



THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2014

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on Tuesday, June 10, 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.

(Interim) PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS:

The month of May has been busy and productive for the members of the First State Model Railroad Club. Several persons have stepped forward to take positions as coordinators including Jim Thompson as Awards Coordinator, Paul Buckley as Module Coordinator for the heavyweight modules, Ed Mace as DCC Coordinator, Henry Kramer as Electrical Coordinator, Jeff Shockley as Grounds Coordinator and Richard Stockslager as Building Coordinator. We need a volunteer or volunteers to provide scheduled maintenance for the John Deere lawnmower. It needs new filters, tuning up and blade sharpening. If you would like to take on this project please let me know a.s.a.p. The upshot of this system is that excellent progress has been made on every front. The heavyweight modules are running better than they have in a long time, even accommodating steam engines with their easily derailed pony trucks and sensitivity to power gaps. A terrific amount of junk and old magazines have been removed from the shop and storage closet and the workbench is now clear for projects and repair work. A really splendid set of new steps has been fabricated and installed at the first big door on the South side of the train hall and more people are becoming familiar with DCC operation on the lightweight layout. Individual members have rallied 'round the coordinators and this has made things really hum along.

Meanwhile, with regard to the near future, we have a few things we might consider for our June meeting which will be held at the station on June 10th. At some point during the summer we will want to consider an expedition, possibly to English's Hobby Supply in Montoursville as we have in the past or maybe to some other location of interest where we can both buy equipment and supplies or do some railfanning or both. We might also think about reviving our club picnic, perhaps combining it with a short trip to some place of interest like The Magic Age of Steam in Northern Delaware. These are just a few of my ideas. If you have a suggestion bring it up at the meeting and we'll give it our earnest consideration.

Finally, we are just two months shy of tax time again. I believe we have enough funds on hand to meet our city and county obligation but without much left over. The City of Dover has run up a 2.1 million dollar deficit which they are hoping to ameliorate with a 21% property tax hike. That will cost us about a \$200.00 increase in our city tax bill. So far I've not seen any news about county taxes but I think we should consider augmenting our building fund to give us a little better cushion against the unexpected.

James Valle, Interim President

The Boy Scout Merit Badge Program -- The next Boy Scout Merit Badge Program will be held Saturday, October 11, 2014 at Jarrell Station. See flyer in this newsletter for more information.

Pete Nickerson sends his thanks and appreciation for the 'edible fruit bouquet,' cards and prayers after the sudden death of his wife, Marilyn. He plans to be here for the Wyoming Peach Festival on Aug. 2. Please continue your prayers for Pete and his family.

UPCOMING SHOWS:

June 21-22, 2014 - Great Scale Model Train Show. Maryland State Fairgrounds. 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD. Saturday: 9am – 4pm, Sunday: 10am – 4pm. Admission: Saturday \$9.00, good for both days, kids under 15 FREE, Sunday \$8.00 kids under 15 FREE.

July 13-20, 2014 – NMRA National Convention. New Cleveland Convention Center, 300 Lakeside Avenue, Cleveland, OH. Layout Tours, Clinics, Operating Sessions, Contests, Prototype Modeling Displays.

August 2-3, 2014 – Greenberg’s Toy and Train Show. Maryland State Fairgrounds. 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD. Saturday: 10am – 4pm, Sunday: 10am – 4pm. Admission: Saturday \$8.00, good for both days, kids under 12 FREE, Sunday \$8.00 kids under 12 FREE

Open Houses Scheduled for: Saturday, June 21, and Sunday, June 22, 2014

KEN DONAHOE, [Donahoe Garden Railroad](#), 2642 Foulk Road, Wilmington, DE 19802, **Sat., June 21, 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
ALSO open Tuesday, July 15, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

The Donahoe Garden Railroad winds around a large front yard containing many actual railroad crossing gates, signals, and signs. The tracks are built on a sturdy concrete foundation and are surrounded with lots of landscaping. This year a large garden pond has been built and tracks are expanding into the area.

From Newark: Take I-95 to Route 202 North. Shortly after the exit, turn right onto Foulk Road. Take Foulk Road 4.5 miles and look on the right for the railroad crossing sign.

From points north: Take I-95 to the Naamans Road West exit. Drive 2.5 miles on RT 92 (Naamans Road) to Foulk Road (Rt 261). Turn right on Foulk Road. In 1/2 mile, look for the railroad crossing sign on the right.

MIKE & CLAUDIA LEISTER, [Delaware Division of the Western Maryland Railway](#), 1466 McGinnis Pond Road, Magnolia DE 19962, **Saturday, June 21, and Sunday, June 22, 10:00 am-4:00 pm**

Mike and Claudia Leister operate the “Delaware Division of the Western Maryland Railway” near Magnolia in Kent County, Delaware featuring four separate tracks which allows for multiple trains to run at the same time. The railroad is located in a woodlands

and has multiple heights, a tunnel a bridge, a village and a large waterfall to add interest and must be viewed from multiple angles to see all that is going on. There is one loop that children over five can operate with parental guidance. The railroad has undergone several expansions since it began operation in 2010.

Just north of Frederica Delaware take Barrett's Chapel road west for about 3 miles, turn right on McGinnis Pond Road, proceed .7 mile and turn right into the driveway.

HARRY & SHARON HOLTGREWE, [12192 Rock Switch Street](#), Milton, DE 19968, **Saturday, June 21, and Sunday, June 22, 10:00 am–4:00 pm**

Harry and Sharon Holtgrewe's Garden Railroad in Sussex County, Delaware has a large river running through the layout with the ability to run multiple trains at the same time. The railroad features many concrete structures which the Holtgrewe's built themselves. The railroad began operation in 2005.

From Route 1 southbound, turn right just past Maples Pond at Route 5. Turn right at the first street, Rockswitch, and proceed to the first house on the right side of the road.

From Route 1 Northbound, turn left at Bromleys onto Rt 5. Turn right at the first street (Rockswitch) and proceed to the first house on the right side of the road.

CARL & FLORENCE HOFFMAN, [DELAWARE CENTRAL](#), 18 Cedarfield Road, Magnolia, DE 19962, **Saturday, June 21, 10:00 am–4:00 pm**

Carl and Florence Hoffman's operate the "Central Delaware Railroad" near Magnolia in Kent County, Delaware. This railroad is battery powered and began operation in 2002. The Hoffman's railroad has a large bridge made of concrete which crosses a large river and many other must-see features. Most of the structures were built by the Hoffman's including all of the switches.

From the North: Take DE 1 south to first right exit past Dover Air Force Base. Take Trapshooters Rd. to Barkers Landing Rd. to Magnolia. Go straight through traffic light on Walnut St. that becomes Irish Hill Rd. Go left on Lexington Mill Rd., left on Cedarfield Rd. Take third driveway on left. Follow blue loco signs.

From the South: On DE 1 south of Dover Air Force Base, turn left on Barretts Chapel Rd. at Barretts Chapel Cemetery. Proceed 3 miles to McGinnis Pond Rd, turn right onto McGinnis Pond Rd. and go 1/4 mile to Lexington Mill Rd., turn right, continue 0.3 mile onto Cedarfield Rd., take third driveway on left. Follow blue loco signs.

JAY DAVIS, [Delaware & Chesapeake Garden Railroad](#), 6347 Underwoods Corner Road, Smyrna, DE 19977, **Sunday, June 22, Noon – 4:00 pm**

Jay, Cindy and Taylor Davis operate the "Delaware & Chesapeake Railroad" near Smyrna in Kent County, Delaware. This unique railroad features spectacular gardens and many building structures along the tracks. The railroad began operation in 2007 and has undergone several expansions since its inception.

From points North: Take Route 1 South to Route 13 Smyrna Rest Area Exit. After the exit, proceed down Route 13 and turn right on Glenwood Avenue-Route 300. Take Route 300 through Smyrna for 3.0 miles, across the Norfolk Southern Delmarva Mainline, past Wheatley's Pond and turn right on Underwoods Corner Road (6/10ths of a mile on the right, look for our sign).

From points South: Take Route 13 North to Smyrna and turn left at the Famous Smyrna Diner onto Glenwood Avenue-Route 300. Take Route 300 through Smyrna for 3.0 miles, across the Norfolk Southern Delmarva Mainline, past Wheatley's Pond and turn right on Underwoods Corner Road (6/10ths of a mile on the right, look for our sign).

**The First State
Model Railroad Club**

presents

Railroad Merit Badge Day

Saturday October 11, 2014

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

1282 McKee Road

Dover, DE 19904

For questions or to register call:

302-480-2116

302-653-8096

or **email: cubbie109@yahoo.com**

Class limited to 30 scouts each