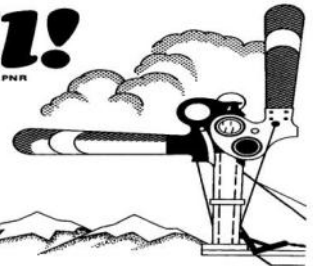




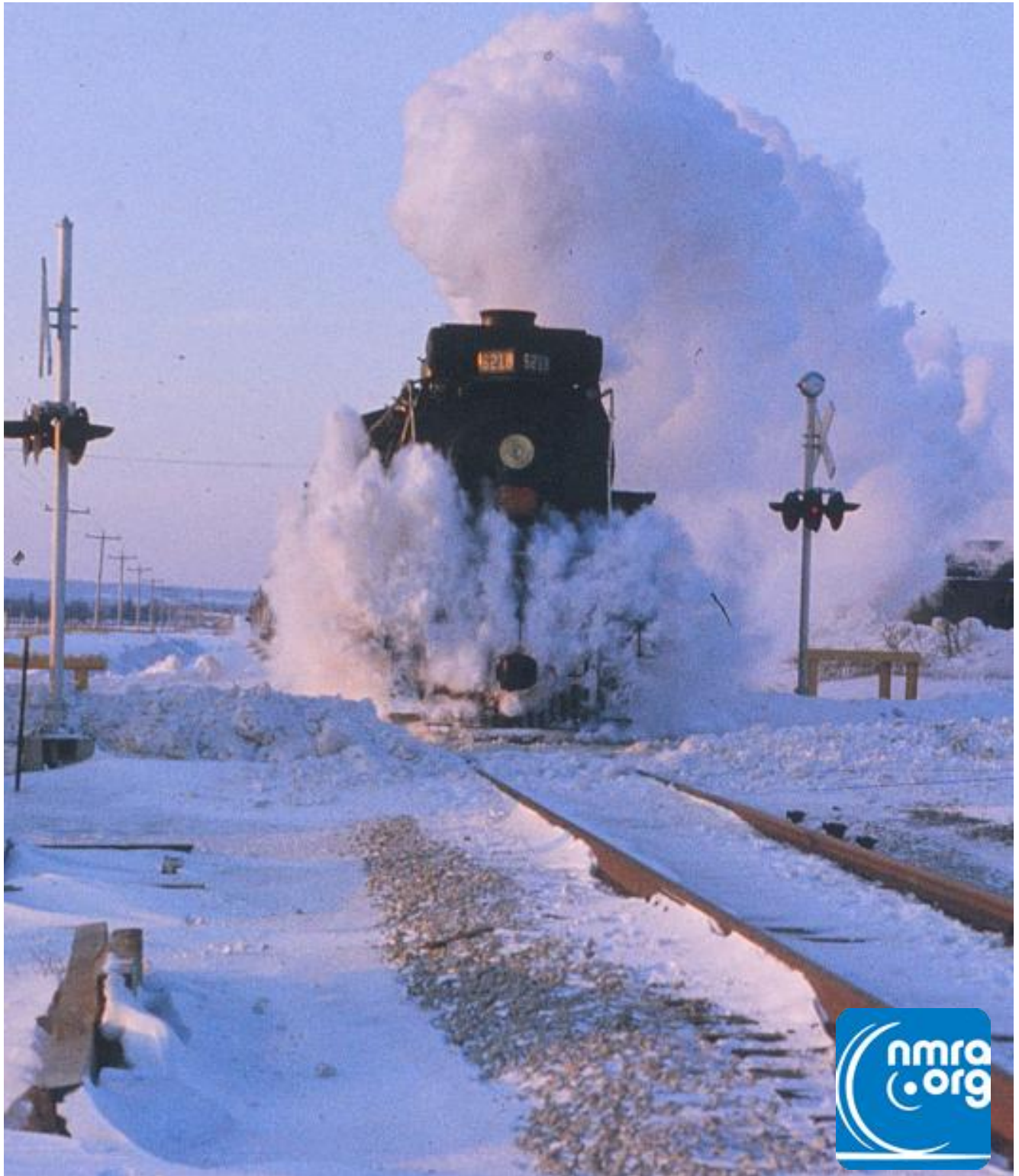
Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR



Alberta Saskatchewan and Northwest Territories

2014 #1



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On the cover: CN 6218 takes a fan trip through Milton ON on January 30 1965. The U2g 4-8-4 was built by the Montreal Locomotive Works in 1942. Retired in 1971 she is now located in Fort Erie ON

Photo by Doug Wingfield, MMR

From the Van

Ron Gillies



I am always looking for a little inspiration that will help kick-start my own modeling plans.

On a trip to the 30th Annual Saskatoon show in February I was struck by the growing detail of the BiG G-scale layout. Looking through photos from other years I found a rather bare shot of the same layout section taken at Extra 2007 East.

When you compare the photo

on this page with the one on page 9 you see the change that has occurred in seven years in a modular layout.

As I looked at the changes I also realized that my own skills have changed. The 2007 shot was taken on full automatic and required flash to get any degree of detail. The shot from February 2014 was existing light without a flash with much better composition.

The lesson to be learned from this is that with a little bit of practice over a regular period of time skills and the resulting layouts will improve if we let them.

Simply doing things will change your modeling skills. Give something old and something new a try this weekend and grow your skills. By the way, due to lack of other content (*hint hint*) I present the first short piece on p10



about why trolleys are good. Give your writing skills a try too!

And try something else. Nominations for Division officers are open. See the notice on page 6 and read Superintendent Mike's farewell on page 5.

- Ron Gillies

6th Division Highball!

Editor Ron Gillies

Area Reporters

Edmonton	Mark Johnson
Camrose	Norm Prestage
Calgary	Rob Badmington
Lethbridge	Tony Lee
Medicine Hat	Open
Saskatoon	Open
Moose Jaw	Stirling Millar
Regina	Wayne Wessner
NWT	Open
LDSIG/OPSIG	Cal Sexsmith

Printer Mark Johnson
Mailing The EMRA work crew

The Manifest

2013 Issue #2

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Highball! Deadline

Copy deadline for Highball!: June 15 2014 for the Summer 2014 (#2) issue. You should normally receive Highball! within two weeks of the copy deadline.

Achievement Program Report

My report this time begins with congratulations to Brian Stokes of Edmonton who has achieved his Chief Dispatcher Certificate in the Achievement Program. Well done!

The latest edition of the NMRA Magazine (February, 2014) has a biography of Roger Walker, MMR #506.

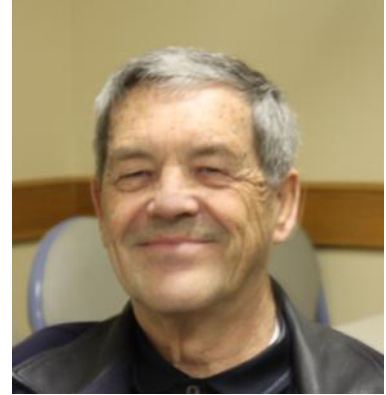
Although my biography has not appeared yet, it should show up in the next month or two in the Magazine.

My assessment committee and I are ready to go to Calgary for the 6th Division Spring Meet. We are looking forward to assessing

some models. The meet committee will be providing space for you to display your models.

Looking forward to seeing friends at Calgary in March.

Doug Wingfield, MMR #484
6th Division, PNR AP Chair
email: dwfield@telus.net



Financial Report

	Sep '12 - Aug 13	Budget	\$ Over Budget
Income			
6th Division PNR AGM-Meet Rev	655.00	0.00	655.00
Interest	10.07		
PNR Membership Rebate	636.54	900.00	(263.46)
Total Income	1,301.61	900.00	401.61
Expense			
6th Division PNR AGM-Meet Exp	479.52		
Bank Charges	40.20	50.00	(9.80)
Education	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
Event Seed Money	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
General Expenses	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
Highball!	890.97	1,000.00	(109.03)
Total Expense	1,410.69	1,900.00	(489.31)
Net Income	(109.08)	(1,000.00)	890.92



Last year's financial numbers as presented by Treasurer Rick Walker at the March 2014 AGM

Superintendent's Report



Hello all

Hopefully sometime soon we may see mother nature cooperate and actually help get rid of this snow that seems to be lingering much too long. that would mean we can crawl out of our basement hide-a-ways and see daylight once again! Come Igor, look at the warm shiny ball in the sky! (maybe some of us have been in the basement too long!)

Unfortunately, I have not spent much time in the basement lately. But none the less, the last 4 years have been an adventure, to say the least. Being your superintendent for that span has been a pleasure. There were many things accomplished,

some things still in the works, and some things that may yet come. We managed to change the borders on the Division, we managed to get recognition for AP qualifications at meets not officially NMRA but had NMRA presence at. We managed to talk about inclusion rather than exclusion with many aspects of the hobby. We managed to create mini meets with other modeling groups and organizations, some for the good, some not as successful as hoped. We managed for the most part to keep everyone informed and got more Highballs out over the last 4 years than in the past. So all in all I would like to say we had some success!

But the time has come for me step aside, not because I did not enjoy it, and not because I accomplished all I set out to do, but for the simple fact of time. Time is a precious commodity that is not available on the stock exchange, you can't load it in a hopper or a boxcar, and you can't manufacture it out of thin air. It simple exists in all of our lives, and I have spent the better part of the

last 18 years being "involved" in what many might consider a somewhat leadership, mentor or active volunteer role. Like a good friend of mine said to me, I cannot not say no!

The great part about all that time over the years is all the great people you meet and all the "stuff" you help organize for people to enjoy and have fun with. That part has always been rewarding in its own right. The down side is the time away from family and your own modeling endeavors.

So it is with some reluctance that I am going to step away for awhile and "take a break" from the admin side and concentrate on some other important situations in my life. I will still be around, pop in from time to time, and may even be asked to do another clinic or two, but for the most part it will be behind the scenes now.

So, in the immortal words of Bob Hope, "Thanks for the memories"!

- Mike Borkristl

The 6th Division History Project

I've started to expand the history of the 6th Division to include images of the past events such as photographs and memorabilia like badges,

programs, and so on.

If you have something that reminds you of our past activities, please let me know, and I'll see

about adding it. See more at <http://pnr.nmra.org/6div/history.html>

- Mark Johnson

Convention Coordinator's Report

Usually we hope to have the location of next year's Meet decided well before the current year's Meet occurs so there is plenty of time to organize and promote it. When Calgary hosted the 2013 Meet no other cities came forward with an offer to host the 2014 meet. Last October, we asked around the Division again to see if any interest in hosting had arisen. None was forthcoming so the group in Calgary put on another successful if not overly well attended meet in March 2014.

Going into the AGM at the Meet, we had received an offer from

Camrose to host the 2015 meet, following up on their very well run meet in 2010. At the AGM, Saskatoon also put forward a proposal to host the 2015 Meet. After much discussion at the meeting, the members voted to award the Meet to Saskatoon in light of the previous two being held in Alberta. Since nobody from the Battle River Railroad Modelers of Camrose was at the AGM, they were asked by email after the meeting if they would be willing to host the meet in 2016. The answer is yes, so we are now in the happy position of having the next two Spring

Meets lined up.

Cal Sexsmith of Saskatoon promises a great weekend of model railroad activities centred around the Saskatchewan Railway Museum. The meet will be in May, possibly the Victoria Day Weekend. Saskatoon has hosted many division meets in past years and we are confident that they will have lots of model railroad activities to keep us busy. Likewise, Camrose in 2016 promises lots of layouts and at least one prototype tour of a fascinating rail-served industry.

- Rob Badmington

6th Division Nominations Requested

This being an even year, the terms of the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent end on August 31.

Our current Superintendent, Mike Borkristl, has informed me that he does not wish to be nominated this year.

At the business meeting in March, I asked for nominations/volunteers, but there were none at that time.

Since then, Ed Molenkamp and Peter Ulvestad have been nominated by 6th Div members as Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent respectively.

This is the last call for other nominations. I will declare nominations closed on May 1, 2014. If there are other nominations, this will allow time to conduct a full election.

If you are interested in what the jobs entail, please refer to the PNR's Superintendent Handbook located at <http://pnr.nmra.org/policies/>

Please contact any member of the Nominating Committee with a nomination, or if you have any questions.

Mark Johnson
Nominating Committee Chair
Mark.Johnston@Infoharvest.ca

Tony Lee
seeleeski@shaw.ca

Cal Sexsmith
calvinsexsmith@sasktel.net

Area Reports

Calgary

With what seems like a never ending winter, a lot of indoor model railroading activity has been taking place in Calgary.

As I write this, SUPERTRAIN 2014 is still in the future, so I can't tell you what a success it was. Construction at the Subway Soccer Centre has thrown all sorts of additional challenges at the organizing Committee, including the loss of over 400 parking spaces on the property.

However, more layouts, displays, exhibits, and commercial entries than ever will fill all available space including the full length of the upper concourse. Manufacturers from the US continue to discover SUPERTRAIN as the show to attend in Canada with several new ones joining us in 2014. We have over 200 individuals who volunteer to make it all happen including many from all over the 6th Division who come to Calgary just to help out.

In early March, Calgary hosted another Model Railroad Weekend, dubbed The Chinook Second Section. Our 6th Division Spring Meet kicked things off with 27

members registering on Friday, from places like Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Three Hills, and Wainwright.

Three clinics in the afternoon and evening operating sessions at three different layouts starting things off. On Saturday, the Proto Modelers Meet included four very informative clinics along with a large display of models in the Show and Tell area.

Self-guided tours to five different layouts ran concurrently on Saturday afternoon, followed by the 6th Division AGM at the Royal Canadian Legion. Cal Sexsmith was on hand to announce the winner of the John Marlor Award for favourite layout – Ross McLeod's BC Hydro Railway based on the Carrall Street Yard.

Plenty of conversation and socializing followed the AGM while railroad slides ran on a screen in the corner.

On Sunday, activities included Calgary Model Trainmen's Flea Market and the CMRS Spring Mini-meet with five more clinics and a free lunch.

A highlight of the mini-meet was the Peter Bouma Challenge. Peter cut a bunch of 5" x 5" plywood squares and gave them out last

fall to anyone who wanted to make a diorama on one. A total of 22 modelers took the challenge with some very creative ideas portrayed. All those that brought a diorama were entered for a random draw for a \$100 hobby shop gift certificate.

It seems that every week or two I hear about another model railroad group active in the Calgary area. Some are model builders who get together at each other's homes on a round robin basis to work on the layout or put together craftsman kits. Others have regular operating sessions and some are railfans who like to show off their photographic endeavours.

Whatever they are, it means that nobody has to be a lone wolf model railroader unless they want to be. There is sure to be a group that likes to do the same things you do.

Rob Badmington
Calgary Area Reporter

Camrose

Not too much to report. We had our annual post-Christmas 'wing-ding' at the Camrose Railway Station and it was a great success. We made an extra effort to involve our significant others this year and it was ap-

(Continued on page 8)

preciated! A great pot-luck supper, carousing, and prize draws galore.

Operations continue Saturday mornings at the Duggan Mall, and work nights, usually bull sessions, on Thursdays.

We are considering hosting the 2015 edition of the 6th Division Spring Meet, but have not received a reply yet from Rob.

[see the Convention Coordinator report for an update—Camrose in 2016! -ed]

A number of our group are planning on attending AB FreeMo at Big Valley this summer and of course we will be in Sherwood Park for GETS.

I've included a couple of phone shots of the CP SD30ECO #5004 that switched my plant this past week, hope they are useable!

[They were and one appears upper right -ed]

Loco was a complete surprise to me, so I had to go to the interweb to find that CP is rebuilding SD40-2s to a cleaner, greener, sturdier new loco. Apparently some 350 of them, eventually. (Kind of looks like an SD45 with a snoot nose:-))

-Norm Prestage

Edmonton

The Great Edmonton model Train Show (GETS was forced to move to a new location—the Millennium Centre in Sherwood Park).



The facility and its staff were great, and the show is booked again for this year - September 20 and 21.

The Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship (MMRF), the organization behind the show, is working with displays and vendors to take advantage of the new space. They're also preparing advertising to let more people know of the new location, and would appreciate modelers spreading the word by mentioning the Sherwood Park site. Up to date information will be at www.mmrf.ab.ca

MMRF is running the annual swap meet on Saturday, May 3, at the usual location - the Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre, 11113 113 Street, Edmonton.

MMRF is also hosting a Model

Railroad BBQ and drop-in social day on Saturday, July 12, from 10-4 at the Deville/North Cooking Lake Community Hall, located at 21033 Wye Road, North Cooking Lake.

The hall is right across from the CN mainline, so we can mix socializing, munching and train-watching. Everyone is welcome!

The Edmonton Model Railroad Association (EMRA) will host another expanded version of their quarterly Open Operating Session on Saturday, May 10.

The EMRA has added more TT&TO features for even more realistic operations. The session will run all day, with a short break for lunch provided by EMRA. The extra time is appreciated by the visitors, who have longer to get used to the layout,

(Continued on page 9)

and are able to run the entire 24-hour schedule. Drop-ins for part of the day are welcome. Please let Peter Ulvestad (ulvestad@telus.net) know if you're planning to attend.

- Mark Johnson

Lethbridge

Activities at SAMRC are moving along, with the new members we have acquired over the last few years now fully integrated into the club and several are now on our new 5 member executive.

Gary Brown has done some extensive track work on our mining branch. Dale Gloer, Doug Wingfield, and several others are working on a new timetable system for the layout.

Work is proceeding on upgrading our scenery on several parts of the layout as some areas are 38-40 years old.

We have gone back to the late 50's and early 60's era, hence some aspects of the scenery, buildings, and rolling stock needed to be changed.

There has been some very preliminary discussion about expanding our facility in Gyro Park, however, at this point is only in the possibility stage. This ultimately depends on the members commitment and possible funding sources.



Heavy steam freight on the Saskatoon Railroad Modelers BiG Railroad. Every year the setting grows more detailed photo by Ron Gillies

We are finally getting a complete facelift to the exterior siding of our building as it has been in the planning stages for 6-7 years. The old wooden siding was showing its age and in some locations, some dry rot was evident.

Our group will be taking the N scale portable to the Calgary Supertrain in April, hence, some scenery upgrading is in the works at present.

- Tony Lee

Saskatoon

Although no formal report from Saskatoon your intrepid editor braved some winter driving to attend the 30th Annual Train Show in late February.

Held at the Western Development Museum in South Saskatoon entrance to the show was part of admission to the Mu-

seum for the weekend.

In addition to local layouts, visiting layouts included the Thunder Creek crew from Moose Jaw and a collection of Lego from NALUG in Edmonton along with the Yellowhead Rail Lines modular layout from Edmonton

[Cal Sexsmith forwarded some great info from All Aboard chair Mervin Rempel. -ed]

The 30th Annual edition of the Saskatoon show had a total of 4200 people come through the doors in the two day event. That was an increase from the 3500 that had attended in 2013.

Marvin thanked everyone who attended and hoped "to see you back next year for the 31st Annual Train Show. Mark this date on your calendar. It will be on February 21st and 22nd, 2015."

Trolley or Light Rail Modelling

Part One of

Ron Gillies

If you have limited space and can't create the continent spanning layout of your dreams, don't despair there is a solution.

With as little as eight square feet (a two by four foot module size panel) you can lay track, build scenery and run two trains at once.

The solution is the classic trolley layout or the modern light rail system seen in dozens of countries (over 150 systems and counting!).

Any scale will do as the curves of a trolley/LRT layout are much tighter than a regular model railroad layout. Typical curves run from 6" to 10" radius with most trolleys looking prototypical as they bend through the curve.

Normal track can be used with snap in sections available from suppliers to mimic street panels. If you are running a classic trolley layout from the 1910's through to the 1950's special track can be bought that easily allows you to create incredible track displays — almost any one of which will put you on your way to an AP certificate for Civil Engineering.

Power can be traditional and run through both tracks or for a bit of a challenge, actual overhead wire can be installed to run a trolley system.



Grand Union—Dual switch and crossover allowing trolleys to move in all directions
photo Les Lewis

Many of the aspects of trolley modeling are the same as regular modeling. Buildings need to be assembled, although closer together than most layouts.

Until recently the biggest challenge has been the lack of good-running trolleys. Bachmann and others are solving this problem.
Next time - a basic track plan.



Bachman Peter Witt in Toronto colours

photo by Greg Shinnie

Modeller's Calendar

To add your activities to the PNR Switchlist Timetable or PNR web page, contact the Timetable Editor, Mark Johnson at (780) 436-2480 or timetable@pnr.nmra.org

Apr 12 (Sat), Roseburg, OR

PNR 1st Division spring mini-meet at the Douglas County Library, 1409 Diamond Lake Blvd, Roseburg. Clinics, model contests, door prizes, and local layout open houses. Info:- pnr.nmra.org/1div/

Apr 12-13, Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2014 Canada's Biggest and Best Annual Model Train Show. 9 AM til 5 PM both days. Subway Soccer Centre, 7000 - 48 Street SE. Calgary FREE PARKING Adult - \$10, Youth (6-12) - \$5, under 6 - free. Over 60,000 sq. ft. of operating layouts, exhibits and displays, railroad artists, hobby shops, model manufacturers, demonstrations, clinics, museums and railroad historical associations, Lego and Thomas Play Area, garden railways, ride-on trains, and much more. Info:- www.supertrain.ca or email info@supertrain.ca

Apr 27 (Sun), Helena, MT

34th Annual Helena Railroad Fair, Civic Center, 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM, \$3 under 12 free. Info: - Helena Railroad Fair, P.O. Box 4914, Helena, MT 59604-4914, 406-443-1578 or 406-227-0158 or email: rrfair@mt.net

Apr 27 (Sun), Nanaimo, BC

30th Annual Vancouver Island Spring Model Railroad Show Beban Park Rec Center, 2300 Bowen Rd. Open 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Sales and Swap tables, Model Contest and Operating Layouts. Admission: \$10 per family, \$5

Adult, \$4 Senior, \$3 NMRA member. Info:- Ken Rutherford (250)724-4698 email kj.rutherford@shaw.ca or Rick Lord (250)724-4205

Apr 30 - May 4, San Luis Obispo, CA

Coast Rails 2014 PCR Convention - Trains to Hadley Jct. Info:-

www.pcrnmra.org/conv2014/

May 1-3, Kamloops, BC

Kamloops Model Railway Days - Calvary Community Church Halls, 1205 Rogers Way, Kamloops, BC - 7th Division Interior Spring Meet and Public Show. Operating Layouts, Contests, Layout Tours, Clinics, Door Prizes, Vendors, Friday Pizza Night, Saturday no-host Banquet and more. Public Show: Friday 6 PM to 9 PM and Saturday 9AM to 4 PM. Info:- Brian Kelly, bandwkelly@shaw.ca or Ken Klein phone (250) 828-8776. Additional info and registration forms available at: www.7DPNR.org

May 3 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

MMRF Annual Swap Meet: Central Lion's Senior Citizens Recreation Centre 11113 113 St. 9AM-Noon, Admission \$2, tables \$20, \$15 for MMRF members. Info:- Ron Boyer, 780-466-2670, www.mmrf.ab.ca

May 10 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

The Edmonton Model Railroad Association (www.emraonline.ca) is holding an all-day open operating session at Fort Edmonton Park. If you are interested in TT&TO operations and would like to join us in operating the Monashee Pacific Railway, please contact Peter at ulvestad@telus.net. The session will run from 9 AM until about 5 PM with a lunch break around noon, and will be followed by a no-host dinner at a local restaurant.

Jun 18-21, Tacoma, WA

PSX2014 PNR Annual Convention, La Quinta Inn 1425 E. 27th St.. Info:- www.PNR2014.com or contact Russ Segner, russeg@gmail.com, (425) 228-7327.

Jul 12-16, Helena, MT

Great Northern Historical Society Annual Convention Info:- www.gnrhs.org

Jul 12 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

A Model Railroad BBQ and drop-in social day will be held from 10-4 at the Deville/North Cooking Lake Community Hall, located at 21033 Wye Road, North Cooking Lake. Sponsored by the Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship - everyone welcome! Info:- www.mmrf.ab.ca

Jul 13-20, Cleveland, OH

NMRA National Convention. Info:- www.2014cleveland.org

Jul 16-19, Yakima, WA

Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association Annual Convention. Info:- www.nprha.org

Sep 20-21, Sherwood Park, AB

2014 Great Edmonton Model Train Show, 10 AM - 5 PM, *NEW LOCATION* Millennium Place, 2000 Premier Way in Sherwood Park. Layouts, displays, clinics, dealers and LEGO! Info:- www.mmrf.ab.ca email:trainshow@mmrf.ab.ca

Upcoming National Conventions

2015: Portland, OR August 23-30
www.nmra2015portland.org/

2016: Indianapolis, IN July 3-10, 2016.

2017: Orlando, FL
nmra2017.sunshineregion.org