

Left Hand Running

The March 2010 Newsletter of The British Train Society

www.britishtrainsociety.org

Chairman: Harry Raynis

Treasurer: George Rowland
Secretary: Ralph Transue
Train Show Chairman: Grant Harrison

Webmaster: Peter Carr
Newsletter: John Derler
Program Chairman: (open)

A View From The Footplate

Here we are again in March and just three weeks away from the All-American Railroad Show in LaGrange. This year we will be setting up our full 16 module layout again. We were short on transportation for three of the modules, but at our last meeting we agreed to rent a small van to get them to the show. So transportation is covered, but we need all the help we can get for Friday night set up and tear down on Saturday afternoon. The hall is open for set up from 6PM on Friday the 26th. And tear down will begin promptly at 5 on Saturday. On Friday, Grant Harrison will show you where to place the modules and when to connect them to the system.

The fun part of the show of course is when we're open to the public from 9:00 to 5:00. Bring your badges, wear your shirts, and don't forget to bring trains if you would like to run them. Remember there is free lunch for exhibitors, so spend some time at the layout and earn a meal.

The layout ran beautifully last year, and for this year George Rowland has eliminated his reverse curves. Things should go even more smoothly this time.

And don't forget, we are now in a new year so Dues is due!

See you at the Show.

Harry Raynis

Calendar of Coming Events

March 6th & 7th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
High Wheeler Train Show
Palatine (Harper College)

March 14th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton (DuPage County Fairgrounds)

March 27th, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm
All-American Train Show
LaGrange (Lyons Township High School)

April 11th, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm
Great Midwest Train Show
Wheaton (DuPage County Fairgrounds)

May 1st & 2nd, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Great British Train Show
Brampton, Ontario

The GREAT BRITISH TRAIN SHOW
May 1 & 2, 2010
New Location

Terry Miller Recreation Centre
1295 Williams Parkway, Brampton, Ontario

Saturday 10.00 to 5.00
Sunday 10.00 to 4.00

- Operating Layouts
- Static Displays
- New & Used Collectables
- New and Used Sales Items
- Refreshments Available

For more information, contact
Mike Watts 905 683 0583
email: lsw.lbsoc@sympatico.ca

• Adults - \$8
• Children & Seniors - \$6
• Family of 4 - \$16
• Free Parking

Visit our website at: www.theplatelayers.org

The Forth Bridge

By George Rowland



The Forth Bridge is a cantilever bridge over the Firth of Forth in the east of Scotland; it is probably the most famous railway bridge in the world, around two hundred trains pass over it every day.

It was built between 1883 and 1890 and during its construction, over 450 workers were injured and 98 lost their lives. It was the first major structure in Britain to be constructed of steel

The bridge is, even today, regarded as an engineering marvel. At 1-1/2 miles in length with the double track elevated 150 feet above high tide, it consists of two main spans of 1,710 feet, two side spans of 680 feet, and 15 approach spans of 168 feet. Each main span comprises two 680 foot cantilever arms supporting the central truss. The three great four-tower cantilever structures are 340 feet tall, each 70 foot diameter resting on a separate foundation.

More than 55,000 tons of steel were used, as well as over 18,122 m³ of granite and more than eight million rivets. The bridge was opened on the 4th of March 1890 by the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, who drove home the last rivet, which was gold plated and suitably inscribed.

The British Railway Modellers of North America

The British Railway Modellers of North America was formed in 1968 by like-minded modelers to meet the needs of those who model British prototype railways in Canada and the U.S.A.

There are currently about 400 members throughout North America ranging from tinplate collectors to live steam enthusiasts. There are those who prefer a specific railway or a specific era; those who operate joint railways so they can run what they like; and those who like mixtures of British and European, British and North American, or other combinations. There are those who derive pleasure from being specialists in painting and lining locomotives, or building coaches, or wiring control systems. Others are just interested in railway history. Some members are also suppliers who carry a wide selection of British or Continental lines at competitive prices. Whether historical or contemporary, diesels or steam, signals or semaphores, from Z gauge to live steam, interests in BRMNA cover many areas and provides something for everyone who is interested in modeling the British scene.

The BRMNA publishes the bi-monthly *BRMNA Journal* which features modeling articles, trade news as well as classified and supplier advertisements and a calendar of meeting dates for BRMNA and other British groups in North America. The Association also publishes an annual membership directory enabling direct contacts between members to be easily established.

In addition, through an internet web site, the BRMNA provides resource references and information to assist those interested in British railway modeling. A

feature of this site is the reference listings to over 10,000 drawings and articles in various modeling magazines. From time to time this information is published in paper for the members.

Membership in the British Railway Modellers of North America can be of great benefit to your railway modeling efforts. For more information simply go to the website <http://home.ca.inter.net/~brmna/> or write to

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