

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

Since our first regular monthly meeting falls on the 4th of July holiday, there will be no business meeting. The club will be open for anyone wishing to work on or run trains.

Our regular third Sunday open house will be the 18th. The club will be open from after 12 noon. The museum closes at 4 pm. All trains should be running and I hope anyone available comes to assist in manning the layouts.

Our annual Model Railroading Summer Camp program for the museum starts at 9 am on Monday the 12th and runs thru the 16th. Hours are 9 to 12 every day. Fifteen children are expected to attend. Many need one-on-one support. We will need as much help as we can get, so if you are available even for a day or a couple hours please come and provide your expertise. As in the past we will be building T-Track modules. The kids will learn all aspects of model railroading except electrical. Bring your modeling tools if you come. Modeling materials are provided. On Friday the parents come and if we've done our job right everything snaps together and we run trains.

Recently, on a trip to Chattanooga, I took two boxes of excess books and tapes we had not been able to sell and donated them to the NMRA library. Library usage is available to any NMRA member.

Work Sessions at Children's Museum of Oak Ridge

The afternoon of Wednesday the 7th we will need help clearing the rest of the trash out of the front of the basement. We have a truck lined up. but an additional truck would be helpful and more hands are needed. If we get the trash moved quickly we should have time to begin the process of clearing the area for the movement of the module storage racks.

In the Garden:

Garden Railways magazine has already requested information on layouts which will be operating for Christmas 2010, but in preparation for the Gala and the 2010 Christmas in the Garden - the punch list for the CMOR just seems to get longer. Yes, we have five months. but the club is barely keeping up with the weeds this year. and all of the plants need major pruning. Although the table has a new top, the deck needs a coat of preservative as drying deck planks are beginning to pop loose posing a hazard to visitors. The battery has been removed from the caboose electrical closet. but the box still needs to be removed and shelves installed in the closet. The caboose low voltage lighting needs an update and additional wiring to safely support the Christmas runs needs to be installed. Mark is awaiting the new pump for the waterfall, and may need help with the installation. The wood supporting the tunnels is disintegrating, so we will probably be faced with a significant tunnel rebuild later this summer or early fall. The sound system in the lobby engine cab is again acting up and needs some rework and if flaky a replacement.

A clipboard with these and other CMOR tasks has been placed in the coffee area. Please sign up for some tasks. If you see any additional CMOR tasks which should be addressed by KAMR members, please add them to the list.

July Open House:

We need garden layout operators for the July open house. Cool water will be provided (Sorry no alcohol until the Gala). The sign up list for the rest of the year, including the Christmas runs, is on the CMOR sign up clipboard. To provide shade for the Power Pack and operators two sets of pipe clamps have been added to the front of the ties for mounting the umbrella. The umbrella which is being stored in the caboose, may also be mounted to the fence. Time permitting, live steam loco's may be running and DCC and RF systems demonstrated.

HO Division - Alex Cameron

Operating session is the first Sunday, July 4 this month.

Here are the dates for July, 2010. Regular club Sunday meeting on the first Sunday, July 4, which will also be the operating session. The third Sunday, July 18, will be a run session, since it is still the regular open house for CMOR. We will start about 1:30. Saturday work sessions will be on July 10 and July 24, starting about 9:30. Thursday work sessions will be on July 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 starting at 9:30. The attendance on Thursdays and Saturdays has been down to just 3 or 4 people.

We had good fair attendance for the June operating session. We ran one man crews on most of the trains. It was chaotic, because we still had some visitors, and a lot of people in the room. So, it was not a "quiet, concentrate on operating" type day. However, we will do the same thing in July and operate on the first Sunday.

We will just run trains on the third Sunday, with work limited to that which does not disturb running. In June, we only had a small turnout of members to run trains, but it went smoothly. There were not many CMOR visitors that day.

Pete is now working on the mountain connecting Lumberton with the Harbor, and is putting in a prison. I have added rails to the turntable that we installed in Raccoon Creek, and one approach track has a draw rail on it, so can now turn narrow gauge locomotives, and short standard gauge locomotives. It looks as though the turntable is too short to turn standard gauge 2-8-2's. At the moment, I am using the auto reverser on the lower loop to control the polarity of the track on the turntable.

Curt and I are still operating on Tuesday AM, and frequently have been having others join us.

Remember to bring locomotives and controllers for the operating session, which is the first Sunday this month. Have I mentioned that enough?

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

Holidays sure are distracting. I have not touched anything model railroading in two weeks. I do have a good excuse in that I have been informed that I will be a grandpa for the first time. 😊

Now that my mind can focus more on our hobby, we will need to make the n-scale room ready for the relocation of our library. This is due to the recent

decision to have the large scale division utilize the existing library space for constructing a layout. Fortunately we will only need to relocate some pictures, trash can, and the radio stand (aka refrigerator).

The status of our ongoing layout improvement projects is they are still 'ongoing'. There was some progress made with the longing spur trestle. And our Bud Brewery was kidnapped for renovation purposes.

Z-Scale:

All quiet on the western front for this reporting period.

Show Layout – Bruce McElhoe

Work on the portable n-scale show layout is progressing. Most of the ground contouring has been completed and given a base coat of paint to cover the pink and blue foam sheets.

The approaches' to the highway bridge that crosses over the track is coming together. Retaining walls have been installed on both sides of the track. The plan is to have this be a bridge building scene. With construction equipment placing the main support beams across the support pillions. It'll be our form of smart fix 40.

Large Scale Rails – Brad Tutt

The Large Scale Division continues to have great attendance on Wednesday evenings. Several layout versions have been discussed to the use of the proposed space allocation within the club area.

Please attempt to attend the KAMR meetings on odd number Sundays each month. Although there is currently no space within our club for a layout for our O and S scale members, we continue to be hopeful for the future.

Keep on rollin' down the tracks

KAMRI Web Site – Bruce McElhoe, Web Site Moderator -

There are a number of fun things happening this month. Note the following train items coming up:

- The 75th NMRA National Convention will be held in Milwaukee, WI, July 11-18.
- The 2010 NTRAK National Show will be held in Danville, Virginia, September 24-26.

Be sure to check the web site calendar for additional information and links. As always please remember that our web site forum is to communicate ideas, share information, sell, buy, trade, and any other events train related.

Don't forget! Our web site address is: www.knoxmodelrailroaders.com.