

THE FLIMSY BOARD



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

Watch your email and
the website for news and
updates about meetings,
clinics, and clubhouse
status.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

As mentioned in previous issues, the point of this club's newsletter is to provide a place for important information to be presented to the members and for the members to share their efforts through words and photos.

If you desire to contribute material (text or photos) for publication, submit material to me at shepperd0718@comcast.net.

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TRAIN TRIVIA

The world's first model railroad was built for whom?

- ◆ John Rockefeller's 8 year old son
- ◆ Emperor Napoleon III's 3 year old son
- ◆ Henry Ford's 11 year old younger brother

The world's largest model railroad is located in?

- ◆ Bruges, Belgium
- ◆ Hamburg, Germany
- ◆ Geneva, Switzerland

How much do Americans spend annually on model trains and accessories?

- ◆ \$94 million
- ◆ \$317 million
- ◆ \$897 million

THE FLIMSY BOARD SUMMARY

Official Publication of the Bremerton Northern Model Railroad

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.

FLIMSY BOARD STAFF:

Editor: Bob "Shep" Shepperd
Submit Contributions to: shepperd0718@comcast.net

Submittal deadline is the 30th of the month, publication date is the weekend after the business meeting.
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MEETINGS NOTICE:

General Business meetings are held as set by the President on the second Saturday of the month in our clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall in Silverdale. The meeting begins at 10 am.

Board meetings are held as set by the President the last Saturday of the month in our clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall in Silverdale. The meeting begins at 10 am.

Alternate dates will be scheduled when the meeting falls on a holiday.

"Social" Club Breakfasts are held at All Star Lanes in Silverdale starting at 8:30a.m. on the First Saturday of the month.

Clinics are held on the Third of the Saturday in the clubhouse and begin at 10 am.

OFFICERS:

President: Bill Hupé
Vice President: Jerry Enders
Secretary: Trish Williams
Treasurer: Bert Cripe
Directors: Mark Stephens
Bob "Shep" Shepperd
Jim Hochstein
Librarian: Tom Barrett
Web Site: <http://www.bnmrr.org>

NEW CLUB MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest club members:

Brian Drake and his son Oliver.

They are interested in both HO and O scale with an interest of Southern Pacific.

TRAIN TRIVIA ANSWERS

The world's first model railroad was built for whom? Emperor Napoleon III's 3 year old son

The world's largest model railroad is located in? Hamburg, Germany

How much do Americans spend annually on model trains and accessories? \$897 million

Shep

BREMERTON NORTHERN MODEL RAILROAD CALENDAR

Note: All dates and times are subject to change - check back often for updates.

MAY 2025

1st..... Thursday Open House 12pm to 4 pm.
3rd..... Saturday Social Breakfast Meeting at the bowling ally 8:30 am.
3rd.....Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
8th Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
10th Saturday Business meeting, 10 am.
10th.....Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
15thThursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
17th..... Saturday 4D Westside Clinic 10 am. in the Clubhouse.
17th Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
24th Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
29th.....Board Meeting starting at 10 am.
29th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.

JUNE 2025

5th.....
7th..... Saturday Social Breakfast Meeting at the bowling ally 8:30 am.
7th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
12th Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
14th..... Saturday Business Meeting 10am.
14th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
19th.....Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
21st..... Saturday 4D Westside Clinic 10 am.
21st..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
26thThursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
28th.....Board Meeting starting at 10 am.
28th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.

JULY 2025

3rd..... Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
5th..... Saturday Social Breakfast Meeting at the bowling ally 8:30 am.
5th.....Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
10th..... Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
12th..... Saturday Business Meeting 10am.
12th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
17th Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
19th..... Saturday 4D Westside Clinic 10 am.
19th..... Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
24th.....Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
26th.....Board Meeting starting at 10 am.
26th.....Saturday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.
31st.....Thursday Open House 12 pm to 4 pm.

OUR PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

From the President's Desk.

Once again thank you for supporting my addiction. Without you and the deal Bruce worked with the Kitsap Mall I would probably be a vegetable, hanging out in my bedroom in front of my computer.

Things are going well for us. The last 2 months we have averaged around 120 visitors on Saturdays. We have gained new members. Our Mentor Program is working well. Thanks, Bert, for setting that up. Al Lowe has ventured into our hobby full on. With little previous knowledge he has built a new Young Engineers layout. It should be up and running this week. Come in and check it out. Thanks, Al, for taking that project on. Speaking of coming in... we changed the Membership meetings and Westside Clinic to Saturday morning to encourage Member participation. So far only Jerri has shown up. The Membership meeting is the Second Saturday and the West Side Clinic the Third Saturday. A shout out to Scott, in building his new modules he has generated a lot of questions about it. A BIG shout out to Bert, he completed the Member's Handbook and delivered it to most members.

As always, I'm in the clubhouse most days from 12:00-4:30. Come in and run your tarins or help on the layouts. Dusting. Replacing broken trees. Electric work on the Lionel layout. Vacuum the carpet. The list of things to do never ends.

Bill



THE CLUB'S LAYOUTS' DEVELOPMENTS/IMPROVEMENTS

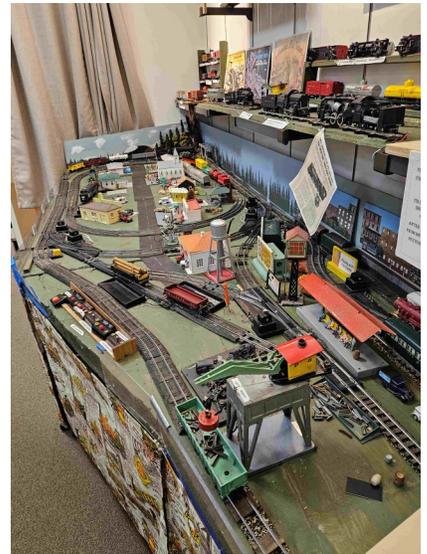


We recently participated in the Olympic Collectible Expo held in the mall. I understand we sold several hundred dollars worth of inventory.



On the left is a photo of the current state of the HO Extension. The businesses and industries are installed and much ground cover is in place.

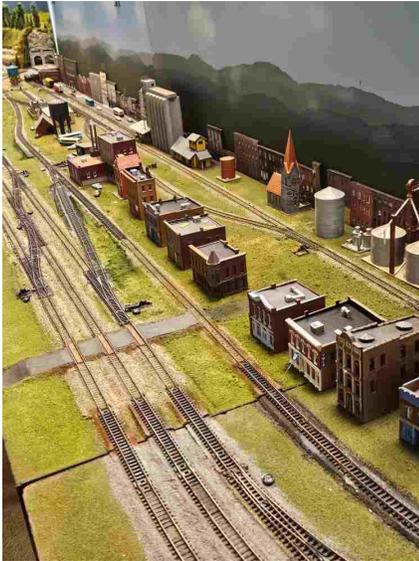
On the right is the S scale American Flyer layout. Jim Hochstein has set the layout up such that his industries and businesses are on modules. That way he can swap out the various modules giving the layout a different "look." He's recently installed the "Moe and Joe" lumber dumping car & station.



On the left is a photo of the current state of Patricia Williams layout. She's working steadily getting the ground cover and mountain looking great.

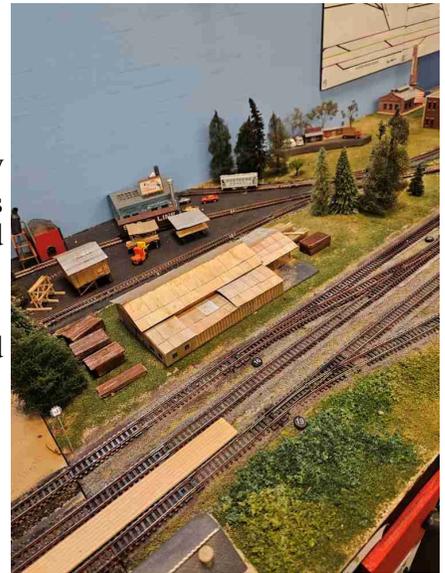
On the right is the HO scale Young Engineer's layout built and paid for by Al Lowe. Thank you Al. This was nicely done and especially noteworthy in that this was his first attempt doing anything of that nature.





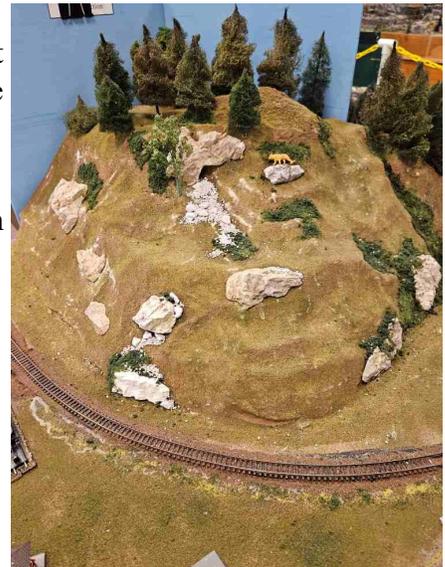
The N scale layout is being steadily improved. On the left is an business area with structures being placed trackside.

On the right is the recently added planning mill and lumber facility.



On the left is a photo of the current state of the intermodal station on the N scale layout.

On the right is a completed mountain section on the N scale layout.



The N scale layout crew is working on a new 10 foot fiddle yard. In addition, Scott has obtained a supply of plastic (plexiglass). Sections of this are being cut in half and will be attached to the fascia to act as a barrier. This will enable us to remove the yellow “chain” separating the layout from direct contact with the general public which will allow more freedom of movement within the clubhouse.

Dave Thompson is working on the HO scale layout to get the road grade crossing working. He was able to get it operational on the worktable. He uses IR Diode/LEDs to make it come on/go off automatically; he installed it on the layout but he’s been unable to get it functioning properly on the layout to date. His work never ends. For safety, he is installing magnetic turnout switches at the four turnout switches on the layout that connect the three Divisions—the Branch and the two Mainlines. Traffic on these typically travel in opposing directions. When operational, these new switches will require the operator to use a magnet to throw the switch. Believe it or not, we’ve had instances were someone (presumably a member of the public) has thrown a switch causing head-on collisions. This will eliminate any future occurrence.

A READING INDEX FOR OPERATORS

The late Andy Sperandio wrote 'The Operators' column, in Model Railroader', during 9 years for a total of 108 columns. For those who are considering joining formal operations sessions, I think that these articles are very insightful. This may seem like a lot of reading but these are only one-page articles. I certainly cannot present the amount of information contained in Andy's one-page articles. **Note:** The articles were usually on the last page of the magazine. All issues are available in the club's library.

2007

January: OS-ing trains
February: Yard limits May: Yard work
September: Servicing passenger trains
November: Name every track
December: Timetables as operating aids

2008

January: Ways to way freight
February: More ways to way freight
April: Faster switching at slow speed
July: Freight station operations
August: Passenger train schedules
November: The Blocking trains
December: Switch lists

2009

February: Sure spots for switching fun
December: Authority to use the main track - part 1

2010

January: Authority to use the main track – part 2
February: Operating by the clock
March: Only perfect is good enough
April: Operate like an “old head”
July: Switching mail and express
September: Perishable operations – part 1
October: Perishable operations – part 2
December: Blue signal protection

2011

January: The Train dispatcher
April: Interchange takes freight cars anywhere
June: Superiority of trains
July: Running on schedule
August: Lining switches back to normal
September: Meeting opposing trains
October: Forms of train orders
December: Arriving in a freight yard

2012

February: Shortcuts for blocking and routing cars
March: Yard tracks, not yard limits
April: How many operators?
July: Modeling transfer operations
September: Do you need a throttle?
October: Aids to navigation

Article Continued on the Next Page

2013

January: Getting a session started

February: Operating with fiddle yards

May: Go for the long haul

June: Places for paperwork

October: Two useful rules

November: Car cards and waybills

December: Card files for car cards

2014

January: From cards to trains

March: Basics of car switching

May: Prefer “riding” to “walking”

December: Meet the yard crew

2015

January: Basic operators' lingo

February: Switching with hand signals

April: Passenger train consists

May: Practicing what I preach

June: A Good pre-session checklist

November: Moving empty freight cars

Photos by Shep



These three photos are of works I thought especially noteworthy. The first is from Trish William's layout in the clubhouse. The second is from Fred White's HO home layout. I think the trees and other vegetation are exceptionally well done. The third is of Dale Metzger's home Sn3 layout. Notice how the foreground and background blend. This has been accomplished on his entire layout.

UPCOMING EVENTS AROUND THE REGION

Visit the club website for updates: <http://www.bnmrr.org/upcoming.html>

Friday, Saturday & Sunday

May 9th thru 11th

2025 PNR Convention

**“The Ainsworth Connection,”
Hosted by the 5th Div.**

Red Lion, Pasco WA

July 14-19, 2025

The 90th NMRA

**National Model Railroad Convention,
STATION No. VI**

– Novi, Michigan

<https://pnr5d.org/pnr-5th-division-home-page/2025-pnr-convention/>

**Saturday, September 27th, 9:30 am to
2:30pm**

**Southwest Washington Model Rail-
roaders Swap Meet**

**Battle Grund High School Gym (North
Entrance)**

250 N. Parkway, Battle Ground WA

larry.sprenkel@gmail.com

**Saturday, November 22nd, 10am to
4pm.**

**Longview, Kelso, & Rainier Model RR
Club**

Model Train & Toy Swap Meet

**Cowlitz County Event Center, 1900 7th
Ave, Longview WA**

flickh@yahoo.com

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