



**THE FIRST STATE MODEL RAILROAD  
CLUB, INC. NEWSLETTER  
SEPTEMBER 2019**

**NEXT MEETING:**

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

**NOTES FROM PRESIDENT EATON:**

Sorry I was not at the last meeting, but it was not my fault. I had my stents taken out that morning and around 4:00 that afternoon I told Carol that I was going to the meeting. She said, “I don’t think so!” So, on the advice of Dr. Carol I had to stay home. I did hear that all went well at the meeting.

On September 28 we will be going to the Clayton fire hall and setting up the DCC layout. We will be in the same place we were last year. I told them we will be there at 7:30 to set up. Show starts at 9:00 and will end at 2:00 and they are paying us \$200.00. Please plan on being there and helping set up and/or take down and run trains. As of now this is the only away show we have this year.

We will take down the DCC layout and load it into the trailer on Thursday, September 12, and then set up the DC layout for the open house on October 12. That will give us a month to get the DC layout cleaned up, wired up and glued up for the October 12 NMRA open house. I would also like to make sure the Christmas display is running and hopefully get the “N” scale layout running. These are big plans and may take more than just Thursday nights to get it done. So, if anyone can work during the daytime or evenings, other than Thursdays, please let me know. We really need to have everything looking good for the open houses in October and November.

I understand that no decision was made as to where to hold the Christmas party. I know there were several suggestions and it was tabled as to where to hold it till the next meeting. That will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September. Be sure to be there so you can have a say as to where we go. I also understand that it will be a paper vote to keep your vote private.

As for the Club’s picnic it was decided last month to have it on the same day as the open house in October. So, we need to plan, at the next meeting, how we are going to do this and keep

everyone happy and what we are going to do with visitors that come by. We need to make these plans so we know how to advertise this event.

That's about it for this month. I have several other ideas but I will leave them till the meeting on September 10 at 7:30. If you want to hear them, be there. It should be a fun filled night. Everyone keep well and safe till then. Till them happy model railroading.

**Sam Eaton, President**

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

The last Club meeting on August 13 was short with Vice President Jim Thompson presiding, as President Sam Eaton was recovering from medical problems, which I wouldn't wish on anyone. Let's hope he recovers quickly for Thursday nights and the next meeting.

We started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer by Peter who was also under the weather and had to leave early. The minutes were read by Jeff Shockley, accepted and seconded.

The Treasurer's report, presented by Buzz, was seconded and accepted. Buzz reported that we had a balance of \$3,763.26, which was great but then Dr. Jarrell stopped by during the week with the tax bill of \$1,400.00 taking our balance down to about \$2,300.00. Buzz reported there is a charge if the balance is below \$2,000.00. Upcoming projects will have to be on hold until we get some more cash flow.

We have two doors to be put in with a cost of a little over \$300.00 each and paint supplies for painting the building. Well, Gary Bryant said he would donate \$700.00 for the doors and wrote a check for them. Thanks, Gary, for stepping up. Jim Thompson noted he had stopped the building fund, because he was told a couple years ago it wasn't needed, as there was a budget to be followed. Well, Jim is starting it again. Jim and Buzz both donated \$100.00. A special thanks to Paul Buckley and Richard Stockslager for continuing to give year after year. A brass plaque will be put on the board for each \$100.00 or more given. Let's support the Club.

The Club picnic was changed to September 21 unless someone has a better date. Some people suggested October 12 in conjunction with our Open House and the NMRA Regional Meeting. More discussion is needed.

Sam has sent the application for the 2020 Greenberg Show at the Riverfront and is awaiting approval.

We are going to set-up at Clayton Fire Hall on September 28. We are using the new DCC layout. We will load the layout on September 4. We can start setting up the DC layout for our Open House on October 12, 2019, in conjunction with the NMRA Regional Meeting in King of Prussia, PA.

We are scheduled for November 23-24 for an Open House for Model Train Month. We will use the DC layout for this event.

The grass cutting has gone well this year thanks to Little Kenny Haltom, who really isn't that little anymore.

Remember, next year is our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Sam says in November we need to start planning projects for the year.

Buzz has been working on places for our Christmas Party concerning food, price and size of room. He has about four places and we will decide on one at the Sept. meeting. He will present them so we can then vote and decide on one.

We had a new member stop by while Jim was cutting the grass and joined Tuesday. Welcome, Roger Sales of Dover.

The only way you can sign up for Model Railroad Month for Open Houses is to go online and sign up. For more information, call Joe Walters at 302-325-1213.

**Jim Thompson, Vice President**

### **2019 First State Model Railroad Club – Christmas Party**

**The location of the Christmas Party has been narrowed down to three (3) locations and the following is information on each of the three (3) locations. The date of the party would be either December 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup>. – 6:30 to 9:30pm**

#### **(1) Grotto Pizza – North Dover by Dover Downs**

- Max seating 100+
- No charge for room rental or custodial fee
- Private Room
- Food cost per person would be \$12 person including gratuity
- Buffet style and they would provide the following on the buffet – chicken parmesan and pasta, baked ziti's with meatballs and baked ziti with marinara sauce. Also included would be a choice of garden salads and Caesar salad and pitchers of drinks. Cash bar could be provided with no charge for bartender.
- Can bring in our own dessert or purchase from their menu
- Only available December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>

#### **(2) King Buffet – North Dover by Olive Garden**

- Max seating 48
- No charge for room rental or custodial fee

- Private Room
- Food cost per person would be \$12.45 not including gratuity
- Buffet style would include Chinese and American dishes
- Available December 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**(3) Little Creek Fire Hall – Little Creek**

- Max seating 100+
- \$100 room rental fee for first 4 hours plus a \$50 custodial fee
- Private Room
- Food cost per person would be \$16 including gratuity
- Buffet style – 2 meats, 1 vegetable and 1 starch plus rolls, apple sauce, beets and coffee and or ice tea. Can bring in our own dessert and sodas
- Salad would be .75 cents per person in addition to \$16
- Cash bar and would charge \$100 for bartender up to 4 hours
- Available December 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**At the August business meeting it was decided that a decision would be finalized at the September business meeting. So be prepared to make a decision on September 10<sup>th</sup> so that we can lock in a location and date.**

**Hilton Joseph Robinson,” Robbie”**, age 81 of Wyoming, DE passed away suddenly on August 31, 2019. Mr. Robinson was born November 22, 1937 in Middletown, New York. He was a loving and devoted husband and father and a friend to many. He enjoyed model trains, motorcycles, a great meal, and spending time with family. He was a member of the First State Model Railroad Club for over 30 years. For many years he set up and maintained the Christmas Holiday train display at Ronnie’s Garden World, where he was often referred to as, “The Train Guy”. He joined the U.S. Airforce in 1959, proudly serving during the Vietnam War. His family described him as a “true patriot who loved his country”. He retired from the U.S. Air Force after 26 years of distinguished service. He loved life and was able to find pleasure in the simplest of things. He was a happy, easygoing man who was quick with a smile, a warm hug or words of encouragement for anyone who needed it. He will be dearly missed by his family and loved ones. He is preceded in death by his eldest son Hilton Joseph Robinson, Jr. He is survived by his wife of over 56 years, Shizuko “Kim” Robinson; his children, James Matthew (Kelli) Robinson, Teresa Robinson and David (Kristen)Robinson; grandchildren, Johnathon, Presly, Kadena, James Jr., Hilton III, Christina, and extended family, and friends. Funeral Service with Military Honors are pending at this time. In lieu of flowers, Memorials may be made to Pippin Funeral Home. Share a memory at. [www.pippinfuneralhome.com](http://www.pippinfuneralhome.com)

**DOVER** — Arts-and-crafts chain, **Hobby Lobby**, “recently” signed a lease for the large retail space on 1001 N. DuPont Highway in Dover, formerly an ACME Market. Brixmor — the firm handling the retail space — confirmed Monday that Hobby Lobby agreed to rent the space. It remains unclear when the craft chain will move in to the space. The next closest location is in Salisbury Maryland. Claiming to be the “largest privately owned arts and crafts retailer in the

world with over 37,500 employees,” Hobby Lobby says it has a total of 850 stores operating in 46 states.

**REMINDER: FSMRRC DUES WERE DUE (\$60/YR) BY THE END OF FEBRUARY 2019. 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 7, 2019 – Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum Model Train Sale.** Washington County Ag Center, Rt. 65 (3 miles north of Antietam Battlefield), 9a-2p. Admission: \$5. All Gauges, Brass, Lionel & American Flyer. Railroad collectibles, hobby tools and parts.

**September 19-22 - The Mid-Atlantic Rail Prototype Modeler’s Meet (MARPM).** Doubletree by Hilton at Baltimore-BWI Airport, 890 Elk Ridge Landing Road, Linthicum Heights, MD. Cost for the RPM is \$55 for all days or \$40 for one day. Special hotel rate is \$114/night plus taxes. See their website at MARPM.org for more details.

**September 21, 2019 – Delmar Heritage Day.** Delmar, DE/MD. 9a-4p. FREE Admission. Delaware-Maryland Tug of War, FREE activities for kids, face painting, bounce house, photo booth, Salisbury Zoo educational exhibit, FREE carriage rides (Noon-3p), live music, craft and food vendors, fireworks at dusk – Mason Dixon Park.

**September 21, 2019 – 7th Annual Rutland Vermont Train Show & Swap Meet.** Holiday Inn, S. Main St., Rutland, VT. 10a-3:30p. Admission: \$6, children under 13 FREE. Model Train Show & Swap Meet. Vendors selling new and gently used model trains and accessories. Operating modular train layout display. Free advice. All ages & gauges. Free parking. Food concession.

**September 22, 2019 – Atlantic Division TCA Fall Train Show.** Penn’s Landing Caterers, (Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall), 1301 S., Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia, PA. 9a-1p, (TCA members 8a-1p). Admission: \$5 family, 2 adults and children 12 and under. Food by Chef Chris Rodgers, door prizes for adults and children, new & used trains & accessories, operating train layouts, collectibles, repair parts available, train doctor, test track.

**September 28, 2019 – Clayton, DE Railroad Day.** First State Model Railroad Club will set up a layout similar to last year (DCC) at the Clayton Fire Hall.

**September 28, 2019 – Indian Summer Train and Toy Show.** Roxana Fire House, 35943 Zion Church Rd., Roxana, DE. 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Admission \$5.00. Children 10 and under FREE. Call Bill: 302-537-0964 for information.

**October 5, 2019 - Delaware Train Show.** Nur Shrine Center, Route. 13 / 198 South duPont Hwy., New Castle, DE. 9am – 2pm. Admission is \$5.00, children under the age of 12 are free, \$10.00 Early Buyers 8:00am Admission. Show will feature over 160 tables of trains, accessories, slot cars and some toys. Show will have a diversity of trains in all Scales and makes. We have a variety of unique dealers coming from up and down the east coast. The show has grown bigger every year. Train show is Saturday only.

**October 12, 2019 – NMRA Liberty Bell Special 2019 MER Regional Convention Open House.** First State Model Railroad Club, 1282 McKee Rd., Dover, DE. 10a-3p. Free Admission and parking. HO Scale modular layout of Delaware mainline from State Road to Delmar. Other operation layouts.

**October 26-27, 2019 – The Great Model Train and Railroad Collectors Shows & Railroad Marketplace.** Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD. Saturday: 9am-5pm; Sunday: 10am-4pm Admission: Saturday: \$20 Family, \$10 Solo Adult. Sunday: \$15 Family, \$8 Solo Adult. Kids under 16 FREE (with paid adult). Held in the Cow Palace. All scales Z to G, large White Elephant sales area, FREE parking, food & drink, operating layouts. ALL SATURDAY ADMISSIONS RETURN SUNDAY FOR FREE!!

**November 3, 2019 – 42nd Annual Gaithersburg Railroadiana-Transportation Artifact Show and Sale.** Montgomery County Fairgrounds, 501 Perry Pkwy., Gaithersburg, MD. 600 tables of Historic Railroad, Steamship, and Airline Artifacts for sale. These artifacts include railroad lanterns, railroad china, railroad silver, railroad signs, railroad timetables, railroad posters, and thousands of other railroad advertising artifacts from the 1800's and 1900's. In addition, there are also historic artifacts from trolley's, steamships, airlines, and express companies. This annual show has sold out for the last 40 years and is one of the oldest annual shows held at the Fairgrounds. There are over 200 dealers/sellers using 600 tables from all around the United States. Please contact Charles Miller at 703-536-2954 or rrrshows@aol.com if you have any questions. For additional information please visit [www.gserr.com](http://www.gserr.com).

**November 30, 2019 – Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum Train Sale.** Washington County Ag Center, Rt 65 (3 miles north of Antietam Battlefield), Sharpsburg, MD. 9a-4p. Admission: \$5.00. Trains - All Gauges, Brass, Lionel & American Flyer. Railroad Collectibles and Hobby Tools and Parts.