

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

The Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Clinic

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

Location: Summer Hill Retirement community, second floor

Time: 7:00PM

Business:

1. Introductions and items 'for the good of the order.'
2. John White discusses Tools, Jigs and such items - see note page 2!
3. **Group discussion concerning Clinics for next Clinic Season - see below**
4. Jack Tingstad and Al Frasch Lead a Discussion on the topic of Operations

Model Railroad Operation Sessions

Jack Tingstad and Al Frasch, with input from Rich Thom, explain and discuss the concepts around designing and setting up a layout for Operation Sessions. Many questions will be posed and many options presented! If you have ever wanted to operate your layout in a prototypical manner or operate on someone else's layout, come and join in on the discussion!

Topics covered will include: considerations about the layout space; the design of the layout itself with respect to operations; the Operation Session itself, including getting operators and the styles of operations; the kinds of operation systems (TT&TO, CTC, Sequential or TWC); the electrical side of things; scenery considerations; the mental and time constraints and finally, where to get further information.

ALSO: Bring ideas for next season's Clinic presentations!

Remember, it is your clinic, what do you want to see/do?

Home Layout Visits?

Manufacturers Presentations?

How tos?

Make-'n-Takes?

Video/slide presentations of Prototypes?

Historical presentations?

Another Contest?

Field trips to local railroads - tourist or otherwise?

The Skagit Valley & Whidbey NMRA Clinic

April 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Clinic @ Summer Hill @ 7:00 Layout Operations	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

As you can see, not much going on this month, but do plan on one of these activities this summer and in September:

July 14 (Wed), Spokane, WA

SP&S Historical Society Convention. Info:- www.spsbs.org

July 14-17, Spokane, WA

Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association Annual Convention; Mirabeau Park Hotel. Info:-
mlamikea@gmail.com, www.nprha.org

Sept 16-18, Lynnwood, WA

Cascadian International, PNR 2010 Regional Convention. Embassy Suites hotel. Info:-
www.4dpnr.org/CascadianInternational2010.htm, Stu Rogers, sturogers@comcast.net

Also, if you know of other activities going on, let me know so that I can share them with the group!

Tools and Jigs

John White asks that you bring any special tools, jigs or such that you have made that make the building of a layout or structure easier to the **Clinic on April 14th**. Do you have a jig to make trestle bents? A jig for making scratchbuilt windows? Car frames? Track laying? Tunnel Portals? Retaining Walls? Benchwork? A jig for gluing? A jig for making turnouts? Trees? A tool you made for uncoupling? Other jigs and tools that you use?

Bring them to share with everyone.

February Clinic Pictures

“Better late than never” here is a look at the February Clinic at Tom Hawkins’ home in Anacortes. John White, with sidekick (me) showed the gathering how the Fast Tracks turnout jigs allows one to make turnouts in a matter of a couple of hours. Fast Tracks has a very large number



of possible turnouts, wyes, crossings and three ways for any scale from Z to O. A bit pricey, but especially when the trackwork is not available commercially, this may be a great option.

Meanwhile, people spent time railfanning Tom’s layout. The pictures here are from Rich Blake - thanks Rich!

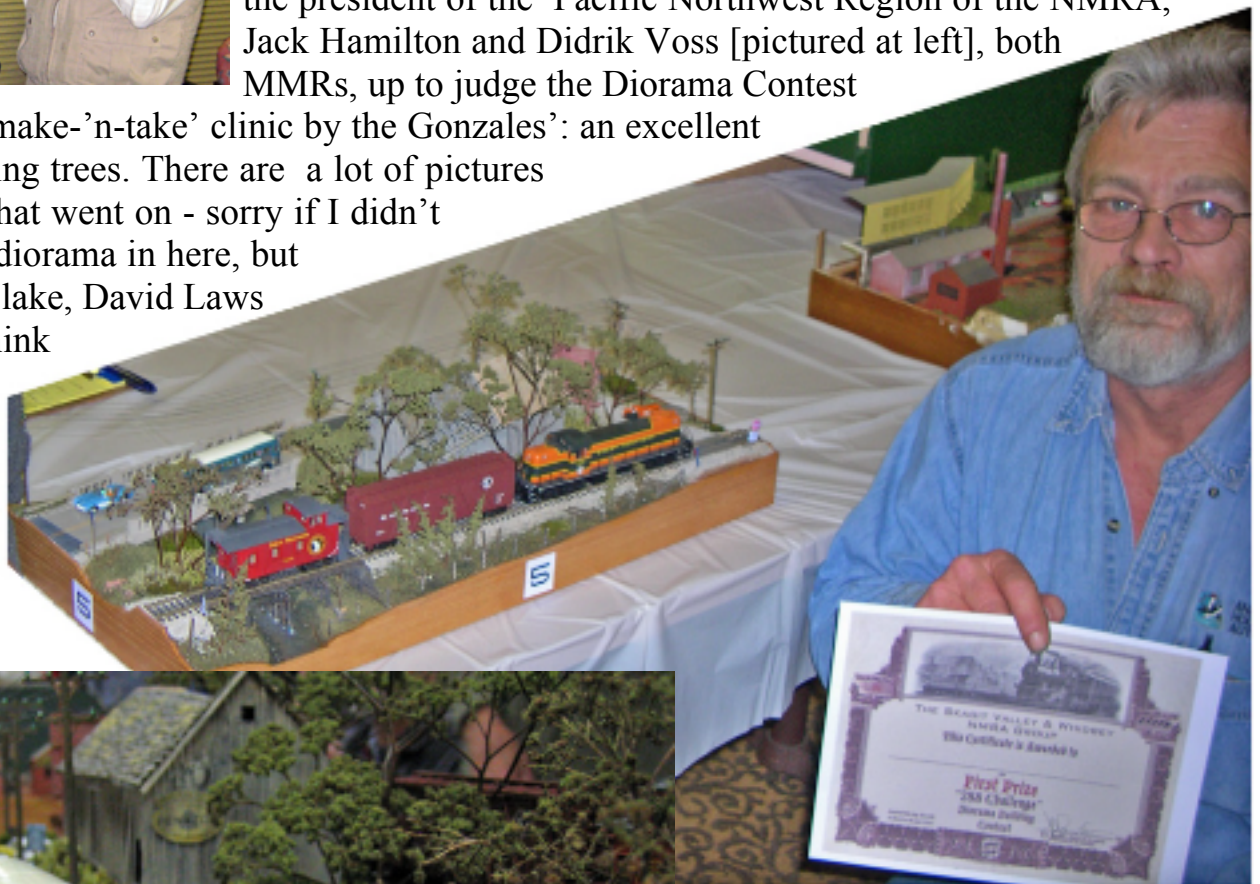




March Clinic and “288 Challenge Diorama Building Contest” Results

The March Clinic at Summer Hill was a great success, as we had the president of the Pacific Northwest Region of the NMRA, Jack Hamilton and Didrik Voss [pictured at left], both MMRs, up to judge the Diorama Contest

AND a great ‘make-’n-take’ clinic by the Gonzales’: an excellent method of making trees. There are a lot of pictures here to show what went on - sorry if I didn’t get everyone’s diorama in here, but between Rich Blake, David Laws and myself, I think most are here.



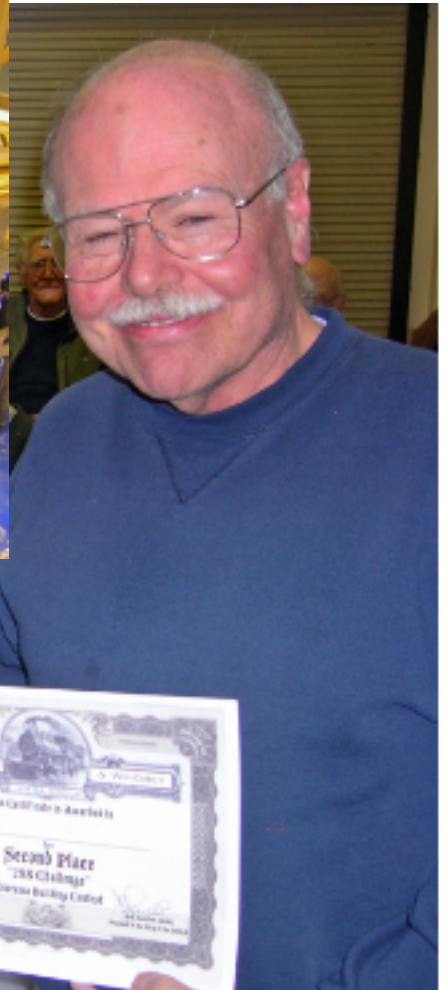
FIRST PRIZE: Steve Jaffray’s diorama of an old barn, road and, of course, trains. Steve has been wanting an excuse to build this particular building for a long time since he took pictures of the original several years ago. If you want to see the diorama, it should be on display at



Performance R/C Hobbies in Burlington for awhile. Steve’s Diorama also earned the vote for **“PEOPLES CHOICE.”**

Great job Steve!

SECOND PRIZE: Dick Haines' diorama of a structure being built out over the water earned Second Prize - I am sure we will see this on his layout someday - great job!



HONORABLE MENTION AWARDS: Rich Blake's backwoods themed Diorama earned First Honorable Mention.





Second Honorable Mention went to the Rail-to-Barge Diorama of John White. Left, Di Voss, MMR, is taking a very close look at John's work. This diorama will seamlessly attach to John's On30 home layout - we'll see it again at the next Was'!!



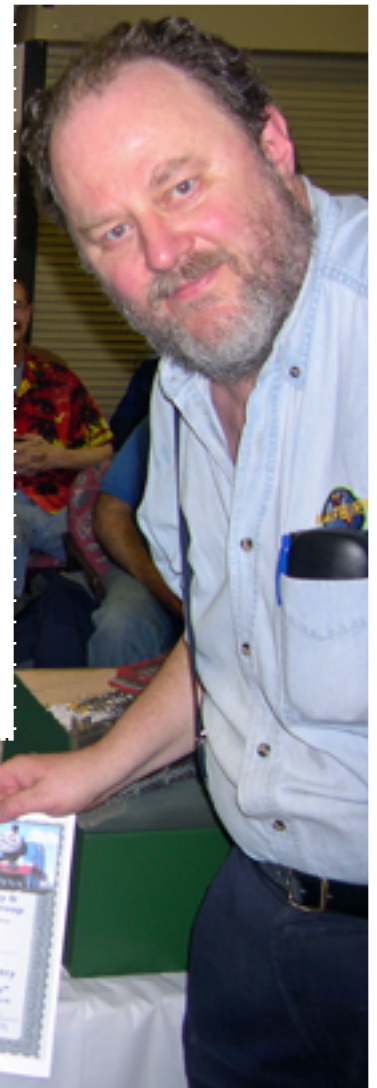
Third Honorable Mention went to Susan Gonzales' excellent street scenes, complete with, oh, can that

really be a baaaad lady being picked up? The amount of detail in the 288 sq in was fantastic - well done!



The Best Use of Space Award

went to the Diorama Shepherd himself, David Laws for his very seriously steep tram above Lewis and Clark Caverns State Park in Three Forks, Montana. Jack Hamilton is seen here looking over the entries - 14 of them! - and below, awarding David with the first of his two awards. The



other was for the whimsical diorama with a "cattle car." A tremendous thank you to David for all the time he put in to "shepherd" the group for the contest.



Other diorama's included Phil Gonzales' oil field scene with working pump jacks! And Bill Rutledge's great N-scale (which made it great right there!) British themed shunting layout.



Not pictured, but having dioramas present were Doug Greenfield, Gordon Jones, Tom Hawkins and me, Al Frasch. I know there were 2 others, but darned if I kept a list - sorry!

And, after all the Diorama excitement, trees were made!



The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.'s 75th Anniversary Photography Contest

Win a cab ride in a Union Pacific steam locomotive!

The National Model Railroad Association and the Union Pacific Railroad are pleased to announce a model photography contest to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NMRA. The NMRA will pick one photograph submitted by an NMRA member in good standing depicting one or more models of UP equipment and/or structures in a realistic scene. The photograph will be judged for prototype fidelity of the modeling and scene as well as for photographic art.

The member submitting the photograph will win a cab ride in one of the mainline steam locomotives operated by the Union Pacific on the Kansas City to Jefferson City leg of the Missouri River Eagle Excursion. Airfare (up to \$500.00), two hotel nights, and transportation to and from the excursion will be provided for the winner by the NMRA.

To be eligible, the photograph must be in an envelope postmarked (or originated in transit by a third-party service such as FedEx or UPS) by August 31, 2010, and received no later than September 7, 2010. Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there is no limit on the number of photographs a member may submit. Photographic prints, slides, or digital images are acceptable. Prints must be 8" x 10." Digital images must be taken with a camera of 7.1 megapixels or greater to satisfy the printing requirements. All submitted photographs shall become the property of the NMRA, and the NMRA and Union Pacific may use the photograph in any manner they choose. All members participating in the contest agree to provide to the NMRA the original medium of the photograph (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Please send all photographs to Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis MO 63111. Be sure to protect photographs from bending or mishandling in the mail.



And now for something a little different. Rich Blake was ‘playing’ around with some pictures of his diorama in Photoshop and came up with these artistic pictures - they would make great prints for framing! If you wish to know how to do this to some of your pictures, just ask Rich and I am sure he will come over to your house and teach you - well, maybe not over to your house - but he will tell you how he did these.



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 a requirement for attendance.

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	‘Layout Operation Considerations’ 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 Frasc
John Mann
Dan Gould & John Mann
Phil & Susan Gonzales
Rich Thom
Susan Gonzales
David Laws
John White