



[BNMR is a 100%
NMRA Member Club](#)

January meeting is our
annual dinner meeting.

Meeting begins at 6:30
pm at Denny's, Kitsap
Way, Bremerton.



The Gas Station on the HO Layout

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THE FLIMSY BOARD

Official Publication of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad, Inc

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. We belong to the NMRA's Pacific Northwest Region (PNR), 4th Division.

FLIMSY BOARD STAFF:

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Submittal deadline is the 25th of the month. Copyright 2020 BNMR, Inc.

Unless otherwise noted photos are by the Editor.

MEETINGS NOTICE:

The regular Business meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at the clubhouse in the Kitsap Mall, Silverdale, beginning at 7:00 PM. If the first Monday is a holiday, the meeting will be rescheduled to the second Monday of the month. The January meeting is our annual dinner meeting held as noted in the Events Calendar listing below.

Board meetings are held at a time and place set by the President. Refer to the Calendar below.

OFFICERS:

President:..... Bruce Himmerick
Vice President: Bob Jensen
Secretary: Bill Hupé
Treasurer : Wes Stevens
Sergeant-at-Arms: Ray Hagele
Directors:..... Bert Cripe, Mike Boyle,
Dick Stivers, Russell West

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

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

JANUARY CALENDAR

6th, 6:30 pmAnnual Dinner Business Meeting, Denny's Restaurant, Kitsap Way, Bremerton
14th, 7:00 pmNMRA 4th Division Clinic at United Way Building, Bremerton
18th - 20th[NMRA 4th Division Pacific Science Center Show, Seattle](#)
18th - 19th[Great Train Show, Western WA Fairgrounds, Puyallup](#)
25th - 26th[Great Train Show, Portland Expo Center, Portland](#)

2020 EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

January 6, 6:30 pm – Annual BNMRR Dinner & Business Meeting, Denny’s Restaurant, Kitsap Way, Bremerton.

January 14, 7:00 pm – PNR 4th Division Clinic at United Way Building, Bremerton.

[January 17-20 – PNR, 4th Division Pacific Science Center Train Show, Seattle.](#)

[January 18-19 – Great Train Show, Western Washington Fairgrounds, Puyallup.](#)

[January 25-26 – Great Train Show, Expo Center, Portland, Oregon](#)

February 3, 6 pm – Board meeting at Kitsap Mall.

February 3, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

February 11, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

[February 22-23 – United North West Train Show & Marketplace, Monroe.](#)

(TBD) March – Board meeting.

March 2, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

March 10, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

[March 21 – LK&R Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet, Three Rivers Mall, Kelso.](#)

(TBD) April – Board meeting.

April 6, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

April 14, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

[April 21 - 24 – Make Tracks to Eugene, 2020, PNR Convention, Valley River Inn, Eugene, Oregon.](#)

(TBD) May – Board meeting.

May 4, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

May 12, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

(TBD) June – Board meeting.

June 1, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

June 9, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

June 20, 10:00 am – BNMR Swap Meet – Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

(TBD) July – Board meeting.

July 6, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

July 14, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

(TBD) August – Board meeting.

August 3, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale.

August 11, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

September 7 – Labor Day – Business meeting moved one week to the 14th.

September 8, 7:00 pm – NMRA 4th Division Clinic, United Way Building, 4th St, Bremerton.

September 14, 7:00 pm – Business meeting at Kitsap Mall, Silverdale (delayed one week due to Labor Day).

(TBD) September – Board meeting.

(TBD) September 19-20 – North Olympic Peninsula Railroaders Train Show & Swap Meet, Port Angeles.

(to be continued...)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I trust everyone had a joyous holiday season. And, I wish you all a prosperous new year.

The last couple of months, we've been manning the store front or some of us like to call it the "Club House" at Kitsap Mall in Silverdale. It's been running fairly smoothly after a shaky start. Our being in here increases our exposure to the public, and encourages support in our favorite hobby. I think we still need to get the word out better to the general public about our opening in the Mall.

Bremerton Northern Model Railroad has the HO, N and a young Engineer's layout setup in the mall. All members should have plenty of running time. We were open every Friday 12-4, Saturday 10-4 and Sunday's 12-4 through the holidays. If any member wants to a run train any other times just let one of the key holders (Bob, Bill, and Bruce) know so we can set a time up to run trains.

Also last month, we had our annual election meeting. Thanks to Dick and Bill's efforts and the cooperation of the nominees, we ended up with at least one person nominated for each position. Congratulations are in order for all the successful candidates.

This month we have our annual dinner with a short business meeting at Denny's Restaurant on Kitsap Way in Bremerton. Hope to see you there.

Since being in the mall we have had several donations come to us and several more to come. Looks like the next swap meet will have a lot more items for us to sell.

.... Bruce Himmerick



VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Just a little note to all members in regards to BNMR activities for the year 2019 which has come to the end.

The year started out as usual with monthly meetings and a show schedule for the year. That was all to change in part by someone suggesting we pursue the possibility of displaying our layout in an empty store front at the Kitsap Mall. What some asked if we were crazy or no that can't be possible. That someone who has a lot of whiskers and some good ideas (Bruce) pursued this effort and began negotiating with the mall management.

An agreement was reached and that is where the club now resides with a one year lease. We have gained new members through this effort, had several high quality collections given to us which will add to our financial needs, and most important is the rapport with the public and the promoting of the hobby in general.

I look forward to a 2020 with high hopes that the club will continue to grow and prosper in many ways.

See you at the BNMR Club House.

.... Bob Jensen



Photo submitted by Peter Bieber

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Welcome to the January 2020 issue of the Flimsy. This month begins a new era not just for the calendar, but for the club with a new officer lineup and new Flimsy editor.

A big *Thank You* must go to Bill Hupé for his years of work to produce this newsletter for us! I have taken over the job to give him a break and to earn points towards the NMRA Volunteer Achievement Certificate.

I will be making slight changes as the year progresses, but it is my intention to keep the look familiar while adding some features such as links to internet sites and navigational links within the publication itself.

Any blue, underlined text will be a link to either a related piece in the Flimsy or an external internet site. Use these links just as you would in a web browser.

The front page of each issue will include a photo. I welcome photo submittals from members and I know some of you are active rail fans. So please share your favorite photos with us. If you have photos of your own layout or the layout of others, please consider sharing those with us. Any photo file format is acceptable and I can perform formatting and processing in Photoshop if needed. A resolution of 300 dpi is preferred.

If individuals are identifiable in your photos, please get their permission prior to submitting for publication.

Looking back at 2019, we can reflect on some significant events. First was a new location for our Swap Meet held in the Kitsap Mall last June. By all accounts it was a success, for both income and size. We received very favorable comments about the venue from the vendors.

Second was the move into mall space K01. With the establishment of a 'clubhouse' all members have a place to run trains in a relaxed setting at their own pace.

Some members would like to establish some form of organized operations on the HO layout. Having the layout readily available will allow that option.

The move into the mall has resulted in several new members and we expect to see more as the year progresses and the word of our new home spreads.

Response from the public has been very positive and our Saturday open house format has been well attended. While modest, our donation box income is important and very appreciated.

Now that we are in the public's, eye so to speak, we should be able to present the hobby to many more people than is possible at train shows where we were 'preaching to the choir' so to speak.

Not travelling to train shows also means we are not using 4th Division funds to support towing the trailer all over the region.

These two changes are good for the hobby and the Division. Thus both we and the 4th Division will be better able to support the NMRA's mission of promoting the hobby!

.... BC



Photo submitted by Peter Bieber

OFF THE MAINLINE

A monthly report from our secretary. BC

Happy Holiday Greetings all....

Another whirlwind month in the clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall.

Bob Jensen has removed the bubbling hot spring fed pond in the farm yard, and will be removing the other water scene as well. These will be done soon. As the layout dries out, we are finding adjustments need to be made.

Bert C. and I "butt joined" one of the North passing tracks as an experiment and it works well. We'll probably do the other North passing track next.

I hope we can get started on our switching accessory modules early next year. Let's form a committee and get started...

[\(The HO layout standards can be downloaded from our website. BC\)](#)

We gained two new members in December: Matt Frampton (an N-scaler) and Garrett Zimmerman (HO-scaler). Welcome Matt and Garrett.

Remember our continued growth depends on all of us!

.... Bill Hupé

WEBSITE NEWS

Our website resides on a server with software that provides an email list feature. We currently use an email list for the N scale division members to communicate between themselves.

Another email list for general communication can be created for use by the entire membership.

The beauty of an email list is that only one address is used to reach all recipients on the list. Any member of the list can reach all list members with one posting without having to address the message to a long list of recipients.

Here is how it could work. Once you compose your message, just address it to 'members@bnmrr.org', for example. It is always a good idea to include something on the subject line and please 'sign' your name - really helps to do that.

Next push the 'send' button. Your message would be sent to all addresses in the database on our server. Sometimes it take a few minutes for all of the message to reach the addressees.

One important note: The server will not send a message if you include other addresses - just use the email list address, otherwise your message is delayed until the moderator reviews it.

.... BC



Photo submitted by Peter Bieber

PRODUCT OF THE MONTH

This column reports on a product or vendor of interest to model railroad hobbyists. Topics will be selected at random based upon perceived appeal of the products. Frequency of the feature will vary. BC

I had intended to mention a UK based vendor this month, but Joe Fugate at Model Railroad Hobbyist beat me to it.

One of the products I found at the [Deluxe Materials](#) website is called [Create and Shape](#). Since Joe didn't mention it, I will.

From the product website: "A lightweight, non-sagging scenic modeling material for the creation and casting of realistic diorama groundwork."

"Create and Shape can be molded and smoothed with a soft, wet brush before completely dry."

"It dries without cracking to a material with great structural integrity bonding wood, plaster, plastic, foam etc. It can be cut, sawn and filed to shape when dry without crumbling ... then glued and colored with acrylic... Ideal for repairs and special scenic projects where strength and durability is required."

While I have not used it, it does sound like a good product to replace Scultamold or Hydrocal. Available from [Walthers](#).



Deluxe Materials photo

N SCALE DIVISION REPORT

Finally, we have an operational N scale layout and a location to use it. While the layout can only function as a display layout at this time, we intend to add a yard and more modules with sidings to serve customers and generate rail traffic. Additional passing sidings will be added to facilitate operations.

It is important to note that our NTRAK modules are owned by individual club members, unlike the HO layout which is owned by the club.

Last month I added track to the tunnel which allows the connection of an adaptor module. This provides a means to connect my Free-mo fiddle yard to the layout. That addition means we can now park trains in the fiddle yard and free up the return loops. This allows the return loops to be used for passing of trains.

Erik is thinking about a design for a module with an intermodal facility. Bob W. mentioned adding a scenic, abandoned siding to his module.

Bruce has acquired a used Digitrax system for our use, since I sometimes need to use mine with another group or at home. Included are three wireless throttles. We will build a new DCC cart to house the additional system soon. Having two systems available ensures we will have no lost run days.

In regard to building modules, Bruce and I have discussed completing six to eight modules to the point of adding track. The modules would have legs and the basic wiring installed. Members could then lay the track to their desired plans.

We will evaluate what materials are on-hand and what needs to be purchased. Once the bare bones modules are built, they will be available for purchase by members.

One final thought for this month: always refer to your red handbook first - answers to most questions can be found there.

.... BC

NEUMANN'S CROSSINGS

This occasional column reports and reviews new products of interest from various sources.

.... BC

Kato has a new passenger train collection available:

[The Chicago & NorthWestern '400'](#)

From the Kato website:

“The Chicago & NorthWestern 400 Series Trains were named for the concept of a “400 mile trip in 400 minutes,” with one of the most well-known examples being the Twin Cities 400 between Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul.”

“Pullman Bi-Level Passenger Cars started their operation on the Flambeau 400 and the Peninsula 400 trains in 1958. At the time, these two 400 trains were the only ones using these then-new Bi-Level cars. In addition to the Bi-level coaches, these two 400 trains also included a special Bi-Level Parlor Car and a Coach-Buffer Car to distinguish the service level from regular Chicago & North Western commuter trains and meet the rider’s needs on the longer distance trips.”



KATO USA Photo

Prices vary from \$110.00 to \$498.00 (MSRP) with some units by special order only. EMD F8A locomotives are available with ESU Lok-Sound decoders by special order only.

Athearn has scheduled another production run of its Genesis series EMD F7/F9 A and B unit diesels.

A release date has been set for September 2020. Features on the HO scale models will include LED directional lighting with constant headlight brightness, photo-etched metal and injection molded detail parts, interior details, sander lines, uncoupling levers, rubber MU and trainline hoses, windshield wipers, lift rings, wire grab irons, detailed fuel tank with fuel fillers, fuel gauges, breather pipes, and retention tanks.

Sound units will have Tsunami 2 decoders.

Units will be available in Rio Grande, Northern Pacific, Southern Pacific, Cotton Belt, Burlington Northern, and Milwaukee Road paint schemes.



Milwaukee Road



Northern Pacific

Also coming are GP7 diesel road switchers with road names to include Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Chicago North Western, Rio Grande and Weyerhaeuser.



Chicago, Burlington & Quincy

Athearn Images