



Canadian Flyer

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Operating and collecting toy trains

CTTA 2022-2023
canadiantoytrains.org

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It's BBQ Season! Our May meet featured our first BBQ of the year, with more to come. It's looking to be an action-packed Summer with non stop train action ! I will host a Club-wide online ZOOM meeting soon - stay tuned for the date.

I'm delighted to see the relationships grow between CTTA and other local and partner organizations. David Barth, President of TCA Pacific Northwest Division visited us and joined CTTA at our last meeting. I encourage members to get to know, visit and participate with our train loving neighbour Clubs wherever you are!

We will be showcasing our layout again for a 3-weekend run this Summer at the Burnaby Central Railway (BCR) Rainbow Creek Station. August 12-13, 19-20 & 26-27. We'll need operating crews so please sign up! The engagement with the BC Society of Model Engineers has proved to be a big win-win for both organizations. They have ride-on Mini-Rail trains and Garden Railway layouts in G and O gauge for all to enjoy. We have many members now joining both organizations.

CTTA will be a featured Exhibitor at the Vancouver Train Expo, returning Nov. 4-5 after a 3 year hiatus.

More good news - Vancouver's Central Hobbies will survive as Intercity Trains and Hobbies at 19965 96 Ave, Langley, BC. The name will change but Bill & Kathy will be assisting the new owners get up and running to serve the Model Train Community.

This month, please join me in celebrating the life and masterful modeling of Jorge Beristain, whose incredible craftsmanship and meticulous models of historic Canadian railway stations brought much joy to all who saw them. These unique pieces are featured on lucky member's layouts. We'll feature many of his models in the next series of issues of your Canadian Flyer.

I look forward to having more opportunities to enjoy our Club and Model Trains with members this Summer. See you at a meeting soon!

Kyle

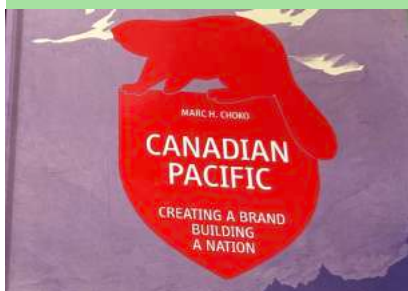
2022-23 CANADIAN CLUB MEETS

meetings at Charles Rummel Community Centre, Burnaby
doors open at 11am UPCOMING DATES:

SUNDAY JUNE 25

SUNDAY SEPT 24 AGM

SUNDAY OCT 29





May
Door
Prize
Winners



First
BBQ
of the
Year!



Train Show organizer Brian Peters is selling a Scale O estate. contact bmpeters53@gmail.com



Pacific Great Eastern Railway Atlas Trainman 40' Stock Car

The Canadian Toy Train Association is pleased to announce that Atlas is manufacturing a Pacific Great Eastern Railway 40' stock car in their Trainman line. This very limited production "O" gauge car comes in two road numbers in 3 rail. Delivery is expected in summer 2024.

SOLD OUT - thanks for ordering



Car 1231 lands on its feet...er, trucks
Fraser Valley Heritage Railway shops.

Mark Horne
Admin Top contributor · 42 · May 18 at 8:50 AM ·



Richard Guitar
Top contributor · May 16 at 12:43 PM ·



John Warlimont
May 12 at 6:35 PM ·



a great Mark Horne street scene; front end Friday with Richard Guitar; John Warlimont spots an ad for Phoenix Beer.

David Cook
Top contributor · May 27 at 4:38 PM ·



David Cook shows off a special creation by Zoltan Gyoker, a Marx streamlined loco with 8 drive wheels!

also from David, a photo of a herd of miniature CP trucks —>

Mark Horne
Admin Top contributor · 42 · 6d ·



David Cook
Top contributor · May 23 at 6:26 PM ·



Robin Dodson
May 7 at 6:45 AM ·



top centre: Mark Horne features a most homely PGE gondola by KTM; rare too.

top: Robin Dodson acknowledges the king with a royal coach by Zoltan.

EVENTS:

Sun Aug 13, Parksville BC, 10am - 4pm
RAILWAY DAY- Parksville Museum, 1245 E. Isl. Hwy.
 Info: <https://parksvillemuseum.com>

Sun Sept 24, Sidney BC
VICTORIA MODEL TRAIN SHOW Mary Winspear Centre
 INFO: stay tuned

EDITOR'S CORNER (CHARLES REIF):

QUESTION: DO YOU HAVE A FAVOURITE
 KITBASH OR INTERVENTION TO SHARE?

EMAIL: CREIF@SHAW.CA

LET US SEE YOUR LAYOUT'S PROGRESS:
 SEND PHOTOS AND DESCRIPTIONS

a day out with Thomas at the Railway Museum of BC, May 27



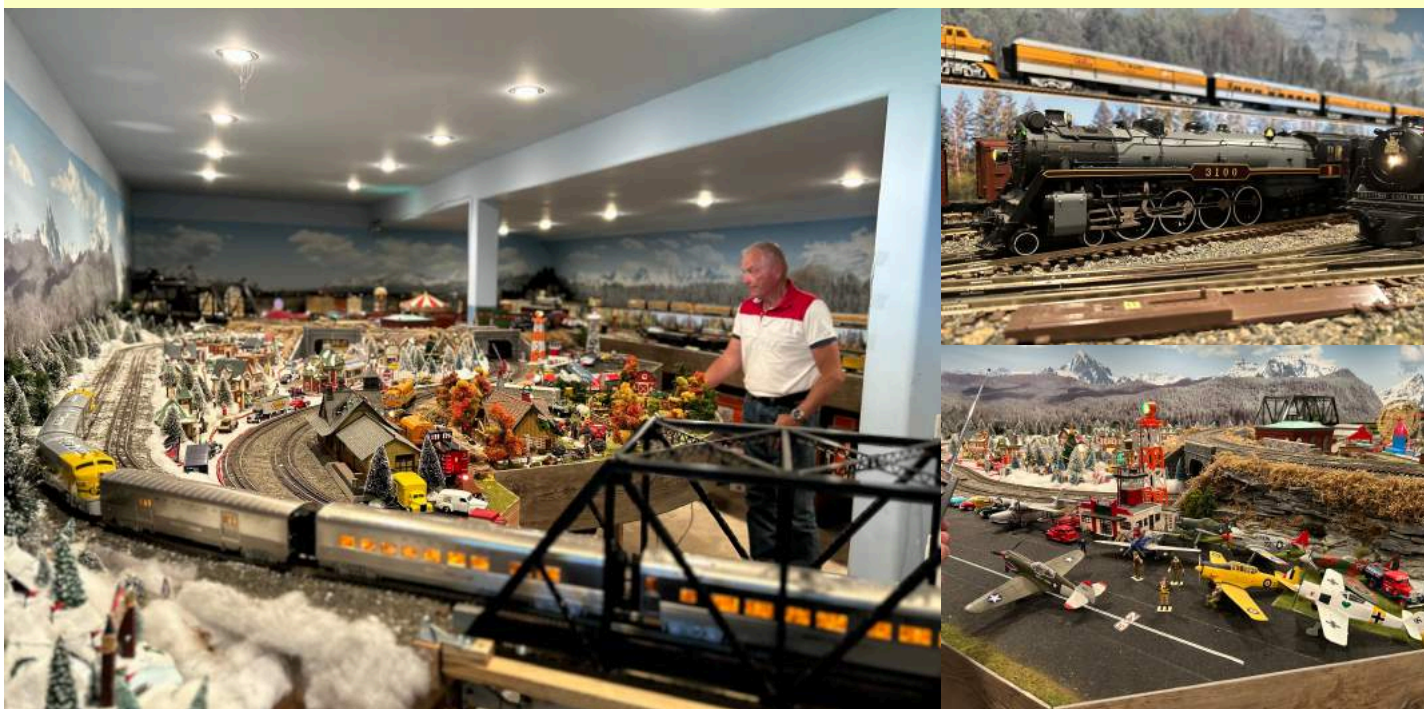
The Museum Collection,
 Gordon Hall's interactive
 toy train layouts,
 and Thomas too!



A Visit With Brian Beard

text and photos by Kyle Miller

Great to see **Brian Beard**'s wonderful and large O gauge layout, featuring locally sourced natural scenery — lichen & moss, river rock ballast, and natural rock scenery (see more on CTTA's Facebook page)



Brian also collects vintage Fire Engines and they are all licensed to run, documented and restored to immaculate condition.



Tribute to Jorge Beristain

Mexico, D.F. Mexico June 10, 1939 - White Rock, BC March 12, 2023

This past March, the CTTA lost a wonderful friend, long time member and master modeller with the passing of Jorge Beristain.

He certainly enriched our lives with his generous and personable nature, and it was always a pleasure to welcome Jorge and his wife of 54 years, Maureen, to our Club meets.

Beginning in 2015-2016, Jorge began what would become one of the most endearing traditions and eagerly anticipated parts of our CTTA Club Meets. He brought one of his 'scratch built' Railway Station models for show and tell. Over the next 7 years, we were treated to a series of magnificent models paying tribute to famous Railways Stations, some grand in scale and others small and modest. Together they are a reflection of the variety of structures found on the tracks across Canada.



Jorge with Yoho Signal Station, featured in the March 2017 issue.

Jorge's models were true works of art. Exquisitely crafted and masterfully detailed, each of Jorge's station models featured a removable roof that allowed the viewer to peer inside the station, revealing the detailed interiors, all built true to original floor plans, and always featuring the requisite washroom and toilet! His roofs were assembled shingle by shingle, and each station had all the exterior features – including fire escapes – found on the real Railway Stations.



O scale Banff Station, featured in November 2019 issue.

It was easy to tell how much Jorge enjoyed his 'show & tell' presentations, and he enjoyed how we all crowded around to admire his amazing work, and marvel at the dedication and detail he put in creating these magnificent station models.

Several members from the Club purchased the finished models and proudly display them on their layouts.

Starting this month and for the next few issues of the Canadian Flyer, we'll showcase again these wonderful Railway Station Models. Jorge's works include Boise Depot, Banff Station, Penticton Station, Sicamous Station, Yoho Signal Depot, Partridge Station and Yale Portable Station.



Sicamous Station version 1 – this in N scale. Featured in the Jan 2018 issue.

I wish to thank Maureen Beristain, Jorge's loving wife, for the following biography of Jorge's life, detailing how his love of trains blossomed into the wonderful hobby we have been fortunate to share with them both.

- *Kyle Miller, President*

Celebrating Jorge Beristain

His Family

Jorge was married over 54 years. He was the very proud father of two sons, Jorge and Vicente. His joy was his three grandchildren, Matteo, Kloey and Alexandra.

Education

Jorge attended the prestigious Centro Universitario México (CUM), a preparatory high school, where he focused on architecture. He hoped to follow that career path, but it also helped him avoid taking dreaded chemistry courses required for aspiring engineers. Later he studied electrical/mechanical engineering at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

Career

Most of his work life was spent in the computer industry. In the 1960s he was an early employee of Bull-General Electric and then a field engineer and sales staff for Control Data Corporation in Mexico City.

He transferred to Edmonton, AB, in 1975 to work as a field engineer for CDC Canada. His next change was to the very new Amdahl Corporation Canada. Later he accepted the position as Operations Manager, Computing Services, at the University of Alberta. He retired in 1994.

Trains

Jorge told the family that the train obsession began when he was three years old. His father would take him to the rail yards occasionally to view the action. The steamers were still in use then. His father would "gift" him the engine he liked that day. They could not take it home, but it would be there for their next visit.

As he grew, Christmas and other presents might be a car, or pieces of track from Lionel. He remembers the engine number of his first locomotive.

He was probably in his late teens or early 20s when he discovered a shop called HO de Mexico. Goodbye Lionel and hello scale models! He struck up a very productive relationship with the store owner. He was very adept at repairing trains and exchanged some work for goods. His "hobby" work continued with Mr. Norman by designing and building layouts for the shop's customers. He also enjoyed detailing, painting, and decaling models for himself or for friends. So, his architectural, engineering and computer training was extremely useful in his hobby world.

Eventually his enthusiasm for HO was replaced by the space saving N scale. Then someone introduced him to the wonders of O scale. In later years he even tried out Z scale. S scale may have snuck in there at some point, but his loving wife never discovered it.



Yale Portable Station – featured in the May 2017 issue.

When he did not find N or O scale kits that he liked for his layouts, he would simply scratch build something that worked beautifully. With a bit more time on his hands after retirement he started to model actual stations. He loved a challenge and that is where he really focused his energies during the last few years.

He was not as much a collector as a creator. Once a project was completed, he was ready to move on to something new and more difficult. That does not mean that a ton of railway histories, videos, and Max Jacquiard prints did not find their way into his home. Travel always included mandatory stops at local hobby shops, visits to railroad museums, photos of local stations and trips on any type of rail available.

When the last train left the station that Sunday morning of his passing, we are certain he was on it.

- Maureen Beristain, March 2023