

THE LANTERN

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Official publication of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club (WMRC) established April 1955.
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The Lantern is the Newsletter of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Inc and is provided electronically to members of the WMRC who have paid yearly dues of \$50. Our address is WMRC Treasurer, 209-1085 Court Ave, Winnipeg MB, R2P2H8

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' (Post Script), 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 – Photo by Felix Lesiuk of CN 2530 (a GE Dash 9-44CWL) entered in the January photo display.

FROM THE EDITOR

While Larry enjoys some fun in the sun with this family this month I agreed to put the Lantern together. Larry deserves the break. Please excuse any editorial errors.

It saddens me to report the Winnipeg model railroading community has lost four model railroaders in just a few weeks. Aside from Norm Leathers and Morgan Turney, two other veteran

model railroaders and former WMRC members, Gary Peters and Alf Goodall passed away. Gary was an enthusiastic model railroader whose passion was for the Soo Line. Alf was past president of the WMRC in p 70's and remained an active member until the early 2000's when he moved to Winnipeg Beach and spent his time between there and Arizona, where he was also an active member in a local model railroad club. There are articles about Norm Leathers and Morgan Turney in this month's edition of the Lantern. We hope and pray that we don't lose any more for some time to come.

I am along with a few other club members taking a Workshop on microcontrollers. The goal is to provide us with sufficient knowledge to decide if we want to develop microcontrollers for animation on our model railroad layout. I have found it to be an interesting but frustrating at times. We will see where it leads on my layout.

Bob Harrison - Temporary Lantern Editor.

Material for the Lantern

This is your Club's news letter. 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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President's Message

In the February meeting we observed a moment of silence for the passing of Morgan Turney, a past WMRC member and a significant figure in Canadian Model Railroading. I regret to say that since then we have lost three more members or past members: Alf Goodall, Norm Peters, and our oldest member Norm Leathers. We will once again be observing a moment of silence in our March meeting, and let's hope we will not do so again for a long time.

Our strong relationship with St. Amant continues, and they will help us at the entrance table at our Spring Show once again. In addition, the model railroad display in their main building, much appreciated by its residents, has been having reliability issues lately. Marvin Fetch, Murray Brown, and I spent some time and effort and gave the old layout a good cleaning and refurbishment, and it should run well and continue to give the people at St. Amant some pleasure for a long time to come. Many thanks to Marvin and Murray.

We have not one, but three excellent candidates for a WMRC 70th Anniversary logo, designed by our own Paul Ullrich, and soon to appear on a T-shirt near you. A sneak peek will be a part of the March meeting. Many thanks to Paul.

All the usual events will take place at next week's meeting on Friday, March 14. Please come out and share the fun.

John Bate, WMRC President

**Meeting of February 7, 2025
WMRC General Meeting**

Charleswood Legion, 6003 Roblin Blvd,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3R 0G8

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm

There were 28 members present and no guests.

President-John Bate

John asked for a motion to approve the January 10th, 2025 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the January 10th, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Robert Burton and seconded by Dwayne Miller. The motion was carried.

John mentioned the passing of Morgan Turney yesterday and called upon Larry Leavens to say a few words. Larry talked about Morgan and some of his memories of him. Larry talked about Morgan's dedication to the WMRC and many of the positions that he held with the club. Some of the more recent positions that Morgan held included:

President of the club 1995, 1996 and from 2005 to 2007, Program Director from 2009 to 2016, Annual Contest Chair from 2007 to 2016, Monthly Model Contest Chair 2013 to 2016 and Monthly Prize draw 2013 to 2016. Larry indicated that Morgan may have held more positions with WMRC but he only had time to research back to 2009.

Larry also mentioned that Morgan was the owner of Kildonan Publishing and editor of Canadian Railway Modeller published from May 1990 to March 2018, for a total of 121 issues. Morgan also published Railfan Canada for 12 issues and several books, Christmas cards and other items. Clearly Morgan contributed greatly to the WMRC and the Model Railroading hobby as a whole.

A moment of silence was held in memory of Morgan Turney.

John mentioned that Warehouse Hobbies has closed their doors. John asked Fred Headon for a few words about Warehouse Hobbies, where he worked for many years.

Fred talked about the history of Warehouse Hobbies over many decades and that it was run by Bev Ireland for the last 30 years.

John has talked to Susan Dorge regarding Mega Train and was advised that it will be run the same as last year. Susan was told that WMRC

volunteers will be available to help out whenever needed.

John talked about the May windup which may or may not be held at the CN Campus and that he is still working on the details.

John mentioned our discussion at the last general meeting regarding member layout tours and indicated that we tentatively have 3 layout tours lined up for March 1st followed by 3 layout tours on March 29th. More details to follow shortly.

John mentioned that we are getting new signs for the April open house and showed a sample on the screen. John thanked Murray Brown for spearheading this initiative and seeing it through to completion.

John talked to news reporter Myles Tiessen from The Uniter - a community newspaper - that visited us as a guest last month and several other members were also interviewed by Myles. John will pass on the article that he produces to club members, when it is available.

Vice President-Marvin Fetch

Marvin talked about the great deal on toques and encouraged members to buy one.

Treasurers Report-Khirad Dhabhar Khirad was absent. John brought up the financials on the screen and reviewed them for the members present. A motion was made by Alan Graham and seconded by Bob Harrison to approve the Treasurer's report as printed in The Lantern.

Murray suggested to John that donations should be split out and itemized on the report. It was agreed to split out donations by line item for future reference.

Program Director-Ian Plett Ian mentioned that Dave Ackerman would be doing a presentation on building model billboards. Ian also talked about the Spring Show and that he has posters and flyers for distribution.

Lantern Editor-Larry Leavens Larry advised everyone that he has six copies of the Lantern for handout. Larry put a request out for more articles and encouraged members to submit some articles.

Model Contest-Gary Stempnick Gary mentioned that there were 4 entries in tonight's model contest. Tonight's winner was Gino Kost.

Annual Photo Contest-Larry Leavens Larry put out a plea for judges for the annual photo contest. This year's subject is the Empress (model or real-life version).

Library-David McNeil David was unable to attend tonight, therefore the library was closed.

Social Media-Paul Ullrich Paul reviewed the last months social media stats as follows:

Blog:

490,741 all time views

52 today

92 yesterday

702 views this month

6528 views last month

969 posts created

163,000 views from Canada

143,000 views from US

65,300 from Singapore

Facebook:

Buy Canadian post got 1,112 views and one share

Dave Ackerman post got 311 views

Larry Leavens and Don Cooper's post got 506 views

Post about donations to the PDC and the railway museum got 869 views and one share

Post about John Longhurst getting the GG award got 894 views

6,464 views in the past 28 days

Four more followers, but

1,902 followers

Four more followed, but four unfollowed, so we broke even.

We got 11 views from Shenzhen, Guangdong in China.

Murray asked Paul if members can post on the Facebook page. Paul replied that anyone can post. Murray said that he will give it a try.

Gateway Western-Gary Stempnick Gary advised everyone that the Gateway Western is still closed. Gary also said that he was up there today and that it was very cold. He said he needed to wear his WMRC toque.

Annual Model Contest-Marvin Fetch Marvin said that he is looking for three judges for the model contest and also requested club members to please enter some models. Marvin then

introduced Murray who will be taking over the model contest as Marvin is retiring from this position.

Murray noted that there are 15 club members that have entered models in our monthly model contest this year. He stated that we need to get more members submitting models for the spring model contest and encouraged members to put in multiple entries in the contest.

John mentioned the 50/50 draw and encouraged members to see Marvin to get your tickets.

Canteen-Mark McLellan Mark talked about the various selection of canteen items all priced at a dollar.

Old Business There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Marvin mentioned the St Amant layout and that it needs some repairs. St Amant has contacted John and Marvin and asked if it might be time to refurbish or replace the display, due to recurring operating problems. Marvin asked for volunteers to work on the layout. John mentioned some of the layout deficiencies that have occurred.

John mentioned that Ed Mulholland's wife has dropped off more modeling donations this evening and members can take what they want. Felix Lesiuk mentioned items he has for sale that have come from Louis Lenz and are available on tonight's Railway Interchange table at \$2.00 each.

John mentioned NMRA magazines that are available for pickup, for magazine subscription members that have not received recent issues.

John also made note of the upcoming club meeting dates as follows:

March 14th WMRC monthly meeting

April 11th WMRC monthly meeting

April 26th & 27th WMRC Spring Show

May 9th WMRC Annual General Meeting.
Location T.B.D.

Motion to adjourn was made by Christopher Robinson.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm.

Tonight's 50/50 draw was won by Robert Burton
Submitted by Brent Karr, Secretary

Vice Presidents Report

No report.

March Program

The program will be by our very own Tommy Kucera and will include five Heritage Railways and a few Transportation Museums in the UK, Tommy spent almost three weeks in the northern UK last summer, for multiple reasons, but in particular to visit heritage railways. He will give brief overviews of each railway, with pictures of the rail lines, the scenery, and of course the equipment along with a few diversions along the way. Tommy will also offer up an articulated, narrow-gauge, steam locomotive, amongst other things; as well as some peculiarities from transportation museums. This presentation is sure to be very informative and interesting. Don't miss it!

- Ian Plett Program Director

Spring Show

Everything is coming along great. We will have a great show ahead. St Amant foundation will be at the admissions table. Layouts at the show are the No 1 Northern Freemo, Paul Ullrich, Godfrey South with his British layout and Gary Stepnick in N Scale. There's also the famous time saver switching puzzle from the No 1 Northern division. We have two members doing model building during the show, always looking for more.

Two model contest and one Photo contest tables. We are having folks from the Winnipeg Railroad Museum, Prairie Dog Central, Frog N Diamond participating this year.

Please come down and show your support for your club. Remember the dates - April 26 - 27 2025.

— Ian Plett

Public Relations Report

Nothing new to report at this time.

– Ian Plett

Annual Photo Contest

This year's Special Event is pictures taken of the Empress, CP2816, either prototype or model. As always, the other two categories are Model and Prototype. Also, anyone wanting to help judge the contest? Please see me at the meeting. You may even consider being a shadow judge. And see what process the judges go threw. This could make you a better photographer or a better modeller.

Photos may be entered at the April meeting or the Friday of setup before the Open House or before 9 Am on the Saturday.

– Larry Leavens

Annual Model Contest

One month left. We need lots of models for the contest. This year, the special event is - flat car or gondola with a load. There are still the other categories to compete in. These categories are: Motive Power, rolling stock, structures, displays, special event. There is the Tyrol award for a first timer to win. Your entries can be kit built or scratch built or, a combination of both.

Last year a few entries were the only one in their category and they won first prize. Yes, you receive a plaque, but, you also get a \$20.00 bill for first prize. Remember, visitors like to see lots of models. Your model may not be perfect but, will still attract viewers. Please, let's have some entries from you members who have never entered before. The Tyrol category is for you. If you have a model and want to enter it, but don't know what category it belongs to, bring it in. We will guide you. This is my last year as contest director or manager or whatever they call me. Please let me finish my term with a big model show.

- Marvin Fetch.

Monthly Model and Photos Display

Contestants for this month only can you please forward any photos to my e-mail

larry.leavens@gmail.com as I will not have access to my PC and I will be unable to access the photo display e-mail. Deadline is 5PM on Friday of our monthly meeting. Winners are picked in a random draw and awarded a small cash prize. The February photo prize was won by Christopher Robinson.

Remember to bring a model to the meeting to show to other members and be entered in a random draw. Please include a short write-up on what you did so it can be included in the next Lantern. December Model Display winner was Gino Kost.



Chain Link Fence – Copper wire cut to length for verticle and horizontal. Vertical pieces were soldered to horizontal pieces. Wedding veil was cut to fit. Viel pieces glued to frame using CA. The frame was hand painted using steel colour paint. Some of the vertical pieces were cut longer so the fence could e planted on the layout. Tops of the vertical pieces were bent so that wire could be attached to simulate barbed wire. Gino Kost.



HO Scale Farmhouse - Built from styrene plastic. Painted with acrylic paint. Wash roof with brown. Painted walls yellow. Used Grant Line windows and doors. Richard Mikolayenko.



Cargill grain elevator at Elm Creek (2010)

T Gauge 3D printed grain terminal

Murray Brown

T gauge (1:450) is a model railway scale with a track gauge of 3mm (0.118 in), referred to as "three-millimeter gauge" or "third of N scale." It was introduced at the Tokyo Toy Show in 2006 by KK Eishindo of Japan and went on sale in 2007. It is the smallest commercial model train scale in the world. Since mid-2009, Railway Shop (Hong Kong) is the exclusive licensed manufacturer.



(Above two photos by Murray Brown) T Scale grain elevator and rolling stock 3D printed by Murray Brown. (Editor's note – This is the first example of T scale to be seen at a WMRC meeting. T scale is 1:450 which is 3mm between the rails.)



CNA 623077 – Bullhead Flat Car with Lumber Load. A Ready to Run Walthers bulkhead flat car was used. Wooden blocks were cut to size to fit the car and painted to seal the wood. The TOLKO

logo was found on there website. Using the graphics program INKSCAPE (free ware) the logo was added to blocks to represent 8-foot-long wrapped lumber bundles. These graphic pieces were then copied and aligned to make the lumber load. Lines with squares at the ends were added to represent the tie downs and clips at the top of the load. This was printed on an ink jet printer and cut slightly over size. It was then glued to the wood block and the paper wrap was trimmed to size with a single edge razor blade. A second was made for the other side. Larry Leavens

Photos by Paul Ullrich (except where noted)

WMRC 70-years-old

It is hard to believe that the club will be celebrate 70 years this April. We would like to celebrate this accomplishment by most likely sell club T-shirts. Paul Ullrich has offered to create the graphic.

New WMRC Logo

The executive has thought it may be time to update the club's logo. The lantern was used to convey instructions between the train crew. Is this still a relevant logo for today. Any inspiring graphic artists can send their sketch, no matter how crude to the club's e-mail (wmrc.traincubgmail.com) for consideration as the logo. We have the technology to enhance the entry to top notch artistic quality. Put on your artistic thinking cap.

Norm Leathers was beloved

By Paul Ullrich



Norm Leathers passed away at 5:00 AM on Wednesday, February 26. On February 11 he suffered a cardiac episode and never recovered.

Norm was a member of the club since its second meeting in October 1955 when he was still a teenager. Norm, being a stickler for accuracy in all things, always maintained that because he joined a month after the club's first meeting that he was not a founding member.

Norm served several positions during his nearly 70 years with the club, including secretary and one year as President in the early 2000's. He was also a long-term member of the Midwestern Rail Association, proprietors of the Winnipeg Railway Museum.

Norm had a long and rewarding career as a physical science teacher at Dakota Collegiate, and he also served as the school's audio technician. His teaching degree at United College (now the University of Winnipeg) where his father, Victor Livingston Leathers, was a French

professor and head of theatre productions. It was there that he met fellow model railroader Nick Andrusiak, who was one of professor Leathers' students, and they became lifelong friends.

Norm was also a jet fighter pilot for the RCAF, and had reached the rank of captain. He was fond of telling the tale of when his commanding officer brought his young son to see a real jet fighter pilot, expecting some like John Wayne, and being so disappointed upon meeting the short and slight of stature Norm.

Norm was an avid cyclist. In the 70's he took his sons Graham and Gord on a bike hike through the Rockies. Norm continued cycling well into his eighties, continuing to carry his beloved bike up the steps to the Winnipeg Railway Museum. Unfortunately, he suffered a fall which resulted in a broken hip that prevented him from cycling again.

Norm's model railroading passion was the Pennsylvania Railroad, and he constructed a beautiful, world class railroad that was the highlight of many layout hops for many conventions, including the NMRA's national convention held in Winnipeg in 1983.

Norm's lasting legacy to the model railroading and rail fanning community was when he brokered a deal to bring the Gateway Western to the Winnipeg Railway Museum. In 2010 the Gateway lost its home at Gooch's Hobbies when they moved from Sherbrook Street to their final location on Portage Avenue. For several years the Gateway was in pieces, languishing on a pallet in a warehouse in North Kildonan.

Norm was one of the few WMRC members who was also a member of Midwestern Rail. At that time there was no communication or interaction between the two groups. Norm, using his remarkable powers of diplomacy and gentle persuasion, convinced both groups that setting up the Gateway would greatly benefit both organizations.

The deal included the building of a separate structure within the museum to house the Gateway. A small army of dedicated volunteers, led by Gino Kost, built the structure from the ground up, using modified plans from a two-car garage kit.

Anyone who wanted access to the Gateway required them to be members of both organizations, which increased memberships in both groups and created a lasting bond between them. In 2014 Norm was awarded the President's shield, the WMRC's highest award, for his work in bringing the Gateway Western to the Winnipeg Railway Museum. Now received this award when he was 78 years old. There are no records to prove it, but he was possibly the oldest person to ever receive the award.

If there ever was a person who epitomized the heart and soul of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club, it would've been Norm. It can be truly said without the slightest doubt that everybody loved Norm. Beloved is an adjective that immediately comes to mind when describing him. He had a gentle way about him, and he was also very clever, with a mischievous sense of humour. His puns were the stuff of legend, and he could create them at a moment's notice in a dizzying rapid-fire succession.

Norm loved model railroading, and he loved the WMRC. No one has been a member longer than him. He contributed to the club's monthly model display well into his eighties, bringing models he was working on in 2019 and 2022. When news of his passing was posted on the WMRC's Facebook page, it garnered over 1,700 views in less than four hours. In just two days there were a total of 3,727 views. 69% of the views were from non-followers of the page.

Even though his health was failing, he still came to many meetings as he could, his last one being November of 2024. He was an enduring presence, a person whom we always looked forward to seeing at every meeting, and he will be sorely missed.



Graham and Norm, Duluth 2008



Graham and Norm, Duluth 2008



President's shield 2014



60th anniversary, 2015



Gary and Norm, 2024



Luca and Norm

The Gateway Western Railway

By Luca Matyas, Photos by Avery London
Originally published in the Milepost, newsletter
of Midwestern Rail Association

When I joined the museum nearly five years ago, there were many things which I wanted to get involved in. One of these was the model railway which is just up the stairs as you enter the museum. I remember visiting the museum as a young kid, which was something I would do almost monthly. Of course, the first thing I would have to do was ring the bell on the Countess of Dufferin, and then sit in the seat of diesel locomotive 1900 and pretend I was driving. After the serious work was done though,

I would go and see what trains were running on the Gateway Western model railway. I fondly remember my little brother and me running back and forth chasing the trains around, and trying to figure out where they would appear next! From that point on, my dream was to one day have a train that I could run on that layout. Some years later I found myself on my first day volunteering at the Winnipeg Railway Museum.



HO scale 4-4-0 #3, owned by the author. The flagship of the VLS fleet makes the rounds proudly displaying close ties with our sister Organization

I spent most of my time running trains on the Gateway Western Railway. My locomotive of choice, a Bachmann model of a Baldwin Locomotive Works Sharknose, which was given to me by my grandfather. It was also the only locomotive we had between the two of us which



CNR SD60 #5509 struts her stuff for visitors pulling a mixed bag of freight around the layout.

had a DCC decoder. My rolling stock was a mix of old 40-foot boxcars, modern hopper cars, and bringing up the rear was a classic orange CNR maple leaf caboose. Today, my collection has grown exponentially thanks to this layout really getting me into the hobby.



Trains of all eras run on this layout. From early steam, to transition era to modern diesels. All trains are equal here.

The Winnipeg Railway Museum's model railway, also known as the Gateway Western Railway, was built as a cooperative effort between the Winnipeg Model Railway Club and the Winnipeg Railway Museum. I think that it's a great way to

get the two organizations together. The layout itself is an interesting design. The main level has two parallel main lines running around its entirety. A few small industrial tracks branch off of the inner main line. Below the layout, there is a staging yard.

My favourite part of the layout is the large flat switching yard on the top level. Avery and I both enjoy building up trains there as it can provide a neat challenge when you have more than one person switching at a time! Along with the switching yard, I enjoy the long sections of straight track, especially when I run my VIA passenger trains.

On my home layout, the train is always going around a bend, but not on this layout. Having the long sections of straight track also allow for some neat photographing opportunities.

In the future, I would like to see the Gateway Western include some more Winnipeg or general Manitoban scenes, especially considering that it's located in the Winnipeg Railway Museum. I think that there are several opportunities for this which I hope to be implemented soon. The Gateway Western Railway is something quite special to me. I remember it fondly as a kid. Now it is something which I actually get to run my own model trains on, which is something I never could have imagined as a kid. It is the place where I have made several great friends and memories, and I hope that it will draw in more young people in the future.

Gary Peters -On February 15 we lost another club member. See

https://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passages-details/id-329107/PETERS_GARY%20KENNETH

Morgan Turney and Canadian Railway Modeller: A Life in Trains

By John Longhurst

Originally posted at

<https://ivebeenthinkingcanada.blogspot.com/2025/02/morgan-turney-and-canadian-railway.html>



Morgan, right, in his natural setting: A Train show

So I've been thinking about my friend Morgan Turney, who died Feb. 6, and his impact on the hobby of model railroading . . .

It was a Thursday night in 1989. Winnipegger Morgan Turney was at the Golden Spike Hobby Shop, hanging out with other model railroaders. That night, some new model railroad magazines came in. As Turney looked at the magazines, all produced in the U.S., he realized: There's no Canadian content.

"That's when a light went on," he recalled. "I asked myself, 'Why don't I start a Canadian model railroad magazine?' That night, the idea for Canadian Railway Modeller (CRM) was born. The path from that Thursday night gathering in a hobby shop to the first issue of CRM started in Hamilton, Ont. where Turney, 77, was born.

"I grew up four houses away from the Toronto, Hamilton & Buffalo (TH&B) tracks," he said. "As a youngster, I was lulled to sleep at night by the distant sounds of steam whistles and diesel horns as trains made their way on both the TH&B and the Canadian National Railway line further south, on their way to and from the Niagara Peninsula. My love of trains goes back a long way."

But it was a visit to a local model railroader when he was eight-years-old that sparked a passion for model railroading. "My dad took me to see it. When I saw the trains running through scenic rock cuts and disappearing into tunnels, I was hooked. I got the model railroading bug."



Morgan and Jason Shron

But before that bug turned into CRM, Turney finished high school, joined the military—where he trained in Shilo, Manitoba—and worked in the grocery business in southern Ontario.

In 1987, while he was with Maple Leaf Mills as a grocery store representative, the company asked if he would be willing to transfer to Winnipeg.

"It wasn't a hard decision to make," he said of deciding to move to Winnipeg with his wife, Carol. "From my time in the military, I liked Manitoba. It was easy to make a life here."

But soon after the couple relocated, Maple Leaf Mills was sold and his job was eliminated. The following year was hard. "I had a few no-name jobs for a couple of years, including selling men's suits, before I got the idea to start the magazine," he said.

Before publishing his first issue in May, 1990, Turney decided to see if there was actually a demand for it in Canada. The way he decided to find out was by attending the annual Toronto train show—one of the largest model railroad events in the country back then. Over the course of a weekend, 600 hundred people bought subscriptions. "It showed me there was a hunger for a magazine that specialized in Canadian trains and modelling," he said.



John Longhurst and Morgan

Even with that kind of support, creating the magazine wasn't without risk. Turney used money from his severance and a bank loan to launch CRM—he put a lot on the line.

It worked. At its peak, it had about 3,800 subscribers. "It was never huge, but it was enough to keep the business afloat," Turney said.

From the start, Turney's goal was to showcase the work of Canadian model railroaders—people who would likely never have a chance to see their layouts or models appear in the bigger U.S. publications. "I received some excellent articles about some amazing modelling," he said.

Turney also wanted to show the big American companies, the main manufacturers of model railroad items, there was a market for Canadian products. "Before I started, there were hardly any products for Canadian railways available," he said. "It was hard to find locomotives or rolling stock painted in Canadian schemes."

Today, things are different. Now people who model Canadian railways have a rich variety of products to choose from American companies like Athearn, Atlas, Bowser, InterMountain, Walthers and others.



Staford Swain with Morgan

At the same time, Turney also wanted to give a boost to Canadian manufacturers. Today there are successful companies such as Rapido Trains, Pacific Western Rail Systems and Prairie Shadows—businesses that didn't exist when he started the publication.

"I like to think the magazine played a key role seeing all that happen," Turney said of the growth in Canadian model railroad items and companies.

One person who knows that is true is Jason Shron, founder and owner of Rapido Trains.

"When I started Rapido, I relied on CRM to advertise my resin LRC kits to the Canadian market, and the magazine was largely responsible for the success of those models," he said. "Morgan was a major part of the Canadian model railroad community for more than a generation."

The magazine, which was published six times a year, also played a role in promoting the hobby in Canada by giving clubs and others a way to promote their shows, along with providing hobby shops an inexpensive way to become better known. It was also a source of information about the prototype, publishing information about railways in Canada in each issue.



Morgan (back to camera) at Clinic Carnival

CRM had some interesting quirks, such as titling issues by Train and Track—not by month or year. (Something that was later changed.) And Americans had to pay more; the last issue was \$8.45 in Canada, but \$9.95 in the U.S.

“I’m a proud Canadian, and I wanted to make that point through the magazine every way I could,” he said, explaining the reverse exchange rate.

In addition to the magazine, Turney published other things through North Kildonan Publications, the publisher of CRM. This included Canadian train-themed Christmas cards, postcards and collector cards (which he liked giving out to children at train shows), books like the *Canadian Railway Heritage Guide*, which provided information about Canada's railway museums and attractions, and *Railfan Canada*, a prototype magazine that ran for three years.

Turney also produced art prints, lapel pins, collectible HO scale CRM box cars and even a CRM license plate holder—something that dovetailed nicely with his other passion for Chrysler cars.

In between, he found time to do some of his own modelling, although his beloved TH&B layout in the basement had to be dismantled to make space for stacks of back issues of CRM and other items associated with his publishing business.

He was also president of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club and program director, and helped organize national and international conventions that came to Winnipeg. And he founded

Winnipeg’s fall train show, back in the early 1990s; today it is known as Mega Trains.

He did it all from his basement in Winnipeg. Carol looked after the books, while he was publisher, editor, circulation manager and mailer—he drove bags of magazines to the local post office in his pick-up truck for mailing to readers around the world.

Turney hoped the magazine could continue with a new publisher when it was time for him to retire. But the Internet, with its easy and free access to information about model railroading, coupled with a decline in subscribers and drop in advertising—the same things that affected other small magazines across North America—meant CRM was no longer sustainable. The final issue appeared in summer, 2017. It was a remarkable 27-year run.

Looking back, Turney draws satisfaction from the contribution the magazine made to the hobby in Canada.



Morgan (4th from left at John Longhurst Layout

“It took me and the whole Canadian model railroad community to heights we never would have dreamed reachable as Canadian modellers,” he said. “The success of the magazine put Canadian railway modelling on the model railway map in North America. It was responsible, in many ways, for the many Canadian highly-detailed and quality products that came out of U.S. and now Canada, and also for helping Canadian manufacturers get a start.” It was hard work, he added, and took a lot of effort. “But it was also a lot of fun. I met some

wonderful people and made many good friends across the country. I have no regrets.”

(I interviewed Morgan for this article the week before he died.)

Model Contest Tips

This is adapted from one written in 2015 by long-time WMRC Member Morgan Turney - WMRC Model Contest Chairperson in 2015

So, you want to enter a model in the WMRC Model Contest. **That is EXCELLENT!** The Winnipeg Model Railroad Club hosts its annual Model (and Photo) Contest each year at the Club's Open House in the Spring. Why? It's an opportunity for Club Members to highlight their modelling skills to others, and perhaps learn some techniques for the future. It has been a tradition in the Club since its beginnings and some years ago trophies were developed to honour modeling (and photographic) achievement.

At one time when the Club membership was well over 150, there were several categories for the Model Contest with several entries in each one. The Club had trophies, but it was found that most winners did not want to take them home from the Annual Dinner. In a few cases some were damaged. Plaques and personalized *Certificates of Merit* were initiated and in keeping with the changes in the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA), the number of categories was reduced. In keeping with the NMRA, the Club also started incorporating a Scratchbuilt judging area.

There are now five categories for the Model Contest: Motive Power; Rolling Stock; Structures; Displays; and the Annual Special Event. To avoid any confusion, Motive Power includes any type of steam, diesel, or electric locomotive, traction unit, maintenance vehicle, or other type of self-propelled vehicle that runs on rails. This includes everything from “speeders” to “Big Boys” and includes unpowered models of powered prototypes (dummy locomotives). Rolling Stock is just about anything that runs on rails and is not self-

propelled. This includes freight, non-revenue, and passenger cars of any kind including baggage cars, RPO cars, business cars, and cabooses as well as hand cars.

Many modellers enjoy showing and sharing their models and the Spring Show and Model Contest is the perfect venue for this. To select which models in their respective categories are plaque and *Certificate of Merit* winners, the Club utilizes a point system that has been adapted from the NMRA. The NMRA “Achievement Program Judging Guidelines” are complex; the Club uses a much simpler evaluation. Regardless, there are some easy “rules” to follow for you to earn the points necessary to win a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd Place Plaque and Certificate of Merit!

All five model categories are judged basically in the same manner. Of course, the idea is to accumulate as many points as possible in five different areas. The five areas in each Category for Judging are: Construction; Detail; Conformity; Finish and Lettering; and Scratchbuilding. Regardless of the category of modelling or the area of judging, entries can be kit built, scratchbuilt, or a combination of both.

Simply put, the more work you have put into the model, the more points that will be awarded in each respective area of judging. Keep in mind that it's not just one Judge who evaluates your model in all areas. Judge A will only judge the Construction area of each model. Judge B is only going to look at Details for all the models. Since each Judge only has a score sheet for their specific area e.g., Construction, they have no idea what is being entered by Judge B. There are five Judges looking at the same models but with different judging criteria, and not knowing what is being scored by the other four.

Here are the first two tips. One; enter every Category that you can. Why? If nobody enters anything for Rolling Stock and yours is the only one, you win First Place! If only you and one other enter Motive Power one of you is going to

receive First Place and the other will be Second Place!

And the second tip? When you provide your Entry Form you will also have to complete a Judge's Score Sheet. The first lets the Judges know what your name is and which of the five categories you're entering a

Judging Procedures for Annual Photo Contest

Prints may be mounted on flat rigid cardboard (no folders or glass frames). Photo and/or mount may not exceed 12" x 16" (30cm x 40cm) in size. Minimum mount size is 8" by 10" (20cm x 25cm) and minimum print size is 5" x 7" (13cm x 18cm).

The Photo Contest Chairman shall select a panel of at least three judges. Judges selected ideally should have both some ability in judging photographic techniques and an appreciation of the aims of model railroading.

Experience has indicated that the judging is best done on a group basis with the objective of eliminating the "also-ran" photos early. The following judging system (called the Melbourne System) has been used in competitive camera club settings for any years.

Each judge is to go through the category individually to decide which photos he thinks should be included in the finals. The judges then get together to compare results. Any photos that have the support of all the judges are automatically in the finals. Any that have the support of only one or two judges are discussed and may be put in the finals if the judges agree.

At this point most photo contests should be down to the top 12 or so entries. The judges must review the photos until they come to a consensus as to their order of finish. Usually this is a matter of considerable discussion and different teams of judges will likely produce different results. This is not surprising as photos are a very subjective medium.

Similarly, after all the categories have been judged, the judges must go through the same judgment process to determine the Best-in-Show from amongst all the First Place Award winners. Best-in-Show is then removed from its category and the other winners moved up one place.

Judging Factors

As stated above and as is evident to the experienced observer, photo contests are much more subjective than the model contest event. This is because a prize-winning photo is perhaps more a matter of art and luck than execution of technique. Certainly, the photographer is faced with more things that are beyond his control than the model builder.

Notwithstanding this subjectivity, there are some judging factors that are brought to bear by the experienced Photo Contest Judge, these will be given an appropriate, albeit intuitive, weighting as the judges on the panel come to their consensus.

IMPACT: This is best explained when a photo evokes comments such as **"I wish I'd taken that picture"**. Given a choice, action is preferable to a static scene; rare or unusual equipment is more interesting than the ordinary. In model photography, the choice of the model will contribute to the impact of the picture. Does the photographer reveal obvious distracting modelling flaws or has the photographer taken pains to be sure that all of the elements shown work together to produce a pleasing result. When the environment is exceptional or the viewpoint makes the ordinary, extraordinary. Full credit should be given for the contribution the photographer's sensitivity brought to the subject.

COMPOSITION: The arrangement of the forms within the photos should be pleasing to the eye. How well did the photographer use the available space within his format and did he or she follow the guidelines as taught in art and photography

courses? If the rules were broken, did the result justify that decision?

ARTISTIC APPROACH: This is a rather subjective area where a strongly graphic or symbolic composition may move one judge and a 'typical calendar shot' may be more moving to another. One tends to evaluate artistic and aesthetic qualities on the basis of one's own experience. What moves us and the degree to which we are impressed will change as we are exposed to more and better images. A judge should not start out looking for a special kind of artistry. To do so would be imposing his or her own values, sensibilities and preconceptions.

LIGHTING: In photography. 'Light is law'. It is the only thing that makes it possible for us to expose film. If it is skillfully handled the result can be a work of art, if badly handled the result can be total failure or maybe a snapshot at best. A model shot made on-camera flash and no background light would be a snapshot. The photographer should be given full credit for his or her use of multiple flash or off camera flash and supplemental reflectors or a well-developed room lighting system depending on the quality of execution. Natural sunlight should be superior to many flash systems, but can and often is badly handled. The best execution of any lighting system in model photography is one that produces a realistic, natural appearance without multiple shadows (there can be only one sun) and without excessively harsh contrast and black holes devoid of detail.

Some Photos from the February Photo Display



Photo by Felix Lesiuk



Photo by Christopher Robinson



Photo by Tommy Kocera



Photo by Barrie Creran



Photo by Felix Lesiuk



Photo by Bob Harrison



Photo by Bart Hasselfield

Meeting this month is March 14

**Time: March 14, 2025 07:30 PM Central
Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

**[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89835448988?
pwd=JRZzCzP0SqboNuU6uWx7g2AzA2uwZ
8.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89835448988?pwd=JRZzCzP0SqboNuU6uWx7g2AzA2uwZ8.1)**

Meeting ID: 898 3544 8988

Passcode: 415750



Winnipeg Model Railroad Club

Model Contest Entry Form

(one Entry Form attached to Model Contest Judging Score Sheet per model entered)

Entrant's Name _____

Entry No. _____

ENTRY CATEGORY

- ☐ Motive Power
- ☐ Rolling Stock
- ☐ Structures
- ☐ Displays
- ☐ Special Event

Model Identification

Total Points Awarded _____

Scale: _____

- ☐ Built from Kit
- ☐ Combination Kit/Scratch Built

- ☐ Scratch Built
- ☐ Tyro Entry

Please ensure that this Model Contest Entry Form is firmly attached to your
Model Contest Judging Score Sheet

Thank You for entering the Model Contest!



Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Model Contest Claim Check

Entrant's Name _____

Entry No. _____



Winnipeg Model Railroad Club

Model Contest Judging Score Sheet

Model Description _____ **Entry No.** _____

Describe the model in detail. Check all the items that apply. Add additional data. Attach extra pages with photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed. Add as much additional information as possible about techniques and work incurred.

1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 Points)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drew my own plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Followed construction article | <input type="checkbox"/> Kitbashed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used prototype plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit metal | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit cardstock |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used kit plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit plastic | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit glass |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used commercial plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit wood | <input type="checkbox"/> Printed 3D items |

Points Awarded

- | |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crosskitted |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Soldered |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Made patterns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Made molds |

Describe in detail how model was built, complexity of construction, methods used.

2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 Points)

Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional parts added.

Points Awarded

3. CONFORMITY (Maximum 25 Points)

Give information as to prototype modeled or explain logic of design. Include copies of photos and plans.

Points Awarded

4. FINISH & LETTERING (Maximum 25 Points)

- | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Finish: | <input type="checkbox"/> Weathered | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-weathered | <input type="checkbox"/> Spray | <input type="checkbox"/> Airbrush |
| Signs & Lettering: | <input type="checkbox"/> Decals | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Dry transfer | <input type="checkbox"/> Photo reduction/etching |
- Describe finish and lettering methods in detail.

Points Awarded

5. SCRATCHBUILDING (Maximum 15 Points)

List all parts you have fabricated. Note any special or unusual features added.

Points Awarded

Contest Committee only

Score Tabulated by _____

Verified by _____

FINAL TOTAL



WMRC PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST ENTRY FORM

ENTRY # _____ to _____ (filled in by Photo Contest Chair)

Instructions

1. The Entry Form must be filled out completely.
2. Briefly describe your entry in the space provided.
3. A maximum of 5 entries per category with a maximum of 10 entries.
4. Past 1st place or Best in Show winning photos are not eligible.
5. Retain your check claim. It must be presented to collect your photo.
6. Photos may not be moved from the judging room without permission of the Contest Chairman.
7. The Contest Chairman reserves the right to display entries as he sees fit.
8. After filling out this Entry Form, return it to the clerk and receive the entry number for your entry. Place your entry on the judging table as indicated by the clerk.
9. Prints may be mounted on flat, rigid board or matted with similar material - no folders or glass frames are allowed. Photo and mount shall not exceed 12" x 16" (30cm x 40cm) in size. Minimum mount size is 8" x 10" (20cm x 25cm) and minimum print size is 5" x 7" (13cm x 18cm).
10. Prints shall have the entrant's name on the back and title is optional.
11. Prints with the entrant's name on the front will not be accepted.
12. Photos shall be the entrant's own work.

Special Event – "THE EMPRESS"

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

SEE OVER

Prototype

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

MODEL

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

TITLE _____

I certify that these photos are entirely my own work and I hereby release the WMRC from any liability due to damage or loss of my entry.

NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

=====

WMRC Model Claim Check

MUST BE PRESENTED TO PICK UP YOUR PICTURE

ENTRY NO. _____ to _____

Signature: _____

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Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Membership Form

Please PRINT clearly

Modified September 13, 2024

Name

New ☐

Renewal ☐

Former ☐

dd/mm/yy

Current NMRA member ☐

Member#

Expiry Date

Family members

Spouse ☐

Child under 18 ☐

Child birth date (dd/mm/yy)

Address

City, Province

Postal Code

Phone

Email

Same as last year ☐

OR

Scale(s):

G ☐

HO ☐

O ☐

N ☐

S ☐

Z ☐

Other

Membership category:

<input type="checkbox"/> Regular member	\$50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family member - Spouse or minor child of a Regular member	\$5
<input type="checkbox"/> Junior member - 18 years of age or less	\$25
<input type="checkbox"/> Honorary member - Approved by vote of the membership	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> Life Member of the NMRA	\$0
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to receive a printed NMRA Magazine by mail	\$60 added to the above

Notes:

Renewals MUST be received no later than the end of the **October** meeting.

Please make sure we have your correct email address

Options:

- 1) Bring this form, and payment (cash or cheque), to the Sept or Oct WMRC meeting.
 - 2) Pay by Interac eTransfer to wmrc.trainclub@gmail.com and email the form to that address.
 - 3) Mail the form and a cheque to: WMRC Treasurer, 209-1085 Court Ave, Winnipeg MB, R2P 2H8
- Make cheques payable to Winnipeg Model Railroad Club.

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Fri—Sat: 11:00 am to 3:00 am

Sun: 11:00 am to 1:00 am

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2025

March 14- Winnipeg Model Railroad Club monthly meeting

April 5 & 6 – SuperTrain 2025
Olympic Oval
University of Calgary

April 11- Winnipeg Model Railroad Club monthly meeting

April 26 & 27 – Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Spring Show

April 26 & 27 – Regina Railfest
Caledonian Curling Club
225 Sandra Schmirler Way
Regina, SK

May 9- Winnipeg Model Railroad Club Annual General Meeting

May 15 – 16 TLR Annual Convention - Willmar, MN

July 14-19 90th NMRA National Model Railroad Convention,
Convention HQ is the Sheraton Hotel
21111 Haggerty Road, Novi, MI 48375

Sept 27 & 28 MEGA TRAIN

October 17 – 19 REAL RAILS 2025
A meeting of the CP, CN TH&B and VIA Historical Societies and Associations
Holiday Hotel & Conference Centre
3063 South Service Road, Burlington, Ontario