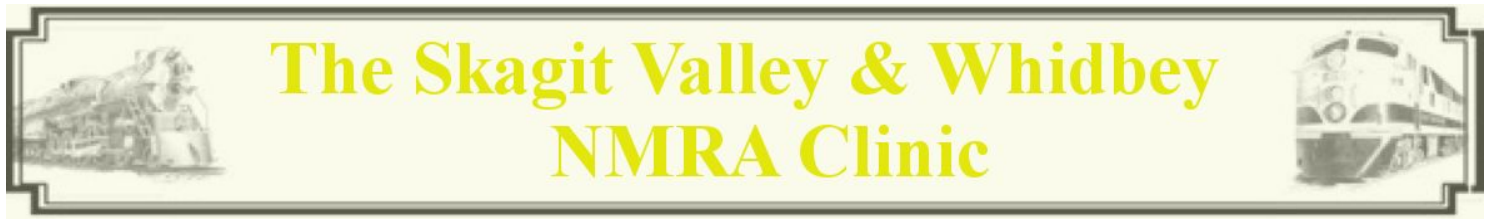


The 4th Division of the Pacific Northwest Region of the
National Model Railroad Association Presents



November 2020 Newsletter

Due to the quarantine the November (in person) clinic is **CANCELLED**. Even our pre clinic dinner would be inappropriate at this time.

At the October 2020 clinic!

We had our first online Zoom clinic courtesy of chairman Rich Blake.

OCTOBER CLINIC REPORT

SV&W clinics are back and Online. 14 OCT 2020 Rich Blake kicked off our first Zoom clinic sponsored by the NMRA Pacific Northwest Region 4th Division. We had 25 Zoom participants with 9 of those SV&W members – so a big thanks to those who took the time to get onboard the Zoom train.

Our subject was Locomotive Kitbashing and Modifications for Realism and Operations by Rich himself. This clinic will be available on the 4DPNR Youtube channel so no need to do a full report – go watch the clinic. In a nutshell, Rich showed several slides outlining his modifications, painting and weathering of one of his On30 logging locomotives to make it a unique emulation of certain prototype features. He showed various scratchbuilt details and some major modifications to relocate and change some of the locos appliances. The final portion he discussed electrical contact reliability and decoder tuning using JMRI.

The clinic went well however was not without issue. Within the first 15 minutes and thanks to Whidbey wind storms, Rich lost power at his house and had to resort to using a cell phone pointed at his battery powered computer screen to conduct the clinic. Needless to say, it was not the best production but the show did go on. He is re-recording the clinic for the Youtube channel so the slides will be clear and readable this time. Again, thanks to all the folks that patiently stuck with overcoming the technical difficulties.

Look for this and other great clinic and layout tour videos on the 4dPNR YouTube channel
<http://www.youtube.com/c/4DPNRMovies>

CLINIC NEWS

As we have seen, the online clinic format using Zoom is the only method for conducting we have for the near future during this pandemic. As such, many of the 4th Division Clinics are completely online now including the SV&W. We are conducting our Zoom clinics on the regular 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00PM as usual (the Zoom meeting will be open at 6:30PM). I have also setup a recurring schedule in Zoom so that the meeting link/ID and Passcode is the same every month.

The information is as follows, you can save it for each SV&W Clinic. I will also post reminders each month with the same info for each upcoming clinic.

Whidbey Monthly Clinic

LINK: <https://zoom.us/j/98344008662?pwd=VmFnUEZwUnVmNjlyNElxeUFmT3Q5dz09>

MEETING ID: 983 4400 8662

PASSCODE: 738084

Start Time: 7:00PM

Upcoming 2020 clinics!

Clinic Dates

Nov 11, 2020

Dec 9, 2020

Jan 13, 2021

Feb 10, 2021

Mar 10, 2021

Apr 14, 2021

May 12, 2021

You may also notice here that there are no subjects listed, why is that? Because I need VOLUNTEERS to step up and do some clinics. Same as in-person meetings, using Zoom is simple and effective with your typical presentation methods – speaking and pictures. Powerpoints are preferred but a group of pictures that can be talked to are fine also.

Here are a few scenarios to consider for online clinics:

Clinician makes powerpoint and shares screen in zoom while presenting (normal method). People can ask questions via “chat” and can be answered after clinic slides or active participation with zoom host allowing “unmute”

Clinician makes powerpoint as usual but is not zoom knowledgeable. Send powerpoint to Clinic host. Host shares screen in zoom while clinician talks. Same could be done with layout tour and static pictures.

Clinician creates notes and photos to support a clinic but does not have powerpoint skills. Send materials to MS Office savvy person and compile powerpoint. Present as per 1 or 2 above.

Live clinic. This can be done using a cell phone, tablet or webcam connected via zoom. Clinician does clinic live by showing work/layout and describing activity live streaming. Requires some knowledge on media/technology use. Maybe some other items such as tripods or stands. Live clinic could also be chalk talks with camera focused on person talking and dry erase board/flip chart/chalk board, etc. More difficult but certainly entertaining and doable in zoom.

Please contact us if you have questions or have ideas. We need to populate the calendar ASAP.

Rich Blake – slugsmaasher@oakharbor.net

Susan Gonzales - fishnutztoo@frontier.com

Cliff Aaker – cliff@aaker.net

Our Whidbey & Skagit clinic members should also participate in the online discussion group at PNWRRModelers@groups.io

If you aren't already subscribed do so by sending an email to the above link.

4TH DIVISION ZOOM LAYOUT TOURS

You can expect a regular layout tour every Saturday at 10:00 AM. The Zoom link will be posted on the Grab Iron.

4dpnr.com

One of the best clinic options is the Zoom meetings put on by the NMRA [4th division](#).

The 4th division also provide a youtube archive of past Layout tours and clinic videos you can access at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-pc9_xA-w2t3RdhLZ7BNOA

You can also visit the NMRA youtube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHw-7-1FWB5zQgTM0ZVY-Yw>

Archives of the NMRA newsletter maintained by editor Greg Kujawa are also available. View the August issue pnr.nmra.org/switchlist

Down the line:

No progress has been made on finding a new venue for our clinics. Until the quarantine appears to be coming to an end we will pursue the Zoom option.

Layout Progress:

Renown model railroader [Dick Haines](#) has sent some videos of his layout. I haven't attempted this before but I think most of you should be able to manage these. They are in a format friendly to Windows but the rest of us should be ok with them. These are links to video files.

<http://ww2.whidbey.net/clifa/clinic/BSLLLO-UP-diesel-at-crossing.MOV>

http://ww2.whidbey.net/clifa/clinic/BSLLLO_steam-buggies-on-trestle.MOV

I have posted some pictures from my new layout. Having to move it to a different part of the house I took this opportunity to start over. I know many of you have built multiple layouts and understand the need to do so.



This is a view of the 14 foot peninsula



This is the end of the peninsula which will support a curved trestle.



A closeup of the benchwork. $\frac{3}{4}$ inch plywood will rest on top of the upright 1X3's.

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