

# *The* **SCOOP**

**September 2006**

**Vol. 20, No. 9**

The newsletter for the Knoxville Area Model Railroad Club, Inc.  
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## **Conductor's Comments - Larry Burkholder, President**

Although it is a holiday weekend, it is the general consensus that we hold our September meeting on its regular first Sunday date, the 3rd. Since there is very little business of importance, we will NOT have a business meeting that day anyway. If anything does develop between this writing and the date of the meeting I will present it on our web page.

With September we are back to our third Sunday open house schedule. We will be open matching regular museum Sunday hours from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. We will meet on the third Sunday from now until next June.

The HO gang has started their module re-arrangements in preparation for building a permanent layout. Alex Cameron will have more on that later in this issue. From my standpoint, however, I want all you HO members to know that you need to come by or otherwise contact Alex to get your two cents worth in. No complaints later if you don't.

An updated membership list was sent out by e-mail. If you were unable to retrieve a copy or do not have e-mail, let me know and I will send you a copy. I will have a few extra copies at the meeting Sunday.

As you should know by now, the cable DIY Network has been showing a series of half-hour programs called "Working on the Railroad" covering different aspects of model railroading. I know many of you do not receive the DIY Network. The club now has DVD's of each of the twenty-six episodes that you can borrow. Because we only have single copies and we need to keep track of who has what, I will hold the copies and maintain a sign-out log. Only one DVD will be loaned out at a time. See me at any meeting to borrow one. We do not want to mail them, so if you want to see them you will have to come to the club or arrange for someone to pick them up for you.

One final thought to ponder. Several people, club members and not, have mentioned to me that they have railroad items to sell. Since we haven't had a formal swap meet for awhile, I propose we consider having one the next fifth Sunday, October 29th.

## **HO Division – Alex Cameron**

August was certainly a busy month. The old layout is down, modules moved and rearranged, and work on the new arrangement has started, not without some surprises.

We will have a work session on the regular club meeting days of the first Sunday and third Sunday starting about 1:30. No operating or running sessions until we have something to run on. We will have Saturday work sessions on the second (9), fourth (23) and fifth (30) Saturdays of September, starting at 9:30. We will also have weekday work sessions, but they are not always held on Tuesday, so if you are planning on attending you should contact me about day and time. I have been sending out e-mail notification but I am not sure that I am reaching everyone as yet.

Most of the work in the earlier part of the month was in preparation for the module move. We had a fairly successful operating session at the third Saturday. The following Tuesday, August 22, we had about 12 hard working members show up and they zoomed through my pre-move work list in short order, and we were moving the three saved module sections by lunch time. A great job!!

We have had two additional work sessions since then and lots of progress has been made. The yard is on a new L-girder framework, and is having the additional mainline track added before it is moved into position. The new east end corner frame work is in place. Surveying has been done to establish the critical point on the east corner return loop, and the Grain Corner has had its height adjusted and it has been tied to the wall. The Harbor module has also had its height checked and it has been leveled, and it has been tied to the Grain Corner. Leg gussets have also been added. It is very satisfying to see how solid the modules have become after being tied together, attached to the wall, and legs improved. The Lumberton module is in rough position, as is the staging yard. One surprise occurred when we did the initial moving of the modules when we discovered that the north-south dimension of the room was 31 ft 7 inches instead of the 33 ft 1 inch that is on the drawings.

## **N-Scale Activities - Bruce McElhoe, N Coordinator - [hmcclhoe@aol.com](mailto:hmcclhoe@aol.com)**

Just what will September bring us anyway? I think I can guess a few of things such as the summer vacation bills. You know what I mean, all of the credit card charges at your local hobby shops and all those mail order train shops! The wee folks have accumulated some great looking and running motive power and running stock this summer. It's just my opinion but I think we still NEED MORE STUFF...

Our larger than life scale neighbors in the adjoining room have started their form of urban renewal. Some of that effort will be spilling into our side on occasion but I think we can get a good price for renting them the space. The sight of all this activity brings back memories of the building remodeling days.

All this construction also gets me thinking about a permanent layout but I know we're not ready for that commitment at this time.

Project status:

- The dam has been given a roadway with railings across its top. The water discharge pipes have been installed and painted. The dam photographers parking area has been graveled. The turbine house is next on the agenda. Also continued landscaping and tree planting will be soon.
- Armory installation has included the installation of the entrance road and guard shack. Perimeter fencing was installed that includes a second fence protecting the airfield area. The headquarters building and adjoining huts have been placed and a good stand of grass and curbing should keep the ole CO happy.
- Bagelton passenger station upgrade now includes the addition of the caboose area. This expands the grass and driveway areas. There is a search on for a good grounds keeper to help finish mowing the grass on the main street side of the station.
- Bagelton urban renewal continues with more businesses, sidewalks, alleys, and a gas station. Operating traffic signals are being worked on and hopefully will reduce the resident population at the hospital. Additional businesses are in the works that include a used car lot.
- Quarry access road upgrade is on hold until the main road is completed that will provide the grade for graveling the driveway.
- Quarryton street installation has received its first hard shell coating and is ready for an initial sanding then a second coating. The curbing and retaining walls still need some final shaping.

I will close for now by encouraging all of us to please utilize our web site at [www.knoxmodelrailroaders.com](http://www.knoxmodelrailroaders.com). I have been working with Billy and Tiffany on expanding our web site. This has been a slow bit of work due to other work and home front issues that have taken much of my free time. You can be sure that this update is coming so please be patient. We have much that we can share through this media and have some fun at the same time.

### **Large Scale Rails - Jim Schall**

Layout work continues on the S scale modules by the usual crew while Gary Cameron and Bob Dexter rework a couple of the old HO s-curve modules into a On30 operating module set (the lower portion could not be used when the HO guys had it because of clearance problems but Gary and Bob seem to be able to play nicely after correcting ground throw clearance problems.

Our little group has become internationally acclaimed!! Our Fred Tolherst has been chatting back and forth with a fella, Don MacDougall, in Great Britain who is not only an S Scaler but also a Southern Railway fan. Well it turns out Don came to the area to rail fan the Tennessee division from Norton to Chattanooga, Stearns to Asheville. He sent two weeks in the area and Fred and I had both had an opportunity to tag along on several of his excursions and he

proved to be a very knowledgeable Southern Rail fan and a entertaining talker (as one of the locals said... "he's not from around here!!".) While here he dropped in on two of our Wednesday night sessions.

"A Big Shout (as they apparently say these days) Goes Out To, the Oak Ridge "S" Scalers from the far side of "The Pond". You would be far pushed to meet a nicer bunch of guys. I'd just like to say, "Thank You", for your truly "Suthan Hospitality", to this Limey "S"Scaler. True Gentleman. !!"

Don MacDougall,  
London, UK.

### **Activities Calendar**

In an effort to get more of us to use our web site the calendar has been moved to [knoxmodelrailroaders.com](http://knoxmodelrailroaders.com). This should get more of us to the site and hopefully to participate in the exchange of ideas and info that is found there.