A Publication of the
BREMERTON NORTHERN MODEL RAILROAD
Kitsap Mall, Silverdale, Washington

Form 19

THE FLIMSY BOARD

Form 19

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BNMR is a 100% NMRA Member Club

NMRA

www.nmra.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Hello! Again I hope everyone is doing well.

August where have you gone? Oh wait, it's the end of September. 2026 where are you in such a hurray?

The last few months have been interesting here. Too much chaos for me. We need to get things under control. Veteran members need to take the newbies under their wings and teach them the ins and outs. Remember we were all in their shoes once.

The clubhouse chore list is up. Volunteers are still needed in dusting, carpet cleaning, head cleaning, and parts bins sorting *(see page 8).*

Clinics soon? I think Jack Hamilton has one in mind to start them up. Any requests?

As always anyone who wants to come in and help me ballast the HO lay-out, please let me know. I have my method, maybe yours is better.

Time to move this train on down the line.

…. Bill

OCTOBER IN RAILROAD HISTORY

6th, 1866: First US train robbery in history by the Reno Gang, Jefferson County, Indiana.
9th, 1863: US Congress sets railroad gauge at 4' 8-1/2".
17th, 1960: Erie Lackawanna Railroad formed.
26th, 1863: Central Pacific lays first rail.
27th, 1870: Denver & Rio Grande Railway incorporated.

THE FLIMSY BOARD

Official Publication of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad

PO Box 1101, Silverdale WA 98383

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.

FLIMSY BOARD STAFF:

Editor: Bert Cripe MMR

Submit Contributions to: bert@wavecable.com

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Unless otherwise noted photos are by the Editor.

MEETINGS NOTICE:

Social Gatherings are held on the second Saturday of the month in the clubhouse. Board meetings are held periodically in the clubhouse on the last Saturday of the month. The January Social Gathering is our annual dinner meeting held at a local restaurant. Refer to the clubhouse calendar on page 3.

OFFICERS:

President: ..... Bill Hupé

Vice President: ..... Jerry Enders

Secretary: ..... —(vacant)—

Treasurer: ..... Bert Cripe

Directors: ..... Jim Hochstein , Mark Stephens,

..... and Pete Bieber

Librarian: ..... —(vacant)—

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

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

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CLUB ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Dates and times are subject to change — consult the website (https://www.bnmrr.org/calendar.html) for updates.
In accordance with bylaws and house rules the Flimsy carries the next three months schedule in this calendar.

OCTOBER

1st - Open House
3rd - Open House
10th - Social Gathering
15th - Open House
22nd - Open House
29th - Open House
31st - Open House - Halloween

3rd - Social breakfast
8th - Open House
10th - Open House
17th - Open House
24th - Open House
31st - Board Meeting

NOVEMBER

5th - Open House
7th - Open House
14th - Social Gathering-Officer nominations
19th - Open House
26th - Thanksgiving-closed
28th - Open House

7th - Social breakfast
12th - Open House
14th - Open House
21st - Open House
28th - Board Meeting

DECEMBER

3rd - Open House
5th - Open House
12th - Social Gathering-Election of Officers
17th - Open House
24th - Open House
26th - Open House

5th - Social breakfast
10th - Open House
12th - Open House
19th - Open House
26th - Board Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

Visit the club website for updates: http://www.bnmrr.org/upcoming.html

Lynden Lions Club Model Train & Toy Show
Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, Lynden

Saturday 9 to 5 & Sunday 10 to 4

October 3rd & 4th

Website: https://lyndentrainshow.com

River City Modelers Train Club Model Train Show and Swap Meet

Sunday, October 11

9:30 am to 3:30 pm, $8.00 CASH admission

Spokane County Fair & Expo Center, Gate G
404 North Havana, Spokane WA

Info: Shirley Sample at 509-991-2317 (cell) or 509-292-8332 by email at shirley@busnws.com

Info at: www.rivercitymodelers.org

Lewis County Model Railroad Club Show
SW Washington Fairgrounds
2555 N National Ave. Chehalis, WA 98532

October 17th & 18th

Saturday 10 to 4 & Sunday 10 to 2

Info: Ted at tedstrains@lewiscounty.com

Prototype Photo by Russell West

Boeing Employees Model Railroad Club Swap Meet

November 14th, Saturday

Kent Commons Community Center, 525 4th Ave N, Kent, WA 98032

Admission: $10.00 per person; kids 12 and under get in free

Info at: www.bemrrc.org

Longview, Kelso & Rainier Model Railroad Club Spring Model Train and Toy Swap Meet

November 21st, Saturday, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Cowlitz County Event Center, 1900 7th Avenue, Longview, Washington, 98632

Info at: https://lkrtrains.yolasite.com or contact Howard Flick at 360-751-7276 or email at flickh@yahoo.com

Looking Ahead to 2027

Great Train Shows

January 2 & 3 Boise, ID

January 9 & 10 Ridgefield, WA

January 16 & 17 Puyallup, WA

January 23 & 24 Kennewick, WA

February 21 & 21 Sacramento, CA

March 6 & 7 Vallejo, CA

Website: www.greattrainshow.com/

Women in Model Railroading Special Interest Group

NMRA Special Interest Group (SIG), Contact: wimrr@nmra.org

We are excited to offer the opportunity to women around the world to become members of this new Special Interest Group - Women in Model Railroading! As a recognized SIG within the NMRA, we expect this group to be vibrant in the world of model railroading

The purpose of the Women in Model Railroading SIG is to introduce, encourage and connect women in or interested in the hobby of model railroading. The SIG is designed for education, enrichment, social interactions, and all-around fun. This group is meant to be inclusive and supportive of all women in the hobby and railfan world. We plan to host a few social meetings per year including online and at train shows/conventions around the country. The SIG will provide women in their local NMRA regions the support needed to create activities or gatherings, in order to grow the hobby and remove perceived barriers for women modelers.

Newsletter:

An email newsletter will be sent once per year and hopefully more often as we grow this group.

Facebook Groups:

"Women in Model Railroading": https://www.facebook.com/groups/76936597097091

"The Steam Sisters Group": https://www.facebook.com/groups/801466170511941

This is just one of thirty-four *Special Interest Groups* within the NMRA.

Here is the link to them all: https://www.nmra.org/special-interest-groups

…. *BC*

On the Newsstand…

The September issue of *Railroad Model Craftsman* magazine has several articles possibly of interest to you. First on page 53 is "Realistic Scrap Metal Loads"; on page 60 is "Why not a Passenger Train?; on page 78 is "Time Will Tell on the Tenino Western" a local home layout here in Western Washington; and continuing in "The Layout Doctor" series, on page 86, is "Mind the Gap" about improving trackage with rail gaps electrically isolating track sections; finally on page 92, in the "Operations" series "Let's Talk About Staging: Part 1".

An issue jam packed with useful information!

The October issue of *Railroad Model Craftsman* magazine has an interesting article: "A Different Approach to Pine Trees" on page 76 by Glenn Lapkin, MMR. "*Using a natural material … gives each tree its own irregular branch structure and helps capture some of the randomness found in nature. Building threes this way is no necessarily the fastest method, but I think the extra effort is worth it.*"

…. *BC*

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

An important update about our NMRA dues. Regular member dues have been reduced from $68.00 to $50.00 per year (without a printed copy of the NMRA magazine) or $74.00 to include a printed copy of the magazine. There are no changes to dues for the other forms of membership.

It is very important point out that the club's Bylaws are very strict in regards to keeping your NMRA dues and Operation Fees current. From the Bylaws

"Article VII, Section 3: *"Failure to maintain NMRA membership will result in immediate suspension of BNMR benefits."* and from the club's House Rules Section VII, ¶6: *"a. Automatic Removal. A member shall be removed from the membership in BNMR if their operating fees and dues account is three (3) months in arrears or if their NMRA membership lapses."*

The language is very clear, and as treasurer, I have little leeway but to follow the rules!

To make it easier for you and me both I suggest you choose to pay your NMRA dues through the club or when it becomes available, by use of auto-renewal at the NMRA website. That feature is currently not an option, but I will announce when it becomes available.

Remember that our liability insurance is purchased through the NMRA and is available to us because all members are to be current NMRA members - exception is allowed.

Please keep your NMRA membership current and provide your membership card to me when asked.

….*BC*

WORK CONTINUES ON THE O GAUGE LAYOUT

Mike Baggason continues his work building the new O Gauge layout. These photos illustrate the progress as of Thursday, September 24th

…. *BC*

OBSERVATIONS AND DIRECTIONS FROM THE HO SUPERINTENDANT

Greetings all, it has been noticed that we are backsliding a bit on how we are operating on our club layout. As a club, most members have access to the clubhouse via a key (once a probationary period has passed) 7 days a week during the time that the mall access doors for tenants are open. As part of our agreement with the mall, we conduct periodic open house events for the mall customers, our current practice is to have an open house on Thursdays and Saturdays from noon to 4. The purpose of the open house is to provide a "show" to the general public, not to test multiple pieces of motive power and rolling stock, that is what the other days of the week are for.

We have been seeing an increase in what I will call "haphazard" operations on the layout during open house events, and we need to put the brakes on that practice as it distracts from the experience for our guests. Members who are operating during an open house time frame need to make a good effort to conform to that goal, mainly by selecting a specific train (motive power and rolling stock), and operating that train for the one hour time period that we normally separate our running time into- i.e. don't change locomotives 5 times in an hour! It is understood that sometime equipment problems occur, but we need to start being better at minimizing the change of equipment during the hour run times, if you want to change locomotives, then you run the other one in another hour slot. Constantly changing equipment results in a significantly increased risk of damage due to additional switching and the fact that during an open house we are often a little distracted by interaction with our guests.

Other items to throw out there: turnout control- when you operate a turnout for train movement, stay there until you throw the turnout back to its normal position, seeing way to many misaligned turnouts lately. Train length- I do get comments from folks on train length, I will mix that consideration with the associated train speed. We have a policy that train length should be limited to the length of the longest siding on the line you are running- I am not holding people hard and fast to this as we usually don't have two trains on the same line- but be courteous to other members who cannot crawl under the layout and need the gulch access to get in or out of the center (routine or in an emergency)- so think about your train length and speed so that it doesn't take 2 minutes to clear the gulch. I know that many visitors like to see long trains so the length while a policy is flexible. Track/layout condition - we continue to have lots of minor repair and cleaning work to be done on the layout, so please consider taking some time while you are at an open house and check with Bill H about what type of cleanup work needs to be done- a little here and there and it is done (vacuuming the layout, cleaning track with a block, etc). When repairs are found to be needed, don't just complain, offer to help. Motive power and rolling stock maintenance- this layout operates a lot of equipment routinely, so when you have a set of equipment that is malfunctioning, your first thought should NOT be the layout is messed up! I know that there are areas that need work, but many other pieces of equipment have gone over that spot with no problems. So, for your own personal equipment, do the main checks for operability before you bring it in- wheels, couplers, weight- if those are all good per the standard then the equipment will most likely run fine- most problems I see are coupler heights and underweight cars. For club equipment, same thing, if a car is having problems don't simply hand it to Bill and say it is messed up, pull it off the line and check the basics yourself- if you don't know how, ask.

The Superintendent normally acts as the overall dispatcher for the club and should coordinate operators on the lines. In the event the Superintendent is not present, a more experienced member should step up and act as dispatcher, this is usually one of the senior club members

…. Mark Stephens

HOURS WORKED FOR OPERATION FEES CREDIT

The Hours for Op Fees program provides the opportunity to earn credit towards your monthly operation fees obligation. Contact Bill Hupé to get more information or to volunteer.

Here is the list of tasks that need to be completed with the frequency of accomplishment needed:

TASK	FREQUENCY
Clean Bathroom	Weekly
Clean Coffee Mess	Weekly
Sweep Backroom and Hall	Weekly
Dust Display Shelves	Every Two Weeks
Vacuum Carpet	Weekly
Clean Carpet	Monthly
Goodwill	As needed
Disposal of batteries	As needed
HO Layout – Dust	Every Two Weeks
HO Layout – Ballast Track	Until finished
HO Layout – Check Rolling Stock for metal wheels	Until Finished
HO – Clean Rolling stock wheels	Monthly
HO – Clean Power Wheels	Monthly
HO – Clean Track	Monthly
YE – Clean Track and Wheels	Monthly

The treasurer has the forms to report your hours worked.

….*BC*

Prototype Photos by Russell West