

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

The Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Clinic

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Location: The home of John White, Anacortes - see map on page 3

Time: 7:00PM

Business:

1. Introductions and items 'for the good of the order.'
 2. The sharing of the joy of the season and the running of the trains.
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Wassail and Other Delights

Despite the temporary annulment of Rule G we will attempt to operate on John's On30 layout (*see pictures on page 7*) with DCC and sound, with dignity and care as adults, and try to belie the observation of the nonbelievers that we are playing trains like kids, again.

The Wickersham and Chuckanut Light Railway is open and operating. This new line incorporates Dick Haines and Al Frasch's modules on a new 38 ft. long extension in another aisle. The turntable at Chuckanut is in operation using mandraulic power, just like the real thing !

The reverse loop area has again been reconfigured and the polarity reverses in the two wyes now work correctly, at least they did recently ! The main bus/feed has been upgraded to 12g. multi core copper with help from the Extra Gang and there are two new Dispatchers Desks - one at the front and one in the loop area.

The Van Horn Engine House tracks can now be individually isolated to reduce the start current required for multiple sound equipped locomotives located in and around the Van Horn shed. Furthermore the Frasch Yard Sidings can also be isolated. Some of the PSX Block Relays have been replaced The Quantum Sound C16s, with their high start up current requirements, have been temporarily consigned to the back track. Perhaps these upgrades will stop the unwanted shut downs.

Some new Locos have arrived together with some Gas Engined Critters. New buildings are in evidence but the W&C scenery is still in the "white".

Whether we Wo'sl or Wassail the intention is to have fun, get some laughs, maybe watch a train video, enjoy the camaraderie, have some food and a little wine, and maintain the evolving tradition.

Unfortunately because of space limitations and the ever increasing size of our growing group this event is restricted to regular members of our group only.

Wassailers you are invited to the Wo'sl - but please leave Murphy at home!

The SV&W Model Railroading Calendar for December 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 BSME Open House @ Alger 11-4pm bsme.org
6	7	8	9 Clinic, aka Was'l, at John White's in Anacortes @ 7:00 PM	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 BSME Open House @ Alger 12:30-4pm bsme.org	21	22	23	24	25 "Getting Model Railroad Stuff Day" aka Christmas	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Future stuff:

- The 4th Division will put on the PNR Regional Convention next September out of Lynnwood's Embassy Suites, and could use some volunteers - e-mail Stu Rogers at sturogers@comcast.net

- The 4th Division puts on the annual Pacific Science Center Train Show in January (16th - 18th) and could use some volunteers to help put it on. Contact Frank Dekker at rekkedrails@juno.com or Jeff Moorman at kb7rr@ar1.net.

- Feb. 6 & 7th is the 19th Annual Train Show & Swap Meet in Monroe!!

Local Layout Progress Page

Dick Haines, of Oak Harbor, is an acknowledged expert at building structures that look as real as if you were standing there. Here is his latest creation, a Downtown Deco kit called "Addams Avenue." The 9" X 5" building is placed on 1" pink foam with hydrocal sidewalks, Atlas power poles and the street and building lights are powered.



Dick used water based washes and chinks to weather the building and finished the scene off with Woodland Scenics ground turfs. He then photographed the finished scene outside on a sunny day - one of the keys to great pictures of model railroad scenes. Thank you Dick for sharing this with the group.

On my Pilchuck Division of the BNSF, the New Westminster based RDC group has leased a part of Everett's Delta Yard Passenger tracks to hold the second RDC which travels once a day between New West and Everett to bring tourists (aka spenders) to the B.C. city to help their economy. Unfortunately, they forgot to include restroom facilities.....



The Last Clinic (November 11th) was a great success with Roger Ferris, Bobj Berger and CJ Riley coming up with their “Mart of model railroad stuff” and putting on a “Make-n-Take” clinic. People arrived early and the shopping went on before and after the clinic presentation. The “Make-



n-Take” was the making of a small building from printed paper glued to styrene, cut out and built up. Everyone was very busy and most were successful in completing their building - for some it was the first time they had ever built a scratch built structure.

A big thank you to Roger, Bobj and CJ!

Door Prizes were donated by the good people at



Performance R/C Hobbies in Burlington 360-755-9464 - drop by, maybe buy something and thank them for their support!!

Reminder: Frontier Building Industries Discount Card

Just a reminder for the group, Frontier Building Supply has graciously allowed our members to get a discount on ALL items purchased at one of their five stores in Skagit, Island and San Juan counties.

All you have to do is give John White your NMRA Membership # is to complete the card, and in about two weeks you should receive a laminated card from Al Frasch. Please e-mail your membership number to John White at johngeww@comcast.net.

For those who would like a Discount card but are not NMRA members, there is an opportunity to join NMRA as a **Rail Pass Member** for six months for only \$9.95 and this includes six copies of the NMRA Scale Rails publication. **After six months Rail Pass Members will need to renew at standard Membership rates at which time they will receive a new member pack. Renewal is not obligatory.**

Frontier has stores in Anacortes, Sedro Woolley, Oak Harbor, Freeland & Friday Harbor.



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Visit www.nmra.org to see what you're missing!

Fill out this form and include your payment. **U.S.:** Send \$9.95 (U.S.) to NMRA-Rail Pass Membership, 4121 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119. **Canada:** Send \$9.95 (Cdn) to NMRA-Canadian Rail Pass Membership, 69 Schroder Cres., Guelph, ON N1E 7B4, Canada.

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Also available in Canada!

"Rail Pass offer is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join at Rail Pass rates only once; membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. Rail Pass members can attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot vote or hold office and will not receive a New Member Pak."

NMRA RAIL PASS

So much bang. So few bucks.

Also, a Lending 'Library' reminder:

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

Some pictures from the Layout of John White

(right) Concrete is the main hub of activity, with the interchange to the standard gauge line on the left, the log dump on the right, the turntable in the middle. Concrete passenger station down from that, and (whew!) the limestone works and small engine house. Expect this to get somewhat busy during any operations!

(below) This little beauty is the engine that pulls the exclusive *General Manager's Special* around the layout to inspect all the operations of the layout! Watch out when it is approaching - it has total right of way and I hear he is a mean SOB when things are not going well!!



(left) This engine is but one of the many beautifully detailed locomotives, freight cars, passenger cars and structures that you can see on John's layout!

See you there!!

A consideration for a nice Christmas gift for someone, joining the All Aboard Washington group - especially now with the need to promote passenger rail and the necessary funding!!



Membership Application

Member Information (please print or type)

Name(s)	
Address	
City	
State	
ZIP Code	
Telephone (home)	
Telephone (business)	
E-Mail	

Please check one or more of the following:

- ☐ \$ 18 Student/Fixed Income Membership
- ☐ \$ 25 Basic Individual Membership
- ☐ \$ 50 Family Membership
- ☐ \$ 75 Patron Membership
- ☐ \$100 Leadership/Business Circle Membership
- ☐ Extra Contribution of \$ _____. ____ (Always appreciated)
- ☐ Gift will be matched by _____ (company/family/foundation)
 - ☐ form enclosed
 - ☐ form or match will be processed separately
- ☐ I (we) wish to have our gift remain anonymous.

Please make checks, corporate matches, or other gifts payable to:

**All Aboard Washington
PO Box 70381
Seattle, WA 98127**

Thank you for your support.
Find us on the web at www.allaboardwashington.org

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>
Sept. 9, 2009	D.Gould- J.White	Prototype GN Electrification Issue of 1ft.x2ft. Foam Bbds for Min.layout	Noel Holley J. White
Oct. 14, 2009	A.Frasch	Fine N Scale Products—A Manufacturers Overview	Dick Billings
Nov. 11, 2009	J.White	‘Make and Take Buildings’ Hands on	Roger Ferris
<u>Dec. 9, 2009</u>	J.White	Wassail or Was’l’ and other delights	John White
Jan. 13, 2010	R.Thom	“Narrow Gauge on 3 Continents” steam video	Rich Thom
<u>Feb. 10, 2010</u>	T.Hawkins J.White	Layout Visit FastTracks Turnout Construction Demo	Tom Hawkins White/Frasch
Mar. 10, 2010	Gonzales J.White	‘Make and Take Trees’ Hands on Judging of 1ft. x 2ft. Modules	Phil & Susan Gonzales Jack Hamilton
Apr. 14, 2010	A.Frasch J.White	‘Operational Methods’ Demonstration of unusual tools, jigs & fixtures	Frasch/Tingstad/Thom Group.
May 12, 2010	J.Mann	‘DCC- Beyond Decoders’ Semi-Advanced	John Mann
<u>Jun. 9, 2010</u>	J.White	Layout Visit to the <i>Eastern Sierra Pacific</i>	P. & S.Gonzales
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
Newsletter & 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
Diorama Shepherd
Meeting Co-Ordinator

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