

Mid Island Report 2016 - by Ken Rutherford

Activities

- I would like to recognise the North Island Model Railroaders who hosted their 18th annual model railroad display in the Campbell River Museum in January. They had 907 visitors. They received many compliments and answered lots of question about model railroading. Thanks guys for your continued promotion of the hobby
- April - Nanaimo Train Show was another success. Public attendance was 1005. Layouts on display included North Island Model Railroaders HO, Ken Peacock & Rick Slingerland both On30, Sterling Stump HO switching layout that allows kids to be the engineer, and the Vancouver Island Garden Railway club had G scale track set-up on the stage to allow kids to chase the trains. Vendors did well. The show made a profit and we are pleased to again donate \$500 to the 7th Div. This makes the total amount donated over the past 32 years \$10,159. (next year's show is scheduled for April 2)
- Summer – Vancouver Island Garden Railroad Club had another successful series of open houses. From Duncan to Courtenay and over to Port Alberni with stops in between. The group has approx. 40 members.
- October saw the first meeting of the Vancouver Island Model Railroaders take place at the museum in Shawnigan Lake. About 32 members attended. Robert Turner was the guest speaker and the topic was the Kinsol Trestle. Following a luncheon the modelers took a trip to the actual trestle. This group has organized my former members of C.A.R.M. who have decided that they would rather form a loose nit organization that will benefit modelers on the Island. Membership is open to all modelers and they have a mailing list of over 50 people.
- Steam trains are still a popular attraction on Vancouver Island with both the Duncan Forest Discovery Center and the Alberni Pacific Railway providing enjoyable rides throughout the summer.

Ken Rutherford
Sub Division representative