

Highball!

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 6TH DIVISION PNR

May 2019



A westbound grain train led by CP 8956 and CSX 587 are about to cross over Mission Road near Cranbrook on May 25, 2018. A special presentation by the photographer at **Kootenay Express 2019** will reveal some of the best photo locations in the area, enabling you to take some of your own spectacular pictures.

(Photo by Kevin Dunk)

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

Hello everyone,

It's been a busy spring going to many train shows around the division. Thank you to Peter, Doug B., Doug J. and others for helping with our booth at the shows. We are getting all the final arrangements done for the PNR Regional Meet in Cranbrook. The committee has been doing a great job to make this Meet successful and interesting. We have three prototype tours and lots of clinics. The public train show at the Cranbrook Curling Club is full and should show a

lot of people in the Cranbrook area what a wonderful hobby model railroading is.

See a full report on the convention in the current Switchlist and check out our website www.kootenayexpress2019.ca for all the latest details.

Membership is steady in the division. I hope to see many of our new members as well as old friends in Cranbrook. I wish you safe travels as you make your way to the Meet.

From the Editor – Rob Badmington

Now that winter is behind us (yeah, right, it's May and it never snows in May!), the garden beckons, and maybe work on the layout takes a backseat. But that's no reason the hobby has to slow down. This is a great time to get out with the camera and take pictures. They could be photos of trains in wonderful scenery, buildings just begging to be modeled, or how about every detail you can find on or under a passenger car. That's right, if you take the Down 'n Dirty tour at the Kootenay Express 2019 convention, you can crawl all over and under the passenger car collection at the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel in Cranbrook and measure and photograph everything. And Cranbrook is

surrounded by beautiful scenery, with CP sending plenty of trains through for your picture taking pleasure.

Personally, I'm really looking forward to the convention as a chance to catch up with a lot of friends from all over the Region. It's not too late to pre-register, or you can even register in person when you get there. However, if you wait you might find that the tours you want to go on are already full, so best to go to the website and sign up.

Hope to see you in Cranbrook in a couple of weeks.

Achievement Program Report - Doug Burton, 6th Division, PNR AP Chair

Hi Everyone

We have been very busy. I had a good time in Saskatoon at their show. We recruited another member to the team. Cal Sexsmith will be the Golden Spike assessor and AP Civil judge around Saskatoon. Thanks for helping with this Cal.

We will be able to judge AP models when in Cranbrook, so if you need something judged please fill in the submission paper work and bring it along. Looking forward to seeing you in Cranbrook.

I was also able to go on a bit of a layout tour to Calgary and Lethbridge. In Calgary I got to visit Bob

Hadlow's, Rob Badmington's and Mike Westren's layouts which have all recently received Golden Spike Awards. I was also able to visit Roger Walker's layout. They were all very nice layouts with their own unique features and I was able to pick up some new tips and tricks. In the evening I was able to attend the meeting of the South Bank Short Lines Club and got to meet some great Model Railroaders. The next day I was off to Lethbridge to see Doug Wingfield's layout.

Since my last report paper work has been sent for:

Golden Spike

Al Matchett - Calgary

Bob Hadlow - Calgary

AP

Al Matchett - Civil Merit Award

Al Matchett - Master Modeller Civil

Al Matchett - Master Modeller Electrical

Ray Clifford - Master Modeller Scenery

Ray Clifford - Civil Merit Award

Ray Clifford - Master Modeller Civil

Ray Clifford - Master Modeller Electrical

Ray Clifford - MMR

Doug Burton - 4 Structure Merit Awards

Here is who makes up the 6th Div AP Team

Doug Wingfield MMR Lethbridge

Dale Sproule MMR Calgary

Roger Walker MMR Calgary

Doug Hunter Regina

Dale Armstrong Swift Current

Jeff Betcher Regina

Cal Sexsmith Saskatoon

Doug Burton Edmonton/Camrose

Please feel free to send me any AP questions you may have and I will get you the answers you need.

Convention Report - Doug Burton, 6th Division Convention Coordinator

Work is underway for the **Camrose 2020 - 6th Div Meet** hosted by Battle River Railway Modellers. Norm Prestage is the chairman. The date has been set for May 16-18, 2020. Work is underway to create a logo, potential prototype tours, meet and greet, accommodations, layout tours, banquet and a guest speaker. There will be a web site once a few more things are confirmed. We will be looking for people to put on clinics so dust off something you have in the can and haven't used for a while and work on a presentation.

There is a possibility of having an ops session at either the beginning or end of the weekend, so let me know if this would be something that you would be interested in.

The last meet in Camrose in 2010 was well received and I am sure this one will be.

I am also looking for a host for the 2021 6th Div Meet. So if some of you in say... \perhaps Saskatchewan could consider this then there will be less nagging from me and you don't have to travel as far. The Division has the ability to assist with clinics, AP, contests, and show and tell. If you have any questions or concerns let me know and we can help you out.

Only 2 more weeks till Kootenay Express 2019 and I am looking forward to it. There are lots of

interesting clinics, tours and things to see. It will be good to meet everyone, have a few sips and tell some stories.



A scene on Roger Walker's layout in Calgary. Roger will be presenting a clinic on scratchbuilding signals at the PNR convention in Cranbrook. (photo by Rob Badmington)

Area Reports

Calgary - Rob Badmington

SUPERTRAIN went off very smoothly this year with even the weather cooperating, especially compared with every weekend since the show. Unfortunately, attendance was down almost 2,000 guests, quite possibly due to the prolonged effects of the economy in the Calgary region. Having said that, everyone who attended, including exhibitors, volunteers, and guests seemed to have a very good time. That carried

over to the Saturday Night Gala where we celebrated our 25th Anniversary of both CMRS and SUPERTRAIN. Six of the original nine Board members who founded the CMRS were able to attend as our guests. Alan Hough made a very moving presentation on the formation of the Society and the principles that we still adhere to today.

Moose Jaw - Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club - Greg King

The Thunder Creek Model Railroad Club hosted our Annual Model Railroad Show at the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw in March. The show was attended by the largest crowd we have ever seen, thanks to all for the tremendous support of the World's Great Hobby.

In addition to our show, the Club attended the

Prince Albert Hobby Show in April, the Regina RAILFEST on May 4-5 and plans to attend a one day display at the Strasburg Museum Model Train display on May 25, before taking our summer break.

The K+S 101 Steam Train

resumes normal summer operation beginning May 18th at the Western Development Museum in Moose Jaw. See <https://wdm.ca/moose-jaw/> for details and times.

I have attached a picture taken at the PA Show in



April of my welded rail train that is approximately 1.75 meters (6 - 89 foot cars) long carrying nine code 55 rails. The other photo shows the sign announcing the opening of the WDM 101 Steam Engine for the season.



Lethbridge - Paul Smith

The Southern Alberta Model Railway Club members are continuing work on both our layouts. The HO scale layout crew is producing more structures along with refining our operating scheme. Scenery is starting to appear in the new harbour area. The N scale layout crew will be working on upgrading the electrical system and

preparing for scenery construction. Things tend to quieten down somewhat during the coming summer period but we'll still be meeting Tuesday evenings starting at 1900 hours in our Gyro Park, Lethbridge clubhouse. Any Highball readers who are in the vicinity are welcome to drop by for a visit.

Olds - Didsbury - Carstairs - Rick Astle



Members of the Mountain View Model Railroad Club have been working diligently to complete a few updates to the club layout located on the second floor of the Didsbury Museum as well as enhancing a new portable HO layout for Carstairs 2019.



The 'Prairie Pack-it and Place-it layout' as it has become known was set up at SUPERTRAIN April

13/14 together with a club member's 'No Where Specific' revolving layout as part of the clubs display. Members are still fine tuning the scenery and it will be ready for Carstairs 2019 May 25/26.

Carstairs 2019 is in final planning with several new railroad offerings this year and an expanded R/C car display with 1:18 scale Short Stadium Trucks, 1:28 scale realistic cars and 1:35 scale miniature crawlers to excite the child in all of us.



Anyone interested in what the club has to offer to both the analogue and digital command enthusiast with or without a home layout, being part of Carstairs 2019 or looking to tour the museum layout can obtain the details by visiting the club's web page www.mvmrc.ca or contacting Rick by phone directly at (403) 507-3314 or by email at 1mvmrc@gmail.com .

(4 photos by Rick Astle)

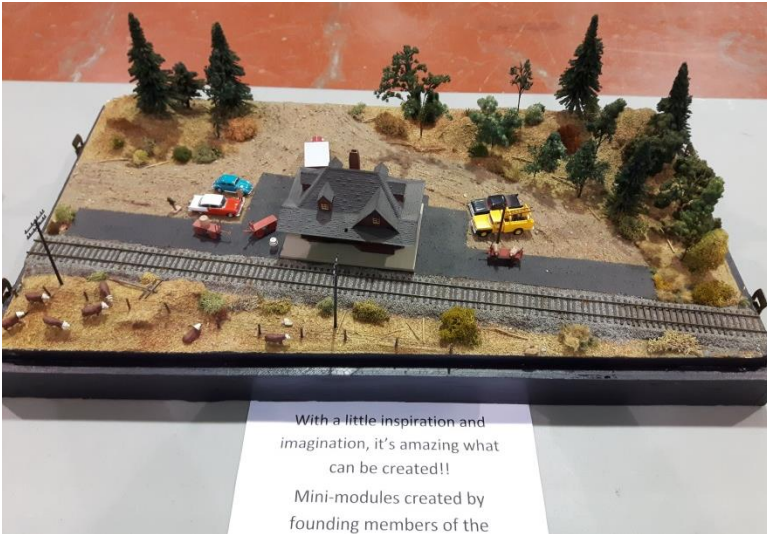


Regina - Echo Valley Railroad Guild – Doug Johnson

On May 4th and 5th, members of the Guild hosted the third annual Regina Railfest. A new location this year, the Caledonian Curling Club, had 26,000 square feet of layouts, displays and vendors from Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. The show had a record high attendance, with large numbers of families and excited young children there. The Guild would like to thank all

of the participants, especially those who travelled from out of the city. Fortunately the weather cooperated and we didn't get any of the Alberta snow! The NRMA was represented by Peter Ulvestad and me, and several new members have been added to the NMRA roster. Now we look forward to the PNR convention in Cranbrook!

(4 photos from Regina Railfest by Peter Ulvestad)



Airdrie / Iron Horse Park - Greg Orme

By the time you read this the dust should have pretty much settled on yet another SUPERTRAIN. I'm not sure what the final numbers were on attendance this year but I'm sure it was another successful show.

On Saturday the members of Iron Horse Park provided 1692 rides and on Sunday 2142, down 942 from last year's count.

Now that SUPERTRAIN is over we are now turning our attention to completing some of our maintenance jobs in preparation for our season opening set for Sunday May 19th.

Work has also been progressing on our club's Northern overhaul as well as a couple of the other member-owned steam engines.

Riding cars are being given some TLC as well with truck inspections and a fresh coat of paint.

If I failed to mention in earlier reports we now have a G Scale group at the park so if you're into G Scale come on out and join us. You are more than welcome to come out and see what our G Scale guys have to offer.

Beside our Facebook page we now have a YouTube channel that we have just started. We hope to be posting video reports on a weekly basis of our ride days or anything else that we think would be of interest so check us out.

Here's the link to the YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYSrmjYsAM-22w0jNC-EYDw>

Now that the snow has melted it is also time to turn our attention to the construction of the Transfer table leading into the Loco Shed. The base is almost completed with the bridge to be installed in short order.

As in my previous reports I have mentioned that we are always looking for new members or volunteers to help us out at the park so if you have a bit of time and would like to get involved we would be happy if you would consider joining us.

Information is available on our web site or come see us at our display at SUPERTRAIN.

Until next time, Happy Railroading.



(3 photos by Greg Orme)

Kootenay Express 2019, PNR Regional Convention **Cranbrook, BC, May 29 – June 2, 2019**

Over 160 people have already advance registered for the upcoming Pacific Northwest Region Annual Convention to be held in Cranbrook BC in only a couple of weeks. They are in for a great program of layout tours, clinics, train show, model and photography contests, banquet, and full access to the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel. There are also three prototype tours lined up. If you have ever wanted to see what goes on inside a modern sawmill, you can sign up for the tour of the Canfor Forest Products mill in Radium. A unique tour is the Down n' Dirty tour at the Cranbrook Museum, allowing you to crawl all over, under, and through the passenger cars on display, so you can get photos and measurements of anything you might want to model. There is also the tour of the Sullivan Mine and Powerhouse in Kimberly which takes you there on a narrow gauge mine railway.

In the last Highball!, I mentioned some of the clinics that will be presented. Here are some more details on the clinic line-up. Well-known author Adolf Hungry Wolf will present a clinic on the railways of Southern BC. Clinics on weathering with Pan Pastels, secrets of working with wood kits and details, making stencils, casting with RTV molds, making deciduous trees, and signalling systems, will help you improve your models and layout. Rich Mahaney will present a total of five different clinics on a variety of subjects. There will be a number of clinics on prototype subjects, layout design, car forwarding systems, tools, research, and much more. Many of the clinics will be presented



twice, so hopefully you won't have to choose between two clinics that you really want to see.

For those that like to see and photograph real trains in action, you won't be disappointed. If you are lucky, your room in the convention hotel will face the CP yard only a few feet away. A constant parade of manifest, grain, intermodal, and potash trains pass through Cranbrook on the way to Spokane and points south. One of the special presentations in the clinic program is "A Railfan's Guide to the East Kootenays" where a talented local photographer, Kevin Dunk, will show you lots of photos from around the Cranbrook area, and how to find his secret spots. One of those locations is Fort Steele, only a few miles away. It is the

junction of CP's Cranbrook and Windermere Subs where coal trains from the Crowsnest Pass turn north toward Golden and the West Coast. Even though we weren't able to tour of one of the region's coal mines, you can see the 128 car unit trains roar through on their way to the port, amid some spectacular scenery.

There are four HO scale layouts to visit right in Cranbrook, including one following an unusual prototype – Peru. The committee has also lined up four more layouts to visit between a 10 and 60 minute drive from Cranbrook. These include two live steam outdoor layouts and two HO/HOn3 indoor layouts.



A full range of contests is set, with AP evaluation available for those working on the Achievement Program. And don't forget to bring some of your current projects – complete or not – for the Show and Share session on Saturday afternoon.

The main convention program wraps up with a banquet, awards presentations, and keynote speaker Jim Cullen on Saturday evening. This will be a fun evening of socializing and celebrating that you won't want to miss.

The registration desk will open Wednesday morning. All the latest details on the Convention are posted on the website: <https://www.kootenayexpress2019.ca/>. It is the Convention Committee's goal to offer you more activities than you can fit into your schedule. But whatever you choose to do, please make sure you leave some time to renew acquaintances and make some new friends. After all, isn't that what it's all about?



Multiple carloads of lumber from the Canfor sawmill in Radium ride behind CP 5000 on the Windermere Sub switcher on May 2, 2018. One of the prototype tours will take modelers to visit the mill.
(prototype photos by Kevin Dunk)

Upcoming 2019 and 2020 Events in the 6th Division

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

May 25-26, 2019 (Sat-Sun), Carstairs, AB

Model Railroad and Hobby Extravaganza, Carstairs Curling Club, 350 11 Ave. Saturday 10am to 5pm and Sunday 10am to 4pm. \$5.00 per person with 5 and under free. Info:- Rick, 1mvmrc@gmail.com, 403-556-8121 (home), 403-507-3314 (cell)

May 29 - Jun 2, 2019 (Wed-Sun), Cranbrook, BC

The Kootenay Express 2019 Pacific Northwest Region Convention at the Prestige Inn. Clinics, model contest, AP evaluations, prototype and layout tours, train show, banquet, and much more. Full fare registration is \$139. Youth/Companion fare is \$65. Banquet Buffet is \$38 per person. Prototype tours are extra. For Registration Form and additional information and updates see: www.kootenayexpress2019.ca

Aug 15-Aug 18, 2019 (Thu-Sun), Big Valley, AB

16th Annual Alberta Free-mo. An entire hockey rink filled with a modular layout! Event open to all Free-mo module owners across North America. Set up begins Thursday August 15th ; commence running on Friday and go until Sunday at 4:00PM. Public viewing is 10-4 on each day, and admission is free for viewing! Sponsored by: Calgary Free-mo, a 100% NMRA Group. Info:- www.calgaryfreemo.ca, info@calgaryfreemo.ca

Sept 14 -15, 2019 (Sat-Sun), Sherwood Park, AB

2019 Greater Edmonton Model Train Show, 10 AM - 5 PM, Millennium Place, 2000 Premier Way in Sherwood Park. Admission \$10, \$5 for youth 16 and under - children 4 and under FREE Layouts, displays, clinics, dealers and LEGO! Info:- www.mmrf.ab.ca. email: trainshow@mmrf.ab.ca

October 19, 2019 (Sat), Calgary, AB

40th Annual Boomer Auction, Sponsored by South Bank Short Lines, (www.sbsltrains.ca) St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, 703 Heritage Dr. SW. Setup and viewing 08:30am, dining car opens 09:30 am, auction starts at 10:00am. Info: - John Wrinch, (403) 281-5745, jawrinch@shaw.ca

October 20, 2019 (Sun), Calgary, AB

CMRS Fall Mini Meet and Annual General Meeting, Glenmore Inn. www.calgarymodelrailway.ca/mini-meets.html

November 8, 2019 (Fri), Calgary, AB

CMRS Slide Night 2019 , Friday Nov. 8 at River Park Church, 3818 – 14A St. SW. Doors open at 7:00 pm and the show starts at 7:30 Non-members welcome - \$5.

April 18-19, 2020 (Sat-Sun), Calgary, AB

SUPERTRAIN 2020, Canada's Largest Model Train Show. 9 AM to 5 PM both days. Genesis Centre, 7555 Falconridge Blvd. NE, Calgary. FREE PARKING at McKnight-Westwinds C-Train Station with free shuttle. Adult - \$15, under 16 - 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

May 15-17, (Fri-Sun), 2020, Camrose, AB

Battle River Rails, 6th Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, convention. Venue, prototype and layout tours, clinics to be announced.