

THE FLIMSY BOARD

Train No. 3 Vol. 43

Issue: March 2018



Night fall at the 27th Annual Washington State Model Train Show and Marketplace, Monroe, WA
(photographer unknown)

NEXT CLUB EVENTS:

March 5, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton

March 5, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton

March 13, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton



The Semaphore Board

March 2018

The show in Monroe was a success. Though we were shorthanded, we had adequate numbers for keeping trains running. It would be nice to have extra folks there so that we could have members have time available for shopping they wanted to do and still keep all lines running not to mention for trouble shooting. When I sent the crew schedule out, I suggested that if someone wanted to do some shopping, they could shop during their run time provided they tell the other engineers of their desires and schedule their shopping to keep at least two trains running. I don't believe anyone took advantage of that, but they may have.

Saturday, we found some kinked rail and had to repair that and Sunday we had a similar but different problem. The rail wasn't kinked as much as bowed and the ballast (yes, we have two areas where ballast was placed) got in the way of correcting the bow. In both the instances, the main culprit was temperature change closing any gaps at the rail ends, mainly at turnouts. The turnouts were supposed to be floating so that they could be removed quickly if needed. On Sunday, the problem was exacerbated by the ballast glue that held the turnout ties. It took about an hour and much frustration to resolve.

In the future, we should leave about 1/16 inch at the rail connections and not drive them butted against each other. The rails do expand and contract.

Another problem we had was we lost power at Dansville when west bound on the branch line. The apparent cause was the power distribution box working out of its socket. This may have occurred when DC power was shifted over from a fixed power pack on the table to the remote-control unit. This problem will be easier to troubleshoot when we install the power indicator lights.

We had our normal interference occasionally of which we have never been able to track down a source.

During the months of January and February, Dansville received an upgrade to the scenery and structures. Thank you, Bob and Bill, for your efforts.

On the engine terminal, the yard polarity switch is now a 4PDT switch and that should eliminate shorts when entering and leaving the turntable.

Bert has been busy working on standards for the N-TRAK Division's new modules. I'm sure he would appreciate any help you can give even if you have no intention of changing from HO scale to N. Also, as I have found, the more eyes looking at a document, the better it becomes for clarity and functionality.

April is a busy month. We have two shows scheduled. The first is at Retsil on the 14th and 15th and second is in Poulsbo on the 28th and 29th. Find the signup sheet for the Retsil show in this Flimsy Board.

Please note the change to the schedule. We have reserved a location for our September meeting as noted in the activity schedule in this Flimsy.

Tom Barrett

BNMR Year Schedule:

March 5, 2018 –6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
March 5, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
March 13, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
April 2, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
April 2, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
April 13 – 15, 2018 – SHOW – Retsil Veterans’ Home Show, Port Orchard
April 10, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
April 27 – 29, 2018 – SHOW – Brookdale Montclair Poulsbo
May 7, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
May 7, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
May 8, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
June 4, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
June 4, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
June 12, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
June 16, 2018 – BNMR Swap Meet, Bremerton
July 2, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
July 2, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
July 10, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
August 6, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
August 6, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
August 14, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
August 19 – 27, 2018 – SHOW –Kitsap County Fair, Bremerton (TBC)
September 10, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
September 10, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, (**delayed one week because of Labor Day**), at Central Kitsap Presbyterian Church, 9300 Nels Nelson Rd NW, Bremerton
September 11, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
October 1, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
October 1, 2018 - 7:00 p.m. BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
October 5 – 7, 2018 – SHOW –Lynden Lions Model Train Show, Lynden
October 9, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
November 2-4, 2018 – SHOW – Retsil Veteran’s Home Show, Port Orchard
November 5, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
November 5, 2018 - 7:00 p.m., BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
November 13, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
December 3, 2018 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
December 3, 2018 – Annual Election Meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
December 11, 2018 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
January 7, 2019 - 6:30 p.m., Annual Dinner & BNMR Business Meeting, at The Family Pancake House on Kitsap Way, Bremerton.
January 8, 2019 – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, 7:00 P.M. at United Way Building, Bremerton,
January 18-21, 2019 – Pacific Science Center Show, Seattle (no K W layout)
February 4, 2019 – 6:00 p.m. Board meeting, Contact the President to confirm.
February 4, 2019 - 7:00 p.m. BNMR Business meeting, at United Way Building, Bremerton
February 12, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. NMRA 4th Division Clinic, at United Way Building, Bremerton
February 22-24, 2019 – SHOW – United North West Train Show & Marketplace, Monroe

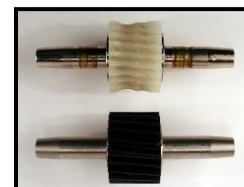
NEUMANN'S CROSSINGS



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Atlas Model Railroad Company, Inc. (<http://www.atlasrr.com/>): Atlas is planning to release their Universal Signal Control System in 2018. This release will feature new capabilities across all scales while maintaining backward compatibility for existing users of Atlas signal products. The updated system is based around a universal control board suitable for all modeling scales (N, HO, O), maintaining the same communication cabling as our existing boards – the new boards can therefore be easily integrated directly into your current signaling layout without the need to upgrade or change a thing! Your existing Atlas signals will also plug right in. Most importantly, either common anode or common cathode signals can now utilize the new board, as both modes are supported, allowing you to even mix both types in the same layout, should your signaling needs require it! The new signal control board will operate either stand-alone, or as part of an integrated block system, and includes options to enable approach-only operation, 2 or 3 block indications, PRR and B&O style position / color lights and will support flashing and lunar white aspects as appropriate. Atlas will also be releasing new signal heads, masts, and signal bridges as part of this system. These will include a variety of signals from the recently acquired BLMA line, appropriately adapted for plug-and-play convenience with the Universal Signal Control board, as well as those you are familiar with from Atlas.

Northwest Short Line (<http://nwsl.com>): Happy day! New NWSL products are few and far between, unfortunately, but here's one we just finished. This is an axle assembly from a 3-axle Aristocraft power truck; at bottom is the factory axle (injection-molded gear; plated brass half axles) and at the top is our replacement; machined Celcon gear and solid stainless-steel stub axles. Part #2733-6 for the entire assembly, or we offer just the gear or just the stub axles.



M.T.H. Electric Trains (<https://mthtrains.com/>): O Gauge: MTH has just released a RailKing O Gauge 4-Bay Cylindrical Hopper Car for the Lone Star Hi-Railers Model Train Association to celebrate their 10th anniversary. This limited offering is sold exclusively through the **Lone Star Hi-Railers**. Painted in the burgundy red and ivory colors of the famous Grapevine Vintage Railroad excursion train. The car is numbered 152017 and features the club's steam and diesel logos. The club's milestone "Established in 2007" is featured on one side and Grapevine's 129-year railroad heritage on the other. The Lone Star Hi-Railers club was formed in 2007 and created a 65 by 9.5-foot detailed O gauge layout in a real baggage car in Grapevine's historic rail area. Item No. 30-75575 Lone Star Hi-Railers 4-Bay Cylindrical Hopper Car (*Price: \$54.95 + \$12.00 shipping*) To order the car for

NEUMANN'S CROSSINGS



immediate delivery send check or money order payable to: LSHR Club Car, Attn: Eric Haist, 1517 Arrowhead Lane, Carrollton, TX 75007-6021

Walthers (www.walthers.com): This month's new HO Scale product announcements are sure to be popular! New WalthersMainline® announcements EMD F7 diesels available with ESU sound and DCC or as standard DC models, a newly tooled 60' High-Cube Plate F Boxcar and new roadnames for the popular International Bay Window Caboose. Last but not least, the all-new Walthers Cornerstone® Company House will add realism near all kinds of mining and logging operations.

RAILROAD TRIVIA

How many miles of track make up the Montana Rail Link system?

(Answer in next month's Flimsy)

Answer to last month's question:

What is the northern-most reach of a North American Rail Road?

The current northernmost point is Fort St. John (56 degrees 24 minutes) on Canadian National by a slight margin over the Alaska RR.

Other notables:

Hay River, NWT: 60 degrees 49 minutes 59 seconds

Fort Nelson, BC: 58 degrees 48 minutes 21 seconds

Churchill, MB: 58 degrees 46 minutes 9 seconds

Skagway, AK: 59 degrees 28 minutes 7 seconds

Anchorage, AK: 61 degrees 13 minutes 6 seconds