

# THE LANTERN

Official Publication of the  
Winnipeg Model Railroad Club

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# THE LANTERN

Official publication of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club (WMRC) established April 1955. March 2025, Vol. 69 No. 07.

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 Prairie Dog Central. Photo received first place in the Prototype category of the annual photo contest.

## FROM THE EDITOR

I was sitting down at the lake last month when I received an unexpected email from Larry. He said he was stepping aside from WMRC duties for the next while to deal with personnel issues. Would I take over as Lantern editor as previously done. I agreed.

This all caught me off guard, as since our annual windup I have been in cottage mode. I have not been thinking of the hobby expect for ordering a few kits for assembly next winter.

I am scrambling to put this version of the Lantern as I have not been abreast with WMRC executive activates for over a year.

Do you realize this is the club's 70 year? Wonder if anything special is planned. I know Paul has developed a new logo for it.

The quality of the next few additions of the Lantern will only be as good as the input that I get from the membership. Please send in articles or anything you think of interesting for the Lantern. 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.

### **EXECUTIVE**

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

Vice President - Marvin Fetch -  
[mfetch@shaw.ca](mailto:mfetch@shaw.ca)

Secretary - Brent Karr - [dogwny@hotmail.ca](mailto:dogwny@hotmail.ca)  
Treasurer – Khirad Dhabhar -  
[quarkhirad@gmail.com](mailto:quarkhirad@gmail.com)

### **APPOINTMENTS**

Program Director- Ian Plett –  
[rrclub76@gmail.com](mailto:rrclub76@gmail.com)

Lantern Editor - Larry Leavens –  
[larry.leavens@gmail.com](mailto:larry.leavens@gmail.com)

Canteen - Mark McLellan [merrickmclellan@shaw.ca](mailto:merrickmclellan@shaw.ca)  
Librarian – David McNeil  
[dmcneil@mymts.net](mailto:dmcneil@mymts.net)

Social media - Paul Ullrich [pullrich@mts.net](mailto:pullrich@mts.net)  
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 [gkost@shaw.ca](mailto:gkost@shaw.ca)  
Monthly Model Display - Gary Stempnick  
[garymst@mymts.net](mailto:garymst@mymts.net)

### **Club Room Fund Trustees**

Clifford Davidson [cliffndonalene@shaw.ca](mailto:cliffndonalene@shaw.ca)  
Alan Graham [agraham@mymts.net](mailto:agraham@mymts.net)  
Larry Leavens [larry.leavens@gmail.com](mailto:larry.leavens@gmail.com)

### **Club E-mail - [wmrc.trainclub@gmail.com](mailto:wmrc.trainclub@gmail.com)**

### **President's Message**

Welcome to the WMRC for another year. The club was founded in 1955 and this Fall marks our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary! We will be producing special 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary T-shirts to mark the occasion. We'll begin to roll out a new club logo to modernize our image and keep us fresh into our 8<sup>th</sup> decade. The Executive and Caucus continue to discuss ways that we can improve the club and keep it viable as we face a future that looks much different now than it was in 1955, or even in 2020.

The monthly meetings will once again be held on the second Friday of each month, except for October when we once again "take the show on the road" and visit an exceptional model railroad

facility in nearby Morris, Manitoba. Stay tuned for details of that event, but in the meantime be sure to drop into the Charleswood Legion on September 12 for our inaugural meeting of the year. Reconnect with your fellow members, have a coffee and donut, bring along a model, or send in a photo, and have a pleasant evening.

See you at the Legion!  
-John Bate

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

No report.

#### **Meeting of April 11, 2025**

#### **WMRC General Meeting**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm. There were 34 members present and two guests. Guests were Craig Thomasson and tonight's presenter Steve Boyko.

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

John asked for a motion to approve the March 14th, 2025 meeting minutes. A motion to approve the March 14th, 2025 meeting minutes was made by Dwayne Miller and seconded by Khirad Dhabhar. The motion was carried.

John discussed the club member layout tours that were held in March and that they were well received by the members that attended. WMRC will look at doing more layout tours in the fall.

John mentioned the new club 70th anniversary logos that Paull Ullrich has done. John showed the logo on a blue background and on a white background to show what they would look like on club shirts. A vote was held, and the majority of members present chose the blue design.

John also mentioned that there are still some NMRA memberships to be picked up. If you haven't picked yours up yet, please see John.

John brought up the AGM coming up on May 9th at the Canad Inns Polo Park. As a sign of appreciation for our loyalty to them and our repeat business they will reduce the rental costs

from \$475.00 to \$200.00. Members and spouses should arrive starting at 5pm. Dinner will be at 6pm with choices of doing the buffet or ordering off the menu. Attendees will be responsible for their own food and beverage costs. At 7pm the tables will be cleared. The AGM will begin at 7:30pm and run to 9pm.

John mentioned the Spring Show and asked members to please see Ian to volunteer.

#### **Vice President-Marvin Fetch**

Marvin thanked everyone that has bought some items from the estate of Morgan Turney and noted that there are still lots of items available to purchase. Marvin advised the members that there are hats available for \$25.00 each with no tariffs on them and that he will be selling 50/50 tickets after the meeting.

#### **Treasurer-Khirad Dhabhar**

Khirad went over the financials and mentioned that there are some expenses for the Spring Show. Motion to approve the Treasurer's report as submitted was made by Alan Graham. The motion was approved.

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

Ian advised the members that Steve Boyko will do a presentation on photographing trains at night. Ian also mentioned that our February presenter donated a kit for making billboards. Ian talked about the spring show and mentioned that volunteers are needed. Setup will be on Friday from 5pm-9pm. The show will run on Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from 10am-4pm.

#### **Lantern-Larry Leavens**

Larry apologized that he didn't have any copies of the lantern available tonight for the guests or members and asked everyone to please send your articles. Larry mentioned that there is a prize for best article of the year.

#### **Library-David McNeil**

David was absent tonight, so the library was closed.

**Social Media-Paul Ullrich**

Paul was absent but had submitted the stats as follows:

Facebook:

12,002 views in past 28 days

1,892 followers

5 new follows, 3 unfollows

6,009 views about open house, 78% were non-followers, 40 shares

595 views about the April meeting

611 views about John Bate's Mine Model

822 views of train cartoon

445 views for Norm Leathers memorial service

651 views for train meme

998 views for post of Felix eating a train

**Blog:**

506,134 all time views

1,412 views this month

6,399 views last month

835 views last seven days

93 views yesterday

980 posts created

**Gateway Western-Gino Kost**

Gino advised everyone that there are no changes in the status of the Gateway Western. It remains closed.

**Monthly Model Contest-Gary Stempnick**

Gary mentioned that there were lots of really nice models on display tonight and thanked everyone for entering. Winner of the monthly model contest was Larry Leavens.

**Monthly Photo Contest-Larry Leavens**

Larry advised the members that Ian Plett won the March photo contest and that tonight's photo contest was won by Cliff Davidson.

Annual Model Contest-Marvin Fetch, Murray Brown

Marvin advised everyone that we need two more judges. Khirad volunteered, and Marvin replied that we still need one more judging volunteer.

Murray requested members to get your models entered in the annual model contest and that he will pick up models if necessary. Murray also

made mention of some of the models and that there is a very good turnout this year. Entries can be dropped off at the Legion on Friday night between 7pm and 9pm. Entries must be on display before 9am on Saturday.

Canteen- Arlene Fetch (Mark McLellan was absent tonight)

Arlene's husband Marvin was given permission to speak by Arlene and mentioned that prices are the same as previous meetings and that there was a fresh pot of coffee on. Marvin also reminded members to see him for their 50/50 tickets after the meeting. Thank you to Arlene for the great job filling in for Mark.

Annual Photo Contest-Larry Leavens

Larry advised that entries will be accepted tonight and that he will be at the Spring Show setup Friday night and early Saturday morning to accept entries.

John asked Bob Harrison to come up and do the nominations and election of the 2025-2026

**WMRC Executive.**

John asked Bob Harrison to come up and do the nominations and election of the 2025-2026 WMRC Executive.

Bob asked for nominations for President.

Marvin nominated John Bate

John won by acclamation.

Bob asked for nominations for Vice President.

John nominated Marvin Fetch.

Marvin won by acclamation.

Bob asked for nominations for Treasurer.

Marvin nominated Khirad

Tommy Kucera nominated Bob.

A vote was held, and Khirad was elected to remain in the Treasurer position.

Bob asked for nominations for Secretary.

John nominated Brent.

Brent won by acclamation.

Bob thanked everyone for continuing in their role on the WMRC Executive which remains unchanged.

Gino mentioned and showed the members a framed print that Stafford Swain's wife has donated to the club. There was a short discussion on what to do with it and it was decided that the Executive would discuss this at the April 15th executive meeting.

Marvin mentioned that he has 25 nice prizes for the AGM. There was also a brief discussion on an elimination draw at the AGM.

Gino asked if there will be prizes for spouses at the AGM. John said that they would do something.

John reiterated that the Open House/Spring Show will be held on April 26th and 27th.

John reiterated the date for the AGM will be May 9th.

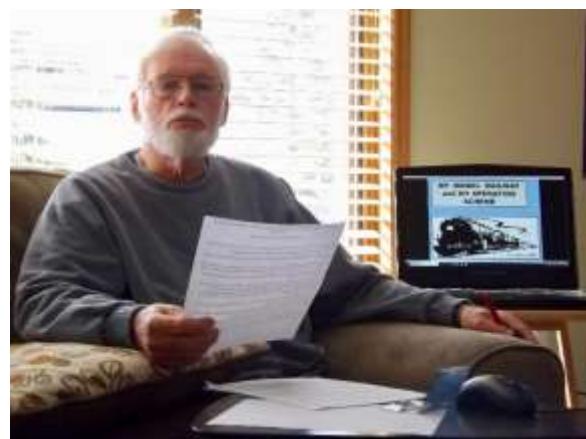
There was a motion to adjourn by Alan Graham. The meeting was adjourned at 8pm.

The 50/50 draw was won by Doug Ritter.

Submitted by Brent Karr, Secretary

### September Program

Presentation by Fred Headon titled " My Passion for Trains."



He will tell us how his interest in trains evolved, beginning with when he was a youngster living

just a bike ride away to the railways. It will be followed through to his modelling interests, his involvement with the NMRA and his writing about railways. Fred is an honorary life member of the NMRA, and has been an MMR since 2003. He has been an NMRA board member and has served many positions in the NMRA, including the international committee and the EduTrain committee and Canadian Director of the NMRA. He is a published author of several books about railroading and has served as a mentor to many local model railroaders. He has also been a contest judge, clinician and Secretary of the TLR division.

### Spring Show

Nothing to report at this time.

### Public Relations Report

Nothing new to report at this time.

### Annual Photo Contest

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

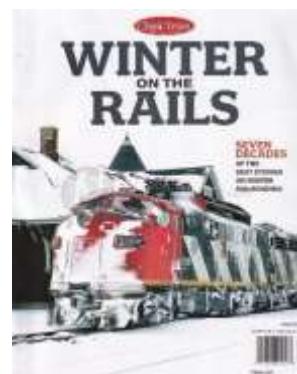
– Larry Leavens

### Annual Model Contest

As we begin a new year the question arises: *"What will be the Special Event for the Model Annual Contest at the 2026 Open House?"*

I know it's a few months away, but Old Man Winter will be here sooner than we want.

The 2026 Special Event will be a **Winter Railroad Scene**.



I was in Chilliwack this past summer and went to a local model railroad hobby store. Amongst their magazines were these issues of Classic Trains. I was immediately struck with the idea that this could be a special event idea.

It might look daunting at first, but if you do some internet searching, you'll find oodles of ideas. Plus, at each of the monthly Meetings I'll be providing a few tips and tricks.

And as a teaser, at the September Meeting I'll be announcing a new category that will be of interest to several Members!

Murray Brown

### **Monthly Model and Photos Display**

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),

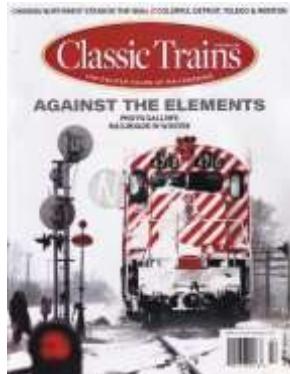
### **The Gateway Western Railway**

It is hoped that we will be able to access the Gateway soon.

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

This event replaces the Mega Train Show. This show is different, but in many ways it's still the same as before. There is no more ride-on train, but there will be lots of model railroad layouts running and plenty of vendors selling all sorts of model railroad equipment in all gauges.

The show has expanded to include all sorts of hobbies such as the Manitoba Doll Club, slot car racing and hot wheels! The Manitoba Lego Users Group will be back. Get a chance to fly a simulator model plane! Join the Lego building competition for a chance to win a prize, and put



your name in for the Thomas the Tank Engine HO train set door prize!

It all takes place at Red River Exhibition Place, 3977 Portage Avenue, on Saturday, September 27 between nine and five and on Sunday, September 28 between nine and four.! Please support the show.

Gino is looking for volunteers for the show. This year will be a very simple set up. All the club has to do is set up tables and chairs. We anticipate doing the set up on the Thursday September 25 before the show. Start time for set up will be around 5:30pm.

He is also be looking for volunteers to manage the door and WMRC table for Saturday and Sunday. We also need volunteers for take down on Sunday.

Please get in touch with Gino when you are available for the tasks to make the show a success. He will be available at the club meeting for anyone that wants to sign up. Alternatively, he also can be reached by email, [gkost@shaw.ca](mailto:gkost@shaw.ca).

Let's make this year's MTHE a success.

### **Model Railroad Photography Tips**

By Murray Brown

If you attended the May 2025 WMRC Awards Dinner, you heard Cliff Davidson say something like this: *"I keep winning the model photo contest year after year because nobody else enters except me. I hope that in 2026 there is some competition."* I'm also reminded of a brief conversation with Bart Hasselfield wherein he wished that Members provided more photos of their models, not only at the monthly meetings but also at the Spring Open House.

Some Club members might think that taking a photo of their various models is too hard. As Cliff can tell you, that is far from the truth, and I hope that after reading this article that you, too, will enter some model photos at the Spring 2026 Open House.

The two key basics are sharpness and composition. Viewers expect quality images that are sharp, well composed, and free of distractions. Sharpness is a result of focusing, of course. Composition is another virtue. Most models are shot at a 45° angle so that the viewer can see the front and at least one side of the model. There are times when this is great; but there are others when a straight-on side shot can convey the sense of the model's details. You need to watch out for the camera casting a shadow.

Knowing the basics of how to use your camera is part of the equation. You can use one of those ultra-expensive cameras that some Members have, the quality of the newest generations of cellphone cameras can do an equally impressive job.



If you want to use a tripod – which Cliff will tell you he has never, ever used – most cellphones don't have the correct threaded hole for a tripod. But you can purchase a tabletop tripod model; this one from Amazon even comes with a remote control! ***Aureday Phone Tripod, Flexible Tripod for iPhone and Android Cell Phone***

There's more to good images than just focus and composition, though. We live in an age where photo-editing software can fix some things, but it can't correct everything. The tips here cover simple, but particularly important, things you



can do before putting the camera on the tripod and snapping images.

Dust is something every layout owner struggles with. Before photographing your model, it's important to give it a thorough cleaning. A soft paintbrush and a can of compressed air make short work of dust that's accumulated on locomotives and rolling stock.

Check the details. When taking that photo, make sure the handrails and stanchions are in their sockets on locomotives. A popped railing or stanchion will show up as a distracting detail. Bent handrails, dislodged stanchions, and warped running boards draw attention to images for the wrong reasons.

If your photo has a building in it, remember that it shouldn't "float." Barrels next to a building and weeds along the foundation conceal gaps where a building meets the lot. Strategically placed figures and vehicles will conceal gaps; a few pallets would also be appropriate for an industrial setting.



Take lots of pictures! It costs nothing until you print them, so take plenty and then you can select the best pictures on your computer.

When composing a photo, study everything that's in the viewfinder. Study the images in the display on the back of the camera. Zoom in and scroll around the photos as necessary.

On-camera flash tends not to give the best results, so avoid it unless there is absolutely no alternative. Diffused natural daylight works best; where you can, keep the source of the light behind you, or close to behind you, but watch out for shadows!

The automatic white balance on your camera will cope with most situations, but if you are taking pictures under fluorescent or tungsten lighting then try using the appropriate white balance setting on your camera. Alternatively, try altering the colour balance in the picture on your computer with widely distributed photo enhancement software if you think it doesn't look quite right.

#### **Free Art Work**

A limited-edition print of the following artwork by Wentworth Folkins (1978) is available to anyone interested.



The image is 17"x23" and it comes complete with a 24"x30" frame, ready to hang. Please contact John Bate [batefamily@shaw.ca](mailto:batefamily@shaw.ca). First come, first served.

## 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.

## Great Fun Family Event

Not Just Trains! Lots of Other Hobbies Too!

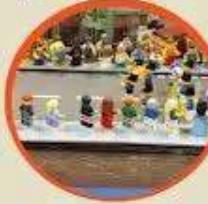
# Manitoba Train And Hobby Expo



MB Doll Club



Slot Car Racing



Lego & Lego Play Area



Interactive events,  
Face Painting,  
Vendors



Fly a simulator



Hot Wheels

### Admission

General: \$12.00 Youth 4-12: \$6.00

3 & Under: Free!!

Free Parking

**Red River Exhibition Place**

3977 Portage Ave, Winnipeg

**Saturday, Sept 27, 2025 | 9-5pm**

**Sunday, Sept 28, 2025 | 9-4pm**

Join the **LEGO building competition** for a chance to win a prize

Put your name in for the **Thomas the Train door prize**

Visit Us on Facebook or [Megatrainmb@gmail.com](mailto:Megatrainmb@gmail.com)

# Frog and Diamond

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Mon: 10am- 8pm  
Tues thru Sat: 10am-5pm  
Sunday : closed

Model Railroad Club

## **A WMRC Tradition Continues**



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2985 Pembina Hwy

Sun: 11:00 am to 1:00 am

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# ORDER BOARD

## 2025

Sept 27 & 28 Manitoba Train and Hobby Expo

October 17 to 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

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