

TTOS



CANADIAN FLYER

1974-2004

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Volume 2 Issue 6 — June 2004

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We had an excellent turn out for the May meeting. According to our Treasurer, **George Plant**, we had 60 members present. Let's see if we can do better than that for our June meeting.

As most of you know, the June meeting is special because of the extra door prizes available. All members receive one draw ticket for every meeting that they have attended during the previous 12 months. There are a total of five prizes -- and I am told that one is an engine. I hope everyone plans to attend.

This will be that last issue of the TTOS Canadian Flyer until September. A change has been implemented to try and keep the cost of printing down. The TTOS Canadian Flyer is now available on line in an extended format.

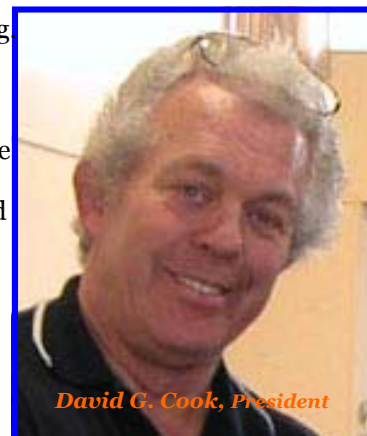
If you check the website, **www.railroadnut.com** you will notice that there are more photos available. If you want to be notified when the newsletter is available online each month, please mail **Gail Ferrier (my wife)** gailferrier@shaw.ca and let her know your email address. The online edition is posted the day that the print version goes to press.... So this way you actually get to have the news sooner.

I should mention that if anyone would like to nominate someone for the executive, please speak to one of the election committee members. **Neil Whitehead, Frank Schmidt** or **Ken Warner** will be happy to accept your nominations. The elections are held annually at our September AGM.

I hope to see a good showing of TTOS members at the Fort Langley Railroad days Celebration, June 19 & 20. The layout belongs to you and it would be great to see some new faces and some different trains to run.

I hope everyone has a great summer and that a few more Canadian Division members will make it to the TTOS Convention in Fresno, California -- August 3 - 7 -- this year.

Best Regards David G. Cook, President



David G. Cook, President



TTOS Canadian Division Ladies:

Always there with a smile --

**L-R Nell Sarrasin, Patricia Shaw
& Martha Pernice**

MEETING DATES

Sunday, June 27

There are no meetings in July & August
but we start up again on

September 26, October 31 & November 28

The last Sunday of each month...

All meetings take place at
Charles Rummel Community Centre
3630 Lozells Ave Burnaby, BC

Doors Open at 12:00

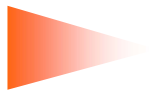
Meeting Starts 13:00

**Door Prizes, Sale Tables,
Lots of Toys, a great auction --
refreshments are served**

Member Photos from May 2004



Come to meetings and visit with toy train enthusiasts like Arnold & Ken



Find Bargains at the monthly Toy Train Auction. Mark Horne is a great auctioneer and there's always some really good deals !



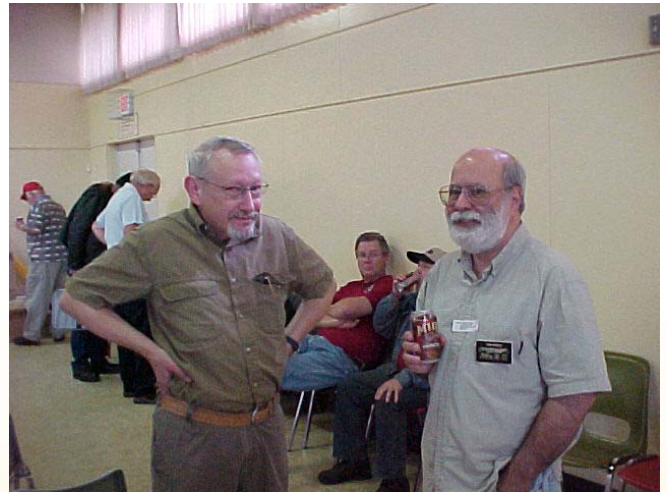
There's always really neat stuff on the member sales tables and at the fabulous auction held at the end of every TTOS Canadian Division Train Meet. Just ask JP Johnson or Clark Grey. They rarely miss an opportunity to "talk" trains



Member Photos from May 2004



*Ed Stephens doesn't go too far without his digital camera....
And he's getting pretty good at taking pictures....
You should come out to the next meeting — June 27 —
and get caught by his lens...*



Member Photos



The guys & gals of the Canadian Division come from all over on the last Sunday of the month to swap toys and stories about their layouts and special finds.



Do you know everyone in these pictures? See them all at the next TTOS Canadian Division Meet, Sunday, June 27 Great Door Prizes this month but you've got to be there to win!



*Monthly Auctions deliver the real goods!
Mark Horne is an excellent auctioneer....
You should come out and see what is offered....*



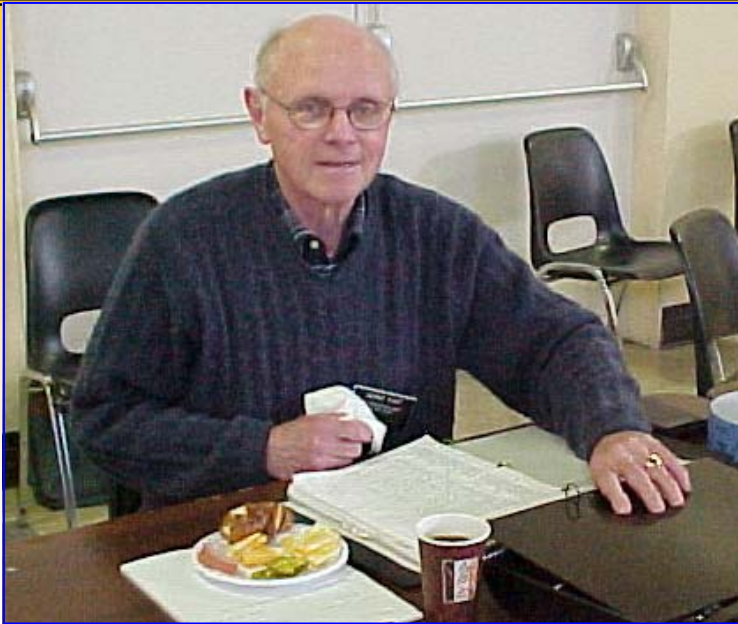
More Member Photos

CHOO CHOO SUIT

Call it the Great Model Train Robbery

M.T.H. Electric Trains of Columbia, MD, accused Lionel LLC, the world's largest model train maker of stealing its designs. MTH sued Michigan-based Lionel and a Korean sub-contractor, sparking an outcry among diehard Lionel model train enthusiasts.

A federal jury, in Detroit, found Lionel guilty and awarded M.T.H. \$40.8 million US



Photos by: Ed Stephens

ACTIVITIES -- YOU SHOULD BE HERE!



JUNE 19–20

FORT LANGLEY RAILWAY DAYS

We all had so much
fun last year!
Plan to bring your
trains out for
show and tell or
just come and run
your club's cars...

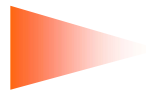
The Island's Largest Annual **MODEL RAILWAY SHOW**

**Sunday, September 26th 2004
10 am–4 pm**

**Cedar Hill Recreation Centre
3220 Cedar Hill Rd., Victoria, BC**

Ample FREE Parking

**Operating Model Railroads —
Popular Vote Contest — Commercial & Individual Sales & Displays**



**Contact: Ted Alexis 250 595 4070
David Tomljenovich 250 652 1894**

**Admission: Adults: \$5.00 Family: \$12.00
Children under 10 FREE with parent admission**



T.T.O.S. National Convention Fresno, California. August 3-7, 2004

For the real toy train enthusiast
Meet fellow collectors — share stories about your
hobby — visit area toy train layouts — have a fabu-
lous time at "The front door to Yosemite"

PUGET SOUND 2004

National Association of S Gaugers

July 10–14 2004

**La Quinta Inn & Conference
Centre Tacoma, WA**

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Gil Hulin, Home telephone: (541) 344-6858.
Work e-mail: ghulin@guardnet.com.
Jerry/Nancy Hildenbrand,.
Home telephone: (541) 745-7235
E-mail: nhildenbrand@proaxis.com



**July 9 – 11, 2004 - Seattle, Washington
The National Model Railroad Association**

**National Train Show®
Seahawks Exhibition Center**

Two Day Adult - \$ 18.00 Youth (6 - 12) - \$ 5.00 Children Under 6 - Free



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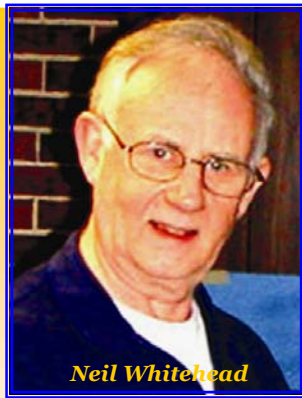
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Neil Whitehead

From the Desk of Neil Whitehead, TTOS National Secretary

Two issues important to members:

1 United States Only issue on EBAY.

I have been asked if we, as a Society, can do anything to remove this discriminatory practice by sellers in the United States.

I can only imagine that this issue must be very important to the U S sellers as they have asked, and EBAY has implemented, a warning to bidders outside the United States (when the seller requests US Only status for his items) that they may not be able to purchase this item as they do not reside in the sellers shipping area -- i.e. the US.

After some research I discovered that the Seller in the US has the right to refuse to sell to any person, and hence, he does not have to sell to buyers outside the US.

When some of these dealers (sellers) were contacted by me, most of them did not want to go through the extra work of filling out and posting the necessary Customs Forms. Others told me that they were being asked to lie about the price paid for the item on the customs form and since to do so is a Federal Crime they refuse to do it and therefore refuse to deal outside of the United States.

2 The complaint by some members that they cannot get the price they paid or want for an item when putting it up for Table Sales or Auctions at our meets.

We should all note that very few items have held their original 1990's value as the flood of new and improved items has diverted the desire of most train buffs to the newer, more efficient toy train items.

One of the things I hear from members in Washington, Oregon, and California is that TMCC and the new sound systems have enhanced their enjoyment of operating the newer items and so they are not looking to operate the older Lionel equipment.

Older Lionel Locomotives had mechanical E-Units that took 8 to 9 Volts to operate and once the E-Unit was aligned for forward or reverse direction the Loco lurched ahead at medium to high speed with little or no control over the train.

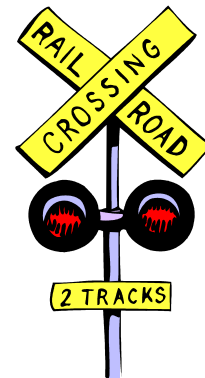
The new units, on the other hand, offered by Lionel, MTH, Weaver, Atlas and K-Line; have Electronic or Command-controlled systems and operate more realistically than the Jack Rabbit performance of the older units.

The recent sales on EBAY, and the low prices, indicate a change in the Hobby-buying public mindset. The older trains seem to be selling at the lower end of the price scale. Most of the people I spoke with informed me that they do not run their collectables and just put them on the shelf as antiques while they run the new TMCC or DCS equipped units and the newer scale cars.

It seems that the Computer chip has changed the enjoyment of Toy Trains more than we think -- soon only the very rare items will bring good dollar prices.

In summation: The seller has the right to refuse to sell to anyone and the addition of Computer technology has changed the buying habits of a lot of Toy Train Hobbyists.

Neil Whitehead...National Secretary



Another Piece of Toy Train History Disappears!

Original Lionel Toy Train Factory Burns to the Ground



Police and fire officials state the fire that destroyed the historic building in Irvington, New Jersey on April 12, 2004 is "still under investigation."

The building which was the site of the Lionel Train Factory, the prominent model train production company that saw its heyday in the earlier part of the 20th century. The building was sold in 1942 and became home to the Perma Foam Factory but has been vacant for the last 10 years.