

# Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

April 2015



**On the cover:** The Little General was a popular attraction with young attendees at SUPERTRAIN 2015 in Calgary on April 18 & 19. Canadian Pacific also brought the Puffer Belly Express and a CP Police cruiser to display on the walkway leading to the Genesis Centre. Inside were more than 100 other layouts, displays, and commercial exhibitors. (photo by Rick Walker)

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

Hello everyone,

It is nice to do this report with no snow on the ground. I hope you are all enjoying the beautiful spring weather!

It has been a flurry of activity since my last report in February. Peter Ulvestad and I have been out visiting all corners of the Division lately. Saskatoon was a great show even though we woke up to -39 C on Sunday morning. Having the show at the museum was a bonus and we enjoyed visiting with old and new friends. We then decided to put on 1980 kilometers by going to Moose Jaw and Lethbridge in the same weekend. Good thing that there are a lot of Tim Hortons along the way.

Moose Jaw was again a good show and the museum was a perfect building to host it. The Lethbridge boys had their open house. We stopped by to find out the exciting news that their expansion plans are in the works.

Last weekend's SUPERTRAIN was awesome once again. Having the show move to another facility is always a worry but based on how many folks went by our NMRA booth I believe the CMRS folks did a great job of advertising and the facility was great. Our Booth was kept busy with a lot of people stopping by for information regarding membership and the upcoming Meets.

Speaking of membership, it continues to grow which is a positive sign for our Division. I had promised a bio on Mark Johnson for this issue but I will have to save it for next issue as Mark and I have not sat down to write it yet. Although we seem to get together quite frequently other things keep getting in the way.

Lastly, I hope to see you all in Saskatoon for the Spring Meet. It will be a good time and I would love to catch up with some more members.

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

I will be at the 6<sup>th</sup> Division's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Meet in Saskatoon. I wasn't at that very first meet in Red Deer in 1965; my first Spring Meet was in Edmonton in 1972. Since then, I have only missed a couple. I have many fond memories of these get-togethers and some of the wild and crazy activities we have staged. I sometimes wonder how nobody got hurt

tossing real tie plates, driving spikes, or racing handcars. We have visited hundreds of layouts and toured places as diverse as LRT shops, CN concrete tie test tracks, SD90MACs under construction at Ogden, and ghost towns on the Coal Branch. We have seen some outstanding modelling and learned a multitude of new ideas at the clinics. Most importantly, I have met

many wonderful model railroaders who have become my friends. I'm looking forward to seeing these friends in Saskatoon and making some new ones.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Division will hold its Annual General Meeting in Saskatoon on Sunday morning. Peter Ulvestad has sent a Notice of Motion to be discussed and voted on at the AGM. It is included in this issue for your reference.

Thanks to those gentlemen who sent me stories and photos of recent events across the Division. I was hoping for a few more area reports with news of club open houses and public shows. As always, I am happy to publish almost everything people care to send me.

Happy Railroading!

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## **Spring Meet, May 8 – 10, Saskatoon – Cal Sexsmith**

### **Schedule**

Friday night social at the Prairie Rail Workshop clubroom at 2405 Wheaton Avenue (about three blocks north of the Sandman Hotel) from 7:30 to 10:00 (or thereabouts) [www.prairierailworkshop.com](http://www.prairierailworkshop.com)

Saturday and Sunday activities at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum [www.saskrailmuseum.org](http://www.saskrailmuseum.org)

#### Clinics (Saturday)

- Peter Ulvestad JMRI Overview 9:00 am to 10:00 am Kopko Centre
- Scott Sabo JMRI Operations 10:00 am to 11:00 am Kopko Centre
- Ken King Northern Alberta Railways 11:00 am to Noon Kopko Centre
- Rob Badmington Google as a Modelling Tool 10:00 am to 11:00 am Argo Station
- Bob Randall 1890s Time Tables & Train Orders 11:00 am to Noon Argo Station

#### Clinics (Sunday)

- Brian Key Making Sense of Canadian Railway Signals 10:00 am to Noon Argo Station
- Doug Lee Layout Design for Operations 10:30 am to Noon Kopko Centre

#### Self-Guided Layout Tours Saturday afternoon

- Brian Caldwell – G-Scale live steam!
- Keith Flory – 7 ½" live steam! And an HO layout in the basement
- Saskatoon Railway Modellers - HO Scale club/display layout at the Western Development Museum representing Saskatoon ca. 1910
- Robert Stonehouse – HO Scale CNR transition era
- Cal Sexsmith – HO Scale CNR & CPR mid 1960s

Extra Fare BBQ Saturday evening at the Museum

Sixth Division AGM Sunday 9:00 am

#### Contests

- Locomotives
- Rolling Stock
- Structures
- Dioramas
- Unique railroad themed "Trophies" for first place winners!

**Early registration discount is available until May 1.**

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## Area Reports

### **Calgary – Rob Badmington**

SUPERTRAIN 2015 moved to a new venue this year and everyone on the committee was a little worried whether the public would follow. Our concerns were unfounded as 13,000 people poured through the doors over two days. The Genesis Centre proved to be a great place for the show with exhibitors and guests alike commenting favourably on the bright, clean, and spacious facility. Move-in and set-up was also enhanced by the four loading doors. The biggest concern was once again having insufficient parking to handle everyone. Seven food trucks were set up outside to provide a wide variety of eating choices. Canadian Pacific brought over both of their mini-trains and dozens of kids were seen crawling all over the Puffer Belly Express

and The Little General.

Layouts from Vancouver, Moose Jaw, Edmonton, Bellingham WA, and Lethbridge joined many from Calgary and area. There were 60 commercial exhibitors including 7 new ones this year. All reported brisk sales. Face painting, Lego and Thomas tables, and free rides on Iron Horse Park trains were again very popular with the kids.

The Committee will be getting together to go over the details and see where improvements can be made. The Genesis Centre has already been booked for next year's show. Mark April 16 & 17, 2016 in your calendars for SUPERTRAIN 2016.



### **South Bank Short Lines – Dave Audley**

SBSL had a very successful SUPERTRAIN show. Our group does a series of 5 beginner's clinics showing people how to get started with the World's Greatest Hobby. These include discussions about the various scales, taking an

actual train set out of the box and actually running it, a discussion of layout design and the room needed, basic scenery, and control systems. These are run 4 times during the 2 day show and are quite well attended!

We also do a "Make and Take" - a fold up HO scale station that the kids assemble right at the SBSL booth. The photo shows George Barr with five kids and a mom. This year, we helped kids build over 1,200 stations! Over the last 5 years, this has been a very popular activity and folks always comment on the number of these buildings seen "walking" around SUPERTRAIN! The stations have been printed in 2 different colour schemes representing both CN and CP. In the past, we also did an engine shed. We have a lot of return kids that look forward to this activity year-to-year! Future modellers we hope!

### **Prototype Modellers Meet– Dave Audley**

The Proto meet was held in Calgary Saturday, March 14, with a growing attendance.

There were several modellers with locomotive, freight & passenger cars and structures on display. Some of Westerfield's new NAR stock cars were on display as well as Bob Hardcastle's full scale model of Banff Station.

The four clinics were very well received. George Barr talked about recovering old slides, Don Thomas explained CPR's Van Horne style stations, Doug Phillips made a presentation on CPR's first (Burnett) steel passenger cars and Les Kozma's "Thank God for Hall" talk on rail branch line rehabilitation was very interesting.

Planning for the 2016 Proto Meet is now under way. Look for announcements later this year.

### **Edmonton - Mark Johnson**

A large Edmonton contingent was at SUPERTRAIN 2015. I travelled with Tim Walker and Duncan Hilchie, coincidentally the other two EMRA executive members. We spent an extremely enjoyable morning operating on Doug Lee's fantastic Northern Pacific themed layout. We're still wondering which is more confusing - the double slips switches in the East end of the yard, or the ingenious, go everywhere, appear

anywhere helix-cum-staging yard. Extra activities like this enhance the social atmosphere of the weekend.

It didn't hurt that other Edmontonians won a couple of the layout awards at the Saturday night banquet, and a fellow club member, Steve Sprysak, won the VIA round trip to Vancouver. Several of our club volunteered at the show as well.

Congratulations to the SUPERTRAIN organizers on a successful show.

The Edmonton Model Railroad Association (EMRA) has made a move to a new internet name: [www.emra.club](http://www.emra.club) - a little shorter, and more descriptive of our organization. Peter Ulvestad continues to organize the quarterly Open Operating Sessions (OOpS), to provide all modellers in the area with an opportunity to experience Timetable and Train Order (TT&TO) operation on the large Monashee Pacific railroad at Fort Edmonton. Contact [ulvestad@telus.net](mailto:ulvestad@telus.net) if you're interested. You can check out the progress on scenery and the new staging yard.

The Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship (MMRF, [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca)) is hosting several events again - the annual Spring Swap Meet will have been held by the time you read this, but there is another in the Fall. The MMRF is hosting a Model Railroad BBQ and drop-in social day on Saturday, June 27, from 10-6 at the Deville/North Cooking Lake Community Hall, located at 21033 Wye Road, North Cooking Lake - right across the road from the CN main line. All modellers are welcome! And of course, the Great Edmonton Train Show is already in the works for September 19 & 20, at Millennium Place in Sherwood Park.

The NMRA National Convention is in Portland, Oregon in August, and many Edmonton modellers have already registered. The award-winning LaBaJa modular layout will be on display at the Train Show, and will certainly be popular again this year. Good luck, guys!

## Camrose - Dave Halliday



Battle River Railway Modellers operate a layout at Duggan Mall that's open to the public every Saturday, providing an opportunity to introduce the public to a great hobby. Club members also take advantage of the operating sessions to fine tune modules that will be part of the club layout at the Great Edmonton Train Show in September. In the photo above, sisters Iris and Poppy Halliday watch a train make its way through a recently constructed module.

### Upcoming 2015 Events in the 6<sup>th</sup> Division

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

#### **May 2 (Sat), Edmonton, AB**

MMRF Spring Swap Meet: Central Lion's Senior Citizens Recreation Centre 11113 113 St. 9AM-Noon, Admission \$3, 8' tables \$25; 6' tables \$20. Tables are sold first-come, first-served. Info: - Ric Francoeur, [swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca](mailto:swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca). [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca)

#### **May 8-10, Saskatoon, SK**

6th Division 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Meet at the Saskatchewan Railway Museum. Hosted by the Prairie Rail Workshop and the Saskatchewan Railroad Historical Association. Clinics, contests, layout tours, social events. Info: - Cal Sexsmith, [calvinsexsmith@sasktel.net](mailto:calvinsexsmith@sasktel.net)

#### **Jun 20-21, Mossleigh, AB**

Train Days at Aspen Crossing - an entire system of G scale model trains by the Rocky Mountain Garden Railroaders, a children's train ride, hay rides, pancake breakfast or a Father's Day Brunch Buffet in the 1887 Pullman Dining Car! Info: - [www.aspencrossing.com](http://www.aspencrossing.com), 1-866-440-3500

#### **Jun 27 (Sat), Edmonton, AB**

A Model Railroad BBQ and drop-in social day will be held from 10-6 at the Deville/North Cooking Lake Community Hall, located at 21033 Wye Road, North Cooking Lake. Sponsored by the Mainline Model Railroaders Fellowship - everyone welcome! Info: - [www.mmrf.ab.ca](http://www.mmrf.ab.ca)

### **Aug 13-16, Big Valley, AB**

12th Annual Alberta Freemo. An entire hockey rink filled with a modular layout! Event open to all Freemo module owners across North America. Set up begins Thursday August 13th; commence running on Friday and go until Sunday at 4:00PM. Cost: Full participation \$60.00 (Full running access to layout; Friday night burger BBQ (Burgers supplied by Calgary Freemo); Saturday night Pot-Luck BBQ) Bring a train to run for 2 hours one day: \$25.00. Public viewing is 10-4 on each day, and admission is free! Sponsored by: Calgary Freemo; 100% NMRA Group. Info: - [www.calgaryfreemo.ca](http://www.calgaryfreemo.ca), Paul Cassley [pcassley@telus.net](mailto:pcassley@telus.net)

### **Aug 23-29, Portland, OR**

NMRA 2015 **National Convention** "Portland Daylight Express" Info: - [www.nmra2015portland.org](http://www.nmra2015portland.org)

### **Sep 19 & 20, Sherwood Park, AB**

2015 MMRF Great Edmonton Model Train Show, 10:00 to 5:00 each day. Millennium Place, 2000 Premier Way, Sherwood Park. Admission \$10.00, \$5 for youth 16 and under. Children 4 and under free. Two soccer fields of model railroading fun. Activities for the whole family including the LEGO Activity Centre. Many operating layouts and static displays. How-to clinics & demonstrations by the experts. Dealer booths. Email: [trainshow@mmrf.ab.ca](mailto:trainshow@mmrf.ab.ca)

### **Oct 17 (Sat), Calgary, AB**

36th Annual Boomer Auction, Sponsored by South Bank Short Lines, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Dr. SW, setup and viewing 9:30am, auction starts at 11:00am. Info: - John Wrinch, (403) 281-745, [jawrinch@shaw.ca](mailto:jawrinch@shaw.ca)

### **Oct 18 (Sun), Calgary, AB**

CMRS Fall Mini Meet and Annual General Meeting, Glenmore Inn. Clinics, Show & Tell

### **Oct 24 (Sat), Edmonton, AB**

MMRF Fall Swap Meet. 9:00 AM to Noon. Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre, 11113 113 Street, Edmonton. For more information please contact Ric Francoeur, [swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca](mailto:swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca)



The Genesis Centre's 20,000 square foot Feature Gym was only completed in late 2014 but represented about 30% of the floor space used by SUPERTRAIN 2015. More than a dozen layouts were located here along with commercial vendors along the far wall. (photo by Rick Walker)

## Notice of Motion.

Amend Article 3 of the bylaws (as shown below **in red**).

The Assistant Superintendent position was added a few years ago. This proposed amendment just clarifies and adds what should happen in the event of vacancies.

The current bylaws are available online at <http://pnr.nmra.org/6div/bylaws2010.html> if you wish to read them.

Peter Ulvestad

## ARTICLE 3: OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1. The elected officers of the Division are the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent.
2. The **S**uperintendent shall appoint officers to perform the functions of Secretary, A.P. chairman, A.P. vice- chairman, "HIGHBALL!" editor, convention coordinator, and any other position as deemed necessary at the annual meeting. All of the above officers shall be appointed to a two year term to begin September 1 of odd numbered years.
3. The **S**uperintendent shall also appoint a second member of the PNR resident near the **S**uperintendent to be the second signing authority on all Division cheques, whose term will coincide with that of the Superintendent.
4. The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent shall be elected for the term of two years to begin September 1 and end August 31 of even numbered years.
5. Duties of the officers
  - A. Superintendent.  
To represent the Division at the Meetings of the PNR Board of Directors of which **the Superintendent** is a member. To perform any other functions as the Chief Officer of the Division.
  - B. Other board members.  
To perform the traditional duties of their respective office.
6. Vacancies
  - A. Vacancies in any office other than Superintendent **and Assistant Superintendent** shall be filled by appointment **of the Superintendent, with the term ending the next August 31 of odd numbered years.**
  - B. **If the vacancy is the Assistant Superintendent, the Superintendent shall fill the position by appointment to be ratified at the next annual meeting of the Division.**
  - C. **If the vacancy is the Superintendent, the position will be assumed by the Assistant Superintendent until an election can be held.**
  - D. **If both the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent positions become vacant, the board shall request the President of PNR to appoint a temporary Superintendent to hold office until an election can be held.**