

THE FLIMSY BOARD

Train No. 2 Vol. 45

<http://www.bnmrr.org>

Issue: February 2020



[BNMR is a 100%
NMRA Member Club](#)

February 3rd meetings:

Board 6:00 pm.

Business 7:00 pm.

Clubhouse, Kitsap Mall,
Silverdale.



VP Bob Jensen presents the Member of the Year Award to incoming President Bruce Himmerick. *Photo by Bill Hupé*

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THE FLIMSY BOARD

Official Publication of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad, Inc

The club is incorporated in the State of Washington as a non-profit and is recognized by the IRS as a 501 (c)(7) social club. We are a 100% National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) membership club. We belong to the NMRA's Pacific Northwest Region (PNR), 4th Division.

FLIMSY BOARD STAFF:

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Submittal deadline is the 25th of the month. Copyright 2020 BNMR, Inc.

Unless otherwise noted photos are by the Editor.

MEETINGS NOTICE:

The regular Business meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at the clubhouse in the Kitsap Mall, Silverdale, beginning at 7:00 PM. If the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting will be rescheduled to the second Monday of the month. The January meeting is our annual dinner meeting held at a local restaurant.

Board meetings are held at a time and place set by the President. Refer to the Calendar below.

OFFICERS:

President:..... Bruce Himmerick
Vice President: Bob Jensen
Secretary: Bill Hupé
Treasurer : Wes Stevens
Sergeant-at-Arms: Ray Hagele
Directors:..... Bert Cripe, Mike Boyle,
Dick Stivers, Russell West

Web Site:..... <http://www.bnmrr.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1988490354736510/>

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

3rd, 6:00 pm Board Meeting, Clubhouse, Kitsap Mall, Silverdale
3rd, 7:00 pm Business Meeting, Clubhouse, Kitsap Mall, Silverdale
11th, 7:00 pmNMRA 4th Division Clinic at United Way Building, Bremerton
22nd -23rdUnited Northwest Train Show & Marketplace, Monroe.

2020 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Visit the PNR, 4D Website (<http://4dpmr.com/events/>) for complete listing of Division events

For activities in all Divisions of the Pacific Northwest Region, visit the PNR Timetable: (<http://pmr.nmra.org/>)

February 3, 6 pm – Board meeting at Kitsap Mall.

February 3, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

February 11, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

February 22-23 – United Northwest Train Show & Marketplace, Monroe, <http://www.unwclub.com/>

(TBD) March – Board meeting.

March 2, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

March 10, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

March 21 – LK&R Model RR Club Train Show and Swap Meet, Three Rivers Mall, Kelso, <http://lkrtrains.yolasite.com/>

(TBD) April – Board meeting.

April 6, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

April 14, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

April 21 - 24 – Make Tracks to Eugene, 2020, PNR Convention, Eugene, <http://www.MakeTracksToEugene.com>

(TBD) May – Board meeting.

May 4, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

May 12, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

May 22-24 – 5th Annual Railway Modellers Meet of BC, Coldstream, BC: <http://railwaymodellermeeetofbc.ca/>

(TBD) June – Board meeting.

June 1, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

June 9, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

June 20, 10:00 am – BNMR Swap Meet – Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

(TBD) July – Board meeting.

July 6, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

July 14, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

(TBD) August – Board meeting.

August 3, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

August 11, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

September 7 – Labor Day – Business meeting moved one week to the 14th.

September 8, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

September 14, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale (delayed one week due to Labor Day).

(TBD) September – Board meeting.

(TBD) September 19-20 – North Olympic Peninsula Railroaders Train Show & Swap Meet, Port Angeles.

(TBD) October 3-4 – Lynden Lions Train Show, Lynden.

October 5 – Board meeting, contact the President to confirm.

October 5, 7:00 pm – Business meeting, at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Over the past several weeks I have been looking at old copies of *Model Railroader* magazine from the collection donated to the club.

I was not active in the hobby from the mid-70s through the mid-90s. So I have focused my attention on issues from those years. It seems to me the hobby, and the magazine as well, has shifted focus away from scratch-building and kitbashing towards “ready to run” (RTR). I recall the term RTR was advertised a great deal in the late-50s and early 60s.

It seems to me since the manufacturers are producing so many quality items that modelers had to make in the past the hobby has become almost RTR.

I realize the hobby magazines rely upon modelers to supply many of the articles published and thus the articles published reflect the current trends in the hobby.

I am not suggesting this is a bad thing just my perception. It is still very possible for a person to undertake a scratch built project just as in the past if the desire is there. Perhaps what we have now is the possibility to build a much more detailed layout with less effort or required skill. This is good for those of us whose goal is a finished and operational layout that looks good.

I guess the vision of a quality, highly detailed layout is still required, but now more time can be devoted to operating a layout.

Perhaps it is my age or nostalgia that causes me to prefer the ways of the past, but at least anyone can pursue those methods if they wish to!

While browsing those old magazine issues mentioned above, I found switching puzzles articles. I am not particularly interested in doing the puzzles on paper - I much prefer doing that sort of thing with the rolling stock on my layout.

But what I did notice is that the track plans used to illustrate the puzzles are very interesting and could be adapted to modular model railroading. I think we should consider adapting some of them to NTRAK modules. I'll address that in a future article.

.... BC



My First HO Scale Freight Car January 20, 1970



With Other Freight Cars and Motive Power Bought in Early 1970s

Photos submitted by Steve Strauss

N SCALE DIVISION REPORT

January was a very busy month for us.

A big effort was made to prepare for and participate in the Great Train Show at Puyallup.

Not only did we take our NTRAK modules to the show, but we took our first Kid's Layout. Our intention was to raffle it off but a short circuit developed during transport to the show which prevented running trains on it.

We did a great deal of troubleshooting before we isolated the problem to a turnout. After making repairs, we decided to improve the track wiring for better performance.

In the end we sold the layout to a show attendee for his grandson to use.

In other news, I rushed to add some scenery to our third NTRAK corner module so that it wouldn't be covered only in green ground foam.

The series of photos illustrate the process of making a small hill scene.

.... BC



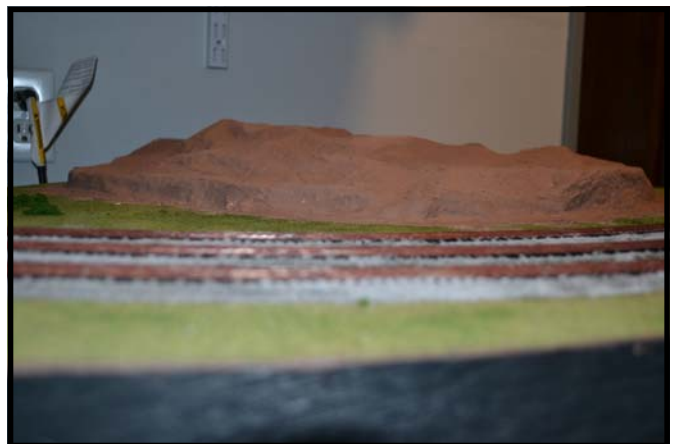
I continued to glue pellets until I had the basic shape.



Next the basic shape was covered with plaster cloth.



I began by hot-gluing a layer of Styrofoam packing pellets.



Once the plaster cloth dried, it was covered with vinyl spackling with brown latex paint in. The spackling was then spread over the surface and smoothed by hand while wearing a rubber glove. Rock castings and scenery material were then added. I intend to add static grass, shrubs, and trees in the future.

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

This column reports on a product or vendor of interest to model railroad hobbyists. Topics will be selected at random based upon perceived appeal of the products. Frequency of the feature will vary. BC

A couple of years ago I purchased one of those inexpensive 'strainer' style static grass applicators. Try as I might the results have never been satisfying to me.

Last month I decided it was time to move up to a better, I hoped, applicator.

I really didn't want to make my own device since I feel I can put my time to better use doing one of the more pressing tasks on my to-do list.

I did a Google search for reviews and found a couple on YouTube I felt I could trust.

First was Kathy Millet's at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IiR83CikHoo&t=620s>.

The second one I watched is from Ron's *Trains N Things*, available to view at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3qpXdKWbc8>

While Ron reviewed the War World Scenics (WWS) Micro, Kathy reviewed the PECO device. However in Kathy's video she held up the PECO box and, plain as day, it states the device is made by WWS!

So after watching both videos I searched for the best price and found it to be at Amazon for me. I say for me because I had a gift card of \$15.00 and some rewards points on a credit card which is linked to Amazon Prime.

When I placed my order it stated 4 to 6 weeks shipping from WWS in the UK. Much to my surprise it arrived in only 9 days! Upon inspection it seems to be well made.

At right is a extreme close-up of my first use.

I'll have a detailed review in a future issue of the Flimsy, stay tuned....

NEW MEMBER REPORT

Welcome aboard! New club members!

November 2019:

- Peter Bieber
- Russell West

December 2019:

- Erik Thorsen
- Matt Frampton

January 2020:

- Garrett Zimmerman
- Shawn Tompkins

.... BC



Prototype photo submitted by Peter Bieber



2mm static grass. A typical T-pin shaft is visible on the left.
Photo made with a Nikon 40mm Micro Lens.

ON THIS DATE...

February 12th, 1934: Union Pacific's 3-unit fully-articulated M-10000, the first streamlined internal-combustion passenger train, was delivered in Pullman, Illinois at a cost of \$230,997, painted Armour Yellow and Leaf Brown.

Made entirely of aluminum alloy, its three articulated cars weighed less than a single conventional sleeping car and could accommodate 110 passengers. It was powered by a low-grade distillate petroleum fuel, not diesel.

CB&Q's first Zephyr appeared two months later. It was powered by diesel fuel.

.... BC

February 14th, 1855: The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad was formed.

.... BC

February 28th, 1827: The Baltimore & Ohio railroad was chartered.

.... BC

BUSINESS CLOSING



Mike O'Connell, founder and the creative force behind Chooch Enterprises is announcing his retirement. Since the launch in 1974, Mike's focus has been to bring his strict attention to detail and quality in all his products to the modeler. Chooch was an early pioneer in resin and vinyl items, and has created hundreds of products over the years. Click below to see our story.

<https://choochenterprises.com>



Thanks everyone, for all your wonderful support.
It has been a terrific journey!

Current Chooch products are available at hobby stores or online at our website while supplies last.



Tehachapi Loop ~ July 2019

SILENT AUCTION UPDATE

Many of you are wondering about the silent auction of the donated items. Well, no details are available as this issue “goes to press”.

The auction process was established at a special board meeting. A committee is to be formed to establish a starting bid on the items offered.

The intent is to have the items on display in the clubhouse for at least a week.

Bid sheets with a description and a starting bid will be alongside each item. If you want to place a bid you must write your name and bid amount on the bid sheet. At the end of the bidding period the person with the winning bid will be notified, the payment and delivery of the item will be arranged.

I will email a listing of the locomotives to be auctioned to each member soon. All of the items to be auctioned are HO scale.

.... BC



Prototype photo submitted by Peter Bieber

OFF THE MAINLINE

A monthly report from our secretary. BC

Hello all....

Another whirlwind month in clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall.

Bob Jensen and I “butt joined” and replaced track as necessary. Bob did most of the heavy lifting. We should be done early in February.

We sold our Young Engineers layout at the GTS last weekend. I stripped the new Young Engineers layout and laid new track. Both loops are up and operational. Great opportunity for members to step up and wire the switches and scenic the layout. I will help and train someone.

I am hoping we can start on our switching attachments next month. I am proposing we build them as weekend work parties and a series of clinics that are open to the public.

The speed matching circle has grown legs and the inside HO track has been removed (waiting on N scale track to be laid). This will enable all of us to speed match our locomotives.

I need to reiterate the importance putting you DCC Locomotives in the number log book. Tom started this years ago and has been updating it as new numbers are entered.

The new 2020 Membership Form has been added to the Web site. It contains the Proposed Fee structure for 2020.

Time to step up and volunteer to serve on a committee.

Time for me to get back to the By-Laws and House Rules revision....

Remember our continued growth depends on all of us!

.... Bill Hupé

