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

Form 19

THE FLIMSY BOARD

Form 19

Train No. 11 Vol. 51 http://www.bnmrr.org Issue: November 2026

BNMR is a 100% NMRA Member Club

www.nmra.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

October. What a month! My birthday and the birth of my great grandson are at the top of my list. The club Gathering was good a lot of positive vibes. Top of the list is the Clinics are back. They will be held in conjunction with the Gatherings. November – Rolling stock standards; December – Dirty Santa; January - Annual Dinner no clinic; February – Ballasting. Just a reminder, the club is for all of us, participation by all will make us stronger. I understand we all have obligations, let's make club participation one also.

All new members will be assigned a mentor for 6 months. BNMR Veterans: we all will be asked to act as mentors. Bert wrote and published the Mentor handbook and published it on the Club website (http://www.bnmrr.org/handouts/BNMRmentorprogram.pdf).

The clubhouse chore list is still up. Volunteers are still needed in dusting, carpet cleaning, head/back-room cleaning, and parts bins sorting/elimination.

Superintendents are in charge of their respective layouts. Mike Bagaason – Hi Rail (O), Jim Hochstein – American Flyer (S), Scott Surber – N, Mark Stephens – HO, Trish Williams – European (HO), and Danny Guthrie – Young Engineers. Before you do any modifications/repairs ask them for permission.

I am looking for a club secretary. Interested? Please let me know.

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

Time to move this train on down the line.

…. Bill

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, Pete Bieber

Librarian: ..... —(vacant)—

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

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

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NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Daylight Savings Time ends	2	3	4	5 Open House 12 to 4 pm	6	7 Social Breakfast @ All Star Lanes 0830 Open House 12 to 4 pm
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12 Open House 12 to 4 pm	13	14 Social Gathering Officer Nomination 10am Open House 12 to 4 pm
15	16	17	18	19 Open House 12 to 4 pm	20	21 10 am Clinic: Rolling stock maintenance Open House 12 to 4 pm
22	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving Clubhouse closed	27 Black Friday Open House 12 to 4 pm or so	28 Board Meeting 10am Open House 12 to 4 pm
29	30					

NOVEMBER IN RAILROAD HISTORY

1st - 30th, National Model Railroad Month.
7th, 1885: Completion of Canadian Pacific Railway.
14th, 1972: Milwaukee Road electric operations end on Coast Division.
16th, 1960: Last Lake Michigan railroad car ferry.
18th, 1883: US & Canadian railroads first use of Standard Time.

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.

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

JANUARY

Annual General Dinner Meeting - date TBD

2nd- Social breakfast
7th - Open House
9th - Open House
16th - Open House
23rd - Open House
30th - Board Meeting

2nd - Open House
9th - Social Gathering
14th - Open House
21st - Open House
28th - Open House
30th - Open House

FOR SALE

Brian Smyth is offering a Digitrax UT-6 wireless throttle, new in the box, for $100.00 or best offer. Contact Brian at smyth1312@yahoo.com or see him at an Open House.

NEW MEMBER REPORT

We welcome our newest member: Scott Evans who is active in the HO.

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

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

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

Website: www.greattrainshow.com/

ON THE NEWSSTAND...

The November issue of *Model Railroader* magazine has an article possibly of interest to you. "How to Make Natural Forest Floor Material". Dave Rickaby found a solution for ground cover on his On30 *Stephenson, Cedar River & Eastern Railway*.

He found a suitable solution at the YouTube site of Joey Ricard

https://youtube.be/uYnVRO3uUeo, a 7 minute video.

The material used is mullein (*Verbascum thapsus)* which grows in Washing State. "It is a hairy biennial plant that can grow to 2m tall or more. It grows in a wide variety of habitats, but prefers well-lit, disturbed soils, where it can appear soon after the ground receives light, from long-lived seeds" (Wikipedia). The entire process for preparation can be found on pages 24 to 26 of the November issue.

…. *BC*

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH

LYNDEN SHOW REPORT

The Lynden Lions Model Railroad and Toy Show was in its 41st year. It supports the charitable work of the Lions service organization. The show is held in the Henry Jansen Building at the Northwest Washington Fairgrounds, in Lynden.

Keith Stansbury and I took 12 Free-mo N format modules (some have multiple sections) to this show. It took the two of us about 8 hours to set it up and get it running on Friday.

We had to make some minor repairs such as track end alignments and a good amount of track cleaning resulting from both new construction and some modules not being used since last January. Take-down and load out on Sunday afternoon took a little over two hours. The new trailer with 4 module storage carts on wheels made the job so much easier than the previous transporting method.

This was the first outing for our two new 'Utility' modules. One is a 90-degree corner. The other is a 5-piece return loop which replaces the old heavy, large, one-piece unit that had only one track. The new loop has two tracks with an AR to throw the wye turnout automatically. Ground throws with a Dual Frog Juicer are used to operate the two other turnouts.

While it was very tiring with only the two of us, a good time was had and some ideas for more modules were discussed.

Keith is still working on the scenery for his curved module . See the photos on the next page of the dramatic mountains on a 180 degree curve with tunnels and view blocks.

Lions Club provided a complimentary pizza and salad dinner for vendors and exhibitors on Friday evening. This benefit is a god send after a long day of work setting up a layout!

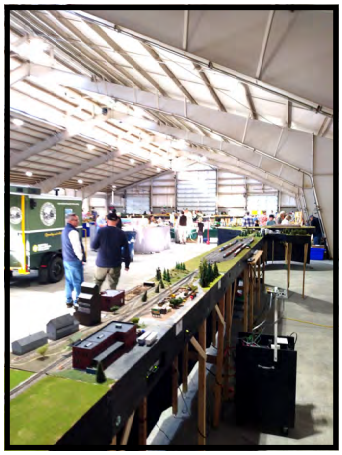
There were 14 different operating layouts on display from both the US and Canada. Over 130 vendor table were sold.

The nice thing about an independent show such as this, as opposed to Great Train Shows, is the many small, non-commercial vendors offering items the big guys don't have. We both were able to purchase desired items at good prices!

More photos appear on the next page.

….*BC*

LYNDEN SHOW PHOTOS



Large prior year photo from the Lions website

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH

HOURS WORKED FOR OPERATION FEES CREDIT—UPDATES

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
Young Engineers – Clean Track and Wheels	Monthly

Response has been lacking but the tasks still need to be accomplished. Think about all that is done by the members who currently keep the club functioning and compare that to what you contribute - does your effort measure up?

….BC

WORK CONTINUES ON THE O GAUGE LAYOUT

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH

NOVEMBER CLINIC – ROLLING STOCK

What is the secret to rolling stock "running like a dream"? Consistency and minimal variation in couplers, trucks, wheel sets, and car weight, i.e. setting standards and making all rolling stock meet those standards.

The club has a standards for our HO rolling stock and you will find it here:

https://www.bnmrr.org/handouts/gen-build-guidelines.pdf

https://www.bnmrr.org/handouts/couplers.pdf

Our November clinic will be a 'hands on' event for you to learn the basic of rolling stock maintenance.

Saturday, November 21st at 10am in the clubhouse backroom.

The following are excerpts from the files found on our website listed above

Rolling Stock General Build Guidelines

In order to provide reliable operation of rolling stock, builders should strive to ensure that their cars adhere to established norms for weight, balance, rollability, etc.

Weight

Measurement should be performed with a digital kitchen scale for the most accurate results. Spring scales should be avoided, especially for N scale, as they only allow accurate measurements in the middle of their range. Use of grams for N scale is highly recommended to achieve correct weight.

Truck Installation

Once the truck has been properly dressed and the wheelsets installed, it can be mounted to the car. Two checks should be performed to ensure proper operation: a flat plane test and a free play test.

Rollability

Smooth rolling cars should be paramount in building rolling stock. This can be achieved by adhering to the following guidelines: Metal wheelsets should be used. This is required for the HO layout…

Couplers

A key part of having a smooth-running train is properly adjusted couplers. This includes matching height to a coupler height gauge as well as setting magnetic trip pin height and dressing the shank, face and inside of the coupler body and any coupler boxes.

….BC

AMERICA 250 LOCOMOTIVE CELEBRATION

The United States celebrated its 250th Anniversary, Semiquincentennial, on July 4th 2026. In late August on the 28, 29, and 30th The North Carolina Transportation Museum, NCTM, hosted a once in a lifetime gathering of special red, white, and blue painted locomotives to commemorate Americas 250th Anniversary. The event was called America 250 Locomotive Celebration. It was sponsored by NCTM, Trains, White River Productions, Jack & Audrey Harris, ScaleTrains, Virtual Railfan, Visit Rowan County, Berkshire Station (Hobby Shop), M.T.H. Electric Trains, and Walthers.

The North Carolina Transportation Museum was founded in 1977 on land donated by the Southern Railway to North Carolina for a transportation museum in Spencer, North Carolina. The site was the railroads steam repair shops. The museum holds events throughout the year, but it has also held once in a lifetime events. In 2012 it brought together Norfolk Southern Railroads Heritage Locomotives. That was followed in 2014 with Stream Liners at Spencer a collection of E and F units. August of 2026 the museum and it's sponsors brought together a collection of special red, white, and blue painted locomotives from Class 1, Class 2 (Regional's), Shortline, Passenger Railroads as well as museums.

Several locomotives in Bicentennial colors were also on-hand; Norfolk & Western High Hood # 1776 an EMD SD45 from The Virginia Museum of Transportation, Milwaukee Road # 156 an EMD SD40-2 from Midwest Overland Rail Preservation Society, and Santa Fe # 5704 an EMD SD45-2 from The Southern California Railway Museum.

During the event the locomotives in their special 250 paint schemes were presented around the Bob Julian Roundhouse Turntable, rotated on the turntable and moved around the museum's grounds. They were rotated to offer plenty of photo opportunities. Each day there was also a parade of the locomotives.

A caboose TOYX C380 and a set of TTX Railcar Pooling Experts Box Cars TBOX 636707 through 63671 were also on display and part of freight run bys.

Union Pacific 1616 honoring President Lincoln was on display and moved around the turntable and grounds.

…Pete Bieber

(All photos by Pete Bieber, more photos on the next page…)

CN 1776 Wabtec ES44AC

BNSF 1776 Wabtec ES44ACH

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH

CSX 250 Wabtec CM44AH

MBTA 1776 EMD GP40MC

NS 8118 Wabtec ES44AC

NYSW 3634 EMD SD45-2

TPLX 1776 EMD GP38-2

CPKC KCS 7626 Wabtec ET44AC

TBOX 636707

UP 4547 Wabtec ET44AC

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD MONTH