



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

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of The First State Model Railroad Club, Inc. will be held on **Tuesday, July 10, 2018 at 7:30 P.M.** at Jarrell Station at 1282 McKee Road, in Dover, DE.

NOTES FROM PRESIDENT EATON:

I would like to wish everyone a Happy 4th of July and hope that you all have a safe and well 4th. Also I'd like to thank all those you who served in the military services.

Not much has happened since the last newsletter, but there are a few things that need to be talked about.

First, I want to tell all those who have not heard, that in our June's meeting I was able to hand to the club a check for \$500.00 from the folks building the rehab building next door. This check was a donation for allowing their workers to park their cars in our lot.

Second, I'd like to thank Les for his time and his patience for showing us how to install DCC decoder with sound into our engines. I'd like to thank all those who showed up even though not everyone installed a decoder. Hopefully everyone learned something new. I know I did! I'm sure if you have any questions or need help installing a decoder Les would be glad to help. Just ask him.

Third, we had 44 people stop by during their bike tour to the beaches. I'd like to thank Jeff for taking the time to set this up and to Billybob, Robbie, Jeff and Larry for helping set up, take down and run trains. Many visitors said that now they know where we are they would stop by again. Please read Jeff's article below about this event.

According the weather report, looks like July is starting off with a heat wave. I guess that's good or bad depending where you are standing, but to me it means it will be hot there in the Jim Valle train room and I don't know how much will get done in the heat out there. Maybe this would be a good time for us to catch up and look at some DVD's in the coolness of the meeting room. I know some would like to see how to install a DCC system video again. So, if anyone out there

has any videos of something about model trains let me know and we will set up a schedule. I have several that may be of interest to everyone. Also does anyone have the video of “The Great Locomotive Chase” starring our childhood hero Fess Parker. (I have the Davy Crockett movies if anyone would like to see them too.)

We discussed at last month’s meeting that we would take a trip on July 14 to Bowser and a train show. It was suggested that we make a day of it and leave the club house at 6:00 AM. So be at July’s meeting on the 10th for more details and find out who is going.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting on Tuesday 7/10 at 7:30 p.m. If I don’t see you, have a happy and safe July. Have fun with you model railroading.

Sam Eaton, President

Head-2-Toe Bike Relay - *Jeff Shockley*

On Sunday, June 24, we were the 4th of 9 “rest” stops for the Head-2-Toe Bike Relay. The relay started at Concord High School in Newark. It was to end in Ocean City, MD, 141 miles total.

Sam and I were there at 9:00 am to set up our 10’x10’ canopy, a table and two chairs that were used for refreshments. We also put up the sandwich sign so the riders and support personnel would know where we were. After putting the sign up near the road, we noticed someone had placed a sign from the relay on the other side of the entrance.

Robbie Robinson, Bill Benzin and Larry Wheeler arrived and we officially opened at 10:00 and waited for the people to show up. And we waited. Finally, the crew with the snacks and drinks they would give the group arrived around 10:40.

The first of the riders arrived at 10:50 when several of the support vehicles parked. The first actual rider arrived about 11:00.

We set out a guest book for everyone to sign, but not everyone did. In all 14 riders and 30 support personnel (one 6-member team and two 7-member teams backed out at the last minute) stopped in to use the restroom and take time to view the trains. Everyone was impressed with our facility, especially the trains. We invited everyone to come back and see us during our open houses on November 24 and 25. Some of the people said they would like to bring their grandkids and we suggested any Thursday night.

After about an hour stay, the riders and teams packed up all their supplies and headed on to the next pit stop in Felton. The five of us packed up and had everything cleaned up by 12:15. The Relay organizers were very pleased with our setup and are looking forward to us hosting a pit stop for them next year. I even talked to an organizer for the Amish Bike Tour and they are considering us for a rest stop on the return loop of their event for 2019.

All in all it was a good chance for us to meet new people and get the club's name out to more of the public. Sam and I would like to thank Bill Benzin, Robbie Robinson, and Larry Wheeler for coming in to help and run trains for the participants.

**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:

Sunday, July 1 through Sunday, July 8, 2018 - Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania celebrates the history of the Reading Railroad during Reading Railroad Days.

Wednesdays, July 4 - ?? – Open House at Delaware Seaside Railroad Club, 32442 Royal Boulevard, Dagsboro, 5-8 pm. For more info: 448-5654.

July 14, 2018 – 5th Annual Lycoming Summer Train Meet. Community Baptist Church, 1853 Route 87, Montoursville, PA, 9am-3pm. Admission: \$5.00. Featuring vendors from 14 states and Canada. Operating displays. Food served throughout the day. All scales represented.

July 15, 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.

July 22, 2018 – National Collectors Club presents The Wayne Train Show. Wayne P.A.L. Hall, 1 Pal Drive Wayne, NJ, 9am-2pm. Admission: \$6.00. Some of the finest dealers in the hobby today will be featured. If you are interested in toy trains, pre-war, post-war, or new production, this is the show for you. All gauges and manufacturers represented. Children and adult door prizes. Operation layouts. Refreshments served from opening until close. Test track to operate the new purchase. Train repairs.

Saturday, August 4, 2018 – The Shore Line Garden Railroad Club will set up a G-Scale display at the home of Richard Stockslager (weather permitting) in conjunction with the Wyoming Peach Festival, 111 Broad St., Wyoming, DE, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Saturday-Sunday, August 4-5, 2018. Greenberg’s Great Train & Toy Show. Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks, PA, 10am-4pm. Admission: \$10 Saturday (good for both days), \$9 Sunday only. Kids 11 and under admitted free and do not need a ticket. Free parking. 300+ tables of trains for sale. Exhibitors from across the country. Huge operating model train displays. Free workshops and demonstrations, free door prize giveaways. Free test track - test run your trains at the show.

Saturday-Sunday, August 11-12, 2018. Greenberg’s Great Train & Toy Show. New Jersey Expo Center, 97 Sunfield Avenue, Edison, NJ, 10am-4pm. Admission: \$10 Saturday (good for both days), \$9 Sunday only. Kids 11 and under admitted free and do not need a ticket. Free parking. 300+ tables of trains for sale. Exhibitors from across the country. Huge operating model train displays. Free workshops and demonstrations, free door prize giveaways. Free test track - test run your trains at the show.

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.

Beginning on July 7, 2018, a new exhibit, entitled “Delaware Railroads: Elegant Travel and Timely Transport,” will be on display at the [Zwaanendael Museum](#) in Lewes, Del. The exhibit replaces “[Discovering Delaware’s Maritime Past](#)” which has been on view since June 2015. Planned and created by the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, the exhibit utilizes photographs; and posters, tickets, timetables, maps and historical objects from the [collections of the State of Delaware](#) to tell the history of rail travel and transport in the First State. In particular, the exhibit will explore four railroads that were historically important in Delaware: The New Castle and Frenchtown Railroad (1832); the Delaware Railroad (1852); the Junction and Breakwater Railroad (1857) and the Queen Anne’s Railroad (1896).

The exhibit will compliment Lewes’ 20th annual Chautauqua tent show—“[All Aboard: Delaware and the Railroad](#)” that will take place from Sept. 13 to 15, 2018.

Economic growth, development and prosperity resulted from the construction of railway lines in Delaware. Due to the increased comfort and speed by which passengers and cargo could be transported, new connections to destinations and markets outside of the Delmarva Peninsula were established. This led to the development of canning companies and seafood processing plants, allowing products to be shipped to the larger metropolitan areas of Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York. Farmers growing peaches, tomatoes, strawberries, wheat and other produce became prosperous during the “boom” times. Later on, chickens and holly wreaths became important commodities. Passengers were able to take popular day-excursions to special events such as the World’s Fair in New York City. Railroad travel was elegant and timely. However, with the advent of improved highways, vehicles and freight trucks, rail travel in Delaware, outside the heavily utilized Northeast Corridor, ended by 1950, and freight lines were significantly reduced. A bright spot remaining today is the [Wilmington & Western Railroad](#), a popular excursion line with steam powered rides outside of Wilmington.

“Delaware Railroads: Elegant Travel and Timely Transport” will be on display beginning on July 7, 2018 and continuing for an indeterminate period of time at the Zwaanendael Museum, located at 102 Kings Highway in Lewes, Del. Museum operating-hours from April 1 to Oct. 31 are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Sundays, 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. From Nov. 1 through March 31, museum operating-hours are Wednesdays through Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is free and open to the public. For additional information, call [302-645-1148](#).

The Zwaanendael Museum was built in 1931 to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the state’s first European colony, Swanendael, established by the Dutch along Hoorn Kill (present-day Lewes-Rehoboth Canal) in 1631. Designed by E. William Martin (architect of Legislative Hall and the Hall of Records in Dover), the museum is modeled after the town hall in Hoorn, the Netherlands, and features a stepped facade gable with carved stonework and decorated shutters. The museum’s exhibits and presentations provide a showcase for Lewes-area maritime, military and social history.

The Zwaanendael Museum is administered by the [Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs](#), an agency of the State of Delaware. The division enhances Delaware’s quality of life by preserving the state’s unique historical heritage, fostering community stability and economic vitality and providing educational programs and assistance to the general public on Delaware history and heritage. The division’s diverse array of services includes operation of five museums which are [accredited by the American Alliance of Museums](#), administration of the State Historic Preservation Office, conservation of the state’s archaeological and historic-objects collections, operation of a conference center and management of historic properties across the state. Primary funding for division programs and services is provided by annual appropriations from the Delaware General Assembly and grants from the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, a federal agency. However, the contents and opinions expressed in the division’s programs and services do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Department of the Interior.

