



BULLETIN BOARD

Volume 20 Issue 2

Mar/Apr 2006

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

Interior Spring Meet

This year the South Interior Model Railroad Association Spring Meet is being held in beautiful Vernon BC the home of the O'Keefe Ranch and the North Okanagan Model Railroad Association. A popular and central location for the annual one day event that actually occurs over a period of two days, the meet this year is being held at the Lodge Hotel, part of the Ramada chain of

Hotels. The Lodge has arranged to allow those setting up modules and displays access to the convention area as early as 8:00am, and where needed the members of NOMRA will be present to give assistance. During the day there will be opportunities to attend some of the local layouts, in a self guided tour, maps will be provided, and if desired additional guidance as well. Layout tours, set up and registrations all occur on Friday until

4:00. As at previous years we are having an evening get together on Friday evening, April 14th, starting at 5:00 - 6:30, the Burger Bash, will be taking place around the pool and stream flowing through the restaurant at the Lodge. At 7:00 the entertainment, this year will be presented by Phil Mason and Jimmy Johnson will provide slide shows, Phil has just returned from a trip to China where he took advantage of the opportunity to travel by rail and has an interesting program as a result. Jimmy is well known as a Railfan Extraordinaire who has been taking pictures of the

local rail activities. The official schedule will end at 9:00 leaving the balance of the evening for activities of the attendees choice.

Inside this Issue

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Early on Sat. morning, actually about 8:30-9:00 the show opens, the swap tables, commercial tables and clinics begin shortly after 9:00am. We have planned 4 or 5 clinics this year, ranging from the historic bridges of the Coquihalla by Al Howe, to clinics offered by Ray Hansen at this time projected to be building with styrene, John Schlosser on finishing Scenery and Doug Campbell on the CPR AC4400 and its various phases. Don Forsythe will be offering a clinic on the 'Canadian' and how to upgrade your rolling stock to more accurately display this train. At 10:00 we will be privileged to attend a Yard Tour held at the Kelowna Pacific yard in Vernon, unfortunately this tour will be restricted to the first 40 registrants who wish to attend. During the day the commercial tables, swap tables and displays will be active, and the public show will open at 12:30. The public will have the opportunity to vote for the peoples choice awards, anyone bringing a display or module is eligible in the voting. The last two clinics start at 1:00 and the swap and commercial tables will remain open until 4:30 when the public show will close and the modules will be disassembled and removed. We will then have a short interlude to prepare for the Banquet which will start with the Happy Hour, at 6:00-6:30. This year in order to keep the cost of the banquet within reasonable limits, we are having a smorgasbord, with three entrees, Salmon, Beef and a new feature, a Vegetarian entree. The banquet starts at 7:00 and will continue until everyone is satisfied.

After the banquet we will be having an evening of entertainment hosted by Gary Hazell and presented by Doug Campbell, with a DVD of Steam Loco 2816, lasting 25 minutes and this will be followed by second DVD by Doug Forbes about Steam Loco 2141, lasting about 21 minutes. There will be raffles and door prizes awarded during the entertainment. We are expecting a great time to be had by all attendees, and the hosts.

Island Spring Meet

Sunday April 9th 2006 is the date for the 22nd Annual Mid Vancouver Island Model Railway Show in Nanaimo B.C..As in the past we will have operating layouts,displays and swap & shop tables (\$20 / table, contact Ken Rutherford) . For those of you who have been busy over the winter season we have our "Favorite Model Contests ". Every entrant in the modeling contests has a chance to win twice, as there are plaques for the winner of each category plus all entrants have their name entered in two draws for \$25 gift certificates from a Nanaimo hobby shop. 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 or maintenance of way.

Structure/Diorama - building or bridge in a scene or stand alone.

While the contest is open to everyone, the voting is done by NMRA members who attend the show.

If you would like to have your model judged for points under the NMRA achievement program,this can be arranged at the show.

We hope that you will once again come and enjoy the show and maybe leave a winner as there are hourly door prize draws as well. Ken Rutherford and I have enjoyed putting these shows together for you but it is your participation that makes these shows fun .We look foreword to seeing you there.

Show time is 10 am to 4 pm (10:00 to 16:00 hours) .

Admission is \$3.00 per NMRA member,\$5.00 non member,\$4.00 seniors,\$10.00 family,\$1.00 for children (6 - 12).The location is the same as past years ,the Beban Park Rec. Center, 2300 Bowen Road Nanaimo B.C.For more information please contact Ken or myself (see the time table info elsewhere in the B.B. for email and phone numbers).

Regards, Rick Lord

Superintendent's Report

Gary Hazell

I am pleased to announce that Don Forsyth has volunteered and been accepted as our Assistant Superintendent. Don has been involved in the 7th Div as a Standing Committee member, our Video Librarian & Vancouver Island AP Representative for many years and I personally would like to welcome him as the Assistant Superintendent. Don will continue as Video Librarian and AP Assistant.

We held an executive meeting on Feb. 3 and one of the concerns that was expressed is the lack of use of the Video Library. Of the over 200 video tapes in the library only 4 tapes were borrowed last year. Don has loaded all 200 and some tapes in his car and brought them to the various meets, but still little utilization. We are going to look at the use over the next period and if it is not more utilized we will lose it. There are some great videos, particularly the series on Great Model Railroads Volumes 1 to 25. See the list and Don's report elsewhere in this BB and again you can borrow one of these at the Vernon Spring Meet or request them directly from Don. We mail them out n/c and you pay for the return. It is a good deal so please start using it – use it or lose it.

I was very surprised and pleased when we got the new 7th Div membership list directly from the NMRA. It had 53 members that were not in the PNR or 7th Div databases. These members joined the NMRA only direct, some of them life members and we did not know about them. They/you have all been sent a welcome letter, patch and the last BB – again welcome.

It is wonderful to have these new 7th Div members and I would very much like to see the membership increase. What a wonderful opportunity to introduce fellow model railroaders to the NMRA. After all as Canadians we can join for as little as \$20.00 Cdn. Having said that, it costs us close to \$3.00 to publish and mail the BB and at 6 issues per year, it is an \$18.00 benefit to you the members receiving the BB by mail, but a cost to us. The NMRA does not allow us to charge a membership fee but we can charge a subscription rate, something we do not want to do but as our revenues from the shows that are put on throughout the year have been decreasing and we no longer receive money from the PNR, we have a dilemma. The biggest help can be from you, the mail only member, to take the BB by e-mail. Remember it comes in colour and you get it before the mailed version. You can be added to the BB e-mail list by sending an e-mail to ereynard@telus.net or if this is not possible, a donation to our 7th Div treasurer would be greatly appreciated. As my

address is the only one published elsewhere in the BB, send it to **Mike Barone Treasurer 7th Div c/o Gary Hazell.**

I am looking for new Standing Committee members that can report to our new Divisional Roundup column on activities in their geographic area. Missing this month is Victoria, the Okanagan, Prince George/North and the Kootenays. It is a fairly simple task: look at prototype or modeling activities in your area, possibly contact other clubs or groups and do a short write up, minimum 5 or 6 lines put preferably a small paragraph, 6 times per year. I have also asked our Director at Large, Brian Clogg to establish a Club/Group contact list that we can publish in a future BB. Any of you that are Club or Group members please sent Brian an e-mail with details bcclogg@shaw.ca I have also asked Publicity Coordinator Dick Sutcliffe to take on the Advertising portfolio with Don Forsyth assisting and they will contact Hobby Shops to see if we can get more advertising in our BB. We will accept business cards so please consider running an ad on your business or railroad in the BB – it goes to over 200 members 6 times per year.

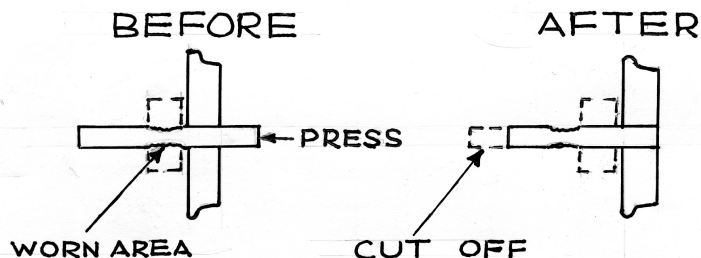
And finally I have a new e-mail address comhaven@jetstream.net See you in Vernon.

Member Aid
Bob Gardner, MMR

If you have any questions or problems with your modeling, don't hesitate to forward them to me (by email c/o Editor, Eric Reynard at ereynard@telus.net) or phone, fax or snail mail. In the meantime here are a few tips;

Athearn Axle Wear

If you have any Athearn diesels that have run u a high number of hours, check the axles for wear. During a routine lubrication check on the Shuswap and Monashee (SAMR) passenger diesels, club motive power expert Mike Beltz discovered severe wear on the units' axles. This could lead to rough running and high current draw. Mike was able to give the units a new lease on life by pressing the axle through the wheel to bring an un-worn portion into the bearing. He then cut off the excess axle on the inside using a cut-off wheel in a Dremel.(see sketch)



Spill Glue?

Member Ron Keith has a Member Aid suggestion to prevent spills of paint or liquid solvent cement jars. he cuts off the top half of plastic vitamin pill bottles and thumb tacks the bottom of the workbench or a scrap of plywood. This makes a handy bottle holder. Thanks Ron

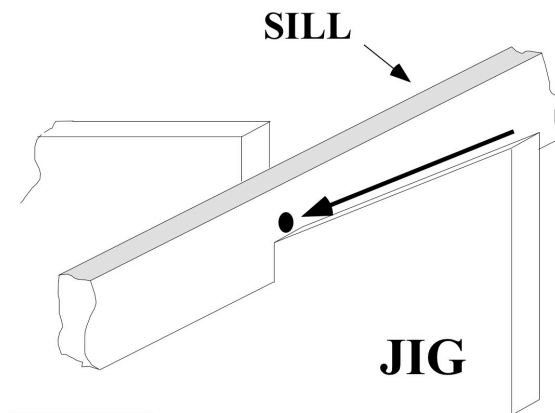
Caboose Photos

Ron also came up with info on the Canadian Northern caboose query in the last issue. The Volume 6, Number 2 (1995) issue of CN Lines contains a photo of this caboose.

A contribution from Russ Watson

Templates and Jigs

Recently I was faced with the situation of needing to drill some angled holes accurately in four wooden intermediate sills for a couple of On30 flat cars I was scratchbuilding. The holes were needed to allow the truck bolster cross brace rods to pass through the sills. After scratching my head for a while (be careful not to do this while you have glue on your fingers), I came up with a simple drilling jig as shown in the sketch. I used the scale drawing I had of the flat car to draw the plan for the jig on a piece of 3/32" sheet balsa wood. After cutting out the jig, I held it vertically in a vice, then held the sill in the notch in the jig with my left hand and laid the drill (which was held in a pin vice) on the sloped top surface of the jig as shown by the arrow in the sketch, and used my right hand to drill the holes. The jig not only facilitated the drilling of the holes at the correct angle, it also positioned the holes in the correct location from the top of the sill. Jigs and templates can really help produce quality modelling and cut down on production time too, so the next time you're scratching your head, why not make one.



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:

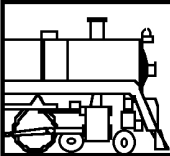
Submission Deadline	Mailing Date	Month
November 15th	December 15th	Jan/Feb
January 15th	February 15th	Mar/Apr
March 15th	April 15th	May/June
May 15th	June 15th	July/Aug
July 15th	August 15th	Sep/Oct
September 15th	October 15th	Nov/Dec

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:

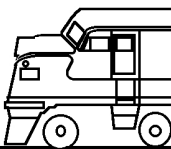
All COMMUNICATIONS directed to the Division should be forwarded to the Superintendent: Gary Hazell RR #1 S-4 C-6 Tappen, BC V0E 2X0 (250) 835 8628, FAX (250) 835-8521, Email: comhaven@jetstream.net

NMRA Websites

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



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7th Division Video Library

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
 Canadian renewals contact registrar@nmracanada.com

All other MEMBERSHIP INQUIRIES including NEW MEMBERSHIPS must be forwarded to the Membership Coordinator: Don Hillman registrar@nmracanada.com
 Registrar, NMRA Canada, 69 Schroder Cres, Guelph ON N1E 7B4

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.

PNR 7th Division

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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, contact 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.

Canadian Registration is now separate. Contact Don Hillman at registrar@nmracanada.com Registrar, NMRA Canada, 69 Schroder Cres, Guelph ON N1E 7B4

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome aboard the following new members to the 7th Division of the PNR.

George Bolt	Victoria, BC
Jack Duckett	Victoria, BC
Nils Fogstrom	New Westminster, BC
Tate, Steve	Kelwona, BC
Harvie Walford	West Vancouver, BC
Alexander Wilson	Nanose Bay, BC

TIMETABLE

TIMETABLE – 2006

FEB 12, (SUN), VANCOUVER BC, Mount Pleasant Lions Model Railroad Show, Mount Pleasant Community Centre, 3161 Ontario St. 10am-3pm. Info: - Alex, (604) 875-1837.

FEB 18, (SAT), CHEHALIS WA, Lewis County Historical Museum presents Ruth Eckes and Jim Frederickson - Brass Pounders and Hoopin' it Up! Train Dispatching on the NP, 599 NW Front Way, 3:30 PM, Info: 360-748-0831, www.lewiscountymuseum.org, lchm@lewiscountymuseum.org.

FEB 18-19, CALGARY AB, SUPERTRAIN 2006, Calgary Model Railroad Society Annual Model Railway Show, Big 4 Building, Stampede Grounds, 9am-5pm. Info: -Mike Borkristl, (403) 203-1970, supertrain@calgarymodelrailway.org, www.calgarymodelrailway.org

FEB 19, (SUN), SPOKANE WA, River City Modelers Model Railroad Train Show. Spokane Community College, Lair Student Activities Building, Mission & Green St, 9:30am-3:30pm. Info: - River City Modelers, c/o Bob & Shirley Sample, P. O. Box 314, Elk WA 99009, (509) 292-8332, shirleysample@qwest.net.

FEB 25, (SAT), CLACKAMAS OR, 21st Annual Willamette Model RR Club Swap Meet, Camp Withycombe Armory, S.E. 102nd, off Hwy 212-224, 10am-3pm, (free admission). Info: - Rick Andrews (503) 642-3298, DRDEWS@msn.com.

MAR 4, (SAT), KELOWNA BC, Model Railroad Swap Meet, Laurel Packing House, 1304 Ellis St. 10am-3pm. Info: - Willy Kowalchuk, (250) 860-9084, heyjud60@telus.net.

MAR 4-5, SASKATOON SK, All Aboard 2006 21st Annual Model Rail Show sponsored by the Prairie Rail Workshop Club, Western Development Museum, Sat 9am-6pm, Sun 9am-5pm. Info: - allaboard2006@sasktel.net.

MAR 11-12, PORT ORCHARD WA, 21st Annual Towne Square Port Orchard, Model Railroad Show presented by the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad Club, 1700 SE Mile Hill Rd, Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-5pm. Info: - Stephen R. Strauss, (360) 876-5656, srstrauss@donobi.net.

MAR 12, (SUN), BURNABY BC, 24th Annual Western Rails. Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. 9am-4pm. Info: (604) 540-4483.

MAR 18, (SAT), LACEY WA, The Olympia Capitol City Lions Club 21st Annual Model Train Show. St Martins College Pavilion, 5300 Pacific Ave. 10am-3pm. Info: -Bill Zidel, 5143 Blacktail Ct. NE, Olympia WA 98516, (360) 438-3503, zidelrcsd@aol.com.

MAR 18 WA, (SAT), OLYMPIA WA, Olympia Layout Tour, Five great layouts (Consolidated Republic Mining Company RR, Mud Bay & Southern RR., Port Townsend Southern, Tehama Valley RR, etc), Info: - Greg Wright, (360-352-5386), gregorywright20002@yahoo.com.

MAR 19, (SUN), CALGARY AB, Calgary Model Railroaders Society Spring Mini-Meet & Flea Market, Glenmore Inn 2720 Glenmore Tr. SE, 9:30am-4pm. Info: - Jeffrey Burk, (403) 272-5546, eve, jeffb@boltsupply.com, www.calgarymodelrailway.org

MAR 19, (SUN), PULLMAN WA, 10th Annual Palouse Empire Railroad Show & Swap Meet. Beasley Performing Arts Coliseum, WSU Campus, 10am-3pm. Info: - Ken Vogel 400 E. Main St, Pullman WA 99163, (509) 332-0505, (M-F 9:30-6:00, Sat 9:30-5:30), or Noel Randall, 805 Panorama, Moscow ID 83843, (208) 882-3773.

APR 1-2, COLFAX WA, North American Railcar Operators Association, (NARCOA), Colfax to Hooper Jct. Rt. Colfax to Moscow Rt. Pullman to Potlatch Rt. Info: - www.narcoa.org. There are too many NARCO events during 2006 within the PNR to list. Check their web sight.

APR 8-9, EUGENE OR, 18th Annual Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet. Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W 13th Ave, Expo Hall, South side of the complex. Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Info: - Lee or Diane Temple, (541) 688-9112, ttanddt@ram.com.

APR 9, (SUN), NANAIMO BC, Vancouver Island Spring Model Railroad Show, Beban Park Rec. Centre, 2300 Bowen Rd. 10am-4pm. Info: - Rick Lord, (250) 724-4205, rbldord@telus.net.

APR 14-15, VERNON BC, 7th Div, 2006 Vernon Spring Meet, Best Western Vernon Lodge, 3914 32nd St., (Hwy 97), (250) 545-3385, Info: - Registrar, Angus McLellan, (250) 862-9074, angusnfam@shaw.ca.

APR 28-30, ESSEX MT, 18th Annual Essex Express Railfan Weekend, Izaak Walton Inn. Info: - (406) 888-5700, stay@izaakwaltoninn.com, www.izaakwaltoninn.com.

APR 29-30, MONROE WA, United Northwest 15th Annual United Northwest Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet. Evergreen State Fairgrounds, 14405 179th Ave, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Info: - David Moser, 13306 109th Ave. NE. Kirkland WA 98034, (425) 821-6968, david@unwclub.org.

MAY 19-21, CALGARY AB, The Rockyview Express, 6th Div spring meet hosted by Calgary Model Trainmen. Info: - www.rockyviewexpress.com.

MAY 20, (SAT), BEAVERTON OR, Pacific Northwest Area 8th Annual "Meet - 'N' - May, N Scale MRR Club Meet, Fir Grove Elementary School, 6300 SW Wilson Ave., 10am-4pm. Info: - Mike Adams, (541) 461-0156, mdadams006@aol.com, www.hobbysmith.com.

MAY 20, (SAT), BELLINGHAM WA, 2nd Annual Rails by the Sea, Pacific Northwest Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet, The Hampton Inn 3985 Bennett Dr. 9am-6pm. Info: - www.northwestrpm.com/RPM_Meet.htm, info@northwestrpm.com.

JUNE 3-4, PUYALLUP WA, Washington State Train Show & Swap Meet sponsored by 4th Div PNR, Puyallup Fairgrounds, 110 9th Ave. Info: - Gregg Ardnt, (360) 584-3515, gregga247@comcast.net, www.4dprn.org.

JUNE 22-25, LEWISTON MT, MRHA, (Milwaukee Road Historical Association), Annual Convention, Yogo Inn. (800) 860-9646. Info: - www.mrha.com.

JUL 2-9, PHILADELPHIA PA, Independence Junction 2006. NMRA National Convention, Sponsored by the Mid-Eastern Region. Pennsylvania Convention Center, 1101 Arch St. Info: - www.ij2006.org.

JUL 12-16, BOZEMAN MT, NPRHA, (Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association), Annual Convention, Best Western Gran Tree Inn, 1325 n 7th Ave. Info: - Janyce Taylor, 917 Park View Way, Missoula MT 59803-2319, www.nprha.org.

Jul 16-19, KALISPELL MT, GNRHS, (Great Northern Historical Society Annual Convention), WestCoast Kalispell Center Hotel, 20 N Main. Info: - www.gnrhs.org.

AUG 3-6, WILSONVILLE OR, Willamette Valley Express. PNR 2006 Convention, Holiday Inn, 25425 SW 95th Ave. Info: - www.pnr2006.com, Registrar, John Sparrows, (503) 631-7793.

AUG 10-12, BOZEMAN MT, Milwest Annual Meeting, (Milwaukee Road-Lines West Historical Group). Info: - www.milwest.org.

SEP 24, (SUN), VICTORIA BC, NMRA, PNR, 7th Div, Vancouver Island Subdivision, 16th Annual Victoria Model Railway Show, Cedar Hill Recreation Centre, 3220 Cedar Hill Rd. 10am-4pm. Info: - Ted Alexis, (250) 595-4070.

OCT 7-9, ESSEX MT, 25th Annual Alta/Mont Weekend, Izaak Walton Inn. Info: - (406) 888-5700, stay@izaakwaltoninn.com, www.izaakwaltoninn.com.

OCT 14-15, CHILLIWACK BC, Mount Cheam Lions Club Model Railway & Hobby Show, Heritage Park, 44140 Luckakuck Way. Sat. 10am-6pm. Sun 10am-4pm. Info: James Hill, (604) 824-1757, qdee@telus.net.

OCT 14-15, FIRCREST WA, N-Track Northwest 19, N Scale Show & Swap Meet, Fircrest Recreation Center, 555 Contra Costa, Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-4pm. Info: - Walt Huston, 1210 141st St E. Tacoma 98445, (253) 535-8787, walthuston@earthlink.net.

NOV 10-12, BURNABY BC, TRAINS 2006, 24th Annual 7th Div Fall Meet, Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. Info: - Trains Meet Registrar, P.O. Box 52224, N. Vancouver BC V7J 3V5, Trains-2006-meet-reg@telus.net, www.bctrains.org.

NOV 11-12, (SUN), BURNABY BC, TRAINS 2006, 24th Annual Public Show, Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. 9am-4pm. Info: - Trains Show Registrar, P.O. Box 52224, North Vancouver BC V7J 3V5, trains-show-registrar@telus.net. www.bctrains.org.

To add your activities to the Timetable contact Hugh Mackenzie at, (208) 777-8024, hcmac@adelphia.net. For more up to date information check www.nmra.org. Go to Regions and Divisions and to the PNR home page.

Rail Vacation

Angus McLellan

We (my wife and I) have taken the train on this route 4 times, in order to visit relatives. The trip offers us a way to take a single vacation and make it into three vacations in one. The first vacation takes place when we board the train at King Street Station in Seattle, and let the world go past. The second vacation starts when we arrive in LA, and continues until we report back to the train at 10:00 for our third vacation back to Seattle. When you are riding the train you are insulated from the world as it passed you by, no letters, no phone calls, nothing scheduled that YOU have to attend to, except maybe lunch and dinner, which by the way are excellent. If there is a problem with riding the train, it is the tendency to gain at least 5 pounds each leg of the trip.

The train pulls out of the station and you are as I said surrounded by people who's focus is the professional way they tend your needs and desires. The Coast Starlight is the only name train that still runs the Pacific Parlor Car, a decided asset to first class travel, with its wine tasting, continental breakfast and movie theatre on the lower level, seating 20 people in comfort. The train runs along Puget Sound and the coast for the first few hours of its trip before turning inland south of Portland, the sights range from the beauties of the mountains and water to the less appealing wrong side of the track scenes which are prevalent along every railroad. It is a wonderful opportunity to take prototype photos of such scenes for inclusion in your urban scenery. As the train moves southward, meal times come and go, and are the only real evidence of the passage of time, during the afternoon, the First Class Parlor Car has beverages of all kinds and a Wine tasting. After a delicious supper, first class passengers have the choice of retiring to their sleeper compartments, remaining in the parlor car or attending a first run movie in the theatre. When you are ready to retire, a short ring of the bell and the Sleeping car Attendant will arrive to put down the beds for you. The gentle rocking and swaying of the train will ensure a peaceful slumber that is undisturbed by announcements from 10:00pm until 9:00am. Breakfast starts at 6:30 and like every other meal I had on the train is delicious. The morning passes as you wend your way southward, watching the scenery, both natural and man-made, bridges and tunnels, rivers and mountains. Once again mid afternoon finds the parlor car serving another wine tasting, another assortment of wines from the vineyards surrounding the route of the train. As evening falls, the train rolls through Vandenburg AFB, and passengers observe evidences of another form of travel, space travel as the gantries and launch sites of various rockets are seen. The sunsets are truly awesome over the Pacific and we were disappointed as the light failed and we were no longer able to see the scenery. We pulled into Union Station on Alhambra Ave. in LA at 10:15, or about an hour after our scheduled arrival, we spent several long waits on sidings, waiting for Metrolink trains and freight trains that UP considered more important than the Coast Starlight. Our trip back to Seattle was if anything even more spectacular as much of the scenery we missed due to darkness was now being traversed in daylight, the coastal scenery and the Southern

California architecture evident in its historical beauty. My wife is of the opinion that if you are planning to take the train in only one direction, it would be much more rewarding to fly to LA and then take the train North. I find I must agree with her opinion, the scenery in Southern California, the oceanside, and the architecture are hidden by the darkness of the last part of the southbound trip.

Amtrak is doing a great job, even though it is shunted to sidings to allow freight trains to pass, and often runs late as a result. The employees are almost to a person, professional, helpful and friendly, eager to help and serve your every need. The trains are comfortable and a pleasure to ride, and I expect I will be traveling this way until I no longer have reason to travel to California.

Regional Report

Ken Rutherford

The North Island Model Railroad club held a two day show in the Campbell River Museum on January 28 & 29. They displayed their operating layout and had display models in all scales. They answered many questions for the inquisitive visitors

Rick Lord

Sunday April 9th 2006 is the date for the 22nd Annual Mid Vancouver Island Model Railway Show in Nanaimo B.C..As in the past we will have operating layouts,displays and swap & shop tables (\$20 / table, contact Ken Rutherford).For those of you who have been busy over the winter season we have our "Favorite Model Contests ".Every entrant in the modeling contests has a chance to win twice, as there are plaques for the winner of each category plus all entrants have their name entered in two draws for \$25 gift certificates from a Nanaimo hobby shop.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 or maintenance of way.

Structure/Diorama - building or bridge in a scene or stand alone.

While the contest is open to everyone, the voting is done by NMRA members who attend the show.

If you would like to have your model judged for points under the NMRA achievement program,this can be arranged at the show.

We hope that you will once again come and enjoy the show and maybe leave a winner as there are hourly door prize draws as well.Ken Rutherford and I have enjoyed putting these shows together for you but it is your participation that makes these shows fun .We look foreword to seeing you there.

Show time is 10 am to 4 pm (10:00 to 16:00 hours) .Admission is \$3.00 per NMRA member,\$5.00 non member,\$4.00 seniors,\$10.00 family,\$1.00 for children (6 - 12).The location is the same as past years ,the Beban Park Rec. Center, 2300 Bowen Road Nanaimo B.C.For more information please contact Ken or myself (see the time table info elsewhere in the B.B. for email and phone numbers).

Lori Sebelley

The Chilliwack Model Railway Club has unfortunately lost their home in the mall, as the space has been rented. All N scale modules are back with their owners and the Free-Mo yard is being stored in the basement of Larry and Lori Sebelley.

At this time, the N scale division hasn't any plans to set up and will be attending monthly meetings only. We did however, get a new member in January, and he will be starting to build a module shortly. The Free-Mo division has 12 members. Work parties are being scheduled to scenic the yard and to work on individual modules. We are planning to attend and set-up at the RPM in Bellingham May 20, Big Valley, Alberta August long weekend, and of course local events. Larry has been busy building the CMRC a website. You can check us out at <http://members.shaw.ca/cmrc/welcome.htm>

Rene Gourley

My locomotive project celebrated its third birthday over Christmas. Since then, I wrapped up detailing on the chassis and interested readers can see the progress at <http://members.shaw.ca/rene.gourley/loco.html>. For some bigger, heavier modeling, I joined the destruction crew on Scott Calvert's Boundary Subdivision, where heavy remodeling is under way.

Ken Haun
Prototype news:

Every day a train from Terrace brings to Kitimat (45 miles) some 50 loaded wood-chip cars, which is the feedstock for the Eurocan paper mill. It returns later the same day with the empties. Most of the mill's production leaves by ocean-going vessel.

Assistant Superintendent

Don Forsyth

As I have just taken up this position, I look forward working with Gary in the many changes that are happening to the NMRA.

VIDEO LIBRARY

I would like to bring to everyone's attention the Great Model Railroad tapes. These are very informative. An example:

GMR#1 is New England, Berkshire & Western
in it tips on
x-brick building
- trees

GMR#2 is Franklin & South Manchester
in it tips on - detailing buildings
- water
- track (realistic flex)
- streets

Over the next few issues I will list more tapes and the tips on them.

I will be bringing the Great Model Railroad tapes in the division library to the Spring meet in Vernon, so if you attend, you can pick some up. Also they can be loaned by contacting me at d.forsyth@telus.net.

Hope to see a lot of you at the meet.

Editor's Desk

Eric Reynard

Finally on time. It is taking a little longer to get in the swing of things than I had hoped but here we are with a new issue. You will notice a lack of one of the elements that help to make a good publication - photographs. Nothing arrived in my mailbox between issues and I have nothing to submit myself. There should be more for next issue though, with the Island and Interior meets. I will be attending the Interior Spring Meet and will make sure I get photos. We will be showing the Salmon Arm layout and hope to see other fine examples of model railroad craftsmanship.

A new feature in our Bulletin Board is the addition of a few notes from around the 7th Division called Regional Roundup which highlights the goings-on of the modelers within our Division. Take time to look at Rene Gourley's website and the excellent work he is doing on his three year locomotive project. If you have websites of your own you would like mentioned in the Bulletin drop me a line and we can include a listing of layout websites. Reports for the Bulletin on your own layout progress is welcome especially if accompanied by photographs. The only progress on my own layout is the recent completion of Masonite splines for the roadbed. Now the sanding begins. I haven't told my wife yet about Masonite sawdust)

Also featured in this issue is a report on his recent vacation by rail from Angus McLellan. Angus is busy getting ready for the upcoming Interior Spring Meet as he is registrar. Thanks for the personal insight.

Take note also of the registrar information for NMRA Canada. A membership form is attached to the Bulletin and I think many who are now non-NMRA members will be pleasantly surprised at the reduced cost of membership.

Time to start that article on your own special project and submit to me for publication. Help me out and make my job easier and become a published author.

Hope to see some of you at the upcoming Interior Spring Meet.

