



THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.** at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road, in Dover, DE.

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT EATON:

For those who did not go they missed a great trip to visit Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club. We saw some neat running trains, great modeling details and met some other great model railroaders. Also, we stopped by Yankee Dabblers and picked up a Polar Express train set to raffle off this year.

We also had lots of fun setting up and running trains at the Clayton fire hall Saturday. I'd like to thank everyone who showed up and lent a hand setting up and taking down the old DC layout. We had lots of people come by and visit with us. Plus, they had some great old cars on display there too.

The overhead doors that we enclosed last year are now painted. I would like to thank Marty for his help in getting that project done.

We will need help Thursday night in unloading and setting up the old DC layout. So, if you can, please come by and help. We will most likely start at least by 6:30.

We must now put our efforts into getting the new layout put together and running. It needs to be done by the 28th of November to set up for our first showing at Rockwood Park on the 30th of November.

At our next meeting on the 9th of October the first order of business will be holding our yearly election of officers. If anyone is interested in running for any office, especially for president, please let me know.

Well that's about it for now. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting. We will have lots to talk about. So, till then happy model railroading.

Sam Eaton, President

Train Show

Saturday, September 29, 2018, the Club had a layout showing at Clayton Days. It was a great success with numerous hours of planning that paid off. The tracks were pre-set and numbered. The tie bolts were bagged and a layout plan was set with Porter being set in place of the in and out. Plans were to install State Road, Porter, Corner, Clayton Bridge, North Clayton, Clayton, South Clayton, Club Station and Dover down one side, Wyoming, Felton, Corner on back end, Farmington, Seaford, Nanticoke Bridge, Delmar Extention and Delmar finishing out. The layout (old one) was 14 feet by 38 feet utilizing 19 modules. The display spot was changed from inside the ballroom to one of the engine bays, that worked out great. We were right behind the DJ with easy access in and out for us and the public. Set up was scheduled for 7:00 A.M., a two hour window, for trains to be running by 9:00 A.M. with Les Souder removing the modules from the trailer to Dick Lush, Joe Sudler, Bill Benzin and Robbie Robinson. As fast as they were brought into the bay Sam Eaton and Kevin Herrmann were installing legs with Jim Thompson coordinating layout display and placing 6 inch connectors. Within one hour the layout was set up and 30 minutes later bugs were worked out and trains were running. Kevin Herrmann ran two Pennsey Steam Locos with passenger cars all day. All ran well with minimum problems. Where are all the train people who say they want to run trains at the shows? Again, I would like to thank all who participated for a fine show and great team work. Thanks.

Jim Thompson, Vice President

Brick Project

The Brick Project is going fine with me trying to get 20 bricks in the name of the Club. Thanks to Ed Kline, who put me in touch with Doug Poore, Project Director of the Greater Harrington Historical Society, "People To Aid in Building A Wall of Remembrance". I have contacted 17 of the 20 individuals who have shown an interest in the project and all are in favor. I hope to have a photo op in remembrance of the 35 years of the club. It's a win/win situation for the Club and support of the Harrington Historical Society. There are still bricks left at \$50.00 each. If interested, let me know and I will help you fill out an application. This is a good project and a way to leave your legacy. The Harrington Historical Society has donated a 12 inch by 12 inch, the largest brick, to the Club. Thanks to Doug Poore.

Jim Thompson, Vice President

Paint Project

The Paint Project went fine as Daniel Murphy gave us 15 gallons of gray paint for the building. Since the building is white, I got the bright idea to tone down the gray color with a lighter color. The only way to do that is to double the mix with 15 gallons added, to make 30 gallons. I collected from Club members \$142.00. Home Depot donated \$75.00 which made \$217.00. With a cost of \$309.00 for the 15 additional gallons of paint, the Club put out \$100.00, basically for 30 gallons of paint to paint the building. Thanks to Daniel Murphy for his donation and thanks to those who threw in money to help. Now the only thing needed is a couple of days to power wash the building and figure out how to paint it.

Jim Thompson, Vice President

A Day at Patcong Valley

On Saturday, September 22 Sam Eaton, Paul Roy, Les Souder, and Jim Thompson joined me for a trip to the Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club in Richland, NJ. We all piled into Les' Explorer and departed Dover at 7:00am and arrived in Richland around 9:45, after a breakfast stop at the Cracker Barrel just over the Delaware Memorial Bridge. Upon our arrival we took some time to examine the 1930's era Jersey Central caboose parked next to the clubhouse. After we entered the club, we stood at the door for a few minutes just to take it all in.



We were greeted by John Curl and he gave us a very thorough guided tour. He explained each area that was detailed, and what the areas that weren't, would be.

The layout covers Northeastern Pennsylvania, Northern New Jersey, and Southern New York. I would say that about 90% has the scenery completed and there are several spots that they are redesigning.

The layout has more "scenes" on it than can be described here. You can find a circus, a subway, a river with a set of locks due to the difference in its height from one side to the other, a baseball game and a county fair at the shore, just to name a few.

We arrived on a day where the member could “run what they bring”, so there were locomotives from a variety of road names. There was a Southern Pacific Daylight steam passenger train, and Conrail, Patcong Valley, and Southern (with the Norfolk Southern heritage unit on point), freight trains.



The layout is equipped with DCC and operating block signals. The wiring scheme is the neatest and most organized I have ever seen.

We were there for about 45 minutes when we were greeted by Paul and Paula Buckley.

This is one layout that I advise to put on your “bucket list” to visit. You will NOT be disappointed. They will be open in November for Model Railroad Month, but the weekend has not been decided on as of this writing. However, they will be having a series of Open Houses on the first three weekends in December and January.

After almost two hours, we decided to start our trip back to Dover, with a stop-over at Yankee Dabber for supplies, getting back to the clubhouse at about 2:00pm.

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:

October 4-7, 2018 -- 2018 NMRA MidEastern Region Convention. The Hilton, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD. Thursday – registration, clinics, operations call board, and layout open house; □ Friday – registration, clinics, contest room, white elephant, operations call board, prototype and layout tours; □ Saturday – registration, clinics, contest room, white elephant, operations call board, prototype and layout tours, banquet, featured speaker, and awards; □ Sunday – MER annual meeting, operations call board, and homeward bound layout tours. As usual, the contest room will feature both merit judging and popular vote (nonjudged) contests in all the regular model and photo categories. If you have never attended a Region convention or have lost count of the number you have attended, mark your calendar now and plan to join us in Rockville in October. Bring the family and enjoy the other numerous attractions in the nation’s capital area. You could spend the entire weekend in the Air and Space Museum at Dulles International Airport.

October 6, 2018 – FSMRRC picnic has been cancelled due to lack of interest by members.

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 20, 2018 – Philadelphia Chapter PRRTHS. Drexel Hill Methodist Church. 600 Burmont Rd., Drexel Hill, PA. 10:30am-3pm.

October 20, 2018 – Delmarva Model Railroad Club Open House for St. Stephen's UMC Fall Festival. Camelot Hall (2nd Floor, NO elevator), 103-E State Street, Delmar, DE. Saturday: 10am-3pm, 9 layouts featuring 10 different gauges from Z Scale to G Scale. Refreshments, White Elephant table, Raffle ticket sales, free parking and admission. This will also be the last Operation Session for the year, 11am-5pm.

October 27, 2018 – Nashville Steam Perseveration Society Open House. 27th Ave. N., Nashville, TN (just west of the Parthenon at the train.) 2pm-8pm. Join us for Nashville Steam's third annual Open House! Come out to the park and celebrate the history of No. 576 as we envision her exciting future. The event is free to the public. This year's event includes: Locomotive Cab Tours Food Trucks Silent Auction Gift Tent Live Music Kids activities Evening Photo Session And much more! For information go to: www.nashvillesteam.org/

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.

November 3-4, 2018 – Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club Show. Jim Graham Building, NC State Fairgrounds, Blue Ridge Rd. and Hillsborough St., Raleigh, NC. 9am-5pm. Admission: \$9.00, covers both days. Kids 12years-old and under FREE with an adult.

November 4, 2018 – Atlantic Division, Train Collector’s Association Thanksgiving Train Show. Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, 1301 South Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA. 8am-1pm. Family Admission \$5.00 (Limit Two (2) Adults & Children (12 Years & Under). Door Prizes, Operating Train Layout, Food & Beverages Available, More Than 100 Tables of Trains, Train Doctor & Parts to Repair Your Trains.

November 10-11, 2018 – First Frost™ Train Meet. Allentown Fairgrounds, Agricultural Hall (Agri-Plex), 302 North 17th St., Allentown, PA. 9am-4pm Saturday, 9am-3pm Sunday. Admission: \$8.00 per day, children under 12 FREE with paid adult.

November 17, 2018 – Hartly Train Show. Hartly Volunteer Fire Co., 2898 Arthursville Rd., Hartly, DE. 9am-3pm. **FSMRRC WILL SET UP LAYOUT.** For more information call: 302-492-3677.

November 17, 2018 – MarauderCon 2018 Model Contest and Show. Level Volunteer Fire Co., 3633 Level Village Rd., Havre de Grace, MD. 9am-5pm. For info please contact Mark Altizer, maltizer1@verizon.net, 410-682-4939.

November 24, 2018 – Sharpsburg Antietam Station Model Railroad Sale. Washington County Agricultural Education Center, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike, Sharpsburg, MD - 6.5 miles south of I-70 Exit 29 on Md Route 65. Hours 9am-2pm. For details please visit: <http://www.antietamstation.com/hEvents.htm>

November 24-25, 2018 – First State Model Railroad Club’s Model Railroad Month Open House, 1282 McKee Rd., Dover, DE. 9am-3pm. Modular layout of the state of Delaware mainline from State Rd. to Delmar. Raffle ticket sales, free parking and admission.

November 24-25, 2018 (also December 1-2, 2018; January 5-6, 2018; January 12-13, 2019) – Delmarva Model Railroad Club’s 33rd Annual Open House. Camelot Hall (2nd Floor, NO elevator), 103-E State Street, Delmar, DE. Saturday: 11am-4pm, Sunday: Noon-4pm. 9 layouts featuring 10 different gauges from Z Scale to G Scale. Refreshments, White Elephant table, Raffle ticket sales, free parking and admission.

December 1-2, 2018 – Greenberg’s Great Train and Toy Show. Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD. 10am-4pm both days. Adult Admission is \$10 Saturday or \$9 Sunday, Kids 11 and under are admitted free and do NOT need a ticket. **FREE PARKING.** Show Features: 550+ Tables of Trains for Sale, 150+ Exhibitors from Across the Country, Huge Operating Model Train Displays, Riding Train for Kids and Adults, Interactive Slot Car Racetrack, Free Workshops and Demonstrations, Free Door Prize Giveaways, Train Doctor - On-Site Train Repairs, Free Test Track - Test Run Your Trains at the Show.

December 1-2, 8-9, 15-16, 2018 – Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club Open House. 1308 Harding Hwy., Richland, NJ. 10am-4pm. FREE parking and admission. Donations appreciated.

December 8, 2018 – Philadelphia Chapter PRRT&HS. Drexel Hill Methodist Church. 600 Burmont Rd., Drexel Hill, PA. 10:30am-3pm. □ 10:30am – Doors Open. □ 11:00am – Modelers Meeting □ 11:30am – Dining Car. □ 1:00pm – Business Meeting. Delmarva Timetable News of the Delmarva Model Railroad Club Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/> □ 1:30p – Presentation.

December 8, 2018 – Music City Chapter Train Collectors Association 25th Annual Christmas Train Show. Fairgrounds Nashville, Creative Arts Building, 500 Wedgewood Ave, Nashville, TN. 9am-4pm. Admission \$7, Children under 13, FREE. Parking \$5. Show Highlights: Operating train layouts will be in action throughout the show. Over 200 tables of new and antique toy and model trains. Test track available. Trains from all major brand names such as Lionel and MTH and others in all gauges. Parts and appraisals available. Door prizes awarded during the entire show (must be present to win). Non electrical floor layout area for small children to get that “hands on” experience. 5 New train sets will be awarded in a children only drawing (do not have to be present to win). Snack Bar will be open and serving hot dogs, cheeseburgers, fries and cold drinks at great prices.

December 15, 2018 – 5th Annual Brunswick Toy, Train & Collectible Show and Sale. Brunswick Volunteer Fire Co., 1500 Volunteer Drive, Brunswick MD. 9am-3pm. For details please contact Louis Di Girolamo, via email: digirolamo74@yahoo.com or 732-600-9059.

Wednesday, October 31, is Halloween. Please watch out for Trick or Treaters who might not be watching out for drivers. Please drive carefully and safely.

