

# COOTTS ISLAND NEWS

WINTER 2025 EDITION issue # 4

BY Ken Lockley

Our November 3/24 Cootts meet was small in numbers but actually quite a few \$\$\$ changed hands. What really helped, James Cook and Brian Driscoll brought a lot old Lionel gear that is part of a estate sale they are working on. I certainly did well as I sold all that I took, three tank cars and an F-3 Locomotive .

Russ E. took on the M.C. roll and auctioneer and did a great job. The donuts and juice boxes all went!! Next time we are going to try muffins instead of donuts .

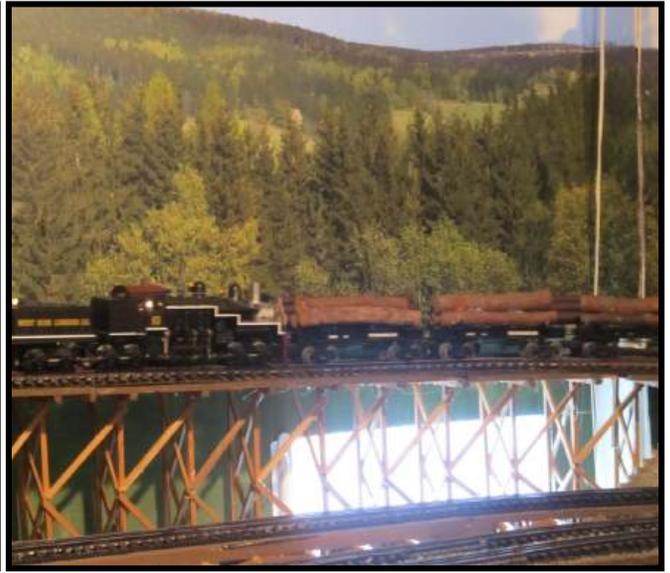
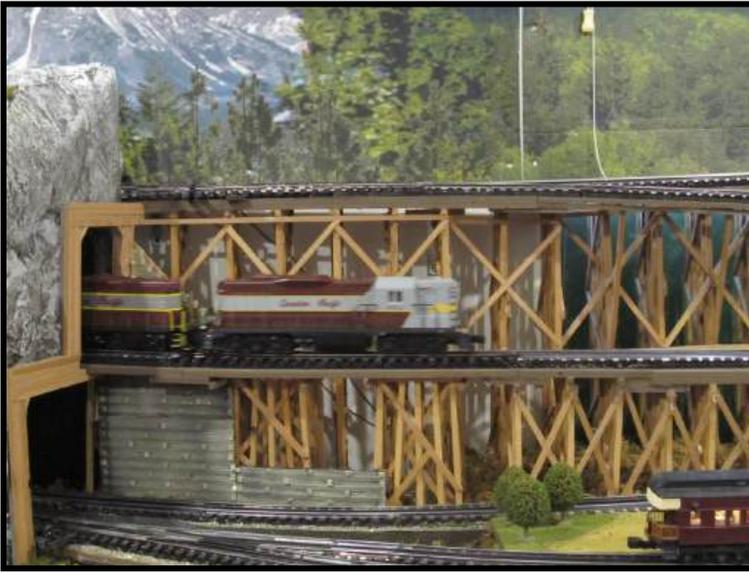
We had one new guy and I believe he enjoyed the experience.

The weather was great for driving with no problems for Carl, James and Brian from up Island and the same for the South Island Drivers .



There's nothing as much fun as looking at tables of train stuff for sale. O gauger's seem to be born traders. We end up often buying back what have previously sold. That's why we all need to keep Cootts going for the Island O gaugers !!!





UP ISLAND LAYOUT TOURS, MAY20/24:

We arrived at Brian's in the early afternoon and spent a pleasant hour talking trains and seeing his current layout. The first thing I saw was a Shay locomotive climbing the wall with switch back tracks. This part of the layout depicts the 1940's – to the late 1960's, logging and sawmill operation we saw on many areas of Vancouver Island at that time. To create this effect there are 320 trestle bents in varying heights, in a room 30 x 13 ft., that was two, 2nd. level bedrooms. The main part of the layout has 47 switches in operation and also double cross overs as well as using three, four way cross overs. This is all with Gargraves 72" and 88" preformed curved track. I believe all the turnouts are "Ross".

Well done Brian!!!!

There are a number of buildings from kits being nicely finished and enhancing the theme of the layout. What I appreciated the most was the mixing of GP-7 and 9s with GP 20's all in the CPR Tuscan and grey livery. This combo of 5-6 diesels makes his main operating motive power. I loved this selection engines because that's what we saw back in the period Brian is modeling.

Thanks for your Time Brian!!!

Later that same afternoon Lois and I visited James Cook and his wife at their William's Beach home that's located near Merville.

The Spring edition of this publication we will feature James Cook's layout which is also impressive. The Cook's share their home with one very large friendly dog!!!!



### **Fred Webb's collection on the move.**

Mark Horne came over to take Fred's collection to the mainland for an estate sale.

Victoria CTTA guys ; Russ Etherington, Ken Bowman, Ron Hillsden, Andre Archambault, Ladi Kusnyerik, Jim Sutherland and Ken Lockley came to help with loading and getting a chance to purchase a very small part of the collection.



I think it was Carl Johnson from Port Albernie, a number of years ago said, that if your layout gets a bit stale take it apart and start again. That's what I have been doing, I started in early November with the layout you see in pictures 1-3. This layout had lots curves and two levels. It was fine for many years but unmovable should the need arise.

The new layout, pics 3-6 is going to be more of a switching design and long straight runs.

This project is going to keep me busy for the next few months as well as having a lot of fun laying track. K.L.





The poster above says a lot! I have come to the conclusion that once you purchase a second locomotive your are a collector. We collectors can have specialty areas of interest but it's a very infectious pastime for sure. For some it's an addiction and sometimes lifelong. For myself, the best times I have had is being in "York" looking for good deals to bring home and adding to my collection. I thank Mark Horne for those trips he makes possible each year. KL.

"Clint's Train Room":

This is a tremendous site for researcher's of specific model train manufactures world wide. A hugh amount time has gone into this site and is one of a number of sites to help the collector find what he or she wants. Check it out. [clintjefferies .com](http://clintjefferies.com)



Project Roar Publication, produces several excellent books like above, also worth checking into.

**In Fond Memory of**  
**Cliff Cox**  
Dec. 10, 2024



Picture of Cliff dated Oct.20 23 by Valerie Braunschweig

Cliff Cox;  
December 9/2024,Cliff passed away with heart related difficulties. Cliff was a avid fisherman and hunter as well being very much part of the Victoria CTTA. He supported the clubs activities for many years and made himself a good person to turn to if you had train related problems. The picture above shows him at one our local CTTA meets. He will be missed by his train buddies and his family. KL.

January 18-19/2025	GREAT TRAIN SHOW AT PUYALLUP, WA.
FEBUARY 22-23/2025	UNITED NORTHWEST TRAIN SHOW, MONROE WA.
MARCH 8/2025	WIILLANETTE MODEL R.R. CLUB SWAP MEET KLIEVER ARMORY, 1000 N.E. 33 RD. DRIVE. PORTLAND, OREGON.
APRIL 13/2025	NANAIMO TRAIN SHOW 10AM - 4PM BEBAN PARK, NANAIMO, BC.
MAY 4/2025	COOTTS MEET, 12-3 PM. OLIVER WOODS CENTER. NANAIMO BC.

### CTTA ANNUAL BUS TRIP TO THE GREAT TRAIN SHOW AT PUYALLIP, WA.

This is a Annual event and a great way to see the Puyallup Show and also two other Train Shops in the Seattle area. If interested please contact James Cook for details etc.

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778 554 1110

### BRIAN DRISCOLL

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**Our Cootts Meets:** Are largely possibly because of our affiliation with the CTTA. If you are a O Gauger and not already a member of this 200 strong association. why not join. For \$25.00 you get a monthly newsletter. A website with buys and sells as well other areas of interest.

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