

# TRAX

May 2007

The Sudbury Model Railroaders Newsletter

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## Hot Cinders in My Shorts

### Viewpoint from the Editor

TRAX will be a bit short this month. I have spent the past few weeks renovating our basement, so there has not been much time for trains. You'll notice a big change the next time you visit. The good news is that the trains did not have to give up any real estate!

There is one important notice to start with. The May Sudbury Northern Railway Club meeting has been re-scheduled to Tuesday May 15 (the third Tuesday). Mike and the regular crew have been busy preparing the layout for the meeting. Club members will notice many new scenery additions and even some additional track!

Richard Lefebvre will be unavailable to host the June SNRC meeting, so the June meeting slot is open. I'm looking for a volunteer to step in and host the final meeting before the summer break. Brian Buss has volunteered to host the October SNRC meeting. Only the December meeting now requires a volunteer host!

TRAX readership continues to grow slowly. Most new readers are e-mail version subscribers. Currently there are 20 e-mail subscribers, and 12 snail mail subscribers (5 of which also get an e-mail notification). If you are reading this issue and have not yet sent me your e-mail address, please do so. I also leave a stack of TRAX newsletters at the Hobby Depot each month.

I am always looking for contributions from readers for the TRAX newsletter. Send in any train related news bits, photos, modelling articles or information. Special thanks this month to Al Melanson who provided numerous bits of information to fill out this issue!

Enjoy this issue.

Trevor Ross  
Editor – TRAX Newsletter

# **Club Car**

## **Local Club News**

### **Sudbury Northern Railroad Club (SNRC) News**

#### **May 2007 Meeting**

Mike Svos has volunteered to host the May 2007 meeting of the Sudbury Northern Railroad Club (SNRC) on Tuesday May 15, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. To get to Mike's house at 85 Gladys St., Garson, turn left (west) onto Maley Drive from Falconbridge Hwy. As you head from Sudbury to Garson. Turn right (north) from Maley onto Old Falconbridge Road, and left (west) onto Gladys Road. Mike's house is at the top of the hill on the right (east side). If lost phone Mike at 566-5593.

#### **April 2007 Meeting**

The SNRC thanks Richard Gattoni for hosting the April 2007 meeting.

#### **Meeting Schedule 2007**

All meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. unless noted otherwise.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>Date</u>
May	Mike Svos	<b>May 15, 2007</b>
June	open – volunteer needed	June 12, 2007
July, August	Summer Break	
September	Wayne Cowen	September 11, 2007
October	Brian Buss	October 9, 2007
November	Train Show	November 3, 4, 2007
December	open – volunteer needed	

Volunteers are needed to host the upcoming meetings this fall. If you are interested in hosting a meeting then please contact Mike Svos (566-5593).

SNRC meeting co-ordinator: Mike Svos (566-5593)

SNRC treasurer: Garth Harris (969-8678)

### **Sudbury Modular Railroad Club (SMRC) News**

#### **Upcoming events**

The next big event is the 2007 Midland Train Show on May 26 and 27, 2007.

If you are interested in helping out, contact Trevor Ross at 983-9602 or [trevor@tjrcadd.com](mailto:trevor@tjrcadd.com)

## **Directional Running Suspended**

from Al Melanson

The directional running agreement between CN and CP South from Wanup was suspended during the recent CN strike. It is thought that this was due to the fact that CN management employees tasked with running trains during the labour dispute were not familiar enough with the CP rail line to continue directional running.

## **Congo Bullet Update**

from Al Melanson

The Congo bullet at Sudbury Diesel & Electric is coming along fine & they are doing the final hook ups for the air brakes & cables to the traction motors before lowering the body onto the narrow gauge trucks. Standard size loco on smaller trucks looks different. I understand that they will build a short section of narrow gauge track to test it outside & that they will use a fuel barrel with a hose to the motor to run the engine as the fuel tanks have to be empty for shipping. It will probably only run in #5 notch as it has more horse power than they will use on their tracks.

## **CP Grain Car Deal**

from Al Melanson

Canadian Pacific Railway has reached a new operating agreement that will allow it to refurbish government-owned grain hopper cars it manages for Ottawa. CP expects to spend about \$20 million to overhaul about 6,300 cars over the next five years, including installing more technologically advanced unloading grates. The new equipment will make the cars easier to use with automated unloading systems and decrease the amount of grain that accidentally leaks from the cars while being transported to terminals. CP Rail has come under fire from wildlife groups over grain that leaks from rail cars in areas such as Banff National Park. Animals drawn to the tracks to eat the grain can be struck and killed by trains. The Canadian government owns about 13,000 hopper cars used to transport grain from the Prairies to export terminals, with the equipment managed by Canadian Pacific and Canadian National Railway.

# CP Derailments

from Al Melanson

Item #1 - There was a nasty derailment in South Eastern BC, near Trail. Apparently it was a runaway, and the conductor and brakeman jumped, while the engineer rode it out. The train's two locomotives and eight of the 11 cars derailed. The engine was buried pretty good with rubble, fertilizer, and leaking diesel fuel, with the engineer still inside. It was unknown if he had survived or not. The cars spilled a crystallized fertilizer, which is used on wheat fields, but it posed no threat to the environment or the community. Apparently, after lifting the locomotive they found the engineer buried beneath.

Item #2 - Big train wreck at Bow Island on April 23. Derailed units are CP 8644 and CP8814. A westbound loaded grain train (375) side-swiped a loaded coal train (number in the 800-series) that was entering the siding but had not yet cleared the main. Supposedly the grain train dumped the air at 30 MPH and they collided at 17 MPH. Both crews were uninjured but badly shaken up. Two units are on the ground, at least one rolled over and one is in really bad condition. Some grain cars are on the ground, and at least two coal cars are demolished.



Bow Island Train Wreck

# ONR Washout

from Al Melanson

Here are some photos from the recent ONR Island Falls Sub washout.



Repairing the Washout



The Power of Water



The Aftermath

# **Local Train Orders**

## **List of Upcoming Local Events**

Here is a master list of upcoming events:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
May 15, 2007	SNRC Meeting
May 26, 27, 2007	Midland Train Show
June 12, 2007	SNRC Meeting
August 2007	Muskoka Train Show
September 11, 2007	SNRC Meeting
November 3, 4, 2007	Sudbury Train and Hobby Show

For details of the events listed above visit the Events page at

<http://www.sudburymodelrailroading.com/events.html>

# **The Dispatcher's Office**

## **The Fine Print and Administrative Items**

### **Newsletter Subscriptions**

The TRAX newsletter is available in electronic and hard copy mailed versions.

The hard copy mailed version costs \$10 per year (included in SNRC dues).

To subscribe contact Trevor Ross at 983-9602.

The electronic version is **free**. To subscribe e-mail

[trax@sudbuymodelrailroading.com](mailto:trax@sudbuymodelrailroading.com)

### **Newsletter Content**

I am actively looking for content for upcoming newsletters. If you are interested in contributing any model railroad related articles, news, or information please forward them to me at [trevor@tjrcadd.com](mailto:trevor@tjrcadd.com) or give me a call (983-9602).

### **Website**

You can find additional local model railroad news, events, and information online at [www.sudburymodelrailroading.com](http://www.sudburymodelrailroading.com)

**Take a youngster train watching today!**