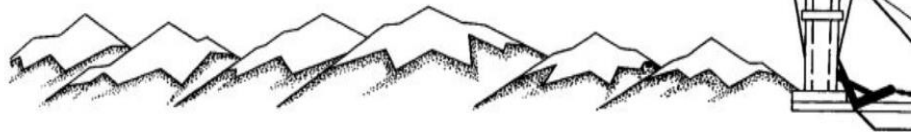


Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

December 2015



On the cover: Alan Hough of Calgary has built a fabulously detailed O scale layout depicting CPR operations in the Kootenay region of BC in the 50's. All of the structures and most of the rolling stock have been scratchbuilt. The layout also includes a narrow gauge logging branch and some dual gauge track. (photo by John Wrinch)

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

Hello Everyone,

Winter has arrived and it's time to get back in the basement and finish those projects and work on the layout. I hope everyone had a good summer and fall.

I am pleased to announce that we have a new secretary, Doug Johnson from Regina. As you all know Mark Johnson has retired as secretary. I am confident that Doug will do a great job in his place. It's nice to see that the executive is now spread out between the two provinces.

As mentioned previously Edmonton is hosting the 6th Division meet in 2016 in conjunction with the Great Edmonton Train Show in September. More details and Registration forms will be available shortly.

The PNR Regional is in Salmon Arm in 2016. Check their website www.selkirkexpress2016.ca. It looks like it will be a great show and the scenery isn't bad either.

I hope that you all have a good Christmas season of spending time with family and friends and knocking some dust off of a couple projects.

Our New 6th Division Secretary – Doug Johnson

I am a chartered professional accountant with my own income tax and accounting practice in Regina. I am also co-owner of a five-pin bowling centre and an indoor golf centre in Regina. I am married to Cindy and we have two cats. As a result of not having children, cash is available to spend on travelling, model railroading and drinking wine. I am a member and treasurer of

the Echo Valley Railroad Guild in Regina and a participant in an On30 modular layout. I am also working on (albeit slowly) an HOn3 layout at home, patterned after the Dolly Varden Mines Railway in northwestern BC, many years ago. I think I'm about five years into a three year project on that.

From the Editor – Rob Badmington

This is the first issue of my second year as Highball! Editor. While I suppose it takes a bit of time away from my own modelling efforts, I can say that I have enjoyed the job and will be happy to continue serving the Division as editor. I have been very pleased with the support many people have provided, especially Mark Johnson and the crew at the Edmonton Model Railroad

Association, who take care of printing and mailing of the hard copies. Mark also posts every issue on the 6th Division website.

I also very much appreciate the many people who have sent in area reports, event notices, club activities, photos, and feature articles. By my

count, at least 16 different people contributed in the past year. Please keep this stuff coming!

With snow on the ground, it's model railroad season although it has taken me quite a while to get back to modelling projects and working on the layout. What has inspired me to get going again?

In mid-September, we went to Europe for a river cruise and some extra time in Budapest and Prague. In addition to the ABC's of Europe (Another Beautiful Church, Another Big Cathedral, . . .), I managed to sneak in a significant amount of railfanning. I was very surprised when we were able to go right out onto the platforms at a number of big city train stations and snap photos to our heart's content with nary a glance from security. I presume they were watching but they didn't appear to be concerned. This included the Budapest Keleti Station where only a couple of weeks before our trip the station was on world-wide news while being over-run by Syrian refugees. I am not about to drop my North American prototype models for European trains, but I am very impressed with the sheer number of trains they run over there.

Once back home I attended the Boomer Auction and CMRS Fall Mini-meet in Calgary, and then made it to the MMRF Fall Swap Meet in Edmonton. I managed to avoid snapping up any "bargains" at these events but enjoyed visiting with many friends.

Over in BC, the 7th Division holds its Fall Meet in the Vancouver area in early November, in conjunction with a public show. This year, they

decided to break a long-standing tradition and move the show from the Cameron Rec Centre in Burnaby to a larger facility on the PNE grounds. The organizers were understandably nervous about whether they would get the crowds needed to cover the extra costs. I think they were satisfied, with about 4300 attendees over the two days.

Rick Walker and I decided to head out to the Coast and attend the meet and show. We drove out and enjoyed a couple of days of railfanning each way, with surprisingly good weather. The meet itself was well done with excellent clinics, a nice banquet, and operating sessions for those who wished to participate. They also did something new, at least in my experience. Instead of having everyone travel around the city on a rainy night to go on layout tours, they conducted a Virtual Layout Tour. They set up a screen, projector, and sound system and while we munched on popcorn, we visited four different layouts from the comfort of our seats. Mark Dance (see his amazing layout in *Great Model Railroads 2016*) shot video of each layout, including cab-ride views from a miniature camera on a flatcar. Mark also interviewed each layout builder with typical questions you might ask if you were there yourself. The layout owners were also there at the presentation to answer additional questions from the audience.

All in all, some pretty good inspiration!

Hope Santa fills your stocking with trains!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Achievement Program Report – Doug Wingfield, MMR #484, 6th Division, PNR AP Chair

Winter is now upon us and to relieve our discontent we have to do some model railroad projects. My current project is duplicating a Kanamodels station kit. I have the unassembled kit and am creating a new structure by duplicating the various parts in the kit. All I had to buy was a couple of train order signals. They will

be illuminated as well as operate. As luck would have it I also have all the necessary windows and doors for the duplicate station so it should be a relatively easy project to complete. These two stations will complete all of the station requirements on my layout. I just have to get at

the scenery part as in plaster, ballast, dirt, trees, etc.

This brings to mind one detail not seen on many layouts. Telegraph poles and attached crossarms. I have just finished 50 of them to be installed around the layout and think they will add much more realism to the overall scene. Especially since my layout is dated 1950. The same goes for switch stands and switch motors in CTC areas. I doubt if I will install wires on the telegraph poles because I heard they attract dust over time and it is hard to remove. I may do a small portion to see how it looks and if it is easy to keep clean.

VanRail 2015 is now history. This was a wonderful opportunity to visit various Vancouver area layouts and operate them according to prototype practices. Check out on YouTube the videos Mark Dance has prepared on his N Scale Columbia and Western Railroad. In these you will see, in my opinion, the ultimate form of model railroading both in design, scenery, construction

Convention Report– Rob Badmington

The committee in Salmon Arm, BC is working very hard to put together a great PNR Regional Convention in June 2016. There are some excellent modellers in the Okanagan – Shuswap area of BC and it will all be on display. They have some interesting tours lined up, including a trip to the live steam operation at Summerland, as well as another trip to Revelstoke, Three Valley Gap, and Craigellachie. Some of my favourite railfan locations are along CP's Shuswap Sub between Revelstoke and Kamloops so I plan to be

Area Reports

Calgary – Rob Badmington

Calgary Model Trainmen (CMT) has moved out of their building on 12th Avenue SE and are still awaiting progress with their lease issues at the proposed new location in the Ramsay Community Hall.

and operations. These videos are a lesson to us all as to what can be accomplished in this wonderful hobby.

In the NMRA Magazine Jack Hamilton has some great articles on tools and how to use them.

Those of you that have home layouts and are interested in having various categories assessed for AP only need to contact me by email and I will arrange with you to either have someone visit your layout or you can send me a DVD or CD with photos showing what you have done. This is particularly true if you are applying for the Golden Spike Certificate. All I need is the SOQ form filled out with your member information and a DVD or CD with photos of what you have done. All of the necessary AP forms are on the NMRA website.

Remember, I am available on email at any time for advice or encouragement to get the job done.

Have a good modeling winter and we will talk at you in the spring.

out there with my camera during the convention. Check out one location on page 10.

Our own Division Meet will be held in Edmonton in September to coincide with the Greater Edmonton Train Show.

We are still looking for a group interested in hosting the 2017 Meet. Remember, whoever hosts a meet can count on lots of help and support from everyone around the Division.

Fall has been a busy time for activities in Calgary with the Boomer Auction and CMRS Mini-Meet in October, and Slide Night in November. A highlight of the mini-meet was a presentation by Janel Kirstein (Manager, Marketing Merchandise) from CPR. Her presentation highlighted how the real

railroad operates including car usage, the movement of cars from shippers to receivers, and the makeup of trains. She patiently answered a large number of questions from the audience. CP also opened up their Operations Training Centre for a few lucky members on October 22 and 23. The tour included giving everyone a chance to operate the train simulator for a run down Field Hill through the Spiral Tunnels. Participants reported that it is extremely challenging to hold the train to the 15 mph maximum speed allowed, but was a very enjoyable experience.

Slide Night was very well attended, with guests from BC giving special presentations. Robert Turner showed pictures of Vancouver Island's Esquimalt and Nanaimo Railway and the last steam still in operation all over the world. Bob Whetham gave an interesting presentation on riding the Central of Peru Railway's business car Paquita over the 15,692 foot summit of the Andes as a guest of the Railway's President.

Planning is underway for another Calgary Prototype Modellers Meet on March 11 & 12.

The Meet will begin on Friday evening with a "Make & Take" session on weathering with Roger Walker MMR. Pre-registration for this session will be required. On Saturday, the regular Proto Meet will take place with Show and Tell displays, and clinics including "Advancements in Kadee Couplers" with John Wrinch and "European CPR Passenger Cars" by Doug Phillips. A couple more clinics are still being finalized. Everyone is welcome to attend the Meet.

SUPERTRAIN 2016 is also well underway with layout and exhibitor registrations coming in from all over North America. The Committee is also working with Calgary Transit to arrange shuttle buses and additional parking to overcome some of the problems experienced this past April. I guess if your biggest problem is too many people trying to get to your show, things must be going OK. The Genesis Centre proved to be a great place to hold the show and the management team there is anxious to have us back. Mark your calendars for April 16 and 17, 2016.

Edmonton – Mark Johnson

The Mainline Model Railroader's Fall Swap Meet was held on Saturday, October 24, in the now-familiar Central Lions' Center. There were lots of vendors, and, as usual, many of them took advantage of being there early to stroll around to pick up bargains for themselves.

It's a great opportunity to renew acquaintances with modellers of all kind (who can resist a bargain?) and from across the province. I'm not alone in enjoying the socializing, since there were lots of people chatting as much as buying.

I usually work the EMRA table with other members, but I rented a table a year ago to clean out my personal storage cabinets. It was a humbling experience to find out that my "treasures" didn't sell for top dollar! But that's where the bargains come from. I was also intrigued that it was almost impossible to sell a "blue box" Athearn freight can kit - even \$1.00 each was not attracting interest. When I

mentioned this to Gerry Frigon, he said that he had much better luck after spending a few evenings in front of the TV assembling the kits, and selling the completed cars. I may try that approach.

The date for the Spring Swap meet has already been set for March 19, in the Lions' Center again. More details at www.mmrf.ab.ca

Peter Ulvestad organized another of the quarterly EMRA Open Operating Sessions (OOpS) on November 7, this time for a full day, starting at 9:00AM and running through a 24 scale hour session with a break for lunch. Operators seem to like the chance to spend more time getting used to the Timetable and Train Order rules and finding their way around the Monashee Pacific. Others like the flexibility of coming for either morning or afternoon time. The 22 slots for the session filled up early, and Peter started a waiting list! Participants came from across the country

and the globe, including Australia, Chicago, Saskatoon, New Norway, Calgary, Camrose, and Lethbridge. There were five new attendees, and everyone seemed to enjoy the day.

The next OOpS is planned for the afternoon of February 6. Contact Peter at ulvestad@telus.net if you're interested the February session or would like to be added to the list for email notices.

Olds-Didsbury– Rick Astle

Greetings fellow model railroaders and welcome to a new season of model railroading. The Mountain View Model Railroad Club resumed operations on September 12, 2015 and will continue to meet twice each month except December and February. A copy of our meeting schedule is on our website at www.mvmrc.ca and additional viewings may be arranged by contacting Rick Astle by phone or email at 403-556-8121 or 1mvmrc@gmail.com.

During the Mountain View Arts Festival in mid-September our layout was open to all visitors to the Didsbury Museum and we held a vote to name our town. At the end of the festival we found three names received equal votes and subsequently use all three to name our town MacBeth, the industrial spur Harmatton, and the whistle stop Niobe. These location names can be found along the CPR Red Deer Sub and the spur line to Shantz west of Didsbury.

We are currently working to complete the Town of MacBeth, the livestock feedlot and meat processing plant and more development of our industrial spur. With these areas in the works we will be able to fully represent the industrial and agricultural roots of Didsbury and area.

When in Didsbury stop by the museum during open hours Tuesday through Friday 9:00am to 4:30pm and on Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00pm. The layout can be operated from the viewing area by a push button. The layout can operate in both DC and DCC modes; however, the DCC operation is only available when a club member is in attendance. We look forward to sharing our journey, vision and some of the history of the Didsbury area with you.

Don't forget the 2016 Olds Model Train Hobby & Craft Show on Saturday Feb 6th 10am-5pm and Sunday Feb 7th 10am-4pm at Olds College FGH Gymnasium, 4500-50th Street, Olds, AB.



Regina – Doug Johnson

There are two model railroad groups in Regina. Here is an update on one of them.

In late 2014, the Echo Valley Railroad Guild found out that its layout location, in the basement of Davin School in Regina, would no longer be available after February 2015. The school required the space for other purposes so the layout had to be demolished. Locomotives, rolling stock, trees and structures were sold to the club members and the rest went to the

garbage dump. I know other clubs have had similar experiences, but it was a sad way to bring 20 years of work to an end. Unfortunately, because the Regina real estate market is tight, the club has been unable to locate another suitable location at a reasonable price. So the members are concentrating on home layouts and several modular layouts. The three main layouts are N, On30 and G scale. They will be on display at a show at the RCMP Heritage Centre in Regina on December 12 and 13.



Here are a couple of photos of our On30 modular layout. This is the South Park & Western, set in Colorado about 1915. It is about 22 feet by 12 feet and has been built by Echo Valley Railroad Guild members Dave Hall, Frank Hall, Doug Johnson, Bill Stahl and the late Dave Harvey.



Lethbridge – Tony Lee

At SAMRC the modelling season is well underway. Several clinics will be put on by members over the winter.

Dale Gloer gave a clinic on how our new signaling system is to operate once completed. Tom Sterenberg is presenting a series of clinics on building trees. This will take place over the next month or so as our layout still needs many thousands of trees in all sizes. In the New Year we hope to do clinics on assembling kits, scratch-building, and possibly using an air brush.

Our card system for operating the HO layout is progressing well under the direction of Bill Smienk.

Camrose

On December 12, a Mini model train sale/swap meet will be held at the Camrose Railway Station,

Plans for our building expansion have been submitted to the City of Lethbridge for Development Approval. This process should take approximately 6 weeks. After approval the working drawings will be completed and the project be put out for bid in March 2016.

Our club has agreed to take our portable N scale layout to the PNR Regional Convention in Salmon Arm in June. Hope to see many other 6th Division members in attendance.

That's about it from the South country for now. Wishing everyone a happy Christmas and a successful New Year.

Camrose Railway Park, on the corner of 44 St. and 47 Ave. Hours are 9AM-2PM.



Another photo of Alan Hough's O scale craftsmanship showing some logging and lumber operations.
(photo by John Wrinch)

Upcoming Events in the 6th Division (and one in the 7th Division)

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

Dec 12 (Sat), Camrose, AB

Mini model train sale/swap meet, 9AM-2PM, at the Camrose Railway Station, Camrose Railway Park, on the corner of 44 St. and 47 Ave. Free admission! Info:- Ken Morrison, cabooseman@hotmail.com www.vancouvertrainexpo.ca

2016

Feb 6 (Sat), Olds, AB

2016 Olds Model Train, Hobby and Craft Show, sponsored by the Mountain View Model Railroad Club. FGH Gymnasium at Olds College 4500-50th St. Sat 10-5 and Sun 10-4. Admission \$5.00 per person, children 5 and under are free. Info:- Rick Astle 403-556-8121 or email 1mvmrc@gmail.com; www.mvmrc.ca/page3.html

Feb 20-21, Saskatoon, SK

All Aboard 2016, Western Development Museum 2610 Lorne Ave. Saturday 9-5:00, Sunday 9-4:30. Layouts, Vendors, and Consignment Tables. Info:- www.prairierailworkshop.com, allaboardtrainshow@gmail.com

Mar 11-12 (Friday evening - Sat), Calgary, AB

Calgary Prototype Modellers Meet. Friday 7:00pm "Weather with Roger" Participants will bring cars to weather after Roger Walker MMR does a 20 to 30 minute intro. There will be a \$25.00 charge for this part of the Proto Meet to cover a weathering kit participants will take home. The number of participants will be limited to 12 for this, and must pre-register.. Saturday 9 AM-4 PM –Show & Tell displays and more clinics. St. Andrews Presbyterian Church 703 Heritage Dr. SW Info: Dave Audley, 403-275-1869 or daudley@telusplanet.net Admission for Saturday: \$10, under 12: free.

Mar 13 (Sun), Calgary, AB

CMRS Spring Mini-meet. 8:30am to 3:30pm. Glenmore Inn, corner of Glenmore Trail and Ogden Road. Show & Tell, Clinics and more. Info: www.calgarymodelrailway.ca

Mar 18 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

MMRF Spring Swap Meet. 9:00 AM to Noon. Central Lions Seniors Recreation Centre, 11113 113 Street. Admission \$3, Tables \$25, sold first-come, first-served. For more information please contact Ric Francoeur, Ph. 780-458-1932, swapmeet@mmrf.ab.ca

Apr 16-17 Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2016 Canada's Biggest and Best Annual Model Train Show. 9 AM to 5 PM both days. Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconridge Blvd. NE, Calgary. FREE PAVED PARKING or take the C-Train to Saddletowne Station. Adult - \$10, Youth (6-12) - \$5, under 6 - free. Over 70,000 sq. ft. of operating layouts, exhibits and displays, railroad artists, hobby shops, model manufacturers, demonstrations, clinics, museums and railroad historical associations, Lego and Thomas Play Area, garden railways, ride-on trains, and much more. Info: www.supertrain.ca or email to info@supertrain.ca

Jun 15-19, Salmon Arm, BC

PNR Regional Convention - Selkirk Express 2016. There will be bus trips to the Kettle Valley Steam Railway and to the Revelstoke Railway Museum. Layout tours, clinics, contests, a public show and Free-Mo meet.

Info: www.SelkirkExpress2016.ca

Sep 16-17, Sherwood Park, AB

2016 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

Oct 15 (Sat), Calgary, AB

37th Annual Boomer Auction, Sponsored by South Bank Short Lines, St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Dr. SW. Setup and viewing 9:00am, auction starts at 10:30am. Note earlier start times. Info: - John Wrinch, (403) 281-745, jawrinch@shaw.ca

Oct 16 (Sun), Calgary, AB

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



Less than 20 minutes west of Salmon Arm, BC you will find some great photo locations as CP climbs up and over Notch Hill. These locomotives are on the same train with the head end crossing a bridge over Notch Hill Road and Distributed Power Unit 8647 about to cross under the same road through the giant culvert. The rest of the train is wrapped around a horseshoe curve on the hillside to the north. CP constructed this route in the late 1970's to reduce the westbound grade to 1.0%. The original grade remains in use for eastbound trains. (photo by Rob Badmington, Nov 5, 2015)