



Ties and Rails

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

November 2021

(931)210-5050

www.crossvilletrains.org

The Prez. Sez:

Well, after six years as your President, this November 2021 meeting will be my last. Everyone always says, "What an honor and privilege it was to serve", and I truly think that sums it up very well.

I enjoyed my time in office and I feel that we have made significant improvements over those years. We still have a way to go but I think, because we have some dedicated members, things will continue to move forward,

I wish the incoming Board members the best of luck in moving the Club into the future!

Marketing Committee

John Conor

As you who were at the October Business Meeting will recall, Marketing has put a number of events on our horizon to keep the CMRC's brand out there for all to see.

Coming up on Dec. 17th and 18th, we will have a "Lights Out" running of the trains for the public to come and enjoy. We're looking at doing the same again on Valentine's Day in February. We also are having a swap meet in March.

This Committee could use some help with those projects and others we have yet to design. We would welcome members joining our little band of Marketing track crew to keep a full head of steam for the future of our engine that thinks it can!

Will you consider joining this committee? We would love the help.

Christmas Party

John Conor

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Crossville Model Railroad Club, we are planning our annual dinner to celebrate our 20th Anniversary, Winter Solstice and Christmas Holiday Season on Monday, December 13th at the Outlet Center Event Center from 5pm to 7pm.

There will be a meal catered by Dynasty that will be served at 5:30pm. There are 3 entrée choices: General Tso Chicken, Chinese Vegetarian and Mongolian Beef and Broccoli. Each meal will come with white or fried rice and egg roll, a special Anniversary Cake and beverages.

At the November business meeting, you will please notify the Party Committee of which entrée choice you wish to make for you and your guest and pay your fee. The Board asks each member to pay \$10. toward this Anniversary Dinner and the Club will pay the rest of the tab for the member *cont. on Pg. 2*

If you have something you wish to put in the newsletter, contact Tom Shallcross at chipmonk4@comcast.net

Editorial

Twelve Ways To Kill A Club - Borrowed from the National Model Railroad Association.

1. Don't ever come to meetings.
2. If you come, come late.
3. *NEVER* accept an office — It is easier to *CRITICIZE* than *DO*.
4. If asked by the chairman to give your opinion regarding some important matter, tell him you have nothing to say.....*AFTERWARDS* tell everyone how things ought to have been done.
5. Do no more than absolutely necessary, but when other members roll up their sleeves and willingly use their abilities to help things along, *HOWL THAT THE CLUB IS RUN BY A CLIQUE*.
6. Hold back your dues as long as possible.
7. If you don't receive a bill for your dues, don't pay.
8. If you do receive a bill for your dues after you have paid, *RESIGN*.
9. If you receive service without joining, don't think of joining.
10. When you attend a meeting, vote to do something; then go home and do just the opposite.
11. Agree to everything said at the meeting, then disagree with it outside.
12. When asked for information or help, don't give it.

Christmas Party (cont. from Pg. 1) and one guest. If you should wish to bring additional guests, that's OK but those extra guests will be charged at \$23.00 each.

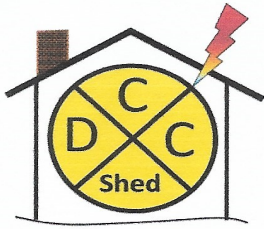
The deadline to sign up is the November business meeting! If you cannot be at the meeting, please inform Bruce H., John C., or Ralph W. before that deadline!

There will be entertainment, door prizes and fun for all.

Please remember that this is one of two times each year that the Club gets together as a whole, to bond and fellowship as a family of railfans in total. Your support is expected and desired.

So please come to the meeting prepared to make your selections. See you there!

Bruce H., John C., and Ralph W, the party brothers.



The DCC Shed @ CMRC

Paul Falk

Art Landrigan

Come in and get comfortable.

This month, a quick review of DCC start up procedures in both HO and N scales.

First HO Scale

1. The DC/DCC selector switch for the loop you are using is set to DCC.
2. Confirm the PS2012 DCC power supply is turned on. Green switch should be illuminated.
3. Confirm the DCS200 and DCS240 controllers Scale switches are set to **HO** (fully down and the Mode switches are set to **RUN** (fully up).
4. Confirm the DCS200 and DCS **Track Status Lights** are illuminated. (Red means the track power is on).

If not, there are several ways to turn on track power.

With a powered (battery inserted and/or plugged in to a fascia loconet outlet) Digitrax DT402 handheld, press the **Power** button and then the **Y** button.

Or using an Android smart phone or tablet, connect to the HO scale wifi, press the red power button turning it green (track power on).

Lastly, the display on the JMRI computer has a red power button on the roster screen that can be used to turn on the track power.

5. Place your DCC capable Loco on the loop selected in #1 above.

6. Using the handheld you are using from #4 above, enter the DCC address of the loco you are running. (Note: the DCC address is just the cab number, not the roster number). JMRI roster numbers are 3 digits for the owner and hyphen and the cab number. So a loco owned by the Club is 999-2704 is simply addressed by the cab number 2704.

7. Drive away and be happy.

Next N Scale (the easy one)

1. The DSC/DCC selector switch for the loop you are using is set to DCC.
2. Confirm the DCS51 (Zephyr Extra) controller is on (illuminated display).
3. Confirm the DCS51 **Track Status Light** is illuminated. If not, press the power button, the light should now be red (Red means the track power is on.)

4. Place your DCC capable Loco on the loop selected in #1 above.

5. Using controls on the Zephyr, press the 'Loco' Button, then type the loco's address, engine number, press 'loco' again, then use the Zephyr Throttle and direction lever to begin running your loco.

6. Using Android smart phone or tablet, connect the **N** scale wifi, enter the DCC address of the loco you are running. (Note: the DCC address is just the cab number, not the roster number. JMRI roster numbers are 3 digits for the owner and hyphen and the cab number. So a loco owned by the Club is 999-2704 is simply addressed by the cab 2704).

7. Drive away and be happy.

For both scales, our convention is to return the loco selector DC/DCC switch to **DC** (the default mode)





when you are finished running DCC.

One note of trouble shooting for smart phones and tablets. If you fail to find the wifi for the scale, that usually means the computer is off and needs to be turned on. Open the scale's computer and press the power button. No other computer commands are required. The computer will auto-start all functions and should be available in 2-3 minutes. Just close the computer and be patient

Remember, one-on-one DCC training is always available, so let us know. We are here to help. If you experience any unexplained issues with the current DCC installations, HO or N, please document what you have encountered in an E-mail, or a note to Paul and Art. We welcome your interest and comments. Feel free to contact either Paul Falk (pfalk1@gmail.com) or Art Landrigan (arcy22tn@gmail.com) with questions, comments or ideas.

SAVE THE DATE
NOVEMBER 13, 2021
10:00 am to 4:00 pm



-  **Children's Activities**
-  **Craft Vendors**
-  **Model Railroad Club Displays**
-  **SAM Shortline Shuttle Train Rides**

CORDELE MAIN STREET
105 E 9th Ave
Cordele, GA 31015
229-276-2902

Public Relations

Ann Grogitsky

I hope you all have seen the really nice 3 page article that came with the Chronicle about 3 weeks ago. If not, maybe there is still a copy at the Club.

There was also an article in the *Cumberland Life* paper, that's all around town.

We are listed in the *Welcome to Crossville* magazine that goes to the merchants in town and there are several of those in the rack card display.

We turned in an article, with a picture, to the Chamber for their yearly magazine that is sent to visitors and people relocating here.

Bill, Jim and I worked on articles to be put in all the local papers and the Sparta and Cookeville papers, pertaining to our Expo.

We are also listed on the Chronicle, Chamber of Commerce, 102.5, 94.5 talk out of Cookeville, websites on their calendar of events page.

I provide an article and pictures to the different papers and they will change things around, or change the wording and then it gets published wrong in some cases. If you see something that is incorrect, they got it wrong. Too bad they don't have me proof-read it before publishing it.

I am writing this in Florida, so if ant of you get a Sparta, Cookeville paper or the Glade Sun and see our article, would you save it for me please?

G Scale News - Ann Grogitsky

We will be putting up the Christmas scene later this month in time for the Thanksgiving weekend.

Your perceptions are sharpened
Through careful observation.



Proclamation Presentation

November has been declared Crossville Model Railroad Month by Mayor Mayberry, in conjunction with National Railroad Month. On Tuesday, October 12, we were the first item on the agenda and we were called up front by the mayor and he read the proclamation, then after that he looked up at the audience and said that if anyone here had not paid a visit to the model railroad club, they should make an effort to do so. He continued by praising the work that the club members put into it. There were only 5 members present to accept the award.

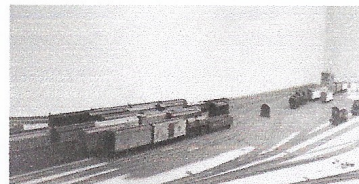
Ann Grogitsky

Club Meeting Special Notice

As part of the preparation for the special Christmas Party Celebration, there are plans to prepare a booklet for all members which will include a group photo of the Club Members.

Please make a special effort to attend the November Club meeting where we will take a group photo. Be sure to wear your Club shirt (if you have one).

Thank you!



Operations

Richard Morris

Just a brief reminder that the next Operations session will be November 8, 2021 at 12:00 noon.

If you have a special request to operate a certain train, please contact Richard Morris so he can plan ahead.

The Piedmont Division of the National Model Railroad Association is proud to Sponsor



See up to 37 exciting model train layouts open to the public, with additional railroads available on-line. Weekends, October 23 through November 21.

IMPORTANT: Before going to any tour site, please see our website for updates, directions, Covid precautions and any additional information!

www.piedmontpilgrimage.com



Free to ALL



"We're all about Model Trains!"

Save the Date!
Central Railway Museum's
Model Train
Expo 2022



Fri – Feb 18th 12:00 – 6:00 pm
Sat – Feb 19th 9:00 – 3:00 pm

Rock Springs Church – Impact Center
207 Rock Springs Road
Easley, South Carolina 29642

Admission \$8.00 Adults
Under 10 **Free** with adult
Admission good both days
Operating Model Railroads
KidZone with Thomas & Brio
160+ Dealer Tables



COMPLETE INFO AT: WWW.CRMHA.ORG

Contact Eddy Crowe – (334) 435-2220 elcrowe53@gmail.com

Or Sandy Eustis – (513) 325-8850 seustis13@gmail.com

News from the NMRA

At the Club's business meeting on Monday, October 11th, members Mike Durnwald and Carl Nordeen were presented their NMRA Association Volunteer certificates by Division AP Chairman, Richard Morris.

Congratulations to Mike and Carl for all the efforts you put in toward the betterment of the Club and Division in their activities.



Pictures by Ann Grogitsky



Visitor's Log

Tom Shallcross

During the month of October, 2021, the Club had 1,708 visitors, 233 of which signed our guest registry.

We had visitors from AI, AR, CA, FL, GA, IL, IN, KY, LA, MD, MI, MO, MS, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, and WI. We also had visitors from France and Japan.

Please continue to ask our visitors to sign the guest registry.

News from the NMRA

Just a brief reminder that the Annual/Election meeting of the Division is on Monday, 11/15/21 at 10:00 AM. Please attend and support your candidate.

20th Anniversary Train Expo

Our 20th Anniversary Train Expo was a financial success.

Saturday was our busiest day, as would be expected with 314 people attending. Sunday we had 167 people. Only a few people showed up for the costume parade.

The vendors did well, as did the popcorn and soda.

The Treasurer says that we made over \$1,500. after all expenses were paid.

There were 6 dioramas on display.

There were several people that attended the expo that said they were going to the Club after the Expo and visa versa.

We had one man drive all the way from Arkansas just for our Expo. We also had a woman bring her husband and son from Asheville, NC.

We had a visitor from France and one from Japan. They were exchange students, staying with one of our regular visiting couple.

A 4 year old boy won the door prize of an HO train set that was donated by Bruce.

A big THANK YOU to all members and wives who helped in any way to make this a success.

Ann Grogitsky



Evansville Model Train Sale



Saturday, November 6, 2021

10am-3pm

Admission: \$5

National Guard Armory

3300 E Division Street, Evansville, Indiana

For more info: bgtrainshow@gmail.com

Kevin Comer 270-792-3316

WASN'T THIS US?

At my 60th high school class reunion, a classmate distributed the poem below to remind us how far we have come in our lifetime. I thought I would share it with all of you after what we have all gone through this past year.

Editor

Wasn't This Us?

A little house with three bedrooms,
One bathroom and one car on the street.
A mower that you had to push
To make the grass look neat.

In the kitchen on the wall
We had only one phone,
And no need for recording things,
Someone was always home.

We only had a living room
Where we would congregate,
Unless it was mealtime
In the kitchen where we ate.

We ha no need for family rooms
Or extra rooms to dine.
When meeting as a family
Those two rooms would work out fine.

We only had one TV set
And channels maybe two,
But always there was one of them
With something worth the view.

For snacks we had potato chips
That tasted like a chip.
And if you wanted flavor
There was Lipton's onion dip.

Store-bought snacks were rare because
My mother liked to cook

And nothing can compare to snacks
In Betty Crocker's book.

Weekends were for family trips
Or staying home to play.
We all did things together —
Even go to church to pray.

When we did our weekend trips
Depending on the weather,
No one stayed at home because
We liked to be together.

Sometimes we would separate
To do things on our own,
But we knew where the others were
Without our own cell phone.

Then there were the movies
With your favorite movie star,
And nothing can compare
To watching movies in your car.

Then there were the picnics
At the peak of the summer season,
Pack a lunch and find some trees
And never need a reason.

Get a baseball game together
With all the friends you know
Have real action playing ball—
And no game video.

Remember when the doctor
Used to be the family friend,
And didn't need insurance
Or a lawyer to defend?

The way that he took care of you
Or what he had to do,
Because he took an oath and strived
To do the best for you.

Remember going to the store
And shopping casually,
And when you went to pay for it
You used your own money.

Nothing that you had to swipe
Or punch in some amount,
And remember when the cashier person
Had to really count?

The milkman used to go
From door to door,
And it was just a few cents more
Than going to the store.

There was a time when mailed letters
Came right to your door,
Without a lot of junk mail ads
Sent out by every store.

The mailman knew each house by name
And knew where it was sent,
There were not loads of mail addressed
To "present occupant."

There was a time when just one glance
Was all it would take,
And you would know the kind of car,
The model and the make.

They didn't look like turtles
Trying to squeeze out every mile;
They were streamlined, white walls, fins
And really had some style.

One time the music you played
Whenever you would jive,
Was from a vinyl, big-holed record
Called a forty-five.

The record player had a post
To keep them all in line
And then the records would drop down
And play one at a time

Oh sure, we had our problems then.
Just like we do today
And always we were striving,
Trying for a better way.

Oh, the simple life we lived
Still seems like so much fun,
How can you explain a game,
Just kick the can and run?

And why would boys put baseball cards
Between bicycle spokes
And for a nickel, red machines
Had little bottles Cokes?

This life seemed so much easier
And slower in some ways.
I love the new technology
But I sure do miss those days.

So time moves on and so do we
And nothing stays the same,
But I sure love to reminisce
And walk down memory lane.

With all today's technology
We grant that it's a plus!
But it's fun to look way back and say,
Hey look, guys, THAT WAS US!

