



THE SIGNAL BRIDGE

NEWSLETTER OF THE MOUNTAIN EMPIRE MODEL RAILROADERS CLUB
OCTOBER 2012 - MEMBERS EDITION
Volume 19 - Number 10

Published for the Education and Information of Its Membership

CLUB OFFICERS

President:
Fred Alsop

Vice-President
John Carter

Treasurer:
Duane Swank

Secretary:
Hobie Hyder

Newsletter Editor:
Ted Bleck-Doran


Webmaster:
Bob Jones



LOCATION

ETSU Campus
George L. Carter
Railroad Museum

HOURS

Business Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings start at  PM in:

Brown Hall
Room 312
ETSU Campus,
Johnson City, TN.

Open House for viewing every Saturday from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

Work Nights are held each Thursday from 5:00 pm until ??

MEMRR BYLAWS REVISIONS ADOPTED

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE MODEL RAILROADERS BYLAWS

Adopted Date: 18 September, 2012

Article I. The name of this organization shall hereafter be known as, Mountain Empire Model Railroaders (MEMRR).

Article II. The officers of this organization shall be elected by popular vote of the membership at the November business meeting each year and retain that office for one calendar year. The officers shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster. The duties of each officer are enumerated in the Appendix to the Bylaws.

Article III. Committees shall be drawn from the general membership with appointments made by the president based on interest of the individual members and needs of the club.

Article IV. Membership is open to any individual with a sincere interest in model railroading.

A full adult member is defined as one who pays "full member" dues as set by the club in Article VIII and is willing to construct or assist with the building and/or operation of one or more modules or layouts which meets the club specifications. Only paid up full members will have access to the museum key box. This will include a digitally available copy of the club newsletter known as "*The Signal Bridge*".

A youth member is a non-voting member between 14 and 18 years of age and will be accepted if sponsored by a full adult member. The adult member will accept full responsibility, financial and otherwise, for their sponsored youth.

A family member is part of a full adult member's household, interested in model railroading and who will support club activities. Household members will have one vote per adult over 18 years of age.

A student member is a voting member who is a full-time student enrolled in any private or public community college, college or university. Proof of student status may be required to establish and maintain student membership. This will include a digitally available copy of the club newsletter known as "*The Signal Bridge*".

An associate member is one who would like to receive the club newsletter ("*The Signal Bridge*") by a digitally available copy, supports the club, and will be non-voting.

An emeritus member is one who has been a long time active member who is voted to this lifetime non-voting status by 2/3's vote of the membership present. This will include a digitally available copy of the club newsletter known as "*The Signal Bridge*".

An honorary member is one who has been awarded special non-voting membership for outstanding contribution by a non-member. To be established by 2/3's vote and renewed by similar vote at each November meeting. This will include a digitally available copy of the club newsletter known as "*The Signal Bridge*".

Article V. Election of officers and changes to the constitution or bylaws must be announced to the membership no less than one month in advance. Membership will consist of all individuals listed

on the official roll kept by the treasurer. Changes to the aforementioned documents of the club will require a vote "in the affirmative" of one more than half the voting membership. Passage of regular business items will require a majority vote of the members present at the meeting when the item is on the floor. Members must be sent notice of special called meetings no less than one week in advance of the proposed "called meeting" date.

Article VI. The regularly scheduled business meeting of this organization shall be the third Tuesday evening of each month.

Article VII. These bylaws may be amended by the membership, as deemed necessary, by the process set forth in Article V.

Article VIII. Each member will pay his or her dues to the treasurer no later than January 31st. At this time non-paid members will be removed from the distribution of the newsletter with the February edition. An extension may be granted upon approval by the President and the Treasurer. The key box code to the George L. Carter Railroad Museum door is to be changed each January. The dues will be fixed for the next year at the November meeting and published in the minutes of that meeting.

Article IX. The President may appoint an Audit Committee once a year to audit the books and physical assets of the Treasurer and to count the "cash on hand" kept by the Treasurer. The audit report will take place after the November business meeting and thereby present the incoming administration an accurate and verified base for the new year.

Article X. All club funds will be kept and maintained by the Treasurer. All expenditures must be submitted to the Treasurer for reimbursement upon receipt of appropriate receipts. All club funds will be maintained by the Treasurer. Upon termination of this club, all funds remaining will be used to pay outstanding debts. Any club-owned property will be sold and the proceeds, along with any remaining cash funds, will be donated to a 501C3 organization.

Article XI. This club has been organized and will operate exclusively for the pleasure, education, and recreation of its members. No part of the club's income and/or contributions will accumulate for the benefit of any member.

Article XII. Unfinished modules shall show substantial improvements in a timely manner. If recommended improvements are not implemented on schedule after advisement from the Executive Committee (officers of the MEMRR), the disposition of the module or modules will be brought to a vote by the membership.

Article XIII. Each full member is encouraged to work the equivalent of one full Saturday, or two half-day Saturdays, at the current club display venue per month. Each member is to sign up for scheduled operating days and/or special events in advance so adjustments can be made to schedule. Showing up unscheduled with staffing already scheduled is encouraged but will not count towards fulfillment of this commitment.

Article XIV. Approved expenditures shall not exceed original estimates by more than 10% unless prior approval by the Treasurer and one other executive officer. (Executive officers are: President and Vice President). No expenditures will be reimbursed without receipt and all receipts must be signed and dated by the purchaser.

Article XV. "The Signal Bridge" newsletter. Free via digital format to eligible members in good standing. For those who prefer hard copies, there will be an additional \$15.00 yearly fee for basic section and additional \$15.00 for bonus additions.

Basic section	\$15.00 yearly
Basic section plus bonus pages	\$30.00 yearly

Article XVI. Pro-rated dues rates for new members who sign up during the year.

Jan. thru Mar.	100%
Apr. thru June	75% (for balance of the current year)
July thru Oct	50% (for balance of the current year)
Nov. and Dec	100% (this will include the following year's dues)

APPENDIX TO THE MEMRR BYLAWS

Duties of the Officers of the Organization

President:

1. Prepare meeting agenda and preside over the Monthly Business Meeting.
2. Appoint Committees for various tasks as necessary.
3. Maintain contact with Train Show operators.
4. Prepare and disseminate monthly "Train News Report".
5. Assign individuals to specific tasks, i.e., Program Director, Recording Secretary, Specification Librarian, etc.
6. Provide contact point for local media, civic organizations and political leaders.
7. Is responsible for promotional aspects of the club, i.e., club logo, club brochures, media news releases, etc.

Vice President:

1. Preside at monthly business meeting in the absence of the President.
2. Is responsible for monthly club programs.

Secretary:

1. Take minutes at Monthly Business Meeting (a Recording Secretary may be appointed by the President to perform this function.)
2. Send copies of minutes to newsletter editor.
3. Maintain club archives.
4. Originates official club correspondence (i.e.: thank you cards/letters, condolences/etc.)

Treasurer:

1. Maintain club funds and account for same in writing.
2. Collect annual club funds due from members and associate members.
3. Prepare monthly financial report (income and expenditures) and submit it to the Newsletter Editor for publication in the monthly Newsletter.
4. Prepare Annual Financial Report.
5. Maintain current Active Membership Roll.
6. Compile and keep a roll of inactive and former members.
7. Order club shirts, caps, patches and other club items

Newsletter Editor:

1. Publish and distribute monthly newsletter, "**The Signal Bridge**".
2. E-mail "**The Signal Bridge**" club newsletter to all members who have elected to receive it electronically.

Webmaster:

1. Secure and maintain a suitable web host for the MEMRR web site. (Insure that yearly host fees are paid)
2. Design and create MEMRR and George L. Carter Railroad Museum web pages.
3. Maintain and update web pages in a timely manner.
4. Maintain an E-mail list of all members with computer access.
5. Notify all members with computer access of important upcoming club events.
6. Once all versions (extra and/or bonus) of "The Signal Bridge" club newsletter are released they will be combined into one monthly edition and then posted on the MEMRR Website in a timely manner.

7. Maintain MEMRR E-mail server.

Communications Coordinator:

1. Mails out copies of "The Signal Bridge" and other pertinent communications to members lacking email capabilities. (Club to provide the coordinator with duplication services or reimbursement for duplication and mailing).
2. Establish a call list to facilitate short notification of club activities or needs. (this is in conjunction with the Webmaster's email distribution of event notification).
3. Make welcoming contacts with new members to ensure contact information is accurate, administer a New Member Interest Survey, and periodically report to the membership (through the Coordinators Meeting, General Business Meeting or The Signal Bridge) on the results of the Member Interest Survey.

RIP Track-Bad Order Coordinator

1. Repairs rolling stock to put back into operation
2. Maintains inventory of club owned property & location of such

Librarian: (Duties under the auspices of the George L. Carter Railroad Museum ETSU)

1. Receives, inventories, and catalogues all club books, pamphlets and visual media (i.e., video tapes, CDs, DVD, posters, prints, photographs, etc.)
2. Shelves, stores, displays and otherwise properly maintains club library collections.
3. Maintains circulation and check-out/check-in system for member use of the library collections.

MEMRR Bylaws Amendment Dates

- Amended by the general membership 02/20/2001.
- Updated 3/21/06 to include approved Amendments of 02/20/2001 and voted changes to bylaws in 2004 by the general membership.
- Amended by the general membership 05/16/2006.
- Amended to its present form by the general membership 03/18/2008.
- Amended to its present form by the general membership 09/18/2012

THE VIEW FROM THE ENGINEER'S SIDE OF THE CAB

The feel of fall is with us as the leaves are beginning to turn from their summer greens to many warm, brilliant hues and the temperatures are beginning to drop. A great time for model railroaders to turn from outside recreation and yard work to the real fun of our mostly indoor hobby of model railroading. If you run out of modeling space at

home come on down to the George L. Carter Railroad Museum and get immersed in some of the model railroad projects underway, both big and small. We welcome your help and your skills and talents.

MEMRR members please extend a warm welcome to our newest member, **Bill Lankford**, of Johnson City. Bill brings a lot of model railroading experience into our club with him, especially in the venue of layout scenery. Bill, we are happy to have you on board and look forward to working with you.

There is a pretty new face around the RR Museum. **Michelle Kelly**, Amanda's sister, is on a Federal Work Study program and is working for the Carter Railroad Museum with me acting as her supervisor. This program gives us 15 hours/week of Michelle's time and talents. She will be helping Amanda with the Little Engineers Room on Saturdays, but also working some Thursday evenings and perhaps at other hours during the week. I plan to have Michelle help is with some of the continuous housekeeping that needs to be down with a bunch of railroad guys around the museum and she will also lend her artistic talents by continuing to add Thomas-the-Tank characters to the red wall in the children's playroom. If you have possible tasks for Michelle to help you with, she is good with computers too, please talk to me about them and I'll discuss them with her. I would appreciate any work you may wish for her to help us with coming to me as her supervisor first and not directly to her. Thanks guys, and please make Michelle welcome.

A much appreciated thank you to all of you who participated in having the Carter Railroad Museum open and who welcomed the members of the **President's Classroom**, President Brian Noland, and the other ETSU administrators and staff as part of that event on the afternoon of September, 18th. It has been our privilege to be asked to be this special classes' first official stop annually as they tour very selected venues on each of 4 nights during their "course of studies" as guests of ETSU. The feedback from the group, and from President Noland, was that they were most impressed with all you have done to make the Railroad Museum the outstanding educational attraction that it is and they enjoyed their experience with you and our exhibits. Many spoke of returning soon on a Saturday with family members to have the time to enjoy the museum.

October is the month that I have to miss 6 days as I take the Coastal Biology Class that I teach to the Outer Banks of North Carolina for an extended field trip and hands-on learning experience. This year's dates are 11-16 October which means I shall miss the Thursday work night and the Coordinator's Meeting on the 11th, the Saturday public operating session on the 13th, and the October Club Business Meeting on the 16th (we will be getting back sometime in the evening after a 500 mile drive that day). **Vice-President John Carter** will preside over both these meetings in my absence.

As we look down the tracks into November there are some exciting events we will need to begin to plan for. **November is the month when we elect our officers for the coming year.** I want to express my gratitude to each of you who have served the MEMRR so faithfully and well either as elected officers or in appointed leadership positions during the current year. It has been a true pleasure to work with you and to receive your guidance as the club and the Carter

Railroad Museum continue their sustained presence in our community. I hope you will seriously consider continuing in your roles as officers for the coming year and will say, "yes" without hesitation to the members of the nominating committee who will be served with the task of providing a slate of officers for our November meeting.

November is **National Model Railroad Month** and **November 16th is National Take-a-Toy-Train-to-Work Day.**

November is also the month we celebrate **the anniversary of the founding of the George L. Carter Railroad Museum**, the home base for the Mountain Empire Model Railroaders and the George L. Carter Chapter NRHS. This year marks the 5th Anniversary of the Carter Railroad Museum and the planning to make this a very special occasion are already in the works. Here is some of what is being planned and the University and I will need your help in carrying it out.

Saturday, November 17th, will be the G.L. Carter Railroad Museum 5th Anniversary Event. The kickoff time will be 1:00 p.m. at the RR Museum.

- Local media will have publicized the event via ETSU's Office of Public Relations
- Special invitations will be sent inviting selected guests to join us in the event
- **ETSU President Brian Noland** will be present for the dedication ceremonies and will participate in them.
- The Museum ETSU Express locomotive and presidential passenger consist will have new coaches added to the train and will be the first train run that day.
- The Museum will have a donor's wall with suitable plaques inlaid.
- Several of the Museum's rooms will be named for special donors and bear their names and suitable plaques and photos
- Several local authors of railroad and railroad related books will be present to sell and sign their books
- There will be finger foods and drinks for our guests and our volunteers.
- The Carter Legacy DVDs should be available for sale that day as well.

I'll keep you posted via our Club Website as all this comes together and as I have more details. But, it should be a grand party and I hope you mark your calendars to be present that Saturday to enjoy the celebration and to help us with the extra guests we will be expecting and, of course acting as hosts for our anniversary. With the event comes a lot of pre-preparation. We need to use the weeks leading up to November 17th to take some extra time to put the best face possible on the museum. Module owners and coordinators need to be sure the layouts are clean from top-to-bottom, that all the trash that has been accumulating in the work areas and on the construction areas on the layouts is picked up and out of sight. We will potentially

have a lot of visitors and ETSU administrators and we want the museum to look as good as possible. I am asking all of you to look around the museum and do whatever you can to tidy up the place and put a shine on it. We are going to have an important birthday party and we need to do a little housekeeping to be ready for it. Thanks in advance for your cooperation and your support.

November will also bring plans for holiday clinics and other events for the Club at the Carter RR Museum. We need to make plans to continue the "how-to" clinic on model railroad layout building by completing the 6 foot module that we started last November. In particular, the last two feet of the instructive module needs to be landscaped as a public demonstration module. Volunteers to complete this task on Saturdays while visitors are present are eagerly welcomed. Just let one of the officers know your intentions. Last year we put together a small N-Scale layout with a winter scheme and "raffled" it off with visitors filling out an information card and the winner being announced at our annual Christmas Holiday Party. Some MEMRR members have recently expressed interest in building another similar layout for this year's holiday season. Talk to a Club officer if you want to be part of this holiday team.

Our friend and the owner of **HobbyTown USA**, **Bob Barrett**, has moved his hobby shop from its familiar location across from the Mellow Mushroom to a bigger location further east. You will now find him on the same side of the street (north side) of Highway 11E, towards Bristol, across from the car dealerships on the "Motor Mile". Bob has long been a supporter of the MEMRR and the Carter Railroad Museum and we need to continue to support our only local hobby shop. Plan to visit him at his new location soon and see what he has to offer to support our hobby.

Very soon after you get your October edition copy of *The Signal Bridge* the **Carter Chapter NRHS** and the Carter Railroad Museum will be taking 102 participants in 2 Greene Coach Line buses to Bryson City, NC, for a ride on **the Smoky Mountain Railroad**. The trip is set for Saturday, October 20th and will depart from an ETSU parking lot. This is the second rail excursion that the Chapter and the Museum have organized and sponsored this year, the first was in June to Stearns, KY and the Big South Fork Scenic

Railroad, and it, too, has proved to be a most successful venture. These events not only draw public attention to the NRHS chapter and to the Railroad Museum, but they provide the opportunity to recruit new members to our organizations as well as acting as fund-raisers for them. I want to thank all the MEMRR members, many of whom are members of the Carter Chapter NRHS, for your continued support and participation in these rail excursion events. I feel certain the Carter Chapter NRHS and the RR Museum will plan some similar railroading events for 2013 and I hope you will consider not only joining in these opportunities as a participant, but that you will also consider joining the Carter Chapter NRHS. We would like to have you on board.

Our **Heritage Days Coordinator**, **Geoff Stunkard**, has a real treat in store for us on Saturday, October 27th, when we feature **100 years of heritage—the fabulous Clinchfield Railroad**. The Clinchfield is the namesake railroad for its founder, George L. Carter, whose name our Railroad Museum pays tribute to. This should be a well attended event and you will want to bring your favorite CRR items to display and your Clinchfield locomotives and rolling stock to show off for the public. So, make you plans and mark your calendar, the Clinchfield, the most expensive railroad ever built mile-for-mile, will be on display once more with you as the engineer.

There is a lot going on with the MEMRR at the Carter Railroad Museum. If you have not joined in the fun, excitement, and model railroading challenges there in a while you are missing out. There is good company with a high interest in model railroading and a lot of shared experiences as we continue to improve our railroads and our exhibits at the Carter Railroad Museum. This is a terrific club with a bright future and we need you to actively share in it. Come on down and operate on the layouts in 3 scales. We have a lot to offer, but we can also learn a lot from you, our members. Listen to the whistle of the train at night and dream of all the destinations yet to come.

Fred Alsop
President, Mountain Empire Model Railroaders
Director, George L. Carter Railroad Museum, ETSU

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE MODEL RAILROADERS MEETING MINUTES September 18, 2012

President Fred Alsop called the meeting to order at 6:48 P.M. in room 312 Brown Hall, ETSU, with 19 members present. (Meeting was scheduled to start at 6:30 P.M. however was delayed due to the President's Classroom).

President Alsop called on Hobie Hyder, Secretary for the reading of the Secretary's report from the August meeting. After a brief discussion, Secretary Hyder made a motion to except the minutes as read with Paul Haynes seconding the motion. The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote by the membership. Ted Bleck-Doran, Newsletter Editor, announced October 7th as the official deadline for anything to be published in October edition of *"The Signal Bridge"*. Ted reminded the group that he is always on the lookout for, and appreciates all, articles and items of interest for

publication in *The Signal Bridge*, and any and all help from the membership is appreciated. President Alsop suggested an article about how to become a Master Modeler following the club's successful Modeling Contest. President Alsop stated that one could go to the NMRA website and follow the links for more information. Treasurer, Duane Swank, reported the club's checking account balance as of August. President Alsop, following the Treasurer's report, sought to clear up any misunderstandings about club finances by stating that the club is solvent and not out of money. He stated that this year was no different than any other year and by this time every year the club's finances were lower. President Alsop continued to clarify that dues being paid to the model railroad club goes for the publication of *The Signal Bridge*, Get Well Cards, Postage and the HO Scale club owned layouts only. The museum has a budget for the ET&WNC layout, G-Scale and N-Scale layouts. In the absence of Webmaster, Bob Jones, President Alsop informed the group that Bob continues to update the club's website and is doing a good job. Vice-President John Carter reported to the membership that Paul Haynes will give a presentation on Norfolk Southern's Heritage Locomotives for the October meeting. The November program will feature a "how-to" clinic on various techniques used to weather the different entries in the recently concluded Modeling Contest. President Alsop began the President's Report by thanking everyone for their help during the President's Classroom. He told the group that President Nolan stated that the Carter Railroad Museum was a world class museum. President Alsop also thanked everyone who worked hard to move and work with the Cope Traveling Layout at the Erwin Train Show. Congratulations were given by President Alsop to all the contestants that participated in the Model Railroad Weathering Contest. Lastly, President Alsop gave a big Engineer "hats off" to Bill Hensley, Picnic Coordinator, and the "taxi" drivers who helped make the Annual Cub Picnic a huge success.

Old Business:

A brief update was given by Hobie Hyder, on the Modeling Contest in retrospect. Hobie Hyder, Event Coordinator gave thanks to everyone who helped make the contest a success. A special thanks was given to Allan Morton, Jim Hoit and Thomas Kinsley for all their contest work "above and beyond". A motion from the June meeting made by Alan Morton for hobby shops links to our club website will be revisited at the October meeting due to Alan's absence. Clarification was offered by President Alsop about the recently purchased wheel sets for the donated rolling stock. He stated that the wheel sets should have been purchased by the museum and not the club. President Alsop also informed the club that all rolling stock belonging to the club has a yellow or orange dot on the bottom and rolling stock belonging to the museum will have a different color. He explained the purpose behind the color-code marking of the cars was for accounting purposes and that the club may use any of the museum cars on the HO layout. President

Alsop concluded the discussion of Old Business by informing the membership that the recent changes to the By-Laws passed overwhelming (only 1 negative vote) and the amended date would reflect this month's date.

'NEW BUSINESS:

Geoff Stunkard informed the club the next 'Railroad Heritage Day' will be September 29th. The theme will be 'First Generation Diesels'. Due to the moving of the Cope Traveling Layout to the Erwin Train Show, the August Coordinator's Meeting was canceled. President Alsop called on Coordinator's to give a brief update to the membership. Electrical Coordinator Bill Hensley told the group that he and Rey Dennis have the 110v wiring 2/3rds done. Bill stated that he needs help with switching over the DCC. Jim Hoit, told the group that red will be the new color denoting museum owned property while yellow and some orange will mark club owned property. Jim Hoit and Geoff Stunkard have inventoried and set aside a bunch of new rolling stock, locomotives and buildings from donated items for club use. Jessie Kittle told the group that he has contacted Bachman about doing the repairs on the donated G-Scale locomotive by President Fred Alsop and that he was awaiting an authorization number from them before shipping it to them. Alsop said the RR Museum would pay for the repair, not the MEMRR. Jessie said that ballasting and scenery work continues on the N-Scale Layout. John Carter informed the group that work continues on the left hand side of the new yard. He is presently working on the turnouts. John recommended someone check and test the wiring under the new turnouts before proceeding with the yard work. Geoff Stunkard reminded the group that everything under the new yard will have to be temporarily relocated in order to complete the work on the new yard. President Alsop asked Duane Swank to show the club a sample vented hat worn by the members of the Carter Chapter NHRS to see if they might be interested in ordering a similar one for the club. Duane Swank told the club that he was low on medium and large-sized kids' hats and that he needed to order soon. Ted Bleck-Doran asked the club what they wanted to do for Clinics for the Holiday Season. President Alsop reminded everyone that we still had an unfinished module from last year that could be completed and used and that we could build a small N-Scale layout with a holiday theme to raffle off as we did last year. President Alsop concluded the Coordinator's Reports by reminding everyone that this November will mark the museum's 5th Anniversary and that he wanted to do something special to mark the occasion.

In other 'New Business', Ted Bleck-Doran continued to stir the pot concerning funding for the club/museum. Ted made a motion that a committee be appointed by President Alsop to develop a financial plan to augment funding for the museum/club and discuss possible new income streams. Jessie Kittle seconded the motion. President Alsop reminded the club that donors for the Kids room and the Main room were still needed and that finding donors would

go a long way in helping with funding. He also reminded the group about the donation boxes located inside the Little Engineer's Room and the Main Room of the museum. Discussions on the motion were concluded and motion passed with Ted Bleck-Doran being appointed as Chair, Mark Woomer, Dan McLeod, Jessie Kittle, Fred Alsop and Geoff Stunkard volunteering to serve on the committee. Paul Haynes closed out new business with the suggestion that the club look at the Choo Choo Café in Erwin as a possible place to hold next year's Christmas party. President Alsop proposed that the club consider planning a spring social event there as both he and Paul stated the food and atmosphere was really good.

Before being adjourned, President Fred Alsop reminded the membership that the next Coordinators Meeting will be Thursday, November 11th with Vice-President John Carter presiding. Volunteers for Saturdays' Operating Sessions were then asked for by Present Alsop. Bob Jones' DVD on

'Railroads in Chicago' was shown by President Alsop. Meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 P.M. Next meeting will be Tuesday, October 16th with Vice-President John Carter presiding in Fred's absence at 6:30 P.M. in room 312 at Brown Hall, ETSU.

*Respectively submitted,
Hobie Hyder, Secretary MEMRR*

I would like to take this opportunity to again offer up a great big thanks to everyone who helped make the 1st Annual Modeling Contest a success! A special thanks is offered to Alan Morris, Jim Hoit, Fred Alsop and Thomas Kinsley for all their hard work! Without their help the contest would not have been a success! Again thanks!

*Hobie Hyder,
Event Coordinator*

TRUCK vs TRAIN TRUCK LOOSES



Piedmont #74 at Jamestown NC 8/16/2012.

He hit a Semi truck loaded with limestone sitting on the tracks as he rounding a 70 mph curve.

HOBBY SHOP FOUND CARRIES SPECIALTY ITEMS

My son found a small but neat train store on 75 highway leaving Knoxville he has Z-scale, N-scale, HO, and O-gauge. He also carries some old Lionel and repairs older Lionel. You O-gauge guys will be interested I believe in the stock he carries.

Here are the directions to **Dan's Trains:**

7603A Blueberry Drive

Powell, TN

PHONE- 865-274-0241

(Blueberry Dr. is off Interstate 75; get off 75 make a left at light go under the interstate; the store is in 75 Plaza on your right last building in the strip mall.

Dan is open usually on Wednesday through Saturday. Remember always call first. One thing more cash only no plastic or checks.

Gary Emmert

LOST CLINCHFIELD BOXCAR HELP IN LOCATING APPRECIATED

At the Erwin train show I lost a custom painted Clinchfield 50' boxcar. The last time I saw it was at the MEMRR table where I set down my shopping bag to watch the Cope layout for Gary Emmert who went to look at something. It was wrapped in bubble wrap. I am hoping that a club member found it and is holding it for me. If you have it Please contact me at:

john_edwards@memrr.org

*Thank You
John Edwards*

THE TRAIN LADY OF WANDERING TREE GARDEN RAILROADING AT ITS BEST

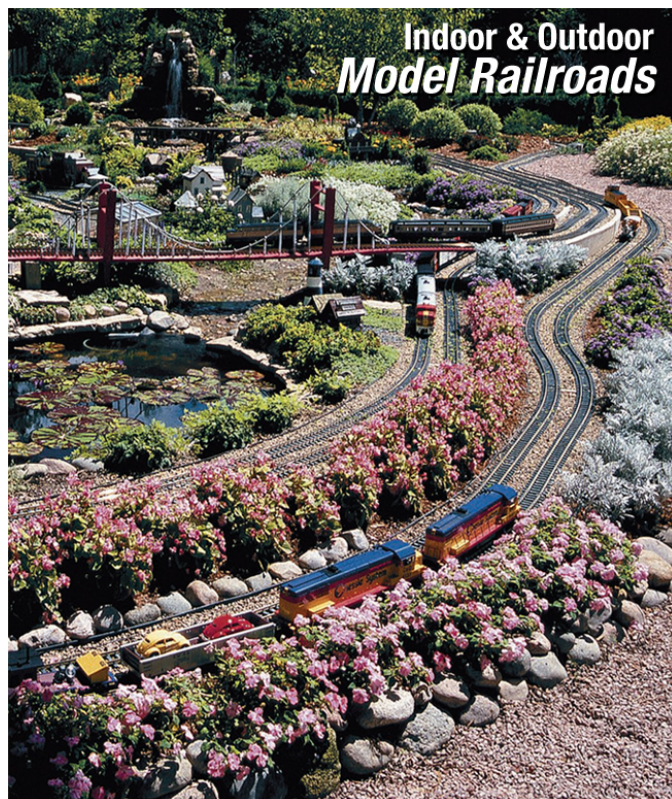
Video link provided by Eric Bronsky

Huff & Puff Industries, one of the most unique and successful model railroad businesses in the country, is located in Barrington, IL It was founded by Elaine Silets, whose amazing garden railway is not open to the public, but just one day each year she hosts an open-house to benefit charity.

Elaine has loved model trains since age 3, when she commandeered a Lionel set intended for her older brother who wasn't interested. She explains, "I thought dolls were very boring. All they did back then was pee!" Read much more about Elaine and Huff & Puff at www.trainlady.com.



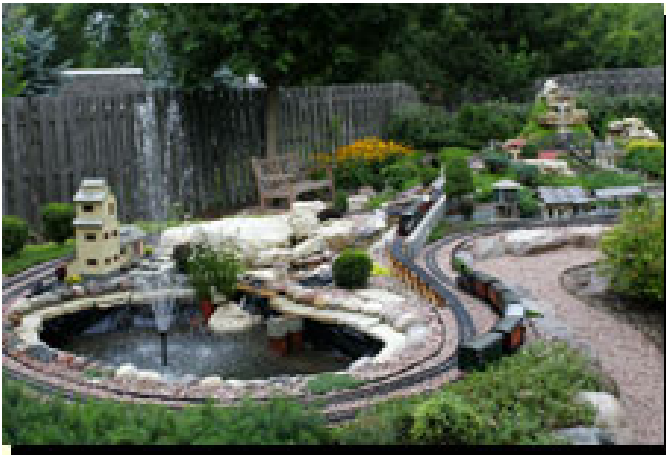
I attended one of the open-houses a while back and took a bunch of still photos. I don't recall why I didn't shoot video. Anyway, a recent *Chicago Tribune* article about the Train Lady prompted me to share the photos which have been sitting in my computer for a long time. A PowerPoint presentation is attached (sorry about the large file size). It has background music - turn on your speakers. Click the left mouse button to advance each slide.



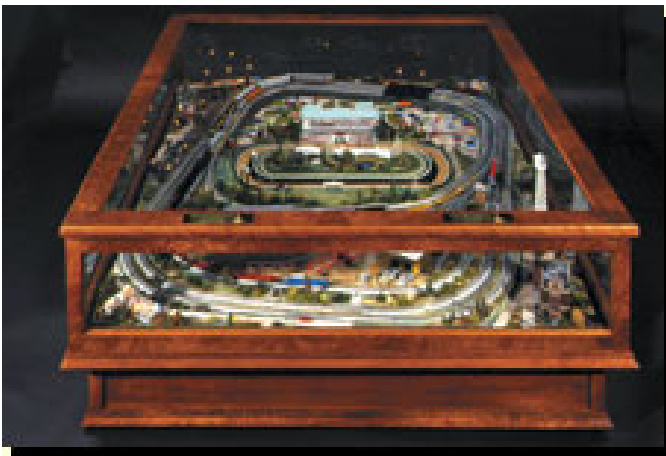
(If you can't get this slideshow to play, chances are you will need to download and install the newest version of PowerPoint Viewer. This is a FREE download - go to <http://www.microsoft.com/en-us/download/details.aspx?id=13>, click the Download button, and follow the instructions.)

Eric Bronsky

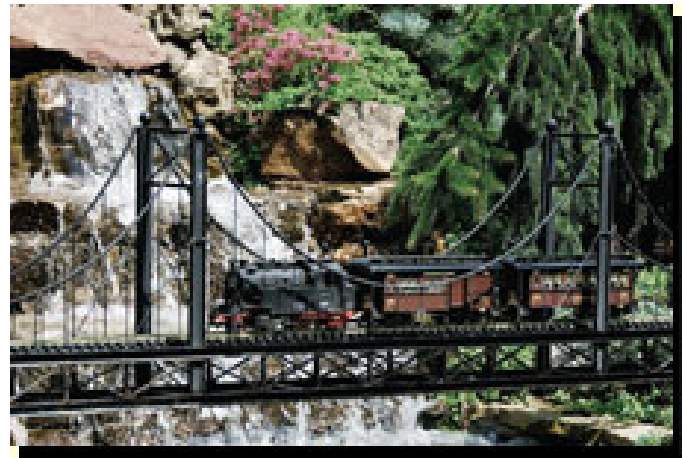
The Huff & Puff Story



Huff & Puff Industries designs, manufactures and installs custom Indoor & Outdoor Model Railroads, Garden Railways, and Christmas Displays in all scales for private and commercial clients nationwide.



Huff & Puff custom designs each railroad to the exacting requirements and unique specifications of each individual customer. As a result, prices vary depending on customized features such as bridges, buildings and trestles. Backdrops factor into the cost as well. In general, prices for an initial on-site survey for Garden Railways and Model Railroad Layouts start at \$1,500 (USD). Architectural designs and renderings begin at \$2,000 (USD).



Christmas Tree Surrounds, Christmas Model Train Layouts, and other holiday displays start at \$7,500 (USD). One track railroads and Custom Children's Wooden Railroad Interactive Environments begin at \$7,500 (USD). Commercial and retail displays begin at \$15,000 (USD).



Model Railroads, Train Furniture, Garden Railways, etc. start at \$20,000 (USD) and go up in price depending on the design, labor, materials, square footage, landscape topography, and techniques involved.



DETAILS ARE WHERE YOU FIND THEM
FARM EQUIPMENT FROM THE EARLY 10TH CENTURY
IMPLEMENTS FOUND At THE BILTMORE



Ford Tractor



Diskar



Clod Breaker



Early Bailer



Weeder



Dreg CHains



Plow



Belt Driven Generator



Bailer



Horse Drawn Grader



Horse Drawn Grader



Horse Drawn Grader

During a recent visit to the Biltmore Estates I stopped at the Barn just east of Antler Village. The Estate has preserved the original barn complex as a museum in its own right. There are many farm implements on display in the stalls and buildings with ample interpretive signs. Both horse-drawn and tractor pulled equipment are available for viewing.



Horse Drawn Weeder



Forge



Seed Planter



Anvils



Disk Harrow



Grinding Wheel

The complex has several demonstration areas including a Woodworking Shop and a full Blacksmith Shop. The following three photos are from the Blacksmith Shop. There is lots of clutter around the shop... Plenty of dirt and grime.

Duplicating an interior of a working smith's shop would be a real challenge but would make for an excellent foreground scene.



Three Historic Paint Schemes Including Union Pacific – Rock Island (Blue/White) – Rock Island (Red/White) – Burlington Northern North Platte – May 25, 1976

TRUCK vs. TRAIN ROUND 2: TRAIN WINS



Chalk-up another win for the Locomotive... Incident on the BNSF at Crawford, Nebraska.

Z-SCALE LAYOUT GETS A FACE LIFT NEW TRACK AND ROADBED ADDED





Gary Emmert and James Gregg have started to replace track and roadbed on the Z-Scale layout. Foam roadbed had been used in the original construction of the layout. The foam has degraded since the layout was built making the track work unreliable. With the close tolerances inherent with such a small scale, new roadbed became a necessary.

Gary and Jim took on the task of relaying the track in order to have the layout operational, Jim is the club's guru when it comes to working in the very small scales (See his article on TT-Scale in the January 2012 issue of *The Signal Bridge*). When the project is done the George L Carter Railroad Museum will have a fine layout shoeing what can be done in miniature.

Now all we need are layouts in O-/On3-, S-, OO- and T-Scales. How 'bout it?

THE DIORAMA'S OF ANDERS BIKESHOP

Master Craftsmanship at It Best

Model & Photography by Anders Malmberg - Modeled in 1:35 (G-Scale).











HOW ABOUT A DIORAMA CONTEST FOR 2013

MEMBERS ONLY BULLETIN BOARD

TRAIN RELATED ITEMS ONLY

MEMBER	PHONE	ITEM FOR SALE	PRICE
Duane Swank	423-542-8989	5 unit spline car set with 5 semi trailers included	\$ 80.00
Duane Swank	423-542-8989	Complete oil refinery with extra piping and tanks	\$ 50.00
Duane Swank	423-542-8989	NEW-Walthers Cornerstone Superior Paper Company 933-3060--last produced in 1998	\$ 90.00
Hobie Hyder	423-213-4067	NYNH&H tongues. Approx. 3' long. Made in Hartford, Connecticut shops OBO	\$ 75.00
Tod Eaton	423-913-2157	2 each Paragon 2 SD40-2 Norfolk Southern locomotives Each \$175.00 or Both for \$325.00	\$ 175.00
Gary Emmert	903-452-5012	Atlas MP15 locomotive with L&N lettering--decoder equipped	\$ 60.00
Ed Champion	423-467-9934	NEW-MEMRR sweatshirt, size M	\$ 10.00
Ed Champion	423-467-9934	Broadway Limited HO EMD SD9, N&W #2353; BLI #5290 Bought new-ran 1 day on the club layout	\$ 100.00

1-3 ITEMS FOR SALE-----FREE
4-7 ITEMS FOR SALE-----\$1.00
8-11 ITEMS FOR SALE----\$2.00
EACH ITEM OVER 11-----\$0.25 EXTRA

PROCEDURE FOR RUNNING ADS

EACH MEMBER TO SUBMIT THEIR AD ALONG WITH THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT OF MONEY TO

DUANE SWANK
1763 SYLVAN HILL RD
ELIZABETHTON, TN 37643

IF AD IS NO MORE THAN THREE ITEMS, THEN E-MAIL THAT LIST TO duaneharriet@charter.net
 I WILL COMPRISE THE LIST BY THE 25TH OF EACH MONTH
 THEN THE LIST WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE EDITOR FOR PUBLICATION IN THE SIGNAL BRIDGE BY THE
 FIRST OF THE MONTH

IF YOU HAVE MULTIPLE LIKE ITEMS, THEY CAN BE LISTED AS ONE ITEM

Further Update on the Z-Scale Layout From Gary Emmert And James Gregg

James Gregg and I have spent 4 days working on the layout. We work about 3 hours at a time for a total time of 24 hours of work so far.



We have removed the foam base under the track, and, using hydrocal, we have been able to build up a base so we can lay the cork which we are doing on main 1.



There are 4 mains to do. While we are doing this in some places we have to do main 2 so that the crossovers are done at the same time.



We have started putting down the rail in some places on main 1. We will not take up any of mains #3 or #4 till we have completed #1 and #2.



We will send further updates as we complete more of the layout. We moved the layout from Todd's house to Gary's house back in June 2012. There is a lot more to go.