11 November 2023

Great Falls Model Railroad Club

Modeler's Forum Notes

Ten in attendance (Bob Wright taking notes)

Bob Willard – Passed around a partially built Auburn to Turner electric car he is working on along with the photo and plans he is using as a guide in its construction. Also had trucks and motors that he has modified with pickups, etc.

Jamie Robinson – Showed off a O Scale 2 Rail Atlas F9A (DC) that he rehabbed and repainted in Great Falls livery and added an LED headlight. Secondly, he presented a O Gauge 3 Rail Caboose that was also painted in Great Falls colors. Thirdly he had an HO Atlas SD35 Yellow Box Loco that he rebuilt, painted and with sound, LED lights, a Decoder Buddy-21 pin board (from Nicks Trains) as well as many additional details.

Jay Wiley – Presented an older Bachmann Spectrum Shay Loco he had picked up previously and then had to replace many broken parts. Used Northwest Shortline for some and told the steps he had to go through to make the loco run again as a log hauler.

He also brought in a radio-controlled (electric-powered) Curtiss Jenny Airplane kit he built (approximately 1/8th scale) and showed the plans he worked from to construct the kit, He described the 8-cylinder engine parts he added from a 3D printer. He said he had visited Owls Head Museum with his model while the museum was performing a 100-hour check on its real-life version so he could get pictures of the real aircraft from which he modeled his.

Bob Wright (and Wanda Wright) – taking notes.

Wanda Wright – Googled several items brought up by modelers.

John McMullen – Asked whether anyone had thoughts on using leftover 14-2 wire for bus wire. Showed off a prototype of the bus wire configuration he wants to use on his home layout and was asking for advice on it. He is using a Wago 3-hole connector as a terminal block off his bus wire connection.

Ray Houlihan – Brought book by John Droege "Freight Terminals and Trains" from 1912, explained it had much good information in it about different aspects of Railroad operations. It has been reprinted by NMRA several times with foldouts. [Ed. Note: The library has a copy of this volume available to members]

Kent Waterson – No models to show off this time but he is still working on his 3D Laketown buildings. He is also working on a Railroad themed project that he will talk about at the next meeting.

Steve Doughty – Spoke about his high school days in Brewer, Maine and how UFOs were big at the time. The Mayor of Brewer had a Billboard created welcoming UFOs and so recently Steve recreated the billboard in Lionel scale, also showed off a second Railroad billboard he made.

Carmen Anastase – Brought in some Dollar Store tractor trailer trucks he purchased recently that he is going to try to use on his layout.