



BULLETIN BOARD

Volume 24 Issue 3

May/June 2010

The Official Publication of the 7th Division, Pacific Northwest Region National Model Railroad Association (Canada)

Shuswap Rails 2010

PNR Spring Meet in Salmon Arm

Ed Parsons



Brian Golds' HO_n3 Layout Awarded NMRA "GOLDEN SPIKE"

photo John Green

Chairman's Report:

Two years of planning have finally come to an end. From all the reports that I have received from Delegates, vendors, exhibitors, and the general public, the show was a success. We tried to produce a show that was maybe a little different in some ways from other meets, and yet promote to the public the hobby of Model Railroading as an entertaining and satisfying project that the whole family could get involved with, and not cost a great deal of money to get started. We also wanted to show that you could do a great deal in a small space, and you didn't need a large train room to get started. I have found in the past that the public can be intimidated by large well detailed layouts that they feel is beyond their abilities to reproduce even though they are great to look at. For the delegates we put together a program that we considered to be informative and entertaining and hopefully they took home with them the feeling that they had been treated to an enjoyable and informative weekend, and hopefully something they would remember for some time to come. The Ladies Program was an astounding success. All the ladies reported that they had a wonderful time, and this is all due to our wives who organized the event.

There was only one negative aspect of the show, and that was the lack of support from modellers from the 7th Division who did not support the show by taking out full registration. We had only 40 full registrants, this was a little disappointing! I believe that without shows like this, our hobby could be in trouble, and without the support of modellers, these meets can not be sustained. I know with the lack of confidence in our economy, and a lot of members are on a fixed incomes, it maybe a little hard to come up with the money, but on the other hand, most of us can always come up with the funds to buy a \$200.00 locomotive if we really want it. By committing to meets such as these we are supporting local hobby shops and the hobby of Model Railroading. Not only that, we get the chance to meet with old friends, meet new ones, and in process maybe learn something new to enhance our own enjoyment of the hobby and have some fun.

It had been ten years since the last time the Salmon Arm Model Railway Association had hosted the 7th Division Interior Spring Meet, but I'm hoping we don't wait another ten years to put on the next one. We will be taking another look into hosting the Interior Spring Meet in the next three to five years. In the meantime I hope you all will support the efforts of individuals and clubs in your area who take on the responsibility and expense of hosting meets such as Shuswap Rails 2010.

At this time I would like to take the time to thank those who sponsored and supported us in our efforts to put on this show:

- The Prestige Harbourfront Hotel and Convention Centre
- Kettle Valley Steam Railway
- Kamloops Heritage Society "2141"
- Three Valley Gap
- Revelstoke Railway Museum
- Village of Chase
- District of Sicamous
- City of Salmon Arm
- City of Enderby
- City of Armstrong

Also to those vendors who supplied door prizes and draw prizes:

- Kelly's Caboose
- Interior Crafts
- Kettle Valley Trains
- On Track Hobbies
- Central Hobbies



Layout Tour- Ed Di Massioma's Chase Northern



Ladies Gathering for the Bus Tour

photo John Green

A special thanks to all those who took the time and effort to bring their layouts to Shuswap Rails 2010 to be exhibited, they are the ones who were the backbone of our show. Also to those who opened their homes for the self guided layout tours, thank you! To the delegates, thank you for coming and I hope you enjoyed the special entertainment we provided at the banquet, I don't know if you will ever see that again, but then again, you never know!!!!

I hope I haven't forgotten anyone, if I have; I apologize, and thank you. Hope to see everyone at the next meet.

Ed Parsons
Shuswap Rails 2010 Committee Chair

Shuswap Rails 2010 Contests

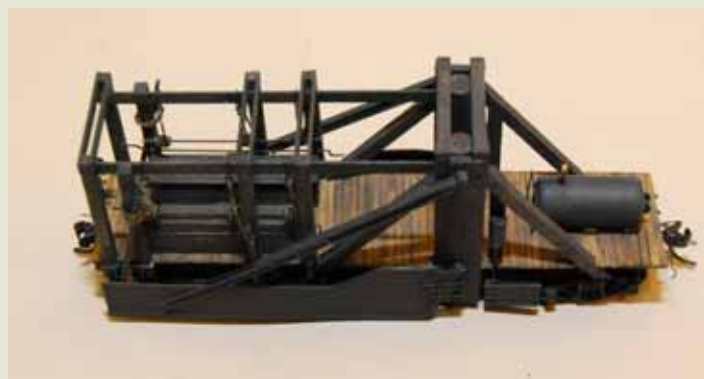
Bob Gardner, MMR

The Shuswap Rails 2010 7th Division Interior Spring Meet is now in the record books and we are listing it as a success. Others had success at the meet in various modelling categories as well as the fun and interesting car rolling contest and locomotive pull

Shuswap Rails 2010 Contest Winners

Most Popular Locomotive

Brian Golds - HO_{N3} Climax



Scratchbuilt Jordan Spreader - Ron Keith

photo by Tom Carr

Most Popular Rolling Stock

Ron Keith - Scratchbuilt HO Early Jordan Spreader



Scratchbuilt Glacier Station - Ed Jaatteenmaki

photo Wayne Huffman

Most Popular Train

Roy Zschiedrich - BC Rail Mixed Freight

Most Popular Structure

Russ Watson - On30 Turntable

Most Popular Layout (Voted by the Public)

Brian Golds HOn3 Elk Falls Log & Mining

Most Operating Layout (Voted by the Registrants)

Brian Golds HOn3 Elk Falls Log & Mining

Most Popular Model Photo

Russ Watson - NCR #5 East

Most Popular Prototype Photo

Russ Watson - CN 5796 East at Brule

Car Rolling Contest

Roy Zschiedrich - HO Box Car

Loco Pull - Steam

Doug Mayer 2-8-8-2

Loco Pull - Diesel

Mike Barone - FA/FB Hobbytown

Best In Show

Brian Golds HOn3 Elk Falls Log & Mining

Bulletin Board

The **BULLETIN BOARD** is published six times per year as follows:

<u>Submission</u>	Mailing	
Deadline	Date	Month
November 15th	December 15th	Jan/Feb
January 15th	February 15th	Mar/Apr
March 15th	April 15th	May/Jun
May 15th	June 15th	Jul/Aug
July 15th	August 15th	Sep/Oct
September 15th	October 15th	Nov/Dec

The BULLETIN BOARD is distributed to all Seventh Division members in good standing. Editorial opinions and those stated in articles do not necessarily reflect those of the Seventh Division Standing Committee.

CONTRIBUTIONS of Letters, Articles, Event News, Plans, Photographs and Art are encouraged and welcomed and may be sent to the BULLETIN BOARD Editor:

ADVERTISING in the BULLETIN BOARD is accepted at the following per issue rates: Full Page = \$48.00, Half Page = \$24.00, Quarter Page = \$12.00, Business Card = \$6.00,

Artwork should be supplied in the appropriate size. There may be an additional charge to complete artwork that is not camera ready. Please mail your artwork and remittance, payable to the "7th Division PNR/NMRA," to the Editor's address listed above.

Timetable

May 1-2, Rickreall, OR

Rickreall Grange Train Swap Meet & Show 10AM-4PM Admission \$5.00 good for both days. \$1 off with canned food. Swap Meet tables: 6 ft - \$15, 8 ft - \$20; Vendor move-in Friday noon to 8PM, Saturday 7AM. 280 Main Str. "HWY 99W". Operating P.S.R. Club layout in 30 x 30 Room see at www.trainweb.org/psr Info:- Pry626@juno.com or 503-606-0398

May 1 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

MMRF Annual Swap Meet: Central Lion's Senior Citizens Recreation Centre 11113 113 St. 9AM-1PM, Admission \$2, tables \$20, \$15 for MMRF members. Info :- Ron Boyer, 780-466-2670, www.mmrf.ab.ca

May 1 (Sat), Calgary, AB

Calgary Model Trainmen Open House. 619 12 Avenue S.E. Info:- www.calgarymodeltrainmen.ca

May 8 (Sat), Auburn, WA

11th Annual Northwest Santa Fe Mini-Meet. 10am to 5pm at Messiah Lutheran Church at 410 H Street NE. The mini-meet will feature clinics on Santa Fe's El Capitan Passenger Train & HO models, Modeling the LA Division 3rd District in HO, and other topics to be determined. Admission is just \$7 and lunch will be available for purchase at the mini-meet. Don't forget to bring your favorite Santa Fe models to display, and any ATSF items you'd like to sell. We're looking forward to seeing all you Santa Fe fans and modelers again. Info:- John Thompson at 16031 SE 46th Way Bellevue, WA 98006; JThomp1945@aol.com home phone: 425-562-8955.

May 8 (Sat), Edmonton, AB

The Edmonton Model Railroad Association (www.emraonline.ca) is holding an open operating session, from 1:00PM - 5:00PM. The session will be followed by a 'No-Host' dinner at a local restaurant. Info:- Peter Ulvestad, ulvestad@telus.net

May 21-23, Camrose, AB

6th Division Spring Meet, "Battle River Rails 2010", sponsored by Battle River Railway Modellers, at the Moose Family Centre. Info:- www.battleriverrailway.ca/battle-river-rails-2010/

Jun 12-13, Port Alberni, BC

2nd Annual Vancouver Island Logging Modelers Meet McLean Mill National Heritage Park, Port Alberni, B.C. All logging modelling will be represented - Trains, trucks, and all other equipment from N scale to you name it. Info:- kj.rutherford@shaw.ca, Ken Rutherford (250) 724-4698 or Rick Lord rlord@telus.net (250) 724-4205

Jun 18-19, Spokane, WA

Inland Empire Railway Historical Society, 4th Annual Open House at the Spokane Fairgrounds South Entrance, 10 AM to 3 PM. Tours of Vintage RR Cars and Museum, Free ride on the 2 ft. Gauge Train, Souvenirs, Food, Photo-ops. Donation of \$5 per family or \$10 per van load. Info:- ropenhouse@comcast.net or call Donna at 509-924-9781 or 509-325-3641.

Jun 19 (Sat), Bremerton, WA

Bremerton Northern Model Railroad Club 2010 Swap Meet. We have a new location at the West Side Improvement Club, 4109 West "E" Street (the corner of National Ave & "E" Street in Navy Yard City) Get off Hwy 3 at Loxie Eagans to National, turn right at light. 10am - 4pm, \$5.00 for adults, children under 12 free. Info:- Marion Weston, 360-633-7212, or MarionandDan@live.com

Jun 19 - Jun 20, Portland, OR

The Rose City Garden Railroad Society Summer Tour of Portland area layouts from 10AM to 5PM. Booklets with directions are available from local area hobby shops and some garden centers for \$10 per family (grandkids to grandparents count as one family). Info:- www.RCGRS.com

Jun 20 (Sun), Fort Steele , BC

6th Annual Fathers Day at the Steam Railway, Fort Steele Heritage Town. Info:- www.fortsteele.ca

Jul 11-18, Milwaukee, WI

National Model Railroad Association 75th Anniversary Convention

Jul 14 (Wed), Spokane, WA

SP&S Historical Society Convention. Info:- www.spsos.org

Jul 14-17, Spokane, WA

Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association Annual Convention; Mirabeau Park Hotel. Info:-m1amikea@gmail.com, www.nprha.org

Aug 12-17, Revelstoke, BC

Railway Days 2010, Revelstoke Railway Museum. Info: - Jennifer Dunkerson, Executive Director, at 1-877-837-6060, director.railway@telus.net, www.railwaydays.com.

Aug 14-15, Big Valley, AB

Alberta Free-mo 2010. An entire hockey rink filled with a modular layout! Info:- www.calgaryfreemo.ca

Sep 8-24, Pendleton, OR

Portland Rose - Pendleton Roundup Centennial Special. UP Steam Info:- www.uprr.com/aboutup/excurs/steamtr.shtml

Sep 12-15, East Glacier Park, MT

Great Northern Historical Society Annual Convention Info:- www.gnrhs.org

Sep 16-18, Lynnwood, WA

Cascadian International, PNR 2010 Regional Convention. Embassy Suites hotel. Info:- www.4dpmr.org/CascadianInternational2010.htm, Stu Rogers, sturogers@comcast.net

Sep 18-19, Edmonton, AB

2010 Great Edmonton Model Train Show, 10 AM - 5 PM, Mayfield Trade Centre, 16615 - 109 Ave (Mayfield Road). 40,000 sq. ft. of layouts, displays, clinics, dealers and LEGO! Info:- www.mmrf.ab.ca

Oct 10 (Sun), Spokane, WA

The Spokane Railroad Show, 9:30AM - 3:30PM at the Spokane Community College "LAIR" Student Activities Building. The campus is at Mission and Greene Streets, north of I-90 exit 283B. Adult admission is \$5, kids under 12 are free, \$1 for teens. Early admission after 9 is \$10. An 8 foot table is \$35. Vendors can setup Saturday 3PM-5PM; Sunday, starting at 7:30. Info:- Kevin 509-467-0597, 509-842-8079 or kozowski.amy@gmail.com

Oct 23-24, Red Deer, AB

Red Deer Model Railroad show. Westerner Park in the Harvest Center 4847A 19th St. Red Deer. 10AM-5PM. \$5.00 per person, children under 5 are free. Info:- funtimeshobby@shaw.ca or www.funtimeshobby.com

Nov 13 (Sat), Kent, WA

Boeing Employees Model Railroad Club Annual Swap Meet Kent Commons 525 4th Ave. N Kent, Washington Saturday November 814, 2009 9:30am to 4:00pm Info:- swapmeet@bemrrc.com

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

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Prince George	
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Prince Rupert	
<u>Vancouver Island Subdivision</u>	
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Ray Deblieck	510-521-9778
Email: RayDBCS@aol.com	
PNR President	
Jack Hamilton	360-308-9845
Email: PNRprez@hq.nmra.org	

Ray Brown

The model railroad community lost another friend when Ray Brown passed away April 4, 2010.

Ray got started in N scale model railroading around 1984 under the influence of Doug Stephens Jr whom some will remember as the operator of the E&N's barge slip here in Nanaimo. Ray jumped in with both feet and had a room added to his house to accommodate his ever-growing layout. He built so much track that there was no room left for scenery. Tiring of just running trains he decided to tear it all out and use the space to build a portable layout



which he could take to shows to share with us. Once again Ray pulled out the stops and by 1998 had built three four-by-four modules, a door in the end of his room to get them out and a crane to lower them to his new fourteen-foot trailer. Nanaimo modeller Mike Cousins contributed the scenery expertise you see on those modules. His layout was regularly on display at both island train shows and had been voted best-in-show from here to Calgary.

Along the way Ray fell in love with G-scale and soon had overhead tracks built around his train room. First-time visitors would wonder how such large locomotives got around such tight curves without falling to the floor.

Another consuming passion was collecting die-cast vehicles. He started with models of the trucks he drove at work but soon had show cases throughout his home full of every type of vehicle. If six versions of a particular farm tractor were made, Ray would not rest until he had tracked down and acquired all six.

Ray Brown was a kind-hearted man and a credit to our hobby. He loved to show his layout to the public and he and his trains will be remembered and missed for a long time to come.



Another view of the scratchbuilt Glacier Station

All hand made logs by Ed Jaatteenmaki

A Merit Award Winner

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AP Corner

Russ Watson

This is old news now but still good news! In addition to the AP awards earned at the TRAINS meet in Burnaby last November and reported on by John Green in his TRAINS 2009 article in the Jan/Feb BB, the following members received Golden Spike Awards:

Gene Abston
Bob Berbeck
Marty Goodrich
Steve Savich

Also Jim Little received his Motive Power Certificate in December, he now has four Certificates, so only needs three more to earn Master Model Railroader (MMR) status or as I call it, "a degree in model railroading".

Congratulations to all of you! I'm sure you enjoyed and learned from the experience.

Thank you to Scott Calvert, Mike Barone and Jack Hamilton for looking after the judging at TRAINS 09 in my absence. I had planned to attend, however my father's death in October prevented it.

I am pleased to report that two members earned Golden Spike Awards at Shuswap Rails 2010 in Salmon Arm in April: Rider Cheyne of Williams Lake for his wonderful 4 X 8' HO layout and Brian Golds of Eagle Bay for his impressive HO_{N3} portable layout.

And two merit awards were earned at the meet: Ron Keith of Surrey in the CARS category for his scratchbuilt early HO Jordan spreader and Ed Jaatteenmaki of Revelstoke in the STRUCTURES category for his scratchbuilt HO CPR Glacier Station, which was Ed's first AP entry.

Congratulations to the four of you!

Thanks to Mike Barone for judging and to Adrian Noble and Tom Carr for sitting in on the judging session as 'apprentices'.

For those of you not yet involved in the AP and who have a layout or a module, I suggest a good way to start is to submit an application for the Golden Spike Award. If you have built a 2 X 4' module, you may qualify. I would be happy to discuss it with you and you may also check out <http://www.nmra.org/education/achievement/gold.html> for complete details.

Many of you have served enough as 7th Division volunteers over the years to earn the Association Volunteer certificate, but haven't filled out and submitted the paperwork. Why not? A lot of people shy away from the AP because of the required paperwork, however they shouldn't, it isn't difficult, and I can help, just ask.

I have been asked recently what forms are required to enter a model in the AP. There are three basic forms required for each model: 1) Contest Entry Form - used for all model categories, 2) Judge's Score Sheet - used for all model categories, and 3) Judging Form - a specific form for each model category. These forms are completed by the entrant for each model and submitted to the judges. They are best done prior to attending a meet or requesting judging.

The forms are available at www.nmra.org. Go to the 'Achievement Program' link on the left and then the 'Forms' link on the right. The first two forms I mention above are at the bottom of the Forms page.

The judging score sheet is used to tell the judges everything they need to know to award you maximum points. You must not assume that the judges are knowledgeable about the prototype you are modelling. You may use a separate sheet of paper to describe your model and reference it on the Judging Form. Inclusion of prototype drawings and photos to support your model are very useful as well.

Please contact me if you do not have Internet access or have any questions.

If you have a module(s) and participate in operating layouts at NMRA meets you are earning points - called Time Units (TUs) - towards your Association Volunteer Certificate. Just keep a record of the appropriate dates and locations as you go.

We hope to present an AP Judging Clinic at TRAINS 2010 in Burnaby in November. Attending the clinic will certainly help your modelling regardless of whether you are participating in the AP or not. Stay tuned to the BB for additional information on the clinic.

In the mean time if you're not really sure what the AP is all about, check out <http://www.nmra.org/education/achievement/> or give me a call, I'd be happy to chat about it with you.

Lastly, a reminder that you don't have to wait for a meet to happen to be able to have your AP work judged or evaluated, I can arrange to have that done between meets, please contact me.

Happy modelling!

NMRA Websites

7th Division	http://pnr.nmra.org/7div
PNR	http://pnr.nmra.org
NMRA	http://www.nmra.org
NMRA Canada	http://www.nmracanada.ca

7th Division Video Library

Please phone, write, or Email to request the tapes you would like to borrow and they will be mailed to you prepaid. After use, you are required to mail them back 'Proof of Delivery with \$100 insurance.' Please keep your return postage receipt for tracing purposes in case the tapes are lost in the mail. Check your membership expiry date on your Bulletin Board mailing label. If it has expired, please renew it now using the instructions above before requesting to borrow tapes. The library address is:

7th Division Video Library, c/o Don Gooch 604-272-1623 (Richmond)

Email: dongooch@smarrt.com

A full list of tapes is published in the September issue of the BULLETIN BOARD

2860 on the BNSF

Gordie Mitchell



Photos contributed by Gordie Mitchell



COMING TO VICTORIA

2010 Victoria's Annual Model Railway Show

**Sunday, September 26th
10 am - 4 pm**

**Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
3220 Cedar Hill Road
Free Parking**

Hourly Door Prizes!

**Operating Model Railroads
Popular Vote Contest
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**For More Information
Ted Alexis ph:
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NMRA/PNR Members \$5

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Vancouver Island Sub-division, Seventh Division, Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association (Canada)
Photo by Dan Rowell.

Steam Locomotive On Its Way to Port Alberni



The Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society is pleased to confirm the donation by Western Forest Products of the locomotive No. 113 located at the Woss Camp. “Obviously we’re very happy with the donation,” says Kevin Hunter, President of the Industrial Heritage Society, “as this is a welcome addition to our roster, and hopefully it will become the dedicated locomotive that we’ll run to Parksville/Qualicum Beach.”

The locomotive was built in 1920 by the American Locomotive Works (Brooks Shop), has a 2-8-2 wheel configuration (Mikado), and weighs in at 135 tons fully loaded with fuel and water. A sister locomotive, the #40, is currently operated by the Valley Railroad Company in Essex Connecticut.

Originally purchased by the Oregon-America Lumber Company, in 1921 and numbered the #102, the locomotive was purchased by the Alberni Pacific Lumber Company in 1938 and was renumbered the #6. With a new boiler (required to meet Canadian standards), it was used as the mainline engine from Camp 1 to Port Alberni. In 1948 it was transferred to Chemainus and renumbered the 1055, where it worked as the mainline engine between Copper Canyon Camp and Chemainus. In 1953 it was sold to Canadian Forest Products, just missing being scrapped literally by minutes. Renumbered the 113, and stationed at Woss Camp, it worked till 1966 hauling logs from Nimpkish Camp South as far as Sutton Reload. It was brought back out of retirement, and was used from 1988 to 1995 for Canfor’s very popular Forest Tours, as public relations tool for the company. Since then the engine has been parked.

Hugh Grist, a Director with the Industrial Heritage Society, is working closely with the City’s Economic Development Officer, Pat Deakin on accessing funding for the move, rebuild, and eventual operation of the locomotive. “Our initial tourist runs will take us to Loon Lake” says Grist, “though the long-term plan is to run to Parksville.” “Besides the locomotive rebuild, there’s track work as well,” says Grist, “with the trestles requiring the most attention.” “The Alberni Sub, is 39.4 miles long, with 21 bridges in total.

The #113 has a number claims to fame, with one of its most notable taking place in 1943 in Port Alberni when it derailed east of 10th Avenue due to some children were playing with a switch and leaving it partially open. The Ohio Steam Crane was brought in from the woods to help put it and the tender back on the rails.

“The negotiations with Western Forest Products began in November 2008,” says Neil Malbon, General Manager for the McLean Mill and Alberni Pacific Railway. “We’re real grateful to Mayor McRae, and Steve Frasher of Western Forest Products for helping to make this a reality” adds Malbon.

For further information, please contact Neil Malbon, 250-723-1376 or Hugh Grist, 250-724-4503.

Superintendent's Report**Gary Hazell**

So much for sitting in the sunshine as I was the last time I did this report. We have been back for just over a month and Donna and I have been both working very hard on Shuswap Rails 2010. I was responsible for advertising and promotion and Donna co-chaired the Ladies Program with Wanda Parsons (Ed Parsons was meet chair). One of the early comments that has been emailed and I quote "We had a good time at the convention. Thank the committee for all the hard work. We were just passing the old toll booth and Denise said "that was the best convention I have ever been to". We have been to nationals! Brian Clogg Cariboo Western Railway".

Even though the number of 7th Div registrants was very low, we did have a number from the 6th Div (Edmonton and Lethbridge) and we had a very good representation of dealers and vendors and by all reports, everyone did well. Some sold out of products. The clinics were very well attended and Tim Anderson of www.ngineering.com ran out of hand-outs on Micro LED's in his second clinic Saturday afternoon. By the time I got the 10 copies needed made up, everyone was disassembling in preparation for the banquet. If any of you missed getting your copy please email me comhaven@jetstream.net and I will either attach or send you a copy. I'll leave the rest of Shuswap Rails 2010 to Eric Reynard (registrar) and Ed Parsons (meet chair).

I have a concern as your Div. Superintendent. The attendance by 7th Div members at various shows is very much down particularly at Shuswap Rails (approximately 45). This may be somewhat do to the economy or just that we are all aging and not willing to travel. Next year's Interior Spring Meet in Vernon has been cancelled and will be replaced by an all hobby swap meet in May. This will not attract 7th Div members from afar but local members and the public. Another thing that is affecting us is the tremendous cost of renting large, and I mean large, facilities. Our cost was over \$6,000 and we had a budget of \$10,000 – scary isn't it. I am a great believer in "you have to spend money to make money", and we did just that with paid radio spots (Salmon Arm and Kamloops), paid newspaper ads and our 2010 program where we sold over \$1,000 in advertising. For those that did not get a copy you really need (borrow a copy somewhere) to see what can be done. All in all I think Shuswap Rails did extremely well. We may have to strike a special committee to look into how we can attract members. If you have any suggestions please contact me.

7th Div. membership is up again thanks in part to Salmon Arm Model Railroaders becoming 100% NMRA. Currently we have an all time high of 351 members of which 266 take this BB by email and 85 by mail. These figures also include 21 family members. Remember if you possibly can take the BB by email it is only around 400K which would save us printing and mailing charges. This would allow us to put more money into educational programs and/or help offset the drag on a number of your executive and committee members who have been paying for Div. expenses out of their own pockets.

I am very pleased to announce that Bob Leggett has agreed to take over the secretary position which became vacant after Tom Carr was elected Assistant Superintendent (VP). Tom was filling both positions but with Bob aboard we are back to a full executive compliment. Of course this will have to be confirmed at this year's election for Secretary, Treasurer and Director at Large in November. Bob can be contacted at boblegett@shaw.ca or 604-464-0868

North Fraser Report**Tom Carr**

The 2010 Winter Olympics are now a pleasant memory, and thanks to late winter storms the South-Coast Mountains are enjoying some of their best spring skiing snow conditions in years. BC appears to be headed for another nice summer season.

The TraiNgang is well into another busy show season again this year. As I write his column they are hosting a two-weekend N-Trak modular display at Confederation Park in Burnaby. They are a popular exhibitor at Confederation Park every year as visitors to the host Burnaby Central Railway always enjoy their layout. TraiNgang has also welcomed 3 new members so far in 2010, and all three of them were running trains at the Confederation Park show. Well done guys, it's great to see such positive growth.

The Dewdney Alouette Railway Society (DARS) reports that they have been busy over the winter adding some new structures to their Port Haney diorama, and continuing to build scenery on their layout in the basement of the Maple Ridge Museum. As the Port Haney diorama is meant to be historically accurate a large part of the work being done on it is historical research to make sure the structures, roadways, etc. are accurate. The layout is open for public viewing on the last Sunday of each month, and is well worth a visit.

The Maple Ridge Model Railroad Club continues to meet every Tuesday evening in the home of club president Jim Rankin. In addition to viewing several interesting railroading DVD's recently they've been doing some track maintenance work on Jim's HO layout, and with the arrival of the spring weather there's talk among several members of working on personal G-Scale layouts in the yards. The Maple Ridge club is officially HO, but many members model other scales on their home layouts, with N, O and G all having a following.

Francina and I had the opportunity to attend the Shuswap Rails 7th Division Spring Meet in Salmon Arm over the Easter weekend. It was an excellent show, the Salmon Arm club did a fantastic job of organizing it, and we had a thoroughly good time. It was very nice to see a ladies program put on for the wives, as it gave them the opportunity to enjoy some of the area attractions and have some time together while their husbands attended the train show. We are both looking forward to future 7th Division meets.

Francina and I travelled to Nanaimo for the annual Nanaimo Train Show. I remember participating in the first Nanaimo shows in the mid-1980's when it was a local event for model railroaders in the area. It has grown somewhat since then and today is a major attraction on the 7th Division show calendar. Even though it's a one-day show the organizing committee does a great job of attracting exhibitors and vendors. It's well worth the trip to Nanaimo each year.

Editor's Desk**Eric Reynard**

Just a brief note to say thanks to all who attended Shuswap Rails 2010 and for those of you who didn't there should be more photos in the next issue of the Bulletin Board.