



Canadian Flyer

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October 2019

Operating and collecting toy trains

CTTA 2019-2020

canadiantoytrains.org

OFFICERS:

President -- Mark Horne

604 560-4028

mlhorne@shaw.ca

Vice Pres -- Gary Zabenskie

604 463-1006

gzaben@telus.net

Secretary -- Charles Reif

604 731-3674

creif@shaw.ca

Treasurer -- James Barrett

barrettjd007@gmail.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE:

James Cook -- 250 337-8255

jhcook@telus.net

John Warlimont -- 604 864-2175

jewarl@yahoo.ca

Tom Modica -- 360 738-3842

ogfhr@gmail.com

Peter Tofield -- 604 793-4814

tofieldpeter@gmail.com

Island Member:

Ken Bowman -- 250 592-6194

k.bowman@shaw.ca

Ontario Member:

Robin Dodson -- 250 713-8970

robindodson43@yahoo.com

PAST PRESIDENT:

David Cook -- 604 970-5598

thetinman76@gmail.com

WEBSITE & MEMBERSHIP

Kyle Miller - 604 941-3372

kylemiller@telus.net

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Another great train meeting with about 70 members in attendance but not as many trains for sale this month. The BBQ was outstanding - thank you Peter and all the kitchen helpers; Ed for the drinks and Gary and Bruce for BBQing in the pouring rain.

The September meeting was our AGM and we passed the 2019-20 budget with no dues or meeting fee increases. Thank you Neil Whitehead for being the past club treasurer - not an easy job. You will be missed. Please welcome Jim Barrett as our new treasurer.

Be sure to attend the October meeting for many reasons - trains, talking to fellow train collectors and lots of fun, including Dave Scott bringing the custom built 5' long Banff Station. This is another project by master builder Jorge.

If all goes as planned I will be distributing our new MTH PGE side dump hoppers at the meeting. Some members have not paid for the next BC Market reefer cars -- I will be collecting at the October meeting. Thank you to all who supported these projects.

Be sure to buy your bus / dinner tickets for *The Great Train Show* in Puyallup on January 18 - it is always a great day.

Also, please buy tickets for the Christmas draw as we have great prizes and it supports your club.

Mark

2019-20 CANADIAN CLUB MEETS

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

UPCOMING DATES:

Oct 27

Nov 24

Jan 26, 2020





Rain dampened not the spirits at our AGM meet.



September
door
prize
winners



NEW: — treasurer-elect James Barrett: on your case soon.
— feature Christmas draw prize : very rare Chicago Belt Railways set with other prizes.



OLD: — boxed Lionel Standard Ga.
— postwar NYC A-B-A boxed.
— average age of attendees.

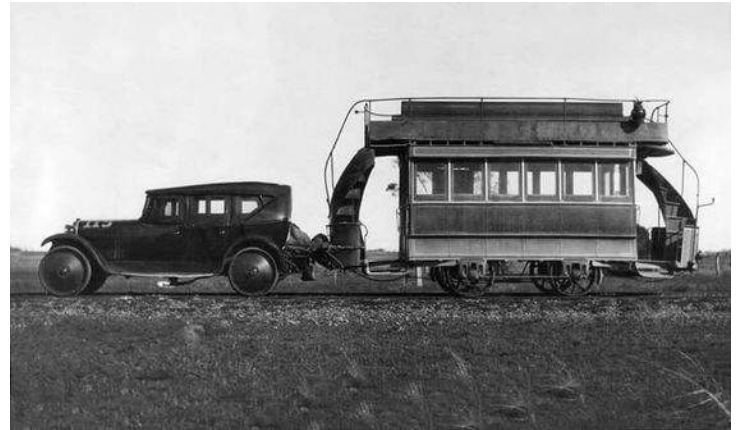




Rare Sighting at the Sept meeting:
a stationary steam engine with pulley-driven accessories — tin woodmen.



Kettle Valley loco and caboose at Pentiction



now that's a trailer!

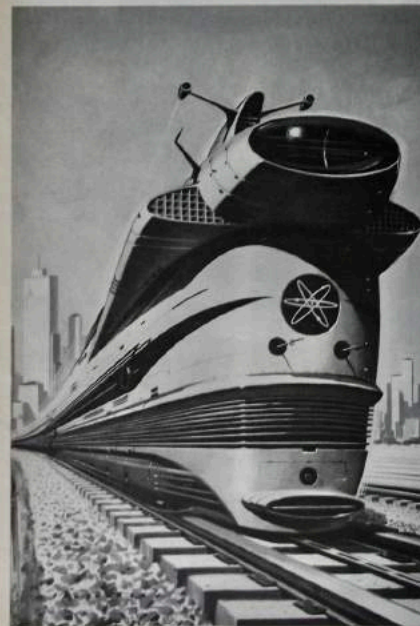


Bruce at the throttle, Burnaby Central Railway.
[note all the loco's on tap in the background.]
Jim Sutherland photo



more Exporail from Robin Dodson; CNR FPA-4 all dolled up.

Will atomic energy power tomorrow's railroads?



Some day you may see a train like this—powered by the energy locked up in the atom.

Possibly the locomotive will have its own nuclear reactor. Or perhaps it will use electricity generated at atomic power stations. But this much is certain. Of all forms of land transportation, railroads offer the greatest opportunities for the efficient use of nuclear energy.

Railroads are constantly exploring exciting possibilities like this. Such progressive thinking is important to all of us—for we're going to need railroads more than ever in the boom years ahead.

Clearly, it's in the national interest to give railroads equal opportunity and treatment with other forms of transportation. America's railroads—the lifeline of the nation—are the main line to your future.

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

1948 Railroads Advertisement, reprinted in The Saturday Evening Post 1960

UPCOMING EVENT'S

lynden, WA Oct 5-6
Lynden Lions Club Model Train Show

info: rjkayser@msn.com

nanaimo, BC sunday oct 6, 12-4pm Info: sudds@shaw.ca
COOTTS meet Oliver Woods Community Centre

chilliwack BC oct 19-20 Info: bob jones 604 858 7659
Mt. Cheam Lions Club Model Railroad and Hobby Show

vancouver BC Nov 9-10 Info: vancouvertrainexpo.ca
Vancouver Train Expo 2019 — PNE Forum

don't forget to check the website for updates
canadiantoytrains.org

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EDITOR'S CORNER:

THANKS TO KYLE FOR THE MEETING PHOTOS AND THE BIG/LITTLE PGE PIX, TOM MODICA FOR THE CARTOON.

and thanks to Kyle for the fabulous words and pictures of the Summer Special Edition!

PS DO YOU HAVE OLD OR FIRST LAYOUT PICTURES FOR AN ARCHIVES FEATURE?



BIG / LITTLE: photos by Kyle Miller
'BIG' from West Coast Railway Heritage Park, Squamish BC



Mellow Yellow



David Cook likes TH&B a lot. Note his Marxicized beauty above. David asks how about a TH&B club car? — and enclosed these photos of his work and some company's.



At Squamish, 1955
old timer coaches.

photo courtesy of
Central Hobbies

'Comet Trains of Tomorrow'

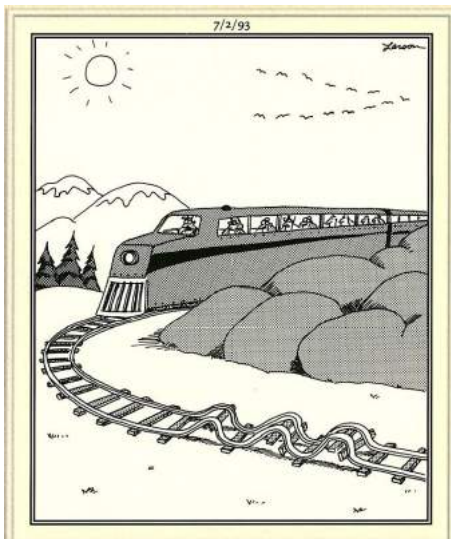
"'Board!' a lusty train announcer bellows. 'Fifty Hour Limited!' ... It is 9:15 Saturday morning. You are going from New York to Los Angeles on the fastest train in the world — the new 'wheeled bullet' ... You scoot across the continent at an average speed of 85 m.p.h. and often you will travel at the terrific speed of 110 m.p.h. Early Monday morning you will be in California."

[Readers Digest January 1934]



Robin Dodson photos

More CN from Exporail, PQ



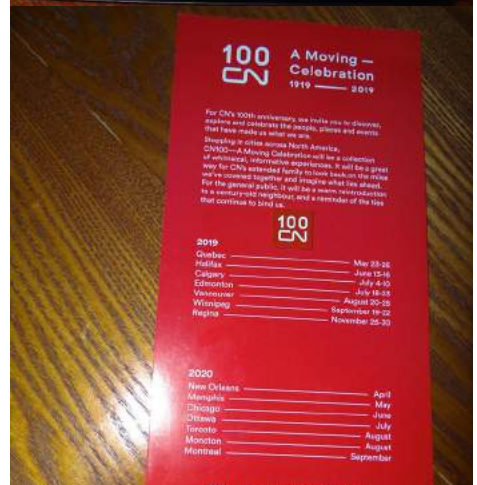
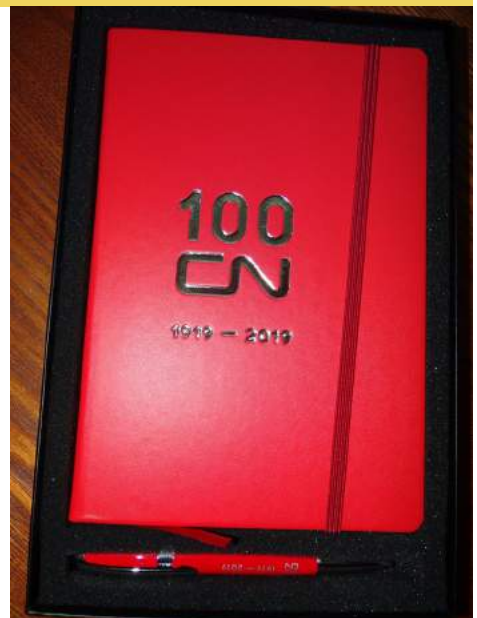
"Hello, ladies and gentlemen, Engineer Matthews here. ... Better take your seats and put them drinks down, 'cause around this corner we always hit some pretty bad trackulence."

WARNING
very precarious scenic work!



workers try to help a heavily-laden flatbed stuck on a 90 degree bend.

Mike Munk photo and layout.



ADVENTURES IN CANADIAN DIECAST: #1 "PLAY FLEET"



originally with 6 wheels like the prototype.
Stamped on the inside:

PLAY FLEET
ALL METAL TOYS
MADE IN CANADA

Does anyone have information on this company or this model's date of production?

contact your editor: creif@shaw.ca

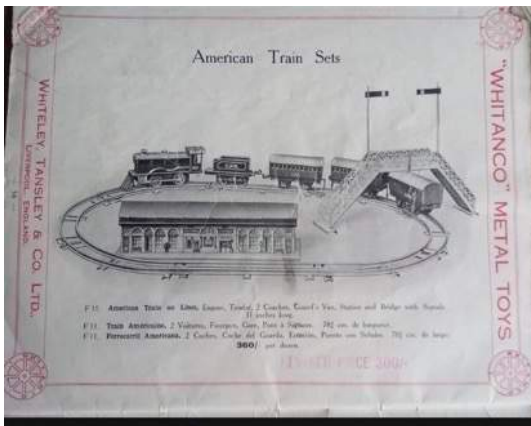
CN100 - A Moving Celebration:
was in Vancouver in August — who saw it?

thanks Don McKay for photos of daybook and schedule.

OOPS.....the paint.



A BRITISH-CANADIAN MYSTERY



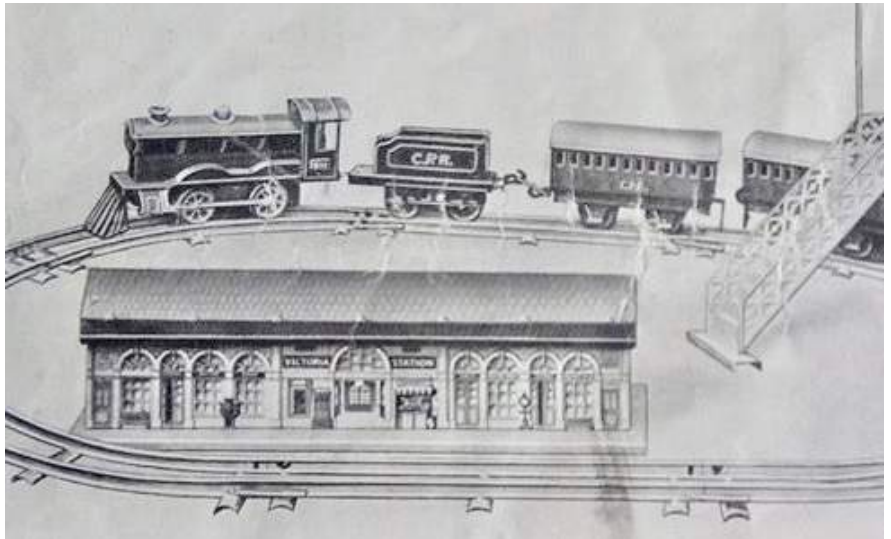
1921 Whitanco catalog: (left & below)

Whitanco was a short-lived British toy train maker during and after WW1, who went out of business the year of this catalog.

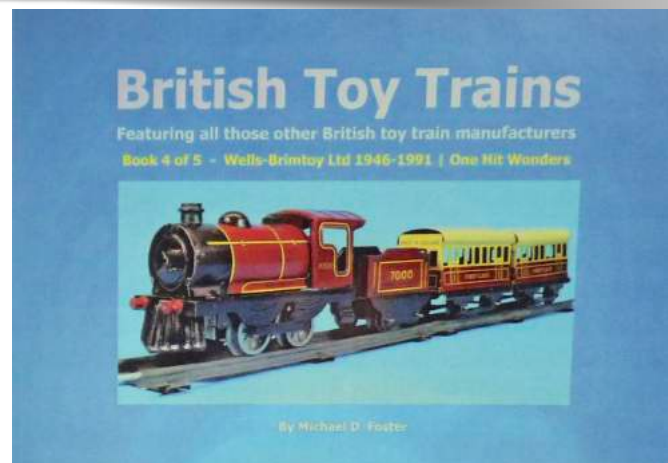
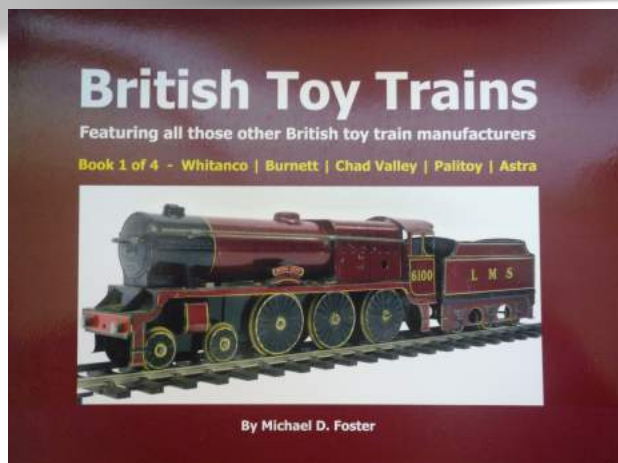
The Mystery? Was this train ever made?

The train is listed as having an **“American Engine”** with cowcatcher added, but the tender and coaches are marked **‘CPR’**.

Do you have or have you seen this engine/ tender or cars?
contact the editor: creif@shaw.ca



The above information comes from the wonderfully colourful series of books called ‘British Toy Trains’, by Michael D. Foster. For anyone who fondly remembers all those British dime store trains of the 1950’s and earlier, yes they were imported to Canada too, volumes 1-3 are available ‘locally’ from Kelly’s Caboose in Savona BC for \$39.95 each. Contact Brian Kelly at bandwkelly@shaw.ca or look for Brian at TrainExpo in Vancouver Nov. 9-10.



Jim Barrett likes Classic Toy Trains. Not just the magazine. — by Kyle Miller

CTTA members Tom Modica, John Wolff, Mike Munk and Kyle Miller accompanied President Mark Horne on a photography mission to visit Jim's amazing O gauge layout.

Most of us love postwar Lionel, Flyer, Marx and other and classic trains from the 'golden years'. Jim Barrett likes to go a little further back. Walking into Jim's large 3-car garage – turned train room and home to his extensive collection of other military service awards, memorabilia and handcrafted collectibles – one immediately realizes this 3-rail layout is very different from most others.



A large 15 x 20 foot island tabletop surface contains the entire layout, control centre, electrical cabinetry and storage, with plenty of walk around space on all sides. Jim had the layout structure custom built with beautiful wood soon after they moved into their new suburban home in 2016.

People first !

Filling the tracks, cityscapes, villages and mountainside scenery are treasures of prewar trains. Racing in opposing directions are beautiful 1936 American Flyer passenger trains – a yellow UP streamliner, then the Hiawatha. Not far behind that comes a beautiful Lionel Commodore Vanderbilt Blue Streak Set, and the American Flyer Royal Blue. A few laps later we're watching vintage pre-war boxcab electrics, like Lionel #154 and Ives #3252 made from 1918 to 1924 pulling more passengers in their tinplate coaches. Then bursting from the tunnel portal is an American Flyer Zephyr 9900 from 1935. Jim obviously loves passenger trains!



Sprinkled all about Jim's layout are examples of die-cast vehicles and accessories in every aspect of military service. Jim's layout is well protected! Having spent 37 years in service to his country – and still running youth development camps for Army Cadets today, Jim has combined his love of trains with another one of his passions and talents. Jim loves to create molds and cast figures from many eras of the ground forces, and then hand paints them in exquisite detail.



Beside the trains, built into the industrial areas of Jim's layout, more unique and rare prewar accessories buzz and grind to move logs, load coal, saw lumber, light the lamps and roll the barrels!

Unique finds

When travelling on CTTA adventures to YORK and other shows, Jim searches to bring back unique and rare trains many others pass by. Thankfully, he shares them with us at meets in a show-and-tell. Like the 1936 American Flyer Hudson and Green Passenger 1770-RW set, in the boxes, with the four rail track system that flyer had only for a couple of years, at the time they were competing with Lionel's Whistling Tender patent. Unable to beat Lionel's patent, they came up with the four rail system to use their whistling units, which eventually wound up in the American Flyer Whistling Billboards. The Hiawatha and UP Passenger sets also used this 4 rail system.



In York Jim also saw an AF Prewar 429 Switcher with a number of cars, including a Gondola, Box Car and Lighted Caboose for sale. After purchasing from the owner, the owner revealed that they came with their original boxes, which he had stored under the table and a mint Borden's Milk car in the box, which he forgot to put out with the others! A very good deal indeed.

Aside from prewar American Flyer, Jim likes our Canadian Railroads, such as the CP and CN, but overall his favourite is BC Rail / Pacific Great Eastern.

Our thanks to Jim and Patricia for their hospitality and BBQ lunch while we enjoyed a great afternoon running beautiful prewar trains!

photos by Mark Horne and Kyle Miller