



Ties and Rails

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

December 2021

(931)210-5050

www.crossvilletrains.org

The Prez. Sez:

As the end of my six years as President comes to a close, I need to reflect on both the good and the bad which happened during my tenure. Please keep in mind that I had set some goals when I first took office, and many might remember what those were.

Some of them were creating an agenda to be distributed prior to meetings, and eliminating two-hour meetings which, at times, got just a little contentious. I also felt we needed to increase membership and award members for going above and beyond and for their extra commitment to the Club. I would like to think that I achieved all of those goals and others as well.

Then there were times when something I did or said offended someone and I was told I tarnished the reputation of the Club. Of course, that was never my intention but my type "A" personality has served me well, but it has also gotten me in trouble as well. For any damage I have inflicted on the Club or its members during my term in office, I deeply apologize.

Right now, we have fifty members and guests coming to the Christmas Party. That is quite different from what would have hoped as with more than fifty members, it would be nice if more decided to attend.

The purpose of the picnic and the Christmas dinner is to offer a time to socialize with members you may have worked with over the years. It is also going to allow you to meet many new members we have signed up over the last year. We hope to see you there.

In closing, I would like to refer you to the principles I learned while in service on the USS Goldsborough DDG20 and that was "Non Sibi", which translates to "Not for Oneself" and when you hold any office, that is something you need to strive for. Do for others before you do for oneself.

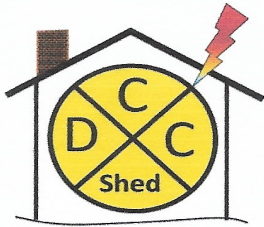
If you have something you wish to put in the newsletter, contact Tom Shallcross at chipmonk4@comcast.net



Special Night Home
Crossville Model Railroad Club
Open to the public
Begin Membership \$25.00
Year 4.00 - 6.00 PW
Location: Crossville Model
Sales Bldg., Crossville Mall
228 Interstate 82
Crossville, TN 38526
crossvillermc.org

COMPLETE AND READY-TO-RUN HO SCALE

¡LISTO Y LISTO PARA ANDAR



The DCC Shed @ CMRC

Paul Falk

Art Landrigan

Happy Holidays! Come on in.

This month we will discuss Rule 17 lighting. Have you heard of it? It's often mentioned as the source of why and when a locomotive headlight is dimmed. A little research of the source of the Rule 17 led to a huge rabbit hole of competing regulations and rules that are confusing at best. It appears that Rule 17 dates at least from the early 1900's. Peter Josserand's *Rights of Trains*, a 1959 rewrite of a 1907 original stated it as Rule 17. Now it is found in Federal Railroad Administration, DOT paragraph 229.125 and section 5.9.1 Dimming Headlight in the General Code of Operating Rules (GCOR), a set of operating rules for railroads in the United States. The GCOR is a committee of the various member railroads that generally agreed to support the rules. However, many railroads take exception to the rules when it is expedient to do so. The GCOR rules are a fascinating read; look it up.

But back to DCC. Many decoder manufacturers support Rule 17 dimming with various CV configurations to automatically control when the lights dim or even flash. There is no standard to these implementations. Do realize that this is not prototypical as the Engineer is responsible for these lighting changes. As the Engineer of your locomotive, you could also do this manually by setting functions you could control yourself.

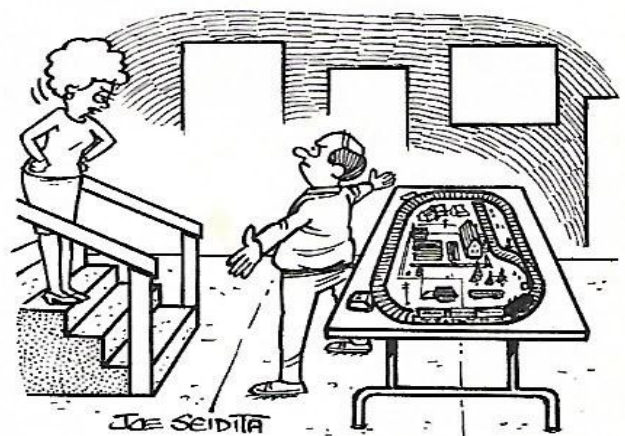
As a reference, here is a short list of the dimming concepts copied here from DCCWiki.com

- *Rule 17 is actually a collection of rules that govern*

which lights are to be illuminated on a locomotive at given times and to when they should be dimmed. These rules may vary from railroad to railroad but generally follow a similar pattern. The general purpose of the rule is to make sure that the locomotive is visible, without creating undue glare for others in the area.

- *Except when an engine is clear of the main and stopped, both the front (and rear if so equipped) headlights should be on.*
- *The light in the direction of travel should be a full brightness except:*
 1. *At stations and yards where switching is being done.*
 2. *When the engine is stopped close behind another train.*
 3. *In non-signaled (dark) territory, when the engine is stopped on the main track waiting for an approaching train.*
 4. *When approaching and passing the head end and rear end of a train on the adjacent track.*
 5. *At other times to permit passing of hand sig-*

Cont. on page 4



"I'm sorry, but with Thanksgiving company coming, we need that big folding table!"

Z Scale News -



Harvey Wooten, our Z scale "Cookie Monster" is taking a break from his duties on Thursday.

Membership

John Conor

As of the time of this printing, there is one application pending.

We keep moving in the right direction. Growing is good!

Thanks for all your hard work in making a difference to our visitors and promoting the Club.

Keep up the effort!

John Conor

The DCC Shed

cont. from page 3

nals or when the safety of employees requires.

- *The opposite light should be dimmed.*

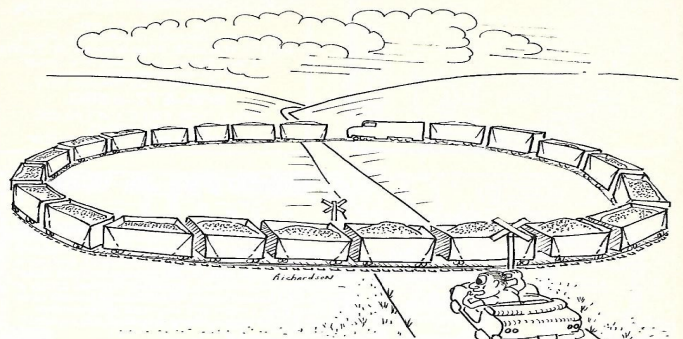
You can see that simply dimming when stopped is not quite the same, but taking exceptions when expedient is prototypical!

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.

Christmas Party

The Holiday/Anniversary Party committee wants to extend one last invitation to all CMRC members, especially our new members, to attend this very special annual event. What makes it special is not only a celebration of the holidays but that we will only have a Twentieth Anniversary once in our history. A good time will be had by all. I hope to see you there. Please email me at bherring52@outlook.com if you plan to come but haven't made payment arrangements yet.

Bruce Herring





News From the NMRA

Congratulations to Richard Morris for receiving a Merit Award for the construction of a scratch built HO scale turnout, presently mounted in the “tank farm” on the fourth pier of the layout.

This is the first of three required to qualify for the Model Railroad Engineer—Civil certificate.

HO Scale News - Paul Falk

There is an on-going issue with the laptop occasionally not responding at the start of the shift. A reboot of the laptop clears the problem. Troubleshooting is still underway as to the cause.

It is wise to remember the **Dtx1-CMRC_HO1_08B4-7** wifi network does not need the laptop. The password is **digitrax1234**.

There is no HO meeting or Ops session in December.

DC is still the default condition when powering down at the end of the shift. All loop switched should be in the up (DC) position and the DC power packs should be off before the main power is turned off.

Remember to park the trains near the tower.

Paul

Dues

Your 2022 dues of \$30.00 are due no later than the Club meeting in January.

Please put your dues in a marked envelope and put it in the cash box.

If you are paying your dues at the Christmas Party, please pay by check made out to CMRC.

Visitors

During the month of November, we had 1,272 visitors, 239 of which signed our guest registry.

They were from the states of AL, CA, FL, GA, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, NJ, OH, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, VA, WA, and WY. We also had a visiting families from Canada and England.



Terminus Chapter
Train Collectors Association - Terminus Chapter

ATLANTA TOY & MODEL TRAIN SHOW

DECEMBER 3&4, 2021

SHOW HOURS Fri. 2PM to 6PM Sat. 9AM to 2PM

V.F.W. POST #5408

4764 Cobb Parkway NW | Acworth, GA 30101

Operating Train Layouts
New and Antique Toy & Model Trains
Parts • Appraisals
OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC

ADMISSION: TCA Members - \$ 7.00 /person

(Accompanying Spouse FREE)

General Public - \$10.00/person

(Accompanying Spouse FREE)

Children 17 and under with accompanying Adult: FREE

OVER 100 TABLES OF TRAINS!

** Portions of the proceeds benefit Atlanta Area Ronald McDonald Houses **

For more information, visit:
www.terminuschaptertca.com

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Directions From ATLANTA:

**I-75N to EXIT 277, turn LEFT onto GA-92S. Turn RIGHT in .3MI & follow GA-92S.
Drive 3.7MI & turn RIGHT onto US-41N/COBB PARKWAY & VFW is 2.2MI on RIGHT.**

Train Collectors Association - Terminus Chapter

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

N Scale News - Jan Novack

The last building for the industrial yard was finally completed.

The road crew got the road and parking areas paved and the landscaping is nearly completed at that end, with lighting and some track ballasting left to do.

Just around the turn from the yard, we found a passenger station that will fit nicely. We hope to complete that area next.

Our next improvement is to install six more Tortoise machines after the holidays in the area near the rodeo and passenger station where the Amtrak passenger cars are parked when not in operation.

A special thanks to John Conor, Art Landrigan and Bill Bly for their help in greatly improving our working roster of engines (especially 4-axle). The N scale fleet is in much better shape.

