



A VIEW FROM THE CAB

Happy Independence Day!

While we all celebrate our country's birthday, we also are reminded that there is a special responsibility that comes with living in a country that elects its representatives and leadership. That responsibility comes around every couple of years, and we must all remember to involve ourselves by voting when every election takes place.

More donations continue to come in. Over the years, we've had donations of unusual items not always related to model or toy trains. Just this past spring we were given a box trailer, which we have converted into a storage facility for our construction materials. Last week, we sold a 2004 Ford Explorer SUV that was donated to us and the income from that sale basically paid a month's rent. And now, if you stop into the club, a new layout donation came to us in the form of a 15 foot by 5 foot ON30 modular display. This layout is far from finished, but the table craftsmanship is very nice, and the bottom level of track is already laid with hand-built switches. This will make a great item to sell to the right enthusiast.

A quick note about our ongoing search for a club manager. While we understand that volunteering for that role might seem too much of a commitment for many to consider, we also see the need to involve more members in our weekly activities at the clubhouse. So we are going to try setting a schedule on the bulletin board for members to observe, pick a task and sign it off when done on their weekly visits. If this works, we might not need to burden someone with the full responsibility of being the Club Manager.

After several months of work, Joel Kaplan, working closely with Richard Lyons, has completed the upgrade to the S gauge layout. They have added a third main line track and also added a trolley line that reaches from the lower level on one end to the "Devils Tower" feature at the other. We are using a reversing hand car now as there are currently no S gauge trolleys on the market.

We have nearly completed an update to our club inventory of property. While the merchandise section of our business is fluid, most of the rest of our property remains quite stable. Doing this every couple of years helps us furnish the insurers with updated information.

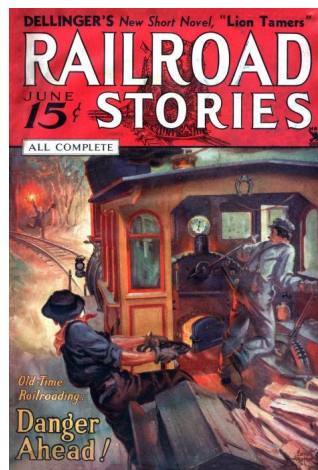
How good it feels to get to the club on a summer day and know we are not going to have to sweat-it-out for 3 or 5 hours on a Saturday. Stay cool!

John Hodges

RAILROAD STORIES

In days long gone by, there was a monthly publication called "Railroad Stories" This June 1935 issue had 152 pages and sold for 15c The ads are as interesting as the stories.

You can download this edition at:
<https://archive.org/details/railroad-stories-v-17-n-03-1935-06/page/n3/mode/2up>



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HARRINGTON
June 10, 2023

Our club was invited to set up a layout in Harrington for the Harrington Historical Society. We were right next to the train tracks and several trains came by while we were there. Very exciting. Assisting were Mike Bonczewski, Chris Karr (both pictured), Dan Forsyth, and Bill Mixon. The club received \$150 donation from the historical society and sold \$90 worth of trains and 7 tickets for our December fundraiser.

