

ETE PNW Chapter Meeting

October 29th, 2026





President's Report

- The Survey!
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcjhnT-J5lErwDkdBw6WxT6luwBh_tKil9LHUwJsikVU2Kw/viewform?usp=dialog
- Tacoma Museum Show!
 - Sign-ups on groups.io! 18th December, 2026 – 1st January 2027
 - Club Set-up 13th-17th December
 - Closed 24th & 25th December
 - Model Train Festival Member **Night**: Saturday, 19th December, 2026, **5:30 – 8:00 PM**
- NMRA Show



The Survey

- Big Takeaways (so far)
 - A lot more folks have complete permanent layouts than we assumed
 - Almost everyone wanted layout tours
 - Most people agree with our current 6/6 yearly general & modular meetings
 - But also in the “what would you like to see more of?” many folks picked meetings
 - Desire for more modular workshops



Secretary's Report

- Current Member Count
- Renewal Period
- New Members!
 - Walter Lang (Bay Area)
 - Bruno Alabiso
 - Michael Bena



Treasurer's Report

- **2027 Dues**
 - Now payable via Zelle directly to our treasury! (360) 304-8882
 - Aim for dues in by end of January 2027 or earlier to ease record-keeping
- **Present Balance (presented in meeting)**
- **Regular Expenses**
 - \$180/quarter | Trailer, Tabs; \$176/y (May 1.) | Zoom; \$110/y (Mar) | groups.io; \$250x2 | Chehalis Big Table
- **Regular Income**
 - Dues
 - Tacoma Show

Modular Chairs' Report



- Upcoming Modules
 - Corner (Cinque Terre)
 - Work beginning on scenery mockups
 - Dave Preston module successful introduction!
 - Schiefer Module retirement
 - Recycling (Upcycling?) Electronic and DIN
 - Trial run of Cat Masts

Seattle Children's Hospital



- Continuing well!
- Paolo is ill, Chris going abroad, signups still available on groups.io
 - More volunteers always wanted!
 - 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of every month!

NMRA National Convention 2027

- August 10-15, 2027 in Tacoma WA
 - NMRA Convention August 10-13
 - National Train Show August 14-15
 - ETE Modular Layout
- Tacoma Convention Center
- Will need many volunteers!

ETE Day August 14 organized
by ETE PNW



ETE Day (preliminary)

Time	Topic	Notes
9-1pm	National Train Show	
1-2pm	Keynote	Martin Tärnrot (Marklin of Sweden)
2-3pm	The rise and fall of the European Beer Car	Dan Driessche
3-4pm	The Unification of German Railways, 1919–1925	John Irby
4-5pm	100 Years of the European Thunderbox Car: 1927–2027	Jacob Abrisz
6-10pm	Dinner	Berliner Beer Hall

Need Volunteers: Example Tasks

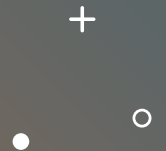
- Promote event
- Manage sales
- Book Berliner Hall
- Setup and man ETE Layout during National Train Show (Friday - Sunday)



PIKO NS Rh 2000

PIKO USATC 65-DE-19A
Locomotive

A little prototype history
and some model
information.

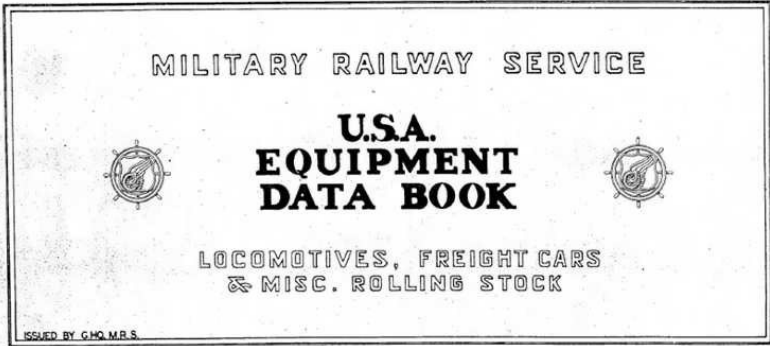
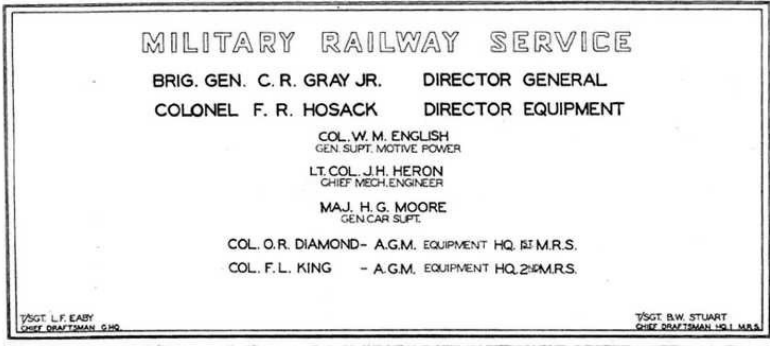
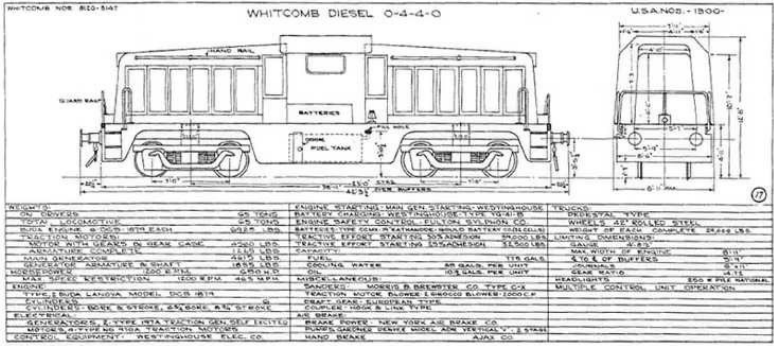




History of the Prototype

- When the USA entered WW2 it became apparent that the American Forces would need railroad rolling stock for the European military operations. Various domestic locomotives were evaluated, and the Whitcomb 65-DE-14 diesel electric, Center cab, Bo-Bo was chosen. It had a whopping 650 horsepower. However, before it could be used in Europe, the cab need to be re-designed to fit European clearances. The redesigned unit was classified the 62-DE-19A and entered service with the United States Army Transportation Corps in 1943. It ran mainline and branchline service.

Blueprints
and Specs!
Whitcomb
designed
this lok in
one year!





In Beirut, in desert beige camo! Circa 1941-42. 110 models were delivered! Is that a brake van? Lok 65-DE-14 with taller cab. These loks were in Egypt, Palestine and Lebanon for the North Africa Campaign.



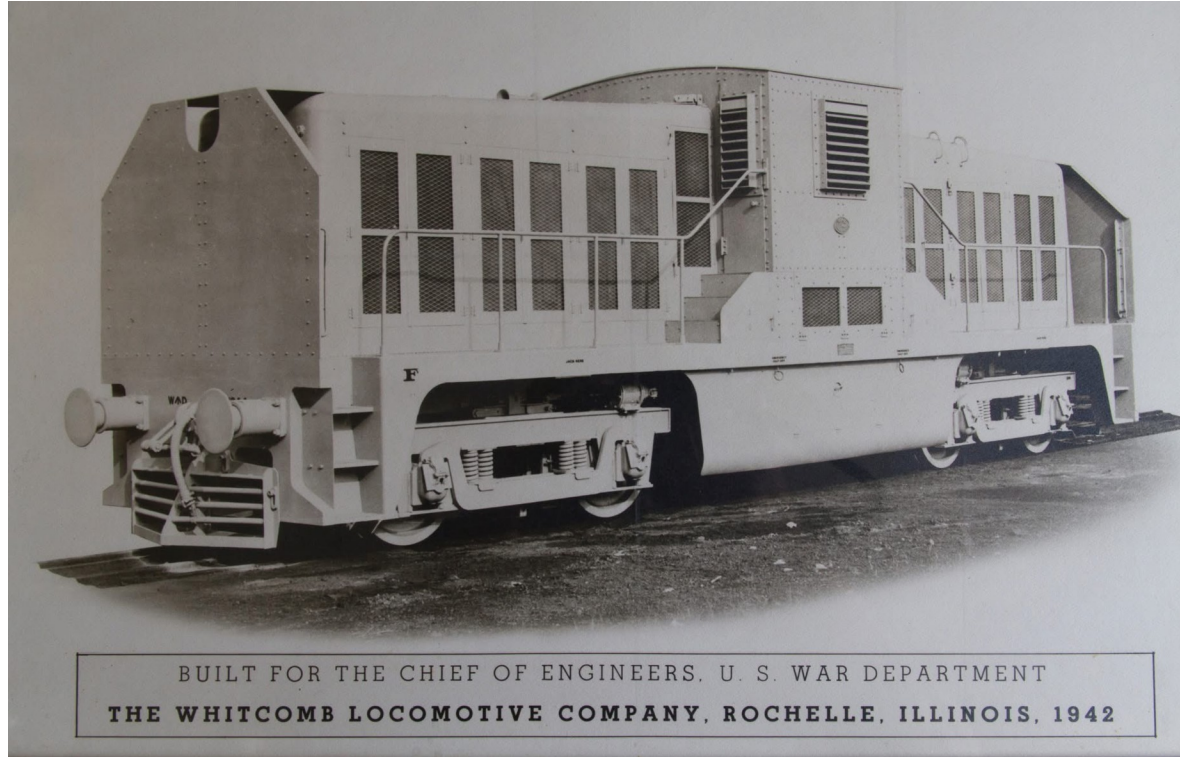


On a ship in the
Suez Canal



After serving in the middle east, on to Italy with V-36?

Armor plating added 2000 pounds



The first coal train to arrive in Rome, provided by the Military Railway Services (MRS). Italy later purchased 49 locomotives.



***65-DE-19 being loaded in Southampton
England, after receiving their dark grey
color***



Yes, they
operated in
Germany!

The Rochelle Leader

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MAY 4 1945

VOLUME XVII

ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS, FRIDAY, MAY 4, 1945

NUMBER TWENTY-FIVE

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Whitcomb Diesels First To Cross The Rhine

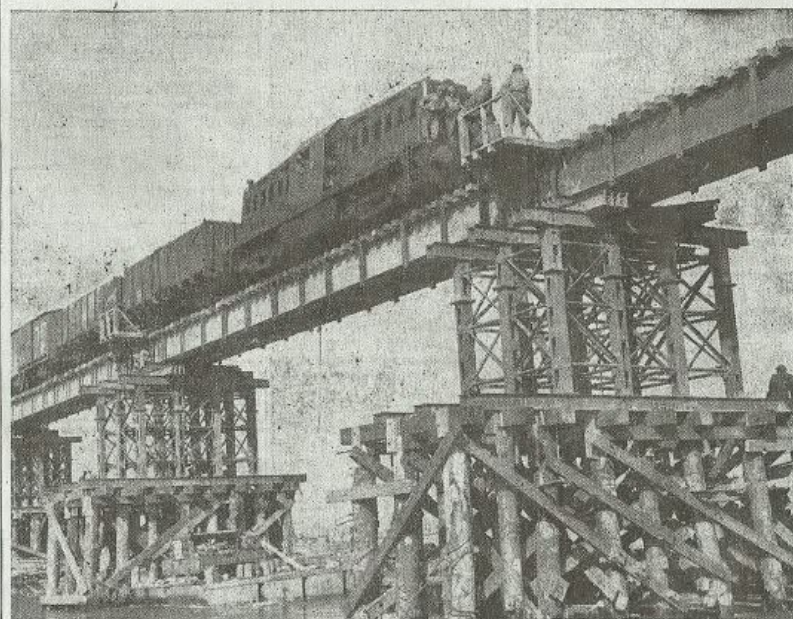
Whitcomb Diesels Have Played Major Role In This War

11-45
A Diesel locomotive built by Whitcomb here at Rochelle hauled the first train to cross the Rhine at Wesel into Germany. This information is official and comes from the Office of the Chief of Transportation of the Army Service forces in a letter from Lt. Col. Russell F. Oakes, Chief, Office of Technical Information. Col. Oakes, who enclosed four Signal Corps photographs of the Rhine crossing, of which two are printed in this issue of the Leader, said in his letter:

"Attached is a set of four (4) U. S. Signal Corps photographs made recently in Germany on the occasion of the first Allied crossing of the Rhine by rail. It has occurred to us that you would have a more than passing interest in these photographs inasmuch as the Diesel locomotive which hauled the train across the Rhine at Wesel was built by Whitcomb at Rochelle.

"You are at liberty to publish any one or all of the photographs. The captions attached are self-explanatory."

Whitcomb Diesel locomotives built here in Rochelle have played an important part in this war on almost every front. Being



Transportation corps train pulled by Rochelle built Whitcomb Diesel locomotive makes first crossing of newly completed bridge across Rhine at Wesel, built by 9th Army Engineers units, 371st, 241st, 355th and 155th Engineers.

Sgt. Floyd Heath Tells Experiences Of War In Germany

Sgt. Floyd Heath, son of Elmer Heath, is home on a 30 day furlough, and will report to the army hospital at Galesburg on June 1 for further convalescence, after being wounded in Germany Dec. 10, 1944.

Sgt. Heath, who was employed by the Wurlitzer Company in Indianapolis before he entered the service Feb. 23, 1944, and received his training at Indian Town Camp in Pennsylvania. In July, 1944, he was sent overseas, and after stay with further training in England he was sent to France where he participated in battle through central France and crossed into Germany north of Switzerland.

Floyd, who has the European Theatre of Operations ribbon with two battle stars, the Good Conduct medal, the Purple Heart and the Infantry Combat badge has no particular battle that he likes to talk about. He reminds us that he and the others returning from overseas are told before they step ashore in the States not to talk too much about what is going on overseas.

But in thinking back he says that the fighting through

Grade School Music

★

★

M I Dotarenn Talle



“a bad day in France”...

Netherlands

- The Dutch purchase 20 locomotives and they become the NS 600 series.
- These locomotives were used in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy during the war.



More assignments...

Shortly after purchase, the Dutch replaced the original 650 HP Buda prime movers with a newer and more reliable Thomassen-Frichs engines. There is one motor at each set of trucks and these locomotives were powered with both engines running. After re-motoring the locomotives were re-classified as the NS Rh 2000 series. Initially based at Zwolle, later based in Amsterdam and then retired by 1960. Two locomotives are preserved at the Dutch SGB and VAM museums.

In Europe, these loks were used in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and Italy during the war.

The numbers:

50 Model 65-DE-14-A loks produced

169 Model 65 - 19-A loks produced

118 loks returned to the USA after war.

After their use in Europe, many were either sold or scrapped but some locomotives, made it back to the USA and then to the Pacific Theater. Many of the Whitcomb locomotive were used by mainlines, short lines and industrial lines. In the USA, we have a preserved locomotive at The Trolley Museum of New York, Kingston, New York.

Atlantic Coast
Lines
Whitcomb 65-
DE-14
operating in
the USA. They
operated in the
USA, Canada
and Central
and South
America.



The model!

Piko offers the locomotive in many variants in HO scale, DC, DCC, AC and AC digital. Piko also offers this locomotive in N scale. The HO scale model has a cast metal chassis and body. It has a can motor with dual flywheels and is a strong and silent runner.

You can find DC HO and N scale, analog at Trainland Trainworld for \$ 169.99 (non sound DC). #52464 DC & #40802 DC, (#52465 AC not available).

AC models are typically more expensive but available also. Modelbahnshop-lippe has the NS version for 209 Euro, AC with sound. #52476

Ebay also has a number of new and used models.



USATC DE-19-A in HO Scale by Piko



NS Rh 200 in HO scale by Piko



Next Meeting

- **Thursday 10th December**
 - Reminder and coordination for Tacoma Show
 - Email, text or message Jacob with presentations if you have them



Modular Meeting

- Upcoming Modules
 - Corner (Cinque Terre)
 - Dave Preston module complete!
 - Schiefer Module retirement
 - Recycling (Upcycling?) Electronic and DIN
 - Trial run of Cat Masts
- Experiment with Alignment adapters successful!
(Caleb Wright)

Tacoma Show



- Modules planned
- Logistics overview
- Signups on groups.io
 - (this is the part where Jacob puts the link in the chat)