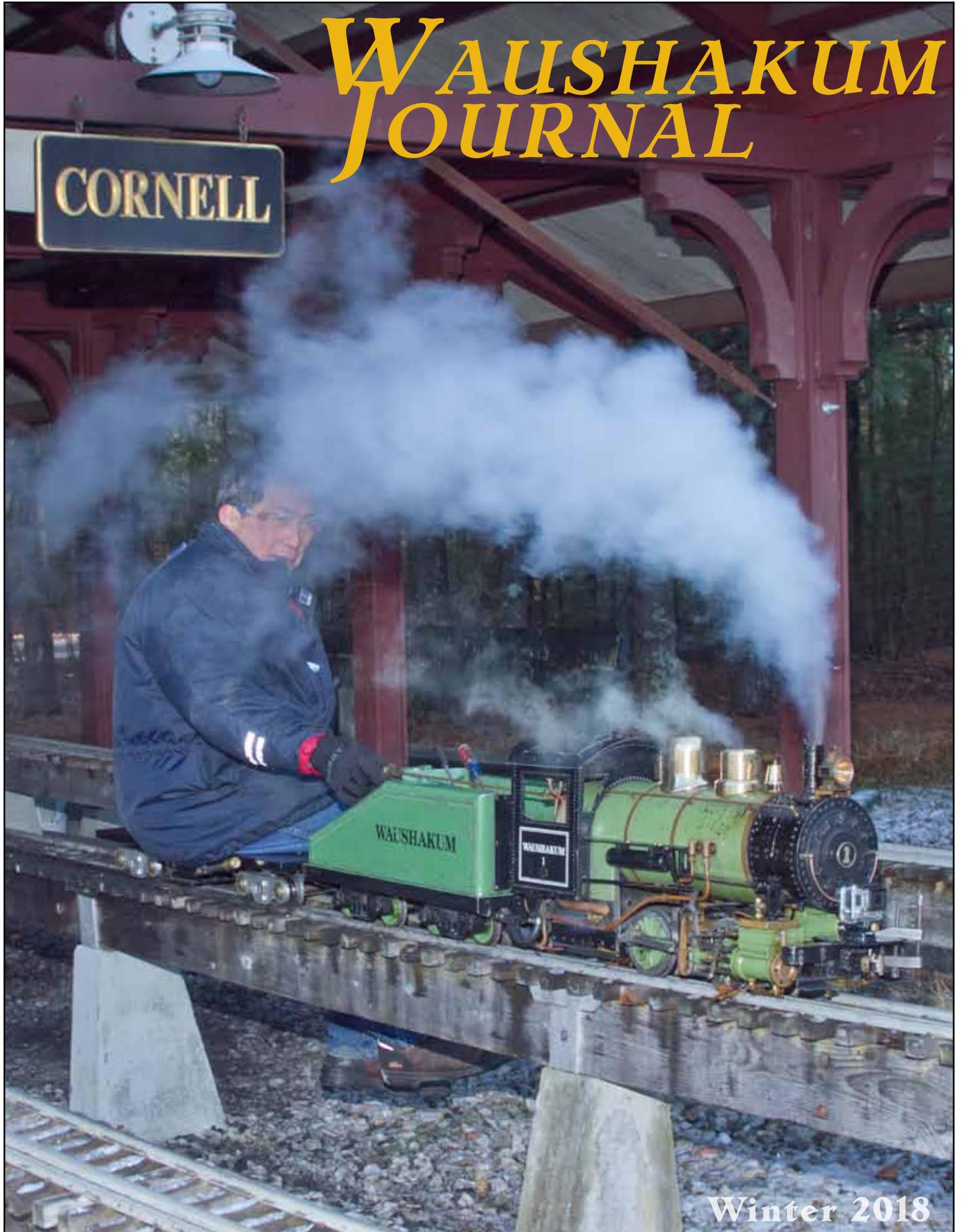


WAUSHAKUM JOURNAL



Winter 2018

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On the Cover

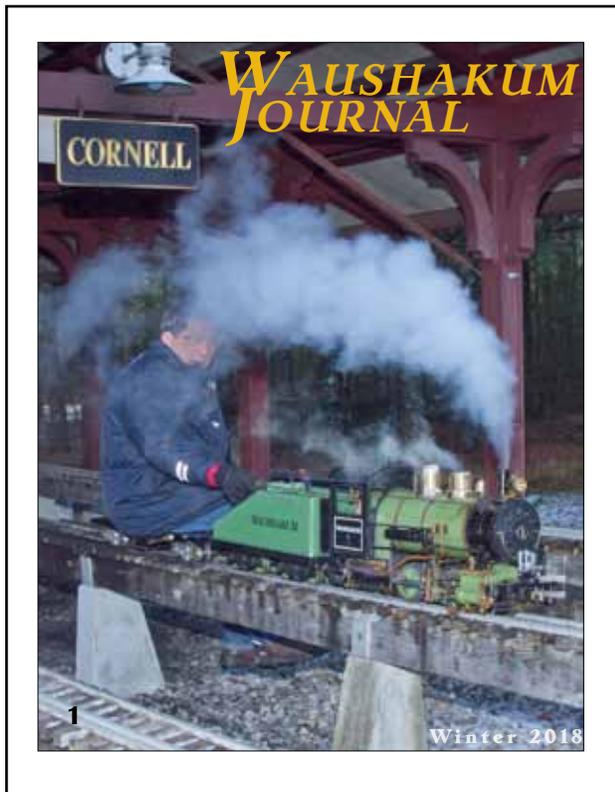


Photo 1: Joe Ng departs Cornell during the 2017 New Year's Day Meet.

The weather preceding and on Jan 1, 2018, precluded any trains from running.

Photo by JB Mentzer

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Club Business Update

Jed Weare, Secretary

October 12, 2017

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:01 PM on October 12th at the WLS track. 19 members were present for the meeting.

The Minutes of the September meeting were read by the Secretary.

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Walt Weber, seconded by John Pilling, and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

– Mark Arsenault

The Wednesday work crew has started to remove the tent canvas in preparation for winter. They will do more next week, if weather permits.

The electric wiring to the cook tent hanging lamps and sockets was re-done, at the behest of the electrical inspector.

New GFCI electric outlets were installed in the Hilton. This was necessary as the circuits were overloaded at the last New Year's Day Meet by all the hot plates.

Old Business

The Neighborhood Appreciation Day saw a good turnout. Donations of \$169 were received. Bob Newcombe and Bob Mitchell did the cooking in the absence of the President.

The electric lift being offered for sale has not yet been notified to the membership. Hopefully, an email will go out this weekend.

The Safety Committee met on 27th October and discussed the setting up of an Education Committee, per a previous motion. The committee

will meet under the chairmanship of Walt Weber and report periodically to the Safety Committee. The current scope is to study all aspects of education and training at a high level to establish the best way to go forward. If you are interested in taking part in the committee, please contact Walt Weber. Walt Weber said that he considered the current arrangement as more of a study group than a permanent institution. Bob Huston expressed the hope that all club members would be involved in the process.

35-1/2 tons of ballast and 35-1/4 tons of gravel have been delivered. Cost was \$1173.

New Business

Robert Randall was elected a Full Member. His sponsor is Jim O'Brien.

The compressor in the soda machine broke down, after 16 years of service at the track. A rebuilt compressor, ready-charged with refrigerant, was bought for \$325 delivered, and has been installed.

The boiler on the club Hudson has a leak in the firebox tube plate. Pat Fahey will perform a hydraulic test to isolate the leak. We will probably need to remove the boiler from the frames and get Dario to repair it at his shop.

Stumpy's tree service will be giving us an estimate to deal with some dangerous trees in the area of the vendor tent.

The Blowdown Meet will be this Sunday. There will be no food available.

There will be a Member's Work Day on 28th October. Food will be provided.

The dumpster service will be stopped for the year at the end of the month.

Surplus soda is still available at \$2.50 per 12-pack.

The next six monthly meetings will be held at the Holliston Historical Society house.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Bob Huston, seconded by John Pilling, and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:40PM.

November 9, 2017

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:00 PM on November 9th at the Holliston Historical Society house. 17 members were present for the meeting.

The Minutes of the October meeting were read by the Secretary.

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by John Pilling, seconded by Jim Davidson, and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

– Mark Arsenault

All the tents are down for the winter.

The toilet trailer still needs to be pumped out and antifreeze administered

Stumpy's quoted \$1,000 for the tree work, so we will do the work ourselves. Some work has already been done.

The post for the entrance shed crossbuck broke off, so has been replaced.

The engine house lighting uses 8-ft fluorescent tubes, which consume in excess of 1200W. Replacement with more efficient technology is being

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Superintendent's Report

Marc Arsenault • Photos by the Author

As of this writing, 21 March, 2018 waiting for our fourth Nor Easter this month, I'm beginning to wonder if we'll ever get back to our activities at WLS again. I visited the grounds 10 days ago and walked the snow covered tracks with our now President, Jim McGrath, many downed branches, snow covered tracks and field, indicating a some very busy clean up days ahead. It appears the snow plow truck drivers are noticing our DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAY sign as the driveway entrance was free of snow piles this year.

Back in late Fall, our maintenance crew turning their attention to the removal of the dying / dead trees and branches. One major dead 20 foot oak branch approximately 30 feet above the vendor's tent had been a major concern for some time. Waiting until after the tent covers were removed after the last

run day and stored for the Winter, we disconnected and moved the frame structure to a safe location. Then President, Jim OB call a tree company to give us a cost estimate on the branch removal along with other dead branches on the property. The stated one day's work estimate came in at \$1000. After a discussion, we felt was more than the club wanted to spend at this time and perhaps there was another way. Our work crew, using their ingenuity, came up with an alternate plan, after some practice with a bow and an arrow with a string tied to it, we managed to get it over the branch, followed with a rope. A flexible chainsaw blade was attached and pulled over the branch with rope tied to the other end. A simple see saw motion took the 20 foot long, 10 inch oak branch down in minutes. Other branches and trees were downed safely using ladders and ropes, saving the

club a substantial sum. In January, on a relatively warm day, the crew met again to have lunch in the tower, while there we cut up another pine tree that fell across the ballast pile. It appears that the entire cluster is weak and will have to be removed in the Spring.



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New Years Run Day 2018

After a week of near zero temperatures and the grounds hovering around six degrees with a wind chill factor of who knows, we arrived mid morning for the annual New Years Day train run and pot luck luncheon.

Tony Raiano had done excellent job clearing the driveway and parking lot earlier in the week allowing good access to the grounds.

As it was determined to be too cold for the high line steamers to operate without freezing and with the ground line tracks covered and frozen, it sadly became obvious that there wouldn't be an annual New Year's Day train running this year.

Despite the weather conditions, more than 50 members and friends stopped by to enjoy a cold walk around the track, the fire barrel

outside and the inside warmth of the Hilton with Kathy Arsenault and Stephanie Abrams working the food table.

President, Jim O'Brien faithfully arrived earlier in the day to check the heat, setup the coffee and provided doughnuts for the early arrivals. Arthur Butler was again recognized as our oldest member, as his 97th birthday approaches next week.

Keeping with tradition Russ Stevens' cannon was shot off exactly at 12 noon on the Hilton porch by Colt Steward, although many inside were confused as the Hilton clock was still on "Summer" time, (1PM). Wish full thinking!!

As the fire barrel died down, and many members still inside the Hilton, we left late afternoon looking back and hoping for an early Spring.



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Photo 1: No one will go hungry at the Annual Meet. **Photo 2:** Colt Steward prepares to fire Russ Steeves cannon, marking high Noon.

Club Business Update

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investigated.

Old Business

The Blowdown Meet had good weather and was well attended.

16 members showed up for the Scheduled Work Day. All tasks were accomplished. Dick Ball educated Jim McGrath and Walt Weber on prepping the water system for winter.

Pat Fahey performed a hydraulic test on the Hudson boiler. There is a pin hole inside one tube. Dario will need the boiler off the frames to work on it. Hopefully, this can be done at Dario's shop, as he has much better facilities than at the track. Howard Gorin was concerned about more tubes failing and asked about what materials were used.

An email was sent out asking for offers for the electric lift offered for sale. One offer of \$200 was received. Walt Weber proposed that we accept the offer. John Pilling seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

New Business

Nominations for Officers for 2018 are open until the January 2018 meeting, when elections will be held.

A member reported that some of his tools have gone missing from the engine house. The tools were left there during the Annual Meet, and the member was not able to come back for them for two months. It is not known exactly when the tools went missing, as the current security camera system does not cover the engine house and we cannot track access. Several other incidents had also occurred recently, suggesting we need to provide some form of security system for the engine house.

The President said that we would probably not be able to extend the current camera system because of the distance to the engine house, so a separate system would be needed, with appropriate protection for the components. The Safety Committee will investigate means of improving the security of the engine house. The Treasurer reminded members that the club's insurance does not cover loss of member's private property, so members need to provide their own. The President re-iterated that members should not divulge the building access codes to anyone.

The next meet will be on New Year's Day.

Surplus soda is still available at \$2.50 per 12-pack.

The recently passed motion that all club property should be offered for sale to all members was discussed. Many members felt that the recent sale of the electric lift had demonstrated that the motion went too far. It was also remarked that, by the letter of the motion, we could not even dispose of the surplus soda without offering it up for bidding by all members. Some solutions were discussed, but the matter was tabled until next meeting.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Walt Weber, seconded by Howard Gorin, and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 9:21PM.

December 14, 2017

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by the President at 8:03 PM on December 14th at the Holliston Historical Society house. 21 members were present for the meeting.

The Minutes of the November meeting were read by the Secretary. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Bob Mitchell, seconded by John Pilling, and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

– Mark Arsenault

The toilet trailer has been pumped out and antifreeze administered. There have been no Wednesday work crews, due to weather.

The engine house lighting was discussed again. Home Depot has a conversion kit to convert 8-ft fluorescent to 4-ft LEDs, using 65W versus about 120W. One conversion has been tried and was satisfactory. The cost is \$60 per kit.

Old Business

The recently passed motion that all club property should be offered for sale to all members was discussed again. A resolution to rescind the previous resolution of August 2017 was proposed by Jed Weare, seconded by Marc Arsenault and carried unanimously. A new resolution on the subject was proposed by Jed Weare, seconded by Bob Mitchell and passed unanimously. The text of these two resolutions was circulated at the meeting and is attached to these minutes.

Marc Arsenault reminded members that the Slug is still for sale.

Engine House security was again discussed. Several possibilities for video surveillance or enhancing security have been considered, but further investigation by the Safety Committee will be needed.

The removal of the boiler from the Hudson cannot be done at Dario's shop. Some other facility will be needed.

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Club Business Update

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The Safety and Operating Rules have been posted to the website.

Joe Cardell asked the whereabouts of the Club's "Hudson". No one was sure exactly where it is, but it was agreed it should be returned to the track.

New Business

Nominations for Officers for 2018 are open until the Annual General Meeting. Howard Gorin nominated Jim McGrath for President, and Jim accepted the nomination. Jim McGrath nominated Bob Newcombe for Vice President, and Bob accepted the nomination.

The schedule of events for 2018 has been posted to the website.

The next meet will be on New Year's Day. Tony Raiano will plow if needed. Hours are approximately 9:00AM to 3:00PM. Please bring items for the Holliston Food Pantry and also a food dish for sharing.

The Annual General Meeting, including election of Officers, will be the next business meeting, to be held on January 11th 2018 at the Holliston Historical Society.

Surplus soda is still available from the President.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Bob Foster, seconded by John Pilling, and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by the President at 8:49PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jed Weare (Secretary)

Attachment - Resolution

Two resolutions were passed at the meeting held December 14th, 2017.

The motion proposed at the August 2017 meeting by Amelia Jamieson:

"That any club property to be sold be notified to all members at least 1 meeting cycle prior to the sale. The sale is to be conducted at the next business meeting is rescinded.

The potential disposal of club property shall be considered and determined in the following manner:

The Officers of the club shall determine by mutually agreed procedures whether any property is no longer of use to the club

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*Manufacturers of automobile bodies, frames, wheel assemblies and brakes
Builders of stainless steel trains and highway trailers.
Advanced engineering and research. A United States Defense resource.*

THE BUDD COMPANY



New England's Boston and Maine Railroad had a more-than-usually difficult commuter problem. Morning trains funneled into North Station, Boston, from Fitchburg, from Lowell, from Haverhill and Portsmouth and Gloucester. And then following trains bottled them in. Everything would finally get turned around in time for the evening's outbound stampede. But meantime the railroad was glutted with idle equipment. Budd's rail diesel car—RDC—has made it possible to change all that. This air-conditioned, stainless steel car propels itself in either direction, merely by having the engineman take his control handles from one end of the car to the other. It can, and does, go into North Station and out again in five minutes. During periods of light traffic RDCs operate individually. As traffic builds up, trains of RDCs can be assembled. Any number. All controlled by one man. The Boston and Maine now operates the world's largest fleet of RDCs—64 in all. And it keeps them busy. The cars average eleven runs a day. They have replaced 67 locomotives and 245 coaches, to give New England rail service such as it never enjoyed before. Yes—the word is enjoyed.

Budd
Philadelphia Detroit Gary

Club Business Update

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If property is no longer of use to the club, the Officers shall judge the potential value of the property if sold and the potential buyers of the property.

If the property is judged by the Officers to have a value of \$100 or less, or to be not of wide interest to the membership, the Officers shall determine the method of disposal and arrange for disposal accordingly

If the property is judged to be of greater value than \$100, and considered to be of potentially general interest to the membership, it shall be offered for sale to all members, and sold to the highest bidder. The means of notification of the sale and the method of sale shall be determined by the Officers, provided that all members have a reasonable opportunity to learn of the sale and make a bid for the property

The results of the offering for sale of any property shall be reported at the next business meeting following the sale.

This procedure shall not apply to consumable items or non-repairable items.

Classic Advertising

Another of Budd Mfg's classic designs, the Rail Diesel Car, aimed at liberating railroad's marginal steam-powered passenger branch lines.

Highly successful in a market that would ultimately evaporate, many of these cars are still running 60 years later.

2018 Waushakum Calendar of Events

President, WLS Inc. James McGrath

Live Steam meets for May ~ October 2018 are listed below by date. Not listed: New Year's Day Meet on January 1st, 2019.

Unless noted, the Cook Tent is **closed**. Soft drinks are available at the soda machine all season.

Saturday May 5th, 2018

Spring Work Day: Members new and old come get the track ready for another season.

Sunday May 6th, 2018

7TH Annual Members Meet

Members Only

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Sunday May 20th, 2018

Carl Slack Memorial

Spring Steam-up Meet

Sunday June 24th, 2018

17TH Annual Van Brocklin Meet

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Note: Fourth Sunday

Sunday July 15th, 2018

16TH Annual

Model RR Club / NMRA Hub Division

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Annual Meet 2018 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thursday August 23rd, 2018 6:00 pm

Annual Diner

August 24th, 25th, & 26th, 2018

48TH Annual Meet

Full Cook Tent • Saturday Night Dinner

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Sunday September 16th, 2018

17TH Annual

Neighborhood Appreciation Day

Members & Invited Guests Only

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Sunday, October 21st, 2018

Fred Jaggi Memorial

Fall Blow-down Meet

2018

MAY

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JUNE

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JULY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

AUGUST

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

OCTOBER

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Happy Holidays

The Waushakum Live Steamers, Inc.
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