



The Orderboard

Newsletter of **The Calgary Model Railway Society**



#4 Loading the Barge on Brent Ciccone's Layout

Table of Contents

- President's Message
- Trains for Kids
- Nominations
- CMT Anniversary
- From the Editor's Desk
- Coming Events

President's Message

I hope everyone had a great summer. With summer now over, the CMRS activities have started earlier this month with the first Board meeting. The Directors are ready to work hard for you, planning and organizing great activities. To accomplish this, we also need you. Please contact any one of us if you have an idea of an activity, or even better you want to help organize one. Roger is always looking for clinicians for the Spring and Fall Mini Meets, so contact him if you want to share your experience and skills with the other members.



President's Message Continued...

The CMRS AGM and Fall Mini Meet will be held on Sunday, October 20th, at the Glenmore Inn. Roger has again planned great clinics, so please plan to attend. There are three Board Director terms ending this year. However Monty Schnieder, Roger Walker and Gord Smith have agreed to run for another three year term if they are elected at the AGM.

The SUPERTRAIN 2014 Committee will soon be hard at work, with their first meeting on September 26. The Board have met with Rob Badmington, and we are pleased to announce that Rob has accepted to chair SUPERTRAIN one more year. The show could not be a success if we did not have volunteers, so if you want to be part of that success, please let the SUPERTRAIN Committee know at the AGM or at some other time.

My one year term as your President comes to an end at the AGM. It has been a pleasure to serve you this past year.

*Daniel Charest
President, CMR*

Trains for Kids

This past year, the Board tried to promote the hobby with the Trains for Kids project, thinking this is what we should accomplish. We found out that it was almost impossible for the CMRS to have visibility when donating train sets, as all the organizations we've contacted require anonymity from their donors. We then thought that we could draw for train sets at SUPERTRAIN, however we could not really reach the kids who can not afford to have a train set. Also, draws are regulated in Alberta, making this even more complicated.

We came to the conclusion that we can't combine promotion and charity together, neither as a project nor as a budget item. The Board will bring this topic up for discussion at the AGM, and propose the solutions we have discussed over the year.

*Daniel Charest
President, CMRS*

Nomination and Election of Directors

Article 3.1.(c) of the CMRS Bylaws says: Directors shall be elected or ratified to the Board to fill any vacancies then existing or occurring as of the end of the meeting. It is my privilege to advise you that Monty Schnieder, Gord Smith, and Roger Walker have accepted nominations to run as directors-at-large of the Society. It is also my obligation to remind you that any member present at the AGM may be nominated by another member to run as a candidate to the board of directors.

Also in compliance with article 5.1, Calgary Model Trainmen (CMT) have nominated Al Matchett as their Club Director, subject to ratification by the members in attendance at the AGM.

*John Lund
Vice President, (nominations chair)*

34th Annual BOOMER AUCTION Saturday, Oct. 19th, Doors open at 9:30



THE CALGARY MODEL TRAINMEN'S CLUB PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

2013 marks the 75th Anniversary of CMT, but first some History:

Early records of The Calgary Model Trainmen's Club indicate local fellowship of Model Railroading started in Calgary from at least 1938 when men who had a common interest in Model Railroading met and formed The Calgary Model Trainmen's Club. Until the mid-60's, CMT was the only organized Model Railroad Club in town. One goal of any Club, including CMT is to acquire a permanent location for a permanent layout. We may still be searching for that location even after 75 years and several home layouts.

Early records and members remember the Club originally being formed in a basement which seems to have been the case of how other Clubs started 75 years ago, perhaps even the same today. There seems to have been only one scale 75 years ago, that being O scale. The Club probably just got off the ground when overseas hostilities started for Canadian troops in 1939-1945. During the war years, materials ran short and Model Railroads, as most everything else, suffered.

From 1949-1959 the Coste House mansion in Lower Mount Royal, was home to CMT. After World War II, The City Planning Commission recommended that the Coste House be demolished and the land subdivided. The Calgary Art Association, with the help of Lawyer J.E.A. Macleod, convinced the City to preserve the house and use it as a cultural centre. The Art Association rented the house from the City for \$100 a month. During their stay, the Coste House became a haven for artists and social events.

CMT had a 25' x 34' HO layout in the attic and hosted at least 3 public open-house weekends to help raise funds to pay for city taxes on the building. Access to the layout was up a steep set of stairs where folks popped up into the middle of the layout next to a mockup of a steam locomotive that contained the controls for the layout. Don't forget, these were the post WWII years. Novel fund-raising efforts came as a result of approaching local businesses, and in return for their financial support, a model of their building was made and placed on the layout. CMT sold shares and certificates to the public and even to Club members themselves. By 1954, membership numbered 40 including local artist Roland Gissing who painted many scenic backdrops in removable sections for the layout. Some old Club records showed CMT owned \$10,000 worth of equipment. And just as the Club was maturing we were asked to leave by the same Arts Community who wanted the attic space. So, back to the Club members Archie Keys went, and somehow managed to have the Club locate into the rear of the new Allied Arts Centre at the corner of 9 Avenue and 8th Street S.W. from 1959-1966.

The Allied Arts Centre (and for a while later named "Hollywood North") is still located on 9th Avenue and 6 Street S.W. The name implies this was the new home of the Calgary Arts and Cultural Centre, a familiar name to CMT from days in the Cost House. CMT again formed an integral part of the Centre. During our stay in the Allied Arts Centre, membership rose to 100. Again, Club member Roland Gissing painted another backdrop, a one piece mural measuring 40 feet in length. This formed the entire backdrop for the HO layout measuring 25' x 540' with multi-level tracks, a one-spiral tunnel, wonderful bridges and scenery. The Electrical Department depended on 12 volt car batteries, not sophisticated, but it did work. Another project taken on by the Club was annual upkeep of CPR Selkirk #5934, a 2-10-4 steam locomotive, which was located on the site where the Shaw Millennium Skate Park now is. This locomotive is



now located at the entrance to Heritage Park. Club members replaced rotting wood pieces and repainted the lady while at Mewata Park.

About 1966 the first of series of annual spring meets, now known as the 6th Division PNR, was kicked off in Calgary. An invited Model Railroad Club from Edmonton was also in attendance. We again helped raise funds to operate our portion of the Allied Arts Centre with annual Open Houses.

Unfortunately, those artistic types again wanted layout space as part of their expansion plans and we were again asked to leave what we thought was our permanent location. CMT left behind the wonderful Gissing artwork now valued in the thousands of dollars and reports suggest the cinder block wall was finally either covered over or torn down. So much for the love of art!

1966-1971

This time the Club membership didn't go back into basements but met monthly in the Briar Hill Community Hall for monthly meetings. This hall was located on the North East corner of 19 Street and 14 Avenue N.W. (directly West of the North Hill Shopping Centre) and was later removed. The Northwest leg of the C-Train now runs under this location. Each monthly meeting saw a live clinic presented by a member on different topics of the hobby.

1970-1979

In 1970, Mr. Sig Weiser, Director of the new Centennial Planetarium became aware of our search for a new home and offered a 1200 square foot area in the basement of the building as part of a new Transportation Museum and CMT was requested to build an operating Museum quality Model Railroad. The room was even surveyed in 1971 with a Surveyor's Transit by Club member Gord Johnson while he was still working at Midwest Surveys. The size of the room was just right at about 1100 square feet!

The completed layout was a point to point system with a major yard at each end and a smaller yard at the mid-point. Interspaced were several small yards for industry. The 320 foot mainline (total trackage was 1100 feet) had 2-subdivisions each with its own control panel and dispatcher, 10 control panels were used successfully requiring 16 Engineers to run a full timetable operation. Through the years several time table operations were executed. The goldspike was laid in late fall of 1975. The Club stayed at this location until December, 1979. All track and turnouts were hand-laid using code 83 nickel silver rail on top of individual wooden ties.

1980 - ?

We moved into our present residence (619-12 Avenue S.E.) in 1980 into an old Community Hall measuring 25' x 100' and operate using Digitrax DCC wireless. We operate a bridge line from Calgary-Crowsnest linking to US Railroads. Track and turnouts have been hand-laid in place. As well, the mainline track, staging tracks at each end, the main yard at Chinook and the sidings at Priddis, Bragg Creek, Kananaskis Junction, Pika and Elkford have been hand laid and are fully operational. 80% of the primary scenery has been completed and work continues on a scene by scene basis.

Equipment is Club owned and available for operation when members drop in anytime (24/7) since members have a key, or they bring their own equipment. Operation is 1st Wednesday using card system perfected by Andrew Love who has operated on some big systems in West Coast and Western US layouts. In the past we have had midnight run where lights go out and flashlights or helmet lamps are used.

We are always interested in inviting new members to join us, meetings are held on Wednesday nights.

Dale Sproule



**NOTICE OF MOTION
AMENDMENT OF CMRS BYLAWS**

The current CMRS Bylaws limit the term of the President to one year, and to only once during his/ her current term on the board. The first year is a learning year for a new president; and the experience gained, and relationships formed, would be very useful to the Society if he/ she could serve a second term or longer. This term limitation is also very unusual for Clubs and societies similar to ours.

The Board would like to have the option of allowing the President to continue in office past his/ her first year. The maximum term would still be limited by the term limits for Directors, which are not affected by this change. Every year the President would have to be appointed or re-appointed by the members of the Board, who are the direct appointments of the membership and the various charter groups and Clubs.

It is proposed to replace paragraph 8.2 of the CMRS bylaws, Section 8 OFFICERS, which currently reads:

“8.2 The term of office of the President shall be one year and a Director may hold the office of President only once during his/her current term on the board.”

with

“8.2 Deleted”

This change will be discussed and put to a vote at the 2013 AGM in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Bylaws.

*Jim Ironside
Secretary
CMRS Board of Directors*



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CMT

BIRTHDAY PARTY

AND PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 16, 2013

10 AM - 4 PM

619-12 AVENUE S.E., CALGARY

WE'LL HAVE BIRTHDAY CAKE!

Calgarymodeltrainmen.com



Slide Night 2013

CMRS's annual slide night will be held on Friday November 15th at 7:30 pm at at River Park Community Church (3818 14A Street SW, Calgary). Over the last year, I'm sure that some of you have taken (train related) photographs which other members could be interested in viewing. We have two confirmed presenters and are waiting confirmation on another two, If you would like to present or be a part of the potpourri, please get in touch with myself.

John Lund

Bill Kerr

It is with great sadness to report the passing of a fellow CMRS member, William (Bill) Kerr. I am sure a lot of members knew him. Bill will be best remembered for showing us all "How to make trees". I first met Bill back in the Big Four building when showing "Three Forks". Bill went on to show and encourage the Free-Mo group to add trees to their modules, also giving clinics to the CMRS. Later he took over the Selkirk Scenery range of leaf products.

Bill was a keen follower of the two foot narrow gauge systems in Maine, and through this he had made friends all over the globe. I am sure his talents will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

May I pass on our condolences to his wife, Linda and family.

Nigel Knight

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:

The Calgary Model Railway Society
PO Box 8071, Station A
Calgary, AB T2H 0H7

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 the ad is 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 Oct. 23, 2013



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	<p>Al Matchett-CMT</p>	<p>Roger Walker – Independent Clinics H-403-208-0210 walkerrg@telus.net</p>	

CMRS Minimeet and AGM, Sunday October 20th.

SHOW AND TELL *Please plan to bring some models to share with all the attendees.*

MORNING CLINICS

GREG CAVE will present a clinic on YARD DETAILS. This will include all the clutter, buildings and somewhat abandoned rolling stock typically found in yards.

BRIAN KEAY will present a clinic on NEW WEATHERING TECHNIQUES that do not involve airbrushing. Instead, he will discuss the use of new materials such as gouache (watercolour paints) applied with cosmetic sponges.

PETER BOUMA’s clinic will discuss ways of DISTRESSING, WEATHERING AND PAINTING PLASTIC to make it look more like wood.

ROGER WALKER will attempt to KEEP THINGS SQUARE – tips on assembling plastic and wooden kits to be sure walls are square, windows neatly cut out, etc.

AFTERNOON CLINICS (After the Annual General Meeting)

DAVE BEDARD will present a clinic based on CHOOSING THE RIGHT DECODER – which is right for you, what they can do and the advantages and disadvantages of using ones that can be programmed from your computer.

BRIAN KEAY will present a continuation of his morning clinic, in a hands-on format. With a limit of about 20 participants, Brian will supply brushes, sponges and paints (you supply an appropriate car) *Roger Walker*



From the Editor's Desk

First a comment about this issue's cover photo: I had to use one of my own photo's since nobody sent me a photo this month! My preference is for photos of models and layouts since this is, after all, the Calgary MODEL Railway Society! So please send me your photos for use on the cover!

I hope the article about CMT's history brings back some memories for some of you, it certainly did for me. I can remember going to the Allied Arts Centre as a young kid and being amazed and fascinated by the trains, especially as they would disappear into the tunnels and reappear somewhere else on a higher level. I can't remember much else about it, but I suspect that I wasn't the only kid (or adult) inspired by seeing CMT's layout and wanting to have one of my own!

Brent Ciccone
Editor

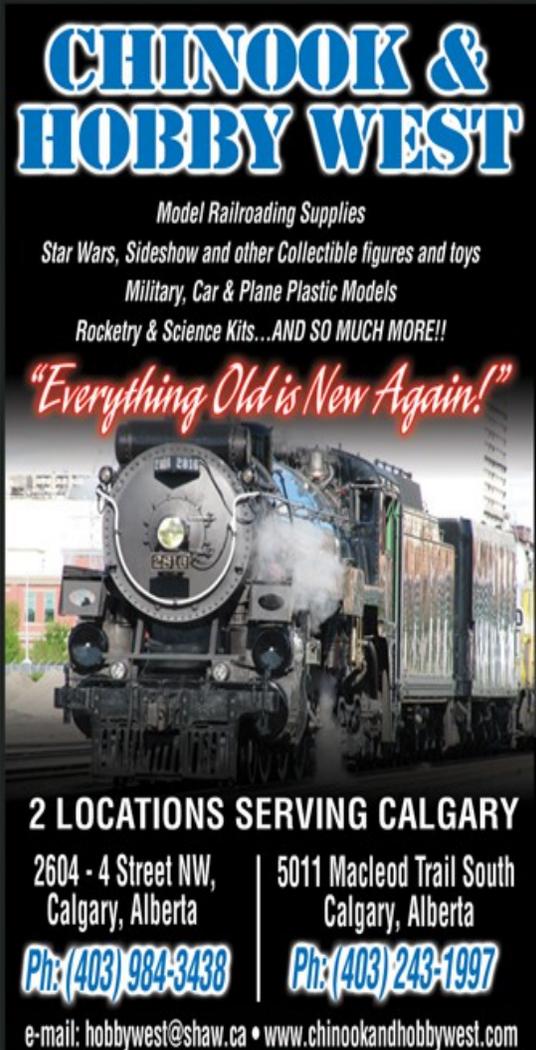


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Coming Events Schedule

Sunday, Oct. 6, 2013	Edmonton Model Railroad Association - Annual Open House
Saturday, Oct 19, 2013	South Bank Boomer Auction, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Dr S.W., Doors open at 9:30 AM, Auction begins at 11:00AM
October 20, 2013	CMRS Fall Mini-Meet and Annual General Meeting, Glenmore Inn, Calgary, AB
October 19-20, 2013	Manitoba Mega Train Show and Sale, Winnipeg, MB
Friday, Nov. 15, 2013	Slide Night, 7:30 PM River Park Community Church, 3818 14A Street SW, Calgary
Saturday, Nov. 16	CMT Open House and Birthday Party, 10 - 4PM
April 12-13, 2014	SUPERTRAIN, Subway Soccer Centre http://www.supertrain.ca/

Send an email to orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca with submissions for coming events!