

# Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

August 2021



A scene on the Edmonton Model Railroad Association's Monashee Pacific Railway. The club is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year as well as completing a major building expansion.  
(photo by Ken Zinyk)

## **6th Division Officers**

Superintendent

Ed Molenkamp [6divsuper@pnr.nmra.org](mailto:6divsuper@pnr.nmra.org)

Phone: 780-455-1479

Assistant Superintendent

Peter Ulvestad [ulvestad@telus.net](mailto:ulvestad@telus.net)

Phone: 780-410-0788

Secretary

Doug Johnson [djca@accesscomm.ca](mailto:djca@accesscomm.ca)

Treasurer

Rick Walker [walkr@telusplanet.net](mailto:walkr@telusplanet.net)

Achievement Program

Doug Burton [dwburton1234@gmail.com](mailto:dwburton1234@gmail.com)

Convention Coordinator

Doug Burton [dwburton1234@gmail.com](mailto:dwburton1234@gmail.com)

Highball! Editor

Rob Badmington [highball@pnr.nmra.org](mailto:highball@pnr.nmra.org)

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## **Superintendent's Report - Ed Molenkamp, Superintendent 6th Division**

Hello everyone,

I am writing this with a little more "jump in my step" as we come out of all of this isolation and social distancing. I need to apologize to the editor for my reports always being late but there's not much news to say so this report is hard to write sometimes.

We are getting reports that the show season is starting to come back to life which is fantastic!

Membership remains steady which is encouraging to say the least.

The 6th division Annual General Meeting will be announced soon so keep checking your email for an update.

That's all for now but we are hoping that as time goes on the model railroading world will return to a busy normal filled with Shows and Meets.

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## **From the Editor – Rob Badmington**

It is with great relief that Highball! is once again able to list and promote upcoming model railroad events in the Division. Listing all the cancellations over the past 18 months has been most disheartening. Let's hope that the pandemic is pretty well behind us and no more restrictions will be imposed.

As much as I have enjoyed attending virtual meets and club meetings, I am really looking forward to the upcoming shows, auctions, and swap meets. The personal connections with other modellers are what make this hobby special.

Zoom meetings have turned out to be a great way to keep in touch with our fellow members, and even hold Annual General Meetings. Our own 6<sup>th</sup> Division AGM

will be coming up in September. Many clubs have used Zoom to present clinics to their members. One upside of this development is that there are now many PowerPoint clinics already prepared and ready to be shared at live events.

Another encouraging development is the opening of a new model railroad store in Edmonton. See Brian Stokes' report in this issue, and remember to support your local hobby shop, if you still have one.

As usual, this issue of Highball! is filled with reports from many areas around the Division, as well as photos and write-ups of projects completed by individuals during the lock-downs. Thanks to all who have contributed to these pages.

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## **Achievement Program Report - Doug Burton, 6<sup>th</sup> Division, PNR AP Chair**

It has been a very quiet winter and summer. We have one person working on a Golden Spike. COVID has played a role in this as it has added more distraction than we expected. I am hoping for more participation

this fall and winter. If you have any questions please contact me or any member of my team and we can give you a hand.

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## **Convention Report - Doug Burton, 6<sup>th</sup> Division Convention Coordinator**

Hello everyone! If you don't already know there is going to be a spring meet in Camrose on the May long weekend. The hotel has been booked for May 20-23 2022. Friday being an arrival day and Monday being a departure day.

I have blocked only 20 rooms so far as we are not sure how many from Edmonton will commute. We also have a meeting room booked for Saturday and Sunday.

There is a fairly large campground on the east side of the city as well.

We are in the process of getting a web master and setting up a web page in the next 2 months.

I have lined up a very interesting/funny guest speaker.

Friday evening will be a meet and greet pizza at the Camrose Station

I am hoping to get access to Battle River Railway so people can crawl around their locos. There will be 5-6 layout tours.

There will be ops sessions on the Friday and Monday which you will have to book in to.

I will mark up a map for a walking tour of the 6.5 wood trestles that are within 5km south of Camrose along the Stoney Creek. I will also indicate where the diamond is located in Camrose where the CN and CP cross.

I will have my resident experts put together a list of train times and when they should be arriving in Camrose.

If you have never been to Camrose I encourage you to look at the City web page as there is a lot to see here. If you are a golfer and want to make a holiday of it there are about 35 quality golf courses within an hour of Camrose

I would like to encourage everyone to bring something that they are working on that can be in any state of build. It doesn't have to be prototype and can be of any scale. There will be no judging of this just conversation.

We will be looking for people to put on clinics so if you would like put one on please email me and let me know.

We will post more details and breaking news when we get the web site up.

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## **News Items from All Over - Dale Sproule MMR**

March 2021 issue of THE HIGHBALL has an article written by Roger Walker entitled "Weathering Cylindrical Hoppers – InterMountain Pillsbury Cars by Roger Walker, MMR" and in that article he provides a link:

(<http://whiteriverdivision.blogspot.com/2021/01/ex-pillsbury-covered-hoppers.html>.) This newsletter is

huge and I'm drawn to different articles listed on the right side of the page. As I scrolled down to The Blog

List from March 2021 entitled "TRACKSIDE TREASURE" I read about the long ago aired CBC presentation "**THE NATIONAL DREAM**" which aired from Sunday March 3/74 - April 21/74 in 8 episodes.

The raw material was filmed February-July 1973 in 20 locations such as the Fraser Canyon, Myra Canyon before the 2003 fires destroyed many original trestles

on the KVR that were used the shooting of the series and naturally - Craigellachie.

I'm confused regarding one item, I thought actor John Colicos always portrayed Wm. Cornelius Van Horne that I recall but the CBC advertising shows actor John Drainie doing the job, I'm guessing he maybe didn't work out and was replaced before all episodes went to air? Being a closet Van Horne fan (and who cannot be a fan of him, I guess a cast change must have happened early on in the series). A Wikipedia search then solved my confusion; he died in 1966 some 8 years before the show went to air.

Anyhow the link really deserves your attention. There is both prototype and modelling information going back to 2011. Sure brings back memories!



# **CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET & ESTATE COLLECTION SALE**

*Brought to you by the*

**Calgary Model Trainmen**

**September 11, 2021 9am-Noon**

**Calgary Rehab Society #7-11 Street NE, Calgary**

**Admission:**  
**\$3.00 each**

***The Rehab Society will open their kitchen for coffee and snacks  
Free Parking!***

***VENDOR TABLES: \$30.00 each (8'x30") or \$25 (6'x30" limited qty).  
Approx. 30 tables total. Limit 1 table per vendor until Sept 1st please.***

**For tables or info, contact Harvey Tavener  
email: [htavener@shaw.ca](mailto:htavener@shaw.ca)**



*Any AHS or Calgary health requirements in effect at the time shall be followed*

I'm sorry that I cannot report on activities of the Calgary Model Trainmen Club, there hasn't been any. We have pretty well been shut down and have not seen others although members have been known to go to the club during the pandemic and only since about the first of June been showing up in ever increasing numbers. The only real activity will be the Flea Market on September 11.

The CMT executive tells me that they wanted to schedule the Flea Market as much as possible away from the annual South Bank Boomer Auction but the family of a recently deceased member wanted to dispose of his equipment as soon as the pandemic is mostly over.

I and about 120-170 modellers (depending on the evening the numbers change) mostly from the PNR but literally from around the world enjoyed the RMMBC presentations running Thursday evenings through May, sponsored by the 7<sup>th</sup> Division of the PNR.

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## **Area Reports**

### **Moose Jaw - Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club - Greg King**

The annual show is tentatively scheduled for Mar 19-20, 2022 at WDM subject to future COVID restrictions.

Our club is still not allowed in the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw – discussions are ongoing with WDM to determine future requirements.

Members have sent pictures of structures they have been working on. See them in the Pandemic Projects Pages later in this issue.

## **Regina – Echo Valley Railroad Guild – Doug Johnson**

Several members of the Guild have been busy on their home and modular railroads over the past few months, but the overall amount of modelling has slowed with the advent of other summer activities such as bicycling, golfing, camping, travelling, cottaging, etc. Zoom

meetings have been held every two to three weeks and have been very informative. Everyone is looking forward to getting together in person. Planning continues for Railfest 2022 to be held at the Caledonian Curling Club in Regina on April 30 and May 1, 2022.

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## **Lethbridge – Paul Smith**

The Southern Alberta Model Railway Club has had a quiet summer. Members have been working on improvements to our layout lighting and engaging in a large-scale review of our model inventory. We've blown the dust off of stuff lurking in corners of the building (yes, our mothers would approve) and will be putting material up for sale on-line. Be sure to check out our web site (just enter the club name and follow the menu) for details.

[www.albertasouthernrailway.ca](http://www.albertasouthernrailway.ca)

We'll be holding our Annual General Meeting on September 21 and organizing our coming year's activities at that time. Given the current situation, we do not plan on having a Fall Open House or any other public activity for 2021. We'll review our activities for 2022 when the new year approaches. Further to this, the club house will not be open to visitors for now.

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## **Edmonton – Edmonton Model Railroad Association – Tim Walker**

Hello from the Edmonton Model Railroad Association!. Now that the province has opened up, we have been able to have our members back in the building since June. Our members have been busy working on a variety of projects, including cleaning the layout room and prepping it for running trains. We had our first operating session in August, which was the first in 15 months! We were happy to see that the layout performed well with only a few minor snags.

Later this year, the EMRA will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary. This is a monumental occasion for a model railroad club. Our members are proud and humbled that we have been able to reach this milestone. As we move into fall, the club will be continuing small projects around the layout, as well as having regular operating sessions.

During the pandemic pause, the contractor completed the structural portion of our building expansion, and small groups of properly protected members were able to work on interior drywall and insulation. Once finished, the expansion will include significant additional layout space, public areas, and a complete basement with a workshop and meeting room.

When we were not able to meet in person, the club hosted numerous Zoom meetings, often with guest presenters covering a variety of topics, including a tour of the Kettle Valley Railway, Budd RDCs, CPR stations, and Canadian Railway Troops in World War 1.



## **Olds - Didsbury – Carstairs - Rick Astle**

The cancellation of all public gatherings in late 2020 and early 2021 dried up the in person train shows in favour of the virtual online offerings we have become so accustomed to. While these offerings have been wonderful to watch or participate in over Zoom or some such platform they require a lot of work on the part of a moderator and presenter. We should all reach out to these individuals with a great big thank-you.

The Mountain View Model Railroad Club has continued to be busy with our HO scale offering on the second floor of the Didsbury Museum and with the hot and dry weather of the past few months a great deal of work has been completed on the garden railroad as well. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10am to 4pm and Sundays from 1 to 4pm until the end of August.



September is going to be a busy month with the Mountain View Arts Festival taking place September 11 and 12 with the museum and club taking part. The Carstairs Train Show planned for the weekend of September 18 and 19 in the Carstairs Curling club. The show the first in Alberta in two years promises to be a great event with some returning layouts and some new offerings from past exhibitors.



We at the club are so excited to be able to once again share our love for this hobby with our friends and visitors. As I write this it looks like Alberta will be fully open for business and provided no unforeseen spike in COVID related issues results in the re-introduction of restrictions I encourage everyone to take whatever precautions you feel necessary for the protection of your health and that of those around you.

In closing I would like to wish everyone a great and safe return to model railroading in the fall of 2021.

Mountain View Model Railroad Club  
Presents a  
**Model Train & Hobby Extravaganza**  
**Carstairs 2021**



**Saturday Sept 18<sup>th</sup> 10am-5pm**  
&  
**Sunday Sept 19<sup>th</sup> 10am-4pm**

**Carstairs Curling Club**  
**350 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. (Veterans Way), Carstairs, AB**  
(West of CO-OP Look for signs)

**Admission \$5.00**  
**Kids 5 & under Free**

www.mvmrc.ca/page3.html  
email Rick 1mvmrc@gmail.com  
phone (403) 556-3121home  
or (403) 507-3314cell  
for more information



## **The Train Exchange Opens in Edmonton – Brian Stokes**

There is a new hobby shop now open in the 6th Division. *The Train Exchange* opened its doors this spring in Edmonton. Amidst the uncertainty of COVID, and with many hobby shops around North America closing their doors it is surprising to see a new shop dedicated to model railroading, but owner Grant Reiersen sees opportunity for a new way of doing business in the hobby - one that puts customer service and community-building first.



“The days of stocking everything in the Walthers catalogue are gone,” Reiersen says over coffee after another busy Saturday at the store. “You can get any hobby item you want now on the internet, but the internet isn’t what is killing hobby shops - apathy is. Every shop can have an online presence in this day and age.” Reiersen sees the physical store as more than just a place to make a purchase though, and he sees the store as more than just the brick-and-mortar physical place. “It is a destination - a gathering place.”



Reiersen’s vision for The Train Exchange is to serve an important role in the hobby community in Edmonton. “Model Railroaders around here have been underserved for a long time,” he explains. “Aside from sales, we do service and DCC installs, but we also have plans to create the chance for people to socialize and learn new skills.” A layout, library, and social area are being built on the upper level of the store, for example. “I want people to feel like more than customers, that you could treat the place almost like it was yours.”



It is this attention to service, the store as a destination, and reaching customers online and in person that could be the formula for The Train Exchange’s success. Whatever the outcome, model railroaders in the Edmonton area are welcoming the return of a dedicated model railroad-exclusive store where they are met by staff who are friendly, knowledgeable, and genuinely interested in growing the hobby.

The store is located at 18053 - 107 Ave NW, Edmonton.

## **Airdrie / Iron Horse Park – Greg Orme**

The members and volunteers at Iron Horse Park finally shouted “all aboard” for the first time since March 2020.

Even with the smoke once again drifting into the cities of Airdrie and Calgary from the forest fires in BC the park fully opened on July 18 for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic and so far, more than 2,500 visitors have ridden the trains.

It’s great to be able to share our hobby once again and it is apparent our loyal visitors appreciate this as well.

In the days since March 2020 we have still been working in the background and did partially open last season under full COVID restrictions.

But now that we are up running again, we can start thinking about more projects and improvements. Iron Horse Park is into its 24th year of operation and look forward to a successful season this year.

As I mention in all my reports we are always looking for new members or volunteers to help us out at the park, so if you have a bit of time and would like to get involved, we would happy if you would consider joining us. Information is available on our website.

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## **Calgary – Rob Badmington**

Calgary blew through the old weather record for the number of days above 30 C, with 35 and counting this summer. That made the basement one of the best places to beat the heat, and progress was made on more than a few layouts.

With the provincial government lifting almost all COVID restrictions and most people having two vaccinations, many local clubs and operating groups have resumed in-person meetings. My own club, South Bank Short Lines held Zoom meeting almost every Monday evening since March 2020, very often with guests presenting clinics or slide shows on a wide variety of topics. We recently began getting together again, and enjoyed our annual Christmas dinner last weekend at a restaurant in Okotoks. We always have the dinner in August to avoid the inevitable rush in December, but missed last year’s. SBSL is excited to once again hold the Annual Boomer Auction on October 16 in the usual place. We expect there will be a lot of goodies for sale after almost two years without an outlet for used treasures.

Railway Days at Heritage Park also made a come-back, and was reportedly well attended. There was a small display of model railroad layouts. Track motorcars made appearances, staying out of the way of the regular trains, and demonstrations of hooping up orders were performed.

The Calgary Model Railway Society is planning its Fall Mini-meet and AGM for Sunday, October 17 at the

Glenmore Inn, provided that there are no new COVID restrictions imposed. Preliminary planning for SUPERTRAIN 2022 is also underway. Invitations to past and potential exhibitors will go out in October.





# Alaska to Alberta Railway Update – David Halliday, Camrose

Building a railway includes overcoming substantial financial hurdles as Canadians saw with both the Canadian Northern and Grand Trunk Pacific Railways. The newly completed railways' financial problems led to them being merged to create Canadian National Railways.

Now, the ambitious, \$22-billion project to build a northern international railway from Alaska to Alberta has filed for creditor protection after its lender was placed in receivership. A2A Rail said it sought creditor protection as a way of protecting its assets. The company believes the plan to build the railway is sound and still intends to work towards arranging full financing.

The project would see the rail line built from Delta Junction, Alaska (southeast of Fairbanks) to Fort McMurray. The railway would handle two-way shipments that would see products from western and northern Canada reach the Pacific Ocean port at Anchorage and thus Asian markets, while allowing freight from Alaska to travel to the lower 48 U.S. states.

The new 2,570-kilometre rail line would run from Delta Junction, through the Yukon to the southern boundary of the Yukon, then follow the boundary east and continue along the southern boundary of the Northwest Territories to Alberta where it would make the connection to Fort McMurray. Having the route "walk the line" along the territorial boundaries would keep it out of British Columbia where Alberta-backed projects such as pipelines face fierce opposition.

The railway could transport oil, fertilizer, grain, minerals and other commodities from northern and western Canada for export and also provide another entry point for imports from Asia.

Former U.S. President Donald Trump issued a presidential permit for the railway project before he was defeated in last November's election.

If financing is eventually arranged, the rail line will have to undergo environmental impact assessments and receive regulatory approval in both Canada and the U.S. before it is built.



## **Photograph Stacking Software – Rupert James, Regina**

Have you ever been frustrated when taking close-up photographs of your layout? Often the images in the foreground are in focus while those in the distance are not, or vice versa. It can be difficult to get everything in focus, especially indoors where the light isn't as strong as it is outdoors and where there is considerable variation in the relative distances of various objects from the camera lens.

The main issue at play is the physics of lenses and what is known as "depth-of-field". I won't get into any of the technicalities because there is a lot of information online explaining depth-of-field. I prefer to offer a solution, particularly for close-up model railroad scenery photographs.

Here is a digital photograph of a scene in which the foreground is in focus, but the background is not (note that the "slow" highway sign is sharp but the flatbed trailer in the distance is out of focus):





Here is the same scene in which the background is in focus, but the foreground is not (the "slow" highway sign is out of focus, but the flatbed trailer is sharp).



The locomotive was stationary in both photographs.

Photograph stacking software analyses several photographs that are identical, aside from each having different areas in focus, aligns them and uses algorithms to digitally create a new photograph taking the best portions of each. The general guidelines for success are that each photograph needs to be taken from the same place (a tripod or placing the camera on a solid object works best) and the more photographs that are taken, the better so the software has lots of sharp areas to choose from.

There are several such software products on the market. I have been using Zerene Stacker. It cost me just over C\$100 for the personal use version. You can download a free 30-day trial to try it out before buying.

As a test, I used my Samsung Galaxy S10 to take the two photographs above with the phone being held in my hands instead of being mounted on the recommended tripod. Again, as a test, I took only these two shots instead of the recommended multiple shots.

Even with only these two photographs, Zerene Stacker produced the following result which is quite good. Had I taken five or ten shots using a tripod the result would likely have been even better.





In situations where you want photographs that are in focus from front to back this software comes in handy, no matter whatever it is you are trying to capture.

Other model railroad articles can be found on my blog at <https://rupertsinsights.blogspot.com/>

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### **Accurail Kit Build – Dave Audley, Calgary**

This past winter, I was asked if I would be interested in purchasing a special run Intercolonial RR box car kit. A group of folks asked Accurail to do this special run. I really like the Accurail kits so this was an easy decision.

I followed the kit instructions, assembling the underbody frame work. This assembly is shown in photo 1. Note that there is an inside face to the longitudinal beams – they can be assembled wrong side out if you are not careful. Take time to carefully orient the beams. Drill a #70 hole in the A end of the K Brake assembly (the A End is opposite of the end having the brake clevis ). A short piece of 0.020 wire will be glued in this hole, going to the brake pipe line – see photo 3. Attach the K Brake assembly to its respective beam position.



photo 1



photo 2

Before attaching this assembly to the bottom of the floor, lightly sand the outer ends of the beams. Otherwise, they are a very tight fit. The sanding does ease assembly. Photo 2 shows the kit underbody assembly added to the floor. Before attaching the heavy centre cross bearers, drill #70 holes through the cross bearers allowing installation of 0.020 wire to simulate the air brake pipe line. I drill these holes, in the cross bearers, just above the cast in place floor beam, adjacent to the main beam. Photo 2 also shows the #70 hole being drilled through the bolster. The 0.020 wire in the photo is bent and cut to fit through the holes. There is a slot in the main beams just ahead of the K Brake assembly. The bent part of the brake pipe wires go through the slot to meet in between the beams. The pipe that goes into the K Brake assembly is bent and glued in place now.

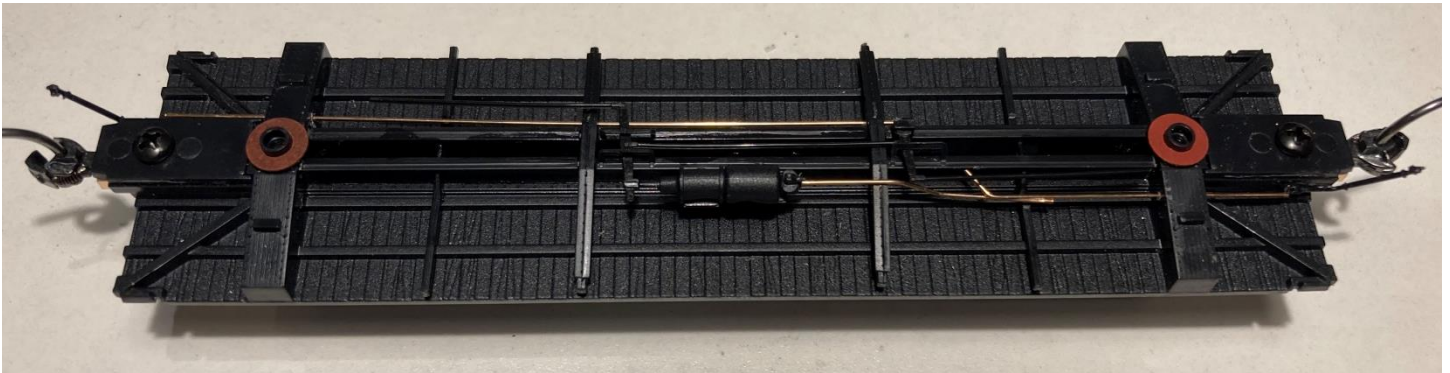


Photo 3 above shows the piping installed along with the couplers and air brake hoses. The floor is now ready for paint. Most photos I have seen of older box cars show that the under flooring is the same colour as the rest of the box car. I also added Kadee washers to bring the couplers to the correct height.

The kit comes with a soft steel weight that is, quite often, not straight but usually has a bow. I use my vise to hold one end of the weight and slightly bend the weight working the bow out and straightening weight. This makes for a much stronger gluing surface as the glue ( either ACC or Walthers goo is good for this connection ) can then be applied to the full surface. I then added weights as shown in photo 4, bringing the car weight to a little over the NMRA recommended weight. For those who know my opinions about car weight, rest assured that I added another 2 ounces of weights on top of the black weight in photo 4. The total weight of my car is 7 ounces, giving a nice heft and much better tracking!





photo 4



Photo 5 above shows the underbody painted with Floquil box car red, a good match to the car body. The floor is now position into the car body, making sure that my additions don't interfere with the sides or ends. I also painted the trucks the same colour as the under floor. Photo 6 shows the painted trucks, with the truck tuner tool in one of the trucks. This tool cleans out and reshapes the cone in the truck side frames. I then installed Intermountain 33' wheel sets. This combination gives a good free rolling ride for my cars and is now my standard for the railroad.

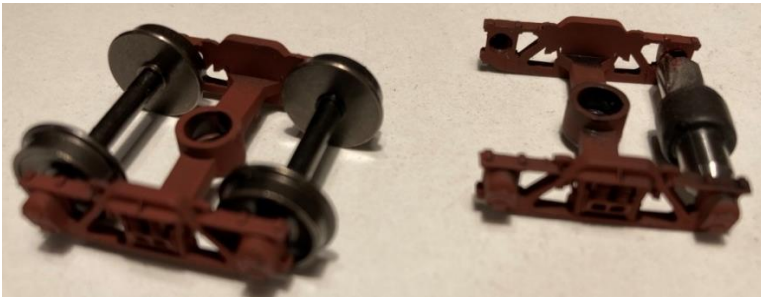


photo 6

Photo 7 shows the brake wheel and brake rod installed on the car end. In this case, I just went with the detail in the kit. I did add a coupler cut lever (Detail Associates part #6215). You could add a clevis and chain to the bottom of the brake rod. You could also add the brake valve and rod to the left of of the brake wheel/rod assembly. The wheel and rod were also painted Floquil box car red.







Photo 8 shows the car now assembled. I have added and painted the sill steps, found on either side, at the ends of the car. This is as far as I am taking the project. However, there is a lot more that can be done with these kits. They are good kit bashing/detailing projects!

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## **RAILS BY THE BAY - VIRTUAL NMRA CONVENTION**

### **Report by Cal Sexsmith, Saskatoon**

I attended Rails By The Bay (RBTB), the virtual NMRA Convention, in early July. RBTB featured two clinic tracks, video layout tours, panel discussions and Birds of a Feather (BOF) events. Michael Gross, of Family Ties fame, was the keynote speaker.

The Layout Design Special Interest Group (I am on their Board of Directors) also sponsored a number of activities including a Meet & Greet session the day before the main convention, mealtime Zoom chats each day at lunch and supper and a keynote talk by Otis McGee owner of the Southern Pacific Shasta Division model railroad.

Each day the registrants received a Zoom link for the day by email which allowed them to watch clinics and layout tours, attend panel discussions and participate in BOF discussions.

A big vote of thanks goes out to Chair Ed Slintak and the other volunteers for putting on a successful event.

**CLINICS:** All clinics were pre-recorded and could be watched at the time specified in the program by Zoom. The clinicians monitored the Zoom chat and answered questions during the clinic. After the clinic a Zoom room hosted by the clinician was available for the attendees to ask questions of the clinician. The recordings of the clinics were available to the registrants for a month after the convention.

**PANEL DISCUSSIONS:** The discussions were done real time by Zoom and consisted of a moderator and several panelists discussing a specific topic. Questions were asked by chat and relayed to the panelists by the moderator. Panel discussions were not recorded.

**LAYOUT TOURS:** TSG Media produced videos of many layouts in the Bay Area. Registrants were provided with links to the videos in advance of the convention and could then watch the videos at their leisure. Videos were between 15 and 60 minutes each. Every evening of the convention some of the layout owners were available in a moderated Zoom room to discuss their layouts and to answer questions.

**BIRDS of a FEATHER:** At any given time during the convention several BOF Zoom rooms were available on a variety of topics. Some were hosted, but many were open discussions on a given topic.

**LDSIG ACTIVITIES:** The LDSIG started the evening before the convention with the traditional Meet and Greet. The Meet and Greet has been a feature of NMRA conventions for many years. LDSIG members gather in the SIG room and the LDSIG President asks each attendee in turn to introduce themselves and talk briefly about their hobby interests. This year it was handled as a Zoom meeting.

Every day at lunch and supper the LDSIG opened a moderated Zoom room to convention delegates to talk about layout design topics. If necessary to get things going the moderator would ask a question of the day. One day we actually helped a fellow design his new layout, a real challenge as he is changing scales from N to O due to eyesight issues. I understand that someone will be writing this design session up for the Layout Design Journal.

At supper time on Thursday the LDSIG Zoom room was pre-empted by our keynote speaker Otis McGee who spoke about his Southern Pacific layout (see June 2021 Railroad Model Craftsman).

The LDSIG also offered 45 minute design consultations via Zoom during the convention. Although not many took advantage those who did found the help given quite useful. The consultants also enjoy this activity.

**FUTURE:** So is RBTB the future of model railroad conventions? The answer is yes and no. There will still be a place for in person events and they will continue at the divisional, regional and national level. There will also be virtual events going forward as they do work well for clinics, discussion groups and Annual General Meetings. I don't think we will see very many in person AGMs in the future as the membership will insist on virtual AGMs so all whom are interested may participate. However, nothing will replace seeing a layout in person or attending and operating event not to mention prototype tours. But I do predict that there will be changes with the in person events.

Some of the changes could include:

- Uncoupling the National Train Show from the National Convention. This would allow the convention to be held in smaller centres.
- Conventions built around a specific theme.
- Not holding the National Convention at the same time of year. Who wants to go to Miami in July or Edmonton in January?

Finally: what about having hybrid conventions that are both in person and virtual? I confess I'm not sure how this would work, but there is an appetite for it. Someone is going to have to try this and I understand that the Bay Area SIG Meet held in late January every year will go virtual in 2022. As this event is organized by many of the people who put on RBTB I think it will be interesting to see how it works out. If they're successful we will have a template going forward.

## **Pandemic Projects Pages**

Many members have taken the opportunity of home isolation during the COVID-19 Pandemic to work on a wide variety of models and other projects. If you have something you would like to share in the next issue of Highball!, please send photos and brief descriptions to the Editor. In the meantime, enjoy some fantastic modelling!

### **Craftsman Kits — Bruce Eastuke, Moose Jaw**

Bar Mills Fishing shack, the second Bar Mills kit that he made, will be on his ocean scene. Pan pastels were used to do majority of the coloring.



King Coal is completed, this is from a Walthers wooden kit. The scene will make its way onto his layout soon.

Bertani's Billiards an older wood kit from JL Innovations, probably the most complex kit as it comes, working on the interior. He added a second floor inside and is working on the 2 pool tables. Interior will be lit for display.

Bruce is currently working on Bar Mills Hurst Boilers and Welding, using mostly pan pastels. He has been trying to source items for the interior which would make him happy, problem is being a boiler guy he is little picky in what h would like to see.





## Craftsman Kits – Bud Guidos, Moose Jaw

Bud made his own interiors, and put in lights in these kits and others he has built.



Bull's salvage, a Bar Mills kit.



These three small kits are Suydam models.



The Messenger building is an old Timberline kit he had for some time from.



He also built a set of "Homes of Yesterday" kits.



Bud built and detailed this gas station which is also a Bar Mills kit.



### **Club Layout Modules – Bill Ash and Jim Carr, Moose Jaw**



Two members of our club (N Scalers) are building modules to include in our club HO layout. It is a total of 12 feet with HO on the top. The width of this part of the layout is 30 inches with the tracks lined up to match existing club modules. The lower level is N scale. The structures in the pictures below are built using only card stock and a color printer



# Upcoming Events in the 6<sup>th</sup> Division

See all the PNR events and our most recent additions at [www.pnr.nmra.org](http://www.pnr.nmra.org)

## Sep 11 (Sat), Calgary, AB

CMT ANNUAL FLEAMARKET & ESTATE COLLECTION SALE. 9AM to Noon. Calgary Rehab Society #7-11 Street NE, Calgary Admission: \$3.00 each VENDOR TABLES: \$30.00 each (8'x30") or \$25 (6'x30" limited qty). Approx. 30 tables total. Limit 1 table per vendor until Sept 1st please. Info:- Harvey Tavener email: [htavener@shaw.ca](mailto:htavener@shaw.ca)

## Sep 18-19, Carstairs, AB

Carstairs 2021 - Model Train and Hobby Extravaganza, Carstairs Curling Club, 350 11th Ave (West of CO-OP). Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 10am-4pm; admission \$5.00, kids 5 and under free. Info:- [www.mvmrc.ca/page3.html](http://www.mvmrc.ca/page3.html) or email Rick, [1mvmrc@gmail.com](mailto:1mvmrc@gmail.com), 403-556-8121 (home), 403-507-3314 (cell)

## Oct 16 (Sat), Calgary AB

41st Annual Boomer Auction, Sponsored by South Bank Short Lines, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Dr. SW. Setup and viewing 08:30am, dining car opens 09:30am, auction starts at 10:00am. NOTE: Public events may still be subject to COVID Restrictions. Check our website [www.sbsltrains.ca](http://www.sbsltrains.ca) for the latest information.

## Oct 17 (Sun), Calgary AB

CMRS Fall Mini Meet and Annual General Meeting. Clinics, Show & Tell. Glenmore Inn, (corner of Glenmore Trail & Odgen Road, SE) <http://www.calgarymodelrailway.ca/> Subject to possible COVID Restrictions.

## April 9-10, 2022 (Sat-Sun), Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2022, Canada's Largest Model Train Show. 9 AM to 5 PM both days. Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconridge Blvd. NE, Calgary. Info:- [www.supertrain.ca](http://www.supertrain.ca) or email to [info@supertrain.ca](mailto:info@supertrain.ca)

## May 20-23, 2022, (Fri-Sun), Camrose, AB

6<sup>th</sup> Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, Spring Meet. Clinics, Op Sessions, Show & Tell, and Layout Tours. Much more to be announced.

## MODEL RAILROAD AUCTION

SOUTH BANK SHORT LINES ASSOCIATION  
[www.sbsltrains.ca](http://www.sbsltrains.ca)

Presents the

### 41st Annual BOOMER AUCTION

Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> 2021

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church  
703 Heritage Drive, S.W., Calgary.

Selling Locomotives, Rolling Stock, Buildings, Kits, Tools, Parts,  
Photographs, Slides, Books and Railroadiana.  
Magazines and VHS tapes will NOT be sold.  
Sellers will be charged 15% commission on Sales

#### SCHEDULE

Doors open for Set-up/Display/Viewing ----- 0830 hrs.

Auction starts -----1000 hrs.

Dining Car Service: open 0930 hrs.  
Great Food-----Great Prices

ADMISSION: Under 6 ----- Free  
6 to 16 ----- \$2.00  
Over 16 ----- \$5.00

NOTE: Public events may still be subject to COVID Restrictions. Check our website [www.sbsltrains.ca](http://www.sbsltrains.ca) for the latest information.

## BOOMER AUCTION

### RULES

1. All items put on display **MUST remain on the table and be included in the auction**, except brass subject to presale per item 3 below.
2. **NEW - RESERVE PRICING** now available to sellers for any valuable item, not just brass. Fee is \$20 per item + usual 15% commission. See [www.sbsltrains.ca](http://www.sbsltrains.ca) for details.
3. Only BRASS MODELS may be sold/traded privately prior to the auction.
4. All items are sold "as is"
5. All sales final and in cash. cash required at time of purchase
6. Magazines and VHS tapes will NOT be auctioned.
7. Final decision regarding sales is at the discretion of the auctioneer.
8. No credit permitted.

### TEST TRACK

Prior to the auction, a test track operated by South Bank Short Lines Association, will be available to test locomotives (DC and DCC) and to provide evidence of operating condition for reference by the Auctioneer during the Auction.

### DRAWS

1. A draw for model railroad items, kindly donated by local hobby shops, will be held.
2. Draw tickets will be available at the door.
3. Draws for item(s) will be conducted during the Auction.
4. The timing of the draws will be at the discretion of the Auctioneer.
5. Winning ticket holders **MUST** be present to claim the item(s).

### GENERAL

1. South Bank Short Lines does not make any representation as to the condition of the items offered for sale with the exception of whether or not a locomotive operated when tested prior to the auction.
2. South Bank Short Lines does not accept any responsibility for the security of items placed on display.
3. South Bank Short Lines will charge sellers a commission of 15% of sales.

ATTEND THE BOOMER AUCTION AND HAVE A GREAT TIME!

South Bank Short Lines Association  
[www.sbsltrains.ca](http://www.sbsltrains.ca)