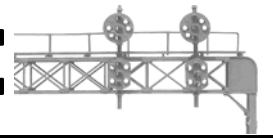


THE SIGNAL BRIDGE



Volume 14

NEWSLETTER OF THE MOUNTAIN EMPIRE MODULAR RAILROADERS CLUB
SPECIAL ISSUE

Number 10

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 TORITOS** 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 (starting October 2007) from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM.

The George L. Carter Railroad Museum Takes Shape!



After an 18 month absence from the campus of East Tennessee State University, the Mountain Empire Modular Railroaders club has returned in a big way. In April of 2007 MEMRR and ETSU entered into a partnership to create the George L. Carter Railroad Museum. In exchange for space to display MEMRR's HO Gauge layout and to host the club's activities, the club has agreed to manage and maintain a N-Gauge layout donated to the university by the Bankus family as well as manage the collection of railroad memorabilia. The club will be establishing operating hours for the museum as the displays are readied.

During the month of August the University and Club received news of an additional acquisition, A museum quality G-Gauge layout based on a logging theme. Through the efforts of Tom McKee the layout was purchased and placed on loan. Members of MEMRR organized a move to the University and the layout is now another focal point for the collection.

Top: A Heisler geared locomotive on the G-Gauge Layout
Middle: Traction Action on the Bankus N-Gauge
Bottom: Live Steam on loan from the Watauga Chapter National Railway Historical Society



The Watauga Chapter National Railway Historical has placed on display a live steam replica of a Southern Railway 4-6-2 locomotive. Display cases will soon be acquired so that other models from the Bankus and Troike/McKee collections as well as railroad memorabilia and club member projects can be placed for viewing.

Of course with all this activity MEMRR is set to flourish and grow. Members are committed to maintaining the same high standards of modeling, operations and community service.

Left: Scratch build farm scene with a hand painted "Rock City" roof sign typical of Tennessee in the 1950's

NEW Web Address: MEMRR.org

SIGNAL BRIDGE MEMBER OF THE MONTH

John Edwards

E-mail john_edwards@memrr.org

Home Layout

At home I am working on 2 layouts one in HO scale and one in prewar tinsplate Standard gauge. Unfortunately neither is ready for visitors at this time

Occupation

I am now retired. My main occupation was a sheet metal worker but I also worked as a machinist, welder, motorcycle mechanic and auto mechanic.

MEMRR Module

Yes, I recently acquired the two modules previously owned by Roger Weaver.

Favorite railroad

I like to model the New York Central.

Favorite aspect of hobby

My favorite aspect of model railroading is to work with electronics and animation in trying to create realistic scenes.

Least favorite aspect of hobby

My woodworking skills leave a lot to be desired so I would say benchwork is my least favorite part of this hobby.

How did you get started in hobby

I followed after my Father and Grandfather and have been playing with trains all my life. Much of the standard gauge equipment I own has been in the family going back to 1926.

How long have you been a member of the MEMRR

I have been a MEMRR member for a little over a year and a half.

What got you started with MEMRR

I was given a MEMRR flyer in with my model railroading Christmas presents and thought the experience of the club members would help me with my railroad. I also saw it as an opportunity to meet people who shared my interests.

What dreams do you have for your layout or module

For my MEMRR modules I will be building 2 complete new modules to replace what is currently there since I bought the modules without scenery. I will include an operating drive-in movie theater, automatic operating rail crossing signals and lighting effects. For my home HO layout I would like to complete it with the same high standard of scenery that is used on the club layout.

What other model railroad or railfan activities do you participate in

I never turn down an opportunity to ride full scale trains and I also enjoy going to model railroad shows and visiting railroad museums.

What one thing would improve MEMRR

In my opinion the thing we need the most is better member participation in all club related activities.

JOIN THE FUN

THURSDAYS ARE WORK NIGHTS
THE CREW GATHERS BEGINNING AT 5:30 OR SO...

SATURDAYS COME WORK ON THE LAYOUTS
OR RUN SOME TRAINS

Doors open to the public by 10 AM Saturdays
Starting October 2007

THERE'S ALWAYS SOMETHING TO
LEARN - SEE - OR - DO
IN N Gauge - G Gauge - and HO

Next Meeting: September 18th, 2007

1st Annual Picnic
Time: 6:00 PM
Tom McKee's
Directions will be posted in the
September Signal Bridge
Program: Building and Operating
A Garden Railroad

PRODUCT REVIEW

Dream-Plan-Build Video Series, Real Rails Edition
GM's Geeps

The Dream-Plan Build Videos from Kalmbach Publishing Co.'s has developed into several distinct lines with the release of another new volume in their: Real Rails series "GM's Geeps"
Chapters:

- What's is a Geep?
- EMD's BL2: the Branch Line
- GP7: The Geep Concept
- Styling the Geeps
- Maintaining the Geeps
- The Phases and Options for EMD's Geeps
- Using Geeps for Passenger Service
- The Nostalgic Sound of Train's
- Adaptation: The Low, Short Hood
- The Geep's Decline
- Geep Preservation
- The Legacy of Geeps

There are useful modeling ideas from the 1950's and 60's to the present. Borrow the club's copy, sit back, and enjoy an hour or so of interesting ideas. Cost: \$24.90 (including S&H)