

THE LANTERN

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Winnipeg Model Railroad Club
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THE LANTERN

Official publication of the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club (WMRC) established April 1955. January 2025, Vol. 69 No. 05.

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 – CN 9161, F7A, located in the Winnipeg Children's Museum. Its original number was 9142 before it was restored for the museum. Photo by Bob Harrison.

FROM THE EDITOR

A Happy New Year to everyone. Even with the mild weather since the last meeting I have found time to be in the basement working on things. My staging yard was a long straight stub ended yard. The tracks were way longer than what my longest train would be. Over time I came to dislike like the looks or function. So, I reduced the length and turned into a double ended yard. I still have to rewire the new yard. I did one thing right and put all the storage shelves under the layout on casters. These can be easily moved out of the way to allow me to crawl under the layout to do the wiring. If you do not enjoy some aspect of your layout, do not be afraid to make changes to it if you think it will increase your enjoyment. Larry Leavens - 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

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President's Message - Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a happy holiday season, and that Santa was good to you, perhaps leaving some model railroad goodies in your stocking. 2025 should be a good year to be a WMRC member. Ian has a lot of interesting programs lined up, starting with a railroad history lesson by our own Paul Ullrich this month.

Your NMRA memberships should be extended for another year at this point (probably into 2026 now). Mine was, so everyone else's should be, too. The membership cards will still be at the mercy of Canada Post for a while, but should

arrive in due course. Our own Thousand Lakes Region convention is in Wilmar, Minnesota this year, not so far away, and will be held on May 15-18. And the big National Convention is in Novi, Michigan (close to Detroit) on July 14-19. These are great events, with a lot to see and a lot to learn. Why not plan to attend one?

I hope you will come out and join us all at the Legion on Friday, January 10, at 7:30 for another enjoyable WMRC meeting. Arrive a bit early and mingle with your fellow members.

-John Bate, WMRC President

Meeting of December 13, 2024 WMRC General Meeting

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

Members 35

Guests 3

Ian Lisakowski

Zenon Lisakowski

Peter Clarke

Meeting called to order at 7:25 p.m.

President John Bate: John brought up the minutes of the November 15th general meeting and asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was made by Gary Stempnick to approve the November 15th general meeting minutes. Motion was seconded by Felix Lesiuk. PASSED John next mentioned the Mega Train & Hobby Show and advised the members present that since we voted to not take the 7.5 layout, it would be sold by Susan and Maurice Dorge. The 7.5 layout will not be at the 2025 Mega Train & Hobby Show. John mentioned that he had talked to Susan regarding taking over Mega Train for next year and that this would be discussed at the January 2025 meeting. We have the option to go with a Board, and Susan would be involved along with other local clubs, or for the WMRC to take the show over 100%.

David McNeil asked if the Board or WMRC would have to buy out Susan & Maurice, and John indicated neither party would have to buy them out. John did mention that any Board member

would need insurance if we went the Board route.

John has had a discussion with Bev at Warehouse Hobbies regarding a 10% off night for WMRC members, for example on a Thursday night and asked the members present if there was interest in a program like this. There was very little interest from the members in this proposal.

John stated that NMRA memberships would be processed, and our dues would be sent to NMRA once the mail strike is over.

Vice President Marvin Fetch: Marvin had nothing new to report this evening other than that some warm WMRC toques are available for \$25.00 each.

Treasurers Report: Khirad Dhabhar: Khirad was away for work and John covered the Treasurer's report for Khirad. A motion was made by Alan Graham and seconded by David McNeil to approve the Treasurer's report as printed in the Lantern. PASSED

Program Director Ian Plett: Ian advised the members present that tonight is our annual Clinic Carnival and that we would have 5 presentations available to watch. Presentations include:

Rob Sarna-Decoder Installation

Larry Leavens-Turnout control from multiple locations

John Bate-Arduino kits and using Lego to help build structures

Marvin Fetch-Buildings and Modeling them

Ian Plett-Weathering with chalks

Spring Show Ian Plett: Ian advised everyone that the Spring Show would be held on April 26th & 27th, 2025. Ian had nothing to report on public relations.

Lantern Larry Leavens: Larry thanked Murray Brown for his great two-part article he had submitted for the Lantern and asked other members to please consider submitting material.

Photo Contest Larry Leavens: Tonight's photo contest was won by Ian Plett.

Social Media Paul Ullrich

Paul's report on social media was as follows:

Blog:

All time views: 478,058

960 posts created

Today's views: 104

This month: 1,831

Last month: 3,133

Brazil had 982 views in the past 30 days, followed by Canada with 749, the USA with 493 and Hong Kong with 239

This week's top posts:

Clinic Carnival

CPKC holiday train

Manitoba T-track

2014 WMRC spring open house

Making of Hudson Bay railway

Facebook:

1,903 followers, four new followers, four new page likes

956 post reaches in last 28 days

Clinic Carnival: 321 views

CPKC holiday train: 1,041 views , five shares

Richard Mikolayenko's rural depot 526 views

Gateway Western Gino Kost: Gino stated that there were no changes at the Gateway Western.

Monthly Models Gary Stempnick: Gary advised everyone that tonight there were several models present and thanked everyone that participated. Tonight's monthly model contest winner was Richard Mikolayenko.

Annual Model Contest Marvin Fetch: Marvin asked the members for three volunteers to do judging. Marvin also advised that he will be retiring from the Annual Model Contest at the end of the club year, so someone needs to step up to take over this position. Marvin has offered to help mentor his replacement. Marvin listed the categories for the contest which are: Motive Power, rolling stock, structures, displays, and special event. There is the Tyro award for a first-time winner. Your entries can be kit built, or scratch built or a combination of both. The special Event this year is a Flat car or Gondola, with a load on it.

Canteen Mark McLellan: Mark advised the members present that hot dogs are available for \$2.00 each and there are also chips, drinks, donuts and cookies available for \$1.00 each.

Library: John Bate mentioned that David McNeil will be taking over the library and David and Billy

will make the handoff tonight. Thanks to Billy Yachison for his service as our Librarian.

John showed everyone the Model Railroad Handbook that he came across from the 1930's and mentioned that he would sell it for \$10.00.

Old Business: There was no old business tonight.

New Business:

Paul Ullrich mentioned that a local scout troop has contacted him, and they would like to bring their group to visit someone's layout. Please see Paul if you are interested in sharing your layout with some youth and perhaps inspiring a young model railroader.

Brent Karr mentioned that in the past the club had layout tours for members to visit fellow members' layouts and asked if there was interest in rekindling this program. John asked who would be interested in visiting layouts and there was good interest by show of hands. John then asked who would be willing to share their layout with fellow members and there was sufficient interest in this as well. This subject is to be discussed further.

Brent also mentioned the Prairie Dog Central and their need to replace the boiler in the number 3 steam locomotive. Brent proposed that the club consider donating to help get Prairie Dog Central number 3 back on the rails. There was some discussion on this and there was a motion for WMRC to donate \$2000.00 toward this worthy cause. The motion was passed.

Ian reminded everyone that WMRC members are automatically members of the #1 Northern Division of NMRA due to our club membership in NMRA.

Ian mentioned a zoom training clinic available for Arduinos with Sean Conway for a cost of \$100.00. Larry mentioned that Sean is a very good teacher in this subject. Contact Ian if interested.

David McNeil put forward a motion for a donation of \$1000.00 to the Rail Museum. Paul Ullrich seconded, and the motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Submitted by Brent Karr, Secretary

Vice Presidents Report

No report.

December Program

WMRC social media director Paul Ullrich will present "The men who designed trains", where he will introduce you to the extraordinary designers who created the most famous trains and railroad paint schemes of the 20th century.
- Ian Plett Program Director

Spring Show

The show is coming along nicely with planning. Just waiting on a few other folks return my email. Looking for volunteers or even just come down and hang out on the days the show is running. Remember the dates - April 26 - 27 2025.

– Ian Plett

Public Relations Report

I will be sending out my first batch of emails to the media the weekend after the January meeting.

– 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 if you do this on the model side a better modeller.

– Larry Leavens

Annual Model Contest

Just a reminder. April will be here before you know it. We need lots of action this time. The people coming to our show like to see lots of models. You never know, one of them might ask questions and then decide to join the club. That would be great.

The 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 scratchbuilt or, a combination of both.

The special Event this year is: Flat car or Gondola, with a load on it.

The club needs your help. I have been involved with running this contest since Morgan Turney left the club about seven years ago. I need someone to take over for me after this term. I would like one of you to indicate your willingness to be the Annual Contest Chair. I will be able to show you how I have handled it over the last few years. Training never hurts. It is not difficult. It just takes a little time and being a little organized. I will be your backup for the next year or two. If I can do it, anyone can. If no one comes forward before the next contest in April, there will not be one next year. This is not a threat, just a fact. I also need at least three judges for the Spring Show in April. This is a relatively easy task and requires you to be at the show on the Saturday morning from 9:00 am until about 10:00 am. The sooner I have at least three volunteers, the less I have to badger you at the regular meetings. Those who have helped before were surprised at how easy it is to do, thank you for considering - Marvin Fetch.

Monthly Model and Photos Display

Contestants send their photos by email to photo.wmrc@gmail.com, **NEW ADDRESS** Deadline is 5PM on Friday of our monthly meeting. Winners are picked in a random draw and awarded a small cash prize.

The Photo prize was won by Ian Plett.

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 Richard Mikolayenko.



2 "Z" Scale Shay Locomotive Kits

Had to cut, sand and shape the white metal.

Glued some details

Tested both locos and they work like "Swiss watches."

Panted wheels brown and everything else black

Richard Mikolayenko



CP 5469 was one of several units originally owned by Ontario Hydro (although painted CP) for unit coal trains from Bienfait, Saskatchewan to Thunder Bay for transloading onto ships for final delivery to various Ontario Hydro generating stations.

The GMD SD40-2 locomotives were built in London, Ontario in 1978 and were classed by CP as DRF-30r. CP 5369 started life in the 5779-5789 and 5860-5864 series but CN renumbered them when it took over the unit train operation complete with the fleet of hopper cars. When CP repurchased most of the locomotives in the late 1990's and early 2000's, the CN numbers stayed. This is an Athearn SD40-s "blue box" kit with detail parts from Cal-Scale/Bowser, Cannon & Company, Details West, Hi-Tech Details, Microscale Decals, Precision Scale Co. and The Train Parts Store (eBay).

Murray Brown



Here we have Dwayn's Appliance Repair Store and Service Building in N scale.

I installed a small LED light in the building.

And of course I have my Appliance Service Van in Front.

This Building will be on my future small town on my layout.

Dwayne Miller



FLIX 2086 Covered Hopper

An Intermountain Alberta grain car was the starting point.

The factory paint was stripped with 91% Isopropyl Alcohol and a little sanding with very fine sandpaper to remove the last bits of paint.

The lip of the opening for the trough hatch was removed with a sharp Exacto blade and some sanding.

The opening was filled with 0.060" styrene strip, The gaps along the edges were filled with Squadron Green putty and sanded. This had to

be done a couple of times to get a smooth surface.

Weight was added to the hopper section of the kit to bring the total weight up to NMRA standards.

The rest of the kit was assembled as per the instruction, The supplied plastic walkway was replaced with an etch brass walkway.

Round roof hatches from an Athearn kit were placed on the roof above the hatches on the bottom.

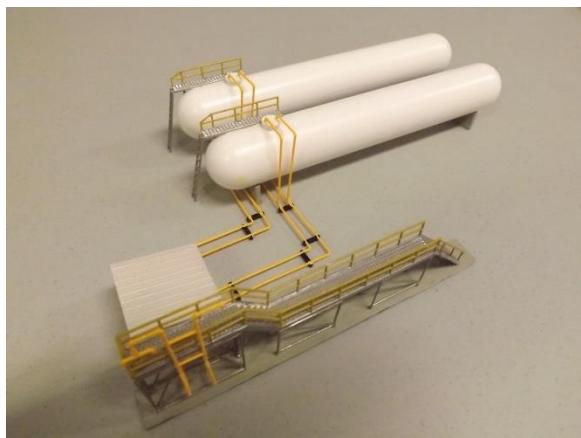
Kadee couplers and metal Intermountain wheel sets replaced the factory supplied items.

The car was spray painted grey and a clear gloss overcoat.

Microscale Decals were used.

Finally, a clear flat coat was applied to seal the decals.

Larry Leavens



Gino Kost



Bryan McNeil
Photos by Paul Ullrich

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. To this end we will require a 70th anniversary logo. Any inspiring graphic artists can send their sketch, no matter how crude to the club's e-mail (wmrc.trainclub@gmail.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.

John Longhurst – Order of Canada

John has been a on again off again member of the WMRC for many years. At the end of 2024 he was named to the Order of Canada. Many times, John has hosted WMRC open houses to view his layout. Though it is now downsized it can be viewed on his Facebook page, Gateway Spur. How many other model railroaders are a member of the Order of Canada? Congratulations John.

Short Circuit Protection by Larry Leavens

If you run more than one train on your layout, you will eventually find a locomotive derailing and causing a short circuit that shuts down the entire layout. To cure this problem the layout has to be divided into electrical blocks and some sort of short circuit protection installed. There are commercial modules available that will do this. When the device senses a short it will stop the current to that area. Periodically the unit will "test" for the short and continue to stop current flow until the short is removed. These devices can either contain a relay or electronic circuit to interrupt the current. These units are available as single or multi block detectors.

A cheaper method is with an auto light bulb. This will not isolate the short but limit the current flowing to the short by causing the filament in the bulb to light. This increases the resistance in the circuit and reduce the current flow. The remainder of the layout will continue to operate. Under normal operation the filament will glow slightly if there is enough current flow. This may happen when multiple older locomotives are used like the Athearn Blue Box diesels.

The circuit consists of a #1156 12V Auto Bulb (single filament). This is wired in series with the normal track wiring. I mount the bulb in a hole in a piece of scrap wood with the leads from the bulb connected to a pair of terminals made from 6-32 screws. This allows me to solder the wires to the bulb right side down at the work bench. The 6-32 screws allow for easier connection to the track wire bus once mounted under the layout. Double nuts are added to the "top" side of the screw, with the bottom one tightened to hold the screw in place with the second one used to secure the track wire. Top and bottom are relevant, as things get turned upside down once it is mounted under the layout. A pair of holes are drilled into the plywood to allow for wood screws to secure it to the underside of the layout.



"Top" side of device



"Bottom" of device



Three Short Circuit devices installed under the layout.

Hilt and Vern – Elmwood Hobby Works



I found this news paper clipping of the August 15, 1999 edition of the Sunday Herold while I was looking for something else. It sure brought many memories. It made me think of all the hobby stores that were once in the city. Some of the ads that I found in the old Lanterns are - Golden Spike, Gooch's, Cellar Dweller and Keystone Hobbies. Can any one else name a long-gone store that used to cater to the model railroader hobbyist? We now have only two stores for us to shop at; Warehouse Hobbies and Frog and Diamond. How things have changed.

Some Photos from the December Photo Display



Photo by Felix Lesiuk



Photo by Ian Plett



Photo by Bart Hasselfield



Photo by Felix Lesiuk



Photo by Bob Harrison

THE WINNIPEG MODEL RAILROAD CLUB OPEN HOUSE AND TRAIN SHOW



April 26 & 27, 2025
Charleswood Legion
6003 Roblin Boulevard
Saturday 10am to 5pm
Sunday 10am to 4pm

**Operating layouts!
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Model displays!
Photo displays!
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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.

Frog and Diamond

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Model Railroad Club

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ORDER BOARD

2025

January 10 - Winnipeg Model Railroad Club monthly meeting

February 7- Winnipeg Model Railroad Club monthly meeting

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

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