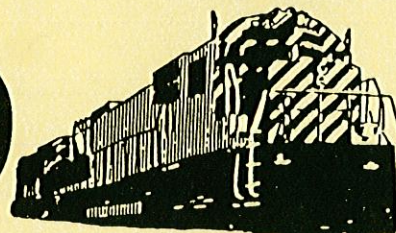


Volume 2, number 4

July 1988

BULLETIN BOARD



Long slow summer issue.



Official publication of the Seventh Division, Pacific Northwest Region,
National Model Railroad Association.

National Model Railroad Association

() Affiliate (No NMRA Bulletin)	\$10 (US)
() Regular, one year	\$20
() Regular, five years	\$80
() Sustaining, one year	\$40
() Sustaining, five years	\$160
() Life membership	\$400
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() Family, one year	\$4
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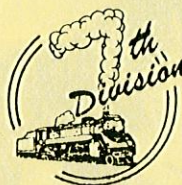
Total Canadian funds enclosed: _____
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7th Division Associate only: available for two years or until 21st birthday, whichever is longer.
(Not a membership; provides Bulletin Board subscription and members' admission rates at Division functions only)



\$8.00/year

If under 21, give date of 21st birthday: _____



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The *Seventh Division Bulletin Board* is the official publication of the 7th division, Pacific Northwest Region of the Model Railroad Association, and is published six times a year, in January, March, May, July, September, and November. It is distributed to all members in good standing.

The *Bulletin Board* is solely the responsibility of the editor, and editorial opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Standing Committee, or the organization's policies.

Correspondence and contributions are solicited, and may be sent to: Editor, *7th Division Bulletin Board*, 9300 Ryan Crescent, Richmond, B.C. V7A 2H2. Closing date for each issue is the 12th of each month preceding publication. All other correspondence relating to the 7th Division should be forwarded to the Superintendent.

Editor: Phil Magnall
Production Assistant: Edina Irwin

Page One: You win one, you lose one

One of our favourite bits of rail trivia - especially when directed at Colorado-fixated Americans - used to be that north of Mexico, the only two narrow-gauge railways not solely in the tourist trade existed in Canada: the White Pass & Yukon and Canadian National's Newfoundland system. Of course, with the closure of the White Pass some years ago, we could claim only one.

Recently, more than one reader has excitedly passed on the news of the famed goldrush route's imminent reopening for tourist steam trips. It's somewhat heartening to hear of such plans, although the likelihood of the three-foot gauge being brought back to common carrier status is as bleak as ever. Whether enough tourists and railfans will make the long trek north for such an excursion remains to be seen. Maintaining even a portion of a mountain railway is extremely expensive, and the Yukon is nowhere near as accessible as, say, Colorado's ex-Denver and Rio Grande trackage, which has seen several owners and managers try to make it a paying tourist operation.

Practical reservations aside, the WP&Y revival offers another chance to those of us who very much wanted to ride the historic route but thought we had waited too long, and we sincerely wish the operation success.

But just the other day, the big *bad* news came down the pipe: CN would be abandoning its entire Newfoundland operation, and shipping much of the rolling stock to South America. Apparently, the economics of interfacing the nation-wide system with an offshore 42-inch gauge one have become untenable, and truck transportation will now rule on the island. Some idea of just how much of a drain the railway must be on CN's coffers is the company's willingness, according to news reports, to put over 800 million dollars into the province's highway system and employee retraining.

Thus, another piece of history, another connection with a bygone era falls to the economics of the 18-

wheeler, just as steam power fell to the diesel 30 years ago. Economics. Progress. What can one say? Only that this unique piece of Canadian railway history will be sorely missed, and we sure wish we'd had the chance to see it...

For a number of model railroaders, the hobby has a definite season, and summer is not it! There are family vacations, barbecues, gardening, house repairs, the beach, long evenings, and other diversions to keep many of us out of the train room and in the fresh air. For many of us, it's a sacrifice made for (or at the insistence of) family and friends, since the railway bug is not seasonal.

But summer also offers excellent opportunities to stock up on material usually unavailable in the winter months, and with little or no conflict with summer schedules. Here are a few suggestions:

-When holidaying out of town, keep your camera handy for shots of "foreign" railways (or better yet, have two cameras, one for rail subjects and one for holiday snaps). Don't neglect good examples of cliff faces, cuts, bridge approaches, tunnels, etc. along the right of way. These can prove invaluable when you're making scenery this fall and trying to remember how the prototype handles these features.

-If you're in dry country, watch for sagebrush around your camping or picnic site. Some types make excellent realistic tree trunks in HO and larger scales. Bring a pair of garden clippers, though; it can be very tough to cut.

-If you're in one place for a couple of days, watch out for good rock surfaces from which to make rubber molds. The rubber cures quickly in warm weather, and if you've ever set out to "find a couple of good rocks" locally, you'll know how worthwhile it is to make molds when and wherever you can.

-If you can spare the time, now is when you'll have the most reliable weather for railfan outings and photography, even if it's just around town. Rail traffic is up, too, so you have a better chance of spotting something unusual.

-When travelling, check ahead for tourist rail opera-

tions and rail museums, many of which are open only in summer.

-Try a daytrip on the Royal Hudson, BC Rail RDC ("Budd car") service, or the Island's E&N Railway, and keep that camera clicking at anything you might like to model some day.

Have a good one.

Phil

Workshop Words

Our summer break is now in effect, so we won't be seeing you until September, when a multi-tabletop session and an accompanying mall show will be presented at Oakridge Centre. Full September and October details will appear in the September *BB*.

'Gary's' is now 'Central'

Phil Magnall

The established Vancouver hobby store advertised as for sale in the last *BB*, was, if you hadn't guessed, Gary's Train Centre, and it has in fact found a buyer! The new owner is Hal Kinsey, a familiar face in local model railroad circles, and the store has been renamed Central Hobbies.

When last visited, Hal was in the process of unpacking yet more of the boxes he had been receiving and pricing for a week or more, and the results are already quite noticeable. Hal says he intends to stock items in depth, i.e., no 'one-onlys', and has broadened the store's scope to include a wide assortment of plastic model kits, although a much-boosted supply of model railroad kits, RTR, parts, and building materials reflects the store's continuing specialty.

We look forward to what could very possibly become a top-notch hobby store, and wish Hal good luck in his venture. Why not drop in and take a look? The address is 365 East Broadway, just across from Kingsgate Mall, east of Main Street.

Camping & Corn #1

The Salmon Arm Railroad Associates invites you and yours to a camping weekend and barbecue on sunny Shuswap Lake. They have reserved a special section of club member John Wayslow's Glen Echo Resort for the August 26 -28 weekend, with a gorgeous, safe, sandy beach right on the mainline of CP's Shuswap Subdivision, guaranteeing ample train watching plus activities for the rest of the family.

They are planning the following:

- Check in Friday or Saturday
- Group barbecue (bring your own steaks) Saturday evening
- Late Saturday afternoon photography session at the Rock Tunnels on Shuswap Lake, accessible only by boat
- Trips to Notch Hill and the Horseshoe for west-bound unit train photography
- Evening video and slide presentation
- Bonfire and corn roast

Those not wishing to camp are welcome to come for the Saturday activities alone, or the SARA will gladly make a reservation for you at the motel just across the highway. Bring the food and drink you will require, sun tan lotion, and swim wear, as the water is beautiful!

Donations will be collected to help support Glen Echo's ongoing activities.

RSVP to: Box 1098, Salmon Arm, B.C., V0E 2T0
By phone: Graham Redman, (604) 832-6119;
Gary Hazell, 835-8628; or Al Wilson, 832-9566.

Camping & Corn #2

Last year's Labour Day weekend Cornfield Meet was a trial run for the new style of get-together. It turned out to be very enjoyable and relaxing for all who participated, so this year, we will do the same thing again.

The dates are September 3-5.

\$12.00/night
Fri., Sat., Sun nights ← Martine

3

The place is: Sasquatch Springs RV Resort
#400 Hotsprings Road
Harrison Hot Springs, B.C.

Those who would like to camp with us will have to reserve their spot no later than July 31, as it is a very popular spot and there is no guarantee of open spaces after that date. The number to call is: (604) 796-9228. Let them know you are with the model railroad group, so that you will be close to the fun. The first five spots are spoken for already!

Saturday night, we'll have a potluck dinner in the campground, and on Sunday afternoon, the traditional corn feed.

Come and enjoy beautiful Harrison Lake, less than ten minutes from your camper door. See you there!

Hank and Henny

Make your plans for Trains '88!

More and more details are falling into place for "Western Canada's largest annual model railway show".

That's right! With the entire gymnasium space of the Cameron Recreation Centre, plus video and workshop space, Trains '88 will be unmatched by any yearly event of its kind!

Some of things we have planned are:

- Optional Friday check-in with layout tours and no-host dinner
- Camping and hotel reservations near the show
- Full convention fare Saturday with workshops, videos, AP judging, photography contest, and more
- Saturday banquet
- Raffle Grand Prize choices in N, HO, and O!
- Sunday public show from 10 AM to 4 PM
- Favourite Train, Display, Locomotive, & Photo contests voted on by the public!
- The Bulletin Board 6x6 Contest (the what??)

-\$5 discount for registrants with displays; \$5 less for NMRA/7th Division members & associates

Plan to treat yourself to a pre-Christmas break November 11 through 13 this year! It'll be the most *Lower Mainland* model railway fun you've seen in a long time.

Full registration forms and information will appear in the September *Bulletin Board*.

NTRAK Corner

John Fysh

This month's report is about the NTRAK module workshops being sponsored by the Train Gang during July and August. The members of the Train Gang recognize the fact that while a number of people have expressed interest in building a module, many do not have the tools, or, for that matter, the 'know-how' to begin. It was from this realization that the idea of a series of work sessions arose. It started with the Oakridge Workshop on June 12, and will continue on July 10 and 24, and August 14 and 28.

These workshops are open to anyone interested in building an NTRAK module. Members of the Train Gang, our local NTRAK group, will be on hand to offer advice on construction, wiring of electrical supply to tracks and control panels, track laying, and scenery tips. With some diligent work on your part and some advice on ours, you can have a module ready to be a part of the annual *Trains* show this November. We will be needing lots of helping hands this fall, and I would like some new faces to be part of the fun we will have during the show.

For information on workshop locations (*Note: these are not at Oakridge -Ed.*), times, and a list of necessary supplies please telephone me at 420-0924. If I'm not home, leave a message and I will be pleased to return your call.

Membership Update

Carol O'Dell

I would like to welcome all of the following new associates to the Seventh Division:

Amund Tollefsen, Langley	Jim Morrison, Nanaimo
Ian Bell, Burnaby	John Day, Vancouver
Frank Fallowfield, Delta	Bruce Vance, Delta
Dan Horahan, Richmond	J. Douglas McDonald, N. Van.
Bruce Ritchie, Surrey	Chuck Laws, N. Vancouver
Philip Poole, N. Vancouver	T.D. Bourke, Vancouver
Keith Burkett, N. Vancouver	John French, Vancouver

...and also the following full PNR/NMRA members to our division:

F.M. Barone, Fruitvale	Jim Miller, Burnaby
Earl Courtney, Vancouver	George Price, N. Vancouver
Rene Jester, Kitimat	Graham Redman, Salmon Arm
Glen MacGregor, Delta	Bernard Vider, Vancouver

I have been advised by *Switchlist* editor John Decker that he has had quite a few of the PNR newsletters returned marked "Moved". Remember that you should be sending your address changes and renewals to my address locally.

Please take a moment now to check the expiry date on your membership card. Forward your renewal *before* the month of expiry to ensure that it can be processed before you appear delinquent and end up missing the *Bulletin* and *Switchlist*. Again, all new applications, renewals, or changes should be mailed to:

Carol O'Dell
102 - 220 Cambie Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 2M9

Clubs registered

The Seventh Division has an appointed Club Registry Co-ordinator in the person of long time Division and Standing Committee member Dick Sutcliffe, although that fact does not seem to be widely known! Dick's function is to keep a record of as many formal clubs, informal clubs, groups, and bunches as would like to make themselves known to the Division.

The reason for the registry is to be able to invite participation of such groups (which may or may not include Division members) in upcoming shows, inform them of planned events, and, where welcome, possibly include some club pikes on future layout tours. All information is strictly confidential unless we are instructed otherwise.

Dick Sutcliffe
12140 230th Street
Maple Ridge, B.C. V2X 6R5

Beardale Castle Miniatureland owner Herb Egin has advised us that anyone who can produce a valid NMRA or Division Associate card is entitled to an admission fee discount at this tourist attraction. Beardale is located at Craigellachie, B.C., so those travelling in that part of the province might want to stop by for a look (and tell us what it's like!)



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Miniatureland

Craigellachie, B.C.

— Owner/Managers —
HERB EGIN
FRAN EGIN

— Mailing Address —
R.R.1, Malakwa, B.C.
V0E 2J0
Phone: (604) 836-2268

A Note from Vernon

At the recent Seventh Division Interior Spring Meet in Vernon over the Easter weekend, the host Salmon Arm and Vernon clubs had a great time meeting old and new friends. Our total registration of 150 model railroaders was expected, but the afternoon public attendance of over 1000 visitors in just over three hours caused some glitches. We had arranged for CHBC Television coverage during Saturday afternoon, however, the media decided to take Saturday off and arrived a day early during model set-up. Hence we received good advance coverage, and then, of course, it rained Saturday. What better thing can Dad do on a wet Saturday than take the kids to see trains? The result was more public than expected.

We were heartened with the fine help we received from the Division. Over a dozen fellows from the Lower Mainland attended and helped us with clinics and displays. Their involvement is appreciated.

Our thanks to Graham Redman and Gary Hazell of Salmon Arm for their behind the scenes publicity efforts, and to Lyn Smith and her crew who did a great job with the ladies' program. To John Green, a special thanks for his excellent after-dinner exposition of the Kettle Valley Railway. Our thanks, also, to the North Okanagan Model Railroad Association Drama Club for their neat skit, "Brass Fishing"!

We in the Interior were especially pleased to see Bert Battey recognized with the Gold Spike Award; he is a good choice.

See you in Seattle!

Hugh Clarke, meet secretary
(for) Jack Smith, meet chairman
(for) Jack Routledge, meet registrar

Island Spring Meet was bigger and better

Rick Lord

On Sunday, April 17th, the Fourth Annual Mid-Vancouver Island Spring Meet was held in Nanaimo. Over 300 model railroaders from all parts of Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland attended, bringing displays that ranged from N scale right on up to a live steam Royal Hudson that took four people to carry into the hall! Swap and Shop tables were busy as usual, and commercial displays were set up by Mann-Made Products and Pacific N Scale.

A total of over 20 door prizes was donated by the following: Leisure Time Hobbies, Nanaimo; Brass Hat Model Railroad Supplies, Campbell River; Pacific N Scale, North Vancouver; Mann-Made Products, Port Moody; and our own Seventh Division. We appreciate the donations, and hope

members will support these people as they have supported us.

There was a greater interest in joining the PNR and Seventh Division amongst visitors than seen in past years. Several signed up on the spot, while two dozen took home forms to complete later.

The main attractions - besides meeting old friends - were the operating modular layouts: a 20- by 24-foot NTRAK layout assembled by modellers from both the Island and Lower Mainland, a 12- by 36-foot HO layout from the Campbell River Area Model Railroaders, and several On3 modules brought along by Tom Beaton, Cyril Meadows, and Gordon Varney. We who hosted the meet would like to thank all those made the extra effort to bring a module so that all the rest of us could watch trains in action.

The Most Popular Model contest had a number of entries (although we can always use more, especially in revenue and non-revenue cars). Winners were:

Diorama: Tony Dingsdale - logging accident at Franklin River

Structure: John Stiles - water tank

Locomotive: Maynard Atkinson - Royal Hudson

Train: Maynard Atkinson - Shay log train

Revenue car: Bob Lynch - (not noted)

Non-revenue car: Paul Smith - (not noted)

Winner of the draw for a custom painted SD40-2 locomotive was Jason Stevens of Nanaimo.

Our thanks to all who came. We hope to see you next April!

Reserve now for mag index

Local modeller and computer buff Cliff Basler has, for some years, continued to compile a comprehensive index of photos, plans, and articles of railroad interest culled from major publications and aimed

primarily at the Canadian hobbyist. Before the current editor took over this publication, you may recall seeing some pages reproduced in the erstwhile *BB*. Unfortunately, the sheer size of the compendium would require several years to reproduce in that fashion, by which time it would be long out of date! Cliff has, however, generously supplied us with a version current up to April of this year to share with our readership.

The only practical way to do this would seem to be to take requests and make a photocopied run of the index for those interested in buying one at cost. At about 30 pages, the index is extremely comprehen-

sive, yet should run only about \$2.50 postpaid. Its 67 categories include such areas as prototype railroads: CN, CP, and general; model layouts, freight cars, engines, passenger cars, bridges, structures, and stations - all under the same divisions: photography, gears and motors, scenery, signals, wiring, and operation.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy, phone *BB* editor Phil Magnall at 277-2421. An answering machine will record your name and phone number if no one is in. In a few weeks, we will run the indexes and inform you of the cost.

It's the *Bulletin Board* 6x6 Contest!

Okay, everybody, this one is strictly for fun! The challenge is to build a diorama in any scale on a base only SIX INCHES SQUARE, and bring or send it to Trains '88 in Burnaby this November. Think of it: what can you build in 36 square inches that will appeal to the minds of four totally subjective and probably biased judges picked without concern for their qualifications? An entire N scale building? An HO speeder? Half an O scale boxcar? A rail joint in G?

Use your imagination here! Unlikely cutaway portions of railcars and structures are a natural, and humour will definitely count. So will concept, execution, and workmanship, although no strict judging rules will apply! Plaques and prizes will be awarded at the Trains banquet, on Saturday November 12.

The rules are few and simple:

1. All displays must be built on a rigid square base six inches by six inches, plus or minus 1/16 inch, and not more than two inches thick.
2. No part of the display may extend beyond the limits of the base at any height. There is, however, no limit on height (think about that one).
3. All scales are acceptable.
4. Each scene must contain a clearly recognizable railroad item (or a piece of one) such as trackage, railcar, locomotive, water tower, parts, wreckage, etc.
5. Animation, lights, and special effects are all acceptable, and even encouraged!
6. Nothing rude, immoral, or in bad taste unless the judges like it.

This is a 6" square

"Bending the rail" returns

Ken Haun

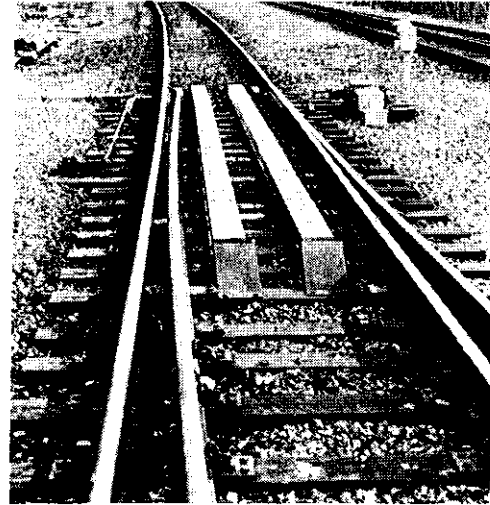
I have great news!

CN Rail is now installing turnouts having the switch (point) rail and closure rail combined in one piece. There is no hinge. It is called a fully-welded turnout, and it is used on track having continuously-welded rail (CWR). The idea is to minimize the number of rail joints and their associated upkeep.

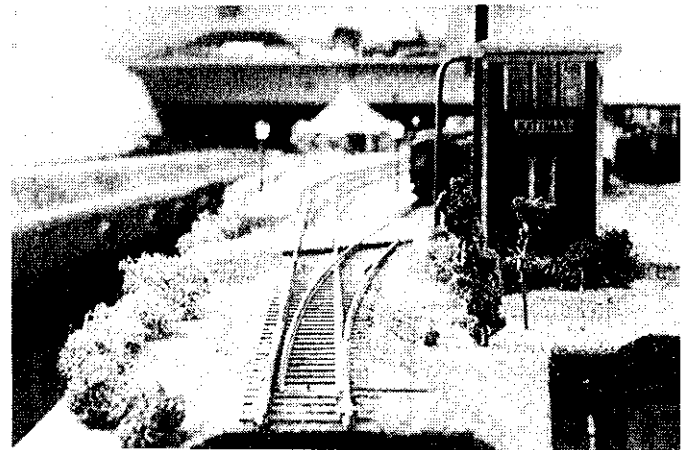
Further improvements include a glued-and-bolted frog, hardwood ties, lag screws instead of spikes, and clips to hold the rail to the tie plates. Photo #1 shows the New Look. There is no heel block (hinge); the rails simply flex back and forth. The two long bars between the rails are heating ducts to melt ice.

This is good news because we can now build our model turnouts the same way and be prototypical! It is so much easier to make the point and closure rail one piece; there is no hinge to fabricate and keep in repair. And hinge is always too conspicuous. My HO turnouts are made like this, as photo #2 shows. The closure rails are spiked close to the frog only; for most of their length they are free to bend.

1



2



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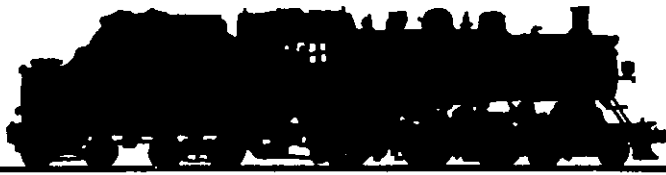
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7TH DIVISION TIMETABLE



July 18-24, 1988

Magic City Express NMRA National Convention, Birmingham, Alabama. Information: Jim Ketchersid, P.O. Box 55335, Birmingham, AL 35205-5335.

August 10-14

Pacific Northwest Region 40th Convention, Seattle, WA. Regional convention based at the Marriott Sea-Tac Hotel. Information: Dwayne Damgaard, 32636 7th Avenue SW, Federal Way, WA 98023

Sept 11, 1988

7th Division Workshop: "Multi-Tabletop Clinics" on various aspects of the hobby, plus (subject to confirmation) accompanying mall show. Oakridge Auditorium and Oakridge Centre west mall, 41st & Cambie, Vancouver. Workshop 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM, mall show during open hours.

November 11 - 13

Trains 88: Inaugural 7th Division Fall Meet. Public show, workshops, AP judging, banquet, layouts, special events. See inside.

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