

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE PNR FROM THE 4th DIVISION

2004-2005 was a very good year for the 4th Division. We continued our momentum from PSX 2004 and, as a result, fun new things happened in the Division.

The 4D Board of Directors adopted and began implementing the 5-year plan for the Division.

The Division partnered with the Model Railroad Industry Association (MRIA) to put on a new public show in June named Puget Sound Express 2005. It was deemed a success for a 1st year show by the manufacturers, vendors, and layouts who participated. The show beginning in 2006 will have a new name: **“The Washington State Train Show & Swap Meet,”** and will be held June 3-4, 2006. We offered core skill clinics during the show as part of implementing our new educational program.

Our annual show at the Pacific Science Center was changed after 30 years from Thanksgiving weekend to the 3rd weekend in January (Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend). We had a very successful transition. The 32nd Annual show will be held January 14-16, 2006.

The Division continues to offer 8 monthly clinics around Western Washington. We currently sponsor clinics in Anacortes, Monroe, Eastside (Bellevue), Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia, Bremerton, and Ocean Shores. Our Alaska section is alive and well, and very active in Anchorage and Fairbanks.

The Division added five new MMR's to the ranks and has taken on the challenge to achieve many more. Our new MMR's are actively working with members to get items judged, paperwork completed and submitted. We have recently awarded many Golden Spike Awards.

We continue to publish our newsletter, *The Grab Iron*. It is published monthly, except for July and August. We successfully created an electronic version on our web site (www.4dpcnr.org). Currently it is accessible to all. Starting September 1, only members will be able to access it. We have implemented a \$5 subscription fee to receive a paper copy.

Our Yahoo group continues to grow and is quickly developing into a tool for members to communicate. For the BOD, it has served as a quick way to get messages out to members.

We have managed to maintain a membership of 500. We are putting new efforts into re-railing members who have forgotten to renew. We will be gaining approximately 200 members as of September 1.

The Division continues to drive ahead for 2005-2006 and we invite you to join us if you're in the Puget Sound area.

Happy Railroading!

**Kevin Oleson, Superintendent
4th Division-PNR-NMRA**