

The SCOOP

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

Our regular 1st Sunday meeting will be on the 7th. There will be no business meeting. Our 3rd Sunday open house is the 21st. Come when you want for the first Sunday, but the open house Sunday starts at 1 pm. On both Sundays the door is usually open by at least 12:30 pm.

As most of you know, Rick Heller has been having a difficult time with his cancer treatment. We pray for him and wish him our best. Be sure to note the separate paragraph about Rick later in this newsletter. At the same time, Mike Lynch recently underwent double by-pass surgery and is recuperating well at home. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Mike as well. We look forward to seeing both back and active at the club as soon as possible. Both have asked not to receive phone calls.

A reminder that Sam Swanson, a nationally renown scratch model builder, will be at the Crossville Model Railroad Club in the discount mall at I-75 Exit 320 on Monday the 8th from 1 to 5 pm. He will be available to discuss modeling on a one-on-one basis there. Later from 7 to 9 pm he will be giving a clinic. Sam's models have won Best in Show at five of the last seven NMRA National Shows.

Also, another reminder that on the 12th and 13th the French Broad eNpire NTrak Club will sponsor the Flat Rock Autumn Rails 2007 show. Hours are 3 - 7 pm on Friday and 10 am - 3 pm on Saturday. Take Exit 53 off I-26 near Hendersonville, NC, and follow the signs to Bonclarken Assembly Auditorium on Blue Ridge Road. This has been a very good show in the past.

HO Division - Alex Cameron

We will have one change for October - OPERATING SESSION ON THE THIRD SUNDAY!!!! Other than that, here are the dates. Regular club Sunday meeting on October 7 and October 21, starting about 1:30. Saturday work sessions will be on October 13 and 27, starting at 9:30. Provisional Thursday work sessions will be on October 4, 11, 18, 25, starting at 9:30, but you will need to check with me to see if we will actually meet that day.

We have had a continued decline in work session attendance. I am going to continue to schedule a Thursday work session, but as I have said, you need to check with me on a week to week basis. I have been working all the Thursdays, but only until about noon or 1 PM.

Progress has been slow. Scenery work in the mine area continues, and Chuck has now passed on design information in that area to others, so the work can continue there. I have started putting the narrow gauge track down on the curve connecting the Harbor

module with the lumber modules. We had a good run session on the third Saturday, our monthly open house run day for the Museum.

We will have an operating session on the Third Sunday (October 16). It will be using switch lists, and since it will be the first operating session in this new configuration, I have kept it fairly simple. I think I have 7 trains scheduled, including one passenger train. The goal, besides just to have fun, is to see how the new track arrangements work, and see what sort of changes we want or need to make.

Come and see what has been happening. Come run trains, or just hang around.

N/Z-Scale Division – Bruce McElhoe

Work continues on the loop module. The mountains are growing in elevation faster than a blink of an eye. The gorge has been roughed out that will be crossed by a railroad trestle. Discussions of how to make a few hundred stumps in a logged off area has been solved thanks to the right type of snips and a dozen or so wood skewers.

A tree manufacturing session is planned for us n-scaler's at our first Sunday club gathering. Weather permitting this will be an outside event on the picnic table by the caboose. Any spare cans of spray adhesive you can bring will be welcome.

We're having some discussions on carpooling a trip to the train show in Henderson, NC on Saturday the 13th of October. This was a very good show last year and the best I've been to since the NMRA National in Cincinnati a lifetime ago. Thanks to fellow club member Rick Heller, we also know a good post-show eatery to wind down and compare shopping notes.

On the z-scale note, we now have a layout under remodeling that now resides in the n-scale area. Plans are to start updating this layout to be another show piece on our clubs roster.

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

We held our first open house at the Mall of the season two weeks ago on beautiful Sunday afternoon to a very thin crowd. We ran our trains and had a fine time without a bunch of folks in the way! It was nice to be able to run on the S scale layout for the first time in ages because our construction/destruction on the layout.

Brad and Frank continue to build up the Flyer layout and our having a fine time "playing with trains". Pete Achely has visited several times recently and is interested in the Lionel Lines, which is great since only Gary C has been holding down that operation. Maybe Pete will develop into a Lionel flyer like Bill Buchans and we will get to yuk up the great collisions and cascading derailments that Bill entertained us with.

Activities Calendar

Reference our web calendar for all scheduled events.