

# BULLETIN BOARD

Volume 18 Issue 3

May/June 2004



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



Quesnel, BC 20 Mar 2004 © Russ Watson

One of the BC Rail casualties instigated by the BC Liberal government was the cancellation of the Pacific Starlight Dinner Train service from North Vancouver to Porteau Cove in Howe Sound. The last run was made on October 21st, 2002 - a year that saw the train sold out for most of the season, carrying 26,000 passengers. One of the locomotives used for the Dinner Train, BCR 601, is presently paired up with BCR 627 and operates in switcher service in Quesnel, as shown in the above photo.

Dinner Train five-days-a-week service started on June 6th, 1996 after BC Rail spent \$3.1 million to buy a restored 1940's vintage train from the Seattle-based Spirit of Washington Dinner Train Company. In its first year the consist included #150 *Indigo* diner; #151 *Moonglow* dome-diner (former WP 812); #152 *Stardust* super-dome (former MILW 57); #156 *Savoy* kitchen/dishwasher (former C&O *Hanover Kitchen*); BCOL-76 *Cheakamus River* UC brake equipped power car for passenger train service (former CP 226557); and locomotive GE B36-7 3613. BCR 3607 was also used on occasion.

The Dinner Train cars were sold to COE Rail for possible use on Vancouver Island. That sale was cancelled and the equipment was sold to Ontario Northland in February of this year.

BCR 601 and 627 started life as MLW RS-18s but were retrofitted with 2000 HP Caterpillar engines - 601 in 1994 and 627 in 1991. The 16 cylinder Caterpillar 3516 turbo charged engines produce a continuous rating of 2075 HP. The



Quesnel, BC 19 Mar 2004 © Russ Watson

refit program promised fuel savings and longer intervals between major overhauls. Cab improvements were also carried out including electric heat, and improved lighting and insulation.

Both of these locies have interesting stories. 601 was rebuilt using the frame from RS-10 583, and 627 was rebuilt in 1965 from 616, which was recovered from Seton Lake where it had plunged into in 1964.

The above information was obtained from various issues of *The Cariboo - the PGE/BCR SIG* publication; the *PGE/BCR SIG* online news group; *The Canadian Trackage Guide*; and at [www.trainweb.org/railnews/pb/PacificStarlight/](http://www.trainweb.org/railnews/pb/PacificStarlight/).

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Member Aid	Page 3
Jack Work Award	Page 4
Geodesic Foam Hardshell	Page 5
metable	Page 6
Goldpan Express Web Site	Page 7
Industries You Can See	Page 7
Jack Work Nomination Form	Page 8

## 7th DIVISION STANDING COMMITTEE

### Executive

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
Scott Calvert (604) 939 1849 (Coquitlam)  
Email: scottcalvert@shaw.ca

**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT**  
**MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**  
**BULLETIN BOARD PRINTING & DISTRIBUTION**  
Gary Hazell (250) 835 8628 (Tappen)  
Email: comhaven@shuswap.net

**SECRETARY**  
John Green (604) 322 8990 (Vancouver)  
Email: greenjohn1@aol.com

**TREASURER**  
Mike Barone (250) 367 6134 (Fruitvale)  
Email: mike\_barone@telus.net

**DIRECTOR AT LARGE**  
Brian Clogg (604) 588 2194 (Surrey)  
Email: bcclogg@direct.ca

### Appointed Positions

**PUBLICITY COORDINATOR & PAST SUPERINTENDENT**  
Dick Sutcliffe (604) 467 4301 (Maple Ridge)  
Email: ras1@uniserve.com

**7th DIVISION AP CHAIRMAN**  
Ed Warren, MMR (250) 752 4857 (Qualicum Beach)  
Email: e.a.warren@telus.net

**LOWER MAINLAND AP REPRESENTATIVE**  
Dave Nickerson (604) 929 8057 (North Vancouver)  
Email: d-nickerson@telus.net

**VIDEO LIBRARIAN & VANCOUVER ISLAND AP REPRESENTATIVE**  
Don Forsyth (250) 338 4497 (Courtenay)  
Email: D.Forsyth@telus.net

**BULLETIN BOARD EDITOR**  
Russ Watson (250) 992-3452 (Quesnel)  
Email: russwatson@telus.net

**MEMBER AID CHAIRMAN & BULLETIN BOARD PRINTING & DISTRIBUTION**  
Bob Gardner, MMR (250) 832 9883 (Salmon Arm)  
Email: rvongard@jetstream.net

**ROSS HERIOT GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD COORDINATOR**  
Hugh Clarke (250) 545 3900 (Vernon)  
Email: hughclarke@shaw.ca

**JACK WORK MEMORIAL TROPHY COORDINATOR**  
René Gourley (604) 904 8404 (North Vancouver)  
Email: rene@proto87.org

**WEB MASTER**  
John Zuk (604) 984 3232 (North Vancouver)  
Email: jazuk@telus.net

**Lower Mainland & Fraser Valley Subdivision**  
Darren Brkich (604) 533 1570 (Langley)  
Email: darren\_brkich@shaw.ca

Roy Kelleway (604) 463 4682 (Maple Ridge)  
RC\_KELLEWAY@telus.net

John Moore (604) 463 7745 (Maple Ridge)  
Email: jegmo@telus.net

Lori & Larry Sebelley (604) 858 5717 (Chilliwack)  
Email: sebelley@shaw.ca

**Interior Subdivision**  
Brian Freemantle (250) 564 2225 (Prince George)  
Email: bfreemantle@shaw.ca

Ken Haun (250) 632 6334 (Kitimat)  
Email: kenhaun@telus.net

**Vancouver Island Subdivision**  
Ted Alexis (250) 595 4070 (Victoria)  
Email: m\_talexis@shaw.ca

Rick Lord (250) 724 4205 (Port Alberni)  
Email: rblord@telus.net

Ken Rutherford (250) 724 4698 (Port Alberni)  
Email: kj.rutherford@shaw.ca

**NMRA-PNR Trustee:** Roger H. Ferris, EdD. (206) 283 0637  
Email: railfun@juno.com

**PNR President:** Wil Seaver (208) 983-1772  
Email: wilmerb@valint.net OR pnrprez@hq.nmra.org

## QUESTIONS?????

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!  
DIRECT YOUR MODELLING QUESTIONS to our 7th Division Member Aid Chairman, Bob Gardner, MMR, Voice: (250) 832 9883, Fax: (250) 832-0681, Email: rvongard@jetstream.net

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.

## NMRA/PNR RENEWAL

To renew your NMRA and PNR/7th Division membership, send \$75 Cdn to Steve Prevette, PNR Office Manager, 4214 Hilltop Dr., Pasco WA 99301 USA, Email: <prevette@owt.com>. MasterCard, VISA, American Express, Diner's Club and Discover charge cards accepted. Make your cheque payable to PNR/NMRA.

## 7th DIVISION VIDEO LIBRARY

Please phone, write, or Email to request the tapes you would like to borrow and they will be mailed to you prepaid. After use, you are required to mail them back 'Proof of Delivery with \$100 insurance.' **Please keep your return postage receipt for tracing purposes in case the tapes are lost in the mail.** Check your membership expiry date on your Bulletin Board mailing label. If it has expired, please renew it now using the instructions above before requesting to borrow tapes. The library address is: **7th Division Video Library, c/o Don Forsyth, 2022 Cedar Crescent, Courtenay, BC V9N 3B6, phone (250) 338 4497**  
**Email: D.Forsyth@telus.net**  
A full list of tapes is published in the March and September issues of the **BULLETIN BOARD**

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

Submission Deadline	Mailing Date	Month
November 15th	December 15th	Jan/Feb
January 15th	February 15th	Mar/Apr
March 15th	April 15th	May/June
May 15th	June 15th	July/Aug
July 15th	August 15th	Sep/Oct
September 15th	October 15th	Nov/Dec

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 1297 Yorston Ave Quesnel BC V2J 3B6 (250) 992-3452 (Voice) (250) 992-3453 (FAX) Email: russwatson@telus.net

Please use Email whenever 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: Scott Calvert 1869 Walnut Crescent Coquitlam BC V3J 7T2  
Email: scottcalvert@shaw.ca

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS** and **ADDRESS CHANGES** must be sent to the PNR Office Manager: Steve Prevette, PNR Office Manager, 4214 Hilltop Dr., Pasco WA 99301 USA, Email: <prevette@owt.com>

All other **MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES** including **NEW MEMBERSHIPS** must be forwarded to the Membership Coordinator: Gary Hazell RR #1 S-4 C-6 Tappen, BC V0E 2X0 (250) 835 8628, FAX (250) 835-8521, Email: comhaven@shuswap.net

**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.

## NMRA WEB SITES

7th Division  
PNR  
NMRA

<http://www3.telus.net/rlink/7division/>  
<http://www.infoharvest.ca/nmra/pnr/>  
<http://www.nmra.org>

# Welcome!

A very warm welcome to the following new 7th Division member(s):

**Abraham Stewart**

New Westminster

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 one of the 7th Division events.

## MEMBER AID

*by Bob Gardner, MMR, Coordinator*

### Handy Tips

Don't be bashful in asking for aid; there must be lots of puzzling questions out there and we have lots of experienced resource people in the Division to help answer them.

In the meantime here is a tip of my own. Often a locomotive, car, or structure project is put on hold, possibly waiting for a part, more research, or lack of time (or money?). To keep all parts and papers together, ready for the next opportunity, use trays made from shallow cardboard boxes, such as pizza boxes. Just cut off the lid and tape or glue the loose corners. A scrap of cloth or thin foam on the bottom can be used to protect painted surfaces. A masking tape label on one side helps find the right one in a stack of "UFO's" (Unfinished Objects).

An HO kit is on the way to Ron Keith of Surrey for submitting not one, but four, handy tips:

1. When cementing brass or delrin plastic (truck or other) parts together, first roughen the parts with sand-paper to give the glue some "bite". Emery boards are useful for this.
  2. Sometimes tiny parts such as lamp jewels, when held with tweezers, will flip into orbit and disappear forever. Ron suggests placing a tiny dab of glue in place first, then use a flat wood tooth-pick moistened with the tongue to pick up and place the part.
  3. "Micro-brushes", available at a reasonable price at hobby shops and often included as free samples in goody bags, are not only good for painting tight corners, but also for applying small dabs of glue and for weathering with powdered chalks. Use them to apply darker chalks along rivet lines. These little brushes can actually be cleaned and re-used.
  4. Small plastic boxes such as truck boxes are handy for various colors of powdered pastel chalks. Place a piece of sand-paper in each box and rub some chalk against it. You can have a convenient assortment of weathering colours.
- Thanks, Ron. More tips next time. Send in yours.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Victoria Show

\*\*\*\*\*

### Changes To Date and Location

Parking restrictions at the Victoria Curling Rink because of construction of Victoria's new arena has forced the show committee to move to a new location on a new date as follows:

**Date: September 26th, 2004**

**Location: Cedar Hill Recreation Centre  
3230 Cedar Hill Road**

## EDITOR'S DESK

*by Russ Watson*

Unfortunately I didn't receive much material for this issue from the membership, so I used material from other PNR newsletters to fill the pages and of course a couple of my recent photos and some gibberish for the cover. I thought about reducing this issue to four pages, but it didn't look like I would be able to fit in what I did have on just four pages.

Six members have volunteered to receive the Bulletin Board as an electronic .pdf file by email. They are very happy with this method, so Gary Hazell, John Zuk and myself need to produce a recommendation for electronic distribution and present it to the 7th Division executive as we've asked to do!. There are some concerns and problems that arise from this method, but we'll try to work them out. One member believes that those who choose to receive the BB in this method should enjoy a reduction in membership dues! There is a production and postage cost saving. As mentioned previously, electronic distribution would only be used for those members who request it. In the mean time, if you would like to try receiving the BB electronically, please contact me (see page 2 for contact information).

Betty and I are slowly getting moved in to our house here in Quesnel. I'll be another month or two getting fully set up again but I'm already eyeing up some space for a small On30 layout down here in the basement. Hopefully I'll have trains running for the layout tours at the Interior Spring Meet in Quesnel in March of next year. Other than shovel snow, what else will I have to do all winter! I won't abandon my main modelling interest, which is N scale, but before I build that big dream layout in N scale, we want to live here for a while to be sure we won't be moving away somewhere else too soon. Anyway, the On30 stuff will keep me busy for quite a while - I look forward to running trains again!

I had a recent chat with Bill Bernath and I hope to meet with him soon and offer my help in presenting the 2005 Spring Meet here in Quesnel. Should be fun, I hope you can include it in your plans for next March. Stay tuned for additional info.

It's great to live in a town where trains actually operate; as I type this I'm listening to my scanner and a train crew on a BCR train stopping in town to pick up and set out some cars. I expect some major changes to the railway if the "deal" receives final approval and CN takes over. I suppose I should be photographing everything I see in BCR colours, who knows how long they will last.

René Gourley kindly volunteered to take over the Jack Work memorial Trophy coordinator's job last November, so you'll see all the information you need to make a nomination. Please take a few minutes to submit a nomination.

# NMRA PNR 7TH DIVISION JACK WORK MEMORIAL TROPHY

Jack Work is considered by many to have been a pioneer in the hobby of model railroading. During the 1950's and 60's he shared much of his substantial knowledge and accomplishments with the modelling public through many articles in noted periodicals. After his death in June, 1996, his stainless steel railway whistle was kindly donated to the NMRA PNR 7th Division. It was hoped that the whistle could become the basis of a Divisional Trophy.

The criteria for an award was set after much discussion and a trophy was manufactured by Dick Sutcliffe. The first presentation of the trophy, by Mrs Work, was made on September 13th, 1998 at The Victoria Model Railway Show. The award criteria is as follows:

The Jack Work Memorial Trophy is presented annually to the 7th division member who best exhibits the qualities that Jack Work displayed, namely: imagination, creativity, innovation, artistry, forward thinking, quality workmanship and the sharing of the results of these qualities with the rest of the hobby. The award may only be received once in a lifetime.

The recipient is selected by a committee composed of the 7th Division Achievement Program (AP) chairperson, Sub-Division AP Chairpersons, and at least two of the 7th Division Executive members. The selection is made from a list of members that are nominated for the award by the general membership.

The Jack Work Award Coordinator will assemble the committee each year (by e-mail or telephone) and review every nomination and reach consensus on the recipient. The committee members will familiarise themselves with the modelling work of all of the nominees. Photographs and/or video tape may be used to view the modelling when necessary. The Trophy may not be awarded each year if the committee feels that there is no qualified recipient. The AP can be a source of nominations if there is a lack of nominations from the membership.

The nominations are made using the standard nomination form. The nomination form will be published in the division newsletter in the May edition. Nominations will close for the year on August 1st. Each nominee must be a member of the PNR 7th Division for a minimum of two consecutive years prior to the nomination. All of the modelling that each nominee has completed up to August 1st will be considered during the selection process.

The recipient is to be selected in time for the first division meet following the 1st of September. The Award will be presented at the first meet, following the selection, that the recipient can attend. Publication of the recipient's name and qualifications will take place as soon as practical after presentation, but no later than the newsletter's May issue following selection.

The Award is based on modelling accomplishments and the sharing of those accomplishments and their appropriate model-building techniques and methods - not general service to the division. (Note:- The Ross Heriot Gold Spike Award recognises division service.

The Trophy will consist of a mounted model, constructed by Jack Work, of a steam whistle. The Trophy will be retained by the Division for display at as many Divisional activities as possible. The recipients' names and presentation dates will be inscribed on plaques affixed to the Trophy base. The "keeper" trophy will be a certificate with an image of the trophy included on it. The 7th Division is very fortunate to have this prestigious award. I'm sure that every modeller would be very proud to receive it. Please complete the nomination form included on Page 8 of this issue and send it in as soon as possible. You may also include the required information in an email sent to the coordinator. Previous recipients are: 1998 Brian Pate; 1999 Doug and Jackie Hole; 2000 Not awarded; 2001 Patrick Lawson; 2002 Bob Gardner; 2003 John Ostler.

## PNR Membership Numbers

from Steve Prevette, PNR Office Manager

New memberships appear to be doing well. There were 105 new PNR regular and affiliate members during CY 2003. So far there have been 29 new regular and affiliate members in CY 2004. I assume that the PSX being held in Seattle is helping to boost membership. Last year at this time there were a total of 1,038 PNR members. Currently there are 1,101 members.

## VICTORIA SCALE RAIL LTD

*Exclusively Model Trains and Accessories*

*Vancouver Island's One-Stop Railroad Store  
Model Railway Specialists  
Friendly Service and Knowledgeable Staff*

- ▶ **N, HO, O and G Scales**
- ▶ **New, Used and Consignment**
- ▶ **Special Orders and Mail Order**

**Digitrax DCC**

**Detail Parts, Books, Magazines  
Videos and Scenery Supplies**

**Mon-Thurs 10:00 - 6:00 Fri 10:00 - 9:00**

**Sat 10:00 - 6:00 Sun 12:00 - 5:00**

**Town & Country Shopping Centre**

Unit 16A - 3577 Douglas Street

Victoria, BC V8Z 3L6

**(250) 475-2860**

Email: [vsrltd@telus.net](mailto:vsrltd@telus.net)

Web Site: [www.victoriascalerail.com](http://www.victoriascalerail.com)

**Terry Moore, Owner/Manager**

# Geodesic Foam Hardshell

By Bob Chapman (courtesy of the 4th Division Grab Iron)

A few years ago, Joel Bragdon of Bragdon Enterprises in California, came up with a new hard-shell technique. He used a proprietary two-part resin over bubble wrap and fiberglass screen to make a hard-shell which was light and easily shaped while warm, and could be applied using a hot-glue gun over blue or pink builder's foam ribs. No drips, no smell, nothing toxic (unless you drank it, I suppose).

Since then he has developed the technique by coming up with a new resin compound and eliminating the bubble wrap, which was not easy to find for many people. Instead he recommends using two layers of screen. The resulting material is thinner and more easily worked.

Here are some tips for using this modern, no mess hard-shell technique. First, use some one-inch builders foam to make *profile ribs for the hard-shell*. I like to space them a foot apart. The foam can be cut with a simple serrated steak or vegetable filleting knife. Second, hot-glue these ribs to the bench work using low-temp glue sticks and a low-temp hot-glue gun. The higher temp melted glue melts pits in the foam without gluing them to the support structure.

Third, put the Part A and Part B resin in the fridge until you are ready to mix it. The warmer it is when mixed, the less time you have to work with it.

Fourth, calculate how big a piece of hard-shell you want for each piece. My main squeeze, Shar, routinely makes pieces as large as 3'x4'. You can cover some major scenery this way!

Use 3/4 liquid ounce of both part A and part B resin for each square foot of hard-shell blanket. Cut two pieces of screen to size and lay them flat over a piece of plastic sheet like a cut open black leaf bag.

Fifth, mark two clean plastic cups in one-ounce increments – one for A and one for B. Use a glass measuring cup and water to make these marks. Only use the A cup for part A resin; B cup for part B resin. Use some large plastic party cups as mixing cups, pouring an equal amount of A and B into a clean one for each batch, stirring quickly, then pouring out the latte-coloured mix onto the screen.

Sixth, using a piece of cardboard, pre-cut and ready, spread the newly mixed resin around the screen as equally as possible. Get the edges too. When the foam starts to expand, and cannot be spread any more, cover the screen with another piece of plastic sheet. Smooth out any bubbles or wrinkles, and then cover with a piece of plywood for a couple of minutes to force the expansion into the screen web. Set this piece aside to cure until the plastic sheet can be pulled off without sticking, but before it hardens.

Seventh, have two hot glue guns handy – one low temp and one high temp. When ready to lay the foam blanket hard-shell over the ribs, use the low temp gun to apply a bead of glue to the blue or pink foam ribs previously installed. Quickly lay the foam blanket over the ribs after removing the plastic sheet and smooth place. Use the hot glue gun to glue the new piece to its neighbouring piece where they overlap slightly, and to glue the new piece to the bench work or wall. BE CAREFUL! The glue is

very hot and will burn you if you get some on your fingers. If that happens, and it will at least once during the project, quickly spread the hot glue bead with your thumb so that it cools almost instantly. I like to wear disposable latex surgeons gloves during this process to minimize burns, although I go through several pairs in a day.

Next, when the hard-shell has set up, within ten minutes or so, the seams can be caulked with any cheap latex painters caulk and a caulking gun. Smooth the beads with your finger to make the seams disappear.

When the caulk is dry, paint the hard-shell with a flat latex interior paint; then apply ground foam scenery to your liking. For more vertical surfaces where the grass and plants can't get a toehold, consider painting these areas with thick hydrocal to serve as a base for applying plaster rock castings later.

Don't worry about overlapping hard-shell at the top or bottom. When it sets up it can be easily trimmed with a box knife.

Clean up is as simple as picking up the trimmings and throwing them in the trash. Mixing cups as well. Cardboard spreading pieces, too. Save the plastic sheets and use them over and over again. Scrape loose any stray cured resin with a putty knife and a gentle push. Put leftover resin back in the fridge. That's it.

Consider using Geodesic Foam from Bragdon Enterprises the next time you have some major scenery to install without any mess. Figure \$1 per square foot of hard-shell plus screen materials. Order by phone or via the Bragdon Enterprises website listed in your favourite model RR magazine. While there, take a look at the huge rock molds he offers if you have some major rock walls to install quickly.

## PACIFIC SCALE RAIL

### "The Trains Only Store"

Modellers working with Modellers

#### Specializing in:

Friendly Service.  
Expert Advice.  
Canadian Roadname Models.  
Detail Parts.  
DCC.  
MicroTrains Special Rap Cars!!  
(CNR 3-Packs available now)  
Budget Friendly Used Trains.  
Free Workshops.  
Books and Magazines.

\*\*\*\*\*

612 Carnarvon Street  
New Westminster, B.C.  
Phone: (604) 524-8825

Toll Free: 1-800-377-2860

Fax: (604) 524-6664

For your convenience, we are open 7 days a week!  
Come and see our wide selection of "N" and "HO" items

or visit us at.....

[www.pacificscalerrail.com](http://www.pacificscalerrail.com)

# TIMETABLE

Visit <[www.infoharvest.ca/NMRA/PNR](http://www.infoharvest.ca/NMRA/PNR)>  
for information on additional events.

**APR 24-25, MONROE WA**, 13th Annual United Northwest Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet. Evergreen State Fairgrounds. Sat 10am-5pm. Sun 10am-4pm. Info: - David Moser, 13306 109th Ave. NE. Kirkland WA 98034, (425) 821 6968, dmsltjo@msn.com.

**APR 30-MAY 2, ESSEX MT**, 17th Annual Essexpress Railfan Weekend, Izaak Walton Inn. Info: - (406) 888-5700, stay@izaakwaltoninn.com, www.izaakwaltoninn.com.

**MAY 8-9, SANDPOINT ID**, 4th Annual Mother's Day Train Rides to Thompson Falls MT & return, by Montana Rockies Rail Tours. Info: - Montana Rockies Rail Tours, 1055 Baldy Park Ave. Sandpoint ID 83864, (800) 519-7245, www.montanarailtours.com.

**MAY 15-16, COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE WA**, GorgeRail 2004. Info: - Aaron Hockley, 316 Shreveport Way, Vancouver WA 98664, www.hockley.org/gorgerail/.

**MAY 29, (SAT), RED DEER AB**, 6th Div, "Central Alberta Layout Tours". Info: - [www.infoharvest.ca/NMRA/6div/](http://www.infoharvest.ca/NMRA/6div/).

**JUNE 3-6, TACOMA WA**, Northwest Logging Modelers Convention, La Quinta Inn & Suites, 1425 E 27th St. Info: - J Clark McAbee, (253) 939-6450, (after 7pm PST), jclark57@aol.com. www.nwlm.org.

**JUNE 12-13, CALGARY AB**, Heritage Park Railway Days. Two operating 0-6-0's & streetcars. 1900 Heritage Dr. SW. Info: - (403) 268-8500, www.heritagepark.ab.ca.

**JUNE 12, (SAT), MISSOULA MT**, 6th Annual Railroad Day. Historical Museum at Fort Missoula. South Ave across from Big Sky high School, 10am-4pm. Info: - Mac Palmer, (406) 251-5418, mfpalmer@montana.com, www.montana.com/ftmslamuseum.

**JUNE 16-18, SPOKANE VALLEY WA**, Friends of the Burlington Northern Railway, Annual Convention, Mirabeau Park Hotel, 1100 N Sullivan Rd. Info: - Dave Poplawski, (eve), (906) 482 8819, pop@mtu.edu, www.fobnr.org.

**JUNE 24-26, LEWISTON ID**, North American Railcar Operators Association, (NARCOA), on the Camas Prairie. Info: - [www.narcoa.org](http://www.narcoa.org). There are too many NARCO events during 2004 within the PNR to list. Check their web sight.

**JUN 26-27, BOISE ID**, Great American Train Show, Western ID Fair Expo. 11am-5pm. Info: - [www.gats.com](http://www.gats.com)

**JUL 4-11, 2004, SEATTLE, WA**, PSX 2004. Puget Sound eXpress. NMRA National Convention, Sponsored by the 4th Div. Pacific Northwest Region. DoubleTree Inn Convention Complex, (adjacent to the Seattle- Tacoma Airport. Info: - [info@ml2003.com](mailto:info@ml2003.com) [www.nmre2004.org](http://www.nmre2004.org).

**JUL 11-14, SPOKANE WA**, GNRHS, (Great Northern Railway Historical Society), Annual Convention, Westcoast Ridpath Inn, 515 W. Sprague Ave, [www.gnrhs.org](http://www.gnrhs.org)

**SEP 18-19, EDMONTON AB**, 2004 Great Edmonton Train Show, Mayfield Inn Trade Centre, 16615 - 109th Ave. 10am-5pm. Info: - Jim Baker, (780) 430-7595, [jimbaker@clarica.com](mailto:jimbaker@clarica.com), [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca).

**SEP 26 (SUN) VICTORIA, BC** - Victoria Model Railway Show, Cedar Hill Recreation Centre, 3230 Cedar Hill Road, 10-4, hourly door prizes, pop vote contests, operating model railroads, sales & displays, Info: Ted Alexis (250) 595-4070, David Tomljenovich (250) 652-1894

**OCT 16-17, CHILLIWAK BC**, Mount Cheam Lions Club Model Railway & Hobby Show, Heritage Park, 44140 Luckakuck Way. Sat. 10am-5pm. Sun 10am-4pm. Info: James Hill, (604) 824-1757. [jcdmhill@dowco.com](mailto:jcdmhill@dowco.com). DETAILS MAY CHANGE.

**NOV 12-14, BURNABY BC**, TRAINS 2004, 22nd Annual 7th Div Fall Meet, Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. Info: - Kathy Dixon, 439 E. 16th St., N. Vancouver BC V7L 3X7, (604) 987-4237, [meetregistrar@bctrains.org](mailto:meetregistrar@bctrains.org),

**NOV 13, (SUN), BURNABY BC**, TRAINS 2004, 22nd Annual Public Show, Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. 9am-4pm. Info: - Dick Sutcliffe (604) 467-4301, [ras1@uniserve.com](mailto:ras1@uniserve.com), or Lori Sebelley, [trains\\_show\\_registrar@hotmail.com](mailto:trains_show_registrar@hotmail.com), [www.bctrains.org](http://www.bctrains.org).

## 2005

**MAR 25-27, 2005, QUESNEL BC**, Goldpan Express 2005, 7th Division Interior Spring Meet, Quesnel Senior Centre, Modular Layouts, displays, contests, Layout Tours, Proto Tours, Info: email Bill Bernath <[bbernath@quesnelbc.com](mailto:bbernath@quesnelbc.com)>, or Russ Watson <[russwatson@telus.net](mailto:russwatson@telus.net)>

**SPOKANE, WA**, PNR Annual Convention, details to follow.

# VAN HOBBIES INC.

Model Railroad & Hobby Specialists  
Established 1947

All Products Fully Guaranteed  
Estate Appraisals

Ron J. Small and Bruce E. Eades

### We purchase for cash:

> Model Railroad Products

> Plastic Models

> Die Cast Toys

> Hobby Tools

> Other Hobby Type Products

Mon - Sat 9:30 - 5:30

Closed Sun and Wed

Phone: (604) 327 3210

Fax: (604) 327 7207

675 SE Marine Drive, Vancouver, BC V5X 2T5

Try our Web Site out:

[www.intouch.bc.ca/pub/van.hobbies](http://www.intouch.bc.ca/pub/van.hobbies)

email: [vanhobbies@intouch.bc.ca](mailto:vanhobbies@intouch.bc.ca)

## !!!! Late Breaking News !!!! Spring Meet 2005

Bill Bernath sent me the following just in the nick of time for this issue:

"A web page for **Goldpan Express 2005** will soon be available through the community portal off the <[www.cfquesnel.com](http://www.cfquesnel.com)> website. *Community Futures* here in Quesnel gives free webspace to local groups through their webpage."

So hopefully by the time you read this, Bill will have populated the site with initial information for the March 25-27 Quesnel meet. Please give the site a try. And now we have a name for our meet - I like it! Ed.

### Industries You Can See

by Dale G. Kraus, MMR (courtesy of the 4th Div Grab Iron)  
This screed is about industry selection. What's good, what's not-so-good, and how to tell the difference. At the heart of any operation-oriented railroad is traffic generation, and the amount and type of traffic will depend on which industries are selected. (A note here. If you are modelling a back-woods, one-horse logging operation, your choice is made for you: empty bunks to the skid yard, loads to the mill, with the occasional odd supply car or fuel tank. You need read no further.)

Two things must be considered when selecting industries: 1) the average railroad-served industry ranges in size from very large to HUMONGOUS, and 2) we "ain't got" that kind of room. This is not, however, reason to despair, for we have the

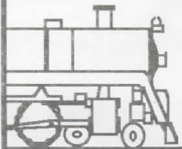
magic shrinking pill called selective compression working for us, and that, with careful selection of industries will save the day. Keeping this in mind, what can we do about selecting industries that enhance our operating fun?

First, unless you have a gymnasium and unlimited funds, or are creating essentially a "diorama" railroad, avoid basic industry. (Steel mills, Oil refineries, Paper mills, etc.) They are simply too big to model effectively and operating variety is quite limited.

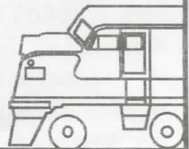
Second, select industries that are large enough to logically need rail service. No, this does not contradict the above paragraph. Railroads are not all that interested in the one-hopper-of-coal-a-week fuel distributor. They are a bulk commodity industry, and we are modelling the railroad, not the industry. In that light, try to select industries that require more than one car. Not only will it be more realistic, it will be more interesting, especially if they are cars of a different style (e.g. A box car and a tank car.)

Third, prefer "second level" manufacturing industries and freight re-load plants. These are facilities that both ship and receive loads. Examples of these are: foundries (refined metal ingots in/finished castings out) wholesale resellers, oil distributors, and Freight transfer warehouses. Any plant that takes one product and transforms it into another. Also, selecting an industry that requires a variety of cars (e.g. tank cars and covered hoppers in/boxcars out) will significantly improve operating interest. (Yeah, I already said that ... but it's worth repeating).

Finally, remember it is not necessary to model the WHOLE industry, only that part which "interfaces" with the railroad. A little subterfuge here is a good thing. Consider making the largest industry a flat, up-against-the-backdrop, one. I have several industries on my railroad that are literally printed on paper and glued to the backdrop ... the ULTIMATE in compression. If you really, really must serve a US Steel basic reduction plant, consider a siding with a chain-link gate, through which runs a track that disappears behind a small hill. On the fence place a BIG SIGN announcing that this is the entrance to the steel mill sort yard.



# CENTRAL HOBBIES



**One-Stop Scale Model Train Shop! Central Hobbies is one of Vancouver's finest Model Railroad Stores. We carry an extensive selection of Model Railroad Products, Tools, Books, Magazines and Plastic Models**

Z Scale, N Scale, HO Scale, S Scale, O Scale, G Scale, and others. Brass Models, Videos on Railroad Subjects and Greater Vancouver's finest selection of Model Railroad and Railroad Prototype Magazines and an extensive selection of Books on Railroad Subjects & Services. We handle Estates, Consignment sales, Custom painting and Locomotive Detailing, DCC Installations and other services. Mail Orders Welcome!

We carry the full line of DIGITRAX DCC (Digital Command Control) products.

Please drop by the store for product information or a Demo. We also carry DCC products from SoundTraxx and Atlas.

**2845 Grandview Hwy Vancouver BC Canada V5M 2E1**

**Phone 1-604-431-0771, Fax 1-604-431-9855**

**Orders Only 1-888-7TRAINS (1-888-787-2467)**

**Email: [Central\\_Hobbies@telus.net](mailto:Central_Hobbies@telus.net)**

**Web Site: [www.central-hobbies.com](http://www.central-hobbies.com)**

**Mon-Thurs 11:00 - 6:00 Fri 11:00 - 9:00 Sat 10:30 - 5:30 Closed most Sundays & Holidays**