

# Delaware SeaSide Railroad Club

All Gauges

All Fun

Newsletter Issue # 78

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## New Year brings New Faces to DSRC Board

Our January meeting included the election into office of a new Board of Directors, with all offices but one being now filled with a new face. While complete details of the meeting are included in our posted minutes on the web site ([www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com](http://www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com)). I thought those who can't attend many of our meetings would like to see some additional information about those individuals now managing the affairs of the club.

John Hodges, yours truly, will continue as President, and will continue to publish the monthly newsletter.

Bob Hodges (no relation) is our new Fireman (Vice President). Bob has been a frequent volunteer at the Georgetown Station, on just about every layout show we have done for the past 2 years, and he completed the N gauge layout the club now displays proudly in Georgetown.

Miles Potter has stepped in as Secretary (Conductor). Miles has a ferocious appetite for O gauge trains, as just about anyone on E-Bay can attest! He also has been a constant supporter of Open House Saturdays at Georgetown and many train shows, and has been an excellent chairman of the HO committee, including building the Ho modular layout.

John Martin is now our new Treasurer (a.k.a. Ticket Master). John has been a regular attendee at our meetings and has helped regularly at the SeaSide Train Show each year.

Bill Mixon is our new Dispatcher (Public Relations Director). Having served three years as President and three more as Treasurer, Bill is looking forward to continued involvement with the managing of the web site and handling the ongoing advertising for all the club's activities.

We thank Bill Ziegler, Dave Lawrence and Lee Horn for their outstanding support of the club as officers all these past years, and look forward to their continued involvement in our many activities in the years ahead. Thanks again to you all.



**Caption Correction from January:**

The notations for the January picture of Bob Hodges and Miles Potter incorrectly spelled the name of the third person in that photo. Apologies to Bill Harkum for the typo. However, we did not get the names of these two dedicated volunteers sighted (above) at the Dover Archives Railroad History exhibit. Anyone identifying them, please contact the editor.

(Photographer's name withheld to protect him from any future payback!) Below, John Hodges took this picture, near Lake Okeechobee, Fl., of a working railroad lift bridge. The bridge was actually down for a passing train just prior to the photo being taken.





## Club News

The attendance at the January 11th meeting was good considering the poor weather. Bill Mixon reported 33 paid members for 2011. The Old Business included discussion on the planned show at the Georgetown Library for the 15th of January, and the Dover Archives show, which was reported as earning a generous donation of \$500. The membership agreed to co-sponsor a future fundraiser with Sussex Genealogy Society in the form of a Basket Bingo night. Under New Business, four new officers were elected, and one returning officer was re-elected. Please see the front page of the newsletter for further details.

The members approved a budget that did not include a raffle for fund raising in 2011. The poor results of profit for 2010 indicated a time for a change in fund raising plans. Further suggestions and plans to be discussed at the February meeting. Plans for activities in 2011 were discussed, including the two display opportunities mentioned under old business, plus the Georgetown Open House Saturdays, Seaford Show, Rehoboth DSRC show, and others. Also, the club expects to offer the school field trips and other special display opportunities throughout 2011. However, news from N.

Georgetown Elementary School indicates they will not be conducting the after school program this year, due to a lack of funding for the school bus and chaperone. With the amount being too great for us to overcome with our reduced 2011 budget, we agreed as a Board to take a year off from the after school program this year. The membership also discussed the plans to construct a permanent display for O gauge in the Georgetown Station. We plan to meet with key figures of the Historic Georgetown Association to reach a longer term agreement for our occupancy at the station to justify the expenditure of building a more permanent display, with the goal of increasing our Open House dates from 26 to approximately 52 per year. ----->

## Calendar of Events

Feb. 15, 7 pm, Meeting South Coastal Library.

Feb. 16, 10 am, Move Layout from Georgetown Library back to the Georgetown Station (Not a Firm date)

Feb. 25, 1 pm, Seaford Show Setup, Seaford VFD

Feb. 26, 8:30 am, Seaford Show & pack-up at 3 pm.

Feb. 26-27, Allentown Spring Thaw train meet.

## On the Road Again!

This time of year, Jean and I have often looked for a couple weeks of warmer weather, and usually head down to Florida. Although the weather was in the 60's and low 70's most of the time, the wind and clouds were persistent, which was good news for our daughter, visiting from the U.K., who wanted to take Kite-Surfing lessons. Anyway, during our touring, we spotted an AMTRAK passenger train working it's way very slowly North-bound through a crossing that had faulty signals, with a CSX crew attending to the problem. Later, we spotted a mixed consist freight just about 25 miles south of Okeechobee, and crossing a canal via a really rusty looking lift bridge. When I first saw the bridge as we approached it by car, I thought it was a derelict because it was so rusty. In the picture I took, you can see the track platform is in the raised position to allow for passing vessels in the canal, as evidenced by the counter-weight that is blocking the tracks on either side of the bridge. We stayed in Jupiter, where we have some old friends, and used that as a base for 6 days. Hobby shops in the area are scarce, but I found two that I hope to visit before leaving the area. We plan a couple days in Orlando also before heading back north.....☺

**Meeting Notes Continued:** Bill Mixon also reported a balance of \$2,114.19 after depositing \$1,000 into the money market. Dave Lawrence informed members of needs for accurate E-mail addresses. We still need someone to agree to be the Phone Tree coordinator for emergency news/info reporting for those not using E-mail. Dave also talked about the Christmas Train Tour guide book. In other Old Business, Dave Lawrence gave a wrap up of the Osher class we conducted last fall in Lewes. The club was also reminded of an HO layout we installed at the 8 Mile Brewery in Georgetown. The meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.