Newsletter Issue # 67

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# BLIZZARD of 2010! Had Enough Yet?

With the onslaught of three wicked storms coursing through the entire Delmarva region, many local groups and organizations were canceling their scheduled activities; this was also the case for our Feb. 9th monthly meeting. I did not think the meeting was important enough to have members go out on a rough night, and we found that the South Coastal Library had also closed early and of course would also be closed much of that week. I hope most meeting attendees had seen the notices posted on WGMD's web site, or saw the cancellation on WBOC-TV Tuesday from noon onward. We will be coming up with a cancellation policy soon, so it becomes easy to determine when an event is canceled.

I will add that Bill Mixon and I decided to go up to the Georgetown Station that Wednesday at about 10am to work on the S gauge layout, and when leaving at about 12:15pm, we both drove through some of the worse conditions either of us have ever seen.







This class could be entitled 'Four Guys called Josh". When we first met the 7 young men at the Lighthouse Christian School who had signed up for our Model Train Enrichment class, we became a little confused at the fact that four of the boys were named Josh or Joshua! Even so, the class was well received and the boys certainly had their hands full working on track plans, painting roadways, shaping the mountain and tunnels, and assembly of kit buildings and painting them. The final class on January 21st saw the 7th and 8th graders running the trains with the operating turnouts and enjoying the product of their work.

#### Club News

Due to the canceled meeting in February, we have no meeting business to report. The club has still been quite active, even during the various closings for winter weather and Delaware states of Emergency.

The continuing classes for The History of Model Trains at the Southern Delaware Academy of Lifelong Learning have had one cancellation but our four classes held to date have been well received and educational for the 10 to 15 SDALL members present each week. We are going to extend to complete the 5 week course.

As an optional trip for the class, we were fortunate to be invited to tour the fantastic O gauge layout at Creative Concepts store in 5 Points, Lewes. Lee Horn was nice enough to explain the operations of the layout to Miles Potter and David Lawrence, who were on hand to run the trains for our SDALL guests.

We had packed up the O gauge layout on February 3rd into our van in anticipation of the Seaford Train Show, and the display will stay in the van until after the June DSRC train Show at Rehoboth Beach.

Our club has operated the current O gauge display for 2 years coming this summer, and several shows in Delaware have seen it a few times in its current configuration. We might soon be talking about a change to the dioramas on the display to keep it fresh and exciting. Those interested in building a new diorama should contact Bill Ziegler, and as soon as a theme has been decided on, we will get that information out to everyone.

The HO committee has been quite active in deciding which pieces of the large donation we received of HO equipment they wish to keep. In fact, on Saturday, Feb. 20, they held a preview sale of many HO items for those members listed as interested in HO on their membership profiles. The remainder of the HO equipment will be sold at Seaford at the tables the club is renting.

The board and several additional members were on hand at the dedication ceremony February 1st at the Georgetown Train Station. The station was dedicated in the name of Carlton R. Moore, who was the leading force in restoring the train station, including the raising of the enormous sums needed to rebuild this historic building.

Our club will not be displaying a train layout at Hartly for the March 20th show, but we will likely display the O gauge layout again there in the fall.

## Calendar of Events

Mar. 4, 2:30 pm, School Enrichment Program, Georgetown

Mar. 9, 7 pm Meeting, South Coastal Library, Bethany Bch

Mar. 11, 2:30 pm, School Enrichment Program, Georgetown

Mar. 18, 2:30 pm, School Enrichment Program, Georgetown

Mar. 20, 9am - 3 pm Hartly Show - No DSRC display

Mar. 25, 2:30 pm, School Enrichment Program, Georgetown.

### 'S' Scale Railroading by Bill Mixon



The Secret 'Code'

Various sizes, or *codes*, of model train track are available for each scale. The codes are written as numbers, which correlate to the height of the rail in thousandths of an inch.

The most common codes are identified as follows:

Code 220 = 0.22"

Code 148 = 0.148"

Code 125 = 0.125 "

Code 100 = 0.1"

Code 83 = 0.83"

Code 70 = 0.7"

In the prototype world, the heavier rails are used for mainlines and the lighter rails for spurs and branches. If you model with code 125 for the mainline, you could realistically use code 100 for passing sidings and code 83 for spurs.

#### Commercial track codes:

S-Trax - code 125 Tomalco track - codes 100,83, & 70 American Models - code 148 American Flyer - code 220 Gargraves - code 220

## Help Wanted

Are you familiar with web site hosting? Do you know how to create and update web pages. DSRC is looking for a volunteer to take on the management of our club web site. We are looking to improve the content of our site. If interested, contact John Hodges, 302-945-1627.