

BULLETIN BOARD

Volume 14 Issue 2

March 2000



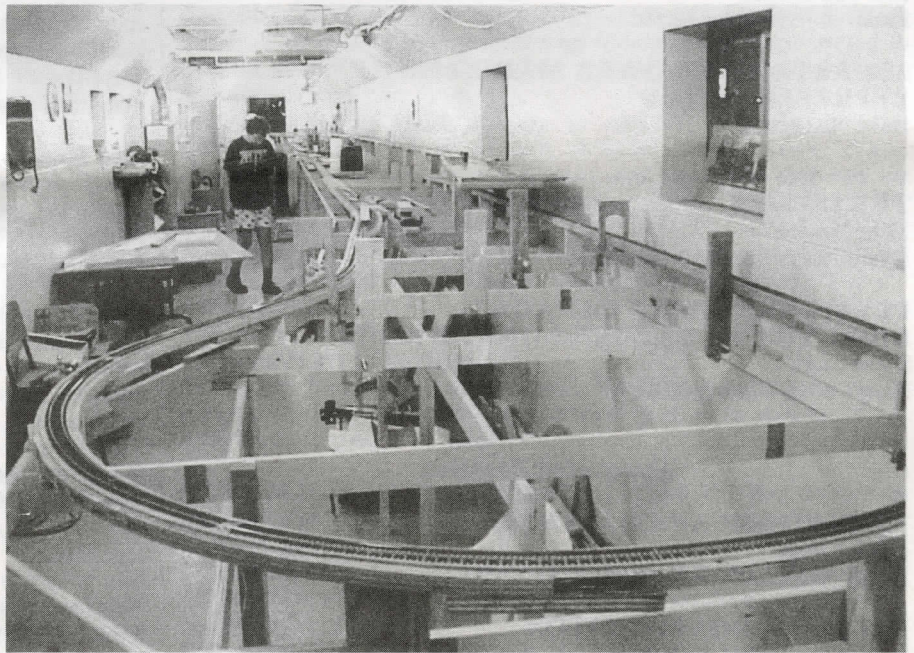
*The Official Publication of the 7th Division, Pacific Northwest Region
National Model Railroad Association (Canada)*

Skeena Valley Model Railroad Association

Newsletter No. 12

by Ken Haun, Secretary

Track-laying continues in our passenger-railcar-clubhouse in Terrace. Tracks at Salvus and at Kwinitsa are complete, as well as the main line between them. The reversing loop at Rupert is also done. Total main line will be 170 feet long.



We are trying to maintain a prototype standard of construction. Turnouts are No. 6, 8, and 10, mostly Shinohara, with Code 83 rail. Curve radii vary from 30 inches to 25 feet. All main-line curves are spiralled.

The track is supported by 3/4-inch plywood and 4-mm cork. Motor-type switch machines are planned for the main tracks. Trains will run by digital command control.

Our electricity comes from solar panels, 12-volt batteries, and an inverter. We also have a 2500-watt mobile light plant for supplying heavy tools. A propane furnace keeps us warm.

Last summer we had planned to paint the railcar in the CNR black-and-green, but the weather was too foul. Next summer, we hope. A local hardware store has kindly donated the paint.

In December 1998 we applied for a Bingo license. No decision yet. We also applied for a Community Spirit Grant, but were unsuccessful.

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We operate without public liability insurance, because of its high cost, but when we get trains running and invite the public to our clubhouse, this insurance will be essential.

Last August four modellers from Prince Rupert paid us a visit and took pictures. It is always a pleasure to host out-of-town friends. You can exchange ideas on so many things.

Our nine active members meet Monday nights. Visitors are welcome.

SEVENTH DIVISION STANDING COMMITTEE

Executive

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Ken Rutherford (250) 724 4698 (Port Alberni)
Email: kjford@cedar.alberni.net

Mike Stokes (250) 923 2398 (Campbell River)

Please feel free to contact any of the above members if you have questions, comments, suggestions or concerns. The strength of any organization is with it's members!

Visit the PNR WEBSITE at:
<http://www.infoharvest.ab.ca/NMRA/PNR/>

The National Model Railroad Association (Canada) is a separately incorporated section of the National Model Railroad Association Inc. headquarters in Chattanooga, TN. NMRA (Canada) is presently a non-profit organization dedicated to preserving our railroad heritage through the promotion of model railroading and by promoting and recognizing craftsmanship and service to others within the hobby.

EDITOR'S DESK

by Russ Watson

Recently an email discussion took place between nine Standing Committee members regarding the NMRA 2000 Calendar and the enclosed solicitation for monetary donations. Two things came out of this: knowledge that members may contact the NMRA staff in Chattanooga to have their file "tagged" so that they will not receive future solicitations (email ED@hq.nmra.org) and the solicitation efforts are making money. Several members were initially annoyed that they had received the solicitation. There now seems to be a growing acceptance of the solicitation as a method to keep dues down. Most seem to think that if the solicitations make money for the NMRA, they don't mind receiving them. Bill Van Bergen sent an email to NMRA President Bob Charles and this was Bob's response:

"The calendar is a gift to all members. At the same time it provides an opportunity to ask for help with funding. You have the calendar whether or not you contribute. If you have the ability to contribute, fine. If you don't, it is still yours to keep.

Annually, we try to do two solicitations. One is the calendar, the other is the mailing labels. These fund raisers are an effort to do two things. First, provide a service to all members and second to raise additional funding. For a number of years we produced a calendar as a part of the Bulletin. The quality was not great, but the members loved it. In the early '90's budget constraints dictated it be cut from the budget and it was. The member reaction was loud. Folks were unhappy not to receive their calendar and wanted it reinstated.

About two years ago we decided to produce the calendar and make it a fund raiser. Happily, it has not only paid for itself, the donations have raised significant additional revenue for the organization. It is one of the ways we are trying to keep the dues down, and it is working. This calendar is part of exactly what you and most members want us to do: keep the costs of membership low. With the solicitation included in the calendar, those who can use a year-end tax deduction do make contributions to NMRA. These donations are one of the many ways we do our utmost to keep member expense at a minimum. Dues comprise today less than half the total budget of NMRA, though at the time I took this office they were in the 80% range. I hope you would agree that is moving in the right direction. Regards, Bob Charles"

Bob also made these comments to me: "Regarding the issue of "tagging" memberships to eliminate sending of calendars, labels and such, please understand that is a two-edged sword. If the member chooses the class we call DNS, or Do Not Solicit, that means that he will not receive any information beyond his Bulletin. No credit cards, no labels, no calendar, no collectors insurance, no books, in short, none of the many special services provided by the Association. Many would want to think twice before eliminating easy access to such services." If you have an opinion on this issue why not write to the BB and/or to Bob Charles at <Pres@hq.nmra.org>?

Standing Committee changes (page 2) - Brian Freemantle and John Moore have new email addresses and email addresses have now been added for Brian Clogg, Don Forsyth and Richard Starchuck. Kevin Knox has been removed from the SC.

That's it for this month, happy railroading!

SEVENTH DIVISION BULLETIN BOARD

The BULLETIN BOARD is published six times per year as follows:

Submission Deadline	Mailing Date	Cover Month
November 15th	December 15th	January
January 15th	February 15th	March
March 15th	April 15th	May
May 15th	June 15th	July
July 15th	August 15th	September
September 15th	October 15th	November

The BULLETIN BOARD is distributed to all Seventh Division members in good standing. Editorial opinions and those stated in articles do not necessarily reflect those of the Seventh Division Standing Committee.

CONTRIBUTIONS of Letters, Articles, Event News, Plans, Photographs and Art are encouraged and welcomed and may be sent to the BULLETIN BOARD Editor:

Russ Watson (250) 478 3495 (Home)
4709 Barrow Road Email: russwatson@home.com
Victoria, BC
V9C 4C6

Please use Email wherever possible. The Editor uses a Macintosh computer which is capable of translating a wide variety of file types including most PC files.

All **COMMUNICATIONS** directed to the Division should be forwarded to the Superintendent:

Dick Sutcliffe (604) 467 4301 (Home and Fax)
12140 230th Street Email: dicks@axionet.com
Maple Ridge, BC
V2X 6R5

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS and **ADDRESS CHANGES** must be sent to the PNR Office Manager:

Leonard G. Soper (541) 896 0284
PO Box 148 Email: dcnlgjms@earthlink.net
Vida, OR
USA 97488-0148

All other **MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES** including **NEW MEMBERSHIPS** must be forwarded to the Membership Coordinator:

Gary Hazell (250) 835 8628 (Home)
RR #1 S-4 C-6 Email: comhaven@shuswap.net
Tappen, BC
VOE 2X0

ADVERTISING in the BULLETIN BOARD is accepted at the following per issue rates:

Full Page	\$48.00	Half Page	\$24.00
Quarter Page	\$12.00	Business Card	\$6.00
Pike Ads	\$1.50		

Artwork should be supplied in the appropriate size. There may be an additional charge to complete artwork that is not camera ready. Please mail your artwork and remittance, payable to the "7th Division PNR/NMRA," to the Editor's address listed above.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

by Dick Sutcliffe

Well, here we are in the depths (highs?) of the modelling season. The weather is a bit grim for railfanning, the big Fall shows and meets are over - time to get at the layout, modelling bench, photo and/or video collection, or filling out registrations for the upcoming meets and conventions.

As I write this, Jan 15th, I am also thinking of the first 'Trains 2000' committee meeting this evening. We will have monthly meetings up till September, when the frequency may increase. We still have a number of openings on the committee, so those of you in the lower mainland who would like to get involved, contact me or the committee. Check out the website at the address listed elsewhere.

By now you will have received a calender from the NMRA, along with a solicitation for funds. Several members have expressed concern with this form of fund raising. I have expressed this concern to Wil Seaver. His reply is as follows: THE ASKING FOR A DONATION IS ALMOST S.O.P. (STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE) FOR ALMOST EVERY NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT I KNOW. IN THE STATES, UNSOLICITED MATERIALS, LABELS, GREETING CARDS OR WHATEVER DO NOT NEED TO PAID FOR NOR SENT BACK UNDER OUR LAWS. THEY DO NOT EVEN NEED TO BE THROWN AWAY, EITHER. (Wil was not shouting at me, he was emphasizing his answer in the body of the e-mail I sent him.) So you do not really need to feel guilty about hanging it without a donation, but if you can afford it, it's not too late to send one.

Membership matters are an ongoing concern with all officials of the NMRA, including regions and divisions. Here in the PNR we instituted a combined membership fee a number of years ago. The collection of the fee was expected to be at the PNR level, so we could get or keep the member involved in local activities ASAP. Those of you that have joined or renewed at meets or with the form in the BB have experienced few problems. If you have joined or renewed through Head Office (Chattanooga) you may have experienced delays, even gotten lost in the system. If you paid through the PNR you have been able to use Canadian funds without penalty. If you paid to the HQ you had to use US funds or you were whacked with a number of penalties, as was the PNR when they received their share. These were full exchange, bank service charges, delays to clear etc. Well, now it appears there have been some problems with the transfer of information from the PNR Office Manager to the NMRA HQ. If there appears to be untoward delays (6 weeks) in receiving you NMRA renewal after sending it to PNR let me or Gary Hazell know. If you sent your renewal to HQ and don't get PNR/7th div information, again let us know. Don't walk away or bad mouth the NMRA. Most of us are volunteers, and want to keep you involved and using the services available to you, but we can't do this if you don't follow through. (step off soap box now)

Hopefully by now you have received your election ballot,

and used it. If you didn't get one, and didn't follow the instructions in the December NMRA Bulletin - what can I say!

It appears the US postal service gets blamed for many delays as well as Canada Post. When you consider the total volume of pieces handled, I am always impressed by the reliability of the services. However for your information - Steve Stark passes on the following about the handling of NMRA mailings:

"While I agree that the timing of the calender/solicitation was unfortunate given the slowness of the Bulletin and the ballots, these documents do not all go through the same postal outlets in either the US or Canada. The Bulletin problems have been largely determined to be the fault of Canada Post as it is mailed in the US and drop shipped in Canada at the same time. There have been some serious problems with the US post office in the Chattanooga area, which results in some mailings being processed before others which were mailed earlier. I understand these latter complaints have gone to Washington D.C. for review."

In Canada, I understand the addressing is done by a contractor, with label information supplied by NMRA. The BOT is actively pursuing these concerns and you should have received you December Bulletin nearer the beginning of January, rather towards the end as with previous issues - there is hope yet.

And speaking of getting involved, (all the above is), it is not too soon to be putting together your nominations for the Ross Heriot Gold Spike Award for service to the 7th Div, the Jack Work Memorial Trophy for the promotion and education of model railroading arts and crafts and the PNR Member of the Year(MOY) award.

The next issue of the BB is scheduled to include the ballots for the 7th division election. At this writing there have been no nominations submitted to the Nominating Committee, Hugh Clarke, John Moore, and The offices that need to be filled are superintendent, assistant superintendent, and director-at-large. Mike Barone is willing to continue as Treasurer, and Dave Nickerson will as Secretary. Thanks guys. The new executive will be looking for guidance on the appointment of the Standing Committee.

Have any of you lower mainland members had a chance to respond to Dave Nickerson's request for assistance with the WCRA exhibit at Squamish?

With this issue you will find information about the Spring Meet, Shuswap Rails 2000, in Salmon Arm. The SAMRA guys always put on a good meet, with lots of prototype action, (mostly CPR but what the hey) good workshops, layout visits and socializing. Hope you are planning to attend register early (NOW), so the guys have time to get all arrangements in place.

What about The Northwest 2000 in Boise. There is some heavy duty railroad activity in and around Boise, but there is also a summer festival at the same time, actually our convention is combined with the festival. The town will be FULL, so if you want a place to put your head down, get that registration in.

See you there.

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Royal Hudson 2 days
June 15th and 16th

Summerland and Praire (Big Valley)
dates TBA both steam trips

NANAIMO SPRING MODEL RAILROAD SHOW

By Ken Rutherford

Sunday, April 9, is the date for the 16th annual Spring Model Railroad Show in Nanaimo. As in the past, we will have operating layouts, swap & shop tables and door prizes. We will also again have favourite model contests. While the quality of the models entered in past years has been excellent, it's always a little disappointing to see so few models entered. For those of you that don't know, every entrant in the contest is eligible to win twice. Not only do we offer plaques to the winner in each category, we also have two drawings for \$25 gift certificates from local Nanaimo hobby shops. I'm sure some of you have been working on some interesting models this winter and you should be proud to share them with your fellow modellers. The individual categories for the contests are:

- train - a complete train of any type or length
- locomotive - steam, diesel, or any other self propelled unit
- rolling stock - passenger car, freight car, caboose, maintenance of way
- structure/diorama - building or bridge in a scene or stand alone

We also offer a plaque to the group or individual with the best operating layout. While the contest is open to anyone, theoting is done only by NMRA members who attend the show.

Rick Lord and I have enjoyed putting these shows together for

AP CORNER #2

by Hugh Clarke

The Achievement Program (AP) is a NMRA program designed to assist members to become better model builders. It is not a contest.

Of course, there are modelling contests at conventions and meets, but these are designed and run by the local committees. They might include the "Favourite" contests (e.g., Favourite Train, Favourite Car, etc.) and specialty contests like the famous 6" x 6" contest at Trains every year. These contests are usually voted on by all the registrants.

The exceptions are found at the Regional and National Conventions where "NMRA Judged Contests" are held. Here the emphasis is on excellence in model building rather than learning. While the results do count for AP, the competitive nature is a major consideration.

Remember that you can have your model assessed for the AP at any meet, convention (except National) or at home without ever entering it in a contest.

I hope most of us will be able to get to either Salmon Arm or Nanaimo in the spring and to either Trains or Victoria in the autumn. The PNR convention is in Boise, Idaho and the National Convention is in San Jose, California. Everyone, once in their lifetime, should experience the majesty of the manufacturers/dealers show at the National.

Keep building, Hugh Clarke



A very warm welcome to the following new Seventh Division members:

Clarence Gustavson, Nanoose Bay
Jack Ingram, Summerland
Edward Parsons, Ashcroft
David Rees-Thomas, West Vancouver

Please feel free to direct any questions, comments or concerns to any of the members, especially Bob Gardner, the 7th Division Member Aid Chairman, and those listed on Page 2. We look forward to meeting you at any of the 7th Division events.

you but it's your participation that makes the show fun. I hope that you will again come and enjoy the show and maybe leave a winner.

Show times are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, with admission \$6.00 per family, \$4.00 per adult, \$2.00 per NMRA member and \$1.00 for children (6-12). The location is the same as last year, the Beban Park Rec. Center on Bowen Road. For information contact Rick or myself (see the time table on Page 6 for contact numbers).

TIMETABLE

EUGENE, OR

Willamette-Cascade Model RR Club Train Show & Swap Meet

Mar 25-26, 2000

Lane County Fairgrounds Expo Hall

Sat. 10 AM - 5 PM, Sunday 10 AM - 4 PM

Info: Gil Hulin, (541) 344 6858

NANAIMO, BC

Vancouver Island Spring Model Railroad Show

April 9, 2000

Beban Park Rec Centre

Operating Layouts, Sales Tables, Popular Vote Contest

Info: Ken Rutherford (250)724 4698 or Rick Lord (250)7244205

SALMON ARM, BC

Shuswap Rails 2000 Spring Meet

April 21-23, 2000

Salmon Arm Community Centre, 2550 Trans Canada Hwy East
Full Fare \$50 by Dec 31, 1999, Banquet \$25, Burger Bash \$10 Cdn.

Info: Doug Hole (250) 835 8628. Email:

smodelers@holesome.com

WWW site: www.holesome.com/shuswaprails/2000

Registration: Gary Hazell Voice (250) 835 8628, FAX (250) 835 8521. Email: comhaven@shuswap.net

LETHBRIDGE, AB

"Lenzie 2000" 6th Division Spring Meet

May 19, 20 & 21, 2000

Info: John Prins (403) 328 7390 or Doug Wingfield (403) 381 1369.

Email: wngfield@telusplanet.net

WINNIPEG, MB

Millennium Express 2000 (joint CN/CP SIG Meet)

May 26-29, 2000

Holiday Inn South, 1330 Pembina Highway

BBQ Reception, Clinics, Layout/Prototype Tours, Banquet

\$50.00 (\$35 US) before April 30, 2000 & \$55 (\$40 US) after Apr 30

Info: Morgan Turney (204) 668-0168. Email: morgant@escape.ca

KAMLOOPS, BC

Railway Days 2000

Sep 23, 2000

Prototype Locomotives/Equipment, Raffle, Fun, Fun, Fun

Info: Phil Strange (250) 579 9834

PNR CONVENTION DATES

2000

BOISE, ID

June 21st to 25th, 2000

Boise Centre on the Grove

Website: <http://web.internetoutlet.net/pnr3rd/2000a.htm>

The year 2000 PNR Convention will be held in Boise, Idaho at the Boise Centre on the Grove, during Boise's annual River Festival. The event begins on June 21st with a Registration and a "Welcoming Party". The main convention activities begin in the morning of June 22nd and run through the 25th, 2000 for all other activities.

2001

KELOWNA, BC

Okanagon 2001, an "NMRA Rail Odyssey."

Details to be announced

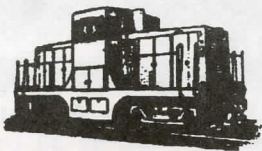
VIDEO LIBRARY

The usage of the video library has decreased to just a trickle in the past year. This is a service provided to you, the members. There is no borrowing charges. Your only cost is the return postage which runs about \$4.50. We have many interesting titles in the library and I am sure you will be able to find one that peaks your interest.

Tony, Video Librarian

Please see the enclosed video list, Ed.

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www.pacificscalerrail.com

SHUSWAP RAILS 2000

Update by Gary Hazell

Planning is well underway for Shuswap Rails 2000 to be held this coming Easter April 21 and 22 in Salmon Arm on the beautiful Shuswap Lake. Some things to note:

- Deadline for early registration has been extended till Mar 31. This was to allow time for people to fill out the Registration form included in this issue.
- The public show has been extended to two days, Friday and Saturday.
- There are a number of self-guided tours on both Friday and Saturday:

- **Muskoka Western Railway** - S scale - Jim Goldthorp

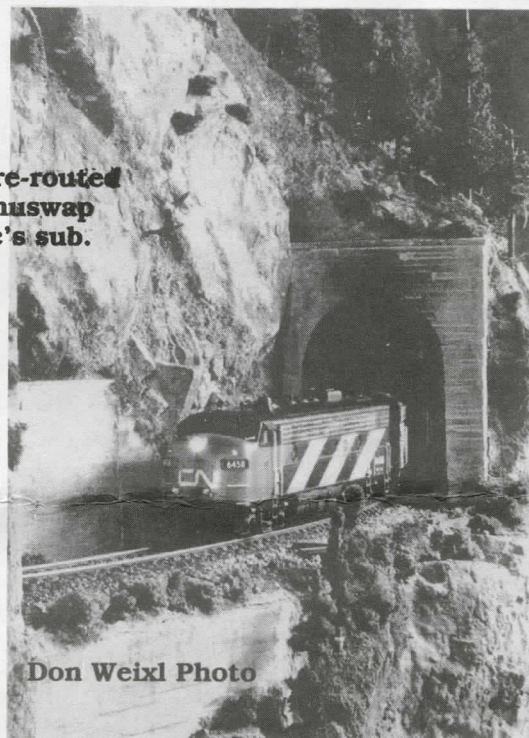
- **My Railway RR** - 16 inch miniature outdoor railway - Don Mihalick



Bob Gardner Photo

- **Shuswap Pacific RR** - HO scale - Graham Redman's well photographed and soon to be featured in the Model Rail press

CN Rail re-routed over Shuswap Pacific's sub.



Don Weixl Photo

- **Shuswap and Monashee Railway** - HO award winning Club layout

- **Salmon Arm and Monashee RR** - N scale - Roger Fowler
continued on Page 8

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- **Canadian Pacific Railway, Kettle Valley/Coquihalla Div.** - HO scale - MMR Bob Gardner's 2nd phase is now under way



"C-Liners" dominate the motive power on Bob Gardner's HO "Coquihalla Sub"

- **Fox Creek Timber Company RR** - HO n3 scale - this tour will also have an introduction to Narrow Gauge clinic and displays - Bill Walmsley

- **Harrow and Colchester Southern RR** - HO scale - Jim Murrey

• There are two different clinic venues, one theatre style conducted in the main hall for registrants and the public and a clinic room for registrants only.

1. Scenery castings and more - public and registrants
2. Plaster castings - molds and slide presentation
3. DCC detection systems
4. DCC for beginners
5. Industrial buildings from cardboard
6. Introduction to Narrow Gauge
7. Scenery techniques
8. Tree making - Public and registrants
9. Detailing steam engines, locating and identifying parts

• There is also a spouses program - possible tour depending on the number interested.

• There will also be AP and popular vote contests and a special contest room

• During the Beer and Burger Friday night there will be two fun contests - Engine Pulling both HO & N and Car Rolling **Note:** See Bob Gardner's write up on the contests below.

• There will be a complete snack bar for the two days run by the Salmon Arm Scouts

CONTESTS by Bob Gardner, MMR

Fun and relaxation will be the theme for contests at Salmon Arm. Judging in most categories will be by popular vote of the registrants. Trophies will be awarded for the favourite Locomotive, Car, Structure, Train, Display (diorama), Model Photo, Prototype Photo and Craft Item. The Craft Item can be entered by either registrant or spouse. (Ladies - dont be beaten by a mere male!) All ballots should be placed in the ballot box by noon Saturday.

Two fun contests are the car rolling and loco pull to be held during the Friday night burger bash. Cars can be any type or scale but must have at least 2 axles and run on

HO track. The NOMRA group from Vernon is running and providing the prize for this exciting event.

The engine pull contest features a new fixture built by local club member Mike Beltz and will test the pulling power of locomotives in both N and HO scales. To ensure a "snappy" contest, times will be limited. No rubber tires, please! A trophy is up for grabs in each scale so weight those locos and bring them along!

During the Friday and Saturday the general public will be invited to vote for their favourite operating layout. The winner will take home a trophy.

Dont forget that if you love modeling but dont go for contests, the Achievement Program is always available. Judges will mark your model against a set of points. A Merit Award here could start you on your way to Master Model Railroader. Stretching a point to keep this a non-contest but also recognize superior modeling, a trophy will be awarded for the model with the highest marks in AP judging. AP entrants must, of course, be NMRA members.

Lets have lots of entries and show the public (and each other) the high calibre of modeling in our division!

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