



Ties and Rails

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

March 2023

(931)210-5050

www.crossvilletrains.org

The Prez. Sez:

Attention all members!

Here are the facts about the suite:

1. We have until April 1 to be out of the suite.
2. Operations have been shut down.
3. There will be no non-club members allowed in the club, including family members. This is a liability issue.
4. We will have a general meeting on Monday, March 6th at 2 PM. All members need to attend as we will be voting on several important issues. Please attend as this is about the club's future.
5. We need members to step in and help with several issues.
6. For now I need a committee set up to find us a storage place for club property that is reasonable and climate controlled.
7. The Board voted, due to liability issues, that we cannot store any club property in a members garage, shop, etc.
8. Please contact your scale coordina-

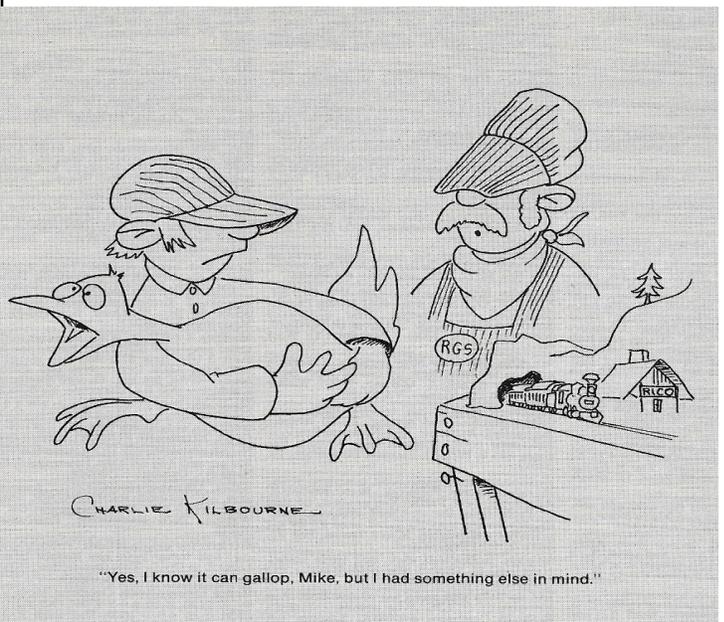
tor and volunteer to help with boxing, moving, or storage of items.

Important note: This is not free for all. Do not take club property and call it yours. If you have personal property, please remove it. If it is not yours, do not remove it from the club. Remember, if you take from the club, you are taking from all members.

If we find that someone has decided that they want club property and remove it, there will be consequences.

This is a sad time in the club, but it is not the end.

COME TO MONDAY'S MEETING!!



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

ALL ABOARD
THE 2023
PIEDMONT DIVISION
25th
ANNIVERSARY
MODEL TRAIN SHOW



March 11 & 12

Saturday 10-5, Sunday 10-4

The Clarence Brown Conference Center

5450 GA Hwy 20 – Cartersville, Georgia
Easy access from Hwy 41 and 75.

A Courtyard by Marriott hotel is adjacent to the Conference Center.

**Operating Model Railroads to Enjoy,
150 Tables of Model Train Dealers,
“White Elephant” tables**

Admission is just \$10 per Person

**Pre-show on-line ticket purchases
are Available Online at
www.themodeltrainshow.com**

**Kids 9 and Under are Free!
FREE PARKING**



Sponsored by the Piedmont Division
of the National Model Railroad Association
www.piedmont-divorg

Marketing Comm. Ralph Watson

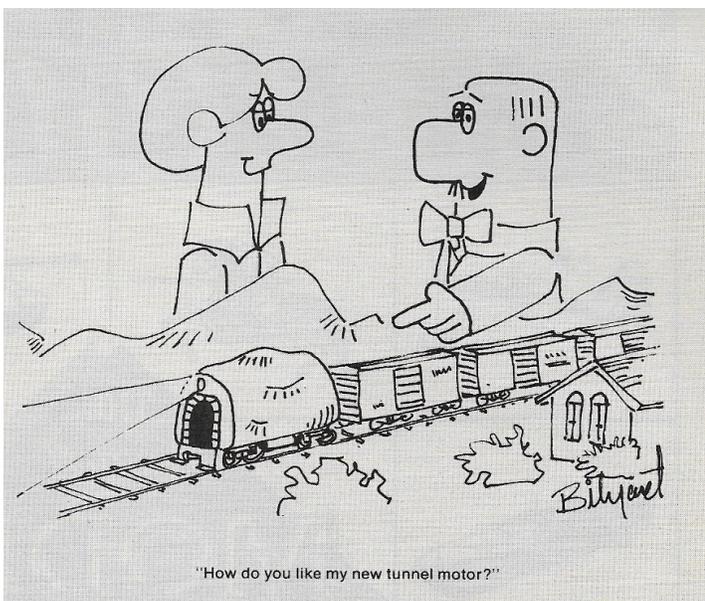
Bad news. Not totally unexpected, but bad news nonetheless. How do we continue to share our hobby? What do we do next? There are some options. We can burn it down. We could go into hibernation. We could disband into multiple new groups. We could become an underground or exile community, an autonomous collective of smaller sub groups.

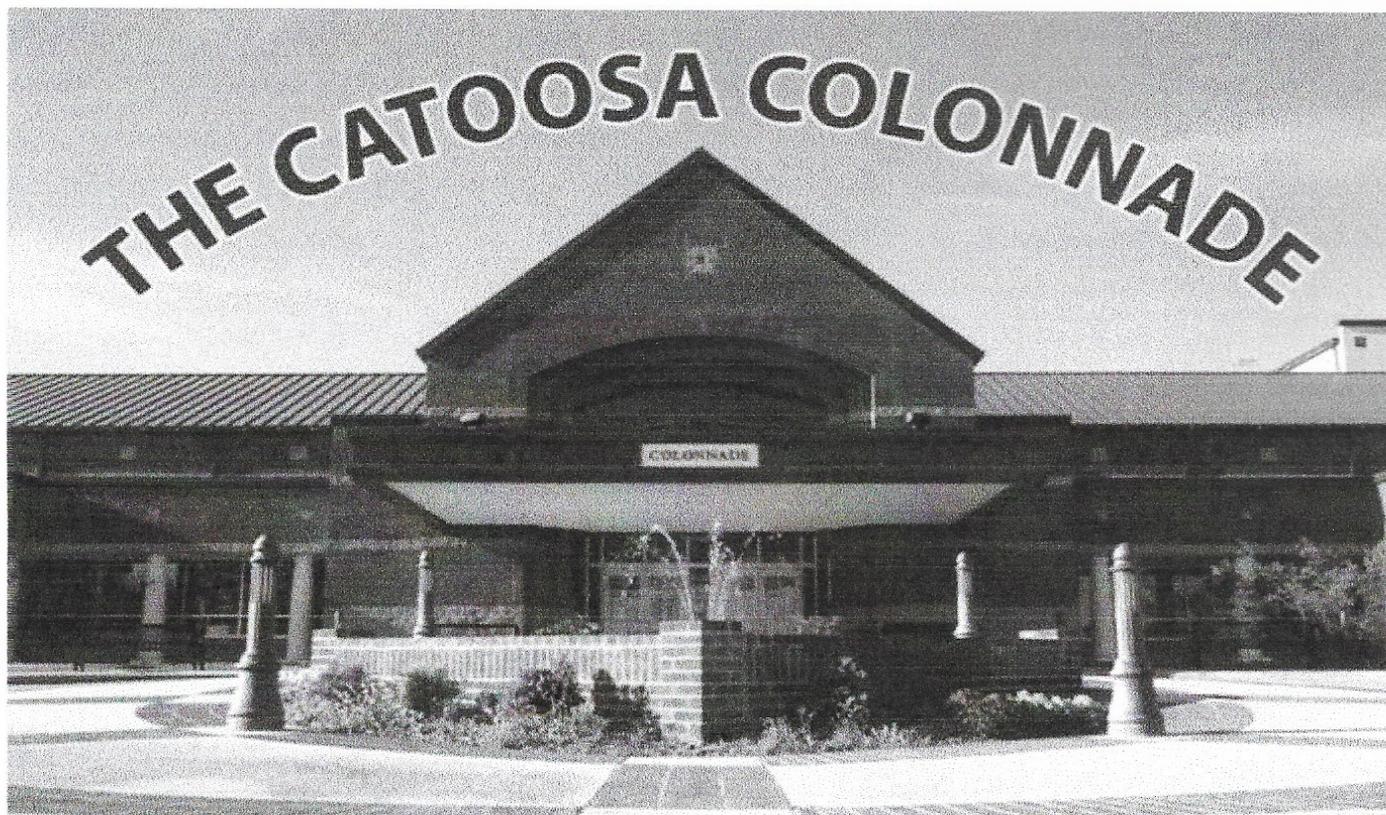
The members of the Crossville Model Railroad Club family need to counsel and support one another avoiding conflict, argument, recriminations, revenge, name-calling, and discord. Not just put on a spin or happy face but work together to solve the problem. As with any group of 50+ individuals, there will be nearly 100 opinions and claims of "truths" and "right ways" to fix every issue. Getting mired in this quick sand presents serious im-

pediments to actual problem resolution.

The Board of Directors is tasked with an extremely difficult process, not one that anybody has a lot of practice at and we all need to be supportive and constructive in our discussions. In sharing a different opinion, give the same or better courtesy to that speaker than was given to you.

CMRC, the train "club" may be on life-support, but the friendships and camaraderie arising from it are still alive and well. Be a family. Take time to care for each others needs and worries. Help each other with rides to the doctor's office or pick up food for them or take them somewhere when the car breaks down. Invite each other into your homes or favorite eatery, and share friendship. Be someone's Fairy Godmother and use your own personal wand, AKA Love, to bring comfort, peace, and joy to each others lives.





On **March 18**, TCA's Dixie Division will be hosting a Train Meet at the Catoosa Colonnade in Ringgold, Georgia.

For more details and a registration form, **[CLICK HERE](#)** or visit our website: **[Upcoming Dixie Division Meets](#)**

We hope to see you there!



Train Show

Louisville, Kentucky, March 18, 2023 Division 8 Train Show & Sale at Holy Family Parish Saffin Center, 3938 Poplar Level Rd. Louisville's largest train show featuring 110 tables of model trains in all scales, operating layouts and more. Purchase advance tickets on our website. Early entry for NMRA members at 9:00 AM. Free parking. Door prizes. Refreshments available. Admission \$6.00 per person. Contact Ron Ellison, Chairman, at (502)653-5371, or visit div8-mcr-nmra.org/



CMRC Treats

Submitted by Jewell Lyndell for CMRC cookbook

Tennessee Trailer Trash Chicken

4 medium chicken breasts (skinless & boneless or 8 to 10 large chicken thighs)

8 oz. Catalina dressing

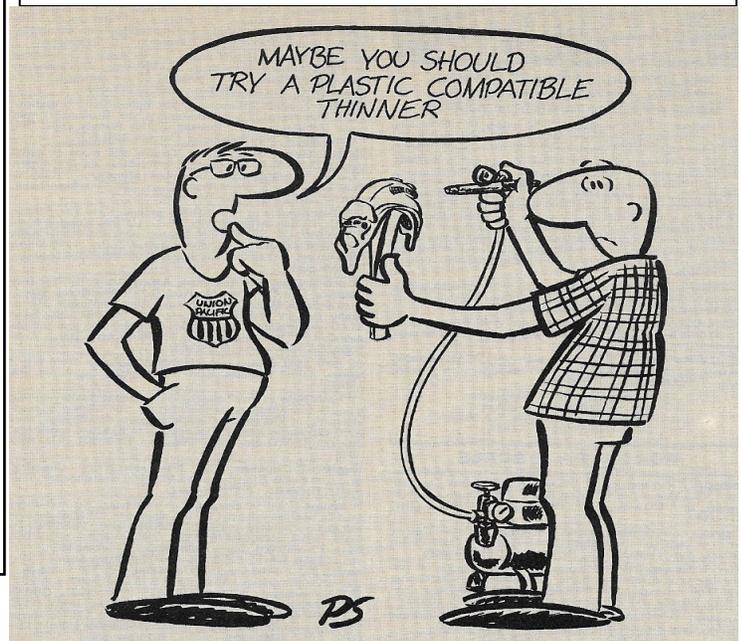
1 (16 oz.) can whole berry cranberry sauce

1 packet dry onion soup mix

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray 13x9x2 baking dish with Pam. Place raw chicken in pan. Mix remaining ingredients together and pour over chicken. Bake for 1 hour. Serve over rice or noodles.

Cooper Loved the Trains!

Submitted by Jim Ling



Train payloads

Submitted by Ralph Watson

L	S	M	I	L	K	E	G	A	B	R	A	G	O
A	T	S	L	W	G	D	F	G	R	A	I	N	R
O	R	C	L	A	I	A	N	R	G	T	L	A	E
C	A	R	E	B	P	N	I	A	E	R	P	O	Z
T	P	A	T	W	A	T	E	R	S	I	P	N	I
D	E	P	P	L	U	P	D	O	O	W	G	I	L
I	N	I	T	N	E	M	P	I	U	Q	E	H	I
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N	P	N	S	L	I	V	E	S	T	O	C	K	E
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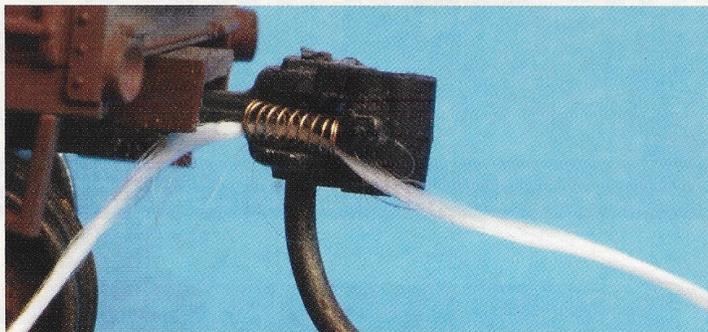
- LOGS
- OIL
- COAL
- LIVESTOCK
- MAIL
- CEMENT
- AIRPLANE PARTS
- PASSENGERS
- PRODUCE
- LUMBER
- WOOD PULP
- SCRAPIRON
- FREIGHT
- GARBAGE
- WINE
- CHEMICALS
- MILK
- IRON ORE
- FERTILIZER
- GRAIN
- EQUIPMENT
- SAND
- STEEL
- WATER

KNOXVILLE AIRPORT MODEL TRAIN SHOW – JULY 15, 2023 – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

On Saturday, July 15, we'll share and promote toy trains by hosting the **Knoxville Airport Model Train Show**. The show features all types and sizes of trains in one of the Hilton Knoxville Airport Hotel ballrooms. Free parking is available until the Lot fills up. All registered LOTS Members and their guests can attend the show free of charge beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 15, as long as they are wearing their 2023 Convention name badges. Registered LOTS Members get exclusive access to the show for the first hour! If you do not register for the convention, you will not be admitted to the train show during the exclusive access time. You are welcome to attend beginning at 10 a.m. Tickets will be available at the door for \$8.00 per person. **Location: Grand Ballroom**

Workshop

Restraining flying springs



I'm convinced that I personally kept the folks at Kadee working overtime making tiny knuckle springs that simply disappear from time to time. Every time I tried to replace one of the small coil springs that operate a coupler knuckle, it usually took me several attempts and a handful of lost springs to get the job done.

Truth is I'd gotten quite proficient at replacing these pesky springs using a no. 11 blade in my hobby knife. By inserting the knife point in the tight last coil of a spring, I could place the open end on the nub closest to the car. Then I could compress the spring a bit, slip the other end onto the opposing nub, and gently withdraw the knife.

Of course at least one coupler spring will make a break for it anytime I have an operating session on

my HO scale Allegheny & Lackawanna Southern RR. Unfortunately, my proficiency at replacing springs deteriorates under pressure, and my repairs quickly turn into an episode of the Keystone Cops. Many times my A&LS operators have been forced to soldier on with coupler springs bouncing around.

During our post-session coffee break someone suggested using a piece of thread to keep the spring under control during installation. Now I feed a short piece of thread through the spring with a needle. [Dipping one end of the thread in thin cyanoacrylate adhesive will stiffen it and eliminate the need to use a needle. – Ed.] Once the spring is installed the thread can be gently pulled out and the spring will remain in its proper location. – *Lionel Strang, contributing editor*

Some of the comments left:

From Rocky Top, TN, "Wow! Lot of time and dedication displayed."

From Oviedo, FL, "Scavenger hunt fun, great display."

From Cookeville, TN, "Beautiful sets of intricate trains."

From Westminster, MA, "Super Place—everyone should come to see."

From Phoenix, AZ, "Absolutely wonderful experience, thank you."

From Murfreesboro, TN, "It's a shame to see this much knowledge shut down."

From Louisville, KY, "Very interesting and nostalgic."

From Crossville, TN, "Insane detail."

From Clinton, TN, "Love seeing the trains, staff is awesome."

From Reno, NV, "Glad I got to see all your hard work."

From Ft. Myers, FL, "Amazing—so very impressive—God bless!"

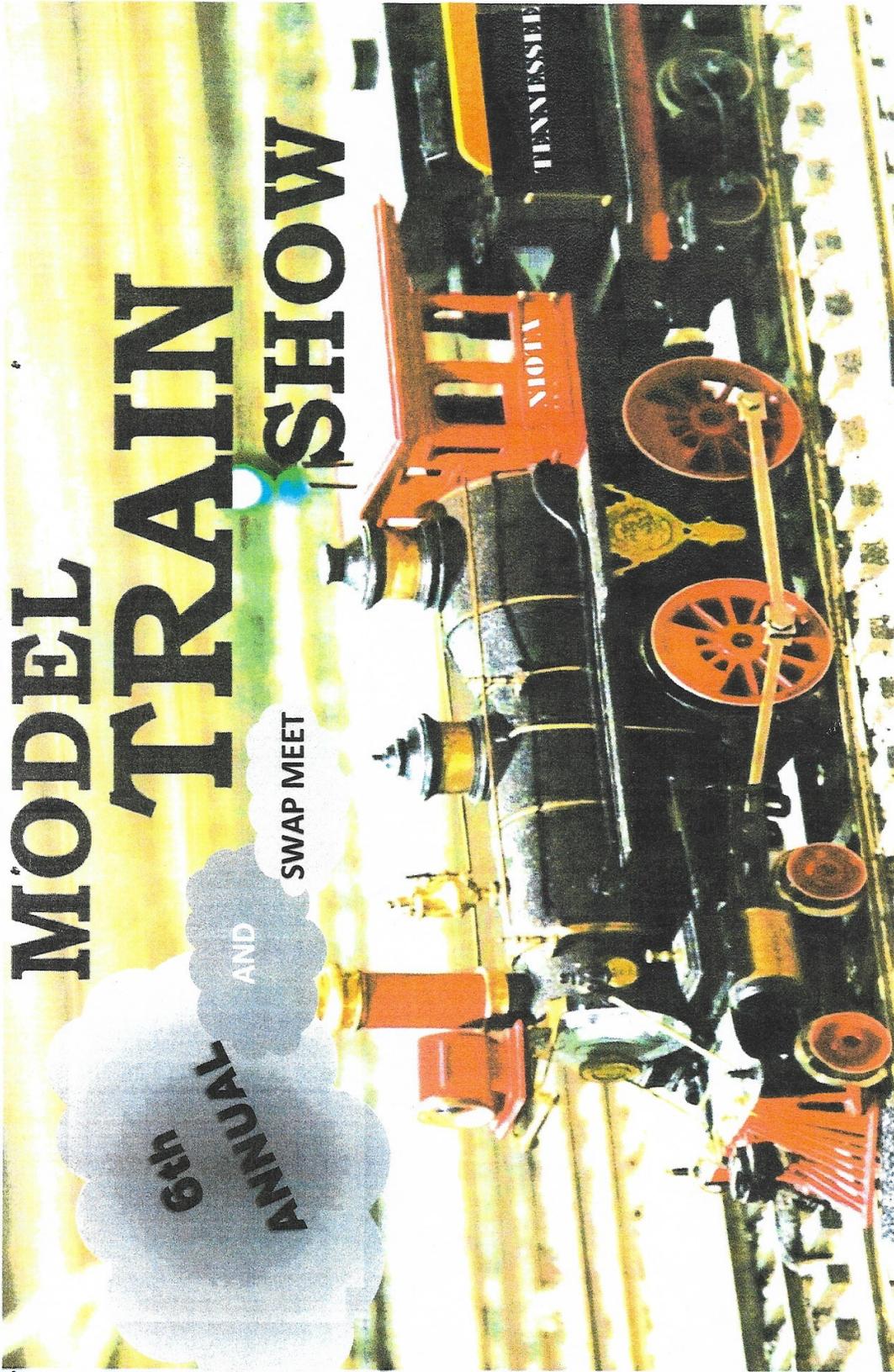
From Crossville, TN, "We are going to miss you all when you move."

From Bala Cynwyd, PA, "Been looking forward to seeing this display. Looks like I made it just in time!"

Did You Know

That during the month of February, we had 1,187 visitors, 131 of which signed the Visitor's Log.

These visitors represented the states of AL, AZ, CA, FL, GA, KY, MA, MD, MN, NC, NJ, NV, OH, PA, SC, TN and WV as well as the country of Italy.



APRIL 29TH, 10AM-4PM & APRIL 30TH, 11AM-4PM

NIOTA TRAIN DEPOT