

# THE LANTERN

Official Publication of the  
Winnipeg Model Railroad Club

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# THE LANTERN

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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** – The photo of the CN Sprague subdivision at Dufresne, MB by Bob Harrison. The grain elevator is the only one remaining on the Canadian portion of this subdivision. The elevator built by Manitoba Pool is now privately owned. Dufresne has a 6,690' siding and the elevator track.

## FROM THE EDITOR

My understanding was the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo (MTHE) was a success again this year. Sounds like attendance at the (MTHE) was down a bit. Thanks to Gino and Marvin club sales were outstanding. I would like to thank all those are volunteered their time at the show

I was unable to attend the show as I was out in Calgary over that weekend. The kids got me to Banff and few hikes in the Kananaskis country. The scenery was beautiful as the larch

(tamarack) trees known for their stunning fall color were turning their bright autumn yellow. Did it ever attract the masses of hikes on the weekend.

I wonder how the current Canada postal strike will affect some of the hobby shops or have they already adopted after the last strike? I have some missing parts being shipped from a manufacturer in the states. God knows when I will get them.

Frog and Diamond Hobby works presents Jason Shron, President and CEO of Rapido Trains Inc for a meet and greet! Sunday October 19th 12:30-2PM. He will be answering customer questions and talking about NEW releases.

- Bob Harrison

### **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.

### **EXECUTIVE**

President - John Bate - [batefamily@shaw.ca](mailto:batefamily@shaw.ca)

Vice President - Marvin Fetch -

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Secretary - Brent Karr - [dogwny@hotmail.ca](mailto:dogwny@hotmail.ca)

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April Open House and Model Contest Chair - Murray Brown [murraygto@shaw.ca](mailto:murraygto@shaw.ca)

Photo Contests Chair - Larry Leavens

Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo Laison - Gino

Kost [gkost@shaw.ca](mailto:gkost@shaw.ca)

Gateway Western Superintendent- Gino Kost  
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Monthly Model Display - Gary Stempnick  
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### **Club E-mail - [wmrc.trainclub@gmail.com](mailto:wmrc.trainclub@gmail.com)**

### **President's Message**

A big Thank You to all of the volunteers who helped to make this year's Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo a success. We were competing with Mother Nature, who arranged some superb summer weather, but over 2000 people attended the show, and they all seemed to be

having a very good time. A special Thank You to Gino Kost, who organized the volunteers and ran our merchandise table, which was extremely successful, earning over double the amount that we budgeted for! Well done, Gino!

Our monthly meeting in October will not be held on the second Friday, as it usually is, but will take place on Saturday, October 18, at the barn-sized layout of Larry Skoglund, not far south of Winnipeg. It's well worth a visit, so come out and enjoy a nice Saturday afternoon in the countryside.

Look for the meeting announcement elsewhere in this edition of The Lantern, or in your inbox, for further instructions.

-John Bate

#### **Vice President's Report**

Nothing to report. I do want everyone to know that there are plenty toques available for sale \$25.00 each. I will have them in Morris if anyone wants one them. On a personal note, I would like to thank all of the members who purchased items from Morgan Turney's estate. There was less than \$100.00 worth of items to turn over to the club sale table. The plastic bins were donated to the club. Thank you.

- Marvin Fetch

#### **Meeting of September 12, 2025**

#### **WMRC General Meeting**

Charleswood Legion, 6003 Roblin Blvd,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3R 1X1

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm. There were 29 members and two guests present. Guests were Maurice & Susan Dorge.

#### **President-John Bate**

John mentioned that the WMRC is a 100% NMRA club and that the NMRA started on September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1935. Happy 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary to the NMRA. John mentioned that we will be doing layout tours again this year and asked members to put

your name in to host tours of your layout. Please volunteer to open your layout to club members. Layouts do not have to be complete and can be in various states of completion.

John shared our new logo on the screen and mentioned our 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo and that there would be tee shirts to follow. John asked for sizes from the members and requirements were as follows.

Medium 0Large 7

X Large 7

XXL 6

XXL 1

John noted that we need a new brochure and thanked Murray for his input. John will produce a draft copy soon.

John mentioned that the Manitoba Train & Hobby Show is September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Setup will be on Thursday September 25<sup>th</sup> in the evening. Takedown will be on September 28<sup>th</sup> after the show closes. Please volunteer to help. John asked Susan Dorge to say a few words about the show.

Susan stated that the posters are here, that the WMRC shares in the gate proceeds and to please take some and get the word out. Susan mentioned that there would be a Lego competition plus train clubs from Thunder Bay and Regina (2) as well as a RC Group, Doll Club, Manitoba Miniature enthusiasts and slot car drag races. Susan stated that the show is expanding and reiterated to get the flyers out. Finally, Susan mentioned that the Mega train has been sold so there is no ride-on train this year, making setup much easier.

John thanked Susan for her report and mentioned that there are some model railroad items for sale tonight and to please see Gino. John also held up Roger Wood's model railroader vest and stated that this is what the best dressed model railroader used to wear.

#### **Vice President's Report-Marvin Fetch**

Marvin mentioned that he has no report tonight, but he has two Proto 2000 Engines with DCC to sell. He stated that the set retails at \$400.00 and is willing to sell the set for \$200.00. Marvin also mentioned that there would be the usual 50/50 at the break and that there are coffee and donuts available. Marvin closed by saying to the members to make sure to buy something to eat.

#### **Treasurer's Report- Khirad Dhabhar**

Khirad could not make the meeting tonight. John went over the Treasurer's report and our financials. John showed the financials on the screen, discussed our donations to P.D.C., St. Amant Centre, and the Train Museum. John asked for a motion to approve the budget for 2025-26. A motion to approve the 2025-26 budget was made by Gary Stempnick and seconded by Gino Kost. Christopher Robinson asked about the Lantern budget being less this year than last and John explained that we are going digital and supplying fewer paper copies, which Murray had graciously supplied tonight. Rod Boresky asked when membership dues are due, and John said tonight.

#### **Program Director- Ian Plett**

Ian could not make the meeting tonight therefore John advised the members present that Fred Headon would be talking about his passion for trains and where it all started as young child to becoming a Master Model Railroader including many of the exciting adventures along the way.

John also mentioned that next month's meeting and program will be on Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup> in Morris. WMRC members can meet at 11am at Santa Lucia located at the corner of Highway 75 and Highway 23 for lunch and then proceed to Larry Skoglund's no earlier than 12:30 pm to see his barn layout one last time. Please bring a folding chair verses a lawn chair, if possible, due to space limitations. There will not be coffee or donuts served at this meeting. Directions are located in this issue of the Lantern.

Bart mentioned that there was a Jets game verses Nashville that day. Bob Harrison asked about model and photo contests for the October 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. The executive will discuss at the next executive meeting and figure this out.

#### **Lantern**

John mentioned that Larry's wife has a serious medical condition and that Bob Harrison has stepped in to cover this position for the club. Bob mentioned that he has two paper copies available tonight and to please send in articles for upcoming issues of the Lantern.

#### **Social Media-Paul Ullrich**

Paul was away and could not attend the meeting. Brent Karr covered the social media report tonight. The stats as of September 5<sup>th</sup> were as follows.

##### *Blog Stats:*

All time views: 622,527

Last month: 16,975

1001 posts created

##### *Facebook:*

426 views for post about Fred Headon's presentation

1,830 views and five shares for the post about the giraffe car man at the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo

1,791 views and two shares for the post about the Free-Mo group at the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo

1,994 views and 18 shares for the first post about the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo

7,581 views in the last 28 days. 1,912 followers

#### **Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo -Gino Kost**

Gino asked for some volunteers to help move stuff on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday before the show from the museum to the train show. Gino also asked for volunteers for Thursday setup as well as Saturday and Sunday for door duty and for the WMRC sale table and for Sunday teardown. Please see Gino or email him to volunteer.

Mike Wagner asked what is coming from the museum. Gino explained that it is several boxes that can all be carried.

Gino mentioned meeting at the museum on September 18<sup>th</sup>. See Gino or Gary to gain access to the museum to run trains.

#### **Model Contest-Gary Stempnick**

Gary mentioned that he had some neat models on display tonight. The random draw was held and Bob Harrison won.

#### **Photo Contest-Larry Leavens**

Bob Harrison is covering the photo contest in Larry's absence. Bob mentioned that he had 4 entries for the photo contest and that he would like to see more entries. The random draw was held, and the winner was Felix Lesiuk.

#### **Annual Model Contest-Murray Brown**

Murray suggested that we may have the Spring Show and annual model contest one week earlier to include John Bate our President due to an ongoing conflict with John's schedule. Murray suggested that this might also allow more public to attend the event.

Murray advised the members present that the special event would be a winter scene on an 8"x10" display only limited by your imagination. Cliff passed out some information on the special event that Murray had supplied. Murray mentioned a couple of products to help with making snow and passed them around the room. Murray also mentioned a module contest and that entrants must be WMRC members. He also mentioned going to other clubs to get them involved. Entrants are to create a module following any common module standard (NTrak, TTTrach, etc.). Murray showed some examples on the screen.

#### **Old Business**

There was no old business tonight.

Marvin took this opportunity to mention that he has WMRC hats and toques for sale and encouraged members to see him for their needs.

#### **Announcements**

There were no announcements tonight.

John reminded everyone of the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo on September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> and the next WMRC meeting being held in Morris on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

A motion to adjourn was made at 8:06pm by an unknown member.

The 50/50 draw was won by Richard Mikolyenko.

Submitted by Brent Karr, Secretary

#### **October Program**

The October program is looking at all the different ways you can use an Arduino in model railroading. Arduinos can be used to automate functions like controlling signals and turnouts with servo motors, detecting trains using sensors like IR or RFID for automated sequencing, and creating realistic lighting effects and animations within buildings and vehicles. They provide a flexible, low-cost platform for hobbyists to program complex layouts, control multiple functions simultaneously, and add a new level of realism to their models. Larry Skoglund's barn layout near Morris will illustrate how he uses Arduinos for sound and display effects on his layout.

WMRC members can meet at 11am at Santa Lucia located at the corner of Highway 75 and Highway 23 for lunch and then proceed to Larry Skoglund's no earlier than 12:30 pm. Directions to the Larry's are from the corner of 75 and 23 W in Morris, at the lights, head west 1 mile to just passed the Dyke, turn left on Rd 3E go south 3 miles, you will cross the CPR, at the next stop sign turn right on 21N go 1 mile, Just passed the S curve in the road turn right onto 2E, go roughly a quarter mile north and just before the CPR tracks again turn right on Larry's driveway. When

the driveway splits stay right toward the barn. Parking is allowed on the grass.

There is no access to washrooms, so if you're driving through Morris stop either at the co-op, Tim's and or the husky Esso before coming to the farm.

Please bring a folding chair verses a lawn chair, if possible, due to space limitations. Please bring your own drinks since there will be no coffee or donuts available.

There will not be a monthly model or photo contest in October.

### **Spring Show**

All former participants, and WMRC people actively involved with the Spring Show, have been contacted to advise that the 2026 dates will be April 18th & 19th. The next contact with people will be in early January to determine table/chair needs, as well as layout unique requirements. A new way of presenting the Photo Contest entrants will be discussed in upcoming months with the Executive, Larry Leavens and Bob Harrison.

– Murray Brown

### **Public Relations Report**

Nothing new to report at this time.

### **Annual Photo Contest**

This years Photo Special event is Bridge, Trestle or Culvert.

– Larry Leavens

### **Annual Model Contest**

As announced at the September 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting, the 2026 Special Event will be a **Winter Railroad Scene**.

There is only one specific criteria: maximum size is 8 x 10 inches. And you're only limited by YOUR imagination!

It can be as simple as a caboose.



Or a locomotive crossing a bridge.



Do you have a locomotive hanging around?



A winter scene with a snow plow. How apt!



Get elaborate and have snow and ice!



At the same meeting I introduced Members to two products that would be great for your winter scene model entry.

Available at Frog & Hobbies, our sponsor model railroad store, is Woodland Scenics SOFT FLAKE SNOW™.



And from Hobby Sense you can get Vallejo DIORAMA FX SNOW Ground Texture.

At upcoming meetings I'll be introducing everyone to other products and a few tips and tricks .... Like how to make icicles!



**New Spring Show Model Contest #1** Northern Division Free-Mo, WinNtrak, Manitoba T-Trak, and Godfrey South have been contacted to advise of the new Module Contest. All were asked to "spread the word" to their members; WMRC Membership and Module Contest Entry Forms were attached for their dissemination.

— Murray Brown

#### **Monthly Model and Photo Display**

There will be not be a model or photo display this month with Larry Skoglund's barn layout tour.

#### **The Gateway Western Railway**

The Gateway is still closed. However, arrangements can be made with one of the executives of the Museum to enter the building and run trains or work on the layout.

If you are interested in running trains or working on the layout please let me know and I will put you in touch with the appropriate people.

Gino Kost

#### **Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo (MTHE)**

Gino's feels, the Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo was a success. The unofficial attendance figures were around 2300 people. The WMRC table sold \$3401.70 less expenses of \$57.00 for a total of \$3394.70.

A big thank you to all the volunteers that helped out with set up, manning the door, attending the WMRC table, working the sales table, and take down. Also, a big thank you to the people that helped move the sales items from the Museum and back again.

However, he is disappointed in the number of WMRS members that did not have the time to

volunteer at the MTHE. This is Your show and it contributes a lot of the funding. It would be nice if more and not the same people volunteer for the MTHE.

- Gino Kost

### **John Longhurst Order of Canada**

John Longhurst received the Order of Canada in September 2024. He joins more than 8,000 Canadians who have received the country's highest civilian honour.

John, who has been the faith page columnist for the Winnipeg Free Press since 2023 and is also a religion reporter for Canadian Affairs, won the award for his contributions to the country's religious and spiritual media, his efforts to promote positive interdenominational relations, to reduce hate and to help readers see the humanity in every person.

But John has always been very well known for his outstanding contributions to the hobby and to Winnipeg's model railroading community. John was the associate editor of Canadian Railway Modeller magazine for many years. He was an active member of the WMRC, where he served as the club's publicity director. He has a model railroad blog, titled the CP Rail Manitoba and Minnesota Subdivision, which has had over one million viewers.

In 1998, John and his brother-in-law, the late Ken Epp, founded the Great Canadian Train Show, which became Manitoba's largest train show, and ran until 2012. He was the convention director for the 2005 Canadian Association of Railway Modellers annual national convention, titled Golden Rails, which was the only the second time the city had hosted a national model railroad convention.

John Longhurst is seen receiving the Order of Canada from Governor General Mary Simon in a ceremony held at Rideau Hall in Ottawa.

### **Moe Smith – Senior Member**

Moe Smith has been a member of WMRC for 66 uninterrupted years. During this time, you will find his name on almost every trophy in every category, including three best of shows in three scales, "O", "S", and "HO". He earned MMR #100 which was presented to him at the 1983 National Convention.

During the first 35 years of his membership, he was heavily involved in the local and regional competitions and/or judging, including 3 years at the National level. The following 30 + years he has been a plain old member (POM). He does his best to come out to meetings but at 90 yrs old, he is limited by his physical ability."

### **My Railway has a Funicular by Bart Hasselfield**

Author's Note: Pushing the boundaries of what constitutes a "model railroad" as a member of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club was not my intent in building this. It falls within the boundaries: it is a model. It has rails. So: The idea came to me after a really enjoyable discussion at last year's Mega Train show. Partnered at the entrance gate with a pair of pretty smart guys – Murray Brown and Tommy Kucera – somehow the word "funicular" entered the conversation.

From Wikipedia:

*A **funicular**, or **funicular railway**, is a type of cable railway system that connects points along a railway track laid on a steep slope. The system is characterized by two counterbalanced carriages (also called cars or trains) permanently attached to opposite ends of a haulage cable, which is looped over a pulley at the upper end of the track. The result of such a configuration is that the two carriages move synchronously: as one ascends, the other descends at an equal speed. This feature distinguishes funiculars from which have a single car that is hauled uphill.*

Tommy's lifelong interest in music came to the forefront recounting to us the story of the song "Funiculi funicula" which was written for the inauguration of the first funicular in Italy on Mount Vesuvius in 1880. (Winnipeggers will know this song as the theme for pizza commercials in the 1960s). I joined in the conversation with some recollections of funiculars ("ascensors") that I had seen, ridden in, and photographed on a trip to Valparaiso Chile a few years ago. On returning home after the show, I started looking at some websites – lots from Chile and some really recent ones from Britain.

So, the germ was planted. Most of my construction on my model railroad is based on proof of concept.... I visualize an idea, then scrape together the materials and courage to put it together. I have no background in architecture, art, carpentry, construction, electronics, or I dug up an old passenger car from the 19th century or sometime. Measured it, and then cut it in half (no respect here, kids). Then cut the ends off another car and glued them onto the cut ends. Then I took some scrap plastic and made benches for my little passengers to sit on. Then went online and bought something really cool – acrylic paint markers. I used these to paint the cars in bright colours (like the cars I had seen in Chile) and to touch up some of the details on my passengers.

railroading. So, it's quite a miracle when something that I put together actually works, and doesn't burn or electrocute someone. I have often hooked up batteries to circuits to "let the smoke come out." (thanks Sean)

But I did need to build a funicular once I'd thought about it. There was a space on a corner of my layout where a tunnel met an ugly stairway, and it needed some immediate scenic assistance. So, I got out my trusty yardstick and measured the angle and the base and decided that the job must be done.

This type of construction is a lot easier nowadays than it used to be. I am pretty handy with

shopping by computer (is this a skillset?) so I headed over to my laptop and made a list of materials:

1. a motor
2. a wheel to hook onto the motor
3. some pulley wheels to run the cable over
4. some electrical switches to reverse the motor
5. track
6. cars
7. something to make the cars look horizontal
8. wood and screws.

There are several major suppliers on the internet for items 1 to 4 – DigiKey in the US, Mouser in the US, Amazon in US or Canada, and the hobbyist favourite – AliExpress in China. I ended up ordering the parts from Amazon.

First – wood and screws. Easily found in the pile of scraps under my bench. I chopped two 1x2s at the precisely estimated angle, tied them together with a third piece and then tested the structure at the space on my layout. Perfect fit! Back on the workbench, I cut and glued some cork roadbed and nailed down the two strips of track to carry the cars up and down.



So, the next problem was how to support the cars horizontally as they go up and down the incline. My first thought was to build an elegant soldered brass structure with ball bearing wheelsets and braking systems. This thought was soon brought to rest when I found a piece of 2x4 which could be cut at the same angle as the track incline, and glued to the bottom of the car, thus rendering the passengers an authentic horizontal experience. I screwed a set of trucks from a freight car (which had fallen off my layout) into the middle of the wood, and it was

soon looking pretty good. I painted the wood in a dark colour which would look authentic from 3 feet away (advice given by the late Norm Leathers), and justified the design with reference to a water driven prototype currently operating in England.

Next was the scientific part - we would connect the cars by cable (tiny) to a pulley system and loop the cable around a motorized large wheel and then run it back over the other pulley to the other car. One car could go up. The other could go down. So, the scientific method began – how fast does the motor turn and how big was the wheel so that the cars go up and down SLOWLY. I forgot what numbers I came up with, but they were the right ones, and I found a 3.5-inch wheel which fit onto a 20 RPM motor and after converting my order to metric, sent the order away, and went up for coffee.



Several weeks later, everything arrived. In the interim, I had also chanced upon a switch system with a rheostat to drive the 12-volt system and could now put the thing together for testing on my work bench.

So, I wired all the electrics together, hooked it up to my 12-volt supply (former desktop part) and got every thing turning. One more problem – I needed a tiny cable. Something strong. Very strong. Didn't have any fishing line. Thread's not strong enough. Must be flexible. Waxed. Waxed? I went back upstairs. Judy (my highly educated and very smart wife) suggested Dental Tape. Dental Tape. The strongest rope known to mankind!! So now I was able to hook up the two

cars on the track, run the cable over the pulleys down to the wheel and get it running. And it ran. And ran. Up. Down. Up and down!

Next, I took the structure and wires over to the layout. In the next few weeks, I made slot for the “ramp” so it could be moved out for repairs in the future. I covered the wood with cardboard and plaster cloth to make an authentic mountainside and then painted the whole thing in glorious dirt colours. Added trees. Added some LED street lights. Wired them up. Built a little shack at the bottom for the cars to slide into.

Am thinking about the shack on the top now....

The parts:

From Amazon.ca

1. DC Motor Speed Controller (PWM)
2. 12 V Reversible High Turbo Worm Reduction Electric Motor 20 RPM
3. Small pulley block wheels
4. Harfington Single Groove Pulley 6mm fixed bore 60mm Outer diameter etc.
5. 38 Colors Dual Tipped Acrylic Markers

From my basement floor:

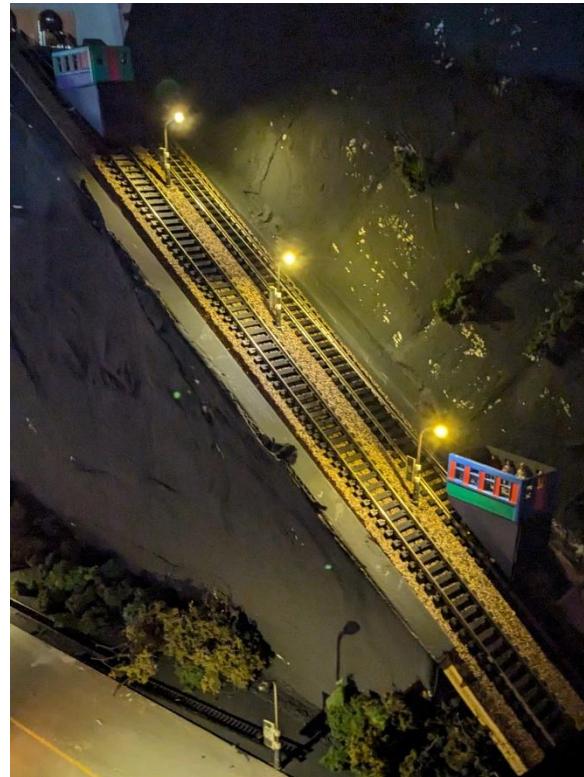
1. Wood scraps
2. Screws
3. 12 V and 5 V power supplies
4. Random wires
5. Plaster cloth and cardboard held together with staples and gun glue.
6. Trucks from a broken model car
7. An old passenger car and some plastic.

Resources on the internet:

A google search will show many funiculars in Canada, Chile and the UK. There's a pretty readable site called “All the Funiculars” <https://columbia.edu/~brennan/fun> which is all about the ones in the UK. The photographs are amazing!

For the Chilean ones, there are a large number of great videos on YouTube. Search “valparaiso

ascencores” on google. Don't be afraid of the spanish; the videos are amazing. We went up and down quite a few of the ones in Valparaiso when we were there in 2006/7. Valparaiso should be a sister city to Winnipeg - both cities suffered similar fates with the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914.



#### Using 3-D printing for replacement gears by Neil Carleton

I recently bought a brass Samhongsa gas electric combine from the estate off Morgan Turney.



It was sold as "needing work" but it was such a well-made model I had to buy it. On the track it would go about 3 inches and stop, when reversed, 3 inches back. The model has one powered truck with a universal connected to the motor. When disconnected the motor ran smoothly with no issues. On removal of the bottom cover plate and opening the gear tower I found three plastic gears meshing to brass gears. On close inspection all three were cracked so jammed when the crack rolled around.



The gears are quite small and two different sized axles.



Northwest Shortlines has hundreds of replacement gears and some they recommended, but would not let me send the damaged ones to make sure. Each new gear was over US\$30 and not easily returnable. A friend who is not an active model railroader wondered if 3-D printing was a solution. I contacted Darrell Brownlee who has printed some vehicles and few other items for me. He said he knew what to do, so I got the broken ones to him and in short order he returned some new gears, with lots of spares. I fit them in and they worked!



Then I realized I could not tighten the gear tower sufficiently to remove some gear slop when going forward, causing excess noise. It appeared that the machine screws were bottoming out so I spoke to Darrell and with the measurements I sent him, he was able to print extremely small washers. The washers were various thicknesses but the winner was two about the thickness of paper.



Gas electric now runs smoothly in both directions.

Next step is to add DCC and then paint and decal the model.

#### Entries from Monthly Model Contest

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. Contestants send their photos by email to [photo.wmrc@gmail.com](mailto:photo.wmrc@gmail.com).

Six individuals entered the September model contest. The lucky winner of the random draw of the entries was Bob Harrison. The following models were entered:

##### **1) N Scale Factory by Richard Mikolayenko**

The factory's exterior walls were painted with a red primer. The roofs were painted flat black with the main roof removable. A second floor was installed which was painted a flat grey. The building was built with the doors open, which required them to be cut out. Interior freight and workmen to be added at a later date.



##### **2) White Tavern Restaurant by Gino Kost**

The kit was built as per the instructions. A base was added with interior flooring. Tables, chairs, counters along with people were added to the interior. Lighting was installed to illuminate the interior. The base was extended and a sidewalk was added around the building. The interior and exterior of the building was painted.





### 3) Pipe Load by Bob Harrison

Pipes were made from  $\frac{1}{2}$  polystyrene tube cut to length. The pipe supports were cut from basswood. The pipes were secured in place by wrapped them in thin black art tape to simulate wire strapping.



### 4) Yard Office/Crew Building by Rob Sarna

This HO Scale building is from the Walthers Cornerstone Yard Office and Gate House w/Gate Kit (#933-3517). It was built according to the instructions from the kit, without any kit bashing. It was painted entirely using Tamiya XF acrylic paints. The concrete colour (and under primer) is unmixed Flat Gray. The building's walls are a mix of Flat Earth and Buff. Roof and trim are a mix of Linoleum Deck Brown, Flat Earth and a few drops of Flat Black. My future plans for it are to put in a basic interior and lighting, as well as detailing the outside (Signs, A/C unit, etc.).



### 5a) Prototype of Loc Rescar CF7 by

RESX 2507 is an Athearn RTR. The prototype was used at one of the grain terminals in Saginaw, TX until Sep 2007. Roof details were added along with pilot details and weathered. The Lok sound 5 Decoder setup for Proto Throttle.



### 5b) Prototype of BNML 2

The GP6 represents the prototype as it appeared around 1990. The front Range GP9 was detailed and custom painted. The unit is repowered with Stewart Trucks and Motor. The Lok some 5 Decode was setup for ProtoThrottle. BN 12205 is an Atlas Wide Vision Caboose. It was modernized with blanked out windows, patch paint. Grab were added on the roof. The smoke sack was relocated to correct location.



### 6) Highway Overpass for West Bethridge Yard by Rob Sarna

This HO Scale highway overpass was constructed from a Rix Modern Highway Overpass kit and two Walthers Cornerstone Single Track Concrete Bridges and abutment kits. This nearly completed model was designed and built, not from any known prototype pictures or plans, but constructed to frame a mirror mounted on my backdrop for a single ended yard. It also had to be built high enough to clear and hide a wall mounted light switch. The bridge can be quickly taken apart in three pieces, in case the need arises for house electrical maintenance.

The model securely mounts to the layout using the pin and sleeve method at 2 of the 3 surface mounting points. The third uses earth magnets, due to the design of the backdrop. The model was painted using Model Flex paints, as well as

using the wet washes for concrete method demonstrated by Youtuber Boomer Dioramas (Video #231 Painting and Weathering Jersey Barriers) using the same colours of Vallejo Air paints he uses in the video).



### Pictures from the September Photo Display

There were ten entries in the September monthly photo contest. The lucky winner of the random draw of the individuals entering was Felix Lesiuk.



**Felix Lesiuk**



**Felix Lesiuk**



**Felix Lesiuk**



**Felix Lesiuk**



**Christophor Robinson**



**Christophor Robinson**



**Bob Harrison**



**Cliff Davidson**



Cliff Davidson



Cliff Davidson

## 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

Same as last year

OR

Family members	<input type="text"/>
Spouse <input type="checkbox"/>	Child under 18 <input type="checkbox"/>
Child birth date (dd/mm/yy) <input type="text"/>	
Address <input type="text"/>	
City, Province <input type="text"/>	
Postal Code <input type="text"/>	
Phone <input type="text"/>	
Email <input type="text"/>	

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 <b>printed</b> 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](mailto: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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Holiday Hotel & Conference Centre  
3063 South Service Road, Burlington, Ontario

October 18, WRMC Club meeting

November 1 & 2, 2025 NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION® TRAINFEST

## **2026**

April 25 and 26, 2026 Supertrain, Calgary

July 27 to August 2, 2026 2026 NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION – CHATTANOOGA, TN