

NMRA Tacoma Layout Tour

The Washington Northern Tideflats District was one of 9 layouts participating in the NMRA Pacific Northwest Region, Division Four, Tacoma area layout tour on May 12th of this year.

This was the first official open house for this version of the Washington Northern and overall it was a great success. The WN welcomed more than 45 visitors to the layout during the six hour opening.

The layout operated near flawlessly I'm happy to report, and I got to meet many fine folks and new modeling friends in the area. The only bad thing about being on the tour, was I had to miss seeing the other eight layouts and the progress made on them.



WN GP38-2 #350 and Tenino Western GP40 #125 are seen in Union Yard. Both are new additions to the motive power fleet.

Latest Power to Hit the Rails

A total of 6 new units now fully detailed, weathered and equipped with DCC/sound have recently entered service on the tideflats district.

Only two of these units are actually newly purchased power. The other 4 were previously in storage from my old, larger layout for the past few of years. These include some 6-axle power that I can now run on the mainline to bring trains in and out of staging, or just continuous run during open houses or when visitors are viewing the layout. Included are two Atlas GE U33Cs, numbered 5589 and 5590, As well as Proto 2K SD60 numbered 5523. The other unit is a Atlas GP38-2 number 350.

Newly acquired power includes the Raven Pulp & Paper mill's own locomotive, a Bachmann Alco S4. This will now handle the daily car movements inside the main mill area. I have found this new Bachmann DCC & sound equipped loco a very good

bargain. Purchased from an online retailer for only \$100, it runs and sounds great! Although it has been patched and renumbered for the RP&P, the factory applied paint and lettering was crisp and accurate.

The final newcomer to the WN rails is some foreign power. A Atlas Tenino Western GP40 was acquired from my friend and fellow modeler Tyler Whitcomb. Tyler models the freelanced TW in N scale, and his layout is fantastic! You can see his wonderful layout on his website: teninowesternrailroad.wordpress.com

Photos of all my new power can be viewed on the WN website.

in this issue

Latest Power to Hit the Rails **P.1**

New Structure for the WN! **P.2**

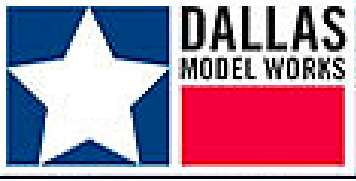
Canyon Creek Area Update **P.2**



6277 40th Street East
Fife, Washington 98424
253.370.2171 ph
wnrr@comcast.net
<http://wnrr.net>

Member





One of my Favorite Vendors!

Each issue I would like to highlight one of my favorite online or brick & mortar vendors that I have found in my experiences to provide excellent service, prices and inventory. Thanks to Dallas Model Works!
dallasmodelworks.com

<http://wnrr.net>

Trackplan Updated on the WN website

The expanded version of the Washington Northern Tideflats District trackplan is now available on the WN website. The layout now covers the extent of the 11x12 room which houses it. The resulting expansion has allowed for greater staging capacity, continuous running, two more rail customers, and the opportunity for a little rural and mountain scenery.

New Structure on the WN!

The new structure is "Grandpa Sam's Place", which was constructed by my good friend Rick Wade from Cumming, Georgia. Rick, the owner of the Richlawn Railroad had written to me asking if he could build a structure for my layout to satisfy his urge to build, since an impending move led him to suspend construction on his own railroad. I just so happened to have a kit waiting to be built and jumped at the chance to have this fine builder leave his mark on the WN. We communicated closely during the construction, as he was helping me relive some childhood memories of my grandfather's farmhouse in North Dakota. The Laser Art kit closely resembles that structure and as you can see in the accompanying photos, Rick did an absolutely spectacular job! I am very proud and happy to display this little jewel on the WN! Watch for much more detailed scenery around the structure soon. You can follow Rick's step by step of this project on a blog at:

<http://kevinkreaganhouse.blogspot.com/>

Thanks again to Rick for the kind offer and wonderful craftsmanship!

Rick's excellent work has helped transport me back to my childhood with this structure. I can almost smell the flax fields!



Wolf River Junction

The recent expansion of the Washington Northern has allowed me to do a little rural modeling. Something that I really enjoy, but quite frankly was lacking room for prior to the expansion. The area will include a junction at Wolf River. It will feature an interlocking tower that is living out it's final days after a new signal system was installed, along with the abandonment of the former 12 mile branchline that served several lumber mills. The first few hundred feet of the former branchline will remain in service to handle a lumber yard and a propane dealer just on the other side of the river. Look for updates in the next WN bulletin.