

# Delaware SeaSide Railroad Club



## All Gauges All Fun

Newsletter Issue # 87

John Hodges, editor/writer

P.O. Box 479, Ocean View, DE 19970 Phone 302-682-4652  
Visit our web site at

October, 2011

## Indian Summer Train Show "Rocks Roxana"

Every time our club gets together to host a train show, I am impressed with the fantastic support shown by our entire membership, their family and often their friends as well. The Indian Summer show at Roxana Fire Company was no exception. We heard nothing but positive comments from guests attending the event, and the terrific dealers who supported it. With the decision to add toys to the mix of vendors, we saw a very steady crowd coming through the door, and our final tally tells us that 445 people paid to attend, being a nice improvement over the results this past June at Rehoboth Beach. Since this facility is much smaller, we had a challenge in the end meeting the demand for table space for vendors, but that is a good thing, and the facility costs far less than the Rehoboth Beach Convention Center. This show provided a nice size event, tables loaded with goods and we used our venerable O gauge layout for entertainment. Doug Hornberger sold raffle tickets for a Pepsi Cola Train that we had received as a donation, and realized a substantial profit for that, as well as another fantastic day of selling other donated items. Add to this the very good results from our hard working crew of ladies at the refreshment venue, and you have a very profitable result. Final figures will be forthcoming at the October meeting, but it appears our net proceeds will exceed \$3,000. I do not have space enough to thank each person who helped make this happen. I myself was out of the country until late Thursday night before the show, and the organization of volunteers to set up and run the event was very impressive indeed. It is gratifying to see how well everyone pitches in to get things done, and my hat goes off to Bill Ziegler for vendor sales and hall arrangements, Bill & Gladys Mixon, Kathy Hodges and Kathy Hudson for kitchen preparations and assembling all the refreshments, and Bob Hodges for his efforts on the club sales of donated trains and other merchandise.



Pictures from Roxana thanks to Dave Lawrence: Top, a good crowd was in evidence all day; Middle: Four boys discovered a view of the trains from under the bridge; Bottom, a family take home a train set as a door prize. It is fun to imagine Saturday evening at that home!



## Calendar of Events

Oct. 11, 7 pm Meeting, South Coastal Library, Bethany B.

Oct. 13, TCA- York train Meet. Car pools Forming.....

Oct. 18, 6 pm, Basket Bingo, Millsboro VFD Tickets \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

Nov. 19th, Hartly Train Show, Hartly DE usually 9am-3pm

## Club News

Our membership met on September 13 with a good showing of about 25 members. Bob Hodges conducted the meeting in the absence of John Hodges.

Sign up sheets for the Roxana show were filled in, and the group discussed the schedule, including the announcement that our dealer tables would likely sell out! They then discussed the Basket Bingo set for October 18. Several members took tickets to sell for this event, but more are encouraged to do so. The club had received a request to display our O gauge trains at the Clayton Railroad Days Festival next year on June 9th. The Executive Board had already agreed this would be an event we could support, and the Clayton organizers are willing to provide a stipend for this effort of \$175. There was a discussion also about two forms suggested for dealing with donations, and keeping track of them. More will be discussed about this in the future. The club was informed of the progress of rebuilding the S gauge modules destroyed by the fire. There are now 8 straight modules of 4 feet each, and 4 corners of 3 foot by 3 foot. The S gauge group is ready to begin laying track soon.

Tom Bradley was given the floor to present his theory of how a lamp fixture used on the overhanging roof area of the Georgetown Station might have been a cause for the fire last May. While the board understands many theories have been presented regarding the cause, the official origin for the fire was never found by the investigators, and we feel this subject is closed. Our understanding is that the HGA has finally received their claim from their own insurance company, and work to repair the damaged roof structure is underway.

Officially, the club has no idea if we will be invited to be involved in future activities in the train station. As mentioned before, the club is very interested in finding a permanent home, preferably on a ground floor, for storing and operating our train displays.

Dave Lawrence was putting together a list of possible trips by car pool to some of the fall train rides and related activities in Pennsylvania. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Dave Lawrence at 302-537-9114

## An Open Letter to All My Friends in the Club

Hi;

As you know, the club lost almost everything in the fire at the Georgetown Railroad Station. Unfortunately, we had no contents insurance. The loss estimate is somewhere between \$20,000 and \$30,000. Some of the items, such as the scratch built dioramas and the Marx display, can never be replaced.

In order to continue our mission of preserving and promoting the history and hobby of model railroading, we do need to make some purchases. For example, we need lumber to build the HO modular layout, and replacement track for both the HO and S gauge layouts. We need new transformers and TMCC equipment. All of this costs money we don't have.

At a meeting last spring, the membership approved another train show and a basket bingo. We appreciate all the support we have received for the Indian Summer train show at Roxana, which we believe has been a great success.

We are now asking for that same level of support for the Basket Bingo.

I was unable to attend the September meeting, but I was very disappointed in the lack of support for the bingo. We have over 70 members and only 9 people took tickets to sell and that includes two of us who weren't at the meeting. We need to sell 125 tickets to make this a successful event. **IF WE SELL 125 TICKETS, WE WILL NET OVER \$3,500.00!** This is more than we netted for the past two Rehoboth Train Shows, combined!

I don't know if any of you have attended a basket bingo event, but it is a fun family event. Bring your spouse, family and friends. It is a great evening of fellowship (it sure beats watching the TV) and you could win a prize while enjoying the evening. It is not just baskets either, as there will be train items for you to win: Train Hats, C & O items, porcelain train signs, etc.. So, I'll be expecting phone calls for tickets. I would like you to take 4, but just taking 1 or 2 will be fine! **Bill Mixon 302-537-5557**