

23 May 2024 Great Falls Model Railroad Club Modeler's Forum Notes

Five in attendance (Bob Wright taking notes and photos)

Bob Willard – Presented a building he assembled from parts of two plaster buildings (end walls from one and front from another), created the skylights on the roof. Darkened up the brick exterior with pan pastels to blend them together better. Showed off several recent purchases from Micromark: A 45-degree tool, a Xuron Nail Tool, and copper clad Fast Tracks Ties (see photos). Also, a superglue from Deluxe Materials from the UK for gluing dissimilar materials. Bob says he has had good luck with it and it doesn't smell.

John McMullen – Picked up a sanding station at the Topsham show to add to his water tower and steam service area on his home layout. Also working on a diesel service area. Installed a bus line to power his auxiliary items. Brought in a piece of red oak bark from a tree recently taken down to use as part of a backdrop (as ledge). Using leaves from the yard (chopped up in a blender) for ground cover in various areas. Asked whether an inspection pit needed to be inside his roundhouse or could he place it elsewhere, the consensus was that it could be placed in the open or under an open shed.

Kent Waterson – Brought in a small baggie with rail bits (Code 83) that came with a 12 ½ degree crossover he purchased recently, asked if anyone knew what they were for (no luck asking Atlas). No one had a clue. Talked about a trailed crossover from months ago that he trashed and then rebuilt with 3D printer for push button to control four points at once. Purchased a Du-Bro E/Z Bender Tool for bending wire (Z bends). Presented 3D printed HO track bumpers, also parts for a Laketown building. Showed an excellent use for empty pill bottles (see photo). Created an LED buddy kit to test LEDs for resistance values.

Bob Wright – Showed off two Portland Terminal Boxcar kits he purchased at the recent Great Scale Model Train Show, Timonium, Maryland.

Richard Holman – Has started organizing all the small bits and pieces he has collected over the years and brought in several of the small utility toolboxes and containers he has been using, with labels.