



BNSF Track Inspection Car, Cherry Point, WA (see appendix)

Mount Vernon NMRA Clinic Newsletter

February 2016

Date **Thursday, February 11**

Time **7:00 PM**

Where **Mount Vernon Senior Center**
1401 Cleveland Street, Mount Vernon

<http://www.skagitseniors.org/MountVernon/> for map & directions

See **Pre-Clinic Dinner** section for the new spot we want to test this month.

The Program

Nick Muff, MMR, will present his story about modeling the Kansas City Union Station. "From foam core mock-up to finished model, I will discuss how and why I chose to model the Kansas City Union Station. At 6' wide by

4' deep and weighing in at 60 pounds, assembled, you may never choose to model a structure of this size or scope but the techniques I'll discuss will have wide application in structure modeling."



Those are individual lights in the chandeliers hanging in the Grand Lobby.....and there's more going on below street level. Not to be missed!

Show and Tell and Tool Time

We encourage attendees to bring models for "show and tell" – show us what you're working on, even if it is not complete.

And, if you have a tool or gadget that you have found useful, bring it along and share it with us

We also encourage folks to bring along items for sale or swap, or even "freebies" – we'll have a table for those items.

Diorama Build Progress

Bring your "in progress" diorama and share your experience. If you are stuck on a problem, it's also a great opportunity to get some help.

Around the Curve

February 27, 28, Monroe Model Railroad Show and Swap Meet. Visit <http://www.unwclub.org/unwshow.html> for details.

March 5, Milwaukee Road Meet. Burien, WA. Go to <http://www.milwelectric.org/2016-march-milwaukee-meet-march-5-burien-wa/> for updates.

March 10, Mt. Vernon Clinic. Ted Becker, "Steam Locomotive Appliances"

March 19, Santa Fe Mini-Meet. Visit

<http://www.atsfrr.com/convention/MiniMeets/17th%20Northwest%20Santa%20Fe%20Mini.pdf> for more information.

April 2, Pennsylvania Rail Road Meet, Burien, WA.

April 14, Mt. Vernon Clinic. Dioramas and Mini-Clinics.

May 12, Mt. Vernon Clinic. Kevin Klettke "Fleet Weathering." This is a reprise of his well-received Clinic at PDX 2015 on efficiently weathering large fleets of rolling stock. Not to be missed. Here's a sample:



Visit Kevin's website at <http://wnrr.net>.

For **other NMRA events** in the area please refer to the 4th Division Grab Iron, online at <http://4dpr.com>. If you would like to subscribe to the Grab Iron, go to <http://4dpr.com/grab-iron-overview/>.

Pre-Clinic Dinner

For those interested in extra socializing over a bite to eat before the Clinic, we have arranged pre-Clinic, no host, dinners. Attached is a Google Map link for the Chuckwagon, 800 North 4th Street, Mt. Vernon.

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Chuck+Wagon+Drive-In/@48.4278742,-122.3350384,15z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0xbfa9400ad7b6761d>

Arrival & Entry

As a courtesy to the other attendees, the MC and the presenters, please try to arrive before 7:00. If you are unavoidably late, please enter quietly without interrupting the proceedings. We are not permitted to have the main Northeast entry door unlocked nor are we permitted to prop it open. **Entry is through the rear door at the Southwest corner of the building which is kept open in the evening.** A sign will be posted at the correct door (there is another rear door on the West side).

Sponsorship

The Mt Vernon Model Railroad Clinic is a NMRA sanctioned event. The 4th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region of NMRA provides funding of operating budgets for clinics in the division including ours. Thus, NMRA membership is heartily encouraged.

If you are not quite ready to sign up for a full membership, you might want to try the [6-month Rail Pass trial membership](#) for only \$9.95. It includes 6 months of **NMRA Magazine**, plus all regular member benefits (except voting). Please let Ted Becker or Roger Johnson know if you wish to join NMRA.

Unsubscribe

If you no longer wish to receive electronic mailings from the Mt Vernon Model Railroad Clinic please send an email to John O'Connell at john94965@gmail.com.

Appendix

From the [BNSF website](#)....

Inspection and Detection

To help ensure the safety of our track and bridges, most of our key routes are inspected at least four times a week, which is twice the frequency required by the FRA. Our busiest mainline routes are inspected daily. In addition, our sophisticated inspection vehicles use lasers to precisely

measure track geometry and ultrasound to inspect rails for internal defects. Three vehicles also test track strength on branch lines, sidings and yards.

BNSF's extensive network of wayside detectors measures conditions of each passing freight car, so that we can identify undue stresses on the wheels or other equipment and prevent potential equipment failures.

Our Network Operations Center in Fort Worth is linked to WeatherData Services, Inc., to obtain advance warnings of adverse weather that might affect our rail operations. The center also has a direct link to the California Institute of Technology for real-time updates about earthquake activity to help us ensure the safety of our operation and employees.

