



Canadian Flyer

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Operating and collecting toy trains

CTTA 2022-2023

canadiantoytrains.org

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Summer is winding down and I hope all members, friends and your families had a great one!

We closed before our Summer break in June last season with another BBQ and busy meet, featuring a table full of prizes for attendees. Every June, attending members are awarded a quantity of door prize tickets equivalent to the number of meetings attended. We awarded lots of trains!

Over the Summer, we continued to strengthen our relationship with our train loving BC Society of Model Engineers friends at Burnaby Central Railway. A number of 'Play Dates' were held and we had lots of CTTA Members out riding minirail trains and operating G Gauge and O Gauge trains on the garden railways.

Our Modular Layout was another very popular attraction at Burnaby Central during August. We ran trains for the public over three consecutive weekends. Thomas ran non-stop all 6 days! Families with their young boys and girls returned for several visits and took turns running the Thomas Train. Our new Standard Gauge Lionel by MTH Rio Grande Orange Comet made its debut and was an instant hit with CTTA members and all of our visitors.

It was Tinplate Heaven as our operating crews brought many prewar and rare tinplate streamliner trains to run on our O gauge loops. The modern DCS and TMCC trains didn't get as much track time as they normally do! Thanks to the volunteers and operating crews who kept the trains rolling.

CTTA returned to the first CN Family Day at Thornton Yard in 4 years. Again our Modular Layout was a popular attraction and we ran Thomas and CN Trains all day. *cont'd Page 3...*

2023-24 CANADIAN CLUB MEETS

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

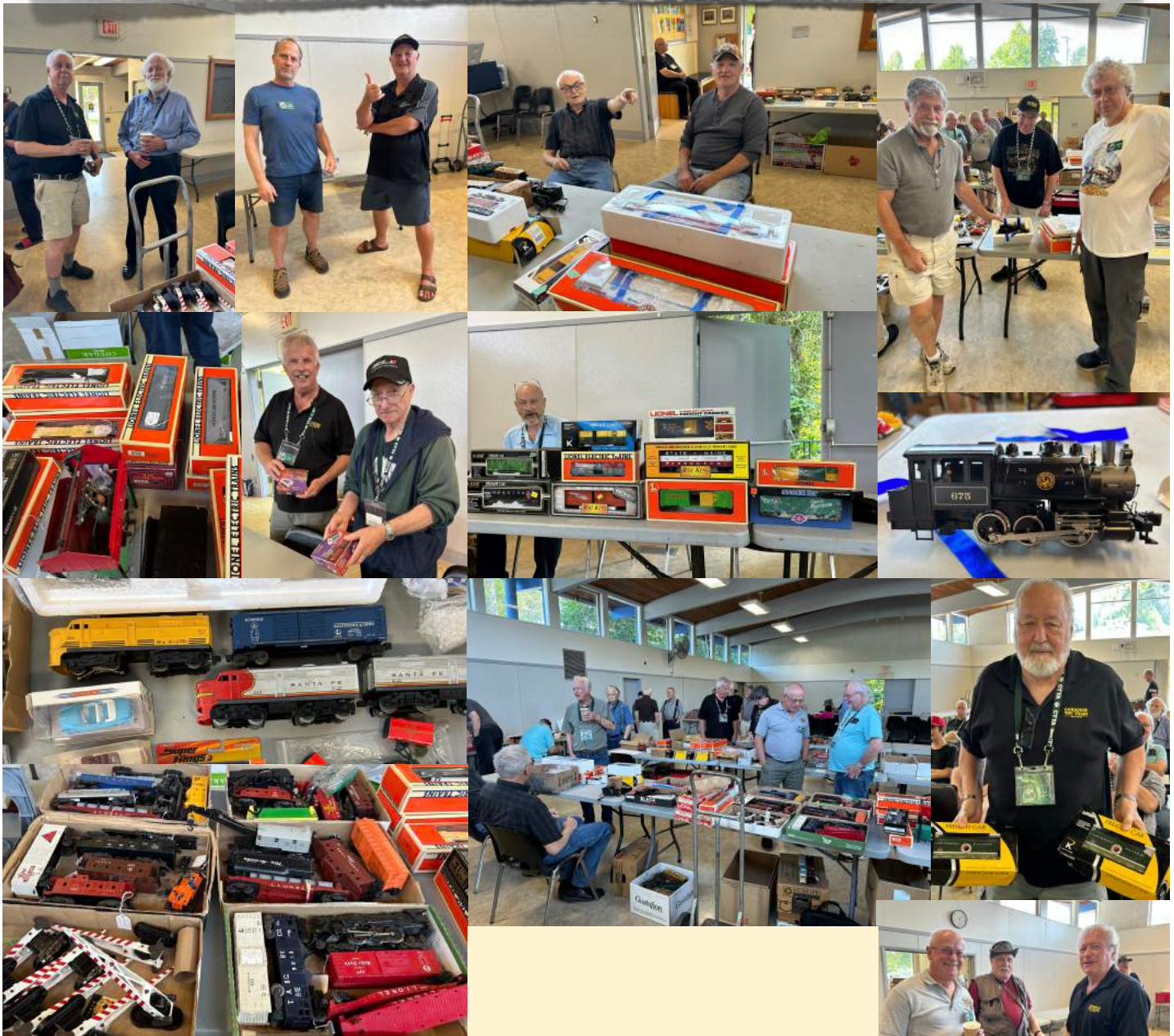
SUNDAY SEPT 24 AGM

SUNDAY OCT 29

SUNDAY NOV 26



CTTA June Meeting and end-of-year draw



Ah BBQ
on a sunny
West Coast
Sunday in late
June...

...and there
were trains.



President's Report...cont'd from Page 1

As September comes to a close, it's time for our Annual General Meeting and Election of officers, and it will soon be time to renew your membership for another year!

Intercity Trains & Hobbies had their Grand Opening and it's great to see the folks from Central Hobbies smiling again in Langley!

Vancouver Island Members will be able to enjoy the Victoria Model Train Show on the Sept. 24th, and Island members will be hosting their Fall COOTTS meet on October 8 in Nanaimo. Get out and support them if you can!

Fall looks to be just as busy for CTTA and our Modular layout, as we will attend the Lynden, WA show, and then it's Vancouver Train Expo! Toy Trains are everywhere!

I look forward to seeing you all again soon,
Kyle

Lots of winners in the June Incentive Draw



CTTA at Burnaby Central Railway 3 weekends in August as guests of BCSME



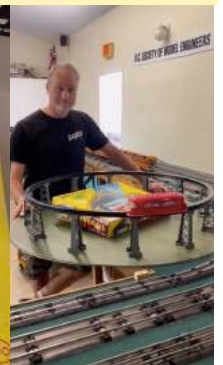
running new trains and old trains



and even
a train
from the
Soviet Union



running big trains and little trains



very fast trains and very slow trains



And see Page Four for more!

CTTA at Burnaby Central (cont'd)



running Thomas the Tank Engine gives power to the (little) people



Love that remote!



meanwhile, trains are running outdoors



really big trains too!

many thanks to all the people
who came out to see our
layout at work,
and to the folks at
the Burnaby Central Railway
for inviting us to join in.



EVENTS:

Sun Sept 24, Sidney BC, 10 - 4

VICTORIA MODEL TRAIN SHOW Mary Winspear Centre

INFO: adult admission \$8

Sat/Sun Oct 7 & 8, Lynden WA

LYNDEN LIONS MODEL TRAIN AND TOY SHOW

INFO: lyndentrainshow.com

Sun Oct 8, Nanaimo BC

COOTTS Train Meet Oliver Woods Community Centre

INFO: SEE ADVERT PG 5

EDITOR'S CORNER (CHARLES REIF):

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

EMAIL: CREIF@SHAW.CA

SOMETHING TO SAY? SOUND OFF!

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



Russ Etherington is delighted with his newly installed backdrops, expertly painted by Robin Munk. Now, on with the rest of the scenery, Russ.

CTTA layout featured at CN Family Day at Thornton Yard in Surrey Sept 10.



COOTTs News

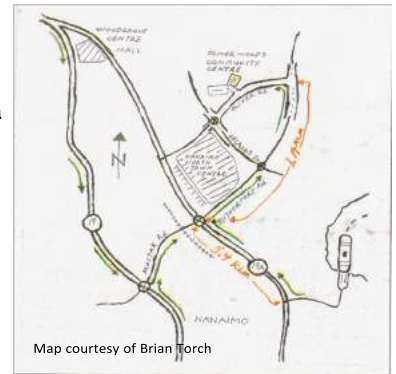
Collectors Of Old Toy Trains

October 8, 2023

COOTTs Notice of Meeting

Sunday, October 8, 2023 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm

OLIVER WOODS COMMUNITY CENTER
6000 OLIVER ROAD,
NANAIMO, B.C.



Map courtesy of Brian Torch

Admission \$10.00

Table Sales, Auction, Displays, "Show and Tell"

Door prizes and Refreshments ~

Everyone Welcome!

There are draw prizes for this meet!

Once again we will have raffle prizes from a 'pool of items' supplied by our members, which COOTTs has on offer. Tickets will be on sale at the meeting for the draw.

AND !!!

You will want to be there to see all the great items for sale and for the auction

6520 came down to visit from its home at the Railway Museum of British Columbia in Squamish.





Dana T. Parker ▶ Pre1895 Railroads & Steam Engines
September 1 at 12:05 PM · 🌐

If you don't have your own spur track, go to the team track, which is a track where you can bring your team of horses and wagon, and unload the boxcar there. Th... [See more](#)



Arthur Sheridan flagged this lovely Canadian Northern scene.

Mike Munk flagged this great shot of a crane at Stoney Creek. —>



The Revelstoke Railway Museum

1d · 🌐

From The Archives: Canadian Bridge Company crane on Stoney Creek bridge, 1929. The crane is in the process of upgrading the bridg... [See more](#)



Dan Gory is closing in on the finished project: an extra-long dome cafeteria car, including custom 3D frames and roller bearings. wow.



After seeing the gray KMT PGE gondola shown in the June newsletter, Mark Horne promptly found an appropriately orange version at a meet in Seattle.



Members of your Exec pretending to have fun during recent board meeting tasked with preparing for the AGM

COLLECTING: A RECOLLECTION by John Constible

A few days ago I was asked how I started collecting trains, and I wasn't sure how it all started. I know I received my first Lionel when I was three but it was a few years later when the plague grabbed hold of me and took me places I never thought I would go. I know when my daughter was about five, so my wife Carolyn thought it was a good idea that I should share some time with my daughter so she bought us a HO set where we tried setting it up but keeping it on the track failed miserably.

A couple of years later a good friend of mine John Gaughan went to a flea market in Aldergrove and as we were walking through the market we found a Lionel set in the back of the market. The chap that was selling it had in possession a casket also. A train set and a casket, an interesting combination. The train set was a bit over twenty dollars so with that, I paid him down to all the change I had with and told him I didn't need the casket just right now. He thought I should never be broke, so he gave me fifty cents back and said I should have a coffee on him. People aren't so bad after all.

Within a couple of years I found another set of trains which I found out later, the boxcar was worth a hundred dollars so I sold it and continued looking for more trains to acquire where ever I went. When I acquired my second set, my brother Roy called and he also collected trains, and he asked me if I ever found any he would be interested in buying them so I figured I had a market already set up so the way I went. I learned later I was acquiring more that he could handle so I thought why not keep them and run them myself.

The house I lived in was less than 800 sq. Ft. in total, so with two daughters and a wife, with space was at a minimum to set up a O gauge layout out, ingenuity was the word of the day. I had about 100 sq. Ft. to work with so I made the best of it. I bought some pine shelving from IKEA and had that in a corner. I had the single line across above the fireplace and run along the window and then under the stairs, which I had a switchback under the stairs to have the train return. Instead of going someplace and be lost forever.

When I was accumulating the trains at the beginning, there wasn't a reference book for guidance, or any reference to what they were worth, so when I found these 2-4-2's, I thought I hit pay dirt. At the time I wasn't thinking about scale or road name, size or shape and definitely didn't have a clue about couplers. I had no idea what the future would make me aware of. Antique stores, auctions, hobby stores, garage sales and flea markets seemed to be only destinations at that time and if we went on vacations, I would make sure one or more of these places were near.

Collecting toy trains were more attractive than the viewing of real ones. Being able to hold them and run them seem more to my liking instead of sitting somewhere looking at them. Riding the Whitepass Railroad in Alaska or hopping a trolley in Frisco was fun but the enjoyment didn't last as long having a railroad in the basement.

Leaning towards the O gauge was more to my liking because of size and reparability. They seem easy to fix when they broke or fell off the table. And the variety of Loco's seemed to be endless. When I learned about Prewar and how different it was from Postwar and again different from MPC it just made me more determined to get as much as I could acquire. One can never have too many trains I was taught from an old friend, Walter Hall.

Starting with HO, going to MPC, then postwar, and finally replacing all those trains with prewar has been a lifelong project. Collecting Ives, American Flyer, Lionel and various European trains have been a delight that don't seem to end. So with the trains and the many friends I've met it has become an enjoyable journey.

So, I think about the more than 70 years I have had trains and I question after those years why do I want to sell them. If one has the space and don't need the money, the enjoyment is endless and the fun is timeless. I can see why Walter had trains up until he passed away at the ripe age of 93. One thing I keep close knowing, is growing up is so overrated. To stay a kid for as long as I can is the future of the train market.

John Constible