

7th Division, PNR, NMRA Fraser Valley Report

November 2018

In March 2018 and again in September we arranged Fraser Valley Subdivision mini-meets held at Columbia Bible College in Abbotsford. Some 10 Fraser Valley members chose to attend, during which we constructed a wooden team track loading dock, discussed the installation of a decoder and LED lights into an Atlas diesel locomotive, programmed said locomotive using DecoderPro, and painted the base and coated it with Envirotex to learn “water” techniques. Future events will likely be arranged in March and September 2019.

The Abbotsford Model Railway Club continues to expand and develop its layout in Abbotsford farm country. I have been unable to arrange a visit to view the layout, but hope to in the new year.

The AMRC can be contacted at abbotsfordmodelrailwayclub@hotmail.com.

The Chilliwack Model Railway Club continues to develop its N-scale modular layout based on NMRA standards. They attend as many events as they are able, and were recently at the Mt. Cheam Lions Train and Hobby Show in Chilliwack.

Coldslap Free-mo, also based in Chilliwack, continues to develop its HO-scale modular layout fully compliant with the North American Free-mo standards. In June 2017 they sponsored the annual BC Free-mo Meet in Chilliwack. The event attracted participants from as far away as Calgary, Quesnel, Washington and Idaho. All enjoyed the two-day weekend run.

In August 2018 Coldslap Free-mo joined many other groups and individuals at the annual Alberta Free-mo event in Big Valley AB. A layout built of some 1,125 benchwork feet was constructed upon which we operated trains for 2 ½ days.

Coldslap Free-mo has just returned from the Mount Cheam Lions Hobby and Train Show, which was another successful meet with several non-member participants joining.

Anyone with an interest in pursuing the Free-mo concept is welcome to visit www.coldslapfreemo.org/welcome.htm and/or to contact the group. The group will be pleased to mentor anyone with a strong interest in Free-mo. They are undertaking a foray into signalling in accordance with the California MSS signal system, and plan to have all modules operational very soon.

I invite all model railroaders in the Fraser Valley area to send me news, photos and updates on their activities; digital submissions only please. I am always looking for something interesting for this report. I can be contacted at sebelley@shaw.ca.

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