



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

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2014, at 7:30 P.M. at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road (the old REA/Magnum Building) in Dover, DE. From Route 13, go west on Scarborough Road about two miles and the building is on the right. From Dover, off Route 8, take Saulsbury Road north, which turns into McKee Road, and the building is on the left next to Kenton Child Care Center. Come early and run some trains. If lost, call 302-222-7552.

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

To start off with, a special thanks to Paul and Lena Roy for opening their home for our monthly meeting. It was a full house for the meeting. There were munchies and we ran trains on Paul's representation of the Vermont Railroad. Paul was running a diesel era as he runs his layout in different time frames. The meeting was short with subjects moving smoothly. The ladies were invited with a number of them showing up and socializing upstairs while the meeting took place. After the meeting the men found their way to the dining room for lots of great hors d'oeuvres. There were cookies and cakes and dips and chips and brownies and pretzels. As you can see, plenty of goodies. The men then went back to the basement to check out Paul's progression of his Vermont Railroad. Paul is slow and precise, with plenty of Vermont detail. For a one-on-one of Paul's layout contact him at any meeting or Thursday night at the building. Again, a special thanks to Paul and Lena Roy.

Our next adventure was the Smyrna High School "I Love Smyrna School District Day" set-up shared with the Shore Line Garden Railroad Club (G Scale). We were to meet at Jarrell Station with a caravan led by Richard and Joyce Stockslager. About five cars in tow, Richard guided us there with numerous individuals waiting for set-up. Set-up went well with jockeying layout to fit the spot set aside for us. The Shop Supervisor, Jay Davis, did an outstanding job working with us, moving tables and walls to fit the layout. Yes, framed up walls had to be moved. See photos/post cards. It takes about 30 minutes to set-up. All went fine and a special thanks to Richard and Joyce Stockslager, Joe Sudler, Paul Buckley, Bill Benzin, Reggie Finch, Kevin Herrmann, Henry Kramer, John Murphy, Robbie Robinson, Larry Wheeler and Jim Thompson. There were numerous other members showing up all day. A special thanks to all. Four trains ran all day on DCC. At one point, Kevin's train had to be set up. No numbers would work. Then the train told us the number to use. Yes, the train talked to us. (Freaky!). All ran well throughout the day. But, remember, you need Ed Mace or Henry Kramer to program your engine so it can run on the layout. We were in the wood shop and to get to the cafeteria it took 3 people to give directions to get there. There were between two and three thousand people walking around from vendor to vendor. Apparently, it is a big deal each year. We have been invited back next year, so mark your calendars. All in all, it was a great set-up and thanks to all. The trailer was loaded and picked up later by Les Souder and returned to Jarrell Station.

Our next project is the Chase River Walk Show in Wilmington on March 15-16, 2014. It is a normal set-up and more will be discussed at the meeting on the 11th.

Our next project is to get the DCC walk-around controllers to work properly. We should be able to walk around unconnected with no wires and that is our goal in the next two weeks. Our system should work but doesn't. Les Souder has a new system, so between the two, we will make something happen.

We have two Boy Scout Merit Badge classes lined up for Saturday, April 12, 2014 and Saturday, April 19, 2014. Jeff Shockley, Paul Buckley and Dick Lush are working on the project and one class is filled according to Paul Buckley. Richard Stockslager has made two more time-saver modules for running trains. Track and switches have got to be installed.

One of our ongoing main projects is the Ag Museum layout which has stalled, but I see things moving in the month ahead. We will discuss this at the meeting on the 11th.

The Building Fund Board is having a plaque placed in memory of Jim Reed added. Boyce Failing and Kenny Haltom have both donated \$100.00 in February. Let's keep this project moving as funds are needed for the building and maintenance upkeep. Dues alone will not do the job.

Speaking of dues, they are due each March. Well, March is here and Richard Stockslager will be glad to take your dues for another year.

See you at the meeting on March 11. Jim Thompson, President

UPCOMING SHOWS:

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| March 15-16, 2014 | Chase Center River Walk, Wilmington, DE. (Club Set-Up) POC: Jim Valle 302-678-0283. |
| March 22, 2014 | Hartly Fire Hall, Hartly, DE. POC: Allen 302-270-4712. |
| March 23, 2014 | Arbutus Train Show, Arbutus Fire Hall, MD. POC: Sunny 410-465-3782. |
| March 23, 2014 | Carbon Model R/R Society Spring Train Meet, Palmerton Area High School, 3533 Firelane Rd., Palmerton, PA. POC: 610-826-6636 (After 6 P.M.) |
| April 5-6, 2014 | Nur Temple Shrine Ctr., Rt. 13, New Castle, DE. POC: Brent 302-222-3030. |
| Apr. 12-13, 2014 | Timonium Cow Palace, Timonium, MD,. POC: Howard 410-730-1036. |
| Apr. 12 & 19, 2014 | Boy Scout Merit Badge Project, POC: Shockley, Buckley, Lush. |
| May 10, 2014 | Sudlersville Train Show, Sudlersville, MD. POC: Kurt 302-270-4786. |

If you know of a Boy Scout troop please make sure they know about the Merit Badge Project. Give them a copy of the enclosed flyer.



TOP PICTURE: The First State Model Railroad Club set up a layout at the "I Love Smyrna School District Day" on Sat., Feb. 22, 2014. Members shown are Paul Buckley, Reggie Finch, Bill Benzin, Kevin Herrmann, Jim Thompson and Larry Wheeler. Other FSMRRC members were also present during the day. **BOTTOM PICTURE:** The Shore Line Garden Railroad Club also set up a layout at Smyrna. Pictured are Richard and Joyce Stockslager, Hollis and Mary Noel and Paul Gillis. Other members of the SLGRC were also present during the day. Pictures copied from the Smyrna-Clayton Sun Times website.



**The First State
Model Railroad Club**

presents

Railroad Merit Badge Day

2 classes available

Saturday April 12, 2014

Saturday April 19, 2014

9:00am – 3:00pm

1282 McKee Road

Dover, DE

For questions or to register:

302-653-8096 Smyrna/New Castle County

302-480-2116 Dover/Kent County

302-424-3656 Milford/Sussex County

email: cubbie109@yahoo.com

Class limited to 30 scouts each