



DELAWARE SEASIDE RAILROAD CLUB
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ISSUE #214

Editor - Bill Mixon

JUNE 2022

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VIEW FROM THE CAB

Weather Warming Up? CHECK Spring Train show a Huge Success? CHECK May 28th Yard Sale ?

Well, by my count that's Two out of Three. You'll notice I did not say the Yard Sale was a big hit. Judging by the small crowd of shoppers, not so much. Judging by our number of vendors, also not so much. But our volunteers where there in droves, and it still made my day enjoyable.

The Train show was indeed one of our best shows, and our profit was well over \$4,000. The attendance was among the best we have had at Roxana, and the kitchen business was also a record breaker.

So, I have just talked about two of the major items our club does to fulfill its mission. That is to provide a medium for exposing the hobby to the general public. We do this twice a week by opening our doors for free to talk to anyone about toy trains, model railroading, and advise on building layouts and dispositions of collections. The fact that we can muster member support to host two train shows and several yard sales each year, display at Georgetown Library for 5 or six days in December, and keep our club house open week-in and week-out, is a testament to the great support we get from our members, and you should all take pride in that.

Unfortunately, we need to pay rent, utilities and such to meet the last of those mission-critical events. Our budget for 2022 is about \$14,000 in the red, and currently through April the amount we are behind is tracking right with that number. Our best guess is that if we did nothing, we could make this deficit up with reserves in our savings for about 22 months. That is why our new Fundraising Committee is coming up with new ideas, and re-shaping old ones to cut that deficit in half by the end of 2022.

One of the items in their package includes the 12 Days of Christmas Raffle, and tickets are being personally delivered or mailed out to all of our members. We ask that you consider buying them for yourself or selling them, fill out each ticket stud, and send them and the cash (check) back to the club PO Box (PO Box 479, Ocean View, DE 19970) Any unsold tickets must be returned to the club at that same address no later than November 1st, so we can sell them at the club house. This raffles, and all our fundraising events are very important to us, and we hope you can help us out in these efforts.

Our mission is the only reason I joined this train club in 2004. The idea of keeping this hobby alive and growing it into future generations is very important to me. We are not doing this to sell trains, or to make it easier for Lionel or Atlas or Bachman to sell more trains. We do it because this hobby teaches us about things in the physical world we usually take for granted. Why does the light on the table not light? How come my garage door won't open? I had learned a lot of what I know about electricity before the us Air Force put a text book in front of me in San Antonio, Texas. I even tuned a Crystal radio set to pick up Ham operators on the short-wave band as a 12 year old. I learned these things by playing with my America Flyer Trains. I learned what conductivity was, what resistance was, and why things spark sometimes! Just figuring out where the short is after a derailment teaches problem solving.

Our youth can't learn these things from their toys today. The 2 dimensional world of flat screen I-Pads or tablets doesn't show you a spark when you touch the hot wire to the ground wire. You cannot see a solenoid plunger activate a switch track, changing the direction of the train onto a new route. Our latest workshop is proof of the way we can excite today's youth into Model Railroading.

LETS KEEP TRYING!

John Hodges

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All gauges..... All fun

The Delaware Seaside Railroad Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, whose mission is to preserve and promote the history and hobby of model railroading.

- Our club activities include:
- School projects - teaching school children how to design and build a model railroad
 - Annual Train Shows in Roxana, May and September
 - Monthly meetings
 - Monthly newsletters
 - Clubhouse Operating Displays in O, S, HO, N and G Gauges Open to the Public
 - Operating G Gauge model train sets at various venues around the area
 - Community Workshops
 - Community Displays



Spring Fling Toy & Train Show

Thanks to everyone who attended the Spring Fling Toy & Train Show last Saturday, May 7th. It was a huge success for the Delaware Seaside Railroad Club and for the many independent vendors who participated. We are especially grateful for all of the work done by the Club volunteers who set up the show, staffed the various event tables, operating layouts and the snack bar and cleaned up afterwards.

Our next event will be the Train-Load Yard Sale on May 28th. This is an outdoor event at our Clubhouse in SeByville. More details will follow.



Our Annual Holiday Train Display at the Georgetown Library was a great success and enjoyed by all.

2022 marks the 75th anniversary of this popular fair to the public annual event. The interest in this event was renewed by George Government Park. The event was held on the 75th anniversary of the display were another special event including the Train-Load Yard Sale. The Polar Express and the Blueberry Club models train set which was shown a hit for the younger children. This year our display, which was expanded to light day, fair for the general public and was dedicated to the kindergarten class from the nearby Georgetown Elementary school and volunteer staff and hand-dipped adult group.



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+ Invite



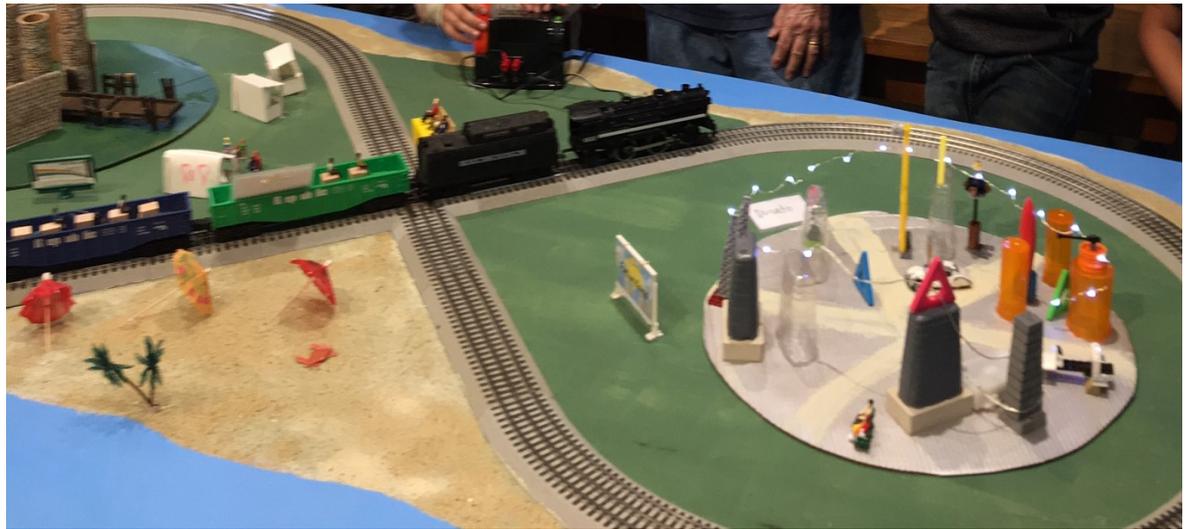
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SELBYVILLE SCHOOL STUDENTS

Continuing our commitment to our mission of "preserving and promoting the history and hobby of model railroading".



When we began, we asked the students "What do you want to show on the layout?" One boy said: 'we should do a future city". Another said " We should do castles and knights". A third said "We should do a beach scene". Then the girl said " Let's do all three" So they did an island resort with a city of the future, a renaissance fair, and a beach.