sandwiches and dessert was demolished very quickly. We are guessing attendance was around 60-80 people.

The evaluations indicated that most people appreciated a choice of clinics in the morning. They also suggested that clinics could be repeated in the afternoon, so members could take in as many clinics as possible. It is probably better to present too many rather than too few clinics, thus allowing choice and giving members with varying interests something to enjoy at the Mini Meet.

This was the first Mini Meet I have helped organize. I would appreciate feedback on this report by email at walkerrg@telus.net. I would also love to hear from members who have ideas for clinics, or even better, who would like to present a clinic.

Roger Walker

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

SUPERTRAIN is approaching and quick. You may have seen the ads already appearing on the digital billboards around Calgary, or perhaps the little leaflets and business cards spread around the hobby shops around town. We're even on Facebook and Twitter this year! Fact is, the committee and yours truly do a huge amount of promotion to entice people to come out to the show. But despite all the work we do, it's still hugely appreciated when you pass the word around to your friends and family about the show to come out and take a look into our hobby. Enclosed with this issue of the Orderboard are a couple posters. I would hope they will make it onto a bulletin board at your workplace or posted somewhere it'll be seen by a fair number of people and not kept at home to be tossed into your recycling bin.

Onto topics a lot closer to home (in my home actually), my layout has achieved a fair number of

milestones already: First trackboard, first cork, first track and first train running even! Granted, an RDC pulling several freight cars up and back down a single-turn helix isn't what I would call prototypical, but rolling stock running on it's own is still noteworthy. I certainly am blessed to have such great friends willing to come over so often to help build this layout. For those of you who have been keeping tabs on the progress via my website (<http://www.calon.ca/EN1988>), you've likely noticed a lack of updates recently. I will blame this on two things: 1) I've actually been working in the basement nearly every Saturday and occasional Sunday and 2) The website tends to take a bit of effort to update. To this end, I've spent some time converting the back-end of the site to a Wordpress-powered blog which I can update much more quickly. Check it out when you can!

Deadline for the next issue is April 25th.

Jon Calon



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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. Text ads run twice free of charge for members (provided they are relatively small), and a \$15/year charge for business card size commercial ads. Contact the Editor at orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca for details.

Deadline for the next issue is Apr. 25, 2011.

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 1 to June 30. Multi-year memberships are also available. Membership forms can be printed from our website. Completed forms and payment can be mailed to:

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LCL (LESS THAN CARLOAD)

Send your notes in by April 25th to make the next issue of LCL.

EMRA OPERATING SESSION

The EMRA will be hosting their next operating session on Saturday, May 14, 2011.

If you are interested in operations and would like to join us in operating the Monashee Pacific Railway, please email Peter at ulvestad@telus.net. The session will begin at 1 pm at Fort Edmonton Park and lasts 3-4 hours to be followed by a no-host dinner at a local restaurant.

Peter Ulvestad

GOING TO MOOSE TRACKS 2011?

Looking to share traveling expenses to the 6th Division meet in Moose Jaw, long weekend in May. Please email Dale Sproule at sproules@telusplanet.net.

Dale Sproule

ESSEX RAILFAN TRIP CANCELLED

Due to a lack of paid up participants, the railfan trip to Essex has been cancelled. If you were interested in participating, we would like to know what factors led to you deciding not to go. Email me at orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca with your thoughts. We would like to try again in the future and want to know how to make it a go.

Jon Calon

LAYOUT TOURS 2011

The next event after SUPERTRAIN will be layout tours, happening on the weekend of May 28 and 29th. Full details will be appearing in the next issue of the Orderboard.

John Wrinch

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COMING EVENTS SCHEDULE

Items in Bold type are Calgary Model Railway Society events.

March 25-26, 2011 - Spring East Coast Large Scale Train Show, York, PA. <http://www.largescaletrainshows.com/>

March 26-27, 2011 - Moose Jaw Model Train Show, Moose Jaw, SK. <http://www.tcmrc.org/>

April 16-17, 2011 - SUPERTRAIN 2011, Subway Soccer Centre, Calgary, AB

April 30, 2011 - CMT Open House, Calgary, AB. <http://www.calgarymodeltrainmen.ca>

May 20-23, 2011 - Moose Tracks 2011 - Moose Jaw, SK. <http://www.tcmrc.org/>

May 28-29, 2011 - CMRS Layout Tours, Calgary, AB. Details will be in the next issue of the Orderboard.

July 3-9, 2011 - Extra 2011 West, 2011 NMRA National - Sacramento, CA. <http://www.x2011west.org/>

August 13-14, 2011 - Alberta Free-mo 2011, Agriplex, Big Valley, AB. <http://www.calgaryfreemo.ca/>

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

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