

COOTTS ISLAND NEWS

JANUARY 2024

BY KEN LOCKLEY

This publication is an outreach to try and keep the O gauge enthusiasts on Vancouver Island connected.

Looking back to 2010, Robin Dodson started Cootts (Collectors Of Old Toy Trains) with the help of people like Brian Driscoll in the North end of the Island and Bill Stephenson about as far South as you can get. At that time, Cootts Meets became sponsored by the CTTA which is a very important aspect.

For many years Gary Walmsley kept the communication's going. Basically a lot of us have enjoyed the meets whether they were 4 times a year, then down to 3 times and now twice a year. The last couple of swap meets we have had very low attendance about 12-15. We need to get the numbers up guys, 18-20, would keep us going into the future. That's what this publication is all about. Let's not lose the contacts!!! I hope you enjoy what you see in the next few pages. Producing any type of publication and getting content is a challenge and I would welcome any pictures of your layout or collections and of course, write ups would be great. Also keep us informed on what Railroad activities are happening in your area of the Island.
K.L.



October 2023 Cootts

Meet

Door Prize winners: Ken Showers and Ken Lockley.

MTH boxcars donated by Stewart Vinnels. Door prizes at every Cootts meet.



Heather Hadland-Dudoward, manager of the North Pacific Cannery receives on Nov. 25, from Dave Walker, president and longtime member of the Grand Trunk Pacific Model Railroad Club, the lifetime collection of scale replica model trains and yard that have been built and developed by the club. (Photo: K-J Millar/The Northern View)

The picture above caught my interest because years back Bill Stephenson use to recieve Locomotives from the “Grand Truck Pacific Model Railroad Club that needed servicing. . Every Winter he would service some of the rolling stock the club sent to him. The newspaper, “The Northern View”, has done a very good article about what’s happened to the club and it’s future with the “North Pacific Cannery“. I believe there is a 1000 ft of track in the display above.

Look it up it’s an interesting read!!

Talking about service and repair, you will notice on the last page of this publication an ad by Brian Driscoll. For those of you that don’t know, Brian has been at our O gauge game for many years and is a good source of parts and repairs. Also estate sales !!!

We had planned for 10 –12 members to share a “Hot Dog” lunch and a business meeting. Our group sold off the trailer and contents earilier in the Fall. There were a few loose ends that needed to be attended to and also discuss a coarse of future action. In attendance were: Jim Sutherland, Russ Etherington, Ken Showers, Ken Bowman, Ron Hillsden, Ladi Kusnyerick, Dick Braunschweig, Don Matthews, Andre Archambault and Ken Lockley hosting the event.



Pictures by Ron Hillsden

Unfortunately : We lost Mike Woodley and George Hammond in the last year !!!

IS YOUR LAYOUT GETTING STALE ????

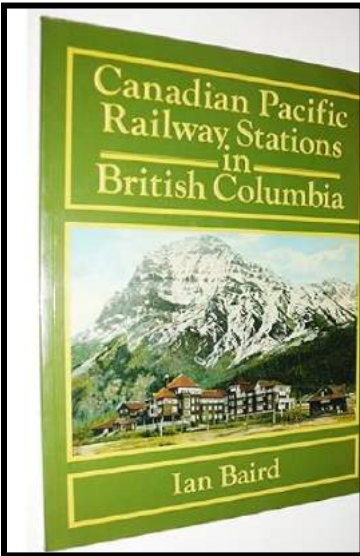
All of us from time to time find our enthusiasm ebbing and flooding, believe me it's normal. If you're a serious collector, finding a couple of special pieces might be all you need. Many of us and myself included are a bit of a collector, user and layout manager. Have you recently looked at your lighting possibilities, think of your layout as a stage for performers, this needs special lighting and the ability to keep the audience in semi dark atmosphere to make the most of the stage. Why not do this with your layout? Plan using portable desk lighting and a few power bars and place spot lights above the areas on the layout of special interest. The pictures on this page show what we have done in areas of our layout.

I can't lay claim to this idea, the current issue of Railroad Model Craftsman has a great article by Paul Boehlert on page 36.



The inexpensive Noma Swing Arm Desk lamp can easily be used. They are available at Walmart for under \$30.00

Your layout is a stage for the illusion that you the builder is trying to create . Piles of stuff hanging around takes away from any realism achieved on the layout. Keep you layout tidy.



Many of you model railroaders will have picked up copies of the books that Ian has written over the last 30 years. Ian's interest in railroads goes back many years, he's a historian on the subject of CPR and CNR Stations. He has produced four publications on the subject. Books have been his life, as career librarian for the University of Victoria.

Ian is going to feature a few special interest books for our newsletter with each issue. He has O gauge inside and G gauge outside and a house full of books.

A Short History of the Newfoundland Railway:

by Ian Baird

The former Newfoundland Railway has long held an interest for those interested in railroad history. Construction started on the 16 August 1881 from St. Johns. At its completion it operated from St. Johns to Port-Aux-Basques, a distance 547 miles. The railway was chartered by the Government of the British Colony on May 9th, 1881. The narrow gauge of 3 feet 6 inches was selected. It was completed to Port-Aux-Basques in 1897. Branch lines were extended to other communities along the route.

The formal opening of the railway took place at St. Johns when the train left at 7PM on Wednesday June 29th, 1898 and arrived Port-Aux-Basque at 10:45 PM on the following day, taking 27 hours and 45 minutes for the 547 miles run. Moving ahead in time, the railroad became part of the Canadian National Railway when Newfoundland joined confederation in April 1/1948. However, space does not permit the story of the running and later the slow death of the Newfoundland Railway. On September 30th, 1988 the Newfoundland Railway was abandoned by Canadian National Railway Ltd. The books listed below give a good account of the Newfoundland Railway.

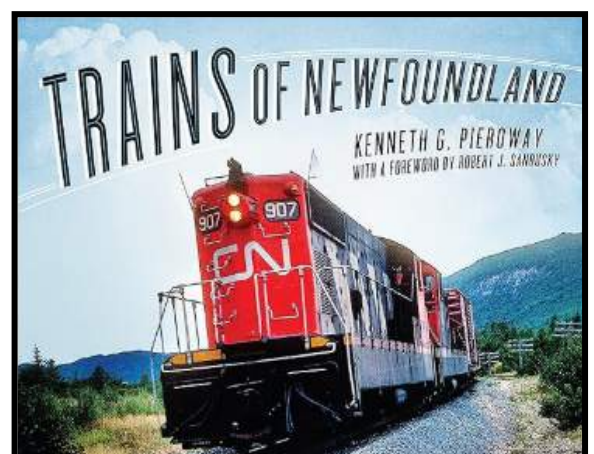
Cook. Clayton: Tales of the Rails

Dorin. Patrick: The Canadian National Railways

Lavaliee. Omer: Narrow Gauge Railways of Canada

Lingard. Mont: The Newfie Bullet

Kenneth G. Pieroway: Trains of Newfoundland



January 21– 22/2024	GREAT AMERICA TRAIN SHOW Fair Grounds at Puyallup Wa. This is the largest Show in our Pacific Northwest region.
February 24-25 2024	United Northwest Swap Meet and Train Show held at Evergreen State Fair grounds, Monroe, Washington.
MARCH 23-24 2024	SEA TO SKY MODEL TRAIN AND HOBBY SHOW AT Squamish BC.
APRIL 14 2024	THE NANAIMO TRAIN SHOW 10AM-4PM Bebin Park Reck Centre.
April 21 2024	Coots Meet Oliver Woods Rec. Center, Nanaimo, 1-4PM

OBITUARY:

George Hammond (Dec.6/1940-Nov.5/2023).

Long time member of the Victoria CTTA and TCA passed away in November. Gorge will be remembered by the Victoria group for his continual support of our activities as well as providing transport for many years to the Burnaby meets .

Farewell to another "Collector"



Westshore Recreation Centre September 2013

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email; lazorr 33@gmail.com

Canadian Toy Train Ass. Burnaby Meets .

January January 28/24

February February 25/24

March March 31/24

April April 28/24

Hope to see you there !!!!! KL.

CANADIAN TOY TRAIN ASSOCIATION:

LARGELY FOCUSED ON "O" GAUGE TRAINS .

WANT TO BECOME A MEMBER? OR RENEW YOUR MEMMBERSHIP? CONTACT:

James Barrett 604 939 8035 or barrettjd007@gmail.com