

The SCOOP

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The newsletter for the Knoxville Area Model Railroad Club, Inc.
Editor: Jim Schall, phone - 423 369-2955, email - Schallj@highland.net
Website : knoxmodelrailroaders.com

Conductor's Comments - Larry Burkholder, President

There will be no business meeting on Sunday, August 5th, as I will be out of town that day. Members will come as usual to work on or run trains. Our next museum open house is Saturday, the 18th from 11 am to 4 pm. Starting in September we will go back to third Sunday open house. Manning at our open house on the 21st was rather sparse. Many of our members need to show more club and museum support. Just paying dues isn't enough.

Although it is down the track a bit, mark your calendar for Monday, October 8th, for a clinic on scratch building in Crossville by Sam Swanson. Sam is nationally renowned for his building skills. (Sam's fact sheets for his contest models are contest winners in their own right. Hopefully he will share some of those secrets as well. *ed.*) The clinic will be at the old Crossville depot on Main Street at 7 pm. If anyone wants to go we can discuss car-pooling. We'll remind you again before the date.

By the time you read this we will have successfully completed another CMOR Model Railroading summer camp week. This year we had twelve kids making T-TRAK N-scale modules and learning scenicing techniques. On the last day the modules are snapped together and trains are run for their parents who come for certificate presentations and a lunch of Hobo Stew made by the children with the help of museum volunteers. A lot of thanks to the six or seven KARM members that helped me conduct the camp every day.

HO Division - Alex Cameron

Let's see if I can get the dates right for August. The regular club Sunday meeting is on August 5, starting about 1:30. See Larry's section about which Saturday will be the second regular club meeting. I think it will be the third Saturday again, August 18.

Thursday work sessions will be on August 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, starting at 9:30. Saturday work sessions are August 11 and 25, starting at 9:30. Work has continued slowly with the usual 5 or 6 regular attending members. You don't have to work, you know. Just come and see what we are doing.

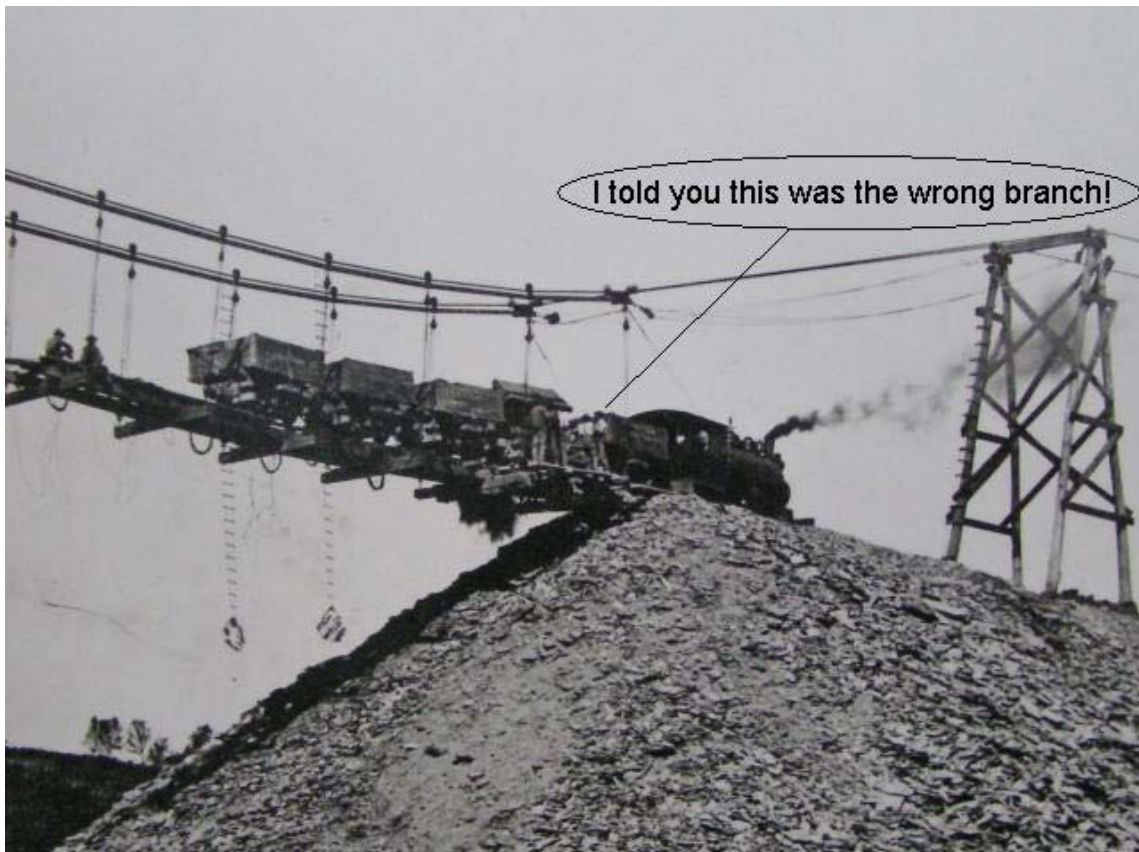
We had a good run session on the third Saturday, our monthly open house run day for the Museum. I don't remember any operating problems at the moment, besides people not being sure of the loco number programmed into their decoders. (I was one of them.) Work progresses on scenery in the mine area and on the engine terminal, and most of the missing drops have been added to the yard.

I have added spacers under one of the narrow gauge crossing to compensate for the differing tie thickness of different manufacturers. The other one didn't need a spacer. Not sure why. Perhaps the Homosote is different in that area.

Remember that the third Sunday (which will be on Saturday this month) is a run day, so come and run trains. Or not. Just come and see what has been happening. I know it is summer, and there is lots to do, but sure would like to see some of the infrequent attending members at least show their well tanned bods, so we will remember who you are. Come run trains, or just hang around.

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

The proposed extension to the loop module is to become a reality. Charlie Womac volunteered and is currently building the module extension framework. It's hoped that he will have this ready for a trial fit by the 1st club gathering in August. For a sketch of the extension refer to the July '07 Scoop. Beside, we need the track extension to go somewhere and not just end in thin air!



The true meaning for suspension bridge!

Bagelton has been increasing in population. Larry Burkholder has been adding people and other commonly seen items on the sidewalks of our bustling town. The main intersections have traffic lights and the fireplugs sometimes have canine visitors. Just like any town

there's always something left to add or improve as urban development opportunities come up.

It looks like your coordinator needs to prioritize some things a bit. The icing house has been lingering at 95% completed. And there is the unfinished Blue Ridge Mountain scene that is just screaming for attention. It looks like yours truly will divert his attention from the loop module to this part of the layout. I am looking at trying to fit three industries with access via sidings from the #1 and #3 mains. The Bubweiser Brewery will be off the #3 main and access to the icing house and hopefully one other business will be on a siding off the #1 main. It will be tight but doable. Maybe the third business will be the furniture plant that makes bar stools. That would be a good combination to go with the beer and the ice for the cooler. ☺

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

The s scalers have had a busy month both at the mall and personal time. Several of us have missed meeting dates for vacations, conventions, scout camp and wind blown trees but even with are distractions the layouts have seen progress in scenery and rolling stock acquisitions! Fred I have been ballasting and have nearly half the mainline completed. We had hoped for some of the real thing but ended up with everyone's favorite ballast -- Woodland Scenic. (It is blended half and half, light gray and buff for the main; light gray and med gray blend for passing sidings and med gray for industrial siding with a blast of dark gray primer to make things even grimier.

Frank and Brad have been busy with the Flyer layout and it no longer looks like "Plywood Plains". Things seem to be sprouting up in all the corners (about the only place there is not track!) Brad has discovered Flyer bashing (not against the wall kind) and is eagerly buying up cripples on eBay to salvage --- it is great fun watching and ragging him ("see I told you so!! Next he will be buying scale -- I know the route!!)

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.