

The SCOOP

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The newsletter for the Knoxville Area Model Railroad Club, Inc.
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We have the CMOR Holiday in the Mountains festival this coming Saturday, Nov 4, from 10 until 4. There will not a meeting on Sunday, Nov. 5.

Conductor's Comments - Larry Burkholder, President

November starts with a bang with the Children's Museum Holiday in the Mountains festival on Saturday, the 4th from 10 am to 4 pm. The club will be running trains all that day. Your help for at least part of the day will be appreciated.

Because of the all day Saturday commitment we WILL NOT have a club meeting the next day, Sunday the 5th. We will have our regular third Sunday museum open house on the 19th from 1:30 to 4:30 pm.

I know everyone was impressed with the Weathering clinic Phil Brooks gave a few weeks ago. The Power Point presentation was just Part 1 and Phil has agreed to give Part 2, where he will actually demonstrate techniques on equipment, on Sunday the 19th immediately following our museum open house, around 4:45 pm or so. You need to see this.

Mark Fuhman has begun decorating the Garden Railroad area for Christmas. He has generously offered his landscaping crew to assist with the work and they have already got the caboose completely outlined with white mini-lights. He has decorated a lot of small Christmas trees and a number of buildings to set out around the layout. Oscar Lindstrom has been helping with decorations. Willow Ridge Nursery has agreed to donate a large wreath for the caboose and garland for the fence. Anyone else who would like to help should contact Mark to find out work times. I believe the plan is to work most Saturdays in November with the goal to have everything ready by the museum Gala night on December 1st. We will need a number of volunteers to run the trains. The plan is to run every Saturday and Sunday evening in December, except Christmas and New Years eves, from 4 pm to 7 pm. The museum will be providing publicity. We need two people for each evening. Please contact me or Mark to offer an evening.

Since we are not having a formal November business meeting I will mention a couple things we need to cover before early December:

1. On Friday, December 1st, the museum is holding its annual Gala Dinner. Our club will be expected to run trains between 6 pm and 10 pm. In addition, a number of you have volunteered in the past to help man the bar and serve wine

at the dinner. You wear your green long-sleeved KAMR shirts and a decent pair of pants and shoes to serve. We need about seven or eight volunteers. Let me know as soon as possible if you can help. Of course anyone who wants to attend the dinner is welcomed to do so. The ticket price is \$80 per person. There is a silent and live auction also.

2. The first Sunday in December is traditionally our Christmas party and elections. I believe last year we had it on Saturday evening instead so we could take advantage of tables already set up in the museum from the gala. I would like to do that again if a majority agrees. I'm afraid that if we wait until Sunday night the museum might have to have taken down their tables by then. You will receive a special mailing regarding the party soon to spell out more details after I have gotten things straight with the museum.

3. Since the December meeting is our election of Board members so they need to determine who is running for the Board if any members' terms are up. They also need to get the slate of officers defined to announce at the meeting following the Christmas party. Division members need to identify and be ready to elect Coordinators.

I hope everyone has a nice Thanksgiving. Travel safely if you go away for the holiday.

HO Division – Alex Cameron

We have the CMOR Holiday in the Mountains festival this coming Saturday, Nov 4, from 10 until 4, with one work session on Thursday, Nov 2, at 9:30, preceding that. There will not a meeting on Sunday, Nov. 5. We will have work sessions on Thursday, Nov 9 and Nov 16, Saturday Nov 11, and on Sunday Nov 19. Other work sessions may be scheduled. The next major event is the World of Trains Gala on December 1.

We had a fairly steady crew of about 6 during most of the month and a lot has been done. The lift bridge has been reinstalled. The curve connecting the Harbor and Lumber modules is operational. Some of the view block behind the Lumber modules has been installed. Work has started on the upper loop, which will have a coal mine and prep plant inside the loop. We are very close to having the lower loop operational, and hope to complete that before the Holiday in the Mountains festival. We will then be able to operate on that loop, the harbor modules, the lumber modules, and the connecting curve between them. The modules are divided in multiple power districts, which I hope will help isolating shorts when they occur. We can operate, but there is no continuous operation possible. Running a train without paying attention will end up with it on the floor.

After the lower loop is completed and debugged, we will start on the connector between the Lumber modules and the main yard. Dick Brion has been working on engine facility layouts for the west end of the main yard, but that is not completed.

I realized after the work session on October 29 that if a member has not been attending regularly, that they may not be aware of the changes and decisions that are being made on a regular basis about the minor and sometimes major changes that occur in the layout as work progresses. I have probably failed in keeping everyone at the work sessions up to date about these decisions, and probably assume that everyone is up to date. Feel free to ask about anything that you are not aware of or don't understand.

N-Scale Activities - Bruce McElhoe, N Coordinator - hmcclhoe@aol.com

Guys it's about CMOR Appalachian Fall Festival time (Nov 4) and that means we need to run trains. I know that sounds like a real burden but someone has got to do it. I'm sure we should have plenty of endurance with leftover candy the spooks didn't pickup! So bring your doodlebugs, galloping geese, FEFs, tunnels, and other assorted motive power to wow us, ah, I mean the public. (Our N scale co-coordinator is a regular West Coaster based on his motive power. Ed.)

Don't forget that only a month later we have "World of Trains" Gala on December 1 (Friday evening). As said in the last Scoop, we will need our usual contingent of volunteers to manage the bar and run trains.

As always we will need to perform some general housekeeping on the layout and the room. The wee folks room may be the main operating attraction for the festival due to ongoing HO room cons(des)truction.

KAMRI Web Site Update:

It may not seem like it but we are making headway on the update to our web site. New sections of the site have been drafted and are slowly taking shape. The volunteer staff that is doing this upgrade hasn't had much time to devote to this due to other time interferences like their jobs! Don't despair we are making progress. Our site can now be located using popular search engines like Google. Soon you will be able to see pictures of our layouts and view train items for sale on the flea market page or check on buying club shirts. So please be patient.

I will close for now by encouraging all of us to continue utilizing our web site at www.knoxmodelrailroaders.com. Sharing anything about trains (and food) is good!

Large Scale Rails - Jim Schall

I am at a loss as to what I can say about our division this month -- perhaps we have had the Asian Railroad Flu or something. Bob Dexter and I have both been out for two meetings; Fred T and Rick H have missed one which leaves Gary C and Lance McC to talk to each other -- now that is not very productive (perhaps that is debatable.) The big news is not what is happening to the layout but what is on it. Rick bought the Flyonel (American Flyer produced by Lionel) Mikado that was on sale at Hobbytown before their big move. The loco is a beautiful piece of machinery, but unfortunately it is not

terribly happy with a couple of our turnouts (the layout was intended to run both scale and hi-rail so it ends up “either fish or “foul”” (as in foul the turnout)

The big news for some of us is a new vendor (Jim King) has joined the S scale community and is the process of bringing to market the low side Southern gon which he had done in HO for proto show in South Carolina a year ago using a new computer aided patterning technology which can produce extremely fine masters. Between Fred T and our buddy in Great Britain, they will have as many cars as the Southern (well, almost as many!)

Activities Calendar

In an effort to get more of us to use our web site the calendar has been moved to 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.