



THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2014

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, January 14, 2014, at 7:30 P.M. at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road (Old REA/ Magnum Building) in Dover, DE. From Route 13, turn onto Scarborough Road which turns into McKee Road and the building is down on the right. From Route 8, take Saulsbury Road north, which turns into McKee Road and the building is on the left next to Kenton Day Care Center. Come early and run some trains. If lost, call 302-222-7552.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

The December meeting and Christmas Party hosted by Jim and Myrna Valle was outstanding as usual. The guys were downstairs for their regular meeting and present exchange. Things went fine. There were numerous subjects brought up and discussed during the meeting. And the gift exchange is always fun because you never know what you are going to end up with. There were train cars and engines and mugs and structures and the most favorite of all, the books, going back and forth with some items finally finding a home after three exchanges. After the meeting and the present exchange, we joined the girls upstairs who were just beginning their gift exchange. There was plenty of food for all and lots of scrumptious desserts. As always, it was a great success, thanks to Jim and Myrna. Also, thanks to each and every member who showed up for the evening.

The next main subject is the Springfield, MA Eastern States Exposition Railroad Hobby Show. We have six couples and several individuals signed up to go. Rooms, transportation and armbands are all being ordered and worked out. First there needs to be an agenda. Leaving from Les Souder's or place of your choice, on Friday, January 24, 2014 at 8:30 A.M. We will be making several stops on the turnpike and the parkway and hope to get to the hotel (Sheraton Springfield Monarch) around 4:00 – 5:00 P.M. Around 6:00 P.M. we will go to dinner at Bernie's Dining Depot in Chicopee, MA. (A real Train Dining Car). At 7:00 A.M. on Saturday breakfast is set up at IHOP for the guys. The Amherst Train Show starts at 9:00 A.M., giving us plenty of time to finish breakfast and get to the show. We have pre-purchased armbands for the show. The train show on Saturday ends at 5:00 P.M. The ladies will be on their own for breakfast and then they will drive to Yankee Candle for a day of shopping, lunch, shopping and a return to the hotel to join the guys for dinner. Dinner will be at PICKS Grille with pre-arranged menu selection and food ready for serving. From there we go back to the room and have movie time and discuss the finds of the day and determine which items will be ours on Sunday.

Sunday morning the guys and gals have reservations at IHOP with Manager Bob Evans reserving a special section for us. I hope at that time Les Souder will present Bob with a special plate in appreciation of his kindness and hospitality. We will also install our yearly photo on their wall. The Show opens at 10:00 A.M. on Sunday and with armbands in place, it's back to the Show for final purchases or points of contact for further projects. After about 300 to 400 vendors and 30 or 40 train layouts, by noon, it is back to the hotel for check-out. The wives always do a great job of packing and that helps us get out timely. Then it is back to Delaware. On the way home, we stop several times for pit stops and stop around 7:00 P.M. for dinner. We then arrive home around 9:00 P.M. As you can see, it is a packed weekend, with lots to do and see and some fond memories for us to look back on.

The Boy Scout Merit Badge Program has been scheduled for April 12, 2014 and April 19, 2014, both weekends. Get with Jeff Shockley, Paul Buckley or Dick Lush for possible help and or support for a great project.

The Ag Museum project is moving with about four farms being designed and built. Earl Brooks has installed his farm and it looks great. The layout was taken apart for what reason I don't know, but will find out, as numerous repairs have to be made. Wire respliced and track relayed. This cannot happen with farms installed.

Again our thoughts and prayers go out to the family of Chuck Drummer, a long-time member, who passed away on November 4, 2013. Plaques have been installed on the tax board and layout cemetery scene.

See you at the meeting on January 14. Jim Thompson, President

UPCOMING SHOWS:

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| Jan 25-26, 2014 | Amherst Railroad Hobby Show, Eastern Exposition, 1305 Memorial Avenue, West Springfield, MA. (Club Project) |
| Feb. 1-2, 2014 | Cow Palace, State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD. POC: 410-730-1036. |
| Feb. 22, 2014 | Smyrna, DE. Club Set-up . POC: Jim Valle 302-678-0283. |
| Mar. 15-16, 2-14 | Chase Center River Walk, Wilmington, DE. POC: Jim Valle 302-678-0283. |
| Mar. 23, 2014 | Arbutus Train Show, Arbutus Fire Hall, MD. POC: Sunny 410-465-3782. |
| Apr. 5, 2014 | Nur Temple Shrine Ctr, Rt. 13, New Castle, DE. POC: Brent 302-222- 3030. |
| Apr. 12 & 19, 2014 | Boy Scout Merit Badge Project. POC: Jeff Shockley & Paul Buckley. |
| May 10, 2014 | Sudlersville Train Show. POC: Kurt 302-270-4786. |