



A VIEW FROM THE CAB

We are back from Florida, and I am a bit sorry to have to return to the bitter cold that January has given us. After returning to the club, two maintenance items have crept up: a faulty light fixture over the front door that illuminates the parking lot, and a very strange cracking of ceramic tiles on the floor of our main sales room. There is about 12 sq. ft. of cracked 12" x 12" tiles, and we have also noticed a small "heaving" of several tiles in the smaller sales room. Removing several of the worst cracked tiles showed no issue whatsoever to the concrete floor below. We have bought a replacement light fixture for the front door, and I have purchased products to replace the broken tiles. They will not match, but the flooring here is 30 years old, and most tile stores don't carry any 12" x 12" tiles.

We have buyers for two of the recently built layouts; the HO layout built in the fall of 2024, and the John Deere layout built this past November. Both are awaiting pickup. Since we have previously sold the 8' x 12' S-gauge display, which was picked up last December, we are now down to our former configuration in the museum except for the 5' x 8' HO display built last November.

At one point we had thought we would bring the 16' HO and the traveling Thomas layouts to Seaford for the show on February 28th, so due to those layouts being sold, we need to discuss changing back to the traveling O-gauge layout, the display that we usually take to that event.

E-Bay sales continue to go very well, in fact the 16' HO layout that I mentioned before was sold to someone in South Carolina through E-Bay. That buyer will be coming up to collect it in 2 weeks. Thanks to Samantha Bianca for her excellent work on E-bay listings, and to Mike B. and Chris for their help in packing and shipping items.

We will have a lot to cover in our February 11th meeting. We will discuss the budget for 2026, as submitted by Bob Schadewald, and the idea of Members-only nights on one or two Wednesdays per month. We will also be voting for two positions on the board. We also will discuss the Ocean City events and our ongoing commitment to them.

We have learned that the sale of the property we lease for our museum is now complete, and we have reached out to the new owner to ask for a meeting in March or April to set forth a new lease agreement, and to determine their intentions for our building or a possible move.

Keep warm and stay safe during this particularly frigid time.

John Hodges



Keeping the Trains Moving in Winter: the Rotary Snowplow



The rotary snowplow concept was devised by Dr. J.W. Elliott, a dentist from Toronto in 1869. The Leslie Brothers acquired his patent and produced a successful prototype in 1883 and went on to establish the Rotary Steam Shovel Mfg. Co. in Paterson, NJ. Lionel has offered various versions of the popular rotary snowplow model since 1957.



From Wikipedia, BNSF, and Lionel LLC.

February Events of the Delaware Seaside Railroad Club

DSRC Members Meeting

Wednesday, February 11th 6:00 p.m. at our Clubhouse

Seaford Train Show

The 30th Annual Seaford, DE Volunteer Fire Department Toy and Train Show will take place on Saturday, February 28, 2026 from 9am-2pm. This show is held at the Seaford Fire Station and occupies all of the second floor, which is the main selling floor and overflows to the first floor. The facility is elevator accessible. The DSRC will operate our ever-popular modular traveling O-gauge layout throughout the show and have reserved tables for Diecast sales. Trailer loading will be on Wednesday, February 25th and the display will be set up at the Seaford Fire Station on Friday, February 27th. Teardown will immediately follow the show closing. Details including times for the loading, setup, operation, and teardown will be discussed at our Members Meeting on February 11th. Support for other train clubs and civic organizations is core to our Mission and this major regional show has always been a great place to meet old friends, meet new people, and fill out your collection.



Happenings of the DSRC 20 Years Ago this Month.

- Bill Mixon re-elected as Engineer by unanimous consent.
- Club set to begin Model Railroadng Initiative in Schools. DSRC, working with Georgetown Elementary School, will conduct 8 sessions with selected children starting February 15th. The clinics will teach the kids how to build a model train layout, from laying track to constructing buildings and finishing scenery.
- Third Annual Summer Train show to move to the Bethany Beach Volunteer Fire Department.
- Georgetown Display Acclaimed. The Second Annual display of model trains at the Georgetown Train Station saw well over 600 visitors on the three Saturdays in December.

ebay YTD 2026
Net Sales: \$7,462



Updated Weather Forecast: Six More Weeks of Winter



Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow today and declared that there will be 6 more weeks of Winter. If his forecast holds up and we experience snow and ice conditions you will be notified of our status. Emergency Closings at our Clubhouse are based upon the State of Delaware declaring a State of Emergency, or road closings as dictated by DelDOT. Members will be notified by email plus our website and Facebook Group pages will be updated with closing information.

