



**THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD
CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2018**

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, September 11, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.** at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road, in Dover, DE.

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT EATON:

Well here it is September and it's still hot. Speaking of being hot, I would like to thank Chippie for a donation that allowed us to buy a new air conditioner for the meeting room. Thanks, Chippie, I'm sure everyone thanks you for this gift. Also I'd like to thank Richard and Thompson for taking the time and effort for buying and installing it. Looks like we still will have some hot times in September to use this new AC.

As I said last month, I hope you all got plenty of rest. This is going to be a busy month for us. On the 8th we need to be open for the Amish Bike tour; we only need a few people to be there to run some trains. Then on the 15th the Air Museum is having their sponsor's day show. Paul Roy has put our name out there as a sponsor, so we should show our support and show up. On the 22nd we will be taking a trip over to Richland NJ to visit a train club there and, depending on time and distance, we may make a trip up to Yankee Dabblers. We will decide on that at the meeting on the 11th. Then comes the big show at Clayton on the 29th. We will be taking the old layout, so we will need a lot of hands to help set that up. Then on the 6th of October is our Club picnic. So, as you can see we will be busy for the next month or so.

I do have some good news though. We meet with the people from WJBR who did the Bellevue show two years. They are going to do it again this year but have changed the location to Rockwood Park. This year they are working with the County to put on a big show and would like us to attend. They are looking at the first three weekends in December; however, they're not sure of the dates and if they want us for all three weekends. They do want us for the first weekend which would be Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 30 5:00 till 9:00; December 1, 5:00 till 9:00 and December 2, 10:00 till 4:00. These times and dates are still being worked on and we should have an answer by our next meeting on the 11th. If we do this show, there has been some talk about redoing the winter layout by building a new one that is lighter and easier to move. That will be a lot of work that cannot be done just on Thursday nights. We will discuss this in more

detail at our next meeting. So, with all this, looks like the rest of the year we are going to be busy.

As you can see for the next few months we are going to be busy. Plus, sometime during October we need to find the time to paint the building which really adds to our workload. The last few months there has not been much going on, now we are going to be busy traveling and fixing things up for our open house and other things. I hope I can count on everyone's help and cooperation during these busy times. Those of you who have been asking what we are doing should finally have an answer.

On top of all this we will be having our annual election of officers at our October meeting. Keep this in mind and if you are interested in running for an office please let me know. Well that's about it for now. As you have read, it's going to be a busy time for the next few months and hope to see everyone at all these events. So, till out next meeting on the 11th. Have fun working on your trains and layouts as well as the club's. Happy modeling railroading.

Sam Eaton, President

LAWNMOWER

Billy (Bob) Benzin came through again. About a year ago I mentioned the John Deere lawnmower Paul Buckley gave us was on its last leg after Jim Valle ran into a culvert and broke the frame. Les Souder and Jim Thompson took the whole mower apart to get it welded and reassembled it. After the weld job it has never been right for the deck height. Well, Billy said he had a 16 HP Toro Wheelhorse riding mower we could have but it had no reverse. I picked it up on Wednesday with the help of Billy Bob and Les. I took it home and took the battery from the John Deere, but as usual not being used for a couple years, the carburetor was not functioning. I priced a new carburetor or rebuild kit. There are two types of carbs and I needed to know which one it was. Online I could get a carburetor for about \$125.00. Not bad since I paid \$525.00 for a carburetor I put on my lawnmower earlier this year. Well, I figured I would try to rebuild this one. I got a can of K & W carburetor cleaner, disassembled the carburetor, sprayed and cleaned about a dozen parts and used an air gun to clear all openings and ports. I assembled the carburetor, installed it and how about that, It Worked. Saving us about \$200.00. The lawnmower looks and operates great, except it is a hit and miss situation for reverse. I will look at the linkage when I remove the deck and sharpen the blades. Little Kenny Haltom cut the grass in the back of the building on Thursday in about an hour and Thompson cut the front in about 45 minutes. All worked well on this cut including reverse. Thanks to Bill Benzin we have a super 16 HP 36 inch deck Toro Wheelhorse mower ready for next week. If you need operating instructions please call Jim Thompson 222-7552. I will give you instructions over the phone.

Jim Thompson, Vice President

AMISH BIKE TOUR STOP

At the August meeting, I mentioned that the Amish Bike Tour would like to have us be an "informational stop" for their riders. This would entail us being open from 10am-3pm on Saturday, September 8.

Since the clubhouse is only 2 miles from the end of the tour, we will NOT be an official rest stop on the tour, but we will need to have water, some "healthy" snacks and the restroom available for riders that could stop in. They will advertise that we are open if anyone wants to stop to use the restroom and/or see the trains.

This will be a time for us to talk to the folks about our Open House on November 24-25, or to talk about the layouts.

I can get a couple of cases of water for the day. For snacks, the organizers suggest simple, healthy snacks. Items like small bags of trail mix, granola bars, and other "healthy" snacks.

We will not need a lot of people at the clubhouse, I figure 4-6 members should be enough. Since we would open at 10, we will need to be at the club at 8:30 or 9:00 at the latest to get things setup and get trains running.

We would appreciate any help for this. If nothing else, it is a chance to get some advertising for the club, and our open house dates.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at 302-670-8631, or reply to my email - dhmodeler@gmail.com

Jeff Shockley, Secretary

**REMINDER: FSMRRC DUES WERE DUE (\$60/YR) BY THE END OF FEBRUARY.
If your dues are not current, please send or give them to Treasurer Matthews.**

FSMRRC OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: SAM EATON

SECRETARY: JEFF SHOCKLEY

VICE PRESIDENT: JIM THOMPSON

TREASURER: BUZZ MATTHEWS

FSMRRC PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 1282 McKEE RD., DOVER, DE 19904 (no mail is received at this address)

FSMRRC MAILING ADDRESS: 505 EAGLE NEST DR., CAMDEN, DE 19934 OR P. O. BOX 16, PORT PENN, DE 19731

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 8, 2018 – AMISH BIKE TOUR, DOVER, DE. INFO STOP AT FSMRRC, 1282 McKee Rd, Dover, DE. 10-3.

September 8, 2018 – Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum Model Train Sale. Washington County Ag Center, Rt. 65 (3 miles north of Antietam Battlefield). 9am-2pm. Admission: \$5. Trains of all Gauges, Brass, Lionel & American Flyer. Railroad Collectibles and Hobby Tools and Parts.

September 23, 2018 – TCA Atlantic Division Train Show. Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall (Penns Landing Caterers), 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA. TCA Members: 8am-1pm, general public: 9am-1pm. Admission: \$5 for adults or Families (Limit 2 Parents and children under 12).

September 29, 2018 – Clayton Railroad Days, Clayton, DE.

October 6, 2018 – FSMRRC PICNIC

October 6, 2018 – Delaware Train Show. Nur Shrine Center, 198 S. DuPont Hwy., New Castle, DE. 9:00am-2:00pm. Admission: \$5.00, children under the age of 12 are free, \$10.00 Early Buyers 8:00am Admission.

October 7, 2018 – 42nd Annual Lehigh Valley Regional Train Show and Expo. Charles Chrim Community Center, 4100 Green Pond Rd., Easton, PA. 10am-4pm. Admission: \$5, kids 12 and under FREE. Timetables, Lanterns, Model Trains, Pictures, Books & Magazines, Food & beverages on site, Kids can enter to win an HO-scale trainset, On-going rail presentations by noted local photographers.

October 7, 2018 – New Hope-Solebury Train Show and Sale. Eagle Fire House, 46 N. Sugas Rd., New Hope, PA. 8:30am-1:30pm. Admission: \$5, kids under 12 FREE. 100+ tables of all scales, railroadiana and operating layout.

October 27-28, 2018 – The Great Scale Model Train Show. Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD. Saturday: 9am-5pm, Sunday: 10am-4pm. Admission: \$9.00 for both days, \$8.00 for Sunday only. Children up to 15 FREE with a paid adult.