



# Ties and Rails

Official newsletter of the Crossville Model Railroad Club  
and Div. 16, Southeast Region, NMRA

September 2020

(931)210-5050

[www.crossvilletrains.org](http://www.crossvilletrains.org)

## ***The Prez. Sez:***

As the NEW NORMAL seems to be turning into the NOT SO NEW NORMAL, the Club continues to monitor, evaluate, and weigh options as we continue to deal with this virus. At the August meeting, we discussed a “no touch” thermometer which Paul Falk received from the CBI program. We have added, that all staff have their temperature taken prior to starting your shift. If that temperature is over 101, you are to go home for both your, other members and the visiting public’s safety. No visitors will be tested.

AS for handling cash, this is something many places are discouraging. With the need to eliminate any cross contamination, the Club is looking into cashless donations from credit and debit cards. So many visitors now are just using their cards to avoid and possible chance to spread the bacteria with paper money or coins. With that in mind, at the end of a shift, when counting the days donations, it is advised that you use hand sanitizer before and after counting money. The same goes from money exchanged for counter donations as well. Please remember that donations are to be counted **AFTER** all visitors have left the suite and the doors are closed and locked.

John Conor brought to the Board a suggestion of sponsoring a modeling contest. He provided detailed information, such as maximum size (18” x 32”) and the display is not to require electricity. This contest can be anything from a single engine or a piece of rolling stock. Custom built and kit bashing are acceptable. Contest deadlines for submitting entries will likely be moved into 2021 and become a special event celebrating our anniversary year. More details will be covered at our September 14<sup>th</sup> monthly meeting.

Stay safe at all costs!!

Pat

If you have something you wish to put in the newsletter, contact Tom Shallcross at [chipmonk4@comcast.net](mailto:chipmonk4@comcast.net)

## Important Dates in Railroad History

*From NMRA calendar*

9/1/1935—NMRA organizes at Milwaukee, WI

9/2/1986—NMRA opens Kalmbach Memorial Library

9/3/1930—Thomas Edison runs first experimental electric passenger train between Hoboken and Montclair, NJ

9/10/1972—San Francisco's BART carries first passengers

9/20/1850—U.S. President Fillmore signs first railroad Land Grant Act

9/23/1874—East Broad Top first run

## Social Distancing in 2020



### HO Scale News - Paul Falk

Last months relocation of radio antennas for the wifi sources and channel changes to has proved to be successful. The wireless control of DCC locos has now proved to be more reliable with few loss of control reports. If you experience any issues, please report those to me via email. [pfalk1@gmail.com](mailto:pfalk1@gmail.com) Include as much detail as you can to help with troubleshooting.

Weekly maintenance on the HO command station continues to show that many operators are not dispatching/releasing their locos. Please remember to do so.

The installation of the complex signaling system for the shared siding section of pier 4 has been completed and is working as expected.

Further signal installation will be started on the east side of Pier 4 in the near future and will continue onto Pier 5, primarily on the Southern RR line. This section should be completed in September.

### Marketing Committee

**Art Landrigan**

The Marketing Committee held their meeting on August 6, 2020 with 8 members in attendance.

Marketing currently has \$409.22 remaining in our 2020 budget following the Tri-fold expenditure.

The group finalized the selection of the Calendar pictures, and important dates for the 2021 '20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary' CMRC Calendar. On the lower strip of the calendar that is always showing, we are going to have our Club Logo, Name and our Website Phone Number. Our calendar cost will be \$4.50, and we agreed to sell them for \$10.

After agreeing that a Club Membership Card was a good idea, Art has been unable to find his old one from 2017. If any member has one, please contact Art, who will scan it and return it to the member so that we can review it at our next meeting.

We decided to make stickers to cover old out-of-date information on the lower portion of the Rack Cards. Art will make a sample for review next month.

*cont. on page 4*



## The DCC Shed @ CMRC

Paul Falk

Art Landrigan

Welcome, come on in.

Last month's shed described the mobile decoder and their functions. We learned that each loco can have its own address or cab number and can be individually controlled via commands from the command station. Many prototypical trains use more than one loco

called a consist. So how can we do the same thing using DCC? One way would be to program the cab numbers on the locos to the same number. Sounds easy enough. So you get your 4 engine lash up and you blow the horn and all four sound off. That's not prototypical, especially if one of the locos is mid train or a pusher at the end. The better way is to create a multiple unit (MU) consist with the controller. Here is the method used by the Club's Digitrax DT402D controllers. Just follow the steps below.



Place the two or more units you wish to MU on the track, but not coupled. For our example, the loco's are cab numbers 5234, 25 and 356.

1. Make sure all the locos that will be in the consist are traveling in the same physical direction on the track.
2. Select<sup>1</sup> the TOP (or lead) engine (5234) on the **right** hand throttle knob. Check for proper operation and physical direction.
3. Use the left hand throttle to select<sup>1</sup> the first loco to be added (25) to the consist. Check for operation and physical direction. (Notice 25 is set to reverse in the picture. When added the loco will run that way, so you could run a diesel long hood in the consist).
4. To add the left hand loco, first press "MU" key followed by the "+" key. The TOP loco (5234) on the **right** hand throttle now controls both locos as a consist. Check for proper operation and physical direction.
5. To add additional locos (like 356) to the consist, repeat steps 3—5 above.
6. To remove any loco from the consist (MU), first select<sup>1</sup> the loco you want to remove on the **left** hand throttle.
7. Press the "MU" key followed by the "-" key.

8. The loco is now removed from the consist and you can control it as an individual loco on the left throttle. When finished with any loco, dispatch the loco to free the slot in the command station. Press "LOCO" key to make the cab number flash and then "DISP" key to release it.

**Remember to remove all engines from the consist while the locos are still on the track and dispatch each.**

**Note: While MU'd you can still control some functions in the locos that are not the TOP loco by selecting**

*their address on the left hand throttle and turning the functions (lights, sound, etc.) on/off. You will not be able to control the loco's speed or direction independently as long as it is part of a consist.*

<sup>1</sup>Select is defined on the DT402D by First press the throttle knob to activate it. Second, Press the "LOCO" key, followed by the cab address, and Third, Press the "LOCO" key. Now that throttle knob is controlling the loco entered.

An **important** concept is that the locos in our example have been shown to operate correctly together. Before coupling the consisted locos, test run them with a few inches of space between them to determine if they are compatible in how they run. If one is slightly faster, it should be the TOP loco. The way to make locos more compatible is to consider speed matching them.

For more detail, we suggest viewing a Digitrax produced video.

Go to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and then search for Consisting with the DT402 series throttle.

Remember, one-on-one DCC training is always available, so let us know. We are here to help. We welcome your interest and comments. Feel free to contact either Paul Falk ([pfalk1@gmail.com](mailto:pfalk1@gmail.com)) or Art Landrigan ([arcy22tn@gmail.com](mailto:arcy22tn@gmail.com)) with questions, comments or ideas.

## Membership

**John Conor**

There is no report this month as we had no new applications this month.

Just keep up the good PR as our visitors come and go. It will pay dividends sooner or later!

Thank you to all our shift workers.

*Marketing cont. from page 2* The group talked about November being National Model Railroad Month, with several things discussed: having members scratch build a diorama or building and have it on display for visitors to vote on as their favorite, and also judged by a couple of our members. We realize that it is short notice for this year, and we discussed the subject at the August meeting with several members indicating their interest. If we have a decent number of participants, we will hold it this year. If not, we will plan to hold it next year (maybe both).

The Anniversary was discussed and some of the ideas for the Anniversary Committee were that

we should have some kind of celebration that we can invite the City and County Mayors, Chamber of Commerce, and others who have supported us over the years. Potentially have both the Chronicle and the Radio Station cover the event, with possibly punch, cake or cookies. It would be at this event that we would announce the winners of the Scratchbuilt diorama's/buildings.

If anyone has any suggestions, please E-mail Art at: [arcy22tn@gmail.com](mailto:arcy22tn@gmail.com).

**I WENT TO THE  
PAINT STORE TO  
GET THINNER...  
IT DIDN'T WORK.**

## CMRC Now Accepting Nominations

To All CMRC Members

It is that time of the year again when we take nominations for the various Club positions that are due for election. This year there are three positions to be elected in October, **Vice President, Secretary, and Director - Suite Front End.**

The nominating committee this year is **John McLeod, Art Landrigan** and **Paul Falk** (Chairman). Please contact anyone on the committee to place yourself or other Club member in nomination no later than the September 14, 2020 general meeting.

The nominations procedures are detailed in the Club by-laws. The relevant sections are 5.2 & 5.3 and are shown here for your convenience and can be found in the members only area of the Club web site, **Crossvilletrains.org.**

### **5.2 Nominations**

*Nominations for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three At-Large Directors, as applicable, shall be accepted and verified by the Nominating Committee starting before the regular meeting in September and continuing through the start of the election meeting in October. Nominations from the floor shall be permitted in the September regular meeting.*

### **5.3 Candidate Eligibility**

*Candidates shall be Active Members or Life Members in good standing of the Club. Candidates shall be permitted to run for one office only.*

Descriptions of the three (3) positions for this election are detailed below.

The Vice President position is described in the by-laws section 3.3

**3.3 Vice President** The Vice President shall act in the place of the President in the event of the latter's absence, or his or her inability or refusal to act. The Vice President shall immediately succeed to the office of the President in the event of resignation, death or disqualification of the President. The Vice President shall assist the President in the performance of the President's duties, and in conducting the Club's business.

The Secretary position is described in the by-laws section 3.4

**3.4 Secretary.** The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence pertaining to the business of the Club and keep the official records of the Club. The Secretary shall also give notice of all regular, additional, and election meetings of the Club, and keep and publish, within 10 calendar days, minutes of all meetings of the Club and the Board of Directors, as well as performing such other duties as the President may, from time to time, request.

The At-Large Directors position is described in the by-laws section 3.6

**3.6 At-Large Directors.** The At-Large Directors should consist of: Director of Scheduling and Attendance, Director of Suite Front End, and Director of Utility. A concise description of their duties is located in Policies of Crossville Model Railroad Club.

**The Director—Suite Front End Director** - Suite Front End position is described in the Club policies Attachment 12(2)

1. Being sure there is an adequate supply of Club tri-folds in the appropriate racks. Notify the Marketing Committee Chairman in the event the supply of tri-folds is low.
2. Being sure there is an adequate supply of the scavenger hunt forms available. Notify Larry Lewer if an additional supply must be acquired.
3. Be sure there is an adequate supply of kid's stickers. Notify the Marketing Committee Chairman if more need to be obtained.
4. Restock the front counter with hats and whistles as needed. Notify the UCRS President if the supply is running low.
5. Restock the map display with appropriate maps. Notify the Public Relations Chairman if the supply is running low.
6. Restock the Visitor's Log Book with forms as needed.
7. Put labels on donated magazines as needed. Restock counter with magazines as needed.
8. Periodically review items on counter for disposal to the public. After coordinating with the Scale Coordinator, reduce donation prices on those items that have been on the counter for a long period (1+ month) to try to move them. Remove those items that are not moving and arrange for disposal (Train Show or dumpster).
9. Review any 'special items' secured for membership acquisition only. If they have been under the counter over a month, set on counter for the general public.
10. Arrange for an adequate supply of plastic bags under the counter for use by the general public.
11. Remove inappropriate items from under the counter that have been 'stored' there.

Respectfully presented, The Nominating Committee



## N Scale News - Jan Novack

Phase 1 of the Freight Line track reconfiguration has progressed to the testing stage.

If the testing is successful, we will finalize with soldering and wiring and move onto the Main Line.

The new yard off the Freight Line will be done after the Main Line is reconfigured. The design of the new yard is still being discussed

We are also discussing some minor scenery changes with the relocation of the Affinito Barrel Co. building and a new passenger station purchase.

## *Did You Know . . . .*

The Tennessee Central Railroad built stations and/or freight houses in the following Tennessee communities which are still standing:

Brush Creek

Carthage Junction

Clarksville

Cookeville—presently used as a museum

Crossville—presently used as a business

Emory Gap

Lebanon—now owned by the Nashville & Eastern

Mayland—now used as a restaurant in Crossville



# Ties and Rails Calendar

Tennessee Central Railway Museum, 220 Willow Street, Nashville, TN has numerous excursions throughout the year as listed in the calendar. Contact them at 615-241-0436 for specific information regarding any trip.

<b>Sept. 2020</b>	<b>Clean Up</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>O/G Scales</b>
9/5/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	Fall Festival Excursion to Watertown
9/7/20	HO Meeting	Suite 112. Crossville Outlet Center	4:00 PM
9/10/20	Marketing Mtg.	Club	4:00 PM
9/12/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	DelMonaco Winery Excursion to Baxter
9/14/20	BOD Meeting	Club	4:30 PM
9/14/20	Member Mtg.	Suite 112, Crossville Outlet Center	6:00 PM
9/26/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	Train Robbery Excursion to Watertown
<b>October 2020</b>	<b>Clean Up</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>HO/N/Z Scales</b>
10/3/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	Fall Festival Excursion to Baxter
10/5/20	Ops Session	Club	4:00 PM
10/8/20	Marketing Mtg.	Club	4:00 PM
10/10/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	Yard Sale Excursion to Watertown
10/12/20	BOD Meeting	Club	4:30 PM
10/12/20	Member Mtg.	Suite 112, Crossville Outlet Center	6:00 PM
10/17/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	DelMonaco Winery Excursion to Baxter
10/26/20	Plateau Div.	Suite 112, Crossville Outlet Center	10:00 AM
<b>Nov. 2020</b>	<b>Clean Up</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>O/G Scales</b>
11/2/20	HO Meeting	Suite 112, Crossville Outlet Center	10:00 AM
11/5/20	Marketing Mtg.	Club	4:00 PM
11/9/20	BOD Meeting	Club	4:30 PM
11/9/20	Member Mtg.	Suite 112, Crossville Outlet Center	6:00 PM
11/14/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	DelMonaco Winery Excursion to Baxter
<b>11/26/20</b>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Thanksgiving</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
11/28/20	Train Trip	220 Willow St., Nashville, TN	North Pole Express to Watertown