

Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

March 2025



Jon Greggs of Calgary scratchbuilt this HO scale model of a modern grain elevator for his Free-mo module. It was part of the joint Calgary Model Trainmen's Club – Calgary Free-mo 25 Days of Christmas Run set-up at CMT's club room in December. (photo by Jon Greggs)

Officers of the 6th Division

Elected Officers

Superintendent: Ed Molenkamp
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Convention Coordinator:
volunteer today!

Layout Design / Operations: Cal Sexsmith
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Webmaster: Peter Ulvestad
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Superintendent's Report – Ed Molenkamp, Supt. 6th Division, President NMRA Canada

Greetings everyone

We are in exciting times as we are in the midst of many events, either soon to be happening or have been completed. Upcoming shows will take place in Calgary and Regina.

I am looking forward to heading down to SUPERTRAIN and their new location. There have been a few changes in show locations these days as you may have noticed. Saskatoon has moved locations, Calgary this year and Edmonton is also moving to a new location.

Check the calendar of events in this publication.

The Division has been to every show this spring so far and we will be at the next two as well.

We will try and get more information regarding the Convention in Hinton very soon as we are having a few difficulties in a host hotel because of the Jasper fire from last summer. Stay tuned.

Membership remains steady as it has for the past while.

In other news the NMRA Canada website is getting worked on so it will become easier to use as we have had some difficulties in the past. Thank you to the two new volunteers that have offered to work on it.

Assistant Superintendent's Report – Rick Astle

Time flies when you aren't looking and here we are snow almost gone, shows and events are in our thoughts. I hope all is well with members and their families this time of year.

I continue being busy with events in Didsbury and Olds as several family issues have made it difficult to travel away from home for more than a day at a time. I am looking forward to SUPERTRAIN and will be at the club's layout and the division's booth throughout the weekend.

How can I help NMRA and 6th Division members in particular? I am here to help you in any way I can. Please reach out. I don't know what you need or want without some form of dialogue

Remember we are NMRA and we can make it better by being there to help each other or even one budding model railroader.

See you at the next stop, Rick
6divasstsUPER@pnr.nmra.org

From the Editor – Rob Badmington

The calendar says it is Spring but Mother Nature may have a different opinion. Regardless of the weather, it is the time of year when we can enjoy all sorts of model railroad meets, shows, flea markets, and tours. Check out the details on our Events page.

The biggest of all the shows in Canada, SUPERTRAIN in Calgary, gets even bigger this year. A move to a new venue, the Olympic Oval at the University of Calgary Campus allows expansion up to more than 75,000 square feet with 107 different layouts, displays, exhibits, vendors and manufacturers. As I write this a few days before move-in, the weather looks like it will cooperate on the weekend.

Passing of Mark Johnson



Mark Johnson of the PNR 6th Division, a Life Member of the NMRA for 60 years, passed away on January 11, 2025 after a long battle with Parkinson's Disease. He was 74 years old and a life-long resident of Edmonton, AB.

Mark served as the webmaster for the PNR, as well as the 6th Division and numerous other model railroad organizations for

many years. Mark was presented with the 2009 PNR President's Award for his service to the Region and the hobby. He was also presented with the 6th Division's Silver Spike award in 1984, 2005, and 2024 in recognition of his many contributions to the hobby within the Division.

Mark started model railroading at an early age and formed a club with other enthusiasts in junior high school. At the age of 15, he joined the Edmonton Model Railroad Club (Association), became a Life Member of the NMRA, and attended his first convention, the 1965 National in Vancouver, BC. He developed special interests in operations and the electrical and electronics aspects of the hobby. He spent many a night at the club wiring up surplus telephone relays to provide block controls on the layout before DCC became available.

I first met Mark when I joined the EMRA as a high school student. It wasn't long after that I attended my first convention with Mark, the 1971 PNR Regional in Calgary. When the club faltered due to waning interest in the HO layout, he designed a new layout with an emphasis on

Organizers hope for a record attendance. Hope to see you there!

While I try to focus Highball! on the happy side of our hobby, it is inevitable that beloved members of our fraternity pass on. Some are well known amongst us, and others, not so much. They will all be missed. In this issue there are two obituaries for friends who you may know.

operations and a modern walk-around configuration. This led to a resurgence of enthusiasm and a surge in new members. As part of the fun, members of the EMRA took to calling each other "Spike", and we began to attend 6th Division meets as a group wearing colourful T-shirts. This was at a time when many attendees wore suits and ties to the meets, and our young group's irreverent attitudes didn't go unnoticed by the older members. When I think about it now, those "old guys" were mostly in their thirties and forties.

Mark particularly enjoyed attending the meets and conventions and was instrumental in planning and organizing many of them. He also liked to attend operations weekends like Van Rail and Sound Rails. As his illness progressed, Mark focused on family time which included working on his own layout, the Alberta Great Western, especially with his son Ben. He had planned to host an operating session on the AGW for Northern Rails in Edmonton this past September, but held a layout open house instead. I know he was proud to show off the progress they had made on scenery and structures.

Mark was a great mentor to me and many others who became friends at the club or at NMRA events. His irrepressible sense of humour, quick wit and love of puns and one-liners will surely be missed by all who knew him. He is survived by Marilyn, his wife of over 44 years, son Ben and daughter Lisa.

Here is a link to his obituary: [Mark JOHNSON | Obituary | Edmonton Journal](#)

I have included a few photos of Mark over the many years he participated in 6th Division events.

Rob Badmington, Highball! Editor, 6th Division



Mark Johnson, Rob Badmington, Scott Calvert & Dai Yates
EMRC Hand Car Team wins 1st Place @ 6th Div meet, Calgary, Alberta May 1977



Mark, helpfully pointing out where the train goes when it enters the Lower Spiral Tunnel, September 1983



Mark and his son Ben ride the Layout Tour bus at the Spring Meet in Edmonton, May 1991



Mark proudly showing off his Alberta Great Western layout during the Northern Rails Operating Weekend in Edmonton, September 2024

Achievement Program Report - Doug Burton MMR, 6th Division, PNR AP Chair

It has been a somewhat busy couple of months for me but as you can see not with AP. There are some events I would like to put a word in for. Peter Ulvestad and I went to the Prince Albert train show to sit at the 6th Div booth. It was a good show with a very nice venue and we were able to meet some new modellers.

There will be layout tours in Edmonton on Saturday, April 26th. Some of these layouts have never been on a tour before. Go to [NARMM 2025](#) web site for more information. You have to be registered to go on this tour but you do not

need to be an NMRA member. There are limited spots so sign up soon.

I will be at the Regina [RAILFEST 2025](#) Show April 26th and 27th. If you would like to help with the NMRA booth you can get volunteer credits.

I will be at the Calgary Modellers Prototype Meet on May 9th and 10th.

If you have any questions about AP please contact me.

6th Division Website Events Page - Peter Ulvestad

The events pages on the 6th Div website, the 6th Div Highball! and the PNR Switchlist all rely on events being submitted to us. If you are hosting a model railroad event in your area and would like free advertising, please email

the details of your event (with contact information) to timetable@pnr.nmra.org. Submissions are normally up on the website within a few days and included in both the Highball! and Switchlist in their next publications.

Area Reports

Camrose – David Halliday

Stettler – A skilled modeler and long-time promoter of the model railway hobby has passed away.

Ronald Thomas Symes, 69, died peacefully at home on March 12. A celebration of his life was held March 21 in Stettler. He was born in July 1955 to Tom Symes and Donna Horton.

During his involvement with the model railway hobby, Symes was a familiar sight when displaying his layout at SUPERTRAIN in Calgary and the Great Edmonton Train Show. He was also a regular participant at the Edmonton model train swap meet.

A long-time member of Battle River Railway Modelers, Symes was club president for many years. He received the Golden Spike Award from the National Model Railway Association for his efforts in model railroading.

For a number of years, Symes operated the Little Train Shop at Stettler and often had a layout set up at Stettler Mall during the Christmas season.

But his connection to trains wasn't limited to model trains. He worked for Alberta Prairie Railway Excursions on trips to Big Valley and was a regular part of the crew for Polar Express trips during the Christmas season.

Besides model trains, Symes also had an extensive collection of model trucks and cars. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and camping.

He is survived by his daughters Julie and Teressa, their mother, Karen Symes, sisters Cindy and Darla and brother Greg.

Donations in memory of Ron can be made to Stollery Children's Hospital, Ronald McDonald House or the charity of your choice.



Olds - Didsbury - Carstairs - Rick Astle

The Mountain View Model Railroad Club has had a generally quiet winter showcasing our indoor HO layout to many visitors to the Didsbury Museum.

This year we are focused on improving some of our scenery, updating our web site and just having fun running trains and we encourage visitors to check our web site schedule to know when members will be there. We recently had a family visit and they brought some of their trains to run.

The web site is being updated with new pictures and we hope to keep content updated on a regular basis. Please visit www.mvmrc.ca to check our schedule and watch for the updated pages in the near future.

I can be contacted by email at ve6rla@gmail.com or by phone at 403.507.3314 daily..

Moose Jaw - Thunder Creek Model Railway Club – Al Howard

The Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club held its Annual Show March 22 and 23, 2025 at the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw. The club hosted 33 exhibitors which occupied the maximum space available at our venue. Therefore, our own club passed on having a display this year. We had a total of 1870 attendees for the 2 days, roughly the same number as last year.

Three awards were presented at the banquet on Saturday night. The Russ Johnson Memorial People's Choice Award went to the South Park & Western Railroad from Regina SK, the Modellers Choice Award went to the Bow Valley Model Railroad Club from Calgary AB, and the Scale

Nine members of our club attended the All Aboard Model Train Show, Feb 15 and 16 in Saskatoon, where we presented a 52-foot-long operational display. We were pleased with the public's interest in our club and our display. We thank the Prairie Rail Workshop of Saskatoon for their hospitality and for putting on an excellent show.

The Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club continues to operate every Friday & Saturday at the Town and Country Mall at 1235 Main Street North in Moose Jaw. We have an operating HO display plus a static N Scale display, as well as several other items of interest. Operating sessions are open to the public at no charge.



Award (for closest to prototypical) went to the Rocky Ridge Model Rail Club from Martensville SK. This year marks the 25th consecutive year that the Bow Valley Model Railroad Club has come from Calgary to attend our show.

Above. Show Chairman Larry Dickenson presents the Russ Johnson Memorial People's Choice Award to South Park and Western (left), the Modeller's Choice Award to the Bow Valley Model Railroad Club (centre), and the Scale Award to the Rocky Ridge Model Rail Club (right) at our Annual Banquet and Show, March 22-23, 2025

Regina – Echo Valley Railroad Guild – Doug Johnson

Members of the Guild's Free-Mo group and On30 group attended the annual Moose Jaw show on March 22 and 23, put on by the Thunder Creek club. The show had a large public turnout and was very successful. The On30 group displayed its new layout for the first time. Photos are included in this issue of Highball!

Planning continues for Railfest 2025 to be held at the Caledonian curling rink in Regina on April 26 and 27. Many layouts and vendors are expected to attend and the show promises to be another large event

Saskatoon – Roger deWeerd

Prairie Rail Workshop has been quite busy here in Saskatoon, last year Rocky Ridge Model Railway Club from Martensville joined with us to co-host our All Aboard Train Show. This past February, we were proud to host our 40th anniversary All Aboard Train Show. We had 11 layouts from Alberta and Saskatchewan and 22 vendor, non profit and manufacturer booths from Manitoba to British Columbia. Prairie Rail had their N Scale layout on display, all 100 x 30 feet of it plus we welcomed some new vendors this year from Vancouver Island and Calgary. Despite the extreme cold weather we had, 4000 people braved it to come through our doors and enjoy the spectacular layouts and experience this amazing hobby.



On Saturday evening we held our banquet and the banquet attendees were treated to a surprise at the end of the evening, a 40th Anniversary All Aboard Train Show 2025 HO scale boxcar by Prairie Shadows. Only 100 were made and those were handed out at the banquet.

For those who are interested in participating in our All Aboard Train Show next year send an email to allaboardtrainshow@gmail.com expressing your interest.

Two weeks after the train show, Prairie Rail held our winter/spring swap meet at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 63 here in Saskatoon, a huge thank you to the Royal Canadian Legion for hosting our swap meets and to the participants who had tables. We had approximately 100 people come through and the sale was a success. Our next swap meet is our Fall sale in October.

On March 22 and 23, Prairie Rail Workshop attended the Thunder Creek Train Show at the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw. We displayed a much smaller N Scale layout at the show, and met and chatted with many visitors, a great show.

Edmonton – Peter Ulvestad

The MMRF is hosting their Spring Swap Meet on Saturday April 19th at the Central Lions Senior Centre. Planning for GETS is well underway for September 13 and 14. The event is changing venues this year to the Edmonton Expo Centre. Watch <https://www.mmrf.ab.ca/> for more information on both events.

The Edmonton Model Railroad Association is mourning the loss of our longest serving member, Mark Johnson. Mark passed away January 11 after enduring the effects of Parkinson's disease for many years.

Lethbridge – Paul Smith

The Southern Alberta Model Railway Club has been busy during the winter months. We ran an in-house auction for members that helped winnow down our stash of models, kits and material during the month of January. You could describe this as simply transferring stuff from our place to other people's places, but we prefer the more elegant format of balancing assets between the club and our membership.

We held our Semi-Annual General Meeting on February 25, where we moved forward on several issues, including matching our rolling stock inventory with our traffic needs for the HO scale layout, considering our era limits for HO, expanding our stock of HO structures and completing a new design for our N scale layout. This

was also an opportunity for us to meet with representatives from City Hall (aka our landlord) to review matters pertaining to our clubhouse.

Finally, we enjoyed a good turnout from the public for our Spring Open House on March 22 and 23. We had excellent co-operation from the weather, not-so-excellent co-operation from our layout electrical systems, enrollment of a new member and expressions of interest from several other people. As usual, we wound up the weekend with a young boy insisting upon staying to watch the trains despite gentle reminders from his father that the club was closing and they had to leave.

Calgary – Dale Sproule

CALGARY FREE-MO brought their 20 modules and 2 loops (making 253 square feet) to join the Calgary Model Trainmen's Club (1120 square foot) modular layout (seen at SUPERTRAIN) for a 25 day run over the Christmas break. New track was installed: a 10 tier helix and track running against all walls provided a link between clubs layouts. It was a success and was repeated for a one day run on March 15. Members of both clubs could run their favorite train; my train at track speed took 1.5 hours to complete one complete circuit.

Calgary Model Railway Society members were invited to a private showing courtesy of CPKC at their Ogden Shops to view two presentations: "Pulse of the Continent: Final Spike Steam Tour" (48 min) and "Rocky Mountain Express" (46 min). "Pulse of the Continent" is a documentary short film from Canadian Pacific Kansas City chronicling the historic 9,000-mile, three-nation journey of the Empress 2816 steam locomotive on the Final Spike Anniversary Steam Tour. We revisited the magic and excitement of the Empress 2816 steam locomotive's epic trip from Calgary to Mexico City and back. "Rocky Mountain Express" takes the audience on a steam journey along the historic Canadian Pacific route from Vancouver to Montreal, focusing on the western mountain portion. Both are available on line. Adam Meeks, Director Heritage Services & Operations, and members of the 2816 Final Spike Tour were present for questions after the movies. What was so impressive was the amount of work along with logistics that had to be arranged for this trip. One example was they had to get 16 tank cars of water into Mexico as they had no water for 2816 because there was such a water shortage. CP 2816 carried 600 tons of water with her, but drought conditions along with poor water quality meant having the tank cars strategically placed from Southern Texas to Mexico City. The use of a small

Honda pump and an early alarm set at 3:00 am started the fireman's day to fill the tenders. Crew also talked about the work on tearing 2816 down and rebuilding again to be ready for the Final Spike Steam Tour. CMRS thanks the many tradesmen and crews that took this project on and the successful run to Mexico and back again.

NTE, a 40 year old company making electronic parts has gone out of business since last fall due. So load up on parts (resistors, capacitors, etc).

Members of The Calgary Model Trainmen's Club were treated to a private layout tour courtesy of Richard Johnson from Calgary on March 1.

The Calgary Model Railway Society held their annual photo night in January and the annual Spring Mini-meet coupled with the Calgary Model Trainmen's Club annual Flea Market in March. CMRS also hosted their annual spring layout tour on Saturday February 8th and Sunday February 9th. There were 9 layouts on the tour representing N, HO and O scales.

I have included a one page poster into this issue about the RPM Meet in May 9-10. We are looking for a good attendance for this one day event.

SUPERTRAIN 2025 is scheduled to arrive into the Olympic Oval at the University of Calgary, 288 Collegiate Blvd, N.W. The show runs 9am-5pm daily April 5 and 6. There will be as many as 107 exhibitors. The show features over 75,000 square feet of Operating Model Railroad Layouts, Displays, Lionel, Lego Trains, Thomas and Friends, Garden Railroads, Photo Exhibits, Merchandise for Sale, Live Demos and more. SUPERTRAIN is proud to support the Calgary Food Bank. Collection boxes will be available to accept your non-perishable food donations.

Speed Test Module – Dave Audley

Over the years, in model railroading, I have always been fascinated by the different approaches in solving various problems that come up – in this case, speed matching locomotives. This implies some sort of speed testing "mechanism".

Imagine my surprise when I discovered a clinic about a speed matching device at last year's 6th Division meet in Drumheller. I definitely had to take this presentation in!

Bob Lucas went through his design, giving us lots of background and design. Bob proceeded to invite participants up to see the equipment in operation. I was very impressed!

Then, Bob held a contest to see which person could get a speed match closest to a secret number. While I didn't win, I did get a Speed Matching kit to build! Couldn't wait to get home and build this!

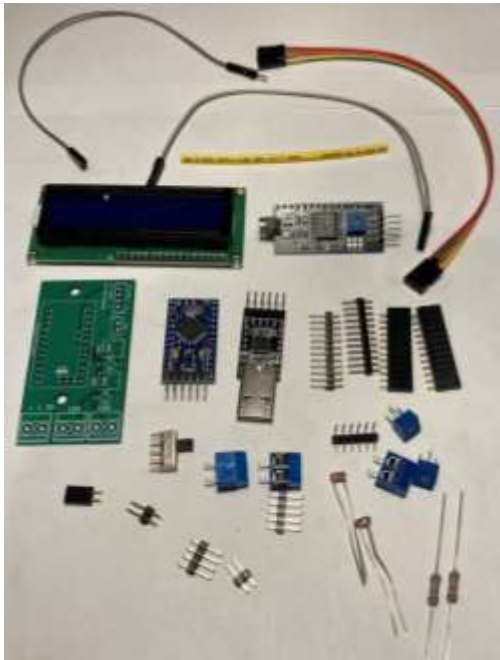


Photo #1

The first photo shows the kit components.

The kit consists of 2 Printed Circuit Boards, one of which you solder the various pictured components to. Bob has a booklet that describes that process in excruciating detail (available by contacting Bob at bob@houseoflucas.com). The kits are also available at the same address.

The second photo shows the kit built and being tested on the bench – highly recommended in order to work out any bugs! The “928” and “968” numbers are sensitivity settings and can be adjusted to meet layout lighting requirements.



Photo #2

After bench testing, I decided to build a case for the units to be mounted in. Photos 3 and 4 show the layout of the pieces to be assembled into the case. I cut these out of 0.020 thick styrene sheet I had on hand. Evergreen has appropriate sheets in their product line.

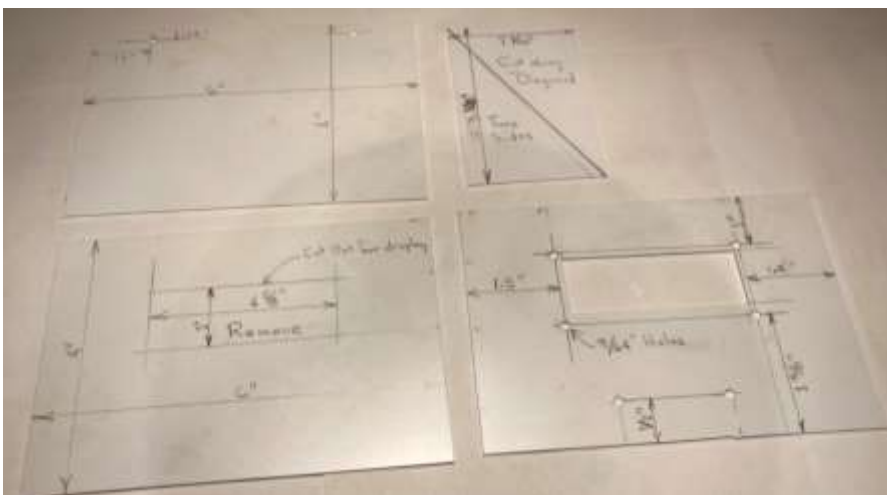


Photo #3

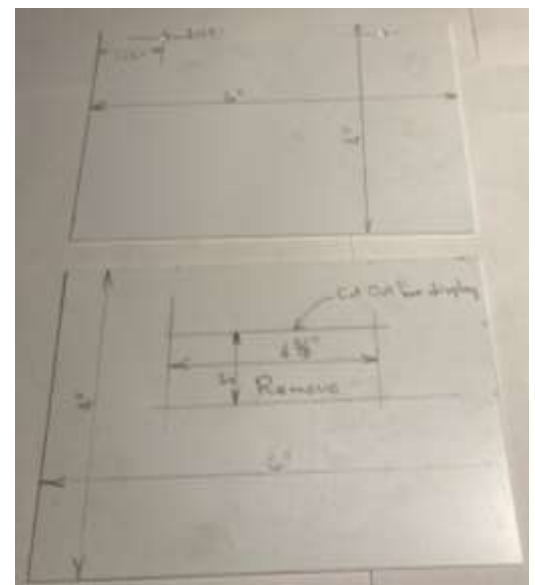


Photo #4

In the kit, Bob provides a slide switch as an “On-Off” switch. I substituted a more robust on-off switch, which you can just see on the right hand side of the case. I also bought a dedicated 16 volt DC “Wall Wart” power supply.

Photo #5 shows the case assembled and painted with the components mounted. I actually built about 6 cases, wanting to try different colours. In addition to the flat black, I did gloss black, grey and a medium green. One case went to Dale Sproule.

With Bob’s permission, we asked Dale to build one of these as a Beta test. Dale provided many comments and improvement to the instructions!

Of course, the unit needs to be installed on track where testing can occur! In my case, I wanted this on actual layout track. I selected a location on track adjacent to Crowsnest on the main track running past Crowsnest. I measured a 30 centimeter space as shown in photo #6. You need to be accurate with this. I mounted the two detection devices – one at each end of the 30 centimeter location, centered in the track. All of this is explained in the instructions but I emphasize accuracy here.



Photo #6

Photo #7 shows the case mounted on the layout fascia. I centered the case inside the 30 centimeter mark shown in the previous photo.

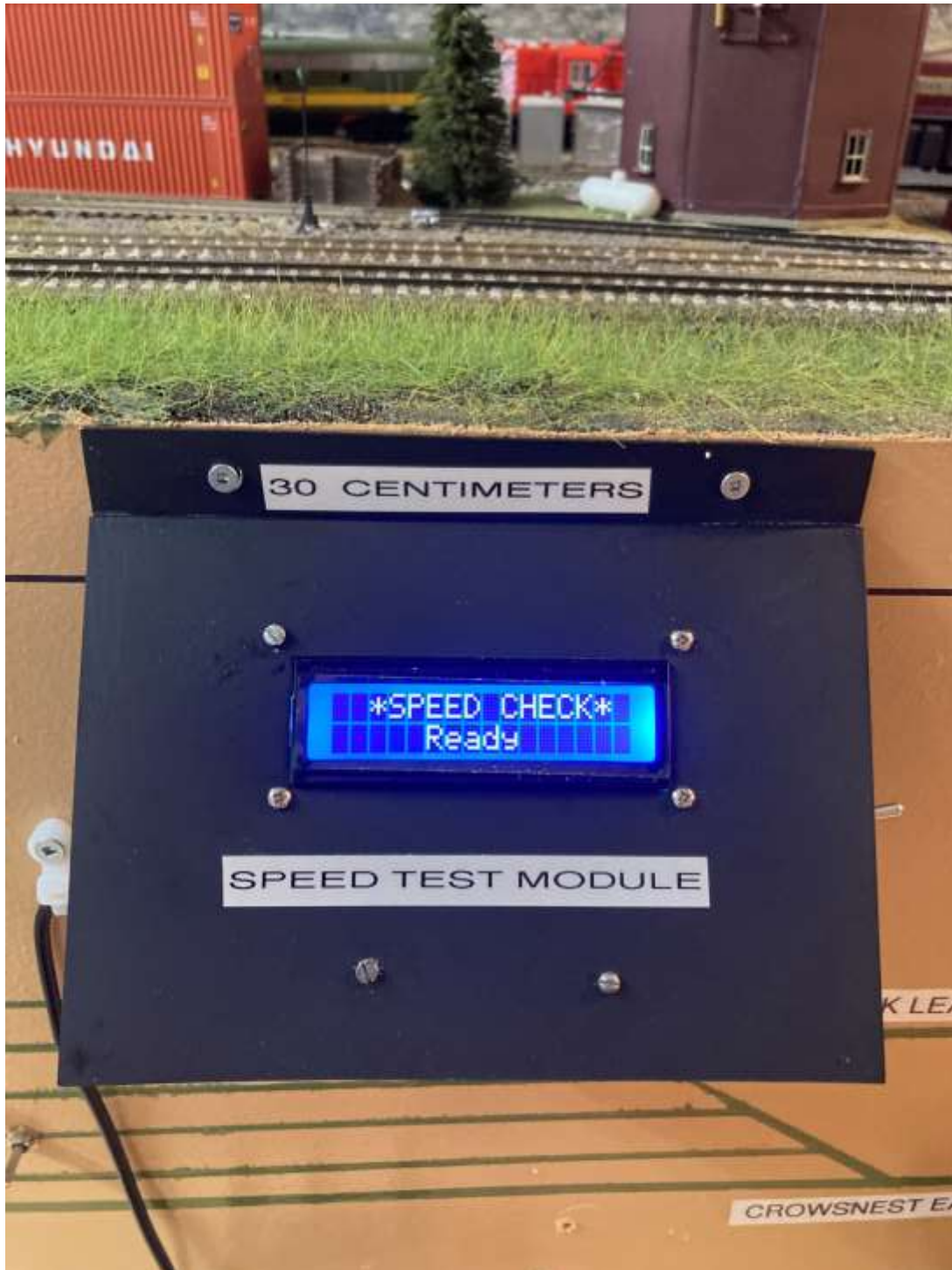


Photo #7

I did have to adjust the sensitivity pots as the unit would read speed in one direction only. Once that was done, the unit worked as expected. At a recent South Bank meeting here, the guys took turns testing the unit – fun times! I have found this a very useful tool!



FREE PARKING

Model Railroad



Admission:

Adults - \$5.00

Youth age 6 to 16 - \$3.00

SPRING Swap Meet

Saturday, April 19, 2025 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Central Lions Senior Recreation Centre

11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton, AB

ATRIUM & AUDITORIUM

**Come Out for GREAT BARGAINS
and Hard to Find Items**

Locomotives, Rolling Stock, Structures & Much More! All Scales!

For information,
please contact:

Ric Francoeur
swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca

**Vendor Reservations
will commence at the
end of January 2025**

VENDOR
TABLE RATE

\$30.00

RAILWAY PROTOTYPE MODELLERS MEET

THEME: FREIGHT CAR LOADS

May 9 & 10

ST. ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

703 HERITAGE DRIVE S.W.

CALGARY, ALBERTA

\$15 ADMISSION COVERS BOTH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENTS

The theme of this RPM is freight loads. Modellers are invited to bring items related to “Loads”, lumber loads, coal loads, wide loads..... There is no limit to the number of items you bring to show.

Items do not have to be finished. This is a chance for interaction between builders and modelers who would like to learn from the models being shown, in other words: an exchange of ideas. AP judging will be available.

ADGENDA, FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

7 PM-9PM: Registration and Slide Night: Bring your favorite slides for a fun “Show and Tell”! We will have a computer and associated projector. Also, a regular old school slide projector for those with slide carousels!

ADGENDA, SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025

9AM: REGISTRATION, COFFEE. ALL EVENTS TODAY ARE RUN OUT OF THE CHURCH BASEMENT

9-12 AM **Clinic #1: “Oil Vessel Loads: by Mike Westren.** Mike was witness to two deethanizer towers destined for the Alberta Natural Gas extraction plant in Cochrane. These 133 foot towers are still performing to this day.

Clinic #2: Modelling Railroad Tie Handling by Mark Wittrup. Mark Wittrup is an HO scale modeller who has been modelling for over 30 years with a focus on Canadian Pacific maintenance of way equipment.

Clinic #3: “Hauling Transformers” by Trevor Dring. Trevor is a retired electrical engineer associated with substation design and field testing of power transformers ranging from 5 MVA to 450 MVA.

LUNCH

OUR KITCHEN OFFERS A PIZZA LUNCH FOR \$10 PER PERSON.

1-4 PM **Clinic #4 “Less than Carload (LCL) Traffic and Facilities” by Paul Clegg.** Paul will review how LCL traffic is handled along with facilities necessary for traffic.

Clinic #5 “Modelling Vancouver’s Steel Industry by Rob Badmington: The clinic will introduce lots of ideas for trackside industries and open freight car loads.

Clinic #6: by Doug Burton” Building tarped hopper loads and cardboard boxes will be discussed. Doug will also show drop deck CN flat cars. Doug is our Divisional AP Chairman and can be approached with NMRA-AP questions.

FREE DRAW TICKETS (LIMIT OF 10) FOR BRINGING YOUR MODELS FOR DISPLAY
OR YOU CAN PURCHASE DOOR PRIZE TICKETS THROUGHOUT THE DAY

DOOR PRIZE TICKETS WILL BE DRAWN THROUGH THE DAY FROM OUR MEET SUPPORTERS

YOU WILL HAVE TIME ALL DAY FOR MODEL VIEWING OF MODELS WITH LOADS

MEET IS CO-SPONSORED BY THE 6TH DIVISION OF THE NMRA

For further information and updates, contact Dave Audley, 403-275-1869 (daudley@telusplanet.net) or Dale Sproule (sproules@telusplanet.net)



RMMBC 2025 is Coming

The 2025 Railway Modellers Meet of British Columbia

Online: May 1, 15

In-Person: May 23-25

We are now a few short months away from the **in-person RMMBC meet** at the SFU campus in Burnaby (Vancouver). RMMBC 25 promises to be a weekend to remember.

- **Key Note Speaker – Joe Fugate**
 - **Founder, publisher, and editor of Model Railroad Hobbyist (MRH) magazine.**
- A full program of **Model and Prototype Clinics**
- Two half-days of **Operating Sessions**
- An evening of **Layout Tours**
- **Model Displays and Table-Top Clinics** throughout
- **Discussion Groups** for getting to know your fellow modellers
- Come and meet some of BC's model railroad **Manufacturers**

Online Prologue May 1 and 15 (Thursday Evenings)

Don't miss our series of virtual (Zoom) clinics Free by donation. Register here:

<https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/registration/register-for-virtual-prologue/>

SFU Accommodation

One of the features of our SFU location for the in-person meet is the low cost accommodation available on campus. This always sells out early. Book it now!!

<https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/practicalities/accommodation/>

For full program information and for registration:

<https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/>

Sign up for the RMMBC newsletter:

<https://railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/wp/sign-up-for-our-newsletter/>



Photo courtesy of Mike Barone

Photos of the On30 South Park and Western layout - photos by Doug Johnson



Bill Stahl's Denver module



Malcolm Anderson's Big Trees and mine



Doug Johnson's Oakland cannery

Mike Westren's Parkland Division - photo by Rob Badmington



Mike is at the controls of his model railroad on January 6, 2025. This was a rather special occasion as it was on the 9th January 1995 that the original central over and under circle opened for traffic, and with multiple additions over the following 30 years effectively covering most of the "Railway Room", it has remained continuously open for traffic ever since!

The evening also celebrated "Theme Night No.100" for members of Calgary's South Bank Short Lines Club. Mike chooses a theme for each of the nights when the club comes over. This night the topic was "Domeliners", and members are encouraged to bring their own theme trains to run.

Upcoming Events in and near the 6th Division

See all the PNR events and our most recent additions at www.pnr.nmra.org

April 5-6, 2025 (Sat-Sun), Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2025, Canada's Largest Model Train Show. 9 AM to 5 PM both days. Olympic Oval at the University of Calgary campus, Calgary. Adult (17+) - \$15.00; Youth (7-16) - \$5.00; Kids (6 and under) - Free. Over 60,000 sq. ft. of operating layouts, exhibits and displays, railroad artists, hobby shops, model manufacturers, demonstrations, museums and railroad historical associations, Lego and Thomas Play Area, garden railways, ride-on trains, and much more. Info:- www.supertrain.ca or email to info@supertrain.ca

April 19, 2025 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

MMRF Spring Swap Meet, Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre, 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton, Alberta
11 AM - 3 PM. Free parking in rear. More information available at https://www.mmrf.ab.ca/spring_swap_meet

April 26, 2025 (Sat)

Northern Alberta Rail Modellers Meet (NARMM) is organizing layout tours of layouts in the Edmonton area, by pre-registration. NARMM is made possible by the support of the 6th Div. More information is available at www.narmm.ca.

April 26-27, 2025 (Sat-Sun), Regina, SK

Regina Railfest 2025 – Model Railroad Show. Over 25,000 sq. ft. of model railroad layouts, displays, exhibits, and vendors. More information available at www.reginarailfest.com. Caledonian Curling Club, 2225 Sandra Schmirler Way.

May 9-11, 2025 (Fri-Sun), Pasco, WA

2025 PNR Convention, "The Ainsworth Connector" Pasco Red Lion Hotel and Conference Center.



Activities include self-guided layout tours, Free-mo layouts, operating sessions, clinics, Celebration Room, AP evaluations, non-rail program, Annual General Meeting, Sunday awards luncheon with keynote speaker, raffles and prizes, Modeling With the Masters (pre-convention clinic on May 8).

May 9-10, 2025, (Fri-Sat), Calgary, AB

Calgary Prototype Modellers Meet Theme Freight Car Loads, St Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Drive SW, Calgary, AB. Six clinics and associated photo night. Cost is \$15. Bring your load lumber loads, coal loads, wide loads. There is no limit to the number of items you bring to show. Co-sponsored by the 6th Div of the NMRA. For further information and updates, contact Dave Audley, 403-275-1869 (daudley@telusplanet.net) or Dale Sproule (sproules@telusplanet.net).

May 23-25, 2025, (Fri-Sun), Burnaby, BC

Railway Modellers' Meet of British Columbia At Simon Fraser University. The emphasis is primarily on "modelling" as the name implies, with many interesting clinics, layout tours, and operating sessions. Latest information at: railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/

June 6, 2025, (Fri) North Cooking Lake, AB

The Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship (MMRF) annual Trainspotting BBQ, Friday June 6 16:00-22:00.

Deville - North Cooking Lake Community Hall, 21033 Wye Road (that's 20 km east of the Hwy 21 & Wye Road intersection), with the CN mainline across the road. If the weather is poor (let's hope not), there's a hall for shelter. Burgers, hotdogs and PG refreshments are provided free of cost so all you need to bring is your lawn chair and camera. Your significant other and children are also welcome to attend.

June ?-?, 2025, Hinton, AB (to be confirmed)

6th Division Spring Meet

September 13-14, 2025, Edmonton, AB

Greater Edmonton Model Train Show - New location! To be held at the Edmonton EXPO Centre. Activities for the whole family including the LEGO Activity Centre, Operating layouts, How-to clinics & demonstrations, Static displays, and Dealer booths. More information to come: <https://www.mmrf.ab.ca/>.

October 18-19, 2025 (Sat-Sun), Melville, SK

Melville Model Train Show CN Community Centre, 10:00 a.m. till 4:30 p.m. both days. Cost: \$10.00 - adults, \$5.00 - youth 6-17, \$25.00 - family, free - under 6. For more info email Ron at melvillemodelrailwayclub@outlook.com

October 25, Edmonton, AB

MMRF Fall Swap Meet Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre, 11113 - 113 Street, Edmonton, Alberta
11 AM - 3 PM. Free parking in rear.

More information to come at <https://www.mmrf.ab.ca>



Oct 25, 2025 (Sat), Northern Alberta Rail Modellers Meet (NARMM) 2025 will take place in Edmonton. Location TBA. RPM-style event welcoming to everyone. Clinics, model displays and more.
www.narmm.ca



July 14-19, 2025

The **NCR and SE Michigan** will be your host for the 2025 NMRA National Convention! This will be like no other convention you have ever attended!

Convention Highlights –

- ✓ One low price for everyone! includes layout tours & OPS!
- ✓ 90+ clinics - 65+ layout tours - 30+ OPS sessions
- ✓ 2 day National Train Show - 5 day Yard Sale Room
- ✓ RPM modeling displays - Full NMRA modeling Contest
- ✓ People Choice Voting w/awards - Saturday night banquet

....and **MUCH MORE!!**



<https://nmra2025.com/>



Dennis Dreher just finished the Jamestown Water Stop Fine Scale Miniature kits with added LEDs and details.