

The Switchlist

June
2008

The official publication of the Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association



Chilliwack Interchange 2008

It's not too late to attend the Chilliwack Interchange 2008 convention!
The 2008 NMRA Pacific Northwest Region annual convention will be held
June 12-15 in Chilliwack BC Canada, in the beautiful Fraser Valley,
only 85 kilometres / 50 miles east of Vancouver, near the Sumas, WA border crossing.

Highlights of the convention include:

- 60,000 square feet of displays, layouts, vendors, and manufacturers
- HO scale Free-mo layout
- Clinics covering a variety of railroad topics and modeling skills
- Combined with the Railway Prototype Modellers (PNW RPM) meet
- NMRA contests and AP judging
- Layout tours
- Prototype tours
- Saturday evening banquet

The convention will be held in the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn which
is now completely filled, but other nearby hotels are available.

The contest room and RPM meet room will be in the hotel.

A public train show will be held across the highway in Heritage Park, with 60,000 square
feet of display space and railroads of all sizes, shapes, and scales.

For more information, visit www.chilliwackinterchange2008.com or contact
Larry Sebelley, sebelley@shaw.ca or James Hill, qdee@telus.net. For information about
the host club, see www.members.shaw.ca/cmrc/welcome.htm. We will see you there.

Officers' Reports

President's Report

Kevin Oleson

As I finish my term as PNR President, I know the Region is healthy and headed in the right direction. In the past two years, we implemented the changes from National, seen our AP program become very active and people receive recognition for their hard work, sent monies back to the Division level where it's needed most, and enjoyed two very successful PNR conventions.

Remember, your Region is only as strong as the willingness of its members to be part of it.

I hope to see everyone at the next great PNR convention in Chilliwack in June. The committee has been working hard and has a fantastic program planned for us.

As summer arrives, I hope everyone has a chance to take excursions, or visit the great railroad museums of the western US & Canada, in spite of rising gas prices. Check out your local areas and you might be surprised what you will find in your own back yard.

I want to **Thank You** for allowing me to serve as your President for the past two years. It has been my honor and pleasure.

Remember to support your local hobby shop and "Happy Railroading!" Don't get too sunburned!

Vice President's Report

Steve Prevette

The PNR has increased in membership to 1,620 from 1,585 six months ago. I do know that there are clubs in the PNR that have been taking advantage of the 100% member insurance policy, which offers a considerable savings over what many clubs could get on their own. The following table shows the Pacific Northwest Region membership as of March 31, 2008:

Division	Family	PNR Life	Regular and Associate	Total	PNR Subscribers (including Life Members)	PNR Subscribers (not including Life Members)
01	2	14	90	106	76	62
02	3	23	138	164	94	71
03	3	6	66	75	42	36
04	21	59	487	567	291	232
05	5	9	187	201	66	57
06	9	18	147	174	74	56
07	11	21	262	294	143	122
08	0	18	21	39	39	21
Total	54	168	1,398	1,620	825	657
USA	34	126	998	1158	608	482
CAN	20	38	400	458	213	175
OTHER	0	4	0	4	4	0

Treasurer's Report

Dirk Krusman

Many banking rules and regulations have changed recently, making it more difficult to change or open bank accounts. It is prudent to have someone in place should something happen to our existing Treasurer. We are fortunate that Nick Lehrbach, a long-time model railroader and member of the NMRA, has volunteered and is now the PNR Assistant Treasurer for US accounts. Larry Sebelley continues his good work as our Canadian Assistant Treasurer.

More good news: we are in an excellent financial position. So far this year, our income exceeds our expenses. As of late April, we had \$8,279.23 in the US checking account, \$7,424.67 in the US savings account, \$3192.53 in our Canadian checking account, and \$5,027.94 in our Canadian savings account. These are all good numbers.

PNR News

Election Results: Congratulations, Jack & Steve!

Bobj Berger, Dick Sutcliffe

The NMRA-PNR USA Ballot Counting Committee was convened by Ballot Chair Bobj Berger on April 19, 2008 in Spokane during a break in the 5th Division Annual Meeting. It consisted of the following NMRA members in good standing: Auditor, Gary Thuro; Callers, Shirley Sample, Jim Trunzo, Clyde Lippincott; Tabulator, Bobj Berger. The USA vote results were: for **PRESIDENT, Jack Hamilton**, a total of 77 votes, plus one write-in vote for Al Carter. For **VICE PRESIDENT, Steve Prevette**, a total of 77 votes and no write-ins. There was a total of 80 ballots received either by mail or in person from membership. Two ballots were deemed invalid, having neither a member name, signature, membership number, or even a return address. One ballot contained no votes.

The Canadian ballots were counted by Dick Sutcliffe, Canadian ballot chairman. The Canadian vote results were: for **PRESIDENT, Jack Hamilton**, a total of 34 votes, with no write-ins. For **VICE PRESIDENT, Steve Prevette**, a total of 34 votes and no write-ins. 34 valid ballots were received, plus one with no NMRA or PNR member number.

One NMRA club ballot was received and accepted, however the committee feels the PNR needs to clarify the issue of club voting. That ballot was completed by a member of a 100% NMRA club.

These results were reported by the two Ballot Committees to the President and have been declared official. Congratulations, Jack & Steve!

Achievement Program Spotlight

Jack Hamilton

The following PNR members received these awards (see the story about Will Leeds on page 6):

Will Leeds, Depoe Bay, OR, *Golden Spike*; *Structure*: Animal Hospital; *Structure*: Traction System Elevated Platform; *Structure*: Power Station; *Structure*: Ore bin; *Structure*: Nursery; *Structure*: Low Cost Housing; *Structure*: House under construction; *Civil Crossover*: Civil Turn-out; *Civil*: Overhead Wire Switch; *Cars*: SF Trolley Car #345; *Cars*: Stock Car; *Cars*: Del Padre Western Trolley; *Cars*: Outside Braced Box car; *Motive*: SF Trolley #345; *Motive*: WBA #54; *Motive*: Del Padre Western Lines #843; *Civil*; *Structures*: *Volunteer*; *Electrical*; *Motive Power*; *Scenery*; *Cars*; *MMR*

William Peterson, Prineville, OR, *Golden Spike*

John Socha-Leialoha, Bellevue, WA, *Author*

John White, Anacortes, WA, *Structure*: Blacksmith shop; *Structure*: Hawkins Dairies; *Structures*: Oso Road Bridge; *Structure*: Bagging House – Concrete; *Structure*: Goulds Bros Coal & Coke; *Structure*: Oso Rai Bridge; *Golden Spike*

Gene Swanson, Tacoma, WA, *Cars*: Hat Creek Boxcar; *Cars*: Sierra RR Drover; *Cars*: Hat Creek Caboose; *Structures*: Elbe Church; *Structures*: Union Hotel; *Structures*: Covered Bridge

Chilliwack Interchange 2008

The Chilliwack Interchange 2008 Committee

The planning for the June convention and public show is going very well indeed. We have received surprisingly strong support from the PNR members south of the border, with about 1/2 of all the registrants thus far from the USA. This is particularly gratifying in view of the potential border crossing issues and the Canadian dollar being essentially at par. If you have not yet registered, download your registration form from <http://www.chilliwackinterchange2008.com/RegistrationForm-Regular.pdf> and mail it today.

At last count, we have 103 Full-Fare registrants for the convention. 29 spouses or significant others have also registered to attend. The Full-Fare fee is \$120, which includes access to all activities, the Saturday evening banquet featuring renowned author of McCulloch's Wonder and other railway history books, Barrie Sanford, plus the ability to purchase optional tours.

The Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Best Western Rainbow Country Inn and will feature 3 meat dishes, potatoes, salads, desserts, and hot beverages. The cost is included in your Full-Fare registrations. There are tickets available priced at \$40, in advance only, as the hotel must be advised of the plate count prior to the convention. These tickets are available to displayers and vendors on a first-come first-served basis until the maximum of 300 is reached. A cash bar will be on site, serving liquor, wine, beer, etc.

The Friday evening Burger & Beverage event will occur at Heritage Park. An Angus beef burger can be topped with your choice of cheese, lettuce, tomato, condiments, etc. You can have fries or salad to accompany the burger. The beverage will be beer or coolers. There are tickets available priced at \$15, in advance only, as the burger shop must be advised of the count prior to the convention. These tickets are available to displayers and vendors on a first-come first-served basis.

All convention-rate rooms at the Best Western are booked and the hotel is essentially full. They recommend that you call them to see if something becomes available. Otherwise, please visit the website to see a list of other hotels in the vicinity. All are within easy driving distance. Please note that no special arrangements for convention-rate rooms have been made with any of these optional hotels.

You may dry-camp in your RV in the parking lot at Heritage Park, with or without power. Please see our website for details and for the form to be submitted with your reservation request. Alternatively, two near-by privately-owned full-service RV campgrounds are listed on our website. Please make your own arrangements.

PNR News, continued

We have a commitment from Calgary Free-Mo to join with Chilliwack Free-Mo to create one large layout. We have placed the call for modules, and hope to attract other Free-Mo groups and individuals to join with us. We wish to showcase the Free-Mo concept and to convince others to take the plunge. We have commitments from Salmon Arm, North Okanagan, and Mainland Modular to display their HO scale layouts. We have commitments from the TraiNgang and several USA-based groups to display their N scale layouts. Puget Sound will be bringing their G scale layout. Many other smaller groups and individuals will also be bringing their layouts. If you wish to participate by showing off your projects, please contact us. We will likely have room for you somewhere in the 60,000 square foot building.

All major retail vendors in the Lower Mainland plus one from Kamloops have arranged for sales booths. One inquiry has also come from Calgary. Numerous swap and used vendors have registered for the public show.

We will host an NMRA modeling contest at the Best Western. The contest will be run under NMRA rules and judged by NMRA-qualified judges. Plaques will be awarded for first place in each of the 12 categories. Come earn some much-needed Achievement Program certificates! We will also be hosting a Popular Vote contest at the Best Western. Each registered conventioneer will be given a ballot with which to vote for his/her favourite models. Plaques will be awarded for first place in each of the 10 categories.

A silent auction will be held, presenting new and not-so-new railroad-related items, many of which have generously donated by manufacturers, vendors, and other kind souls.

We have arranged 19 clinics to be presented by 15 clinicians so far. Clinics will be held at two locations in Heritage Park. Clinic streams will be run in parallel. Scenery, tree-making, painting, weathering, and railway history are among the varied topics.

We have confirmed 6 home layouts to be available to tour. Days and times are yet to be determined.

We have arranged an escorted bus tour on Friday, June 13 to visit the Othello Tunnels, Hell's Gate, and North Bend. We have also arranged an escorted bus tour on Monday, June 16 to visit the West Coast Railway Historical Park in Squamish. Both these tours are extra-fare events and require pre-booking. We need at least 20 pre-paid participants to proceed. Please see the website for more details and registration forms.

The Railroad Prototype Modelers group in the Pacific Northwest has confirmed its desire to hold a meet in conjunction with our convention. The RPM group will be displaying their projects in the Oak Room at the Best Western on Sunday only. The room will be shared with the NMRA and Popular Vote contests, so convention registrants will have the ability to enjoy superb modeling by a variety of experts.

We are well on the way to providing you with a superb convention and show. Do not delay any longer trying to decide. Send in your registration today.

See you there!

Fall Mini-Meet Announced

John Decker

The PNR 5th Division has announced its **Fall Mini-Meet** will be held October 3–5, 2008 at the Benton County PUD Auditorium, 2721 W 10th Ave, Kennewick, WA. Activities will include operating sessions on the TCMR club layout; private layouts tours; clinics; model displays (bring those models!); AP Merit Award judging; self-guided layout tours; a no-host dinner on Saturday evening, and much, much more. The Wingate Hotel by Wyndham (2000 S Quillan Pl, Kennewick, WA 99337) has blocked rooms for the meet. Just phone 509-736-3656 and mention “model railroader.”

To pre-register, contact John Decker, 1125 W 52nd Ave, Kennewick, WA, 509-586-2825, jrdecker@verizon.net. Or you can register on-site Friday after 4 pm or Saturday from 8 to 4.

River City Modelers Lose Home

Bobj Berger

One of my true joys when I am in the Spokane area is when I get a chance to visit the **River City Modelers HO Club Layout**. Covering an entire commercial building's basement, it has fabulous scenery, multiple cities and industries, including logging and mining, from GN to BNSF eras, and from short to 100-car+ trains!

At their “*Run What You Brung*” Open House, held during this year's 5th Division Meeting, I sadly learned of the pending loss of their layout location. Their current building has been sold and a condition of the sale required the eviction of the club and layout.

This 100% NMRA club has about 40 members, and usually has a waiting list. They come from all over the Spokane and Northern Idaho area. Members and spouses include several 5D officers (past and present), several with complete layouts at home too. They



Night time BNSF locomotive servicing in the River City yards.

Chilliwack Interchange 2008 Registration Form

June 12–15, 2008

Heritage Park & Best Western Rainbow Country Inn, Chilliwack, BC

IDENTIFICATION as it will appear on the name tags

First Name:		Last Name:		
Companion:				
Youth (under 18 yrs):				
Youth (under 18 yrs):				
Address:				
City:		Prov/State:	Postal/Zip:	
Phone:		Email:		
NMRA #:				
Other Affiliations (Check):	CPSIG	CNSIG	BCRSIG	CARM

REGISTRATION FEES

<i>Description</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Total</i>
Full Fare: Includes convention and train show, Saturday banquet, clinics, layout tours, contests and RPM displays (excludes Friday BBQ)		\$ 120	\$
PNR/NMRA Surcharge: all non-NMRA members		\$ 10	\$
Family Members: persons accompanying Full Fare registrant, as per above list (excludes banquet)		\$ 20	\$
Banquet only: additional tickets		\$ 40	\$
BBQ: Friday night burger & a beverage		\$ 15	\$

PROTOTYPE TOUR FEES

<i>Description</i>	<i>Qty</i>	<i>Price</i>	<i>Total</i>
Othello Tunnels / Hell's Gate / North Bend Includes escorted return bus trip, air-tram ride and lunch at Hell's Gate, railfanning at North Bend		\$ 60	\$
West Coast Railway Heritage Park (Squamish) Includes return bus trip, lunch in Squamish, train ride and access to all facilities at WCRHP		\$ 75	\$

TOTAL

Total Payment enclosed US Dollars accepted at PAR (your cancelled cheque is your receipt)			\$
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Mail your completed registration form and your payment inside an envelope to: Chilliwack Interchange 2008, c/o Harry Southern, 3237 Dogwood Road, Chemainus, BC V0R 1K2. Include a cheque or money order payable to **Chilliwack Interchange 2008**. U. S. first class postage to Canada is US\$1.00.

PNR News, continued

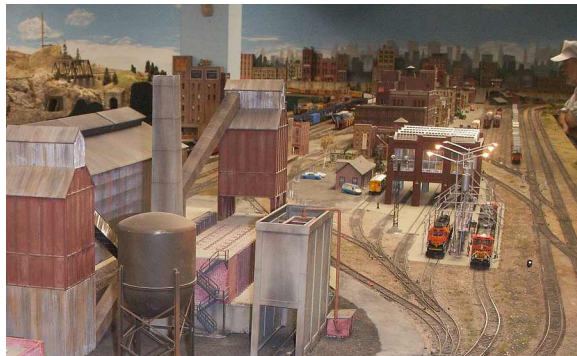
share their private and club layout at every local NMRA event. This is a very supportive and dedicated group of great modelers (including, I predict, several future MMRs).

For the club's fourth relocation, management plans to build an entirely new layout in a commercial building in Spokane. With options, the building's twenty-year lease includes carpeted floors, Sky Blue walls, washrooms, electrical rewiring to club specs, and a large walled-off lobby to double as a meeting area. The other half of their space will be finished but vacant and thus available for future growth. Meanwhile, it can be used for meetings, conventions, and clinics.

They plan to reuse most of the current layout's buildings, switch machine motors, and some lumber; most of the old layout will be destroyed. They will begin construction at the new site before they lose the current site, so you still have a (limited) time to see their spectacular railroad before it's gone.

If you're going to be in the Spokane area within the next year or so, visit them. They are currently just east of Spokane, in the city of Spokane Valley, 11811 E First Ave, one block south of E Sprague Ave, west of the I-90 Pines Rd exit. Operations are Sundays, 9-12 and Thursdays at 7:30 PM, but members are often there at other times too.

BUT WAIT! THERE'S MORE! Less than a mile west on East Sprague Ave is the **Inland Northwest Society of HO Modular Engineers**, another 100% NMRA club who also open their layout. INSHOME is a 25-member modular club with 40-50 modules permanently set up in an old storefront on the south side of the University City Mall. They, too, often run at local shows and model the Pacific Northwest, mostly in the modern era. Their layout is open to the public Friday nights, 6-8 PM. Contact President Rick Stoneman, 509-230-7532, for more info.



View from River City yards toward logging and mill areas.



One of the many granaries on this 100% NMRA club layout.

Feature Article

You're Never Too Old

by Donna J. Hamilton

In late spring, the Oregon coast has an intense, stark beauty that would certainly appeal to the artist's eye. I suspected that the gentleman we were on our way to see had just such an eye.

Didrick Voss and my husband, Jack Hamilton, had come to look at Will Leeds's Model railroad layout and score his work for possible Merit Awards. A friend of Will's had contacted Di to tell him about the exquisite modeling that this man did, and see if someone could arrange to look at it. Di and Jack agreed that it should be done and, since there were no MMR's in Will's area—the coast of Oregon—they decided to do the honors. I went along to write about this modeler from a woman's point of view.

Throughout the process I watched Will Leeds show and talk about his work, his plans, his ideas. His looks, attitude, thought process, and actions all would lead you to guess him to be in his 60's. Your guess would be incorrect. This charming gentleman recently celebrated his 93rd birthday!

Will grew up in Glendale, CA and saw his first trolley in Los Angeles at the age of 8. It seemed to him to be a most amazing thing and he laughs as he recalls his attempts to replicate it. After that the hobby frequently went on hold, at least a little beneath the surface, but never forgotten.

With a degree in chemistry from Santa Fe State in hand, Will joined the Navy and served for 39 months during WWII. The aircraft carriers he served on started carrying model kits during the war, which gave Will a steady supply of rail cars to build. While in the Navy, he obtained his Master's Degree in Meteorology from Cal Tech. Following the war he joined the Navy Reserves, retiring after 30 years with the rank of Captain.

For several years after the war, he worked for Pan American/Grace Airways, in Lima, Peru and, because this entailed much traveling, he always took some modeling project with him. After his return from Peru, he completed his PhD in Sci-

Feature Article, continued

ence Education and Meteorology from the University of Illinois. For many of the following years he worked in various locations in South America, with the last years of his career spent in Fort Lauderdale, FL.

Will met his future wife, Fay, at Santa Fe State, and she had been the one to spur him on in his hobby. In 1940, Fay gave him a Megow kit, a crude HO scale boxcar, and of course, he needed a layout for it. He built a 4' x 8' table in their front hallway, which everyone had to crawl under to enter the house. It was only when he and Fay moved to Fort Lauderdale that he had opportunity to be truly active in model railroading clubs. Still, he was not really able to set up a bona fide layout until he retired in 1979 and he and Fay moved to Oregon.

That was the beginning of his “E” shaped layout—actually a double layout—in a room he built off the garage. He started with the obvious, track laying and wiring, and Fay, an accomplished seamstress, quickly recognized the need for curtains to circle the table and hide the underside. He progressed to scenery and, among many other interesting details, has an impressive mountain, lake with a pier, and tunnels galore. Many trees are made of yarrow foliage which he harvests from the beach and treats with glycerin. Fay suggested a fishing shack on the pier and insisted on a schoolhouse in the “low cost housing” site, but her major role was that of encouragement and support for his hobby. He told me that when they retired they decided that her monthly Social Security check would be divided equally and each could spend their share however they chose on their respective hobbies—no questions asked. When she died 6 years ago, her share still had \$7,000 while his was \$600 in the hole!

His structures show imagination as well as skill and his “power plant” is a delight. I looked with awe as he pointed out the many found items he had converted into props such as silos and windows in buildings. He showed me the clothesline that resisted having the correct amount of swag. He solved the problem by pressing out the tin from a wine bottle cap, drawing and cutting out various items of “clothing,” and attaching the “clothes” to the glue coated line. Their weight gave it the proper look! His backdrop was intriguing. He started with architectural drawings, repositioned some of the buildings, cut out and glued several layers in strategic places to give it a 3-dimensional look, and used hydrocal to give texture to the painted trees and mountains. His sky was done freehand—he taught classes in painting sky and clouds—with a lovely sunrise in one area.

Perhaps the most amazing aspect was the trolley power line that ran overhead the length of the train track. The trolley wire “track” was so fine as to be almost invisible, but was totally authentic, having crossings, turnouts, junctions, etc to mirror the rail track beneath. Beautiful. All of his scratchbuilt model cars, but especially the trolley cars, were even more exquisite. He designed an amazingly detailed “fender” for the trolleys, and eventually gave the design to a friend to manufacture.

The tragedy of the situation, though Will does not act as if it is more than an inconvenience, is that macular degeneration has cost him all except his peripheral vision. His train room is so well organized that he was able to lay his hands within minutes on all plans, pictures, diagrams, parts, cars, etc. Everything is in see-through boxes, hand labeled in calligraphy and neatly stacked. The only thing unlabeled is his large collection of brass cars. He apologized for them being unpainted, but I assured him that I thought painting brass was rather a redundancy.

Fay, Will’s cherished wife of 66 years, died after a long illness and he eventually married a widow who had been a long time friend. Maggie is a lovely lady who is Will’s eyes (when he lets her), chauffeur, loving companion, and greatest admirer. She is the one who told us of the prestigious medal and Post Doctoral degree bestowed on him by the country of Venezuela. The *Order de Andres Bello* is traditionally only given to Presidents. Will was the first North American to receive this honor. The beautiful accompanying medal is a proud possession.

I found Will to be a very humble man. It took two days of questioning for him to tell me that he has a doctorate in Science Education and Meteorology and, without Maggie’s urging, he probably would not have even mentioned the medal. He is justly proud of both, but I got the impression that he is at least equally proud of his layout, and of his work with the model railroad clubs.

If you are fortunate enough to have the opportunity, I suggest you travel to the awesome, rugged coast of Oregon to visit Will’s layout and talk with this amazing, multi-talented, charming gentleman and his gracious wife. You’ll be glad you did and you will remember the experience for years to come.

Division Reports

1st Division

Ed Schaenzer, Superintendent

Nothing submitted.

Division Reports, continued

2nd Division

Doug Auburg, Superintendent

The Second Division has been quiet for a while but we're going to end that on May 31st when we hold our Spring Mini-Meet, with clinics, door prizes and a short business meeting in the morning, followed by layout tours in the afternoon. We plan an interesting video clinic.

Come join us bright and early Saturday morning at the Columbia Gorge Model Railroad Clubhouse at 2505 N Vancouver Ave, Portland, for a day of fun and education. The doors open at 8:30 and the program begins at 9:00.

We plan a full day of activities, starting with an interesting and informative video clinic. Next, everyone will be invited to build a simple and useful modeling tool from a kit that we'll provide. Then we'll settle down for a short business meeting and give away some door prizes. That will take care of our morning.

After breaking for lunch (there are many nearby fast food and sit down restaurants) we'll meet at another local model railroad clubhouse to tour and (hopefully) run a train to two. Then attendees will be handed a list of other layouts that will be open for viewing in the afternoon.

Come join the Second Division for a day of fun and go home with a nice tool to help you with your modeling. All NMRA members are welcome, whether Second Division members or not. For more info, contact Doug Auburg, 360-608-3802, dauburg@wa-net.com.

3rd Division

Terry A. Nelson, Superintendent

Spring is here and our Spring Meet has come and gone for another year. We had a fair turnout with a few new people, although a number of old friends didn't show. We're looking for ideas to increase participation. We have been using "What's Happening in the Area" cards at the two local hobby shops and they seem to bring in new modelers. We have a new hobby shop in the area; they set up a vendor table and were pleased with the response. We had two terrific clinics: **Clyde Queen, MMR**, presented a clinic on making fabulous pine trees, and **Andy Doll** presented a clinic on how to build trestles that included very detailed handouts. We had a small silent auction and a favorite model contest, with twenty-one entries. NMRA members received a \$1.00 discount on their admission charge, plus we gave an additional \$1.00 discount to anyone who brought an entry for the model contest. After a no-host lunch, we toured two great layouts, one On30 being built by **Cylde Queen, MMR**, and one in O scale belonging to **Miron Shiverick**.

The turnout at our mini-meets is growing every month. We proposed an auction table for no charge, but no one has used it thus far. Local layouts are growing like crazy and nearly every night of the week one is open for operation, construction or just plain enjoyment. We recently had some Golden Spike Awards issued. Some local members are working toward other AP certifications.

I've been talking up the Regional Convention trying to get more attendance from this area.

4th Division

Walt Huston, Superintendent

The **Pacific Science Center Show** was a huge success again this year under the superb direction of Frank Dekker and Jeff Moorman. These two have guided this show for quite some time and have been instrumental in its success. And, on Martin Luther King's Day weekend, 2009, the show will go on once again. This show is anticipated by kids and adults alike. Some families have been coming for years and enjoy each one, because there is always something different and exciting.

This has been a spectacular spring for the Fourth Division. We just completed the **Trains, Trains and More Trains** show at the Puyallup Fairgrounds with fantastic results. This was truly a show of which to be proud! Susan Evans and her team filled both the Pavilion and the Expo Hall with vendors, swappers, and layouts. Ed Liesse put together a fantastic multi-track clinic program with clinics aimed at children, adults and accomplished model railroaders.

This show was also our **Spring Meet**. We had advanced clinics, a model contest, AP judging and a fantastic guest speaker for our banquet in the form of Leslie Eaton, MMR. The show and meet were a success in every way. Vendors were very pleased with their results, visitors/modelers had a great time and found bargains to purchase, clinics that they loved, and those who attended the banquet had a very enjoyable evening. Things went so well that several vendors have already signed up for next year and many others have taken a vendor's packet to complete and return with payment soon. Many swappers are also lined up for next year. Everyone reading this is invited to join in the fun on April 25-26, 2009.

The Fourth Division is winding down its "Train Season" of excellent **Clinics** all around Puget Sound, some with special events such as layout tours. Each of the clinic leaders have reported terrific attendance all season and feel that members of the Fourth Division have been well served once again. Clinic Chairs/Coordinators: J. J. Johnston, Bobj Berger, Duane Damgaard, Jack Hamilton, Gordon Garnhart, Gene Swanson and Jim Younkens have done it again this year. They deserve public recognition for their fine efforts to keep the Division moving ahead and the members involved. Thanks guys, for *all* you do.

Division Reports, continued

Our Division newsletter, **The *Grab-Iron***, is available to every one of you through our web site: www.4dprn.org. I think you'll like what you see.

We want to encourage all of you to attend the **PNR Convention in Chilliwack** in June. It will be quite a convention.

There is always something exciting and fun going on in the 4D. Come join us, you'll be glad you did. See you at a 4D event soon!

5th Division

Jim Trunzo, Superintendent

This report comes just after the 5th Division's **Annual Meeting** on April 19. We had a number of fun activities this year. As we did last fall, there was a member's prize for attending, a limited edition kit donated by Bar Mills Models. Sunset Junction of Spokane also donated two very nice books which were part of the member's drawing. In addition, a number of cars were raffled off. I'd like to thank both Bar Mills and Sunset Junction for their generous donations. We should support these businesses, and when you have the opportunity, tell them "Thanks for supporting us."

The **Annual Meeting** takes a lot of effort to put on and this year there are two who deserve special recognition: Tom Jennings, who made arrangements for the breakfast and lunch, as well as cooking the food; and Shirley Sample, who took care of all the administrative "stuff." Thanks!

The **2nd Annual Traveling Meet** is scheduled for Kennewick, WA, October 3 – 5, 2008 at the Benton County PUD Auditorium. John Decker is chairman. Look for more details in *The Goat* and in an article on Page 3 of this issue of *The Switchlist*.

The 5th Division currently has 201 members. Our finances are in good shape, with approximately \$1,500 in the bank.

Now, a word about elections and member participation. In 2007, we elected all four officers of the Division. Our bylaws require us to elect officers as follows: Superintendent and Paymaster in odd years (which means the next election will be 2009), Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk (Secretary) in even years (which means the next election will be 2010). The Assistant Superintendent and Chief Clerk will need to serve an extra year to get things back on schedule. The bylaws were written this way to ensure that continuity in administration.

The 5th Division news can be found in **The Goat** on the 5th Division website, <http://prn.nmra.org/5div>, and on our YahooGroup, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/5dprn>.

6th Division

Ed Molenkamp, Superintendent

Nothing submitted.

7th Division

Gary Hazell, Superintendent

As I mentioned in the last Switchlist, we are all looking forward to the PNR convention in Chilliwack, June 12–15, 2008. Although we have over 100 registrants (many from the US), there is still a number missing from the 6th Division and particularly the 7th Division where the convention is in our own back yard. I hope it is only procrastination! The convention hotel is completely booked but to get on the waiting list or to find another hotel nearby, www.RainbowCountryInn.com, info@rainbowcountryinn.com, 800-665-1030. There is also a great RV site right next door at the Cottonwoods RV park, www.cottonwoodrvpark.com, camp@cottonwoodrvpark.com, 604-824-7275. Also if you need help with registration or reservations contact www.chilliwackinterchange2008.com.

The 6th Division held a very successful Supertrain 2008 in Calgary. The meet was moved to a new facility with a new date. In the past, the show has been held in February but April promised to be warmer weather. Not so. The 100 km from the Rockies to Calgary was covered with black ice and near-blizzard conditions. It continued to snow both Saturday and Sunday of the meet. This is the largest model railroad show in Canada and may in fact be the largest in the PNR, with over 12,000 attendees. The show has attracted over 14,000 public in the past, but the weather may have had a bearing on it. There were 10 groups from the 7th Division including Chilliwack FreeMo (promoting the PNR convention), the Victoria O scale, and the Salmon Arm HO. The rest were suppliers and railway museums.

We have held three meets, at Mt Pleasant, Western Rails (both in the Vancouver area), and the Vancouver Island Spring meet in Nanaimo. There are a number of meets or shows still pending: Victoria, Chilliwack, Railway days in both Kamloops and Revelstoke this summer, and Trains 2008 in November.

At last count, we have 301 members in the 7th Division and now almost 200 taking our Bulletin Board by email, which is sure helping with our costs. We have also gone to a new printing process, which also saves money.

So don't forget to book for the PNR Convention. For those of you who have never been to a PNR convention, it is four days of model railroading fun and camaraderie. This one is very close to the major populations of Vancouver and Seattle and there are some great activities planned — hope to see you in Chilliwack!

PNR Activities

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

May 16-18, THE DALLES, OR

GORGERAIL 2008. Info:- ahockley@gmail.com, www.gorgerail.com.

Jun 12-15, CHILLIWACK, BC

Chilliwack Interchange 2008 - PNR 2008 Regional Convention. Best Western Rainbow Country Inn. Info :-
www.chilliwackinterchange2008.com

Jun 15 (Sun), FORT STEELE , BC

5th Annual Fathers Day at the Steam Railway, Fort Steele Heritage Town. Info: - www.fortsteele.ca

Jun 21 (Sat), PORTLAND, OR

The Rose City Garden Railroad Society Summer Tour of Portland area layouts (8-10) from 10AM to 5PM. Book-lets with directions are available from local area hobby shops and select nurseries for \$10 per family (grandkids to grandparents count as one family). Info :- www.RCGRS.com

Jun 26-28, PORTLAND, OR

SP&S Historical Society Convention. Info:- www.sps.shs.org

Jul 13-19, ANAHEIM, CA

NMRA National Convention, sponsored by the Los Angeles Division/Pacific Southwest Region. Info:-
www.nmra.org/2008/

Jul 15-19, TACOMA, WA

Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association Annual Convention; Hotel Murano (Formerly Sheraton Tacoma Hotel) 1320 Broadway Plaza Info:- www.nprha.org

Jul 18-19, BUTTE, MT

2008 Milwest Annual Meeting, (Milwaukee Road-Lines West Historical Group). Best Western Butte Plaza Inn, 2900 Harrison Ave. Info:- www.milwest.org/meet.html

Jul 19-23, WENATCHEE, WA

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

Jul 19 (Sat), WILKESON, WA

Wilkeson Handcar Races. Railway Avenue

Aug 15-24, REVELSTOKE, BC

Railway Days 2008, Revelstoke Railway Museum. Railfan day is Saturday, August 18. Includes slide show and Rogers Pass bus tour. Info: - Roberto Rodriguez, 250-837-6060, president.railway@telus.net,
www.railwaydays.com.

Aug 16-17, BIG VALLEY, AB

Alberta Free-mo 2008 Info:- www.calgaryfreemo.ca

Aug 29-31, LETHBRIDGE, AB

Galt #8 in 2008 - Sixth Division meet. German Canadian Club 902 6th St. North. Prototype and Layout Tours, Contests, Clinics, more... Info:- Harry Lubbers, hlubbers@lis.ab.ca

Oct 19 (Sun), SPOKANE, WA

The Spokane Railroad Show at the Spokane Community College "Lair" Student Activities Building. The campus is at Mission and Greene Streets, north of I-90 exit 283B. The public is invited from 10 till 3:30. Adult admission is \$5, kids under 12 are free, \$1 for teens. Early admission after 9 is \$10. A 6 foot table is \$20, vendors can setup starting at 7:45. Info:- 509-535-7186 or ierhs@yahoo.com.

PNR Staff

The *Switchlist* is the official publication of the Pacific Northwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association. It is published quarterly on September 15th, December 15th, February 15th, and May 15th. Deadline for submissions is two weeks prior, on the first day of that month. It is available free of charge via our website, pnr.nmra.org. To receive notice when the next Switchlist is posted (and other news of interest to PNR members), join our email list by sending a blank email to PNR-NMRA-subscribe@YahooGroups.com.

Readers of the *Switchlist* are encouraged to submit articles and pictures about PNR activities, past, present and future. The *Switchlist* does not pay for articles. Email correspondence and contributions to the editor. Photographs and illustrations are encouraged in all common digital formats. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, and edit contributions as space and time dictates. Non-commercial Classified Advertising will be accepted from PNR members at no charge as a member service; email submissions to the editor. Letters to the editor and other editorial opinions do not necessarily reflect opinions and policy of PNR or NMRA. Complete staff and contact information is available on the PNR website: pnr.nmra.org.

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NMRA / PNR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please accept my new or renewal membership application in the NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION and the PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION.

<input type="checkbox"/> New Member	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Member NMRA #: _____	PNR #: _____	
		<u>USA Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular member (with subscription to <i>Scale Rails</i>)		\$51	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Regular member (without <i>Scale Rails</i>)		\$36	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student member (USA only) must be fulltime student		\$24	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family member of a regular member (each)		\$7	\$ _____
Names: _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining member (business or club) (with subscription to <i>Scale Rails</i>)		\$102	\$ _____
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	TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED		\$ _____

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