

# The Switchlist

May  
2009

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

WESTERN PACIFIC RR  
MODEL RAILROAD DIVISION  
SWITCH LIST



LO# \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
M# \_\_\_\_\_ 19\_\_\_\_  
CONDUCTOR  
GROSS  
TONS

Copper Range Railroad Company

Duplicate for Agent's Reference

INSTRUCTIONS: See end of folder for instructions for all  
new members. Examine the New Member card closely and  
thoroughly comply with these instructions.

E. A. WOLFE, Agent

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Virginian Railway SWITCH LIST

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**Inside This Issue:**

- ◆ Division News
- ◆ Pressman's Radio and TV Repair
- ◆ Northern Lights 2009 Convention Coverage

# Officers' Reports

## President's Report

Jack Hamilton, MMR

It is my pleasure to report that, even though we are experiencing an economic downturn in the nation and throughout our region, our organization continues to grow and thrive.

### Hobby Shops

While some hobby shops may feel a bit of a crunch, they are hanging on and remain supportive of our hobby. Please be sure you support the shops in your area and do your best to give them exposure at your clinics, meets and shows. While an individual shop may not be able to make a meet or show, be sure to distribute flyers for those businesses to your attendees.

### Volunteers

I regret to report that past President Kevin Oleson submitted his resignation as our Convention Committee Chair. Kevin has served us so very well over the years in 4D, PSX 2004 and as PNR President. Unfortunately, as with many of us who engage in volunteer work, the real world occasionally catches up and we have to cut back. I most certainly appreciate all that Kevin has given to the hobby and will miss his service in the convention efforts. That said, I do need another PNR member to step forward to take on the task. Please see the PNR Bylaws and Policy Manual at [pnr.nmra.org](http://pnr.nmra.org) for details and do not be reluctant to serve. With over 1,600 members and growing, it really is not up to "someone else" to make the region work well. If you are interested, Co-Chairs are also acceptable. Please give me a hand here.



### Bylaws and Policy Manual

The election results for the Bylaws revisions are in and each of the proposed revisions was adopted. Unfortunately, only 81 valid ballots from over 1,600 members were received. I can only encourage you to participate in the affairs of the organization. I would however ask you not to bitch or complain if you did not cast a ballot and you are not happy with how we are doing business.

### Financial Audit

A very successful audit of PNR financial operations and accounting records was completed. My personal thanks to James Williams and Nick Lehrbach who conducted the audit, and to our Treasurer Dirk Kruysman for his meticulous care of our books. One item of note from the audit was the reliance on convention revenues to finance region activities. If we continue to fail to gain positive return from our annual convention, we will not be able to continue to support some of our current activities. The relationship between convention revenues and the fiscal health of the region should be of concern to each member.

### Education Program

When I assumed office as your President, one of the areas of service that I included in my priorities was education. I am pleased to announce that Ed Liesse has accepted the position of Education Committee Chair. Ed has embarked on an effort to collect as many clinic presentations as possible and to identify every member willing to make clinic presentations so that we may all share in the wealth. From my experience in other regions and divisions, I know that 4D and 7D have some advantages in geographic proximity and total membership that makes a formal clinic program easier. However, one major drawback to any clinic program is a lack of volunteers to present clinics. Through Ed's efforts we may be able to provide necessary clinic materials and perhaps a few "wandering" clinicians. Please welcome Ed to the position and give him your assistance in this important task.

### Presidents Award

Elsewhere in this edition, Dick Sutcliffe is making the case for recommendations for our annual President Award. While each Division Superintendent is required to submit a nominee, every PNR member has the right to make a nomination. Please do not hesitate to offer the name and support to any PNR member that you believe deserving of this recognition.

### Northern Lights 2009

Edmonton calls. The opportunity to renew old friendships and to build new relationships at this once in a lifetime event is too good to pass up. If big vacation plans are on hold because of the economy, consider this mini-vacation as a great getaway. I expect to see some really special and new things at Edmonton. I look forward to driving through a part of North America that I have not visited before and to enjoy all that Western Canada has to offer. I am also anxious to visit

the acclaimed train show that will accompany the convention. I may not have the money to buy all I want, but I can “window shop,” dream, and get new ideas for things to do on my layouts. Please make sure you are registered. I’ll see you there. After Hartford (I lived in CT for many years), Edmonton should be a real winner.

### Pop Quiz

I really would like to know your thoughts on a few things. Please answer any or all of the above questions in an email to me at [gradiver@wavecable.com](mailto:gradiver@wavecable.com):

1. If you are going to the convention in Edmonton, what made you decide to go?
2. If you are *not* going to the convention in Edmonton, what made you decide *not* to go?
3. Do you participate regularly in clinics in your local area or Division? If not, why not?
4. What should we do to make PNR and your Division more valuable to you?
5. What do you expect from your NMRA membership? Do we meet those expectations?

Thanks,  
Jack

## Treasurer’s Report

Dirk Kruysman

The financial condition of the PNR remains good. We are a little more than halfway through our fiscal year and our income is at 67% of our 2009 budget, while our expenses are at 65% of that budget. More important, we have three investment accounts and, while they don’t make all that much money, we have not lost anything to date. Our current total financial assets exceed \$52,000.

## Achievement Program Moments

Jack Hamilton

It appears that AP is catching on. The continued increase in the number of PNR members who are receiving recognition for their hard work and effort demonstrates that, not only is the Program alive and well, but people do appreciate the recognition (no matter how much they protest otherwise). Some of the success has to do with bringing the program to the modelers without their asking. Open house visits, train shows, and operating sessions are all valuable opportunities to make AP assessments and to make award recommendations.

Here are your fellow modelers who received recognition since the last *Switchlist*:

Al Babinsky, *Golden Spike*  
William Baker, *Golden Spike*  
Bob Beise, *Electrical*  
Tom Buckingham, *Golden Spike*  
Scott Buckley, *Golden Spike*  
Doug Bulger, *Electrical, Scenery*  
George Carr, *Golden Spike*  
John Decker, *Civil*  
Frank Dekker, *Volunteer*  
Allen Evans, *Scenery*  
Susan Evans, *Scenery*  
Phil Everett, *Golden Spike*  
Lawrence Fink, *Golden Spike*

Tom Gilchrist, *Golden Spike*  
Tom Gilchrist, *Scenery*  
JJ Johnston, *Volunteer*  
Al Lowe, *Electrical, Scenery, Volunteer*  
Bruce McCosh, *Electrical*  
Mike McCracken, *Golden Spike*  
Jim Merriam, *Scenery*  
Wain Miller, *Golden Spike*  
John Morrison, *Golden Spike*  
Nick Muff, *Golden Spike*  
James Murrie, *Golden Spike*  
Edwin Pennington, *Golden Spike*  
Ron Petersen, *Golden Spike*

Steve Prevet, *Dispatcher*  
David R. Ross, *Golden Spike*  
Glenn Shadduck, *Golden Spike*  
Robert Snyder, *Golden Spike*  
William Spaulding, *Golden Spike*  
Scott Taylor, *Golden Spike, Volunteer*  
Jack Tingstad, *Golden Spike*  
Louis Toppiano, Jr., *Golden Spike*  
Alfred Turnbull, *Golden Spike, Scenery*  
MaryKay Voss, *Volunteer*  
Gerald W. McGourty, *Golden Spike*  
Jim Younkins, *Electrical, Scenery*

Congratulations to each and every awardee! Keep up the good work. Thanks for serving as role models and mentors to all of us.

### Get in the Matrix

Following “too much paperwork” (please ask the folks above about how untrue *that* is!), the most common excuse for not participating in AP is that the standards are subjective and achievement is only for “good old boys.” Sorry, but that excuse just doesn’t get off the ground.

The AP assessment process for construction skills (cars, structures, motive power) is based on a series of questions to be answered by the team (at least two) making the determination. They are guided in their assessment by a set of formal guide-

lines including an individual “matrix” that directs their attention to qualities and establishes the point spread they will work in for each judged category. See the NMRA web site AP Program page for the “Achievement Program Judging Guidelines.”

When constructing a model (whether to be judged or not) it would seem that the best quality results will be achieved if the elements of the matrix are considered. If you are looking to earn the 87½ points for a Merit Award, start by making sure that your model will qualify for that many points. Again, the matrix leads the way. It is the key to what you preserve and provide to the judges. Only the person who built the model can answer the underlying questions about materials, techniques, and intentions so let the matrix be your guide. Always present the information that will help the judges move as far toward the lower right-hand corner of each skill as possible. If you have questions about what earns more points, please ask me before you begin the project. The objective of AP is to recognize superior skill. The matrix defines the meaning of superior skill.

## News

### PNR President's Award

Dick Sutcliffe, President's Award Coordinator

All PNR members are asked to submit recommendations for candidates to their division superintendent. Superintendents are expected to use these recommendations to nominate candidates to the President and Vice-President by the end of June this year, with a copy to the PNR President's Award Coordinator. The PNR's Policy Manual states:

“The purpose of the award shall be to annually honour a member of the PNR who has, through signal service or services to the hobby of model railroading, contributed the most benefit to the PNR-NMRA among those nominated to be considered for the bestowing of the Award during a period of at least twelve (12) months prior to the closing of the nominations.”

To nominate someone for the President's Award, download a nomination form at [pnr.nmra.org/presawardform.pdf](http://pnr.nmra.org/presawardform.pdf). Follow the complete instructions on it and return to me before the June 30, 2009 deadline.

### Inland Empire Railway Historical Society Open House, June 12–13

Shirley Sample

The Inland Empire Railway Historical Society's 3<sup>rd</sup> Open House will be held June 12–13, from 10 AM –3 PM, in the SE corner of the Spokane Interstate Fairgrounds. Admission is \$5 donation per family or \$10 for a van load.

There will be rides on their 2' gauge train, tours of museum cars, hands-on activities, and photo ops for everyone. Food will be available from fairground vendors. They are inviting railroad clubs to have displays, layouts, demonstrations and hands-on activities to promote their clubs and organizations to create more interest in railroading.

For more information or sign up your group, contact Donna McMackin, 509-924-9781. This is an outdoor event, so displays will need to be removed after Friday's show and reset for Saturday.

### National Contest Improvements

Bob Hamm, MMR

I have been the National Contest Chairman for several years now and my staff and I have worked hard to improve that activity and make it more appealing to attendees. In Anaheim, we added two events: the People's Choice Awards, a direct entry, minimal paperwork pop vote contest; and the Model Showcase, a non-competitive, display-only event (complete or in-process models are okay), also with little paperwork.

For Hartford we are premiering three new activities: a Kit Built Contest to run in parallel with the regular Scratch Built contest (with a parallel array of place awards); an event we are calling “An Afternoon of Meet the Modeler, Photographer, & Crafter” in which entrants in the Showcase and all the contests are encouraged to come to the contest room and be with their entries to explain, discuss, and generally showoff their works; and a Thursday morning score review period for the judged contest (Kit and Scratch) during which contestants may discuss and ask questions of the judges and staff. The awards take place Thursday afternoon.

THE NMRA'S NATIONAL CONTEST INVITES YOU TO

**A CELEBRATION OF MODELS, PHOTOS & CRAFTS**

VISIT US AT...  
WWW.HN2009.ORG OR WWW.NMRA.ORG

JOIN...THE NEW JUDGED KIT BUILT MODEL CONTEST  
MEET...FELLOW MODELERS, PHOTOGRAPHERS, & CRAFTERS  
VOTE...FOR YOUR FAVORITE IN THE "PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS"  
SHOW & TELL...YOUR LATEST EFFORTS IN THE MODEL SHOWCASE  
PLUS ALL THE STANDARD CONTEST EVENTS AT THE...  
**HARTFORD NATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 5TH~11TH**

# PNR Convention



## Northern Lights 2009, PNR Regional Convention Edmonton, Alberta, September 17-19, 2009

Rob Badmington, Northern Lights 2009 Publicity Chair



Exactly one hundred years ago, one of North America's greatest railroad engineering accomplishments was completed with the opening of Canadian Pacific Railway's world famous Spiral Tunnels. On September 1, 1909, the eastbound grade up to Kicking Horse Pass was tamed from a grueling 4.4% to a more manageable 2.2% by an ingenious line revision that included two circular loops deep within the mountainsides. You might ask what this has to do with a PNR model railroad convention. Well, there are some interesting connections. First, for the vast majority of PNR members, the Spiral Tunnels are on a direct route from your home to Edmonton. If you are driving via the Trans Canada Highway through the Canadian Rockies, a stop at Field BC and the Spiral Tunnels Viewpoint a few miles east are well worth the time. Yoho National Park has some special celebrations planned this year around the centennial of these landmarks. On this busy section of CPR's transcontinental main line, you are very likely to catch a two mile long train crawling up or down the Big Hill, coiling over itself twice as it traverses the tunnels.

The second connection to the Spiral Tunnels is our guest speaker at the Saturday evening banquet. Tom Price was the Roadmaster on CPR's Laggan Sub, responsible for track maintenance on the Big Hill, some of the most difficult railroad on the planet. The topic for his presentation is "127 Years of Mayhem" where he weaves tales around some of the challenges of keeping CPR's lines open. It is hard to imagine how difficult it must have been to get a call in the middle of the night telling of yet another derailment, washout, flood, collision, avalanche, fire, rock slide, bridge collapse, or other catastrophe. Tom's own experiences, augmented by those of his father and grandfather, and illustrated by many pictures, will entertain and enlighten you, while instilling admiration for those who toiled to get the lines open again.

There are many other activities at Northern Lights 2009 to keep you busy from Thursday morning through Saturday night. Fourteen different clinics have been lined up so far, with topics ranging from modeling techniques, to operations, to becoming an AP judge. As much as possible, each clinic will be run twice to give you a good chance to catch them all. Other activities running concurrently at the convention hotel include the model and photo contests, AP judging, and a Silent Auction. Be sure to bring some of those treasures you would like to sell.

Many fine layouts in the Edmonton area will be open for conventioners. Layout tours will be self-guided, ensuring you adequate time to enjoy them at your own pace. The layouts are at various stages of completion, but you can always get interesting ideas about construction, operations, and track planning from every layout. Greg Hiscock's Boxer Creek Railroad is a freelanced HO double deck layout. Ample yards feature trains whose consists range from the '50s to the modern era, and from dozens of railroads representing several countries spanning from South and North America to Europe. Ken King is building the Kootenay Western Railway. A freelance railway based on Kelowna, BC in the '70s and '80s, the Kootenay Western also hosts CN and CP operations. This medium sized, single deck HO layout features walkaround operations with DCC and sound, with most of the track work completed. Sweeping scenes with some scenery underway do well to capture the feel of the area. Brian Stokes' Nelson & Fort Sheppard is a double-deck HO layout representing the Great Northern and Canadian Pacific in Southern BC. The partially completed scenery features fall colours. Built to operate, the layout's focus is the CPR division point of Nelson, BC in 1953, which also served as the terminus for the Great Northern's branch from Kettle Falls, WA. Complete descriptions and photos of each layout are posted on the convention website: [northernlights2009.ca](http://northernlights2009.ca).

Our convention isn't the only model railroading going on in Edmonton in mid-September. The convention was timed to coincide with the annual Great Edmonton Train Show, one of the largest model train shows in the PNR. GETS takes place at the Mayfield Trade Centre on Saturday and Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, only a thirteen minute drive from the Northern Lights 2009 headquarters hotel. Over 40,000 square feet are devoted to layouts, displays, dealers and vendors. See the GETS website at [mmrf.ab.ca](http://mmrf.ab.ca).

Another activity scheduled for Northern Lights 2009 is a tour to the Alberta Railway Museum. The ARM collection features equipment from the Northern Alberta Railway and Canadian National Railways, including two steam engines. NAR 73 is a 2-8-0 Consolidation built in 1927 and saw service across Alberta's northern branchlines until 1960. It is the only sur-



*On June 30, 1975, Extra 5714 West was exactly the right length to demonstrate the caboose passing over the locomotives as they exit the lower portal of the Spiral Tunnel. Today's trains are usually more than twice this long.*



*Roger Walker's techniques for realistic weathering of shiny plastic models is one of the featured*

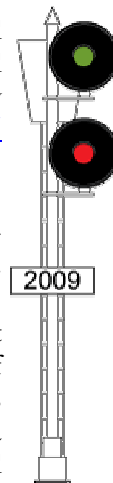
viving NAR steam loco. CNR Ten-wheeler 1392 was built in 1913 for the Canadian Northern Railway, and is still operational. It has been featured in several movies and TV shows. The museum has put together several typical trains such as CNR passenger and mixed trains, NAR passenger and work trains, and specialized equipment. They also have many buildings that have been moved to the site and restored. The museum's website <http://www.railwaymuseum.ab.ca/> includes much valuable information to whet your appetite to visit in person.

Only a block from the convention headquarters at the Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel, you will find the Bay/Enterprise Square LRT Station. Edmonton built North America's first modern light rail system with the initial segment opening in 1978. It has expanded several times with the most recent extension beginning service in late April. Many additional lines are under construction or in the planning stages.

A barbeque reception for convention delegates will be held at Fort Edmonton Park on Thursday evening. Fort Edmonton is a re-creation of several stages of the City of Edmonton's development, including a fur trading post of the early 1800's, the town of the 1890's, and the city as it was in 1920. Perhaps of most interest to model railroaders are three attractions. The Edmonton Yukon & Pacific Railway is a steam powered train that takes riders around a complete circuit of the park. The Edmonton Radial Railway is a fully functional streetcar system featuring several cars from Edmonton's past as well as a PCC car from Toronto. The third attraction is the Monashee Pacific Railway, the HO scale model railroad belonging to the Edmonton Model Railroad Association. The EMRA built their own club building at Fort Edmonton in the form of a 1920 era railway freight station, right beside the EY&P. Inside, a fully scenicked two level layout occupies more than 1500 square feet. Not many clubs can boast live steam engines passing their layouts within 50 feet on a regular schedule.

There is much more to see and do if you decide to come to Edmonton for Northern Lights 2009. Be sure to check the website for updates and additions to the activities. The registration form is at [northernlights2009.ca/registrationform.shtml](http://northernlights2009.ca/registrationform.shtml). There are special prizes for early-bird registrants and the early registration discount has been extended to June 1st. If you have any questions, you may email us at [registrar@northernlights2009.ca](mailto:registrar@northernlights2009.ca).

Hope to see you in Edmonton in September. You will be glad you came!



## Division Reports

### 1<sup>st</sup> Division

Ed Schaezner, Superintendent

Division 1, with the help of Gene Neville, just finished its Spring Mini meet at the CSME clubhouse in Adair Village. We had several clinics, a favorite model contest, drawings for door prizes, and a Board of Directors meeting. The day wrapped up with an operating session on the club layout and visits to home layouts.

We are currently nominating candidates and preparing ballots for the upcoming election for a new Superintendent and six Directors. Bill Bain, Lee Temple and Jim Williams have volunteered to serve as the nominating committee.

Our web site is up and running at [pnr.nmra.org/1div](http://pnr.nmra.org/1div). We are now publishing a quarterly newsletter thanks to the dedication of Bill Howell and Glenn Edmison.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Division

Terry A. Nelson, Superintendent

We've been pretty busy down here in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division. Our mini-meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of every month are well attended. We get together to tell tall tales and other railroad stories. A video or a clinic is presented and then we're off to see a couple of layouts. No planning, no details, no work — just good fun for everyone. We still have lots of week night work sessions and have begun a Time Saver switching layout for future meets. And we're bringing back our Hustler Drags for the Fall Meet. Lots of paybacks and grudge matches have already been discussed!

We had a new railroader attend our spring meet and he asked about the AP program. We talked about how one learns from clinics, working on each others' railroads, and sharing information with each other. He really wants to learn to be a great modeler. This is what's great about our hobby. We all learn from each other.

The Spring Meet was successful again as Andy Doll gave an awesome clinic on making a portable workbench from a cutting board. Bob Parrish had a building judged and scored high enough to earn an AP Merit Award. Good going, Bob! Some new faces showed up and we quickly welcomed them into our midst. Phil Ulmen was on tour and showed off his new DCC system. One of the favorite model entries was a diorama of Phil's dragon that got loose, causing a riot for the police. Now where did Bruce Obenleitner come up with this idea?

We plan more hijinx this summer. Check our web site listing of upcoming activities.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Division

Dennis Hill, Superintendent

The members of the Fourth Division have enjoyed many of the Pre-Summer activities including the monthly clinics, train shows and even conventions. We all participate in these and other railroad events throughout the year, but with the changes in the weather and more daylight hours, we can all visit our favorite railroad and ride trains or volunteer to help in some way.

Many activities throughout the year are advertised in the *Switchlist* and the 4<sup>th</sup> Division *Grab-Iron*, which you can download free from [www.4dPNR.org](http://www.4dPNR.org). Plan something to do with your family that includes *trains!*

The PNR Convention in Edmonton, Canada will be here before you know it. Attending and participating brings many rewards. Have you felt the economic pinch and thought about your vacation plans? Many tourist railroads are barely getting by now. Plan a trip to one and show your support. Individually we cannot turn everything around, but as a group we can begin the comeback on a smaller scale.

Have a Great Summer and Go Ride A Train!

## 5<sup>th</sup> Division

Shirley Sample, Superintendent

The 5<sup>th</sup> Division Annual Meeting was held April 18, 2009 in Spokane, WA at the Cascade Mobile Home Park Club-house. We had 55 members registered, which included 5 or 6 who have just recently joined the NMRA.

John Decker and Kevin Chain gave a very informative clinic on DCC programming & installation. Unfortunately, I attended the other clinic that was to have been on airbrush painting, so that will be held either at the fall mini-meet or the next Annual Meeting.

During the Annual Meeting, John Decker volunteered to be Editor of *The Goat*. New members were introduced and I explained that all of our officers' terms have expired, so we need volunteers so we can hold an election. If anyone is interested, please let me know and I will send you information on what is expected for each officer – Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk and Paymaster. It would also be nice to have 3 volunteers to serve as Train Masters on the Board.

The by-laws for the 5<sup>th</sup> Division are outdated and need to be updated. Charlie Greeson, Gary Thurow and Shirley Sample have volunteered to review them and the information for the 501c3 process. We need to beef up our by-laws so they are more in compliance with the other Divisions. We hope to have a rough draft soon so we can get input from the membership and present the final documents for a vote.

The Missoula Model Railroad Club has volunteered to host the Fall Mini-Meet. Tentative dates are Friday afternoon, October 2 until about noon Sunday, October 4. We would appreciate the help of any Missoula area NMRA members.

Discussion on the 2010 Annual Meeting was also held. Spokane is probably most centrally located, but the Lewiston/Clarkston area is also acceptable. If anyone in that area wants to talk about it, contact me (info below). We usually hold it in mid-April. Maybe we could do the fall mini-meet in Lewiston/Clarkston and the Annual Meeting in Missoula.

After our Annual Meeting, the group had a choice of three club layouts and two individual layouts to visit. I would like to thank River City Modelers, Evergreen Railroad Modelers, INSHOME, Jim Frick, and Jim Ballew for allowing us to visit their layouts. I would also like to thank Sunset Junction, Bob Sample, and Larry Baxter for their door prize donations. We held a raffle for two gift certificates to Sunset Junction.

I encourage members to sign up for the 5<sup>th</sup> Division YahooGroup. This is a great way to get updates what's happening in the Division and to be notified when *The Goat* is available on line for viewing. The website is [groups.yahoo.com/group/5dpmr/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/5dpmr/). To join, sign up for a free Yahoo email address, then go to the website and click on the Join Groups button. You may set up a profile, but don't have to. You can use any email address. For those without email, tell me and I'll mail *The Goat* to you.

There is also much valuable information available on the NMRA site, [nmra.org](http://nmra.org). From there, you can go to Regions and Divisions to learn what's happening in the Pacific Northwest Region and specifically the 5<sup>th</sup> Division. You can also look at other Divisions and read their newsletters and other information. It's a great way to stay informed.

Contact information for your PNR officials are always listed on "The Masthead," located on page 11 of each edition of *The Switchlist*.

Contact me at [shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com](mailto:shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com), 509-292-8332 home, 800-366-6975 work, or P. O. Box 314, Elk, WA 99009. Our division is only as strong as our members and since we now have over 220 members, it would be great if we could set up monthly or quarterly clinics in each area that we have a large membership – Spokane/CDA area, Tri-Cities area, Lewiston/Clarkston area, Wenatchee area, Yakima/Ellensburg area, etc. We have money in the treasury for educational purposes, and I'm open to any ideas so please, volunteers: step forward to help coordinate these programs.

## 6th Division

Ed Molenkamp, Superintendent

There has been a lot of activity in the division lately. The Northern Lights 2009 committee has been hard at work lining up activities for September. New information is frequently added to [northernlights2009.ca](http://northernlights2009.ca), so check back often.

Along with the OPSIG, the 6<sup>TH</sup> Division co-sponsored an operations weekend in Edmonton. Four layouts held operating sessions and attendees were kept busy all weekend. We are looking forward to another one soon.

The division and upcoming convention were represented at Saskatoon Train show, CMRS Mini-meet, The Moose Jaw Train Show, and Supertrain in Calgary. These shows were well attended. Congratulations to the organizers!

Several NMRA memberships were signed up at these events, and membership in the division continues to grow.

We look forward to the MMRF Swap Meet in Edmonton. Besides, looking for bargains and getting together with old friends is always enjoyable.

Don't forget to register Northern Lights soon. The sooner you register, the more chances you have to win a fantastic pre-registration prize of two sound-equipped, Intermountain FP-9A and B locomotives in the classic Canadian National Super Continental Scheme.

Have a great summer. See you in September!

## 7th Division

Gary Hazell, Superintendent

Spring has finally arrived. What a long winter here in the 7<sup>th</sup>! Even Vancouver had snow, which is very unusual.

There have been three meets so far this year in the 7<sup>th</sup> Division: Mt Pleasant Lions show in Vancouver, Western Rails in Burnaby, and the Mid Island Train Show in Nanaimo. There are still a number of meets over the next few months. The very first Logging Modelers' Meet will be June 13 in Port Alberni; Railway Days will be August 14–23 in Revelstoke; CN Community Day will be September 6 in Surrey (near Vancouver); the Victoria Train Show will be September 13 in Saanich (suburb of Victoria); and the Edmonton PNR Meet will be Sept 17–19 in conjunction with the Edmonton Train Show on Sept 19–20. Don't forget to register and check out their website at [northernlights2009.ca](http://northernlights2009.ca)

I received an email a couple of weeks ago telling me to look at [Miniatur Wunderland](#) —absolutely incredible, too much to describe. It is in Hamburg, Germany but the commentary on their YouTube videos is in English.

Our membership is down slightly to 319, but I suspect that's partly due to the economy. I think spending on Model Railroading versus going out for dinner or on long trips is easier on the pocketbook and will bring you a lot of pleasure.

I hope everyone has a great summer and I look forward to seeing many of you in Edmonton at the PNR Convention. The BOD meeting is September 16 the main events start on Thursday, September 17, and the Train Show starts Saturday, September 19.

## The Switchlist Schedule

Al Lowe, Editor

The *Switchlist* is published on August 15, November 15, February 15, and May 15. Officers and superintendents are encouraged to submit their articles two weeks prior, or soon after the first of the month.

As always, anyone who has anything to share with the PNR membership through *The Switchlist* is encouraged to email it to me at [4dpnr@allowe.com](mailto:4dpnr@allowe.com). Graphics and photos are especially welcomed.

And remember: classified ads in the *Switchlist* are available free to any NMRA member.



This, and all recent editions of *The Switchlist*, are available for free download in PDF format at [pnr.nmra.org/switchlist](http://pnr.nmra.org/switchlist).



# Article

## Pressman's Radio and TV Repair

Bruce Oberleitner

Pressman's Radio and TV Repair is a new kit that FOS Scale Limited has put out on the market and wow, is it an eye catcher! This kit comes with all the signs, sidewalk and window details as shown in the photos. I only added the figures and the bus stop to the original kit.

### Construction

I started construction by applying 1/8" sq. basswood bracing to the clapboard siding. Alcohol and India Ink stain (A&I) was applied to the clapboard once the bracing had dried. I then dry-brushed the yellow coloring onto the walls making sure that some of the A&I stain would show through the yellow wall paint. The window castings were painted red and once dried were filled with Gallery Glass. Walls were built flat on the workbench and then glued together using a 1/4" sq. grid paper to square up the walls. The roof was then installed and painted with a mixture of black & antique white paint.

Probably the most difficult item to build was the storefront window. It's made with a series of micro plywood layers and some 1/8" sq. pillars. One thing I would do differently next time would be to vary the colors a little bit on each layer of plywood that makeup the storefront. The window box is simply a painted piece of folded cardboard with laser cut radios and TVs for the window display. Check out the window signs advertising the price of the TVs and radios!

### Details

The biggest thing that I added to the kit was the little bus stop scene. The park bench was built from scrap siding material (for the seat) and flat toothpicks (for the legs). I made the bench 6 feet long but 8 feet might have been better. The post is 10 feet high with a small bus stop sign on each side of a flat toothpick.

Other details including the figures, dog and the fire hydrant are from Woodland Scenics. The sidewalk was included in the kit and painted with the sandstone paint. I built a small extension to the sidewalk near the back door exit and I added some boards, boxes and paper details made from scraps on the workbench. Cracks on the sidewalk were simply drawn onto the sidewalks with a pencil (Thanks to Art Fahie of Bar Mills for this modeling tip.) Pigeon Poop was added to the rooftop with a small brush and some white paint.



*Small clusters of details and items that tell a story add depth to your modeling efforts. The guy sitting next to the girl has completely forgotten about his paper!*



*Check out those new fangled TVs in the window.*



*The back door scene was made with small scraps of wood. Add a splash of color and a scrap becomes a detail!*

### Summary

This fun little kit took me about a week of evenings to build. I highly recommend the FOS scale model kits to anyone who wants to build an outstanding craftsman kit. You can do it and FOS scale makes it easy!

## Pacific Northwest Region 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](mailto:timetable@pnr-nmra.org)*

Jun 13 (Sat), BREMERTON, WA

Bremerton Northern Model Railroad Club 2009 Swap Meet, Saturday June 13, 10 AM - 4 PM. Upstairs at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2515 Burwell. \$2.00 donation for adults, children under 12 free. Info contact Dan or Marion Weston, 360-633-7217, or [MarionandDan@live.com](mailto:MarionandDan@live.com).

Jun 13 (Sat), PORT ALBERNI, BC

1st Annual Vancouver Island Logging Modelers Meet 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM McLean Mill National Historic Site Mill Tours, Speeder Rides, Clinics, Model Displays & Contests (Popular Vote) Sunday Tours of Alberni Pacific Railway Facilities (if enough interest) Entrance Fare - \$20 Cash Info:- [kj.rutherford@shaw.ca](mailto:kj.rutherford@shaw.ca), Ken Rutherford (250) 724-4698 or Rick Lord (250) 724-4205

Jun 17-20, PORTLAND, OR

N Scale Collector Convention. In addition to the convention activities all week, there will be NTrak and Z layouts plus a major vendor fair open to the public from 10AM to 4PM Saturday 20th. Info:- [www.nsc2009.org](http://www.nsc2009.org)

Jun 20 (Sat), PORTLAND, OR

The Rose City Garden Railroad Society Summer Tour of 9 Portland area layouts (8-10) from 10AM to 5PM. Booklets 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](http://www.RCGRS.com)

Jun 20 (Sat), PORTLAND, OR

Oregon Steamer 50th Anniversary 10AM-2PM [www.oregonzoo.org](http://www.oregonzoo.org)

Jun 21 (Sun), FORT STEELE , BC

6th Annual Fathers Day at the Steam Railway, Fort Steele Heritage Town. Info: - [www.fortsteele.ca](http://www.fortsteele.ca)

Jun 25-27, KLAMATH FALLS, OR

SP&S Historical Society Convention. Info:- [www.spshts.org](http://www.spshts.org)

Jul 5-11, HARTFORD, CT

NMRA National Convention. Info:- [www.hn2009.org](http://www.hn2009.org)

Jul 25-26, IONE, WA

NPOV Lions Excursion Train Ride - Down River Days Weekend - \$12.00 ages 13 - 64; \$8.00 ages 2 - 12; \$8.00 ages over 64; children under 2 free. Info:- [www.lionstrainrides.com](http://www.lionstrainrides.com)

Aug 13-16, BIG VALLEY, AB

Alberta Free-mo 2009. An entire hockey rink filled with a modular layout! Modules expected from Chilliwack, Cariboo Free-mo, Battle River Railway Modellers and Calgary Free-mo. Info:- [www.calgaryfreemo.ca](http://www.calgaryfreemo.ca)

Aug 14-23, 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](mailto:president.railway@telus.net), ——— [www.railwaydays.com](http://www.railwaydays.com).

Aug 14-16, TOPPENISH, WA

11th Annual Toppenish Rail and Western Art Show, Asotin & Toppenish Ave. Approximately 20 western and rail-road artists. Info: [www.nprymuseum.org](http://www.nprymuseum.org).

Sep 5 (Sat), METALINE FALLS, WA

NPOV Lions Excursion Train Ride - Labor Day Weekend - \$12.00 ages 13 - 64; \$8.00 ages 2 - 12; \$8.00 ages over 64; children under 2 free. Info:- [www.lionstrainrides.com](http://www.lionstrainrides.com)

Sep 11-13, CALDWELL, ID

Treasure Valley Train Expo. O'Conner Field House, 2207 Blaine. Noon to 8:00 P.M. Friday and Saturday, Noon to 6:00 P.M. Sunday. Admission \$5.00 Children 12 and under Free. The event will include modular layouts, model

contests, vendors and clinics. Clubs are encouraged to participate. Vendor tables are available. For further information contact Troy Dewey, 208-461-5028 [treasurevalleytrainexpo@gmail.com](mailto:treasurevalleytrainexpo@gmail.com) 1509 Caldwell Blvd. #19, Nampa, Id. 83651

Sep 17-19, EDMONTON, AB

Northern Lights 2009. PNR Regional Convention. Coast Edmonton Plaza Hotel. Info:- Mark Johnson, [registrar@northernlights2009.ca](mailto:registrar@northernlights2009.ca) [www.northernlights2009.ca](http://www.northernlights2009.ca)

Sep 19-20, EDMONTON, AB

2009 Great Edmonton Model Train Show, 10 AM - 5 PM, Mayfield Trade Centre, 16615 - 109 Ave (Mayfield Road). 40,000 sq. ft. of layouts, displays, clinics, dealers and LEGO! Info:- [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca)

Oct 17-18, CHILLIWACK, BC

Mount Cheam Lions Club Model Railway & Hobby Show, Heritage Park, 44140 Luckakuck Way. Sat 9am-5pm. Sun 10am-4pm. Info: James Hill, (604) 824-1757, Fax: 604-795-5046, [qdee@telus.net](mailto:qdee@telus.net).

Nov 13-16, BURNABY, BC

TRAINS 2009, 26th Annual 7th Div Fall Meet, Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St. Trains Meet Registrar, P.O. Box 52224, North Vancouver BC V7J 3V5, (604) 987-4237 (Registration ONLY), [ras1@uniserve.com](mailto:ras1@uniserve.com), Info:- [www.bctrains.org](http://www.bctrains.org).

*Remember: classified ads in the Switchlist are available free to any NMR A member.*

## Pacific Northwest Region Staff

### Pacific Northwest Region Staff

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### About the PNR

The *Switchlist* is the official publication of the Pacific Northwest Region of the National Model Railroad Association. It is published quarterly on February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15. Deadline for submissions is two weeks prior, on the first day of the month. It is available free of charge via our website, [pnr.nmra.org](http://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](mailto:PNR-NMRA-subscribe@YahooGroups.com).

Readers of the *Switchlist* are encouraged to submit articles and pictures about PNR activities, past, present and future. Email your contributions to the editor at [4dpnr@allowe.com](mailto:4dpnr@allowe.com). 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. The *Switchlist* does not pay for articles. 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](http://pnr.nmra.org).

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