



# Ties and Rails

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

April 2023

(931)210-5050

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

## **The Prez. Sez:**

It's a new month. April is upon us and, hopefully, we will have better prospects ahead.

We are out of the Mall; everything that we saved is in storage. It was a sad moment as I walked through the doors for the last time. We need to keep a positive outlook for the Club and the museum as we go forward.

We have looked at several possible sites and so far we have whittled them down. It seems that the cost of possible locations are running about a dollar a square foot. We will definitely have to downsize, but we are resilient and we will make do.

John has been doing a great job on looking and checking out different locations. Stan Bank has found a possible location and has gotten with Lowes management to get us a deep discount for materials to possibly build a new building.

I want to thank everyone that helped pack and move everything from the mall to storage.

We will have a member meeting on

Monday, April 10th, at the Library. WE will send out the time when it is established.

So look up and we will persevere as it is just a new chapter in CMRC and UCRS history.

Never Give Up!

## **N Scale News**

**Jan Novack**

Oh, so close!

I had just finished wiring the first two sets of Tortoises for the main line reconfiguration and was set to place the passenger station. The vision of the remodel was beginning to come to life, when 'Ouch' mall management pulled the plug. It was heart-breaking having to take all of that apart.

But, keeping that vision in mind, I plan to spend some time, while we are looking for our new location, researching track plans that can have that same passenger station area in it.

I would love to see a new layout with some elevation changes also, not just the flat run the old one had.

We definitely have time to explore the options.

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

## O Scale News

## Bruce Herring

Well, it has happened. The Crossville Model Railroad Club has lost the use of the place we have occupied for over 21 years. We have packed up our belongings and placed them into storage. Now the search for a new home has begun. Unfortunately, we are not having very much success in finding a suitable site with a rent we can afford. We have been very fortunate to have only paid what we have for such a long time and now the world has caught up with us.

So, how do we continue as a club as the above process runs its course? Might I suggest a modular set-up that we can work on together and take to train shows, fairs, and other local (and maybe not so local) events. A while back I sent out the standard used by Lionel Collector's Club of America for building modules. A great part of that plan is that you can take your modules to a LCCA event, and they will connect to any other LCCA module built to that standard by any other member or group. My thoughts are that it would keep us active as a team as we build the modules and, depending on having a place to set them up, allow us to have running sessions.

Perhaps we might, as a group, visit some of our members home layouts. Mine is in disarray at the moment and the building is in need of a paint job, but we could take

some time to get to know each other. Perhaps over some hot dogs, hamburgers, chips and drink.

Lastly, besides my membership in the CMRC, I am also a member of three national organizations. They are: Lionel Collectors Club of America (LCCA), Lionel Operating Train Society (LOTS), and the Train Collectors Association (TCA). I recommend that you consider joining one or more of these organizations. LOTS is having their annual convention at the Hilton Knoxville Airport Hotel and Convention Center from July 9—July 16, 2023.

A few short weeks later, the LCCA is having their annual convention in Charlotte/Concord, NC from July 24-29, 2023. That one is going to tour the Lionel factory in Concord. The initial hotel has been booked solidly and they have made arrangements with a neighboring hotel to handle the overflow.

TCA is having their convention in New Hampshire this year. Too far for me to travel, but the important thing about the TCA is the two MASSIVE train shows they have in York, PA in the spring and in the fall. They rent out a bunch of buildings at the county fairgrounds for these events. It is one of the largest train shows in the country. One of these days I hope to be able to go. Road Trip anyone??

Bruce Herring—O Scale Coordinator

## Marketing Comm. Ralph Watson

March has been a busy month for a bunch of hard working 'Getter-Dunn' CMRC members and their friends/families. The suite has been demolished and probably qualifies for Ghost Town status. Did anyone contact the ICC to get permission to abandon the tracks? A huge task, handled without animosity and 'I told you so' has been accomplished. Personally I have been notifying the local businesses, hotels, campgrounds, churches and travel promoting web pages which for so long helped bring visitors to 228 Interstate Drive. I have sent replies to a number of people who sent sympathy comments via the website.

Our own Crossvilletrains.org has been updated and will remain active for member and public distribution of news and status updates. The 'Members Only' page password will be changed on April 11 after the membership meeting. The new password will be distributed at that time. For now the page is accessible with the old password. The Facebook site is also still active.

Next on the to-do list is making plans for the future of our club. There **IS** a future for this community, By participating in a hobby there are friendships and interactions that have developed well beyond the playing with trains. How many scales, what size layouts, in

what location are all pertinent and difficult questions. In order to succeed, the voice of every member **MUST** be acknowledged and respected, not just by other members, but by the Officers and Board members. Listen carefully to what is being said and put aside bias and exclusivity. Chances are very good that cooperation and compromise will result in a positive outcome.

## G Scale News

## Ted Polczynski

If life has placed you on a siding, you just get back on the Mainline! The "Fire in the Hole" has been extinguished and the ashes have been moved to storage.

We "G"ers had a great 99% turnout in March for the "G" Scale layout deconstruction. All the active "G"ers were working not less than 2 days each, plus some traveling round trips of 160 miles from the West and 120 miles from the East that chip in. What a Great Group!

It has been a Great Time most of my almost 19 years with the "G"ers of CMRC. THANKS.

The Prestige Position of CMRC "G" scale coordinator will have an opening on April 1st, 2023. Please reply and I will place you at the top of the list for this job offering.

"Peace and long life to you".

Ted



## HO Scale News

**Paul Falk**

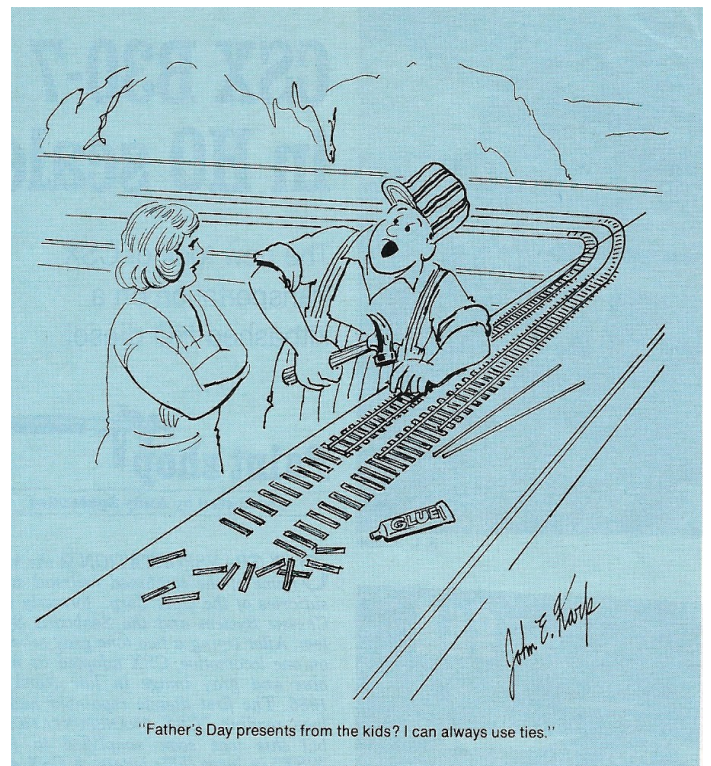
As coordinator, I want to thank all the members who gave the time to assist in the painful tasks of removing and storing the HO assets. All your help was very appreciated. Thank you.

As we contemplate rebuilding a new HO layout, I want to encourage you to list the things you would like to see or not see in a new design. We need to capture what should not be done again, what should be improved on and what new things can be considered. Make a list and when we meet again in a month or two, we can bring all that together and form a direction to base a new design.

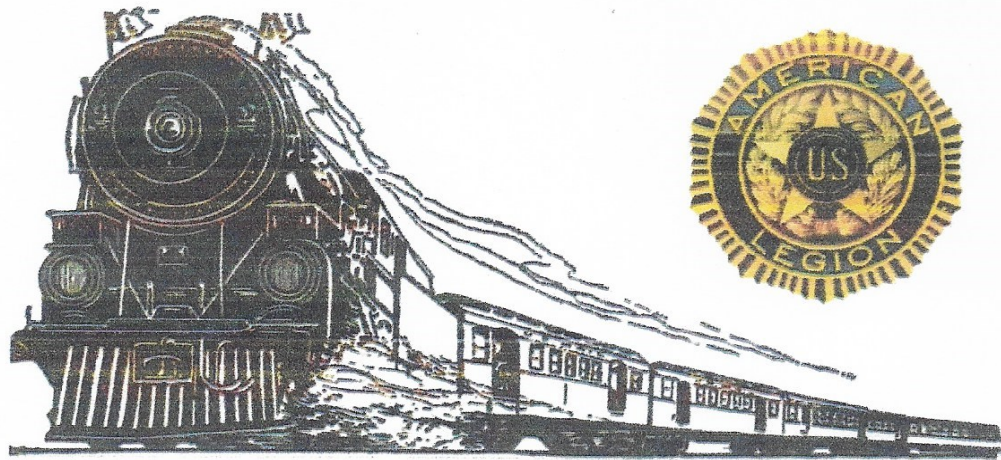
I have already been asked by some what they can do to help rebuild. The easy answer right now is to just stay ready, for

there will be plenty of tasks that will need your many talents and skills. Challenging times lay ahead.

As you can see by the photo above, HO has left the building (Elvis too).







## American Legion Post 44 Model Train Show

Where: 110 N Vine St.  
Winchester, Tn.

When: Saturday May 6, 2023  
9 AM til 3 PM

Admission: \$5 for Adults

Children 12 under free  
when accompanied with  
paying adult

This is a multiscale & memorabilia  
show benefiting our local Post 44.

Vendors tables will be available for  
\$15 each and will be first come  
first serve.

For more information please contact  
Commander Ray Cobb  
(931) 308 8914

## **Public Relations      Ann Grogitsky**

AS a charter member of the Crossville Model Railroad Club, this is a very sad time for me. When we started this club in 2001, we had 11 charter members and I don't think any of us would have imagined that we would have 60 members now.

Besides putting an article in the Chronicle and Glade Sun about our closing, Jim and I visited the County Mayor, Allen Foster, although he sympathized with us, there was not much else he could do for us. He did mention that the hospital owned the building across Main Street from the Palace Theater. We left the Mayor's office and drove directly to the hospital, to the Administrator's office and waited an hour for him to get out of a meeting (which was only supposed to last 10 minutes or so). However he did call me that afternoon, apologized for our wait. After a few questions, he admitted he didn't know much about the building and would introduce me to the man who could answer my questions. It turns out that besides needing a new roof, there were too many repairs needed inside for us to afford (according to him).

I also pursued the leasing of the depot. It was at the "Business after Hours" event (this is for all businesses belonging to the Chamber to get together informally) that Roberta, Mike D., Ed & I attended this event and

we had conversations with the County Mayor, Allen Foster, City Mayor Crawford and councilman Art Gernt and all of them confirmed that the depot would not be available for lease as that is the only meeting place for birthday parties, weddings and is already booked for the year.

I have had many phone calls from Carolyn Jozwick (from "Downtown Crossville Inc.") - she had had several calls from business people wanting us to locate downtown. So far these buildings have not panned out. I also got a call from the mayor of Harriman, TN saying if we cant find anything in Crossville, they would find something for us in Harriman,

Two days after my article appeared in the paper, I got a call from a man in North Carolina who comes every year to Crossville to visit CMRC. He was appreciative of our talents and offered to come and help us pack.

It is encouraging to me to know that most of our members felt strongly enough about our club to keep up their membership. Be sure to check our web page often for updates. I see that our "Members Only" page is back online. Web Page: [crossvilletrains.org](http://crossvilletrains.org)

## From the Nashville “G” Scale Group

Hi Everyone,

We have been invited to set up a G-Scale layout at the Wilson County Fairgrounds on Saturday, July 1. This is the same group that hosts the Music City Christmas Train Show in December at the Nashville Fairgrounds. Since we were unable to do it in December, they reached out to us to see if we would be interested in setting one up this summer.

This is the first time it will be held at this location so I have no idea of how many attendees will be coming through.

Please let me know by **April 10** if you are interested in doing this and if you would be available to set up and run trains.

Thanks,

Malinda

## Operations

**Richard Morris**

Our next OPS session will be - - WAIT, guess we don't know when we can have another one, do we?

When we find a new location and get to designing a new layout, we are to be planning it so we can have fun with operations. Golden Valley got a reputation for being hard (I like to think it was “challenging”), but I think I was guilty of putting too many cars into each session. I will try not to do that again. But, otherwise, our old layout was pretty good for sessions after we put in the staging yards and redid the yard.

If anyone has any suggestions on what we should incorporate to make operations interesting or easier, please let me know. My email address is [rmorris52@twlakes.net](mailto:rmorris52@twlakes.net) or call or text me at 256-520-3331.

Richard Morris

## **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**





# ***CARTERSVILLE EXPRESS***

## **2023 SER CONVENTION**

**SEPTEMBER 14-17, 2023**

Come have a fun time at the  
**Clarence Brown Conference Center**  
5450 Georgia Highway 20, Cartersville, GA

Don't miss these great activities, including  
an NMRA Model Contest and Photo Contest, Clinics,  
White Elephant Table, Raffle Items, Prototype Tours and more.

**Keynote Banquet Speaker**  
**Todd Stennis - Amtrak**

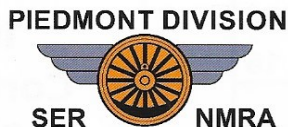
**Self-guided Layout Tours - Friday through Sunday**  
**Operating Layout Sessions - Thursday through Saturday**

**Non Rail Activities include**  
**Gibbs Garden - Lunch - Big Door Vineyards**  
**Booth Western Art Museum - Lunch**

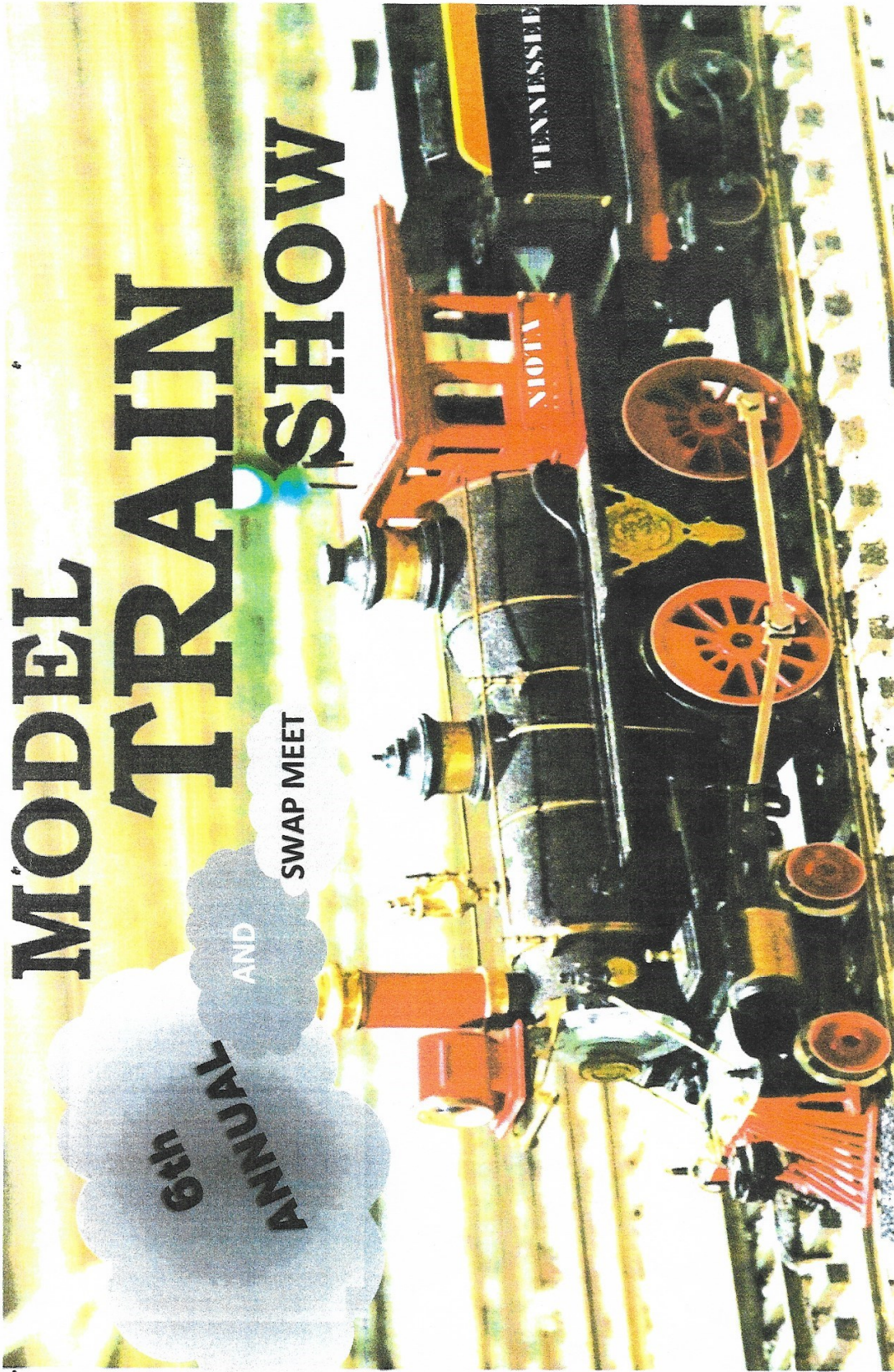
Information is subject to change. Please watch for updated info and register at

**[2023serconvention.org](https://2023serconvention.org)**

**Hosted by the Piedmont Division, NMRA**







**APRIL 29<sup>TH</sup>, 10AM-4PM & APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>, 11AM-4PM**

**NIOTA TRAIN DEPOT**





*Terminus Chapter*

## ATLANTA TOY & MODEL TRAIN SHOW

### SEPTEMBER 23, 2023

V.F.W. POST #5408  
4764 Cobb Parkway NW | Acworth, GA 30101

Operating Train Layout  
New and Antique Toy & Model Trains  
Parts • Appraisals

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  
Show Hours: 9AM-2PM

OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC  
\*\*Portions of the proceeds benefit Atlanta Area Ronald McDonald Houses\*\*

For more Information, visit:

[www.terminuschaptertca.com](http://www.terminuschaptertca.com)

V.F.W. Post 5408 • 4764 Cobb Parkway NW, Acworth, GA 30101

Directions from Atlanta:

I-75N to Exit 277, turn LEFT onto GA-92, Turn RIGHT in 0.3 MI and continue following GA-92 Drive 3.2 MI & turn RIGHT onto US-41N / Cobb Parkway, VFW Post 5408 is 2.2MI on the RIGHT

## Train Collectors Association Terminus Chapter

## Special Project

The LOTS (Lionel Operating Train Society) is going to be touring my O scale layout in place of visiting the CMRC Museum. However they said they would love to have the N scale traveling layout present on the afternoon of July 15th so it shows the visitors we are still trying to be active and the club is still around.

For this event I would like to have about 2-4 (or more) members from the club come out and bring the layout, as well as some N scale trains to run (can be club or personal property). The more members present the better, as I could also use some help with crowd control around my layout. Members who are not associated with the N scale layout are also welcome to come and help set up and take down, and/or just be there to represent the club. The more the merrier.

Sam Wilson 256-910-1248

## O Scale News Bruce Herring

I am looking for help in manning a CMRC 'Marketing' table at the Wilson County Fairgrounds on 7/1/23 9AM to 4PM. If you can help, please contact Bruce Herring



## 63<sup>rd</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show



### GAS SOUTH CONVENTION CENTER

Formerly the Infinite Energy Center

6400 Sugarloaf Parkway • Duluth, Georgia 30097

### Saturday, August 26, 2023

### 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Over 300 Tables of Model Trains and Railroad Collectibles For Sale  
Atlanta's Oldest and Largest Model Train and Railroadiana Show

For Dealer Contracts and Show Information:  
Contact:

Charlie Miller  
3106 N. Rochester Street  
Arlington, VA 22213  
Phone: 703-536-2954  
Fax: 703-241-7027  
e-mail: rrshows@aol.com



Large Operating Layouts

[www.gserr.com](http://www.gserr.com)



Next Show Date: January 20, 2024

Present  
This Card  
For \$1.00 Off  
One Admission



## SMOKEY CITY RAILS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB & MAGIC VALLEY TCA

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

PRESENTS

# FALL 2023 TRAIN SHOW & SALE



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27.....4 PM - 8 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28.....9 AM - 3 PM

### LOCATION (SEE MAP ON BACK)

HELENA SPORTS COMPLEX  
1110 SPORTS COMPLEX DRIVE  
HELENA, AL 35080



### ADMISSION

FRIDAY ONLY.....\$6.00

SATURDAY ONLY.....\$6.00

**\*\*SPECIAL 2 DAY PASS.....\$10.00\*\***

CHILDREN 8-12.....\$2.00/DAY

CHILDREN UNDER 8.....FREE

(PAYMENTS ACCEPTED BY: CASH, DEBIT/CREDIT CARD VIA  
SQUARE, CHECK AND VENMO)



### MORE INFORMATION

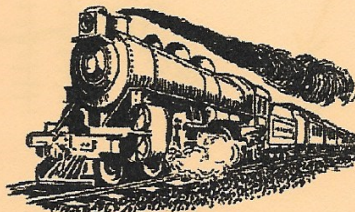
BY MAIL: SMOKEY CITY RAILS

P.O. BOX 609

PELHAM, AL 35124

BY EMAIL: MIMS9006@BELLSOUTH.NET

BY PHONE: 205-587-1338





## FINIS!!

