



January 2024

TIES AND RAILS

2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR

President's Message

Where did 2023 go? It seems like last month but it has been eight months since we were forced from the mall. However, our twenty two years of providing the community with a very popular and well done attraction I believe speaks volumes for our members commitment, which has not wavered during this trying time.

John Kessenberger and his committee have done a wonderful job of evaluating numerous venues and they continue to search for a new home which is a size we can use and at a price we can afford.

I encourage all members that the club is still alive thanks to the efforts of many of our dedicated members who have a vision of us finding a place to call home as soon as possible.

Portable O scale Christmas Display

By Bruce Herring

Like most of us, my train story started as a child with a train under the Christmas tree. There were dry spells where interest in the hobby was lost, especially through the teenage years. For me, it picked up again a few years after marriage in 1976 and ebbed and flowed ever since. Since retiring in 2018 and moving to Tennessee and joining CMRC, it has been a fairly constant activity. One of the first things I did was build a 15 x 30-foot train shed. It gave me a place for a permanent train display where I could run my trains whenever I wanted to. However, it did not provide an outlet for sharing my hobby with others. That was the driving force for

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

There will be a meeting on January 8th at 4:00pm which all members are encouraged to attend.

Board meeting begins at 3pm.

This meeting will be held at the Oaklawn Baptist Church which is South of Miller Avenue on S70



If you ever want to see a great home layout then "Bruce's Train Shed" is something you need to see. Contact Bruce to visit.

Christmas Display continued
me joining CMRC. At this same time, I found that one of my national train groups, The Lionel Collectors Club of America, had developed a standard for building modular tables that could travel and connect to any other members tables in the country. I built eight 45-degree corner tables, five straight tables, and a geezer lift-gate. This year I took the full display to a Lionel Operating Train Society convention at the Knoxville airport and brought just the straight tables to the LCCA convention in Concord, NC. Concord is the home of the Lionel Headquarters.

This year I offered my modular display to the "Light-up Pikeville" Christmas committee. They accepted and had me set up for a day at the Bledsoe County Fairgrounds Exhibit Hall during their pictures with Santa event. It was a lot of work and I had issues with the outside track (crossed wires under one of the two new tables I added), but it was fun to see the kids follow the train around the tables.

I was going to repeat the set-up in a storefront in downtown Pikeville next to Miller's Bread but became very ill and had to cancel. Hoping for better times next year and finding a place for a longer standing exhibit. Too much work setting up for a one-day event.

CMRC Annual Christmas Party

On Tuesday, December 14th, the members of the Crossville Model Railroad Club attended our annual year end Christmas party at the Lake Tansi Restaurant. In attendance were 30 club members and their guests for a total of 51 in attendance. The food, as usual, was spectacular with beef, turkey, potatoes, green beans, and a delicious dessert of various fruit filled pastries. All for the rock bottom price of \$10 per person.

The camaraderie was fantastic as the tables were all fully engaged in conversation. Everyone was given a door prize ticket as they entered the dining room. There was a wide selection of donated items to be given away to the lucky winners. The drawings took place between dinner and dessert. The event ended with the traditional "Bruce's Terrible Christmas Trivia" game. He promised that he will come up with a new game next year.

It was a great evening, and I heard many compliments about the event as folks started to make their way home. If you did not come to this year's event you missed a lovely evening of good food and good company. Mark the second Tuesday of December 2024 now for next year's event. We hope to see more of you next year. Merry Christmas and I hope you all have a Happy and Healthy New Year in 2024.



In case you did not realize this, Bruce is a one man Christmas Party Planner aside from all his other duties. He could use some help from other members. The club needs much more volunteerism.



Presidential Awards

The 2023 winners were Pastor Dave for providing us space to meet and John Kessenberger for his outstanding efforts in finding us a new home.





CLUB CHRISTMAS TREE

Each year the First National Bank of Tennessee sponsors a by invitation only tree decorating display. This year we had our tree on display again thanks to more volunteers who wear a lot of hats. So a big CMRC **THANK YOU** goes to Ralph Watson, Mike Durnwald, Ann Grogitsky and Bruce Herring.

CLUB DUES ARE DUE

Its that time of year again when club membership dues are due. The dues amount remains at just \$30 annually and you will be able to pay at the January 8th meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

I attended the "Business after Hours" get-to-gether on Dec. 14. I spoke to the County Mayor, Allen Foster, City Mayor Crawford, and 3 people from One Bank and a few people that I didn't know--everyone of them knew where Tabors Furniture was located and most knew Greg Tabor personally. Greg is well known in the community and is on at least one committee in Crossville. All these people I talked to thought that Tabor's Warehouse would be a good location for our club now that may be in jeopardy. Ann

UUPPER CULBERLAND RAILROAD SOCIETY

A chartered Tennessee non-profit Corp.
IRC 501(C)(3) designated

UCRS Clinic - (No Charge)

Model RR Design

'Concepts & Considerations'
Location:

Oaklawn Baptist Church (Back Bldg.)

Rte. 70 E Crossville. TN

Date & Time: Jan 27, 2024, 9AM to Noon

Primarily designed for those who want to build a model railroad, but aren't sure what needs to be considered in the process.

Save some dollars and frustrations by properly evaluating a host of concerns before you start.

Call (931-788-0455) or E-Mail

(arcy22tn@gmail.com) Art Landrigan to

reserve your place today.

MARKETING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Public Relations and Marketing Committees are developing plans and a budget to keep the name Crossville Model Railroad Club in front of the public. We intend to utilize Chamber of Commerce, Crossville Chronicle/Glade Sun, Radio, TV morning show appearances. Lions and Rotary Clubs, Veterans groups, Public and Home school groups, Churches and Youth activity organization, and even Pizza and Burger places are places where we can put up posters or supply speakers or video presentations. There is even the possibility of the Goodyear blimp doing a flyover on her return to Akron Ohio after being in Florida for the Orange Bowl game. Yes. Really. The request is already submitted.

To end on a more personal note about the 3rd Friday in January; this will need to be a sit down and discuss 'stuff' session as I will be having a partial torn rotator cuff (shoulder joint) repair on January 10.

All of you please

1. get your dues check to Mike Durnwald.
2. Come to meetings with an open mind.
3. Serve on a committee.
4. Participate with others in railfan and historic site tours. Share your experiences with others.
5. Tell EVERYBODY that CMRC is still alive and kicking butt.

Ralph Watson

Passing of a Member - Roy Richardson 12/15/23

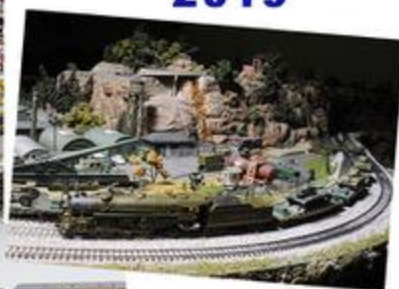
Roy joined the club in 2006 and was a dedicated "G" scaler. He love meeting with the public and explaining his love of the hobby. We can find no obituary for Roy but his son's email is rich1803@hotmail.com.

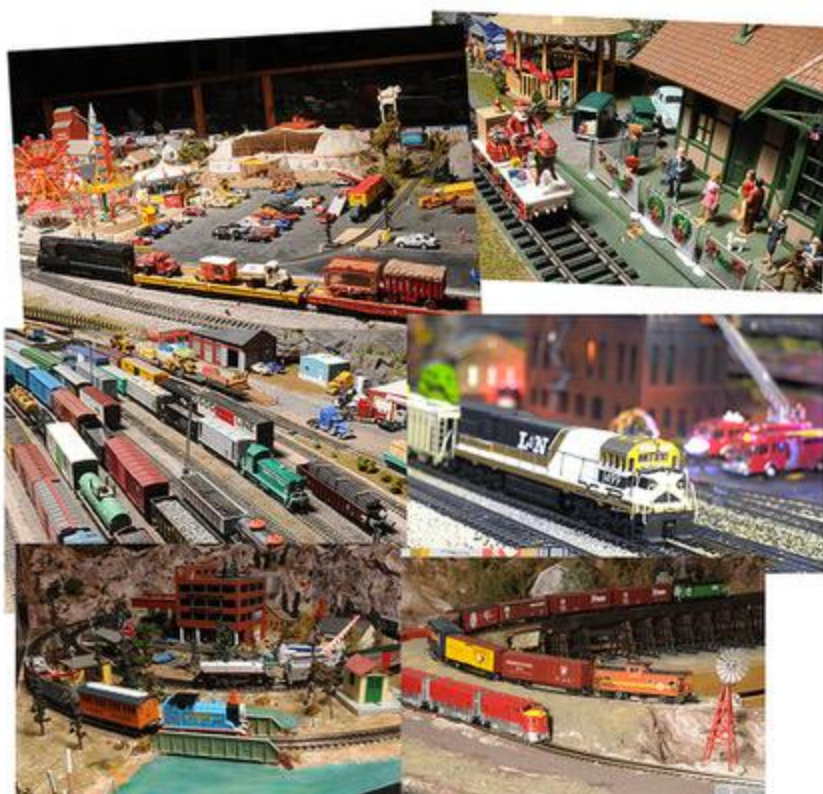
Important Railroad Dates	1/17/1871 - Andrew Smith Hollidie patents first cable car
1/1/1986 - Milwaukee Road merged into Soo Line	1/17/1957 - Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) forms
1/6/1893 - Great Northern Railway drives last spike at Scenic, Washington	1/25/1955 - British Railways announces plan to end steam
1/10/1863 - London Underground opens	1/31/1935 - Union Pacific M-10000 enters service as City of Salina
1/16/1868 - William Davis patents refrigerator car	

Membership Tom Shallcross

During the first week of December, the Membership Committee had the pleasure of interviewing a perspective member for the Club. He was accepted as a member by the Board of Directors by a unanimous vote.

Remembering 2019



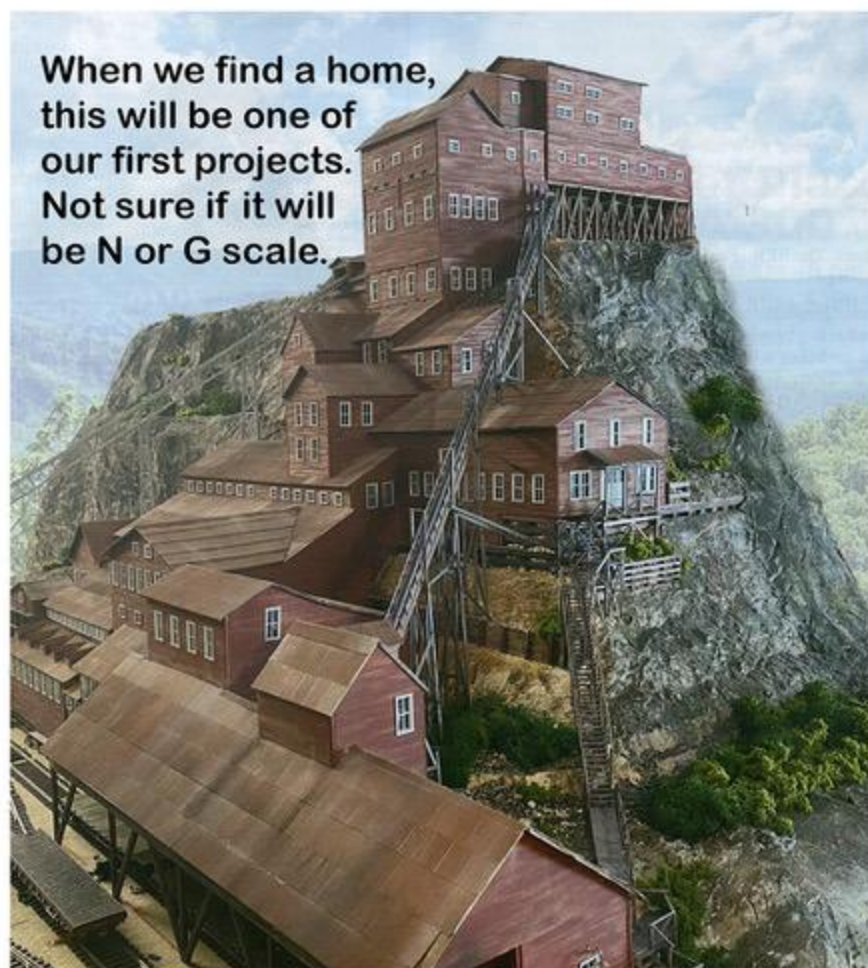


Editor's Notes: Since this my first attempt at publishing our monthly news letter I am sure there is much room for improvement. Having said that I want to welcome comments, ideas, concerns or any input the membership may have.

I am trying to establish a format which will be the foundation of each month's letter. In doing so I would like to build around the following submissions:

The President's column, scale reports detailing any relative new information, committee reports outlining their plans and objectives and any other monthly submission as in the past. More importantly, I need you, the members, to contribute articles, photos, your history in model railroading or what ever subject you feel would be of interest to the club members.

I have had a tremendous learning curve with the new totally foreign software, so that is why I would like any submissions submitted by the 20th of each month. Pat Taylor



Kennecott Mill on Tim Chandler's layout.

Photograph courtesy of

The **Southerner**

Our region's magazine of the NMRA