

DELAWARE SEASIDE RAILROAD CLUB

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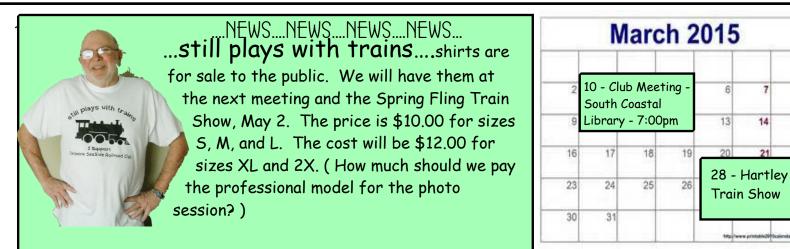
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Editor - Bill Mixon

302-945-1627

P.O. Box 479, Ocean View, DE 19970



ENGINEER'S TWO CENTS



Another great effort by all our volunteers this week at the Seaford Train and Toy Show. I've lost track of how many years we've done this show, but we always get great feedback from the Seaford Volunteer Fire Company staff and so many of the visitors. This show is always well attended, dealers bring a wide range of items for sale, and this year I found a second release of American Flyer's (Lionel) EP-5 Electric locomotive in mint condition that I just could not pass up. Sales of our new "Still Plays with Trains" T-shirts were quite good.

At the coming meeting March 10th, we expect to vote on approving a budget for renting a space as a permanent home. There will be plenty of time to discuss this issue, but from my perspective as a member for nearly every month of this club's 11+ years, it is time we gave a very serious try to this venture. Save from someone walking up to us and giving us a building suitable, renting seems to me a way to find out if we have the interest and commitment to provide a place where members can go to run their trains, get involved in improvements to our layouts, and generally spend more time talking to their friends and interested visitors. So, I hope many of you can come to the meeting and share your feelings on this important topic. I promise every voice will have a chance to be heard.

> As always, keep an eye on the calendar for March as we are supporting the Hartly show once again on the 28th.

> > John Hodges

A new official club shirt will be offered this Spring. It will be a polo shirt, 50/50 cotton and poly, will be embroidered, and will have a collar. It will be available in sizes S through XL for \$25 and 2X and up for \$27. There will be a sign-up sheet at the February meeting. The shirts can also be ordered by calling Committee members Doc Dougherty, 539-3891 or Bill Mixon, 827-4278. New hats are also coming.UPDATE: shirts will be ordered after the next meeting, Get your orders in now. To date, 26 shirts have been ordered.





SEARCHING FOR A HOME

Wasn't it great when we had a "home" in the Historic Georgetown Train Station? I know that some of you didn't like the travel distance to Georgetown, but overall, it was a very positive experience for us. We miss it; and we need a new home. The best part was : it didn't cost us a dime.. We are not going to be that lucky again.

The "Home Committee" is working hard to find us a place. We may even have some ideas at the next meeting.. We need someplace to:



Set up trains for public





Start a Museum



Safely store dioramas and trains

We can do this, but it will take a commitment of:

Conduct seminars

TIME

We would need to open the home at least 100 days a year X two persons per day. That means we need 200 man days or an average of 4 days per member.

EFFORT

For us to afford a place we will need to conduct several fund raisers:

- <u>1.Xmas</u> Train Raffle each member must sell chances <u>2.Corporate Sponsors</u> - each member will be asked to find one corporate sponsor.
- <u>3.Xmas Train Tour</u> we will need some members to open their home for the Xmas Train Tour
- 4. Bingo We may need additional fund-raisers

MONEY

A dues increase will certainly be needed. Increasing our dues by \$25 will net us approximately \$1,250.

How committed are you?

