

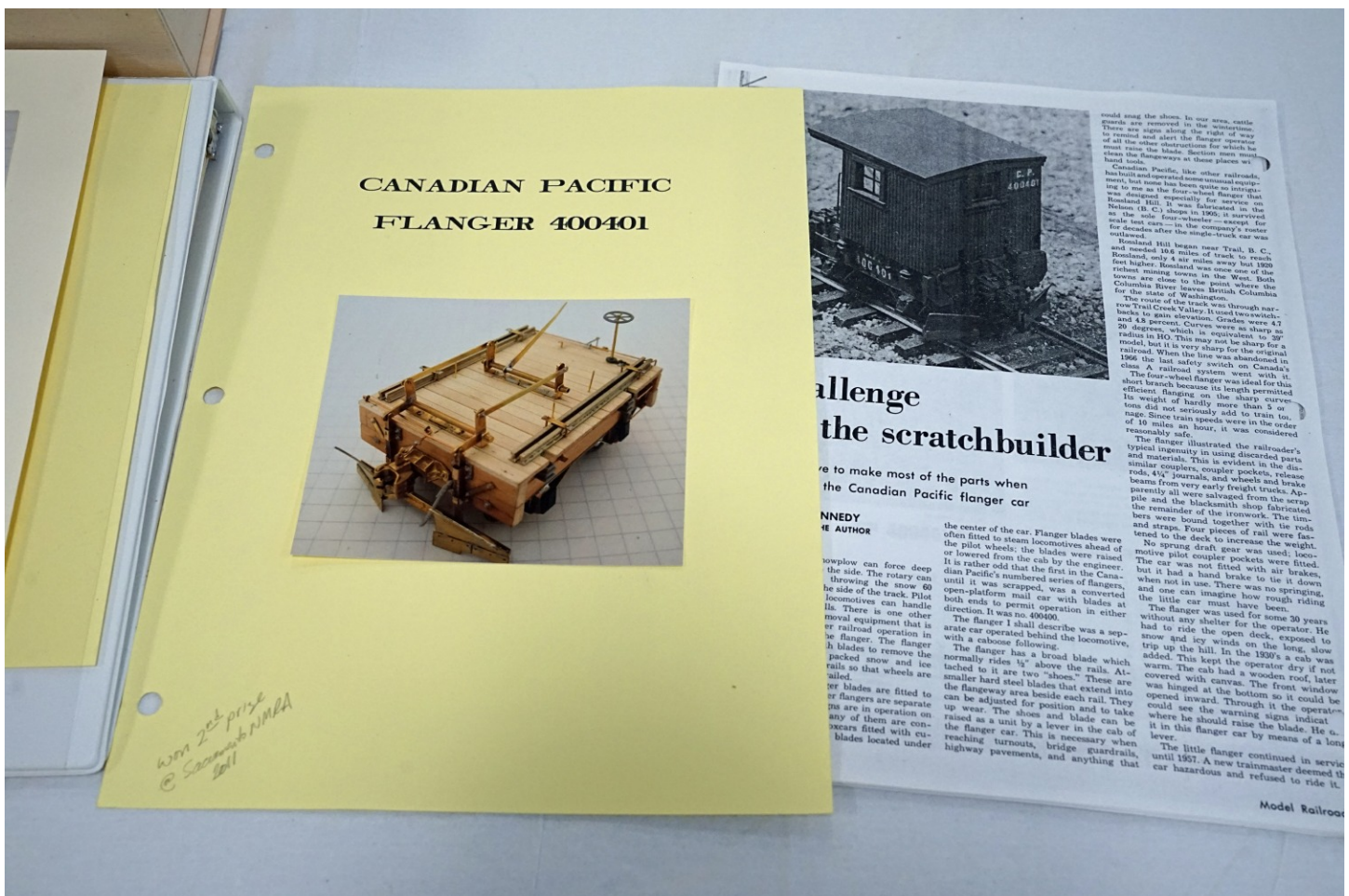


# BULLETIN BOARD

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ABOVE: The much anticipated Railway Modellers Meet of BC is nearly here. At the spring event in 2017, Kyle Gardiner brought his O scale model of a CP flanger car for display in the Modellers Room. Kyle was on hand to talk about the project and the inspiration from an article written by Gib Kennedy in the May 1970 issue of Model Railroader magazine. Kyle won recognition for this exquisite model at an NMRA conference in Sacramento, CA in 2011. But the Modellers Room is about much more than that. Anyone, regardless of their ability, is warmly encouraged to bring an ongoing project and show and/or discuss it in an informal environment. Join the group, participate and be inspired.

Photo by J. Stevenson

The RMMBC last year was a big success. Let's make sure we support this year's meet with the turnout it deserves. Read more about it on the inside.

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## Editorial Comments

I'm sure that everyone is aware of the Railway Modellers Meet of BC by now and that with just a few weeks to go that you've begun to plan your weekend time to ensure that you get as much packed in as possible. And if you haven't yet made up your mind, there's still time to register. Marc Simpson, the meet promoter and communications contact, has kept us well-informed with all of the developments through regular email blasts. A number of the speaker/clinicians have contributed articles to the modelling press. Reading some of those articles prior to attendance is always rewarding and guarantees deeper appreciation. This talented bunch include 7DPNR members as well as several much anticipated out-of-towners.

The email feeds have scads of hyperlinks for those curious souls with time on their hands. One of those links pointed to HO Collector magazine which is one of the White River Productions publications along with Railroad Model Craftsman, the HOn3 Annual and many others. A short teaser article included a few pages from a Campbell Scale Models catalogue c1963, a company in business for a remarkable almost-60 years. They have a web presence and what immediately struck me is that many of their craftsman-style wood kits, even the earliest, are still available today! Unbuilt but otherwise new kits definitely show up in estate sales, possibly at your local hobby shop, and for sure at places like VTEX's Marketplace. In addition, missing and/or broken parts can be obtained from the company, even if you acquired the kit in a 3rd-party sale. That was a pleasant surprise.

The range of modellers and modeller skills that are present at the RMMBC meet goes from beginner to seasoned scratchbuilder and some attendees might feel a little intimidated by the expertise at the top end. You'll be meeting enthusiasts that uphold the prototype railroad as the guiding light for their modelling initiatives. Maybe you have some modelling skills from years ago and feel rusty and unfamiliar with the current hobby universe. But you also know you have to start somewhere. A well-detailed craftsman structure kit might be just the place to begin. Or why not consider kitbashing an existing one using mixed construction media to produce something closer to your specifications? You'll see examples of both and much much more in the Modellers Display Room. I encourage you to come, get inspired and explore the hobby. You absolutely will find something that starts the gears whirring or maybe, just maybe, sweeps you off your feet. The rest is up to you.

Occasionally I refer readers to interesting weblogs. Recently Coquihalla Man aka Anthony Craig added content to his 'Kettle Valley Model Railway' blog. Always providing a thorough and detailed analysis, Anthony dissects the recent announcement from Rapido Trains of their forthcoming HO scale CPR D10 4-6-0 locomotives and clarifies which of the many model iterations would be best suited for the KVR because of the variety of headlight, numberboard, tender and running board configurations. Rapido Trains website reports the order deadline for the D10 as October 19, 2019 for delivery in 2020. The project status is currently reported as in 3D design.

See: <http://kettlevalleymodelrailway.blogspot.com/2019/03/d-10s-on-kettle-valley.html>

I'm also certain that some readers are likely interested in the RMMBC Ops Sessions that are being coordinated by Scott Calvert and a few may have expressed preference for Anthony's Kettle Valley Model Railway. Scott is

actively creating the assignment lists as we go to press with this issue of the Bulletin Board. Prior to the 2018 RMMBC meet, Anthony posted his operations manual for the Kettle Valley Model Railway to his weblog. Regardless of whether Saturday evening's Kettle Valley Division was on your list (and you are selected), you will probably find plenty of interesting information to better assist you in understanding Ops Sessions in general and Train Order and Timetable systems specifically.

See: [http://kettlevalleymodelrailway.blogspot.com/2018/02/operations-manual-for-kettle-valley\\_9.html](http://kettlevalleymodelrailway.blogspot.com/2018/02/operations-manual-for-kettle-valley_9.html)

Have fun and hope to see you at the RMMBC.

The views and opinions stated in *Editorial Comments* are not intended to reflect those of the NMRA or regions or divisions thereof. As the editor of the BULLETIN BOARD I welcome your comments and opinions regarding the comments made above or any other statements made in this publication. Send your comments to John Stevenson, Editor ([jstevenson@telus.com](mailto:jstevenson@telus.com)).

## Regional News

### Vancouver Train Expo (VTEX) Update

By Tom Lundgren, VTEX Leader (President LMTES)



Here is a brief update. The PNE Forum has been booked November 9-10 for Vancouver Train Expo 2019. Set-up will occur on Friday November 8. The registration forms for exhibitors and vendors will be up on the website in early May. I will provide further updates but in the meantime sign up and attend the Railway Modellers Meet of British Columbia May 3-5. See you there.

### Nanaimo Model Railroad Show

By Ken Rutherford

Well the 35th Annual Nanaimo Model Railroad show is in the books. Taking place on March 10, 2019 at the Beban Park Recreation Center, the attendance was a record 1,250 paid visitors. Of those attending, 35 were NMRA members. There was no shortage of operating layouts in many scales on display. The Victoria Model Railroad club brought their beautiful HO scale layout. The Esquimalt Model Railway club brought two club member home layouts: an N scale sectional design and a Z scale layout. Bill Dixon showed us his TT scale layout in a guitar case. Something new this year was an OO gauge British switching layout which was very well received.

Speaking of switching layouts the Mid Island club from Parksville/Qualicum once again had their HO switching layout that is operated by children with club members offering assistance. Once the child has completed the switching assignments they are given a Junior Engineer certificate. New this year as well was a Lego railroad that was set up by a group from Nanaimo. This layout was awarded the favourite layout as judged by the public (I am sure the many kids in attendance - especially the little ones - had an influence on this!). Also returning was the Vancouver Island Garden Railway club with their G scale display on the auditorium stage. This is always a popular display for the kids (especially the bubble-making car!). A few of the vendors also had small operating displays.



Speaking of vendors, there were 65 sales tables with lots of bargains to be had. One customer showed me a brass Northern Pacific locomotive that needed some work and he only paid \$15 for it. Most vendors that we talked to after the show were very happy with the day. There were also displays by some historical societies and a few clinic tables that engaged the public. I would like to thank Dick Sutcliffe for once again bringing the NMRA display. Dick has done this for many years and we really appreciate his dedication.

As stated above, the attendance was a record and part of that is due to coverage in the Nanaimo News Bulletin, a free newspaper that goes to all homes in Nanaimo. The reporter had seen our advertisement, and with memories of his father who had been a model railroader, interviewed me regarding the show and did a fine article that was published three days before the event. It was a refreshing surprise to hear enthusiastic response from some of the previously unaware public that not only did the show exist, but that it was just great. The other unplanned attraction that helped the attendance was a Vancouver Canucks alumni hockey game that was on in the arena next door to our event, again bringing in people who would not have known of our show.

You'll recall from my last report that the future of the show was uncertain. Someone has stepped forward with an interest in seeing the show continue. Unfortunately he is not a member of the NMRA (I will have to work on that). We are currently in discussion and providing data that will help him make a final decision. When that happens we will be sure to let everyone know and post the date for the next show.

In wrapping up, Rick Lord and I would like to thank all those who participated in the show over the past 35 years either as vendors or tending displays. It has been our pleasure to show the Island public what an enjoyable and fun hobby model railroading is.

## **Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminister and Richmond Subdivision Mini-Meet**

By John Green

*Composed while riding on the Eurostar running at speeds up to 297 KPH between Brussels and London...*

On Saturday morning March 2, about 16 7DPNR members gathered in the the British Columbia Society of Model Engineers clubhouse in Confederation Park. It was an enjoyable day which included four clinics, coffee, snacks, and a nice railway-themed lunch, followed by an opportunity to check out the BSCME equipment sheds, enjoy a ride on the one-eighth full-size scale railway, and visit the extensive raised garden railway.



While this event was primarily organized for the 40 members who reside in Vancouver, Burnaby, New Westminister and Richmond, we welcomed some other members from outside those cities who had expressed interest in attending.

**LEFT: Participants in the 'Making Deciduous Trees' workshop led by Tom Carr pick up supplies; a combination of natural products, coloured ground foam and coloured pigments for scratchbuilding the trees.**

After coffee and fellowship and some brief opening announcements, participants started on the first participation clinic led by Bob Burbeck where we created a small water feature built on a prefabricated base prepared by Bob. The materials used in this project took a while to dry but produced a great result. The second clinic was presented by event organizer Tom Carr who shared ways to create interesting and prototypical trees from both natural and hobby materials. The participants had a good opportunity to try these out and to take the results home to install on their layout.

Time flew and soon it was noon and time for a delicious BCSME famous 'Train Crew Lunch' for participants and the volunteers who made this interesting day possible. After lunch followed tours and train rides. Victor Gilbert provided an interesting vendor's introduction to Digital Command Control. After a short break Victor continued with a second interesting presentation about features available in Java Model Railroad Interface which provides the basis for useful DCC computer applications DecoderPro and PanelPro.

Special thanks are due to several people who made this interesting day possible. First to Tom Carr who arranged for the accommodations at BCSME and recruited the presenters and to his wife Francisca Carr-Vanmulen who cooked and arranged for a delicious lunch. To Kent Cavaghan, Dick Sutcliffe and other BCSME volunteers who helped out leading tours and preparing for our visit... And last but not least, to John Martin and members of the 7DPNR Executive who have encouraged, financed, and enabled local mini-meets throughout our widely dispersed division.

## Model Railway Gathering for Prince George and Quesnel Subdivisions

By Russ Watson

We held another successful Model Railway Gathering (mini-meet) at the Prince George Railway and Forestry Museum on March 24 from 10-4 pm. There were 18 modellers in attendance: five from Quesnel, with the remainder from Prince George.



**ABOVE: The beautiful purpose-built museum main building with attendee and Quesnel Model Railway Club president Roy Zscheidrich patiently waiting for his lunch chauffeur.**

After around-the-room introductions and my sales pitch for everyone to become an NMRA member, two clinics were presented: Modern CN Operations in Prince George by Ted Worsfold (very informative) and New Layout Room Preparation and Track Planning by Jarett Dumas. Then it was off to local restaurants for lunch.

Next on the agenda was the ever popular Model Show-and-Tell where the owners discussed some very interesting items.

The day concluded with three more clinics: Airbrushing With Different Paint Brands by Chris Dittmar; Operating the CNR/PGE Division and Imperial Pacific Lumber Co. (HO Layout) by Ian Mooney; and Intro to Using Printed Photos and Textures to Build Structures by Russ Watson.



ABOVE: For the model show-and-tell, Ian Mooney displayed his kitbashed and scratchbuilt HO scale logging equipment.



ABOVE: Chris Dittmar explaining and demonstrating how he uses a variety of different paints. He also had his super-detailed and decorated N scale BC Rail locomotive on hand.



LEFT: Jarett Dumas presenting his amazing clinic on the huge layout he is planning. Next time you see him be sure to ask how much the track and turnouts alone will cost.

All photos by R. Watson

Director, and Brian Wich, Parts Maintenance for their very warm hospitality and the excellent yummy refreshments! The museum inside and out is completely pet friendly so my dog Roxy enjoyed the day as well! I highly suggest you visit the museum the next time you are anywhere near Prince George. And please check out their website: <http://pgrfm.bc.ca>

I plan to hold the next gathering in Quesnel in mid-September and you are all invited to attend! Stay tuned.

## Fraser Valley Mini-Meet Report

By Larry Sebelley

We held the 3rd Fraser Valley Mini-Meet on Saturday, April 13, 2019 at Columbia Bible College in Abbotsford. The facility would easily accommodate 30 guests in a meeting room with tables and chairs, plus a ceiling-mounted projector, to which a laptop computer can be connected. We educated the seven guests with several hands-on and lecture-style activities.



Larry provided pre-painted freight cars and decal sets (graciously provided by Al Ferguson of Black Cat Decals in Winnipeg), and guided the guests in applying the decals to the freight car each chose, using Microscale Micro Set decal-setting solution. While the decals dried, Victor Gilbert presented his clinic on DCC Fundamentals.

A short lunch break was offered, with many of the guests choosing to partake of the on-site cafeteria's pancake brunch. After brunch, we sprayed the dried, decal cars with matte finish. While we waited for the finish to dry, Victor presented his clinic on mobile decoders, using JMRI's DecoderPro to program locomotives.

The final activity was to use Pan Pastels and Bragdon Weathering Powders to apply some weathering to the newly decal cars.

The next meet will be in the fall. Watch for announcements.

*Editor's Note: Some of you may be seeing terms for the first time. JMRI is short for Java Model Railroad Interface which is a suite of software programs that includes DecoderPro. John Green mentioned clinics using JMRI in his mini-meet report as did Larry above. It is built on Java technology which gives it a degree of computer platform independence. It's a powerful open-source project and the software is distributed free-of-charge. It is very well supported and there is a helpful online user group as well. Read more about it here: <http://jmri.org/>*

*That freedom was hard fought for and significant legal wranglings dragged on for years because the software was used without attribution in a commercial software package. The code writer retaliated against the commercial patent suit by filing a copyright infringement suit. The freedom to provide open-source software without litigative harassment was upheld in court as of February 2010. Read all about it here: <http://jmri.org/k/summary.shtml>.*

## **Railway Modellers' Meet of BC on May 3-5 | Registration Open!**

By Rene Gourley

There's still time to register for the 4th annual Railway Modellers' Meet! This is the NMRA's annual divisional meet, and if you haven't been before, you really need to ask yourself why not? It will be an inspiring weekend focused on your hobby, and I promise you will come home with new skills and eager to tackle your next project.

The organizing committee has been working hard to pull together an outstanding program this year, with presentations by the likes of Lance Mindheim and Geoff Bunza. The layout tour in Surrey introduces two layouts that have never been on the tour before, and with 27 unique hours of clinics and workshops you won't be able to squeeze everything in, but you will always be able to find something of interest.

When you come, remember to bring along one of your projects or a photo. Sharing your work will elevate your enjoyment of the meet and the hobby to the next level.

Find out more at <http://www.railwaymodellersmeetofbc.ca/>

## The 'Down and Dirty' event at Kootenay Express 2019

By Rob Kirkham

By now, most readers of the Bulletin Board will be aware of the 6DPNR meet May 29 to June 2, 2019 in Cranbrook. One of the bonuses for those who can attend is access to the Canadian Museum of Rail Travel!

This unique museum houses an impressive collection of 29 pieces of rolling stock including passenger cars from the wood, heavyweight and lightweight eras. Included are 13 cars available for guided tours, many from the famous 1929 consist of the Trans Canada Limited, the CPR's premier all-sleeper train of the Roaring Twenties. These cars represent a significant part of the CPR heavyweight fleet and, with modifications and re-buildings, served through the '30s, '40s, '50s and early '60s. In addition, the collection includes earlier cars from 1921 and a consist for the 1936 'Chinook' – the speedster of the Edmonton-Calgary line. There is even a tender from one of the CPR's two 4-8-4s! Public tours allow guests to board many of the cars and experience a time gone by.

The funny thing is that for some of us modellers, the outside of the car is a greater focus than the interior. While there are commercial models available in various scales for some of this equipment, there remain lots of choices where an interesting kit-bash or scratchbuilding project can find inspiration.

And so when I first heard about Kootenay Express, I asked whether we could get a different kind of tour. I wanted to get down from the platforms and vestibules, and get a bit dirty, taking the measure of each car with camera, note pad and laser ruler. And so the 'Down and Dirty' event was born. I'm not sure who else will be there, but I sure intend to take part. In fact, I'm kind of hoping I won't be alone. Obtaining good modelling data for this kind of equipment is sometimes very difficult. This is a rare opportunity. But in a short visit, it won't really be possible for one individual to measure and document more than two or three cars at most. To really make the best use of the museum's hospitality, we would do better to be organized. When the idea was shared with a few folks, they suggested I write something for the Bulletin Board. So here it is ...

I'm inviting anyone who (like me) has a desire to document this equipment as accurately as possible to join in a collective visit to the site. Together we can split up the various cars, use a common approach to writing notes and taking photos, and create a great file of information we can share. I plan to have existing drawings and measurements in hand, so I'm not focusing on the basics, but using the time to fill in gaps. You know – those parts of the drawings you can't figure out without getting up close. If you are interested in taking part, please reach out and let me know.

You do not need to have experience. There are all kinds of ways to contribute. Sometimes it is much easier to take measurements with two people. And it is much faster if someone makes notes as photos and measurements are called out. When the work is done, I would hope the group would find ways to share everything so it can be accessed by many. If manufacturers were interested, the idea would be to provide the whole file to them – anything to get more Canadian content on the shelves!

It was suggested that some folks might be interested in getting a little hands-on experience before heading to Cranbrook. I'm on the west coast so remembered the heavyweight passenger car VENOSTA on display in Port Moody at the Port Moody Station Museum, 2734 Murray St. It was previously a CP work car and before that was configured with several different sleeper layouts. If you are interested, send me an email and we can pick a date in May to walk through the process.

I can be reached at [rdkirkham@live.ca](mailto:rdkirkham@live.ca)



## Superintendent's Report

By John Martin

It's a mystery! Some of our members are going to drive all the way from Revelstoke and Quesnel to attend the Modellers Meet (RMMBC) in May. Other folks will come from Alberta and the USA. Meanwhile, many 'local' modellers don't take advantage of this marvellous event. The reasons are as elusive as the Sasquatch.

Take a look at this year's program. (Just type RMMBC into your search engine.) Is there something there that interests you - perhaps the guest speakers, the layout tours, the clinics, the ops sessions? Then why not sign up? Is there something you think you'd like to see next year? Send me an email and tell me – I'd really like to know. Reach me at [jamartin@jdmartin.ca](mailto:jamartin@jdmartin.ca)

This year, there is extra emphasis on managing your time and resources to plan and build a layout. You'll learn something new, whether you're an experienced model railroader or just getting around to finally building something. Come and join us, from wherever you are in BC or the Yukon.

I joined the 7DPNR five years ago because I wanted to start using the stuff I had stored in boxes. I've attended RMMBC every year and it has been well worth my time. I wanted some motivation and inspiration and I got it. You do not need to be a master modeller to enjoy this event – trust me.

Please join your friends at RMMBC!

### Annual General Meeting

The 7DPNR AGM will be held in Vancouver at 7:30 pm on Saturday, Nov 9th, 2019 in The Atrium Inn, (2889 East Hastings St.) during the VTEX 2019 train show (at the PNE Forum). All NMRA members are invited – that's you!

### Nominations

Nominations are open for the position of Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent. The term of office will be for two (2) years, commencing Jan 1, 2020. Dan Rowsell has indicated that he will be stepping down after serving a four-year term as Assistant Superintendent. His efforts on your behalf are greatly appreciated by us all. John Martin is wide open to being replaced as Superintendent. A bloodless coup would be perfect.

### Victoria Model Railway Show

And lastly, despite the conflict with the RMMBC weekend, the Victoria Model Railway Show is coming up soon on May 5, 2019 at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre, 1767 Island Highway, Colwood BC. Hours are 10 am to 4 pm with Operating Model Railroads Layouts, Displays, Commercial and Individual Sales. There will be hourly door prizes. If you have any questions, please contact:

Ted Alexis, Event Coordinator at (250) 595-4070

# Contacts

**Editor's Note:** Due to space limitations, we continue to publish our short list. If you need to refer to the complete list that includes additional appointed positions as well as all area representatives, see it at the [7DPNR.org](http://7DPNR.org) website which is always current. If you can't access that web link, call a member friend for assistance!

The **BULLETIN BOARD** is the official publication of the 7th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region, National Model Railroad Association, Canada. It is distributed to all members in good standing. The Bulletin Board is published bimonthly (except for the early fall edition) in both digital and print versions but we strongly encourage migration to the eVersion. Please advise the Secretary of any change requests.

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Deadlines for material input will be two weeks prior to publication but this is somewhat flexible according to circumstances.

Contributions of Letters, Articles, Event News, Plans, Photographs and Art are encouraged and welcomed and should 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 email your artwork to the Editor and remittance can be discussed and finalized with the Treasurer, payable to the '7th Division PNR/NMRA.

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**Editor's Note:** Postal costs limit most mail-out print editions to 10 pp. though we push that to 12 pp. or more for a special edition. Those receiving the print-only edition will have the BB end with this Contacts page, whereas the eVersion (available online at the 7DPNR website) 'may occasionally' have extended content - extra pages with more pictures and links to additional reading or resources. **If you received the BB as a download via the website, you've got the full content.**