



The Order Board

Newsletter of The Calgary Model Railway Society



The Grand Opening Celebration Waggon at the opening of the new line on Gervais Goodman's Railway. We were lucky to retrieve this other aerial picture of the Autumn Sightseeing Train from the camera of a local G Scale ornithologist who was last seen flying off in the beak of a marauding Blue Jay.

Photos by Gervais Goodman

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President's Report

Another CMRS Annual General Meeting has come and gone. This was my second chairing of the AGM and barring some presentation issues early in the program which were totally my fault, it went quite well. Both Greg Hancock (representing Free-mo) and Marvin Burk (representing Rocky Mountain Garden Railroaders) were ratified for their first terms on the board. Bain Spielman was acclaimed for his second term as an independent director on the board. While we are pleased that Bain decided to continue on with the Board, it was disappointing but not surprising that there was no interest from the floor in running for the independent director position. Next year there are two independent and one club rep positions to be filled, it would be good to see more candidates then. As I mentioned during the AGM, we really need some new faces to step up and help run this great society.



President's Report Continued...

I would like to thank Peter Bouma for setting up this year's kit building challenge and handling the ordering logistics. A total of 24 members ordered the Allie's Ice Cream kit. Peter has placed the order and will advise members when the kits are ready to be picked up. Use your creativity to build the kit and remember to bring it to the Spring 2019 Mini Meet to exhibit and to receive your refund from the CMRS.

The next event on the CMRS calendar is Slide Night which will be on Friday, November 9th at River Park Church, 3818 14A Street SW. Doors open at 7pm and the presentation starts at 7:30pm. I hope to see lots of members at the event.

As mentioned at the AGM, next year is the 25th anniversary of the CMRS' founding in 1994. The board will be looking into the possibility of hosting events to mark the occasion. If you have any suggestions on how to celebrate the anniversary, please don't hesitate to contact myself.

*Al Matchett,
President, CMRS*

Slide Night – November 9

We are all set for Slide Night at the River Park Church, 3818 – 14A St. SW on Friday, November 9. We have some great presentations lined up, including A Trip to the End of the World, An Oz Odyssey, New England Railroading in 1965, Trains of Kansas City, Swiss Mountain Magic, and The Crowsnest Pass. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the show starts at 7:30.

There is still room in the program for you to share 10 or 15 of your favourite photos in the Potpourri session. Please contact Rob Badmington at badmington@shaw.ca to discuss the details. Only digital pictures will be shown. Please bring your photos on a memory stick (i.e. thumb drive). Snacks and beverages will be available during the intermission.

*Rob Badmington
Slide Night and Railfan Events*

Layout Tours

I know this sounds a little odd, but it is never too early to give you modellers a heads up to prepare your layouts for 2019 event. The dates for 2019 will be February 9th (North) and 10th (South). Those who would like to participate can start now to get ready to open your layout to the CMRS membership. Remember your layout can be at any stage of construction to finished.

2018 tours were very successful with nine layouts and more than 300 visits. The hosts were pleased with the turnout and found a lot of interest in model railroading and many many questions to be answered. Please do consider showing your layout and just get in touch with myself and get on the list for 2019.

bainspielman@shaw.ca

*Bain Spielman
Layout Chair, CMRS Board*



<p>MEMBERSHIPS</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Completed forms and payment can be mailed to:</p> <p>The Calgary Model Railway Society PO Box 8071, Station A Calgary, AB T2H 0H7</p>	<p>ADVERTISING</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Contact the Editor at orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca for details.</p> <p>Deadline for the next issue is Jan 25, 2019</p>
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Board of Directors

<p>Al Matchett - Independent President al.m@shaw.ca</p>	<p>Paul Clegg Independent Clinics pjclegg4@gmail.com</p>	<p>Greg Hancock - Free-mo tovaritchboy@yahoo.com</p>	<p>Marvin Burk - Rocky Mountain Garden RR Mini Meets burkpm@telus.net</p>
<p>Rick Walker - Independent Treasurer, Nominations walkr@telusplanet.net</p>	<p>Selwyn Morris - Cantrak Membership membership@calgarymodelrailway.ca</p>	<p>Brookes Harrow - CMT Clinics H - 403-201-4937 bharrow@nucleus.com</p>	<p>Rob Badmington - Independent Vice-President, Slide Night, Railfan Events badmington@shaw.ca</p>
<p>Bain Spielman - Independent Layout Tours, Trains for Kids, Railfan Events bainspielman@shaw.ca</p>		<p>Brent Ciccone Bow Valley OrderBoard & Communications H- 403-283-0325 orderboard@calgarymodelrailway.ca</p>	

Fall Mini Meet

On Sunday October 14, CMRS members met at the Glenmore Inn for the Fall Mini Meet and The Society's Annual General Meeting.

The day started with displays placed in the Display Room for all to see and enjoy. Included was Peter Bouma who was taking orders for this year's CMRS Kit Challenge. Members had the opportunity to buy wood kits of Allie's Ice Cream by KC's Workshop at cost, based on discounted prices for bulk shipping. The Challenge is to build the kit as the member wishes. Then bring the completed kits to the Spring Mini Meet (March 3, 2019) for display; each completed kit will earn the member \$25 from CMRS. This is the third year CMRS has put out the challenge to members. It is awesome to see the results, members are free to use their imaginations and many of them do to build excellent structures as they wish.

A number of clinics enabled knowledgeable members to pass on their skills to others. . The clinician lineup for this year was:



- Doug Lee presented a two-hour clinic “Tools and Techniques to Create an Operating Scheme” to assist you in designing your own model railroad.
- Jim Ironside presented “Simple Route Switching for Yard Ladders”.
- Dave Bedard presented the “Doris York” on the history of the ferry boat and how he scratch-built the model.
- Dave Bedard presented “Pane (or Pain) Free Windows” on scratch-building windows, including how-to demonstrations

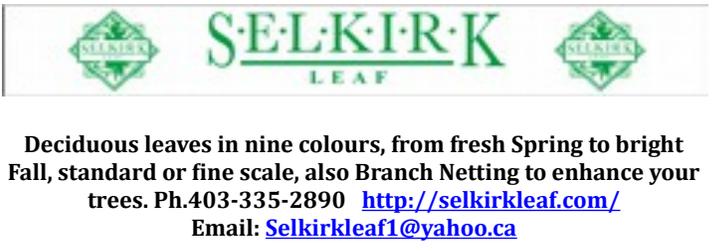
Thank you to all the presenters, we acknowledge the time and effort it takes to put together a presentation and know that everyone appreciates it.

At 12:30 pm, all members met in the main meeting room for lunch, provided by CMRS, and The Society’s Annual General Meeting. Many things were discussed and approved to cover the Society’s business for the upcoming year.

As well as the formal presentations and displays, members took the opportunity to catch-up and socialize with old and new friends.

The Spring Mini Meet will be held on Sunday March 3, 2019. We look forward to seeing everyone there. We are always looking for clinicians so let us know about the skill or techniques that you have that would be of interest to other members.

*Brookes Harrow
Paul Clegg
Mini Meets*



CMT Open House – Saturday, November 10

Calgary Model Trainmen's Club is having an Open House. All model railroaders are cordially invited to join us on Saturday November 10 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Our show display layout is set up and running, including two new additions. As well, our permanent club layout upper level is in the early stages of construction.

We look forward to seeing everyone. The club is located at 7 – 11 Street NE, in the Bridgeland area north of Memorial Drive. We share the building with the Rehabilitation Society of Calgary. Enter the building by the northeast entrance, beside our storage container. Parking is available in the lot north of the building. Coffee and donuts will be available.

Got a train you'd like to run? If it is HO scale and decoder equipped, please bring it with you and take it for a spin. And if you are interested in membership, please talk to one of our members.

Brookes Harrow





FOR SALE

40 ft. Standard Plug Door Boxcar by Micro Trains Ltd. It is N scale and never been used. Given to me as gift but wrong scale for my layout. Asking 22.50.

A set of Union Pacific F3 diesel A and B units (Z Scale). Both are powered. I bought these by mistake and can't use them as they don't fit in with the theme of my model railroad. These have been tested and run extremely well. They are made by AZL (American Z Lines). The A unit comes with a fixed coupler/pilot assembly which is easily installed and takes the place of the truck mounted coupler. They are Z scale. Asking 125.00 for set.

Phone Ken at 403-601-6912

Arduino and Model Railroading

Lately there has been a few articles about the Arduino in the Model Railroad press. What is an Arduino and why should you care?

Basically an Arduino is a little computer, a micro computer, that runs a program that can control things. What does that mean for Model Railroading? It means that you can control things like lights, motors, servos, sounds and even build an entire DCC system. Arduino is a strange name, it was developed by a group of Italians who lived in the same city where the company Olivetti has its factory. Remember Olivetti? You may have seen or used Olivetti typewriters and other business machines. Back in the day, Olivetti along with IBM made all sorts of machines, typewriters, adding machines, postage machines found in offices around the world. The story is that these young guys went to the dump and retrieved all sorts of bits and pieces that Olivetti had discarded and played around with building things out of them such as robots. They found a need for something to control these machines plus they were also involved in the local university teaching people about electronics and programming and wanted a platform that anyone could use, not just electronics engineers or computer scientists, the result is the Arduino.

The Arduino has grown in popularity amongst the Maker movement, there are other microcomputers out there, but the Arduino has a huge installed base, is easy and free to use and the boards and assorted add ons are widely available, and cheap!

Here is the basic Arduino Uno board, there are a number of different boards of different sizes, but they all do basically the same thing.

You will notice the USB port, plug this into your computer and you can download programs (called Sketches) using the Arduino IDE programming interface. This is a free download from the Arduino website

<https://www.arduino.cc/>



You will also notice the rows of header pins on each side, with this standardized format a large variety of daughter boards, called "Shields" can be plugged directly onto the main board. These shields can offer functions like WIFI, ethernet, motor shields, servo shields, and others that can greatly expand the available functions.

An Arduino program, or Sketch, has a fairly simple structure with an initialization area followed by a loop,



when powered up the initialization part runs once and then the program simply continues to run the loop repeatedly until it is powered off. Lets look at a simple program, the simplest that usually comes pre-installed in the Arduino when you get it is “Blink” it blinks an LED light on and off.

```
/*  
Blink  
Turns on an LED on for one second, then off for one second, repeatedly.
```

Most Arduinos have an on-board LED you can control. On the Uno and Leonardo, it is attached to digital pin 13. If you're unsure what pin the on-board LED is connected to on your Arduino model, check the documentation at <http://arduino.cc>

This example code is in the public domain.

```
modified 8 May 2014  
by Scott Fitzgerald  
*/
```

```
// the setup function runs once when you press reset or power the board
```

```
void setup() {  
  // initialize digital pin 13 as an output.  
  pinMode(13, OUTPUT);  
}
```

```
// the loop function runs over and over again forever
```

```
void loop() {  
  digitalWrite(13, HIGH); // turn the LED on (HIGH is the voltage level)  
  delay(1000); // wait for a second  
  digitalWrite(13, LOW); // turn the LED off by making the voltage LOW  
  delay(1000); // wait for a second  
}
```

The “void setup()” section tells it which “pin” to use and tells it to be an output versus an input. The “void loop()” is the program, it says turn the LED on, then waits for a little while, and then turns the LED off again. You can control how fast the LED blinks by changing the values in delay(1000).

Now the Arduino has up to 14 “pins” that can have LEDs attached to them, so you could expand this program and have 14 blinking lights. The Arduino also has 6 analog pins, what is the difference between an analog and digital pin? A Digital pin operates as simply on or off, represented by either 0 Volts or +5 Volts, an analog pin can have any value between 0 and 5 Volts. So if you are controlling a motor you probably want to be able to control the speed so you would want an analog output, but for a light, just on and off is all that is needed.



One of the great things about the Arduino is that there are thousands of these “sketches” that are being shared by people all around the world. The odds are that someone has already done what your are thinking of doing and all you have to do is download the sketch and maybe make a few changes to suit your application. On the Model Railroad Hobbyist website a fellow by the name of Geoff Bunza has posted a number of really useful projects. One that I have made great use of is one that randomly turns the lights in a building on and off. You can see it here <https://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/node/23026>

He wrote an introductory article about the Arduino here: <https://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/magazine/mrh2016-12-dec/arduino>

This is a good place to start to read up about the Arduino.

The best place to get started with the Arduino is by buying one of the starter kits, these can be found on Amazon, ebay, aliexpress or at Active Electronics and B&E electronics in Calgary. These kits will include an Arduino, a bunch of LED's, resistors, transistor, various sensors and servos. The better kits will contain a tutorial with various lessons to work through. I would recommend getting one of these kits. The only danger is that you might find yourself with another hobby building robots and other projects!

Here is a link to a video of some of my Arduino projects:

Working HO scale TV (ignore the background noise) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dQZQjuSa8k0>
(based on Geoff Bunza's version)

Jacob's Welding <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-ELLibosTzs> (again a highly modified Geoff Bunza project)

As you can see, some fairly sophisticated effects can be created using these low cost Arduino boards along with a few other cheap components.

Brent Ciccone

Coming Events Schedule

November 9, 2018	CMRS Slide Night, River Park Church, 18 - 14A St. SW. 7:00 PM
November 10, 2018	Calgary Model Trainmen's Open House 10:00 am - 3:00 pm, 7 - 11 Street NE
February 9, 10, 2019	CMRS Layout Tours (tentative)
March 2, 2019	Prototype Modellers Meet
March 3, 2019	CMT Flea Market
March 3, 2019	CMRS Spring Mini Meet
April 13, 14, 2019	SUPERTRAIN 2019
May 29 - June 2, 2019	THE KOOTENAY EXPRESS 2019, hosted by the 6th and 7th Divisions of the PNR in Cranbrook, B.C.

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

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