

From the Conductor's Desk...

CLUB OFFICERS

President:

Fred Alsop

Vice-President:

John Carter

Secretary:

Mary Doran-Bleck

Treasurer:

Duane Swank

Newsletter Editor:

Ted Bleck-Doran

Webmaster:

John Edwards

LOCATION

ETSU Campus, George L.
Carter Museum

HOURS

Business Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month. Meetings start at 7:00 PM at ETSU Campus, Brown Hall Science Bldg, Room 312, Johnson City, TN.

- A social gathering is held prior to the business meeting at *EL TORITO* on State of Franklin near ETSU in the Kroger Plaza starting at 5:45 PM. Visitors and those interested in joining MEMRR are invited to attend.

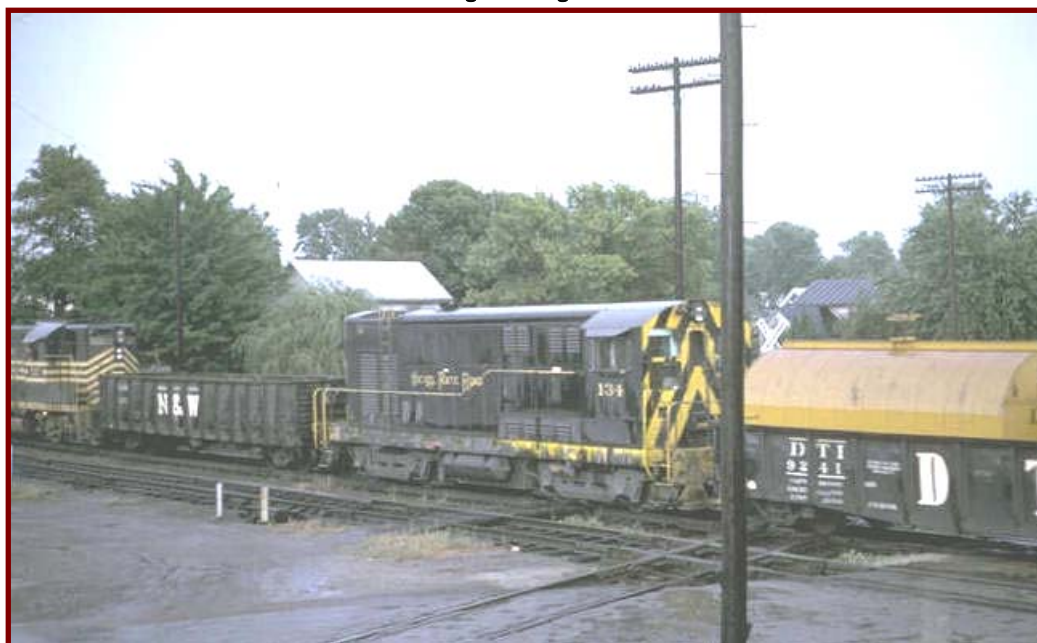
- Work nights are held weekly on Thursday evenings starting at 4:30 PM and lasting until ???

- Open viewing and operating layout is available every Saturday from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

NORFOLK & WESTERN ODDBALL DIESELS - PART 10 NOT ALCo'S



FM Alt 100.6a No. 2127 (ex NKP127), at Brewster, Ohio.
Image © George Elwood



H-12-44 134 at Belevue OH - NKP Class FS-12a - Blt Nbr 12L721 - Blt 1953.
Image © George Elwood

Norfolk & Western Diesel Roster

Road Numbers	Former Road Numbers	HP	Builder	Builder's Model	Wheel Arngt.	Date
50-51	P&WV 50-51	2000	FM	ALT 200.1a	B-B	1947
52-53	P&WV 52-53	2000	FM	ALT 200.1a	B-B	1948
54-59	P&WV 54-59	2000	FM	H20-44	B-B	1951
60-65	P&WV 60-65	2000	FM	H20-44	B-B	1952
66-71	P&WV 66-71	2000	FM	H20-44	B-B	1953
90-93	P&WV 90-93	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1956-7
110-115	VGN 10-15	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1954
116	VGN 16	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
117-127	VGN 17-27	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1954-5
128-129	VGN 28-29	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1954
130-131	VGN 30-31	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
132	VGN 32	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
133	VGN 33	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
134	VGN 34	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
135-139	VGN 35-39	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1955
140-147	VGN 40-47	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1956
148-149	VGN 48-49	1600	FM	H16-44	B-B	1957
150-157	VGN 50-57	2400	FM	H24-66	C-C	1954
158-168	VGN 58-68	2400	FM	H24-66	C-C	1954
169-174	VGN 69-74	2400	FM	H24-66	C-C	1957
2125-2133	NKP 125-133	1000	FM	ALT 100.6a	B-B	1948-9
2134-2138	NKP 134-138	1200	FM	H12-44	B-B	1953
2139-2145	NKP 139-145	1200	FM	H12-44	B-B	1957
2146-2155	NKP 146-155	1200	FM	H12-44	B-B	1958
3380-3381	WAB 380-381	1000	FM	ALT 100.6a	B-B	1946
3382-3383	WAB 382-383	1000	FM	ALT 100.6a	B-B	1949
3384-3386	WAB 384-386	1200	FM	H12-44	B-B	1953
	WAB 550-551	2400	FM	H24-66	C-C	1954
	WAB 552,552A-554,554A	2400	FM	H24-66	C-C	1956
3592-3597	WAB 592-597	2350	FM	H24-66	C-C	1956
3598-3599	WAB 598-599	2350	FM	H24-66	C-C	1954



FM H24-66 No. 174 (ex VGN 74) at Roanoke, VA., in a wrecked condition.
Image © George Elwood.



FM ALT 100.6A Ex-NKP No. 125 renumbered N&W No 2125



FM H24-66 No. 3598 (ex WAB598) at Bellevue, OH.
This unit was repowered by Alco.
Image © George Elwood



FM H16-44 No 115 Ex-VGN No. 15



FM H12-44 Ex-NKP #3517



FM H24-66 No 171 Ex-VGN No 71

The Norfolk & Western inherited a rag-tag motley collection of Fairbanks-Morris units through mergers with the P&WV (Pittsburgh & West Virginia), the Virginian Railway, the Nickel Plate and the Wabash. Models included ALT 100 6a's, ALT 200 1a, H12-44, H16-44, H20-44 and H24-66. The earliest units were purchased in 1946 immediately after the war when Fairbanks-Morris tried unsuccessfully to reenter the Diesel locomotive market. The final units were purchased 1958 towards the end of Fairbanks-Morris's diesel production run.

MOUNTAIN EMPIRE MODEL RAILROADERS

Minutes

October 21, 2008

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by club president F. Alsop with 16 members present.

Officer Reports:

Secretary's Report: Minutes were published in the September issue of *The Signal Bridge*. Minutes were approved as printed.

Newsletter Editor's Report: T. Bleck-Doran reported that September issue of *The Signal Bridge* has been distributed by mail and email. F. Alsop complimented the issue for content and quality of information. Members were encouraged to submit articles for publication (*if they are tired of the N&W series- editor's comment*). Due date for article submissions are:

November 9thDecember 7th.January 10th

Treasurer's Report: D. Swank reported a balance forwarded for the month of \$1,183.85. Income was reported as \$97.00 with expenditures of \$457.23 for an unobligated balance of \$823.62. There are obligations of \$377.07 leaving an available balance of \$446.55. D. Swank recommended obligating an additional \$100.00 for *Dream-Plan-Build* video series. Treasure's Report was approved as presented.

Webmaster's Report: J. Edwards reported that the Knoxville Model Railroad Club's newsletter has been added to our email distribution list and we have started to exchange newsletters. T. Bleck-Doran indicated that the newsletter swap has already benefitted the club with the publication of a brief photo article from the Watauga Valley Chapter - National Railway Historical Society newsletter in the current issue of *The Signal Bridge*.

Vice-President's Report: J. Carter reported the following lineup of programs for the remainder of the year:

November T. Bleck-Doran - "RPO Service - When

Rails Moved the Mail" (video)

December Club - Holiday Party

President's Report: F. Alsop reported that President Stanton had withdrawn his resignation as President, ETSU to assist the university in weathering the current financial crisis. It is anticipated that he will remain as president through 2011's centennial year celebration.. This should bode well for the club and museum. F. Alsop also thanked members for their support of the visit of the Bluefield Class of '46 on October 7th and the ETSU Buccaneer Bash on October 18th. Funding was discussed including operating expenses for the museum (at \$2000), renovation of the two additional rooms across the hall from the museum (est. \$5,000), and ETSU Foundation grants for special projects (potential \$5,000 to \$20,000 if corporate or donor sponsors can be found). ETSU support for museum operations was increased for 2008-09 academic year to accommodate a phone line with a voice mail and messaging account. A. Daniels requested clarification on budget cycles: ETSU funding for museum operations is July 1st - June 30th; Club dues cycle is December 1st through November 30th.

Old Business:

1. Engineer Hats: 20 hats have been purchased through B. Bennett at Hobbytown. The remainder is on backorder. Those received have been passed to H. Hyder to have the museum logo

affixed. These re for sale to the general public and will not have the club logo. A. Daniels requested that a there be a means to separate donations for the hats from the general donations. B. Bennett/F. Alsop agreed to secure a cash box.

2. Tee-shirts with embroidered logo: H. Hyder is taking orders for heavy duty tee-shirts with an embroidered club logo. He needs 25-30 pre-ordered in order to proceed. Tee's are \$8. Polo shirts are also still available for \$16. H. Hyder needed 20 orders for Tee's with members present filling out the required number. He also reported that 50% on the cost of the polo shirts is needed. **Motion/Passed:** to have the club advance the cost of the polo shirt order to start production and get them into the hands of members.

3. Club Brochure (see also New Business: George L. Carter Museum Logo Contest): H. Hyder reported that he has been in discussion with a national design company who is willing to assist us with design, printing and distribution of single panel-2 sided promotional flyers. Cost would be \$.03 - \$.035 per flyer or approximately \$3,000 for 100,000 copies. The company will distribute regionally. The flyer would have both Carter Muesum and Club information. B. Bennett indicated corporate sponsors could be recruited but would want prominent promotion in the flyer. Possible sponsors would include: Hobbytown owners, Athearn, ETSU Foundation. ETSU Foundation could provide for charitable donation credits for donors. **Motion/Passed: to pursue development, funding and distribution of flyers.**

New Business:**1. Layout Reports:**

G-Scale: No report of activities or projects.

N-Scale: Compliments were made for recent upgrades to track and equipment; the layout operated flawlessly for the Buccaneer Bash weekend; projects planned include replacement of sectional track with new flex-track and rewiring of buss lines.

HO-Scale: Roundhouse project continues. M. Buster will be back on the project following recuperation at home for his recent surgery.

Jack Cope Layout: Scenery "footprint" bases need to be designed. Several new members have expressed interest in developing ideas for the layout.

2. Nominations Committee: F. Alsop appointed W. Hensley and J. Carter to chair the nomination committee. Elections will occur at the November meeting. Nominations for all offices will be received from the floor at that meeting.

3. Carter Museum Logo Contest: There was extensive discussion regarding the proposed George L. Carter Railroad Museum Logo Contest. Suggestions regarding targeted age group, contest model and awards were made. F. Alsop appointed a committee to develop the contest proposal and rules. Members are; E. Lockett, chair, F. Alsop, B. Bennett, A. Daniels, T. Bleck-Doran.

4. Hobbytown Shelving: B. Bennet reported that the store move has been successful and that the local Hobbytown was able to post the lead sales in railroad related hobby sales for the 30 other Hobbytown stores in this region. He thanked the club members for their support of both the store and hobby promotion. F. Alsop reported that he was working with Bob to secure additional display cases for the new rooms using the ETSU Foundation to provide tax credit for the donations. Bob also talked about other plans for hobby promotions including running clinics on aspects of model railroading. He'll be requesting help from the club members.

5. Clinics for Holiday Exhibit: T. Bleck-Doran suggested the club consider repeating the clinics the club offered while at Tipton-Haynes for this year's Saturday sessions during the holiday season. The best could be also offered at Hobbytown.

6. Photo Contest on 2009: T. Bleck-Doran proposed a Railfan/Railroad theme photo contest for January-February and March 2009. Submissions to the contest would be kept by the club and displayed in the various rooms or hallway outside the rooms. F. Alsop suggested rule could be posted in the next issue of the newsletter.

Volunteers for Saturday Operating Sessions: Volunteers were solicited for the remainder of September and early October. Those signing up to open and operate the museum Saturdays will be posted at the club and on the website.



FROM THE ENGINEER'S SIDE OF THE CAB:

Can you believe November is here already? What a month! November is National Model Railroad Month, November 14th is National Take a Toy Train to Work Day, and November 16th marks the first

year anniversary of the dedication of the George L. Carter Railroad Museum, our home, on the East Tennessee State University campus. November is also the month we elect our club officers for the next year and begins the quarter when our annual dues are once again due. WOW! What a month!!

News releases have already gone out to the media announcing the one year anniversary of the Carter RR Museum and we have invited the public to come celebrate it with us from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 15th. We have had good turnout from the public and our club volunteers for the past month and we need to perhaps have a few more members present on the 15th in anticipation of more visitors than usual on that date because of the publicity in the local media. John Carter and Bill Hensley have volunteered to be our nominating committee for club officers and they will present a slate for consideration, nomination and election at the November meeting. As always, additional full members can be nominated from the floor. Make every effort to attend the next meeting and place your vote for the officers of your choice. We want to welcome all our new members, including Jerry and Rey Dennis, son and father, our newest members as of this posting.

Hobie says the engineers' hats will be ready in the next few days and we still have some on order from HobbyTown, USA. Hobie has also made arrangements with a new vendor to fill the club tee-shirt and polo shirt orders at a reduced price. Contact Hobie directly if you would like to order one or more. I have ordered a new mini-camera, transmitter and receiver using museum funds from Walthers (see their current flyer for more information) and it should be here by the time you read this. I will see about purchasing a flat-screen TV we can mount on one of the columns as well. Our visitors really enjoy watching the railroad from the perspective of an engineer in one of our miniature locomotives and the current mini-camera just does not do the job properly so we will attempt to correct that with the new equipment.

With the approaching holidays several members have suggested that we once again put on some demonstration workshops

Announcements: There is an N-Scale layout and equipment for sale. Asking price is \$500 for the layout and \$500 for a bi-centennial state car collection. See F. Alsop for details.

Program: "Wreck of the 611" was presented by D. Swank. Duane presented a DVD segment using the audiovisual capabilities of an ETSU classroom of film that captured the wreck of N&W J1--#611. Several other segments featuring Y-class; A-Class, J-Class engines were also shown.

November Meeting: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, November 18th, Room 312 Brown Hall, ETSU. Dinner for those who want to dine and socialize earlier at 545 at El Torito Mexican Restaurant on State of Franklin in the Kroger shopping center complex west of the ETSU Campus.

teaching some of the skills of our model railroading hobby. Let's be prepared to discuss this at the November meeting so be thinking about some aspect of the hobby that you can teach in 15-20 minutes such as: weathering structures, rolling stock, locomotives; how to mold and paint rocks; how to create water scenes; how to lay track; how to wire a layout; installing a DCC decoder; soldering; painting "little people", etc. You get the idea and there are many more things we can do in lots of interesting ways. We will advertise the workshops and the dates to the public for early December and put them on over a couple of Saturdays in room 108.

We had a good discussion at the October meeting about our proposed Carter RR Museum Logo Contest and got lots of good ideas and suggestions. We formed a committee to work on the details and to bring them back to the club. The committee is composed of Ed Lockett (chairperson), Bob Barrett, Ted Bleck-Doran, Hobie Hyder, and Fred Alsop. That committee will be reporting their ideas to the club very soon and asking for further suggestions before we get this contest rolling with the help of the Advancement Office at ETSU.

One other important event we need to plan at the November meeting is our annual Christmas holidays party. John Carter is to contact Penny McLaughlin at Tipton-Haynes State Historical Site to see if we may be able to schedule it there once again. We need to talk about the details; food, gifts, music, Santa, etc. This is a social event with spouses and significant-others invited so it is a big event with lots of food and seasonal cheer. We will need a volunteer or several volunteers to be in charge of the planning so don't be bashful, we could use your help.

I continue to work with several departments within the university to raise funds for exhibits and to get the remodeling of the two new rooms (110 and 100B) underway and I will keep you posted as to my progress. I am also working on a 15-20 PowerPoint presentation about the club and the museum that I can take to local civic clubs, fraternal clubs, and other groups to let them know about us, what we do and what we have to offer.

So, check all the lube joints, secure the load, clear the tracks and let's get rolling together toward a busy end of the month that will take us into the holiday season. Our club continues to grow and we need everyone's help to make our second year in the George L. Carter Railroad Museum even better than the first. The view looks bright from here!

Fred Alsop
President MEMRR/Director, G. L. Carter RR Museum

PRODUCT REVIEW**Dream-Plan-Build: Real Rails Edition**

Kalmbach has produced a new volume in the *Dream Plan Build* video Series. The latest volume is No. 14 in the "how-to-do" series. It brings a mix of modeling tips, layout visits and prototype chapters to you TV screen or computer monitor. Chapters include:

Layout

- John Schoonenberg's Freelanced N Scale Layout
- Homer Henry's Extensive American Flyer Layout
- Railroading Comes to Life on Rose's Garden Layout
- Animation at the Choo Choo Barn

Technique

- Step by Step: Building a Plastic Structure
- An Overview of N Scale: Tips, Options & Tools
- Athearn Tune-up Tricks
- Creating An Abandoned Schoolhouse

Prototype

- The Historic Mt Washington Cog Railway
- Railroads in Action: The juice Train
- The Moffat Tunnel: Past And Present

Of course there are .PDF files with articles to print.

You can borrow the club's copy and spend a late fall evening armchair railroading for an hour or so.

Cost: \$24.90 (S&H Included)

Seek 'n' Find**Rocky Top Module**

Ted & Mary Bleck-Doran

- 6 Deer
- 7 Cows
- Billy Goat
- Chickens
- 2 Bear
- Whiskey Still
- Surveyor Team
- 2 Men Roofing a Shed
- Corn Crib
- Small Lumber Mill
- Abandoned Track
- Log Skidder

RAILFAN CONTEST ANNOUNCED

Got Photos from the past?
A Favorite Picture from a Railfan Outing?
A Memory Album from Vacation or a Rail
Excursion?

Why not enter the MEMRR Railfan Photo Contest? Here are the rules:

1. Photos may be submitted in digital (all formats accepted though .jpeg is preferred) or print format (unframed and not matted).
2. All entries must be the original work of the person entering the contest.
3. Contest is limited to current members of MEMRR.
4. Entries must contain the following information:
 - a. Name of photographer
 - b. Title or Subject
 - c. Date of photo
 - d. Location
 - e. A brief description of the subject of the photograph
5. Entries must be submitted by the December 18th Meeting.
6. All entries become the property of MEMRR and may be used in the newsletter *The Signal Bridge* or displayed in the rooms of the George L. Carter Railroad Museum.
7. Entries will be displayed in the George L. Carter Museum throughout the month of January 2009.
8. Winners will be determined by popular vote of those visiting the club and Museum during the month of January 2009.(stuffing the ballot box is strongly discouraged).
9. Winners will be announced at the February club meeting.
10. Entries may be submitted electronically to: Ted.Mary@Memrr.org or brought to the club any Thursday or Saturday.
11. Categories:
 - a. Black & White Print
 - b. Black & White Digital
 - c. Color Print
 - d. Color Digital

Share your love of trains...
Share a Photo

Thursdays

Are Work Nights - Come join the Fun -

There's always a project going on from 4:30 to 7:30 or later

Saturdays

Are Open Sessions for Public Viewing -

Sign up to help out for 9:30 -12:30 or 12:00 -3:00 or stay the day