

Train No. 6
Volume 50
December
2025

THE FLIMSY BOARD

A publication of
BREMERTON
NORTHERN
MODEL RAILROAD

*Kitsap Mall,
Silverdale,
Washington
Since 1973*

*"Our life is a
constant journey.
The landscape
changes, the people
change, but the train
keeps moving. Life is
the train, not the
station"*

Paulo Coelho

HOLIDAY EDITION, 2025

From the President's Desk...

When I first started writing this letter, things were going well for us. Last month we have averaged around 120 visitors on Saturdays. This number is very similar to last summer's numbers. We have gained another new member-welcome Mike Bagaason! Mike is a retired Dentist from Oregon and his interest is in O Scale Hi Rail.

Now the bad news. Our neighbors have decided they may want to expand into our current space. They came and visited our space, took measurements and explored our space. The good news is the mall is looking for a space for us. Any action will probably take time. I will keep you all posted.

We lost Tom Barrett to cancer since I last wrote. Tom was instrumental in designing and wiring the layout. Tom joined the club shortly before I did. I enjoyed his stories about the Corvette and his sailboat "The Emerald Lady". UP Rules!

Major Changes... We have changed our Thursday operation hours-they are now 2-6pm. However, in reality, operations are from 12 noon-6pm. I also suspended the Fourth Division Westside Clinic. This decision was based on low participation and the lack of volunteer clinicians.

Our new officers by 'my proclamation' are Vice President – Jerry Enders; N Scale Director – Peter Bieber; and At Large Director – Jim Hochstein. Thanks to all for stepping forward.

Special thanks to Frank Ralph for stepping up and vacuuming the clubhouse.

Once again thank you for supporting my addiction. As always, I'm in the clubhouse most days from 12:00-4:30pm. Come in and run your train, or help on the layouts, dusting, replacing broken trees... the list of things to do never ends.

I hope all your holidays are filled with joy,

Bill

Member News

Scott Surber went to the NMRA convention. He has also been working on the Fourth Division Zoom tour of our facilities.

He also helped at the Washington State History Museum Model Train Festival.

Adam Richards has been entering the modules into the xtrkcad program.

Bill Hupé is currently working on a script for Kitsap Western Layout.

Anything to share or brag about? Let me know!
Notaditz@gmail.com

From the Editor's Desk

Special thanks to Bob "Shep" Shepperd and Bert Cripe for all past editorial work! (and to Bert for handing over the laptop, LOL)

You might notice some changes with this newsletter in the months ahead – please be patient with me! But also, if you've got any kind of input, shoot me an email – NotADitz@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you! Christina Richards

ANNOUNCING --

ANNUAL CLUB DINNER

JANUARY 14, 2026

6:00-8:00 PM

@ AMELIA'S HANGAR

RESTAURANT AND LOUNGE

8834 WA-3, Bremerton, WA 98312

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

WATCH YOUR EMAIL IN THE UPCOMING WEEKS TO RSVP!

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 IRAS as a 501(c)(7) social club. We are a 100% National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) membership club.

OFFICERS:

President:	Bill Hupé
Vice President:	Jerry Enders
Secretary:	Trish Williams
Treasurer:	Bert Cripe
Directors:	Mark Stephens
	Bob "Shep" Shepperd
N Scale Director:	Peter Bieber
At Large Director:	Jim Hochstein
Librarian:	Tom Barrett
Flimsy Board Editor:	Christina Richards
	Submit contributions to notaditz@gmail.com
	Submission deadline is the last day of each month, with publication date being the weekend after the business meeting. (Copyright 2024)
Website:	http://www.bnrr.org Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1988490354736510

MEETINGS NOTICE:

General business meetings are held as set by the President and, until further notice, will be held on a quarterly basis on the second Saturday of the quarter's month in our clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall in Silverdale. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m.

Board meetings are held as set by the President will be held the last Saturday of the month in our clubhouse at the Kitsap Mall in Silverdale. The meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. 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 8:30 a.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

4D West Side Clinics, when scheduled, will be held on a quarterly basis.

UPCOMING QUARTER:

January, 2026

Saturday, January 3 - Social Breakfast Club @ All Star Lanes, Silverdale
Saturday, January 31 - Board meeting @ The Clubhouse

February, 2026

Saturday, February 7 Social Breakfast Club @ All Star Lanes, Silverdale
Saturday, February 28 Board meeting @ The Clubhouse

March, 2026

Saturday, March 7 Social Breakfast Club @ All Star Lanes, Silverdale
Saturday, March 28 Board meeting @ The Clubhouse

April, 2026

Saturday, April 4 Social Breakfast Club @ All Star Lanes, Silverdale
Saturday, April 11 Business meeting @ The Clubhouse
Saturday, April 25 Board meeting @ The Clubhouse

NEW MEMBERS:

Mike Bagaason is a retired Dentist from Oregon and his interest is in O Scale Hi Rail. Welcome Mike!

DID YOU KNOW??

100% of donations on the first two open house days each month go to a local food bank?

Tours are available to groups such as schools, churches, and/or child or grandchild that would love to bring his/her group to visit president@bnmrr.org.

those with special needs, by appointment. Have a the trains? Contact Bill Hupé @

Closer to home upcoming Train Shows in 2026:

Boise, ID – January 3rd & 4th

Ridgefield, WA – January 10th & 11th

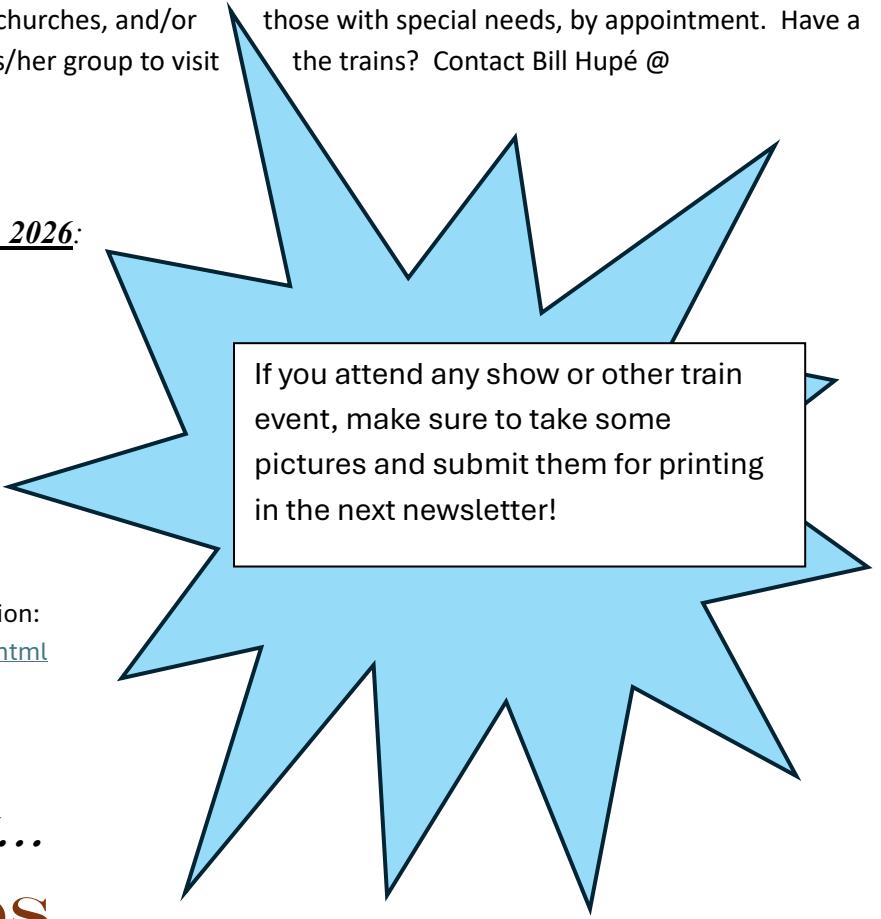
Puyallup, WA – January 17th & 18th

Kenniwick, WA – January 24th & 25th

<https://www.trainshow.com/>

Visit RailServe.com for events all around the nation:

https://www.railserve.com/events/train_shows.html



If you attend any show or other train event, make sure to take some pictures and submit them for printing in the next newsletter!

GETTING TO KNOW...

ADAM RICHARDS



Adam and his wife are new to Washington, having just moved here from the California Bay Area about six months ago. He spends his days working in the computer industry, and nights watching UK quiz shows (Only Connect anyone?). Adam is English and Welsh, graduated from St. Peters College, Oxford University, and moved to the States almost 30 years ago. He and his wife have boy/girl twins who are Seniors in college.

How did you first get into model trains?

At six my dad bought me a Hornby freight train set with a 0-4-0 Red private-owner locomotive, 3 freight trucks and a brake van. This we called “Percy” after the cheeky pal of Thomas the Tank Engine. We had a converted attic space for the oval of track with one point (turnout) - which was boiling in summer and freezing in winter. My first baseboards were made of horrible compressed paperboard called “Sundelea” which would break up as the condensation came and went.

What scale do you prefer and why?

It's all OO - which, for those who don't know, OO is an HO scale track gauge (1::76) but otherwise uses a 4mm/ft scale (1::72). OO is by far the most common Ready-To-Run equipment available in the UK - made principally by Hornby and Bachmann. Pre-built track is by Peco that is sold as “OO/HO” track.



Do you model a specific era, railroad, or location?

Roughly summer of 1962 British Rail (BR), in North Wales. “Roughly” because it is a fictitious location designed to ensure that I can have the maximum variety of equipment. British Rail was an amalgamation of 4 railway companies in 1948 and it inherited all their locos, wagons and carriages. The result is like the BN merger in the US in 1970 where there was lots of variety for several years in the old paint jobs. 1962 was still the period where there was lots of that older stuff left, new BR “standard” steam locos and carriages were frequent, and also diesel classes were being introduced. My layout is based at a point where three of the BR regions meet (MR, ER, WR) and there are occasional visitors from the fourth (SR).

What's your favorite piece of equipment of rolling stock or locomotive in your collection?

The BR Blue Pullman set. This was BRs' streamliner equivalent - a dedicated luxury diesel train for businessmen with liveried attendants. It used to stop at our local station and my best friend, Philip Reed, had a model and I used the money my gran left me in her will to acquire all his stuff. I now have the more detailed modern version.

Are you more into building layouts, collecting trains, or running operations?

I like both planning and operations (especially timetabling and signaling). But in fact what I actually have at the moment is just a full collection of equipment and a layout in pieces.

What has been your most challenging project so far?

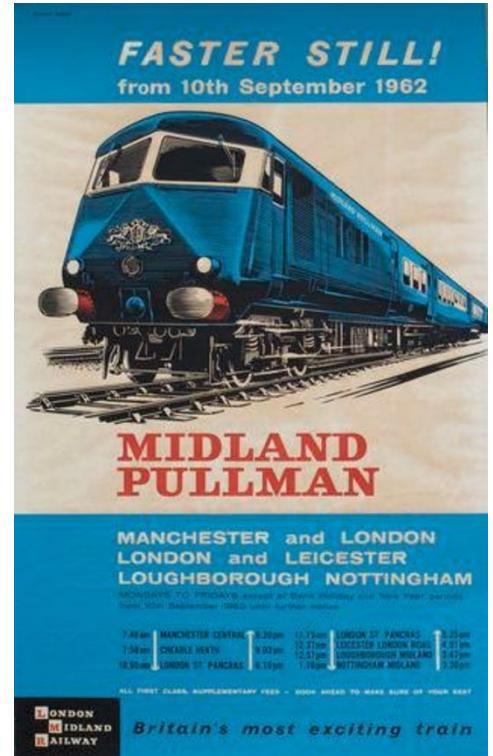
My layout move from California a few months ago. When I built the 20'x 14' two layer layout I made it modular so it would be theoretically moveable, but the modules were up to 8ft long with many curved edges. So moving it involved building a new support system inside a large rental truck over a day and attaching the layout to it, and then driving 2 days in convoy over the Oregon mountains on I-5, trying not to “jiggle it” too hard.

Do you scratch build or kitbash any structures or trains?

All trains are RTR. Structures are mostly kit-bashed so far - card kits and laser cut wood kits modified. We will eventually need scratch build 3D printed parts for stations - a major project that awaits is the main station and its overall roofs.

What one tool or material you consider essential to the hobby?

A temperature controlled soldering iron and specialized (low temp) silver solder.



Has your layout gone through many redesigns, or are you sticking to one vision?

It took 4 years to plan and over 10 to build-the vision is pretty unchanged. The fine details will need to be revised in the new, larger space - which will allow for more scenery and access to all sides of the layout.

What's one dream project of model you want to build one day?

Full semaphore signaling and block telegraph bells interacting with automated train control especially of the staging yard - possibly even utilizing RFID to detect train reporting numbers. This would allow full timetable operation with a variable number of operators.

How do you handle wiring for blocks, turnouts and accessories on your layout?

I have a dedicated accessory DCC bus. The block detection is via current detectors that can be read from the bus. Its likely that at some point we will interface them to a LCC bus.

What control system do you use?

DCC.

What's your approach to trackwork?

All Peco. Hand-laid would be better, but too much effort. Given that OO is a compromise, it doesn't seem worth it.

If your layout could come to life?

I would take the Welsh Dragon express from Cardiff via through my terminus, Port Dinllaen, to Manchester.

Thanks Adam! We hope to someday see your completed 1962 North Wales set up!

WORD SEARCH

H	O	P	P	E	R	T	I	O	W
O	P	L	R	E	A	A	T	V	Y
S	C	A	L	E	D	T	I	L	E
T	C	A	N	S	I	S	B	A	N
A	Y	X	A	M	U	O	A	Y	I
C	W	L	I	D	S	E	L	O	G
V	T	I	E	K	S	H	L	U	N
O	G	E	A	R	E	R	A	T	E
L	L	G	A	U	G	E	S	A	R
T	T	U	O	N	R	U	T	L	K

WORDS TO FIND:

ATLAS, BALLAST, CAR, ENGINE, GAUGE, GEAR, HOPPER, HOSTAC, LAYOUT, RADIUS, RELAY, RHEOSTAT, SCALE, TAL, TIE, TILE, TURNOUT, VOLT, WYE

Now that you've found the words, do you know what they all mean?