

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 June meetings kick off on the Sunday the 1st. There will be no business meeting because I will be gone, probably attending my dad's funeral in Ohio. We got a call saying to come immediately because he is near death, so I am leaving shortly after I write this. It is not a surprise. He is 90 and had a good life, but deteriorated badly over the last four months.

Our CMOR open house Sunday will be the 15th from 1 to 4 pm. For both meetings someone will be at the club by 12:30 pm I am sure. The museum plans on being open on Sundays this summer, so we will maintain our open house on the 3rd Sunday from 1 to 4 pm the rest of the year.

For those of you who are NMRA members, the next Smoky Mountain Division (Div. 12) SER meeting will be held on Thursday, June 26th, at the Bass Pro Shop at Exit 407 of I-40 starting at 7 pm. Paul Lecher will give a min-clinic on weathering materials and Allen Keller will give one on setting up for operations. Most of us get together an hour early for dinner at BPS's restaurant. Be sure to let me know if you plan to attend the meeting, but more importantly if you plan on joining me for dinner, as I need to let the restaurant know the count.

I, Don Loy, Jim Schall, and Corky Ford attended the SER annual meeting in Lake Junaluska, NC, Memorial Day weekend. Lots of clinics, layout tours, a reasonably good train show, a chance to meet old and new MR friends from around the South, and an interesting model contest were available to us. Congratulations to Jim Schall, who entered a number of items in the contest and did quite well with prizes - a couple 1sts and 3rds I believe. I encourage him to post pictures on our web page. If you are not an NMRA member I encourage you to join and enjoy the hobby outside your own little world.

The week of June 23rd is the National N-scale Convention and Train Show, this year in Louisville, Ky. The train show is open Friday afternoon for those registered for the meeting, but is open for everyone Saturday and Sunday the 28th and 29th. This year the show is combined with the traveling "World's Greatest Hobby" show which features most MR manufacturers as well as the usual independent dealers. Some of us attended the WGH show in Atlanta last year and can attest that it is big and about as good as the show following a National NMRA convention. The WGH show goes to only 4 - 5 cities around the country each year, so we are lucky to have it so close this year. Every scale will be featured, not just "N". There will also be a huge N-scale modular layout to see.

The week of July 7th is our annual Model Railroad Summer Camp in the museum. We will have 12 - 15 kids ages 8 to 12. We need volunteers who can help teach the skills and supervise the kids each day between 9 am and 12 noon. Please look at your calendar and let me know asap if you can help all or some of the days.

HO Division - Alex Cameron

The attendance on Thursdays and Saturdays has been fairly constant, but, as I have said, you still need to check with me on a week to week basis to see if there is going to be a Thursday or Saturday work session.

We will continue to have an operating session on the third Sunday. I was out of town on that Sunday in May, so not sure how many were there, but I understand that not all the trains were run.

Scenery progress on the mine area has been progressing steadily, with most of the work in the coke oven area. The mine tipples still haven't shown up. More of the main line in the harbor area has been ballasted.

We have been running on the narrow gauge now that the track and wiring are done enough to allow that, and have started thinking about including the narrow gauge in the operating session.

When you can, come and see what has been happening. Come and runs trains, or just hang around.

N/Z-Scale Activities - Bruce McElhoe, N/Z Coordinator

N-Scale:

I don't know where May went and I'm not sure where June is going. EXCEPT we do have a major need to go to Louisville, KY for some major n-scale railroading! June 25 through 29 is the 2008 National N-Scale Convention and Worlds Greatest Hobby extravaganza. For more information check our web site calendar that includes a link to the shows web site.

On the local front we have managed to top off the peninsula mountain with the planting a tree. The first coating of mud has been applied and smoothed and is definitely ready for the finish coating. A local mill water supply tower has been assembled and will reside on an outcropping of the mountain. The story is that this will provide the water for the soon to be installed lumber mill.

Bagelton is now equipped with their own water tower thanks to Bob Strickland. This should be a handy addition to assure adequate fire water pressure when the local fire department has to use their hoses to control the protestors that have taken up residence just outside the army base. Bob has been busy adding interesting scenes such as the protestors all around the layout. Take a few minutes to survey the layout for these new additions.

June bring with it a 5th Sunday. This will provide us with an additional day to spend time at the museum. It's hoped that by this date some ground cover foam can be applied to the peninsula mountain. Speaking for myself I'm tired of looking at pink, blue, or white scenery. ☺

Z-Scale:

We have been having some z-scale activities with Larry Burkholder and Bob Sanders diving into things. Layout lighting was installed and wired in the display case that has brightened things up. Landscaping has been started with the application of grass ground foam. The boys have gotten a good start and as always would appreciate any and all help in getting this layout up and running.

Large Scale Rails - Brad Tutt

The S scale group has been busy getting ready for hosting the Blue Ridge "S"caler group on May 31st. We cannot thank CMOR enough for allowing us to host about 30 out-of-town guests in for a fun packed day of clinics and fellowship.

Our Wednesday group is still changing our eating location weekly so contact us for additional information. Our section of the layout in the club area is growing Mount McCold still and we have had a couple visitors who may join the club.

Please remember this year's Summer Camp is the week of June 7th. We need as many folks as possible to help daily from 9:00 to 12:00. Please let Larry know if you can help and please keep Larry and his family in you thoughts.

We are still looking for funds for the outside fence, so let Mark Fuhrman know if you have any resources.

Note from editor or excuses, excuses!

It is 9:15 Saturday evening as I am putting the Scoop together, a week late! It has been a busy two weeks. First "getting my act together", "getting the show on the road", "what ever" for the Southeastern Region's annual convention. I have been working on the Master Car Builder certificate in the NMRA's Achievement Program and this show got me to the point I need to show up to be judged with one passenger car of any kind. This will be the last requirement for this certificate, in fact it does not even need to be judged for points because I have received enough merit awards to meet the six models with 80 points or better (a total of eight cars are required for judging in for different categories but only five need of merit quality).

This week we prepared for our hosting of S scalers in the region (Nashville to Asheville, Kingsport to Dalton). Wednesday we brought the layout up from the basement set it up and got it running. Thursday evening was set the clinic area and spruce up the layout and Friday set up buildings and set up trains to run on Saturday. We greeted nearly 30 guys from a list of approx. 45 in the region and all that attended agreed that the meet was a success (and those involved are happy to have it out of the way!!)

KAMRI Web Site – Bruce McElroy, Web Site Moderator

Remember that our newsletter is (ALMOST) always posted prior to the first Sunday gathering of each month if not by the first day of that month. The calendar is for our community to reference for upcoming events and schedules and for you to add anything related to our hobby you wish to share.