

The 4th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region of the  
National Model Railroad Association Presents

# The Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Clinic

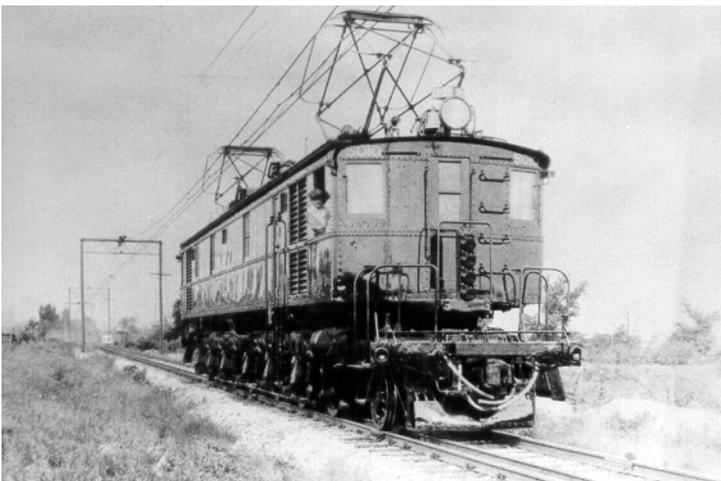
## Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Location: Summer Hill Community in Oak Harbor [second floor Community Room] - see map on page 3

Time: 7:00PM

Business:

1. Introductions and items 'for the good of the order.'
2. "Show & Tell" and the Sales Table.
3. A Prototype Presentation - **Great Northern Electrification** presented by noted author Noel Holley.



## Great Northern Railway Electrification presented by Noel Holley

Noel Holley has been a railroad fan since the age of one and an electric railroad fan since the age of three. He became a fan of overhead wire powered trains as a result of riding the last run of Portland's Council Crest streetcar. His interest in "steam railroad electrification" began with pictures of the Great Northern and the Milwaukee Road in books. In high school, he scratch-built O-gauge interurban cars. In college, he switched to HO and began modeling heavy electrics. Noel has lived in Seattle since 1975 and calls it his home.

### The CLINIC

The clinic presents the history of the Great Northern electrification in slides and verbal commentary. The historical knowledge was acquired from a number of books, both technical and non-technical, and from interviews with retired railroaders. The presentation includes both the 3-phase electrification which operated from 1909 to 1927, and the single-phase electrification which operated from 1927 to 1956. Noel will also discuss why the GN abandoned this operation and what it would look like if it still existed today. There will be an example of HO scale Great Northern overhead wire work on display.



# The SV&W Model Railroading Calendar for September 2009

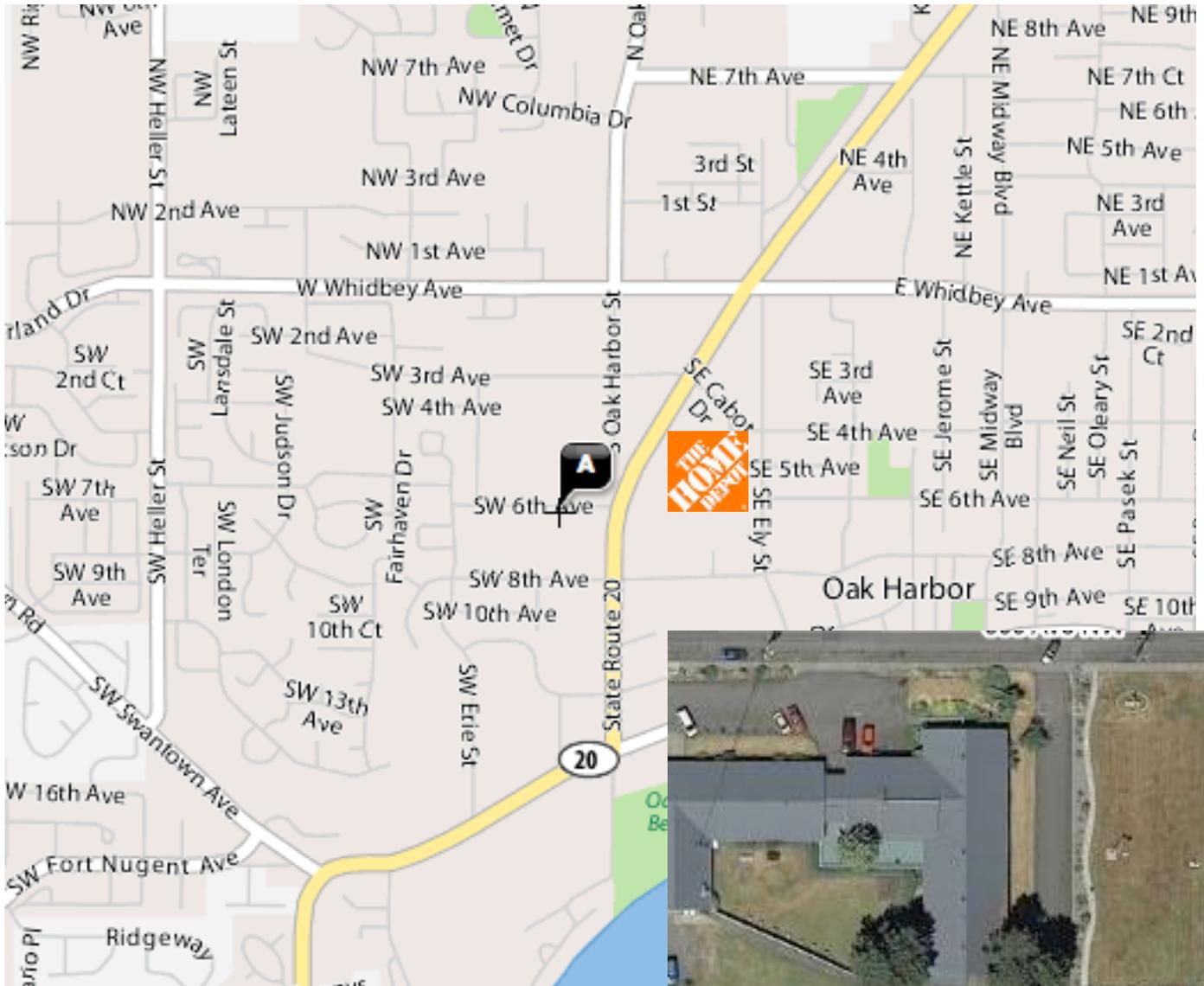
| Sunday   | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday | Saturday  |
|--|--------|---------|--|--|--------|---|
|  |        | 1       | 2  | 3  | 4      | 5   |
| 6  | 7      | 8       | <b>Clinic at<br/>Summerhill<br/>in Oak<br/>Harbor<br/>7:00pm</b><br><small>[see map on page 3]</small> | 10   | 11     | 12  |
| 13<br>VICTORIA, BC<br>Victoria Model<br>Railway Show<br>250-595-4070 | 14     | 15      | 16   | 17<br>Northern Lights 2009.<br>PNR Regional Convention<br>Edmonton, Alberta<br><a href="http://www.northernlights2009.ca">www.northernlights2009.ca</a>  |        | 19  |
| 20   | 21     | 22      | 23   | 24   | 25     | 26<br>VANCOUVER, WA<br>SW Washington<br>Model Railroaders<br>Open House<br><a href="http://www.swwamodelrailroaders.com">www.swwamodelrailroaders.com</a> |
| 27   | 28     | 29      | 30   | <b>Coming up Oct 3-4:</b><br>LYNDEN, WA 25TH Annual Lynden<br>Lions Club Show<br>& SEATTLE, WA BrickCon Lego Expo<br><a href="http://www.brickcon.org/public_exhibition">http://www.brickcon.org/public_exhibition</a> |        |   |

## Last Clinic in June:

Dick Haines presented a great talk about weathering:



## Directions to Summer Hill - An Assisted Living Community



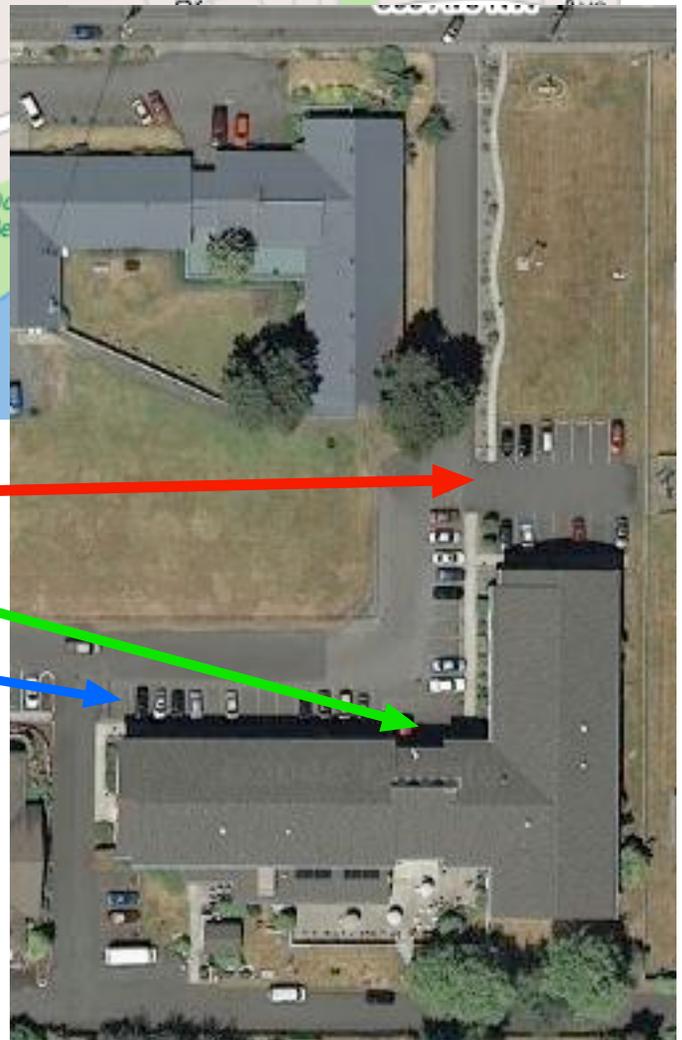
Address: 165 SW 6th Avenue in Oak Harbor

Please park here  
and enter here  
(If parking full  
there, park at the  
end out here)

### NOTE:

Members should be aware that the front door will be locked but a member of our group will be on hand to open it to our members until 7:05pm. after which a member of the building staff will open it but :

1. The staff member will have no way of knowing the caller is a bona fide member of our group and
  2. We do not want our group to become a nuisance to the night staff by calling them down to open the door if we can avoid it.
- Hence, please be prompt.



## Announcement

### Skagit Valley and Whidbey NMRA Group – Diorama Building Contest.

At our penultimate meeting at Jack Tingstad's home in May it was suggested by David Laws that we organize a diorama building contest as part of our 2009/2010 program.

To further this idea, at the September meeting each member will be given a piece of two inch thick Styrofoam 12" X 24" [288 sq.in.] on which to build his/her diorama. If you need to build a smaller diorama as a "pop-out" on your own pike then make the "pop-out" part of the 24" X 12" diorama.

The resulting masterpieces will be judged by Jack Hamilton, MMR., the President of the Pacific North West Region of the NMRA., at the March 10th. meeting in 2010. A six month window in which to think about it , start it, think again and restart it, working to completion by March 2010.

This contest will be known as "The 288 Challenge" and the winners will be awarded a magnificent prize of as yet undetermined value and consist. Notice the word winners as besides a Grand Prize Winner chosen by Jack Hamilton, other prizes will be chosen by a Popular Vote; Funniest; Most Original/Creative; and possibly a Novice prize, if we can define a Novice.!

The name of the participant should be written on the bottom of the foam and should not be visible when judging takes place.

The rules are simple and as follows.

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Scene Size:                    | Foam size to be no larger or smaller than 12" X 24" |
| End Diaphragms if reqd.:       | 1/4" thickness maximum.                             |
| Back Scene and Fascia if used: | 1/4" thickness maximum.                             |
| Scale:                         | Any Scale, your choice.                             |
| Gauge:                         | Any gauge, your choice.                             |

The scene/diorama must contain at a minimum the following:

1. A section of track, any gauge.
2. A structure or part thereof.
3. Scenery, to your choice.
4. A person or persons.
5. A piece of track oriented Rolling Stock e.g., a loco. rail car, coach, tram, MofW. Car, etc.
6. Whatever else fires your imagination to make your diorama a winner.

The Skagit Valley and Whidbey NMRA group will provide one initial piece of foam 12" X 24" for the base. All other materials will be supplied by the participant, who will retain ownership of his/her masterpiece.

David Laws has volunteered to Mastermind this project for our group. You see what happens if you volunteer or suggest something!

John White. Program Coordinator

## Jack Culver, MMR 1919 – 2009

Jack Culver, Master Model Railroader #320, passed away on June 14, 2009. Jack, who turned 90 on June 2nd, was the founder of what is now the Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Group which met in the Anacortes Railroad Station. He was a long time member of the NMRA and a very innovative and creative model railroader. When Jack needed or wanted something that was not readily available or too expensive he made it from scratch. He was very good at making special tools to do various tasks including building his own etching tank. Jack and I made our own circuit boards for several projects including the detection circuits that I use on my hidden track.

Jack was also one of the founders of the Corvallis, Oregon model railroad club and started a club on Orcas Island after he and his wife Nan moved to the island in 1979. Nan designed their house on West Sound which included Jack's layout room and two shops, one for the railroad and one rather large shop for all his other interests. He was into sailing, model sailboats and airplanes, and falconry.

Joyce and I first met Jack and Nan at a Memorial Day sailing regatta in Eugene, Oregon in 1969. One day Jack asked if anyone was interested in going for a ride in Maggie and I asked "what is Maggie?" She was a 16 foot steam launch and as we were steaming about the lake I said I was interested in steam engines but the ones that ran on rails, and we had been friends ever since.

Jack, You Will Be Missed.

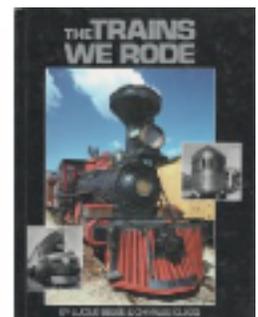
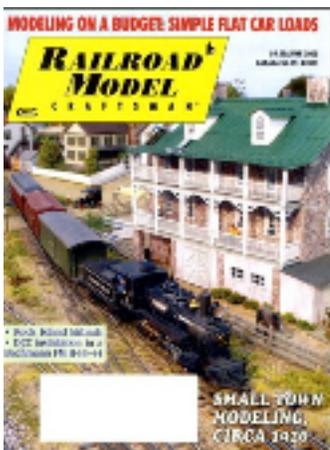
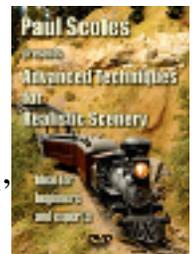
Tom Hawkins

### Lending 'Library' reminder:

Susan Gonzales will be coordinating a lending system, but needs your help in 'listing' books, tapes, DVDs and periodicals that you would be willing to let others borrow for a month between Clinics. I works like this: you send Susan at

[fishnutztoo@verizon.net](mailto:fishnutztoo@verizon.net) your list of items that you would be willing to let others borrow, then she makes the list known via printed or email lists to the group. If you would like to borrow something, email or call the owner or tell him/her at the next Clinic and the owner of the item can bring it to a Clinic or you can arrange to pick up the item so that you can read/view it. Then, just bring it back to the next Clinic to give back to the owner of the item. Susan will NOT have any of the items herself - she is just the list maker for the lending!

So, what Susan needs is a list of items that you would be willing to lend and a short description of said item! Sounds like a great idea!



# Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Group

## Clinic Schedule 2009/2010

Notes. All regular meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month September through June @ 7:00pm. at the Summer Hill Community in Oak Harbor or as otherwise advertised.

**NMRA membership is encouraged but not essential.**

Private House visits are by invitation. All other meetings are open to the public.

| <u>Date</u>          | <u>Co-Ordinator</u>        | <u>Subject</u>  | <u>Presenter</u>                                  |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Sept. 9, 2009</b> | <b>D.Gould<br/>J.White</b> | <b>Prototype-GN Electrification<br/>Issue of 1ft.x2ft. Foam Bbds.for Min.layout</b> | <b>Noel Holley<br/>J. White</b>                   |
| Oct. 14, 2009        | A.Frasch                   | <i>Fine N-Scale Products</i> - A Manufacturers Overview                             | <b>Dick Billings</b>                              |
| Nov. 11, 2009        | J.White                    | 'Make and Take Buildings' -Hands on   | <b>Roger Ferris</b>                               |
| <u>Dec. 9, 2009</u>  | J.White                    | Wassail or Was'1' and other delights  | <b>John White</b>                                 |
| Jan. 13, 2010        | R.Thom                     | "Narrow Gauge on 3 Continents" steam video  | <b>Rich Thom</b>                                  |
| <u>Feb. 10, 2010</u> | T.Hawkins<br>J.White       | Layout Visit<br>FastTracks Turnout Construction Demo                                | <b>Tom Hawkins<br/>White/Frasch</b>               |
| Mar. 10, 2010        | Gonzales<br>J.White        | 'Make and Take Trees' Hands on<br>Judging of 1ft. x 2ft. Modules                    | <b>Phil &amp; SusanGonzales<br/>Jack Hamilton</b> |
| Apr. 14, 2010        | A.Frasch<br>J.White        | 'Operational Methods'<br>Demonstration of unusual tools, jigs & fixtures            | <b>Frasch/Tingstad/Thom<br/>Group.</b>            |
| May 12, 2010         | J.Mann                     | 'DCC- Beyond Decoders' Semi-Advanced  | <b>John Mann</b>                                  |
| <u>Jun. 9, 2010</u>  | J.White                    | LayoutVisit   | <b>P. &amp; S.Gonzales</b>                        |
| July ? 2010          | W.Harper                   | Visit to Oak Harbor Club  | William Harper                                    |

### Volunteers

NMRA Liason & Reportage  
 Facilities Co-Ordinator & Door Keeper  
 Keeper of the Purse. [alias the bucket]  
 Layout Design Aficionado  
 Function Calender,& Announcement Flyers  
 Troubleshooter and Electrical Guru  
 Casino Operator and Door Prizes  
 Refreshments  
 Keeper of the Rolls [alias the membership roster]  
 Register of videos and books for loan  
 Meeting Co-Ordinator

Gordon Garnhart  
 Dick Haines  
 Jack Tingstad  
 Tom Hawkins  
 Al Frasc  
 John Mann  
 Dan Gould  
 Phil & Susan Gonzales  
 Rich Thom  
 Susan Gonzales  
 John White