

The Switchlist

March
2011

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

WESTERN PACIFIC RR
MODEL RAILROAD DIVISION
SWITCH LIST

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Inside This Issue:

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- ◆ Bedford Falls Gets A New Station

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SWITCH LIST
SWITCH GARS CAREFULLY AND SAFELY
AVOID ROUGH HANDLING



Officers' Reports

President's Report

Walt Huston



It has been a very busy few months for me. Shortly after the PNR Convention in Lynnwood, I headed over to Boise, Idaho in hopes of delivering a Master Model Railroader award to Bob Parish of the Third Division. My wife, Nancy, and I received a very warm welcome from a great group of people intent on seeing that we had a great time... and we did.

On our first night in Boise, we enjoyed a wonderful meal at Bob's home, shared with a few more people and followed by a run on Bob's excellent layout. The next day was the 3D Meet and that's where I had the honor of presenting Bob with a bright orange napkin and a bright orange paper plate as substitutes for his MMR Certificate and Plaque. Bob was quite gracious in accepting these awards. At the 3D Christmas gathering, Superintendent Terry Nelson delivered the real thing to Bob, dressed in bright orange ribbons (the awards, not Terry!). A large number of Bob's friends and fellow jokesters attended. Nancy and I found that the Third Division is made up of some of the top modelers and top funny people in the PNR.

Back to the PNR Convention in Lynnwood. The convention was a huge success for those who attended. Everything went quite well and very few grumbles were heard. The committee, headed by Rob Jones and made up of Treasurer Sherman Stevens, Registrar Norm Curtis, Outside Activities/Transportation Director Rev. Roger Ferris, Advertising/Printing Director Mike Slease, Webmeister and Techie Al Lowe, Clinics Coordinator Jack Hamilton and a cast of supporting players pulled everything off masterfully. I know that I had a good time and was unable to do everything I wanted to do and experience while there. My thanks to all the folks who did so much for all of us.

Our next challenge is to see what we can pull together for 2011. There was no bid submitted to host the event, so we are looking for a venue or a program, or something. At this point, 5D Superintendent Shirley Sample has presented some ideas for a mini-convention in Spokane, WA that could bear fruit in October. She has talked with three area clubs who are willing to open to us. That's a great start. She and Larry Sebelley are working together to make it happen.

PNR 2012 will be held in Medford, Oregon from May 2, 2012 (BOD Meeting) through May 5, 2012, at the Red Lion Inn. Mark your calendars for those dates and watch the *Switchlist* for details. This is a joint convention with the Pacific Coast Region. First Division Superintendent Ed Schaezner is putting together a local team and a team from PCR. Ed and his team will need help from all of us to pull off a wonderful convention. If there is something you want to do (give a clinic, volunteer, etc.) give Ed a call or email him to let him know you're available.

A call for volunteers: We have current openings for one Canadian and one US member of our Nominations Committee. These folks get together every two years to come up with a slate of candidates for President and Vice President of PNR. They will need to meet during the fall of 2011 to do their work. The meeting can be conducted electronically or in person, as suits the members. The only current member is Roger Ferris and he would certainly like to have some company on that committee.

A second call for volunteers: PNR is in need of a person to act as the US Ballot recipient/Chair. This person would receive and count (with help from two other NMRA members) all the ballots submitted by US residents for PNR elections. Ballot counting usually happens no more than twice a year.

Remember, Volunteers get AP credit for their hours of service toward their "Volunteer Certificate."

Achievement Program Report

Jack Hamilton

PNR members continue to press forward in the Achievement Program. The winter months let our PNR AP assessment teams make the rounds to work with a number of members. See the results below. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

Note that the number of individuals who either own individual modules or who participate in modular clubs are increasing their interest in AP. You need not own a home layout to participate in AP.

Secondly, there is no "statute of limitation" on AP effort. We have one modeler who earned his original certificates in 1971, recently submitted documentation for 4 more (after 40 years!), and is only one structure away from completing his final AP certificate for MMR. A number of members now hold five or six certificates and are within striking distance of completing their trek to MMR. All these modelers delayed participation because they were "hesitant" about the quality of their work and did not want to bother with the "paperwork." Both concerns were unfounded.

To you who have been gracious enough to invite us into your basements, garages, and “extra” rooms, my most sincere thanks. I assure you that the assessment team members learned as much from you as you did from them.

- ◆ *Glenn Farley* – Merit Award (1) – Structure
- ◆ *Ron Hopkins* – Merit Award (1) – Structure
- ◆ *John DeSteele* – Merit Award (1) – Motive Power
- ◆ *Norm Curtis* – AP Certificate – Association Volunteer, Model Railroad Author
- ◆ *Roger Walker* – AP Certificate – Model Railroad Author
- ◆ *Donald Slee* – AP Certificate – Model Railroad Engineer, Civil
- ◆ *Ross Tabor* – AP Certificate – Association Volunteer
- ◆ *Robert Biese* – AP Certificate – Association Volunteer
- ◆ *Ken Liesse* – AP Certificate – Chief Dispatcher
- ◆ *Doug Wingfield* – Merit Award (4) – Civil

Treasurer’s Report

Dirk Kruysman

The *Cascadian International 2010* PNR convention not only repaid its \$1,000 convention loan but its 162 registrants also generated \$1,944 in revenue for the Region. Plus, a good time was had by all!

Congratulations to Rob Jones and his excellent convention committee!

The current state of our finances is shown in the table to the right.

Update Your Email Address Today!

Ed and Gay Liesse, PNR Office Managers

Is your email address correct? Many in the PNR membership data base are not. We recently became aware of this when the PNR mailing about the upcoming convention *Cascadian International 2010* got bounced because of bad email addresses. As we move toward fully electronic communication, the need for the keeping your email addresses up-to-date becomes imperative.

Here’s what to do: **email us** at either eelesse@aol.com or glliesse@aol.com from your current email address and provide your full name and NMRA number, if possible. We’ll update our database and the NMRA’s database for you. It’s so simple. Just email us today!

Treasurer’s Report, February 14, 2011

	<i>US Account</i>	<i>Canada Acct</i>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Convention Loan Repayment	\$1,000.00	
Convention Profit	\$1,944.00	
Interest Received		\$4.93
Life Member Proceeds	\$1,950.00	
NMRA Member Payments	\$1,121.00	
O'Dell Payments		\$2,882.75
Subscription Fees	\$1,620.00	
<i>TOTAL INCOME:</i>	\$7,635.00	\$2,887.68
<u>EXPENSES</u>		
Donation to NMRA	\$1,000.00	
Legal Fees		\$389.05
Oregon Corporation Fees	\$16.00	
President Award Expenses		\$10.00
Switchlist publication	\$2,558.60	
<i>TOTAL EXPENSES:</i>	\$3,574.60	\$399.05
<u>BALANCE SHEET</u>		
Checking Accounts	\$8,502.42	\$10,285.83
Savings Accounts	\$12,103.77	\$11,030.49
Life Member Account	\$20,011.90	
<i>TOTAL ASSETS:</i>	\$40,618.09	\$21,316.32

Membership Update, August 2010 – January 2011

Ed and Gay Liesse, Co-Office Managers

NMRA/PNR membership totaled 1,607 at the end of the last six-month reporting period, in July 2010. From August 1, 2010, to January 31, 2011, our total dropped eight members, to 1,599. The decrease can be partially attributed to the deaths of nine members. These figures also point out that the membership has not increased significantly over the past six months.

During this six-month reporting period, however, membership reached a high of 1,621. What became of the missing 13 members? It appears that the decrease reflects a number of members who did not renew their NMRA/PNR memberships.

In tracking the six-month membership category, it appears that those trial memberships include a large portion of the non-renewals. It seems to be fairly easy to attract and recruit new members with the less expensive, shorter-term, trial memberships at shows and meets, but do we follow up on these new members to encourage them to participate in model railroad activities and to retain their memberships when renewal time approaches? We all (not just Division Superintendents, although dissemination of information falls mainly on their shoulders) must be sure these new members, who are investigating “What’s In It For Me?”, are invited to participate and are welcomed into all activities and public events to generate their interest in renewing and maintaining their memberships.

As a matter of interest, there are currently 18 active Master Model Railroaders in the PNR, with several others nearing that goal. Reaching MMR status is the crowning glory of model railroading and the NMRA Achievement Program.

A reminder from your Co-Office Managers: If you want to receive the *Switchlist* electronically, i.e., on your computer, please send us your email address with your request. (See previous article.) Keep us updated with any email changes, an ongoing challenge with the membership records. Without having your current email address in the membership database, you may be missing communications from PNR or your Division.

News

2010 PNR President’s Award

Dick Sutcliffe, PNR President’s Award Coordinator

The following remarks were intended to be read at the PNR Convention in Lynnwood at the presentation of the 2010 President’s Award but were not, due to the lateness of the hour.

One of the recipients has been a member of NMRA for over 50 years and has attended every National Convention since Portland in 1994, as well as volunteered his services to the convention committee to serve in any capacity needed at each convention. He has served as a primary member of the PSX 2004 convention Committee working facilities and clinics. He has attended National Conventions in Ft Lauderdale, Toronto, and St. Louis for the primary purpose of selling the Seattle convention and working the PSX 2004 registration desk. He has been a frequent clinician at the national level.

The other member of this team has been a member of NMRA for many years. She, too, has attended every National Convention since Portland in 1994, and has volunteered her services to the convention committee to serve in any capacity needed at each convention. She has served as a primary member of the *PSX 2004 Convention Committee*, working as the Convention Secretary and Non-Rail and Hospitality Chair. She attended National Conventions in Ft. Lauderdale, Toronto, and St. Louis for the primary purpose of selling the Seattle Convention and working the PSX 2004 registration desk.

One has a solid record of service to PNR as Region Secretary for 5 years and Education Chair; PNR Convention attendance and active participation Kennewick (1998) through Edmonton (2009); Clinician at PNR Conventions; PNR Contest Judge; PNR AP Judge; and PNR AP participant.

The other also has an exemplary record of PNR service as *Switchlist* editor for 4 years; PNR Office Manager; PNR Convention attendance and active participation from Kennewick 1998 through Edmonton 2009; AP program participant with a Volunteer Certificate.

Together they have become the heart of PNR 4D operations and activities. There is little that goes on in the Division that does not have their fingerprints on the planning and execution.

He served as 4D Secretary for a number of years and has been a constant attendee and contributor to the Tacoma clinic. He served with distinction on numerous Division mini-meet committees. He was a principle clinician for 4D train shows, introducing basic model railroading concepts and skills to the public and prospective members.

She attended and was a primary player in the Tacoma clinic for a number of years. She served as a host for out of state clinicians in town to support 4D events. She provided room and board as well as transportation services for many. With all her involvement, she also found time to foster a love for railroading and the hobby in her sons who are now also very active in NMRA, their home regions, and division.

Together they have not only served but have provided the best possible example of what volunteerism is for all members of the Region and Division. They have dedicated their efforts toward National, Region, and Division activities. They have been extremely supportive of the various 4D module groups and have frequently assisted those groups at shows and events. They have frequently brought their Timesaver module to events, and provided a singularly effective opportunity for youngsters and those considering the hobby to experience and enjoy realistic train operations.

Contact information for your PNR officials are always listed on “The Masthead,” located on page 15 of this edition of the Switchlist.

Both are walking, talking recruiting stations for NMRA. At every opportunity, they sell the positives of the hobby and the advantages and benefits of NMRA membership. They really “get it” and try to make existing and prospective members understand what the hobby and NMRA are all about. Both can frequently be found working with kids to teach them about “trains” and to encourage their participation in the hobby. With respect to service to the hobby, this couple set the standard.

Both are constantly in the public view at events and gatherings from the national level down to the local train show level. They are consummate salespeople for our hobby and NMRA. They are ready to offer assistance to any who need it and advice to any who ask. We could not have a better “public face” for model railroading and NMRA.

I could go on for several more pages about this couple’s contributions to the hobby elsewhere, outside the PNR, but I’m sure you get the idea how these active volunteers are serving the hobby. Please give your well-deserved recognition to *Ed and Gay Liesse*.



NMRA InfoNet News

Gerry Leone

Don’t subscribe to *NMRA Magazine*? There’s [a section on the NMRA website](#) devoted to reporting the same NMRA news found in *The Bulletin* section of the magazine every month.

We’d also like you to remind you about the “**Division Business Car**” column (also known as [NMRA@Home](#)) found in *NMRA Magazine* every other month. It’s written by Jim Zinser MMR and features interesting summaries of articles he’s found in Division newsletters from all around the world.

John Stevens, our national Boy Scout coordinator, wanted me to forward this to everyone: In order to create the most secure environment possible for its youth members, the **Boy Scouts of America (BSA) has developed numerous procedural and leadership selection policies** for its adult leaders. Effective June 1, 2010, those policies included Youth Protection Training. After that date, no adult may register with the BSA as an adult leader in any capacity without first completing this training. The training is good for two years and can be accomplished online. The training can be found at [scouting.org](#). Click “My Scouting” near the top of the page, create an account, and you can then access the training. Upon completion of the training, print a certificate of completion to include with your next Adult Leader Application. The whole process should take under an hour. If you have any questions, contact John Stevens, scouts@hq.nmra.org.

Trainfest, which takes place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and is operated by the WISE Division of the NMRA, set an **all-time attendance record** this November with 23,476 attendees, the highest in the event’s 39-year history.

x2011, the Sacramento 2011 Convention, report that they’ve now implemented **RSS feeds from their website**. Attendees and potential attendees can simply subscribe to the RSS feed and they’ll receive email messages when items are added or changed on the website. Go to [x2011west.org](#) and click the orange RSS box.

And **x2011 online registration is up and running**. It’s presently limited to convention registration, but once tour information is released, registrants will also be able to sign up for tours and extra fare events online. Not only will this be convenient, but registrants will be able to see immediately if a tour is sold out.

New NMRA Vice President to Build Stronger Ties with Divisions and Regions

Al Lowe

At the NMRA National Convention in Milwaukee last summer, the NMRA created a new position, Vice President of Special Projects. The first holder of this position is Bill Kaufman, a well-known modeler in the San Francisco Bay area.

In a recent interview with *The Model Railway Show*, Bill spoke to co-host Trevor Marshall about his plans to use this position to strengthen the ties between the national organization and its Divisions and Regions, including the creation of a “best-practices” manual. Hear this interview for free at [themodelrailwayshow.com](#).

The Model Railway Show is a free Internet newsmagazine, delivered twice monthly in podcast format via direct download or iTunes. Each show is about 20 minutes and includes two interviews on a broad range of topics. Bill’s interview appeared in Episode 2.

Remember: classified ads in the Switchlist are available free to any NMRA member.

Join the PNR's YahooGroup!

Al Lowe

Join the PNR's YahooGroup today and win! Win the recognition of your peers. Win new knowledge. Win (a few) more emails. Seriously, the more members who join the Group, the better it can do its job. Join today. It couldn't be easier:

1. Create a blank email to PNR-NMRA-subscribe@yahoo.com by clicking the link.
2. Write nothing. Just click Send.
3. To confirm that you're really you, Yahoo will send you an email containing a link.
4. Open that email and click the link. You're in!

Besides receiving first notification of the publication of the *Switchlist*, you'll have access to the most-involved model railroaders in your region.

Division Reports

1st Division

Ed Schaezner, Superintendent

2nd Division

Charlie Comstock, Superintendent

The PNR Second Division held their **2010 Fall Meet** in Hillsboro, OR on Nov 6, 2010. Over 60 members and guests made the drive deep into the countryside to attend, some coming from as far away as Roseburg. The morning session consisted of three clinics:

o **Jeff Johnston** of Eugene did a live scenery demonstration, going from bare plaster to (mostly) finished scenery in an hour. Jeff covered rock casting, using sifted dirt, and various colors and textures of ground foam.

o **Don Mitchell** of San Diego, CA happened to be in Portland that weekend and agreed to give a presentation about his *Southern Mountain Railroad*. Don, a professional track plan designer, has packed a huge amount of HO operation into a 9x12 foot spare bedroom.

o **Joe Fugate** of Woodburn, the publisher of *Model Railroad Hobbyist*, and **Jeff Shultz** of Stayton, OR presented *Internet Resources for the Model Railroader*, a survey of what's available on the Internet for connected modelers.



Three trains running on Tom Miller's Little Colorado (Jeff Shultz photo)



Joe Fugate & Jeff Shultz present a clinic on how model railroaders can get the most out of the internet (Charlie Comstock photo)

All three clinics were well received by attendees.

We raffled off a number of door prizes donated by the generous hobby store owners in the area and conducted self-guided tours to three local layouts after lunch: **Tom Miller's** vast Fn3 *Little Colorado*; **Charlie Comstock's** HO *Bear Creek and South Jackson*; and **Jim Barta's** HO *Black Canyon Railroad* and his steel mill layout. The layout owners reported a steady stream of visitors to their railroads.



Looking down the length of Charlie Comstock's Bear Creek & South Jackson

The day came off fairly seamlessly and a good time was had by all, even the 2nd Division board members who worked hard to make the meet happen! The 2nd Division is already looking forward to our **2011 Spring Meet**.

3rd Division

Terry A. Nelson, Superintendent

Our spring meet is March 26th. We plan a full day of events: clinics, contests and tours. Check out the web page for more information. We have a contest on building the Roxbury Roofing kit by Jimmy Deignan at www.railroadkit.com. Check out his web page. Jimmy has been extremely generous with his support and will be surprised at the quality of entries. I hope you all have something to bring for a contest or just to show off.

I had the misfortune to show off my layout at the last mini-meet sponsored by the local TNT group. There is nothing like an open house to get one moving and get trains running. I have a new NCE 10-amp system and I fried 4-5 engines, some with sound. But, with a lot of generous help, I have been able to get back on track and running again. And that's what this hobby is all about. Friends helping friends. Lots of people offered solutions to help. Bruce Oberleitner and Tom Waters have been a great help with the PSX power protectors and reversing loop circuitry. Strange things were happening. Turnouts and polarity were switching on their own and no clue as to why. I thought I had gremlins. Well, a change of amp trip current sensitivity was the fix, in addition to cleaning dirty track. That cleared the problems. Thanks, guys.

I want to encourage everyone to attend the NMRA National Convention in Sacramento this summer. Go to www.x2011west.org. My wife and I are registered to go, including all the great tours. Everything can be done online this year. You'll know right away when you sign up for a tour whether you'll get it or not. We signed up for the Sacramento River Dinner Train on Sunday night. Our trip will include dinner, a beer tasting, and musical entertainment, along with the train ride. Monday, we will see the Sierra Railway at *Railtown 1897*, where many railroad movies were filmed. The trains are still there to see and some to ride. *Petticoat Junction*, *The Wild, Wild West*, *High Noon* and *Back to the Future Part III* were all filmed here. A Texas-style BBQ is included in the afternoon. There are tours to Virginia City and the V&T railroad available. Tours up the Feather River Canyon to Portola are scheduled for WP fans, like me.

Layout tours are plentiful with a wide selection offered from N scale to 1.5" scale. One can see Jim Dias, Jack Burgess, and Kermit Paul — all in one tour! Over 60 layouts will be open. Some are even available on self-guided tours with no bus to pay for.

The clinics this year are incredible. You'll just have to go online to see the many offerings.

And don't forget the National Train Show is the last 3 full days of the week!

4th Division

Dennis Hill, Superintendent

The members of the Fourth Division recently participated in the **37th Annual Pacific Science Center Model Train Show** at Seattle Center. Over 10,000 people entered the show during the three-day Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend. It is always gratifying to see the number of families that attend. It is also great to see the number of young people that visit this show. Someday, the future of this hobby will be in the hands of these young people. I believe that the hobby will continue to grow and be a part of many families' lives. Thanks to all who participated and helped before, during, and after, the show. It was a very positive experience for many, many people.

Join our YahooGroup by sending a blank email to PNR-NMRA-subscribe@yahoo.com. Yahoo will send you a confirmation email. Click the link inside it. You're in! Join today!

A few weeks later, on Super Bowl weekend, many members of Fourth Division participated in the **United Northwest Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet** in Monroe, WA. For most of those attending the show, it was a great experience. Unfortunately, for a few, it was not good: several items were stolen from the 4dNTRAK layout, including 5 DCC locomotives and several pieces of rolling stock. If you hear anything about these items, please contact **Al Lowe**, 4dpnr@allowe.com, 425 643-6300.

At Monroe, a newly organized group had a display of On30 Modules. Their goal is to get everything running in time for the **Narrow Gauge Convention** in Bellevue in 2012. **Russ Segner** is the convention chairman. Anyone with interest in Narrow Gauge in On30, please let Russ know that you would like to help or participate.

The **TNW Model Railroad Club** will host a new show at Freighthouse Square in Tacoma. Contact Larry Sloan if you are interested in participating. The dates are May 14–15, 2011. Make plans now to attend. Part of the proceeds will go to local charities in the Tacoma area.

Until next time... "Happy Rails to You!"

5th Division

Shirley Sample, Superintendent

The 5th Division **Fall Mini-Meet**, held in Lewiston, ID, October 1–3, 2010, was a great success!

Thanks to **Wayne Walling** and the guys from the *Lewis & Clark Train Club* for hosting. We toured the W&I RR rail yard & shops in Lewiston; had a presentation & slide show on *MOW Speeders* by **Steve Talby**; a clinic on *Basalt Rock Formations* by **Bill Kleinert**; a clinic on *Interior Lighting Of Buildings* by **John Bilahorka**; a clinic on *Things We Don't Model* by **Phil Everett**, and a Q&A about *The Camas Prairie Railroad* by **Jim Morefield**, a retired Camas Prairie Engineer. We viewed the layouts of **Bill Kleinert, Bruce Renshaw, Ken Anderson, Bob Bjerke, Lee Knapp, Mike McGee** and **Larry Mills**. Also on hand was an On30 Timesaver switching puzzle and some models for the AP program.

Our annual meeting is tentatively planned for March 26th. A flyer will be sent to all 5D members soon with more information. If you would like to have your layout on display in the afternoon or are willing to do a clinic, please let me know. At the meeting, we will discuss where to hold our **2011 Fall Mini-Meet**.

Chuck Colville has invited the 5D members to an open house at his layout in Moses Lake on April 9th. Details will be available to 5D members in the flyer that comes with the annual meeting notice.

The 100% clubs in the 5th Division are continuing to grow in membership. *The River City Modelers* group in Spokane has been busy working on their double-deck layout. They have had several plaster parties to get Hydrocal in place to do more scenery work. Membership is open; they meet Thursday nights at 1130 E. Sprague, Spokane. *The Tri-City Model Railroaders* are in their new location and started on benchwork. The *INSHOME Modular Group* has 35 members and continues to meet Friday nights at the old U-City Mall. They have the whole room filled with modules and are adding more.

If you are willing to volunteer to be an officer of the 5th Division or would like to help out in any way, please let me know. Jim Trunzo has volunteered to be the paymaster. We really need new people with new ideas – it is *your* organization and we need input on what members would like to see happen within the Division. If you want things done, *you* need to volunteer. I can't do it by myself.

I appreciate hearing from members. If you have any questions or comments, call me at home 509-292-8332, cell 509-991-2317, work 800-366-6975, email me at shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com, or mail me at Box 314, Elk, WA 99009-0314. If you don't hear back from me in a reasonable amount of time, please try again.

7th Division

Gary Hazell, Superintendent

I am writing this from sunny Arizona. My only complaint is there are no trains. The closest tracks are about 12 miles south in Parker, AZ and there is not much action. The Arizona & California Railroad is either part of, or a subsidiary of, the BNSF. The railway connects between Cadiz CA on the BNSF mainline and then goes to Matthe AZ with trackage rights to Phoenix.

I missed a great opportunity when we were in Parker shopping: a BNSF train, 4 units and a string of the short cylindrical grain cars. I didn't have my camera and it was about 2 blocks away. I understand from our good friends Bob & Shirley Ball, retired BNSF engineer living in Salmon Arm, and camped right next to us, that this happens a couple of times a week.

Article

Bedford Falls Gets a New Station

Bruce Oberleitner

Woodland Scenics makes fantastic products. I decided it was time to tackle their Flag Depot kit since it is highly detailed but can fit a small location. The photos show the kit with seven additional figures; the bench, packages and handcart came with the kit.

Metal Preparation

Castings need to be filed before painting. I use triangular files dedicated to castings and metal work. First I sprayed all the castings with gray equipment primer from Wal-Mart to seal it and give a great base for my acrylic paints. I painted the main structure with a mix of burnt umber and raw sienna. I painted the doors and windows ivory and sage green. The wainscoting was dark green and the trim was the same sage green as the windows. This was slow and tedious work with a 0000 brush but well worth the time and effort.



The Woodland Scenics Flag Depot kit



The rear of the structure shows off the wood detail present in the kit. This building is made of metal castings. The only wood is the passenger platform!

Making Metal Castings Look Like Wood

Since the entire flag depot is a *metal* casting, my techniques for wood structures wouldn't work. I had to try something new. I decided to try a technique from model builder Dave Revalia. I painted the wood surfaces with a mix of burnt umber and raw sienna and then dry-brushed painted with flesh tone for the highlights! It sounds crazy but it works well. (See figure 2.) Use a light dry-brush touch with little paint on your brush. Experiment on scrap or small metal castings before you try a structure. I painted the roofs a combination raw sienna and sandstone. Later, I added dark brown chalk to the shingles for weathering. Figures 1 and 3 show a seam between the roof parts; rather than hiding this, I fixed it by highlighting the roof cap with rust to lead your eye away from the ugly gap to the roof cap.

Figures

Believe it or not, you *can* paint figures yourself; it just takes time and really small brushes. I use 000 and 0000 brushes with acrylic paint. Whenever I have excess paint from another project, I find a figure who needs that color for shoes, dress, or pants. Since acrylic dries fast, by the time I finish painting the fourth figure with the first color, the first figure is ready for a second color. Soon all your figures are painted. (See figure 3.) Painting flesh tones last works best for me. I don't get other colors on their faces.

Summary

One fun thing about our hobby is that with each thing you build, there's something new to learn. I learned a lot from this kit about making metal look like wood. Best of all, my passengers now have a covered platform to wait under for my perpetually late passenger train. That's especially good in Bedford Falls, since it snows a lot!



Passengers await the crack train "The Coyote," which is late again.

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*

Mar 12 (Sat), Portland, OR

The Willamette Model Railroad Club presents 26th Annual Model Railroad Swap Meet at Kliever Memorial Armory, 10000 NE 33rd Ave, Portland, OR, 10-3, Admission \$5, <12 free. Info: Steve Cook, 503-309-9543 or 503-236-1481, Stephen.cook@comcast.net

Mar 12-13, Chehalis, WA

Capitol City Lions 26th Annual All Scales Model Railroad Swap Meet. Yard Birds Event Center, 2100 North National Ave; 10-3. Adults \$6, Senior & Students \$4, kids free with paying adult. Tables are \$27, set up 8am. Info: Bill Zidel, ZidelRCSD@aol.com or 360-438-3503

Mar 19 (Sat), Olympia, WA

Eighth Annual Olympia Layout Tour hosted by the Olympia Open House & Operations Group (OO&OG). 10:30-5:00. Eight layouts, with a possibility of two more, including N, HO, On30 and 3/8n20. Jim Younkins' N scale Mud Bay & Southern and Greg Wright's 3/8n20 Consolidated Republic Mining Railroad are nationally know. Info: Scott Buckley, sbuckley@nwrain.com, 360-352-5567

Mar 20 (Sun), Burnaby, BC

Western Rails 2011. Displays and models of all kinds, Ride the indoor Miniature Train, Collectables and much more. Cameron Recreation Center, 9523 Cameron St, 9-4 pm. Senior \$2, Adult \$3, Child Free, Family \$6. Info: westernrails@wcrs.org, 604-484-2791

Mar 26-27, Moose Jaw, SK

Model Train Show. Western Development Museum, 50 Diefenbaker Drive, Moose Jaw. 9-5. Info: www.tcmrc.org

Mar 26 (Sat), Spokane Valley, WA

5th Division Annual Meeting 8-5, Millwood Masonic Center, 3219 N. Argonne Road in Millwood (Spokane Valley), WA. Clinics, annual meeting, afternoon layout tours. \$12 non-NMRA, \$10 NMRA (includes lunch). Info: Shirley Sample, 509-292-8332, shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com RSVP by March 24th so we know how much food to plan.

Mar 26 (Sat), Boise, ID

PNR 3rd Division Spring Meet, Covenant Presbyterian Church, 4848 North Five Mile Road (McMillan and Five Mile). Coffee, Donuts, Conversation, Clinics, Displays, NMRA and Favorite Model Contest, Silent Auction, Layout Tours. Open 8am, events begin 9am. \$8 non-NMRA, \$7 NMRA. Info: terrynelson8030@msn.com (208) 895-8030; pnr.nmra.org/3div/2011s.html

Mar 27 (Sun), Nanaimo, BC

27th Annual Vancouver Island Spring Model Railroad Show, Beban Park Rec. Center, 2300 Bowen Road, 10-4, Operating Layouts, Swap & Shop Tables, Retail Sales Model Contests. \$3 NMRA, \$5 non-NMRA, \$10 family, \$4 senior, \$1 child. Info: Ken Rutherford kj.rutherford@shaw.ca, (250) 724-4698 or Rick Lord (250) 724-4205

Mar 31 - Apr 2, Salem, OR

Annual Espee in Oregon Convention. Info: www.espee-n-oregon.com/convention.html

Apr 9 (Sat), Moses Lake, WA

Open House in Moses Lake, WA. Visit 5th Division member Chuck Colville's layout from 10-4, 709 Tamarack Lane. We hope to car-pool from various locations in the 5th Division. Info: Shirley Sample, 509-292-8332 or shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com

Apr 9-10, Eugene, OR

23rd Annual Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club Train Show & Swap Meet, Expo Building, Lane County Fairgrounds, 796 W. 13th Ave. Adults \$6, kids free with adult. Early bird Saturday 9-10 am, \$10. Show Saturday 10-5; Sunday 10-4. Tables \$25. Info: Lee Temple at 541-954-4917, tandt@ram-mail.com or Diane Temple at 541-225-7394, LDTemple@ram-mail.com.

Apr 9 (Sat), Auburn, WA

12th annual Mini-Meet of Northwest Santa Fe Railway fans and modelers, 10-5 Sat., April 9, at Messiah Lutheran, 410 H Street NE, Auburn, WA. Clinics on Santa Fe 3800-Class 2-10-2s & HO models, building SFRHMS Passenger Car Kits, modeling Santa Fe's Southern California Packing Houses, and a Santa Fe slide show by Doug Nighswonger. Admission \$8, tables \$10. Bring your Santa Fe models for the free display

Apr 16-17, Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2011, Canada's Biggest and Best Annual Model Train Show. 9-5 PM both days. Subway Soccer Centre, 7000 48th St SE, Calgary. Free parking. Adult \$10, Youth \$5, kids free. 60,000+ sq. ft. of operating layouts, displays, railroad art, hobby shops, model manufacturers, demonstrations, clinics, Lego and Thomas Play Area, garden railways, ride-on trains, and much more. Info: www.supertrain.ca or info@supertrain.ca

Apr 16 (Sat), Livingston, MT

Depot Railroad Swap Meet, Livingston Depot Center. A get-together to sell or swap antique railroad pieces and memorabilia, art items, model train cars, and more. Info: www.livingstondepot.org

Apr 17 (Sun), Helena, MT

31st Annual Helena Railroad Fair, Civic Center, 9:30–4, \$3 each, kids free. Info: 406-443-1578 or 406-227-0158 or email: rrfair@mt.net

Apr 30 (Sat), Roseburg, OR

1st Division PNR/NMRA Mini-Meet, hosted by Nick Lehrbach and Dirk Kruysman. Douglas County Library at 1409 NE Diamond Lake Blvd. Doors open at 8, clinics start at 9. Info: Nick at: lehrbach@rosenet.net

Apr 30 (Sat), Calgary, AB

Calgary Model Trainmen Open House, 10–4, 619 12 Avenue S.E. Info: www.calgarymodeltrainmen.ca

May 7-8, Rickreall, OR

Rickreall Grange Train Swapmeet & Show, 10–4, Grange Hall, 280 Main St, Rickreall, OR 97371. Sat \$5; Sunday Free; \$1.00 off with a can of food! Tables available, contact Tom Pryor, 2085 S. Pacific Hwy. West, Dallas, OR 97338. Info: pry626@juno.com 503-606-0398

May 7 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

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

May 14-15, Tacoma, WA

Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet, sponsored by Tacoma NW MR Club, Freighthouse Square, 2501 East D Street, original Milwaukee Road Freight Terminal. Saturday 9–5, Sunday 10–4. Adults \$5, Children \$3, toddlers free. Info: tnwmrr@gmail.com or www.tnwmrr.org

May 14 (Sat), Spokane, WA

Inland Empire Railway Historical Society Open House, Spokane Fairgrounds, South Entrance, 9–4. RR Car Tours, Museum, free 2' Gauge Train rides, Food. \$5 family or \$10 per vanload. Info: rropenhouse@comcast.net or Donna, 509-924-9781 or 509-325-3641.

May 14 (Sat), Vernon, BC

Vernon Spring Swap Meet at the refurbished CPR Station, Paddlewheel Park, Okanagan Landing, 10–5, Vendors, Displays, Two Silent Auctions. \$5, NMRA rebate. Info: and Table Reserve: Eldie Jamieson eldie@shaw.ca 250-545-0177, hughclarke@shaw.ca 250-545-3900

Pacific Northwest Region Staff



Pacific Northwest Region Staff

President: Walt Huston, 253-535-2043, walthuston@earthlink.net
Vice-President: Dave Liesse, 312-656-0849, NMRAdave@liessefamily.net
Secretary: Jeannie Melvin, 425-257-0342, drbear@blarg.net
Treasurer: Dirk Kruysman, 541-673-6341, dutchdirk@charter.net
Asst. Treasurer: L. A. (Larry) Sebelley, 604-858-5717, sebelley@shaw.ca
Co-Office Managers: Ed & Gay Liesse, 253-529-7405, eeliesse@aol.com, gliesse@aol.com
Switchlist Editor: Al Lowe, 425 443-6896, 4dpnr@allowe.com
NMRA Western Director: Jack Hamilton MMR, 360-308-9845, gradiver@wavecable.com



Pacific Northwest Region Committee Chairs

Achievement: Jack Hamilton MMR, 360-308-9845, gradiver@wavecable.com
Ballot, USA: *position open, please volunteer*
Ballot, Canada: Richard A. Sutcliffe, 604-467-4301, ras1@uniserve.com
Contest: John DeSteese, 590-783-4665, john.desteese@pnl.gov
Convention: Larry Sebelley, 604-858-5717, sebelley@shaw.ca
Education: Ed Liesse, 253-529-7405, eeliesse@aol.com
Member Aid: Bruce McCosh, 208-386-9629, bmccosh@cablone.net
President's Award: Richard A. Sutcliffe, 604-467-4301, ras1@uniserve.com
Membership: Dave Liesse, 312-656-0849, NMRAdave@liessefamily.net
Nominations: *position open, please volunteer*
PNR Agent in Charge: Dirk Kruysman, 541-673-6341, dutchdirk@charter.net
Switchlist Editor: Al Lowe, 425-643-6300, 4dpnr@allowe.com
Webmaster: Mark Johnson, 780-436-2480, Mark.Johnson@InfoHarvest.ca

Pacific Northwest Region Superintendents

Division 1: Ed Schaezner, 541-396-2653, edschaezner1@verizon.net
Division 2: Charlie Comstock, 503-628-6323, trains@upwardaccess.com
Division 3: Terry Nelson, 208-895-8030, terrynelson8030@msn.com
Division 4: Dennis Hill, 360-895-3332, toontrain@yahoo.com
Division 5: Shirley Sample, 509-838-4029, shirley.sample@northwesternrailways.com
Division 6: Mike Borkristl, 403-203-1970, 6divsuper@pnr.nmra.org
Division 7: Gary Hazell, 250-835-8628, comhaven@jetstream.net



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. 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. Email your contributions to the editor at 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.

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- Division 2:* Northern Oregon, Southern Washington
- Division 3:* Southern Idaho, Eastern Oregon, Southwestern Montana
- Division 4:* Western Washington, Alaska
- Division 5:* Eastern Washington, Northern Idaho, Western Montana
- Division 6:* Alberta, Saskatchewan, Eastern Montana, Nunavut
- Division 7:* British Columbia, Yukon, NW Territories

National Model Railroad Association
Pacific Northwest Region
104 S 296th Place
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