

64 The Lantern

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NMRA



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THE LANTERN

*Official publication of the Winnipeg Model
Railroad Club (WMRC) established April 1955*

The Lantern is the Newsletter of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Inc and is provided electronically to members prior to the monthly club meetings from September through May. Our address is WMRC, 20 Keelegate Pl, Winnipeg MB, R2N 3V7.

The Lantern is published monthly from September to May (nine [9] times per year). The Club's official Room is located at Charleswood Legion, 6003 Roblin Blvd in the Tank Room, (basement), with meetings on the second Friday of each month, September to April beginning at 19:30 hrs unless otherwise posted. Guests are always welcome.

Submissions to The Lantern are preferred via e-mail in a plain text or MS Word format preferably in "Arial" font. Images are preferred in 'jpg,' 'tiff,' 'eps' (Postscript), or 'png' formats. Image resolution should be a minimum of 130 dots per inch. Contact the editor with any questions. Deadline for submissions including executive reports is two weeks before the next meeting - NO EXCEPTIONS. Opinions expressed in the Lantern are those of the authors and not necessarily the policy of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Inc. Note: The Lantern editor reserves the right to edit, reject, or ask that any submission be revised for any reason. ADVERTISING: The Lantern will accept advertising on a yearly basis for nine (9) issues. Changes in advertising must be submitted no less than three (3) weeks before meeting day to be included in that issue and following issues until changed. For info on rates on a less than yearly basis, contact the Editor. Rates: 1/16 page - \$10; 1/8 page - \$20; 1/4 page - \$40; 1/3 page - \$50; 1/2 page - \$75; 2/3 page - \$90; Full page - \$135.

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ON THE COVER – **Best in Show** of the 2026 Spring Show Annual Photo Contest awarded to Felix Lesiuk for "*PDC #3 in an Evening Rain*".

FROM THE EDITOR - We're closing out the season and thanking the executive and supporting members for a successful year. Highlights include a new website, refreshed branding, and strong participation in monthly model and photo displays.

In this edition of *The Lantern*, I will focus on our successful Spring Show. This event is important not only to the club but also to St. Amant. Special thanks go to Murray Brown for organizing the show, as well as to the many volunteers who ensured it ran smoothly, and to everyone who entered the model and photo contests. Our new Thomas the Train layout was a great success, as was the Time-Saver layout, especially with our younger attendees. The spring show was also pleased to feature a number of modular layouts, including NMRA No. 1, the South Family layout,

and Manitoba T-Trak. The winners of our annual model and photo contests will be recognized in this issue.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the AGM next week, where we will find out the winners of the various club awards. I will also have the pleasure of presenting the Robert Weaver Memorial Lantern Award, which recognizes a member's outstanding contribution to *The Lantern*. With so many submissions on a wide range of topics this season, selecting a recipient was no easy task – so you'll have to wait until the AGM to find out who it is.

The April model and photo display will be included in the September edition of *The Lantern*.

Have a great summer, and we'll see you again in the fall.

- Bob Harrison

Material for the Lantern

This is your Club's newsletter. Why not let others know what you have been up to. A short writeup describing what you have built or done on your layout may inspire others. Pictures are always welcome, either model or prototypical. You never know they may end up on the cover of the Rolling Stone, oops, sorry, Lantern.

Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Mission Statement

1. The Winnipeg Model Railroad Club, (WMRC), is a non-profit model railroad club that offers fellowship, education, and fun to anyone interested in the wonderful hobby of model railroading whether they are a beginner or expert. We strive to promote the hobby through our monthly meetings, our public shows, and other activities throughout the year.

2. The Purpose of the Club shall be the uniting of its members to promote interest in the hobby of scale model railroading; to increase the knowledge of its members: and to foster and promote construction

and operation of all phases of scale model railroading. None of the activities shall be carried on for the profit of any individual member.

WMRC Code of Conduct

The function of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club, (WMRC), is to promote fellowship within the hobby of model railroading. Anyone who has an interest in model railroading is welcome. The Club will refrain from publicly criticizing any individuals, group, organization, or business.

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Executive Reports

President's Message

It's been quite a year for the WMRC in 2025/26. The club was founded in 1955, and we celebrated its 70th birthday in September with a commemorative T-shirt. The NMRA got a makeover, with a new logo, and after some trial and error we followed suit with a new logo of our own, which is very bold and eye-catching. Many thanks to Paul Ullrich for his efforts on this project. We have a new colourful brochure, with a membership form inside, and we've already had new members sign up using that form. The brochure contains modern touches such as a QR code. That leads to another one of this year's innovations - a website. It contains a wealth of information and visits to the site are growing steadily. Many thanks to Murray Brown for spearheading that effort. These days success often depends on your "brand", and we have greatly improved ours.

We didn't do too badly at the bank, either. At the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo in September our sales table did a roaring business, and we took in a good share of the show proceeds as well. Many thanks to Gino Kost for his work on this event. And in April our annual Spring Show and Open House was a success, with many attendees having a good time, an excellent showing of models and photos, and strong donations at the door. Many thanks to Murray Brown for organizing the event and the model contest, and to Bart Hasselfield for taking care of the photo contest. And, of course, a big thank you to all of the members who came out to help at either of those events. And all of the members of the club's Executive and Caucus deserve a round of applause for all of their many efforts all year round, and at every monthly meeting. Thank you all.

And we're not done yet. On May 8 we'll hold our annual wind-up meeting with dinner, awards, and a table full of prizes to be won. Please come out to

Canad Inns Polo Park and help us wrap up and celebrate a banner year.

- John Bate

Vice President's Report

Over the past several years, I have taken on the responsibility of collecting prizes for our annual wind-up. During the COVID period, this task was relatively easy. Many people were cleaning out their attics and basements and generously donated train-related items to the club. A number of these donations were in excellent condition and could be set aside as prizes for the wind-up arm's-length draw, while others — such as locomotives — were used in the elimination draw. This greatly reduced the club's need to purchase prizes.

In recent years, however, we have not received the same volume or quality of donated items suitable for prizes. As a result, the club now needs to purchase a larger portion of the prizes.

Another responsibility of the Vice-President is organizing the 50/50 draw. While it serves as a small fundraiser for the club, it also adds an element of fun for members, giving everyone a chance to win a share of the proceeds.

- Marvin Fetch

WMRC AGM May 9th, 2025 Canad Inns Polo Park

The AGM was called to order at 7:12pm

There were 28 persons in attendance including 6 guests.

John asked if there were any errors or omissions in the minutes of the 2024 AGM. There were none.

A motion was made by Gary Stempnick to approve the minutes of the 2024 AGM, and it was seconded by Gino Kost. The motion was carried.

President's Report John Bate

John mentioned the passing of some long-term club members including Morgan Turney, Norm Leathers, Gary Peters, and Alf Goodall. John also mentioned the closing of Warehouse Hobbies, a long-standing hobby shop in Winnipeg.

John talked about the Mega Train show and that WMRC has decided not to take over the operation of this show. We will continue to help with volunteering at the show.

John mentioned the layout tours that were done this year, how they were well received, and that we would try to continue this program.

John mentioned the good series of presentations throughout the year thanks to the efforts of Ian Plett.

John talked about the threat to the Model Railroad industry due to the tariffs and he also mentioned the hobby industry coalition. John shared the link for the petition on the screen for members to look at and sign.

John mentioned the two limited edition prints for attendees to bid on tonight.

Financial Report

John reviewed and discussed our income and some of our expenses. He also talked briefly about our donations to Prairie Dog Central and St. Amant.

John asked for a motion to approve the financial report. A motion was made by Larry Leavens to approve the financial report as submitted. It was seconded by David McNeil. The motion was carried.

John asked for a motion to make a \$2500.00 donation to St. Amant. A motion to make a \$2500.00 donation to St. Amant was made by Tommy Kucera. Khirad asked if we should reduce the donation. The motion to make a \$2500.00 donation to St. Amant was seconded by Gary Stempnick and carried.

John introduced the rehashed 2025-2026 executive which is unchanged from last year.

There was no old business to discuss.

There was no new business to discuss.

John mentioned that the next WMRC meeting would be on September 12th, 2025 subject to Legion approval.

A motion to adjourn was made by Christopher Robinson at 8:20 pm.
by Brent Karr, Secretary

2026 AGM Notice

AGM Meeting
May 8, 2026
CanadInns Destination Centre
Polo Park
at 1405 St. Matthews Avenue
in Aalto's Restaurant

- **5:00PM Doors Open**
- **6:00 PM Food and Beverage Service begins - Aalto's dinner buffet available.**
- **7:00PM Serving staff to clear plates from guest tables**
- **7:30PM Serving staff tasks completed**
- **7:30PM AGM, awards and prize draws begin.**
- **9:00PM Windup concludes**

Spring Show and Open House



The 2027 Spring Show and Open House was, as always, well received by our hundreds of guests. On Saturday there were wall-to-wall people at times!

My personal thanks are extended to **Ian Plett**. Ian has unique software that allows him to move layouts, tables, and chairs around the Legion's floor plan to optimize guest viewing. Plus, knowing how No.1 Northern's layout can be configured is an asset that I don't have.

And many thanks to **Bart Hasselfield** for putting together a very professional Photography Contest exhibit.

Thank You, gentlemen!



And the **People's Choice Award** for **Best PHOTO** goes to **Felix Lesiuk** with his photo **PDC #3 in the Evening Rain**.

Congratulations!

- Murray Brown

Annual Model Contest

There were 20 unique models displayed, with O, N, and HO scales represented! The Winners of the respective categories are covered in more detail elsewhere in this issue, but this year there was a tie for the **People's Choice Award** for **Best MODEL**!



Congratulations are extended to **Marvin Fetch** for his **Abandoned House** and **Bob Harrison** for his **Snow Maintenance** Special Event entry.



Well done, gentlemen!

– Murray Brown

WMRC Website



The Club's website continues to have more visitors. Be sure to click the "Breaking News" item on the Home Page to be current and see what's coming up!

Visit <https://www.wmrctrainclub.ca/>

– Murray Brown

The Gateway Western Railway

The Gateway is still closed.

- Gino Kost

Manitoba Hobby Expo

The Manitoba Hobby Expo dates are October 3 and October 4, 2026. The times for **EACH** day are 9:00am to 5:00pm (see ad on page 18).

We will be looking for volunteers for the October show. Volunteers will be needed to look after the WMRC Sales table, WMRC Display table promoting the Club and operating the Timesaver layout.

- Gino Kost

Annual Photo Contest

The Annual Photo Contest is a significant feature of the Spring Show. It focuses on photography and storytelling by:

- Encouraging better photography by motivating participants to improve their skills — composition, lighting, timing, and capturing trains in interesting settings.
- Showcasing railway activities by sharing unique scenes — operations, landscapes, weather conditions, and rare or historic trains.
- Recognizing achievement for outstanding photos and give credit to photographers for their effort and eye for detail.
- Preserves railway history by documenting changes in equipment, locations, and operations over time, becoming a valuable archive.

Overall, the contest keeps members active, improves skills, and celebrates both railroading and photography.

Many thanks to Bart Hasselfield for running the Annual Photo Contest and Julie Epp, Kim Hamin, and Sue Gereta for their skillful judging of the many Photo contest entries.



The winners of the various categories are presented herein along with their photographs.

Best In Show

*** PDC #3 Evening Rain Felix Lesiuk

Special Event

1st	Bismark, ND	Felix Lesiuk
2nd	Devils Creek, MB	Felix Lesiuk
3rd	Willow Creek Trestle	Cliff Davidson

Model

1st	CP 5804	Cliff Davidson
2nd	Night Loading	Bob Harrison
3rd	KSC 2	Cliff Davidson

Prototype

1st	CN 2653 at Grants Curve	Larry Leavens
2nd	CN 665 Parked in Rockies with Hood Open	Bob Harrison
3rd	CN – Cescon Siding Orange Bridge	Cliff Davidson

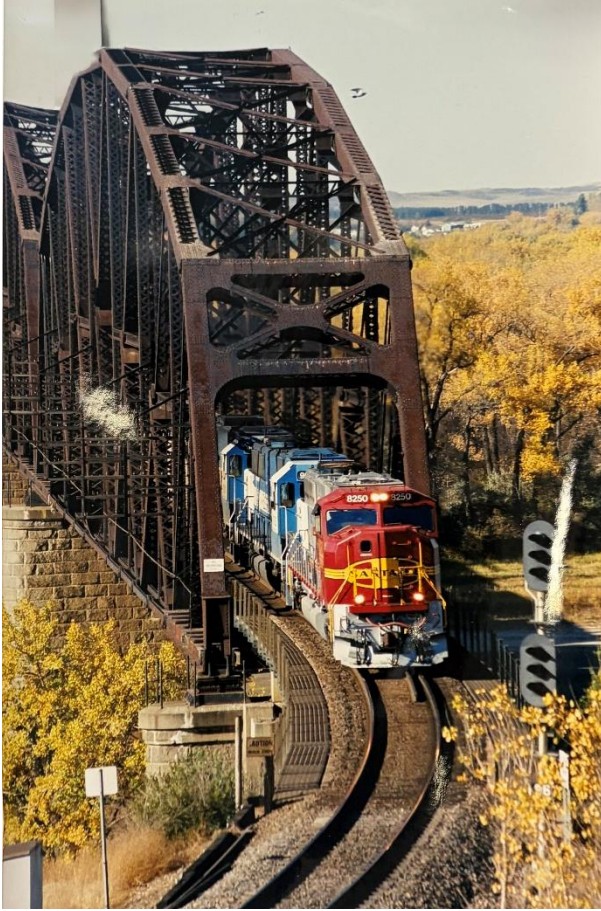
Best in Show

Felix Lesiuk PDC #3 Evening Rain



Special Event 1st

Felix Lesiuk Bismark, ND



Special Event 3rd

Cliff Davidson Willow Creek Trestle



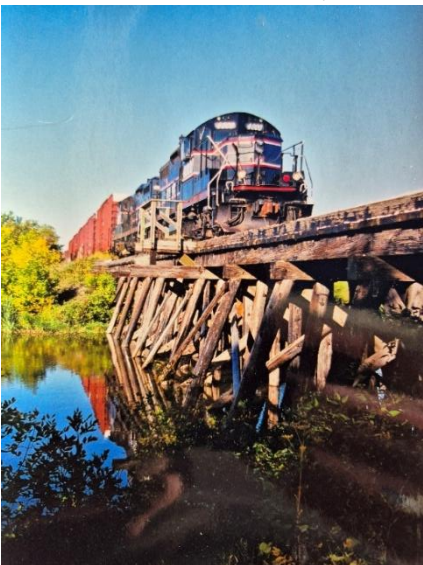
Model 1st

Cliff Davidson CP 5804



Special Event 2nd

Felix Lesiuk Devils Creek, MB



Model 2nd

Bob Harrison Night Loading



Model 3rd

Cliff Davidson KCS 2



Prototype 3rd

Cliff Davidson CN - Cescon Siding Orange Bridge



Prototype 1st

Larry Leavens CN 2653 at Grants Curve



Prototype 2nd

Bob Harrison CN 9665 Parked in Rockies with Hood Open



Annual Model Contest

The Annual Model Contest is similar in spirit to the photo contest by:

- Encouraging skill development by giving members a reason to challenge themselves, try new techniques, and improve craftsmanship over time.
- Showcasing members' work by creating a structured way for members to display their models and share what they've built with others.
- Providing recognition by highlighting outstanding work and acknowledge effort, creativity, and technical skill.
- Promoting learning by seeing different approaches, materials, and detailing methods.
- Building community engagement by bringing members together, sparks conversation, and strengthens interest in the hobby and the club.

In short, it's not just about winning — it's about improving, sharing, and keeping the hobby active and engaging members.



Many thanks to Murray Brown for organizing the Model Contest and professional judging performed by Eric Dawson, Manitoba T-Trak, Marvin Fetch, and Barrie Creran. Without the Judges the Photo and Model Contests couldn't be performed as professionally as they were!



The winners of each category are presented herein, with each winner's model shown with a description of their work.

Best In Show

*** Country Road Trestle over Speeder at Signal Felix Lesiuk

Special Event

1 st	Snow Maintenance	Bob Harrison
2 nd	Rennie Flag Stop	Neil Carleton
3 rd	Bannockburn Station	Murray Brown

Motive Power

1 st	CNR 1027	Murray Brown
2 nd	Great Northern C-1 0-8-0 Switcher	Graham Leathers
3 rd	VIA FP4 A-A Unit	Paul Ullrich

Rolling Stock

1 st	Caboose CNR 76245	Murray Brown
2 nd	Tamper Ballast	Bob Harrison

	Regulator	
3 rd	CNR Box Cars	Murray Brown

Structures

1 st	Cranky Joes Bar	Marvin Fetch
2 nd	Colfax Station	Murray Brown

Bob Harrison

BEST IN SHOW

Country Road Trestle over Speeder at Signal by Felix Lesiuk



This N scale display was created from a carved Styrofoam base, a plaster pond, and cast rocks. The bridge is completely scratch built, and the hazard markings were photo reduced and individually cut out. The signal lights and the speeder are powered by miniature LED lights and a 3v battery. The truck was weathered, and a load was added. The speeder had a flashing beacon added and was weathered. The barbed wire fences and bales of hay were modified items that were on hand. It's a winter scene with a frozen pond, complete with old and fresh snow covering the fall vegetation.

Special Event 1st

Snow Maintenance by Bob Harrison



This winter diorama presents a detailed representation of road and railway maintenance operations during winter conditions. Each element — structural, mechanical, scenic, and electronic — has been constructed with careful attention to realism and operational authenticity.

The scene's components are:

- **Buildings:** A weathered, yellow trackside shanty/speeder shed used to house small maintenance vehicles known as handcars and a gas station.
- **The Vehicles:** A yellow maintenance speeder (also called a motorcar) is positioned on a platform outside the shed doors, a highway maintenance truck plowing the road and a Pyke railway track snow clearing machine.
- **Figures:** Detailed miniature figures, such as railroad workers, are placed throughout to add realism to the "winter" scene.
- **Scenery:** The diorama uses "snow" effects, created from modeling powders or pastes, to create a cold-weather environment. Accessories like snow covered trees, shovels and barrels further enhance the storytelling.

This winter diorama was built based on a layered approach. First the raised base was built out of rigid Styrofoam to conceal the wiring, controls, and power supply. The railway was strategic located diagonally across corner to optimize area for other snow clearing activities and winter features.

Railway Construction

- Used cork for railway bed.
- Painted railway bed grey
- Laid section of track with painted ties
- Ballasted track
- Snow on track

Road construction

- Elevated rural roadway built from plaster
- Painted roadway black to simulate an asphalt surface.
- Gave the black road surface a layer of gloss water-based polyurethane to simulate icy conditions
- Only covered a portion of road to simulate blowing and drifting snow being plowed and a partially plowed road.
- For rail crossing glued a piece of painted cardboard.

Buildings

a) Gas Station

The gas station was a Laser Kit No. 797 by American Model Builders that was made into a winter setting. The kit was assembled according to the instructions. It was suggested to paint both sides of walls and roof to prevent warping of the wood. The model parts were either sprayed or brush painted with acrylic paint. Assembly was using AC glue. The window sash, door frames and glazing were a peel and stick material. They were adhered to the building following the detail drawings for exact part placement. The two gas pumps were attached to a base.

b) Trackside shanty/speeder Shed

- Old model that was reassembled and reglued
- Weathered
- Added an assembled and painted the hand car.
- Added an operator.

The building was then strategically placed on the diorama.

Snow Cover

The installed a base layer of snow to simulate the winter conditions. The base layer was made of a mixture of baking soda, acrylic white paint, and

Mod podge matte white glue. This mixture was used to sculpture the snow cover with snowbanks from snow removal along road, railway and around the trackside shanty/speeder shed. The baking soda mixture was rolled and place in from of the maintenance vehicle plows to simulate pushing the snow. The snow base was then with sprinkled Woodlands Scenics Soft Flake snow (SN140) to enhance the surface snow texture,

To add winter effects Deco Art Snow-Tex was applied to the roof and the roof's valley flashing by brush. The rest of model was sprayed with Artificial Snow with any excess snow brushed off. To seal the model, it was sprayed with Deco Art acrylic sealer. To simulate smoke from the chimney cotton was glued to the top.

Maintenance Vehicles

a) Snowplow/Sander Dump Truck

HO Scale Walther's Scene Master International Single-Axle MOW Dump Truck (949-11635) was modified for snow clearing. A Custom Finishing Model, kit # 7071 Snow plow for Light Duty Vehicles, was assembled and added to the front of the truck. A load of fine sand was added to the dump truck's box for highway maintenance. A red emergency vehicle beam was added to cab of the truck.

b) PYKE SNOW CLEARING MACHINE

The HO model of Pyke snow clearing machine was a Custom Finishing Model, Kit 7017. The kit has some 76 parts which was assembled per the instructions. The assembled model was given a coat of yellow safety paint which was then weathered using chalks and washes to replicate weathered wear. It was then given a coat of Deco Art Acrylic sealer. Two operators were painted and installed in the cab. A red antenna was added to top of cab. Cotton was used to simulate snow being thrown from the rear track cleaner.

Accessories

- A car stopped at the railway crossing with its emergency flashers on.
- Flashing railroad crossing signals.

- Railway block signal set on yellow as a caution
- A LED street or yard light.
- Installed a yard light on front of shed
- Interior lighting in shed and garage
- Spruce trees were textured with Deco Art Snow-Tex.
- The scene was lightly dusted with Artificial Snow spray
- Custom decals appropriate for the truck (MIT logo) and the rail snow clearing machine (CN logo) were printed on a LaserJet printer and installed. They were sealed with a finishing spray.

Electronics

The LED lights were powered by a 9-volt battery controlled by a toggle switch. The lighting is operated by an Arduino Nano programmed to operate the car's flashing emergency lights and the flashing railroad crossing signals. Resistor were added to the LED lights to regulate their voltage.

Special Event 2nd

Rennie Flag Stop by Neil Carleton



This winter scene is a combination of a Kanamodel CP small station kit, 3D printed animals, and assorted simulated snow. The station was painted and weathered, and the sign was made with a word processor and printed. The display features a dog sled team and moose that were 3D printed by WMRC member, Darrell Brownlee. The animals were painted by hand.

There is a flickering fire, using three LEDs using an Arduino Nano. weathering of the snow and the railroad tracks.

Special Event 3rd

Bannockburn Station by Murray Brown



This scene closely resembles the cover of the HOLIDAY 2024 issue of Winter on the Rails, printed by Classic Trains. The photo was taken in 1988 at Goderich, Ontario. Bannockburn, Ontario, was a station located north of Belleville and approximately mid-point between Peterborough and Smith's Falls. The station was first served by the Prince Edward County Railway, then Central Ontario Railway, Canadian Northern Railway in 1909, and finally by Canadian National until 1984 when the rail line was abandoned.

The station is comprised of 40 pieces, using files from the internet and 3D printed. The locomotives are used Life Like items from Frog and Diamond Hobbies. The station's name was printed on inkjet decal paper. Icicles on the station and the locomotives were hand made from silicone glue. The base snow was Vallejo Weathering FX Snow and AK Terrains Snow, with additional snow details using AK Snow Microballoons, AK Ice Sparkles, and Woodland Scenics Soft Flake Snow. The snow blower is a Mini Prints item, the coniferous trees were created from a Woodland Scenics kit, and the locomotive couplers are Kadee Scale Head items. MU hoses are from Hi-Tech Details, and the air hose and angle cock are from a Kadee #438 item. All painted items used acrylic paints from Mr. Hobby, Revell, Tamiya, and Vallejo.

Motive Power 1st

CNR 1027 by Murray Brown



CNR 1027 was built by General Motors Diesel Ltd., Electro-Motive's subsidiary at London, Ontario. The first batch, produced in October, had handrails mounted on the cab body; later models had frame mounted stanchions. GMD built 78 copies for CNR; 1000-1077. The locomotive was powered by a 12-cylinder, non-turbocharged 567 prime mover producing 1,200 hp. They featured an A1A-A1A (two powered axles and one idler axle per truck) wheel arrangement, with 40" drivers and a 33" idler wheelset in the middle. This spread the unit's 120 tons over six axles instead of four, making the locomotive ideal for the light rail used on CN branch lines on the Prairies. Units 1000-1028 were classified GR-12m. (G)eneral Motors (R)oad Switcher - (12)00 horsepower. The m was a means of distinguishing the order from other orders of 1200 horsepower road switchers.

The model is a KMT Japan Brass pre-painted locomotive, purchased from WMRC's Marvin Fetch. It was purposely left non-weathered for posterity. Exhaust stacks, horns, wheels, and brake shoes were painted with Vallejo paints, and the fan grill area had Tamiya Panel Line Black Accent Color applied. The fuel tank was detailed with parts from Cannon & Company, and the re-rail frogs were supplied by Details West. Air hoses and angle cocks are from Kadee, and the MU hoses are from Hi-Tech Details. All were painted with paints from Vallejo and Tamiya. The GMD builder's plate and "F" decals were provided by MicroScale Decals. The spaces between the fuel tank and air reservoir body sides were filled with self-designed and 3D printed pieces.

Motive Power 2nd

Great Northern C-1 0-8-0 Switcher by Graham Leathers



This is a 1970's era Tenshodo Rebuild. It was found disassembled, and painstakingly brought back to life mechanically and aesthetically. This locomotive is now DCC equipped, with a new "can" motor for longevity. The bell pull chord, scale dimensional sewing thread, was painstakingly applied, along with touch-up paint in a few locations.

Motive Power 3rd

VIA FP4 A-A Unit by Paul Ullrich



This was originally a Lionel Santa Fe Alco pair that had significant paint damage from years of storage. The old paint was stripped and sanded then spray-painted blue. A second coat was the black top; the last coat was the yellow. The yellow VIA was masked and painted on. The red VIA logo on the hood was hand drawn, then cut from a piece of Letramask, a graphic arts mask used for airbrushing. Using various sheets of Letraset dry transfers, the rest of the lettering was added, one letter at a time.

Rolling Stock 1st

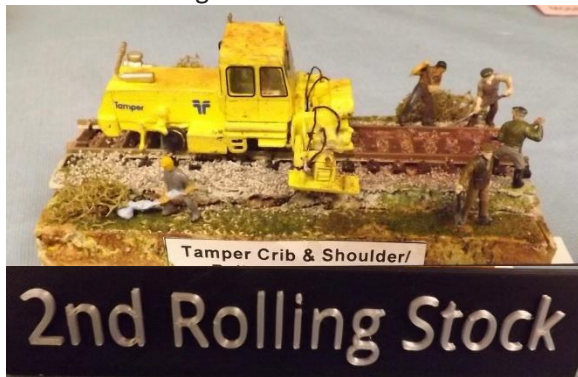
Caboose CNR 76245 by Murray Brown



This wooden CNR caboose is indicative of the many in service over a period of several decades prior to the steel units. The model was purchased from WMRC's Marvin Fetch, who had built, painted, and decaled it from a Juneco Scale Models kit. Marvin had also installed marker lights from Utah Pacific. The couplers were replaced with Kadee Scale Head items to provide a more authentic appearance. The trucks were replaced with period correct Kadee HGC Bettendorf items. Air hoses and angle cocks are Kadee #438 pieces. As the scene with the caboose was portrayed as being in the late fall of 1958, green CNR and other detail decals produced by MicroScale decals were applied. The uncoupler levers were fabricated from steel wire, and the uncoupler lift rod brackets were self-designed and 3D printed. All weathering and detail painting was accomplished with acrylic paints from Vallejo and Tamiya.

Rolling Stock 2nd

Bob Harrison -TAMPER Ballast Compactor
Custom Finishing Models Kit No. 7053



Railway maintenance is an essential yet often overlooked aspect of railroading. Regardless of size, every railroad must continuously maintain its track infrastructure to ensure safe and efficient operations.

This model represents a ballast compactor; a specialized machine used alongside tamping equipment to stabilize and shape ballast along the track.

Model Construction

The model was assembled according to the kit instructions. Components are cast in pewter, which, being malleable rather than brittle, allows parts to be carefully straightened or adjusted without breaking.

All mold lines and casting gates were cleaned using a knife and file prior to assembly. Bonding surfaces were lightly sanded to improve adhesion. Holes were drilled in advance, as several locations would become inaccessible after assembly.

Hydraulic hoses were scratch-built using single-strand 22-gauge wire. The wire was stripped, shaped to fit, and painted black. Small holes were drilled into the pewter castings to accept the hose ends, which were secured with CA glue.

A windshield wiper was fabricated from 22-gauge wire bent to a shape of a L. A #78 hole was drilled at the top centre of the front window frame to allow proper installation of the wiper.

Finishing

The model was painted in safety yellow with the following detail colors:

- Cab interior: apple green
- Cab floor: medium grey
- Armrests, control console details, railings, wheels, ladders, intake filter cap, headlights: black
- Headlight lenses, exhaust muffler, control console top: silver
- Control console cabinet and seat pedestal: brown

The radiator grille was treated with a black wash, allowing the paint to settle into the mesh and enhance depth.

After curing, decals were applied. The model was then weathered using chalks and washes to replicate realistic wear and service conditions. A clear protective coat sealed and protected the finish.

Cab windows were installed on all sides to complete the assembly.

Display Base

The model is presented in a small scenic display representing active ballast maintenance.

A cork roadbed section was mounted on a base, painted grey, and ballasted. Track and ties were installed, followed by trackside vegetation for added realism. A group of painted gang workers is shown spreading ballast alongside the machine, bringing the scene to life.

Rolling Stock 3rd

CNR Box Cars by Murray Brown -



The models were “used” Athearn and Tru Line models, purchased from WMRC’s Marvin Fetch. Couplers were replaced with Kadee Scale Head units to best replicate authentic couplers, and Kadee #438 air hoses and angle cocks were installed. The wheels and couplers were rusted with Vallejo paints, and weathering was accomplished using a combination of Tamiya and Vallejo paints. The uncoupler levers were hand fabricated from steel wire, and the uncoupler lift brackets were self-designed and 3D printed.

Structures 1st

Cranky Joe's Bar by Marvin Fetch



This model is scratch built using pictures from a Trains magazine. The pictures were in O scale and then condensed to HO scale. Other changes of a minor nature were made to better match my layout era. The clapboard sides were cut from clapboard panels purchased from Frog and Diamond. All other sides, corner posts, studs, etc. came from an on-hand stock of sheet wood and strip wood. The roofing material on the main roof is masking tape cut and then glued in place and painted to represent a tar strip roof. It is on a slant to let rainwater flow to the rear. There are two holes at the back to let the water flow out onto the veranda roof. Shingles on the rear porch are from Campbell Scale Models. The roofs on the addition and the outside staircase are paper sheeting, cut, pasted, and painted. Weathering on the sides is colored chalks. Signs on the walls came from magazines, etc. The backs of the signs were rubbed on sandpaper to make the paper thinner so that they could fit into the slopes of the clapboard siding. Sanding was also used on the printed sides to weather them. The windows and doors are a

mix of Cambell and Pike Stuff hand painted with acrylic paints. The railings on the rear porch were hand made from wood strips, and the figures and dog are from Preiser.

Structures 2nd

Colfax Station by Murray Brown -



It's Autumn 1958, and CNR 1027 is about to set out two box cars for one of the three grain elevators at Colfax, Saskatchewan. This is the first working trip for the locomotive, after being built in London, Ontario. It was moved to CNR's Transcona shops for final outfitting and then to Regina. The caboose, with its period-correct green maple leaf, sits on the main line. The Station Operator has purchased a brand new 1958 Chevrolet Impala from Regina Motor Products. Watching the switching is a railfan photographer.

The station is comprised of 52 pieces that were 3D printed from internet sourced files, as were the 8 pieces for the semaphore. The station name boards, and gasoline barrels were self-designed, and 3D printed. Weathering and details were painted with Vallejo and Tamiya acrylic paints. The station name and related decals were printed on inkjet decal paper. The area to the rear, with the barrels on top, is and AK Concrete acrylic diorama terrain product. The parking area is a combination of AK Terrains desert Sand and Woodland Scenics Medium Buff ballast. The track is "recycled" Atlas track purchased from the used-a-bit section of Frog & Diamond Hobbies. Ballast was a combination of various Woodland Scenics products and used coffee grounds. The rail joints were supplied by Keyser Valley Models, the switch stand was

assembled from parts produced by Osborn Model Kits, the tie plate pile is made from numerous pieces from Mini Prints, and the used spikes are from Micro Engineering. The latter were bent with needle nose pliers prior to application of Vallejo paints. All weathering, including the ties, was applied with Vallejo and Tamiya paints. The ground is a combination of AK Terrains Light Earth, Dry Ground, Wet Ground, and Muddy Ground, and Vallejo Natural Grey acrylic paint. The scenery is comprised of Woodland Scenics trees, JTT&T Partners weeds, PECO Scene Wild Meadow Grass Tufts, Gamers Grass Dandelions, NOCH Grass Tufts, and Woodland Scenics 4mm Static Grass. The leaves on the trees are a combination of tea leaves after having been soaked in Vallejo paints, and Woodland Scenics Flowers. That railfan photographer is from Mini Prints and painted with Tamiya acrylic paints, and that pristine 1958 Chevrolet Impala is an Oxford Die-Cast Limited vehicle.

Structures 3rd

Sore Gum Candy Co. by Mark McLellan



This is a Korber Models O scale kit. Founded and produced by Ernest Korber in 1979 in New Jersey, production is now based in Ohio. The level of detail for these kits is incredible, with parts primarily of wood and a few plastic. This structure was my first time assembling a model kit, and it had a few challenges; getting the chains taut took some dexterity! Once the main level was completed, a wooden second floor was added, complete with a lift-off roof. That allowed access to the AA battery pack that lights the LED strip and the We Honest exterior LED light. Scratch built pallets on the loading dock and a handmade custom sign over the door to match the Sore Gum font and color – that water tower is unique - added realism. Painting was accomplished with custom mixed colors.

Display 1st

Abandoned House by Marvin Fetch -

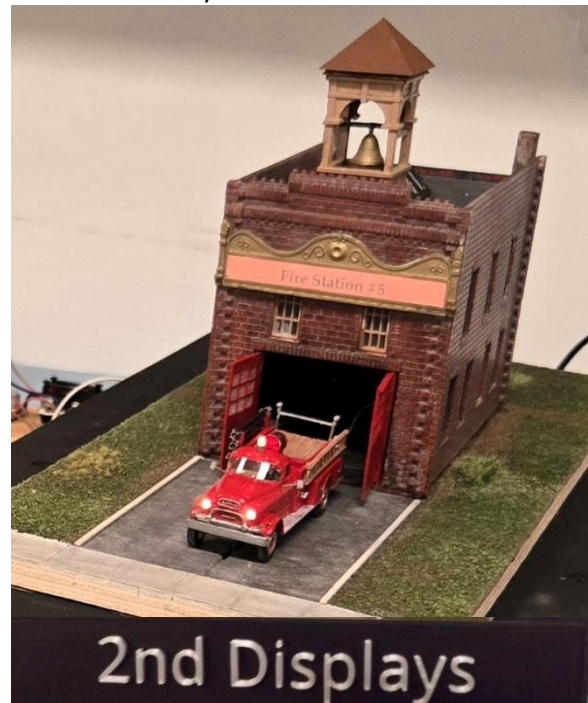


This is a Campbell Scale Models kit. The first step was cutting the windows and doors from their sprues. Then, masking tape was added to the different wall pieces and were labelled following the instructions. A good portion of the lower parts of the walls and around the window locations were distressed. The roofs consist of rafters and cross pieces also distressed and aged as required. Shingles were applied where required. An India ink and alcohol solution was used to make the wood look aged. The walls and roofs were all fitted together and attached. White glue was used to attach all wood parts. Once the glue had set the structure was then fastened to the deck. The deck was constructed earlier with floor beams and floor joists that were purposely broken in places to

simulate rot and abuse from vandalism. The floor was laid in the same fashion. The skirting around the base was heavily aged with the India ink/alcohol solution. The porches were added as required. The whole structure was then painted and stained with watered down acrylic paint and India ink diluted in alcohol giving it that abandoned look. The base is thin particle board covered with modelling paste. While the paste was damp, a lot of scenery from Woodland Scenics was added. The fence was scratch built using strip wood from on-hand stock. Some of the deadfall and the dead tree came from grape and tomato stems that were soaked in alcohol for over 24 hours to preserve them. Some natural lichen (also soaked in alcohol) was applied to a few places on the walls. Inside the left portion of

Display 2nd

Fire Station #5 by Neil Carleton



Fire Station #5 is a combination of a plastic fire hall kit and a GMC LaFrance fire truck, built from a Sylvan model kit. The building was constructed per the instructions, then modified with hinges so that the doors could be opened and closed. The Sylvan model fire truck was modified so that the wheels could roll using axles and brass tubing. The truck

moves using a horizontal actuator connected to a stepper motor. Working headlights – warm white 0402 LED units - and a flashing red beacon light – Gotham Marine Federal 271 with warm white 0402 LED - were installed. The truck was airbrushed with red paint, tires were painted with “rubber black” paint, and the chrome trim was applied using Dspiae Chrome paint.

Using two Arduino Nano processors the doors of the station open to allow the truck to come out, accompanied by the sound of a siren. Truck returns to hall after a pause. The truck moves using a horizontal actuator consisting of a 3D printed bracket with a toothed rod and stepper motor. The sound of the siren is provided by a JQ6500 MP3 player, also triggered by the Arduino Nano. The overall scenery and the driveway used Woodlands Scenic materials and various paints.

Display 3rd

Salvage Yard by Bob Harrison



This diorama represents a metal salvage loading facility serviced by a rail spur and equipped with a fully operational gantry crane.

The gantry crane was constructed from a Pola 705 kit acquired from the estate of Morgen Turney and assembled according to the manufacturer's original specifications. The operator's cab windows were custom fabricated using clear thermoformed plastic sourced from clamshell style fruit containers.

After assembly, the crane structure was primed and spray painted, with additional hand painted detailing applied to enhance surface texture and simulate realistic weathering.

The rail track for the SOO gondola and the crane runway was painted in a rust toned finish and mounted to the base. The base itself was painted grey, ballasted, and selectively treated with scenic materials to represent grass and weed growth.

The SOO gondola's heavy scrap metal load was created using assorted metal castings. Additional castings were arranged on the ground to depict the pile from which the crane is actively loading material. The salvage material was painted a rust colour.

Both the gondola and the gantry crane were weathered using chalks and washes to replicate weathered wear.

A coat of Deco Art matte acrylic sealer was applied prior to decal placement, and the decals were subsequently sealed with Mr. Super Clear finishing spray.

Supplementary details—including a service truck, signage, and a bridge mounted operator figure—were added to complete the scene. The decals were generated using a LaserJet printer.

Tyro

Steam Engine with Carriage at Station by Rod Foell



This is a Rolife kit, a company specializing in pre-stamped FSC-certified wood. This particular model represents a late 1800's to early 1900's English train at a station. Primary, but essential, work requires taking each piece and gently sanding with super-fine sandpaper to remove any manufacturing imperfections. The parts are very delicate and require extremely steady hands to assemble prior to display. It is pre-finished and comes with decals to be applied.

Open House Photos



We had great attendance at our open house. We even had crowds at closing time!



Bart Hasselfield guards the Thomas the Tank Engine HO train set, which was our door prize.



The No. 1 Northern's FreeMo modular layout was the main attraction and largest display at the show.



President John Bate explains TimeSaver operations to one of our guests.



Paul Ullrich allowed kids to operate the accessories on his O gauge layout.



Our new interactive Thomas the Tank Engine layout, created by WMRC Secretary Brent Karr, was a big hit among the youngsters!



Larry Leavens explaining operation of the challenging timesaver layout.



Attendees admire the FreeMo No 1 Northern layout.



Niel Carleton with FreeMo No 1 Northern Layout.



Young lady enjoying operating Thomas the Train.



Ian Plett and Neil Carleton operating the FreeMo No 1 Northern layout.



Fred Headon demonstrating modelling skills.



Frog and Diamond Hobbies exhibit.



Operating Manitoba T-Trak modular layout display.



Gary Stempnick and Cliff Davidson relax while operating Gary's N scale layout. Note operating Z-scale layout in steamer trunk.



South Family modular layout display.

Spring Show Canteen Sales

As usual, it was again hard to estimate the amount of food to buy for this show. The weather always plays a part. This year it was cool, so you'd figure that people would come out because it was too cool to be doing yard work. I had a good idea from last year's spring show, but every year is different. We had to buy more cold drinks and doughnuts on Saturday. From last year's sales I bought 10 dozen wieners and buns. I only sold 8 dozen.

This was my fourth second year running the canteen for the Spring Show, or at least for part of the Saturday and all of Sunday.

The \$5.00 lunch deal which included a hotdog, drink of your choice – pop, coffee or water, a doughnut and a bag of chips, and the \$4.00 kid's lunch deal which included a hotdog, a juice box and 3 Tim Bits seemed to be quite popular again, at least on Saturday.

I anticipated that 3 dozen doughnuts and 50 more Tim Bits would have to be purchased for the Sunday show.

In total the canteen sold:

Item	2025		Cash value	2026		Cash value
	Saturday	Sunday		Saturday	Sunday	
\$5.00 lunch deal	6	10	\$80	13	10	\$115
\$4.00 kid's lunch deal	3	7	\$36	12	3	\$60
Volunteer complimentary lunch	23	25	-	25	29	-
Individual Hotdog	6	4	\$30	2	4	\$18
Individual Drinks:						
cold drinks	19	10	\$29	2?	9	\$11
Coffee	11	15	\$26	19	18	\$37
Water	2	2	\$4	2	4	\$6
Juice	-	2	\$2	2	6	\$6
Individual Doughnuts	31	28	\$59	23	20	\$43
Individual Tim Bits	1	4	\$5	2	1	\$3
Individual Chips	21	11	\$32	17	7	\$24
	Total		\$307	Total		\$323

The numbers may not add up since there were rushes so not all purchases were recorded. In some cases, I subtracted the food left over (which wasn't much) from what was purchased. I don't know what happened to the counting of the cold drinks on Saturday. Khirad had to go buy more on Saturday, but it shows we only sold 15 on the Saturday.

It's hard to determine the actual profit, since there were 54 (6 more than last year) complimentary lunches, which was a good sign of how many volunteers we had. Last year we had \$366.93 in expenses and \$414.00 in sales for a profit of \$127.07. This year was \$340.45 in expenses and \$409.00 in sales, which as you can

see from above is quite different. There were a few people who told me to put the change towards the club. It's funny how the expenses were close to the same as last year, but the profit was lower. I did buy a lot of the drinks for the meeting before the show, so that may have been part of the reason. Khirad reported in one email that we made 90 cents profit after his bills were taken out of the profits. I was able to return an unopened pack of juice boxes for \$6.10 and I owe \$4.00 for some left-over buns. Khirad bought the unopened package of 24 wieners for \$15.00, so we made a \$26.00 profit.

I got back to the show around 4:30 after the wedding I attended on Saturday to find the room pretty quiet. I heard it was quiet from about 2:00. Sunday seemed slow at times, but Murray had to announce to a fairly large number of people that the show was over at 4:00 on Sunday.

Almost all the Tim Bits went on Saturday, but only 2 cups of 3 were purchased on the Sunday. I was walking around near the end of the show on Sunday afternoon giving them to kids (after asking their parents). I'll re-evaluate the quantity to buy for Sunday next year.

My thanks to Brent's girlfriend Doloris, and Marvin's wife Arlene who filled in for me on the Saturday afternoon.

Submitted by: Mark McLellan

WMRC Merchandise

The Winnipeg Model Railroad Club has several Gear items available for sale. The inventory changes so always check our website <https://www.wmrctrainclub.ca/store> for updates. Current gear includes WMRC ball caps and toques, 70th Anniversary T-shirts and mugs. Fill in the details of what you want using Order Now and the Gear Store Manager will arrange to receive your payment in cash or by cheque at the next meeting. If you require these items before hand, please include a note to that effect and you and the Gear Store Manager can make alternate arrangements.

Ball Caps are solid on the front and mesh on the rear. Available black only. Size is fully adjustable at rear. Material is 65% polyester and 35% cotton. Hand washable. \$25 CAD each.



Toques are super warm - they have a Coral Fleece inner lining! Designed and Swiss embroidered in Canada, they're perfect for those cold winter days! One size fits all. Outer material is 100% Acrylic; 100% Polyester inner lining. Hand washable. \$25 CAD each.



T-shirts to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club; limited quantities and sizes. Available light blue only. Material is 100% cotton. Machine washable in cold water, inside out, to help protect the image. \$25 CAD each.



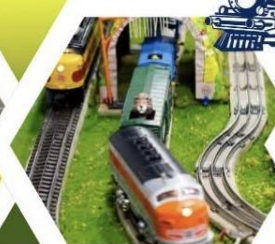
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Sunday, October 4, 2026 | 9:00 am-5:00 pm

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- Manitoba Hobby Expo Oct 3 and 4
- WMRC Meeting September 11th

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NMRA UPCOMING NATIONAL AND REGIONAL CONVENTIONS

- May 13-16, RMR Convention, Rapid City, SD (RMR)
- May 14-17, Oregon Rails 2026, Tigard, OR (PNR)
- **May 21-24, Superior Rails, Thunder Bay, ON, Canada (TLR)**
- June 4-7, Whistle-Stop Dayton, Dayton, OH (MCR)
- June 18-20, Connections, Austin, TX (LSR)
- July 27-August 2, Scenic City Express, Chattanooga, TN, (NMRA National)
- October 8-10, Iron Horse, Ocala, FL (SSR)
- October 15-18, Eyes on the NER, Southbridge, MA (NER)
- October 15-18, Tracks to Tidewater, Virginia Beach, VA (MER)
- October 23-25, BR Annual Convention, Cookham, Berkshire, UK (BR)
- September 9-13, All Aboard for 2026, San Diego, CA (PSR)