



Ties and Rails

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

February 2022

(931)210-5050

www.crossvilletrains.org

The Prez. Sez:

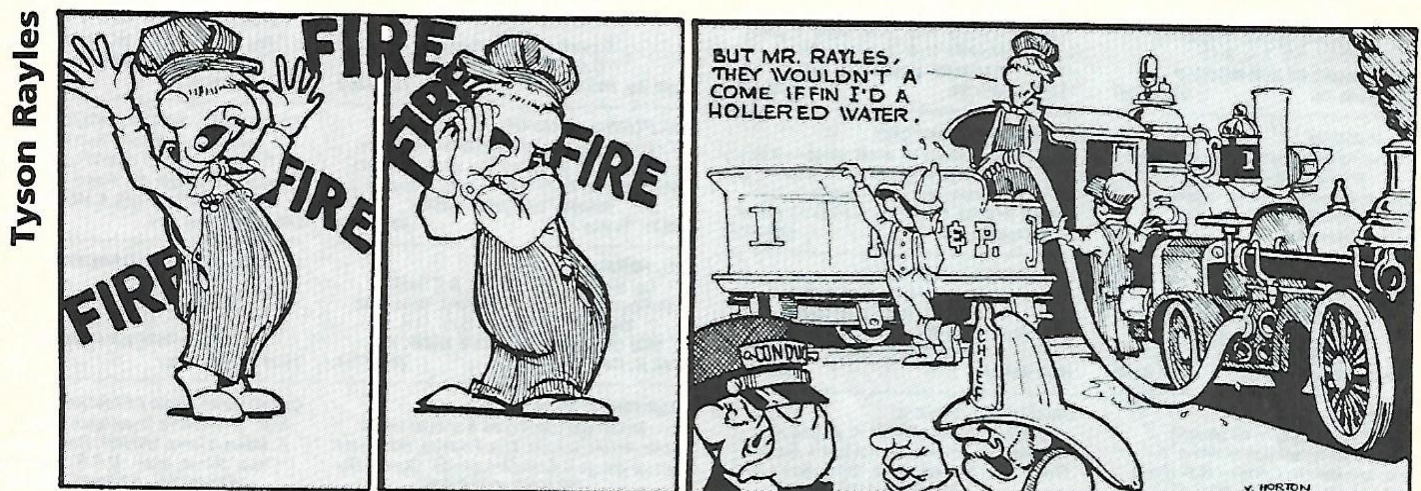
Welcome to February; Spring is coming closer. I am sure everybody is looking forward to it. I know I am.

As a Club, I think we are doing pretty well.

We still need to promote membership to those that visit. On Saturday, the 22th of January, a visitor was asking about how we got started and Terry brought up that he could join the Club. The visitor was not even aware that people could join. So kudos to Terry for giving him an application. Hopefully he will become a new member.

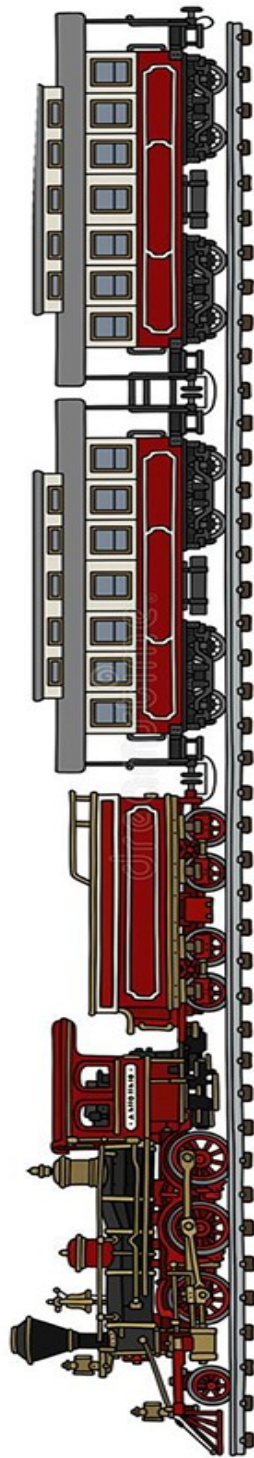
I am going to propose that we start some kind of classes for members to learn about building or updating their layouts. I will bring it up at the next meeting to see if there is any interest.

So stay safe and we will see you at the next meeting.



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

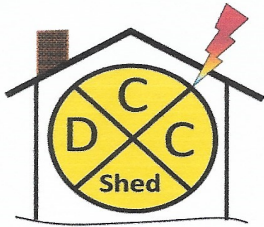
SAVE THE DATE



MODEL TRAIN SWAP MEET
March 12th 10am-4pm

FREE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SPONSORED BY **THE CROSSVILLE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB**
in the Crossville Outlet Center Event Room



The DCC Shed @ CMRC

Paul Falk

Art Landrigan

Welcome All. Settle in and get comfortable.

Over the past few months, we've fielded questions from members looking for the best DCC system recommendations. This often asked question has an easy answer: **it depends!** If you ask six people what the best brand is, you'll probably get at least 12 different answers. (we can be fickle)

Best for you might be different than what is best for someone else. In the end, we cannot answer this question for you. However, we can give you a list of things you should consider. With enough information you can make an informed decision to get the right Digital Command Control system for you.

Start with the system specs. But remember, specifications only tell part of the story. Thanks to the world wide web, there is a wealth of information at your fingertips. Make good use of the resource. Most DCC manufacturers have websites and forums...a good source of other owners opinions. Both good and bad.

Try It First! For any system you are considering. Try and find one to test drive. After all you will spend lots of time with whatever you select.

While testing, here are some points to consider: (your list will likely be longer)

What is available for your chosen scale?

Was the throttle layout easy to use?

Do I want walk-around throttles?

How long did it take you to learn to operate your

train? Can you control multiple trains at once?

How easy is it to program decoders?

Do you want to automate turnouts? If so, were you able to throw turnouts?

Are the system components easy to wire? Can they be wireless?

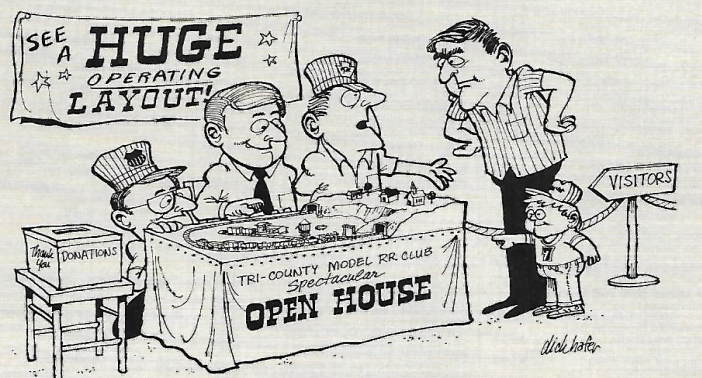
Is future expansion needed? Does the system expand easily?

Are there other owners close by for advice?

Finally, how much of your railroad budget can be used for DCC? Costs vary dramatically as you answer and prioritize the points above. Last month The Shed had a sub \$100., DIY command station. Remember to include the costs of DCC locomotives and other accessories.

Enjoy your research!

Remember, one-on-one training and help is always available, 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/or 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.



"Well it *is* huge for Z scale!"

Did You Know

That Crossville, at one time, had its own Drive in theater located on the present day Route 70 East on the left side as you leave town traveling east.

Ann Grogitsky told the editor that the most notable occurrence at the theater was a man that was found dead at the theater one early spring day. He was there to watch "Closed for the Winter".

G Scale News - Ann Grogitsky

Just a reminder that, even though G scale runs pretty good most of the time, please check to make sure that all trains are accounted for throughout the day.

Sometimes the Mountain Line may derail or an engine may get stuck; it does happen.

I plan on changing the winter scene sometime this month.

I'm sure we are ready for spring,

O Scale News - Bruce Herring **Special Training Session**

For those members that are interested, the O scale group is planning to put on a training session on the setting up and running of an MTH engine on Thursday, 02/03/22 at 10 AM. All are welcome to attend.

A big **THANK YOU** to
HENRY AND SUSAN DAHL
for making a new seat for our stool
at the counter.
It looks so good!

Marketing Committee

Bill Bly

We have had a good response for the March 12 Swap Meet. Let us know if you are interested in a table. We are having door prizes, popcorn and a separate door prize for children 12 years old and younger. (An HO starter set was donated). We think a couple of HO locos will be added as well. If you have something to donate, let us know. We could also use some volunteers. Thanks!



N Scale News - Jan Novack

Almost done with the industrial yard. The street lighting is complete. Lights will be put into two more buildings.

The road crossings over the Mountain and Freight lines into this area have been completed.

Some ballasting, grass and shrubs have to be added.

We received a huge donation involving over 40 engines, even more freight cars, several building kits and a small layout.

Analysis of the engines is being done.

Prep work for the installation of six tortoise machines should start next week.



Who said we couldn't get a passenger train to run on the Mountain Line?

Train Left Overnight in Chicago



As many of you have seen in the news, various forms of larceny are being reported on a regular daily basis.

As you can see, even railroads in the Chicago area are not immune from becoming a victim to this lawlessness.

Did You Know

That during the month of January, 2022, we had 806 visitors to our display in the Mall. 112 of these visitors signed our Visitors Log representing AZ, FL, GA, IL, KS, KY, LA, NC, OK, OR, PA and TN.

Reminder, it is always a good idea to ask all our visitors to "Please sign the Visitor's Log", so we can get an idea how far our visitors travel to see us.

Train Show

February 25 and 26, 2022

Asheville Train Show, Western North Carolina Agricultural Center. Friday noon-7:00pm and Saturday 9:00am—5:00pm. Admission \$6.00, under 10 free. All scales, all gauges, collectables, artifacts, operating layouts, hundreds of vendor tables. More info www.Asheville-Trainshow.com

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