



Canadian Flyer

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February 2019

Operating and collecting toy trains

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

CTTA 2018-2019

canadiantoytrains.org

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

We had another good meeting with over 68 members and guests in attendance; as well as lots of trains for sale. We also had three new members join our club.

Thank you for supporting your club treasury and club car projects, they really help the bottom line of your club and you get a unique Canadian car. The donations to treasury have been fantastic. Thanks so much.

Please remember that if you attend our club meetings you must register and pay the nominal \$10 meeting fee; even if you are not planning on staying for lunch. Understand that the club pays rent for the hall, pays for insurance and door prizes and requires members who attend to pay the fee.

Be sure to attend the February meeting as Jorge is bringing in a hand built "O" scale model of the Canadian Pacific station that use to be in Sicamous, BC for show and tell.

If you have time, plan on attending the train show in Monroe, WA which is just east of Everett, on Saturday February 23rd. This is the day before our February train meet on Sunday February 24th. This is a great show: www.unwclub.com/unwshow.html

See you at the end of the month.

Mark



2018-19 CANADIAN CLUB MEETS

All meets at Charles Rummel Community Centre, 3630 Lozells Ave. Burnaby B.C.[doors at 11am, meeting 12:30]

UPCOMING MEET DATES:

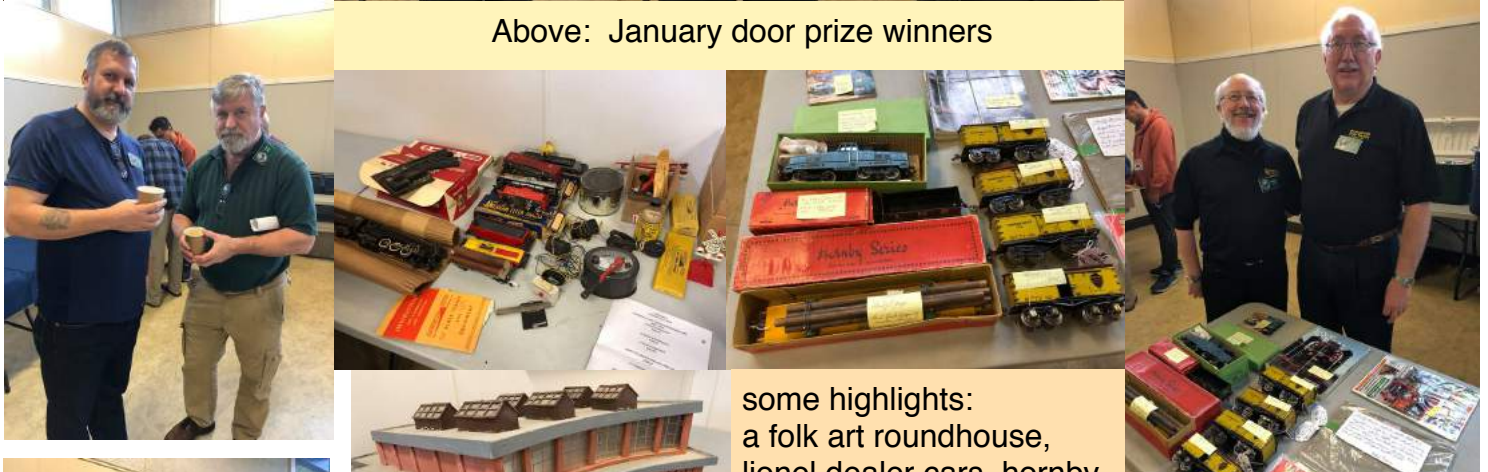
February 24, 2019

March 31, 2019

April 28, 2019



Above: January door prize winners



some highlights:
a folk art roundhouse,
lionel dealer cars, hornby
and ives tinplate, a flyer S
gauge hudson, and lots
more.



Bob Garton did
"show and tell" on a
number of PGE
items associated
with the launch of the
Budd car service in
1958.
Shown here is a very
unusual PGE plate.



Joys of the Bus Trip: January 19th to Puyallup



Then
Pack up!
Ride out!
Chow down!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 23-24, Monroe WA Info: unwclub.com/unwshow.html
28th Annual Train Show & Market Place.

Mar 10, Nanaimo BC Info: kj_rutherford@shaw.ca
34th Annual Vancouver Island Spring Model Railroad Show

Mar 23, Kelso, WA email: rwgrr@juno.com
Longview Kelso and Rainier MRC Spring Meet and Train Show
150 tables, layouts, displays Three Rivers Shopping Mall

Mar 24, Burnaby BC Info: westernrails@wcra.org
Western Rails 2019 Cameron Recreation Complex

April 7 Nanaimo BC Info:
COOTTS Spring Meet see notice on Page 5

April 13-14, Calgary AB Info: www.supertrain.ca
SUPERTRAIN 2019 Genesis Centre

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EDITOR'S CORNER:

THANKS TO KYLE FOR THE GREAT MEETING PIX AND THE SUPER BUS TRIP PICTURES, AND ROBIN FOR THE ANCASTER TRAIN SHOW PIX. TERRY BERG FOR THE TRAUMA NURSE. AND THANKS TO JOHN CONSTIBLE FOR THE ARTICLE AND PHOTOS ON PAGES 5 AND 6 (ONLINE EDITION).

WAITING FOR THOSE LAYOUT PHOTOS FROM MORE CLUB MEMBERS!

The Longview, Kelso & Rainier MRC presents
A Spring Swap Meet and Train Show
Saturday March 23, 2019 10 AM - 3 PM

Three Rivers Shopping Mall, Kelso, WA
Interstate 5, Exit 39, Southwest Corner

Swap meet and train show located at South end of Mall.

FREE PARKING! FREE PARKING!

Door Prizes every 1/2 hour! 150 tables for vendors!
Over 40,000 sq. ft. available

Many Train Layouts! Circus Model Builder displays!
Visit LK&R MRC in the mall (free), see 4 more layouts-
'O' scale, 'HO' scale, & 'N' scale!

General Admission - \$5.00, Children under 12 free w/paid adult.

HO scale DC and DCC test tracks present at the show.

Fast food outlets close by, Family Fun Center located in Mall next to show!
Find us on FACEBOOK at lkrrains.yolasite.com

VENDOR & TABLE INFO:

8' tables: \$20.00 each, please bring your own table covers.

Set up 6 - 9 PM Friday evening, 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM Saturday morning.

vendor name: _____

address: _____

city: _____

land line phone: _____

Cell phone: _____

e-mail: _____

of 8' tables desired: _____

Make checks payable to LK&R MRC

Mail payments to: LK&R MRC, 331 Confer Rd., Kalama, WA, 98625

Questions? For more info: Call Dick at 360-673-2277, or, e-mail rwgrr@juno.com

(table reservation confirmed via
e-mail or snail mail; no personal
info is traded or sold to anyone)

Special requests? _____



Denizens of the Ancaster Ont. train show
thanks Robin, hi David!



John Constible goes Standard Gauge!
and he's glad he did.



Thanks Terry, I needed this!

Collecting Trains: An Appreciation by John Constible

Collecting trains over the years has been nothing less than enjoyable, fascinating, and intriguing. The new products and the many companies today have become so intertwined with their sharing of technology, they seem to be so close or the same in appearance. In the last 30 years those products have flooded the marketplace. The majority of the products are just duplicates of their previous models. Many of today's products have many features the original manufactures used in their imagination, but with no technology to create. Toy trains at the beginning of the 20th century allowed the imagination to go where ever it needed to go. Realism was created with young hands. Today, the imagination has been replaced with circuit boards and with that, the interaction has become no more than a tv remote.



Saying that, I believe with all this new found technology, it has in some ways become a negative aspect of what the early toy manufactures were really trying to accomplish. At the beginning it was built for children, today the toys are now perceived investments, with costs that prohibits children to play with them.

Many of the toy train companies moved to Korea and China to access the much lower wages as it created a higher profitability of the products they were making to stay alive in the late 1990's and early 2000's. MTH, Lionel and K-line all had their problems and two of the three are still in business.

So with personally watching the entire new product lines hitting the market, very little was added to the beauty of the product other than a hand rail here or there or sprung trucks added for realism, so not much has changed. Same boxcar design new number. The insides of the engines changed with sound and functionality which became the big differences. With that, more repairs, more break downs and higher service costs have now become today's norm.

In the early 70's one circuit board could be replaced for less than \$30.00. Anyone could replace them if they so desired. Today Boards have to be replaced on occasion and now cost hundreds. In most cases, the trains have to be sent to an authorized service centre with staff that is factory trained. I also looked at the new trains for collectability verses prewar and postwar products. With grey market boards becoming available, the originality of the train changed. The train from the plant was no longer what it was. The sounds coming from the engine were great while they worked. The functions were many and all were good till a board failed.

With that, we had a transition period from old transformers to the new circuit breaker products which came to the market fairly slowly. As new trains went off the track and shorted, the boards failed. Hence the new transformers with circuit breakers with a much higher cost were manufactured. Because of the cost of the new transformers, most collectors still use the old postwar transformers, which is definitely a detriment to all the new products coming out. Old transformers work well with old trains as the new transformers work well with the new trains.

ADVANCE NOTICE

COOTTS - SPRING MEET

will be held on **SUNDAY, April 7th 2019**

in the Monarch Room #1

from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

OLIVER WOODS COMMUNITY CENTER

6000 OLIVER ROAD, NANAIMO, B.C.

Admission \$10.00

Table Sales, Auction, Displays, "Show and Tell" Door prizes and Refreshments - Everyone Welcome!

**You have all been waiting for the date so...
Mark your calendars!!!!**

AND!!! As this is an Advance Notice, if you have any items for sale you want to 'tease' our interest, OR if you have something you are 'seeking' - let me know so I can put it in the next issue!

In the meantime... Jim Sutherland has an item he is looking for.....please contact him directly.....

WANTED ~ G Gauge Canadian Pacific EMD F3 AB or AA with both units powered. Please call Jim Sutherland 250-727-1804

WILL FOLLOW

I believe I joined the club in 1990. As the club and membership has changed over the years, so has my collection. Maybe as one gets older, a simpler life becomes more obvious and one gets a little more philosophical and rational about what they are collecting. I look at my walls and layout and see more trains turning 100 with every year that passes. I see less cost to repair and fewer parts needed to do the repair. I see many lifetimes that had these train's before me and now are gone. I see a much simpler time back then, and maybe that is with all things today.



I can imagine and visualize the past when these big old trains came alive Christmas morning. When I turn on my power I can hear the sounds of track and train as the big engines and metal cars banged into each other going around the tree a hundred years ago. Many conversations were shared about the toys and the hard times of the era forgotten for the moment, replaced with smiles and laughter of the children.

I see brass handles, big search lights and copper railings with latches joining the cars together. Cranes that could pick up metal safes in gondolas. I see toys that were played with and not just stared at. I see art and style created in different metals and not mass produced in plastic modes. I hear very young noises that make every effort to sound like a chugging steam engine or a whistle deep into the night. I hear conversations made up as a baggage handler or being a traveler climbing onto the steps of a Pullman heading to someplace far away.



I can see the hands loading logs onto flat cars heading for the mill or freight into boxcars heading off to market. I can hear the sounds of the future wanting to grow up to be an engineer, a switchman, or mechanic. I can picture the days and times in the early teens of the 20th century. My trains allow me the luxury to remember how it was for my grandparents and parents during that time. My trains also gave me a window into who could afford which trains. I see no dissimilar today. Then it was \$5.00 to \$60.00, today it is \$300.00 to \$2,000.00.

Whether the new immigrants in the teens coming to North America, or living during the roaring twenties, struggling through the dirty thirties, or having to go overseas during the war years of the 40's. These old trains made it easier for the children of their era to cope and their imagination stay challenged. Prewar trains give me the opportunity to make use of my imagination and stay young as the trains get older. So, I guess my trains are a collection of years of memories and to appreciate the value they have, I suppose that would be priceless?