



## **THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER**

**MARCH 2018**

### **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, March 13, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.** at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road, in Dover, DE.

### **NOTES FROM PRESIDENT EATON:**

Well so far it's been a pretty good year; nothing major has happened to the club or its members. Hope it stays that way for the rest of the year.

I would like to thank all the members who helped with the Smyrna High School set-up. There was a good crowd as always. I'd like to give a special thanks to Jeff Shockley for planning and working the table at the Texas Roadhouse night out for the club. Also, thanks to Robert Burton for helping Jeff. We don't have a total yet of how much we made but we did find out that one of our members gave out coupons while in the restaurant, which is something we talked about at the meeting that we were not allowed to do. We did make about \$33.00 from donations and the raffle of the Roadhouse package and a picture we had from Jim Valle.

I'd like to remind members that the Boy Scout Merit badge class is next Saturday, March 10, starting at 9:00 and Jeff needs some help, so be sure to let him know if you plan to be there. Then the next Saturday, March 17, we will be setting up in St. Georges for their third annual train show. This year it will be held at the old elementary school at the foot of the old bridge on the north side of the canal. This is next door, for those who remember it, to the old St. Georges Lumber company. We will need help unloading the DCC layout Thursday night for the Merit badge class and then the next Thursday, March 15, we need help loading it for the trip to St. Georges.

Our next meeting is not until March 13 this month. Remember to change your clocks ahead on the 11<sup>th</sup>, so you won't be late for the meeting. At that meeting we have a major issue to talk about. Remember three years ago I asked where we want to be in 5 years from now. After some discussion we felt a permanent layout would be the way to go. A study was made, and a recommendation was approved for a model of horseshoe curve. Last year we started enclosing the doors as the first step toward this goal. I still feel it's a good idea but things have changed in the last three years. If we are going to proceed in this direction we need to make sure this is what we want to do. The two biggest things in our way are: 1. What are the chances of the building being sold with the property next to us

being developed; 2. How do we raise the money to complete this project within the next few years - not ten or more. What's the money for? We need to close in four more doors, install a ceiling, heating and AC and lighting, all large ticket items. Then we must buy and build a table, install track and scenery. So, we have lots to do, lots to learn, and plenty of work for everyone. This is a discussion I wanted to bring up since January but due to time at the meetings I could not do. So, put on your thinking caps and really think about out much time and effort you want to put in and help with this project. I'm bringing this up now to give you time to think about it so when I bring it up at the meeting I don't want to see 20 blank faces looking back at me like normally. Remember as someone said last week this is not my club, it's not Buzz's club, it's not Jim's club, it's everyone's club and I want to hear from everyone on this issue.

Well that's enough for now. Hope to see you and hear your ideas at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Happy model railroading till then.

**Sam Eaton, President**

**REMINDER: FSMRRC DUES WERE DUE (\$60/YR) BY THE END OF FEBRUARY.**

**FSMRRC OFFICERS:**

PRESIDENT: SAM EATON  
VICE PRESIDENT: JIM THOMPSON

SECRETARY: JEFF SHOCKLEY  
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:**

**March 10, 2018 – Boy Scout Merit Badge Class. First State Model Railroad Club, 1282 McKee Road, Dover, DE, 9am-3pm. Free to all scouts. Register online at [www.fsmrrc.org](http://www.fsmrrc.org).**

**March 24, 2018 – Spring Hartly Train Show, Arthursville Rd. (DE Rt. 11) and Hartly Rd. (DE Rt. 44). Hartly, DE. 9am-3pm. Admission: \$4, spouse \$3, kids under 12 FREE with adult. Breakfast and lunch furnished by fire company auxiliary. Door prizes every hour.**

**April 7, 2018 – Delaware Train-Slotcar Show, Nur Shrine Center, US Rt. 13/198 South DuPont Hwy., New Castle, DE. 9am-2pm. Admission: \$5, children under 12 FREE. \$10.00 Early Buyers 8am Admission. Show features: Over 160 tables of trains, accessories, slotcars, and some toys, a variety of unique dealers coming from up and down the east coast.**

**April 14, 2018 – Philadelphia Chapter, Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society, Drexel Hill Methodist Church, 600 Burmont Rd., Drexel Hill, PA. Agenda: 10:30am–doors open; 11am– Modeler’s Meeting; 11:30am–Dining Car; 1pm–Business Meeting; 1:30pm–Presentation.**

**April 14-15, 2018 – The Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, MD (Cow Palace). 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.**

**April 18, 2018 – National Toy Train Museum Open House. National Toy Train Museum, 300 Paradise Ln., Ronks, PA. 10am-5pm.**

**April 19-21, 2018 – York Train Show. York Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave., York, PA. The general public is invited to this train show but will only be permitted to enter the Dealer Halls. The remaining halls are for TCA MEMBERS ONLY.**

**April 29, 2018 – National Collectors Club presents The Brick Train Show. Brick Elks Lodge, Lodge #2151, 2491 Hooper Ave., Brick NJ. 9am-2pm. Admission: \$6, kids under 10 FREE. Operating layouts, refreshments served from show opening until close, test track to operate that new purchase, train doctor on premises.**

**May 5, 2018 – Dover Days Open House. First State Model Railroad Club, 1282 McKee Rd., Dover, DE. Noon-8pm. FREE parking and admission. See our HO scale modular layout of the Delaware mainline from State Road to Delmar.**

**May 12, 2018 – The Great Lehigh Valley Train Meet. Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th St., Allentown PA. 10am-3pm. Admission: \$5.00, Children 12 under free.**

**May 19, 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).

**May 20, 2018 – National Collectors Club presents The Wayne Train Show.** Wayne P.A.L. Hall, 1 Pal Dr., Wayne, NJ. 9am-2pm. Admission: \$6, kids under 10 FREE.

**June 9-10, 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.