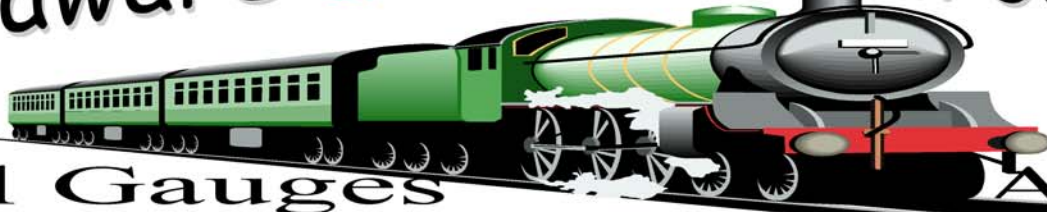


# Delaware SeaSide Railroad Club



All Gauges

All Fun

Newsletter Issue # 88

John Hodges, editor/writer

P.O. Box 479, Ocean View, DE 19970 Phone 302-682-4652  
Visit our web site at [www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com](http://www.delawareseasiderailroadclub.com)

November, 2011

## Train Club 'Basket Bingo' a Huge Success!

On October 18th the Delaware SeaSide Railroad club hosted its third fund raising activity since the devastating fire in May. The support from the membership was overwhelming by all accounts, and so was the crowd of Bingo players. They came in by the dozens, many arriving while the tables were still being set up by our volunteers. Doug Hornberger led the committee of Gladys Mixon, Leslie Hornberger and Bill Mixon and the team combined to collect donations of cash and prizes from 48 individuals and businesses. The level of donations, especially the hundreds of dollars in Longaberger baskets donated by Gladys Mixon, was certainly beyond anything previously achieved by this organization. Every ticket was sold, including about 35 at the door, to push the event over the top by any measure. The final net proceeds from this event alone was over \$5,200! The club owes a great deal to the Hornbergers and Mixons for their outstanding contribution of time and treasure to make this our most successful event ever.

Once again, our membership has answered the call for giving their time to help the club. Bill Mixon's talk at the October meeting struck a cord with many I'm sure, and so the team pulled together to make the evening a big hit. The ladies manning the refreshment stand sold out of everything; the runners were kept busy all night; the attendance was fantastic!

This news, on top of the report from the October meeting that the finances were looking as good now as they did at the beginning of 2011, places the club in a very healthy situation, and we are currently looking to begin the construction of a new HO modular railroad layout. We have made some purchases to replace operating equipment lost in May, when we bought two MTH Z4000 transformers and a complete MTH DCS control system, for the O gauge modular railroad. The DCS system will allow us to run both DCS and Lionel TMCC/Legacy equipped locomotives. We will continue to replace similar items in the coming months.



From hopeful bids placed on 'Silent Auction' items, to selecting the basket for the last winning game, and purchasing more game cards, members were busy attending to a tremendous crowd at the Club's first "Basket Bingo" fund raising event on October 18th at Millsboro VFD Hall.

## Calendar of Events

Nov. 9, 7 pm Meeting, South Coastal Library, Bethany B.  
Nov. 12-13, Allentown Train Meet, Allentown, PA. 9 am.  
Nov. 19, 9 am-3 pm, Hartly Train Show, Hartly VFD, DE  
Nov. 21, 10 am Set-up day at Georgetown Public Library  
Nov. 26, 10 am - 2 pm Open House, Georgetown Library  
Dec. 3, 10 am - 2 pm Open House, Georgetown Library  
Dec. 3-4, Annual SeaSide Hobbies Christmas Train Tour

## Club News

The meeting on October 11th was attended by 28 members, and a scheduling error meant we started our meeting in the Children's reading room in the Library proper. It was okay, but when the meeting room finally became available we moved over to more comfortable conditions.

The membership was informed of the board's decision on not pursuing any legal action regarding the fire in May. The Conductor announced we had 72 members. The dispatcher spoke about ads articles and web site changes that related to the Roxana Train and Toy Show or the Basket Bingo.

The Indian Summer Train and Toy show netted the club an income of \$3,260 after expenses, with over \$1,000 of that resulting in sales of club trains and other merchandise from donations received.

Sign-ups and ticket purchases were encouraged for the coming Basket Bingo, and Bill Mixon listed the 3 pages full of donations received as of that time. We also spoke briefly about the donation acknowledgement process, but for now no changes to the process are expected.

There was a suggestion to acquire a plaque to commemorate those members who have passed away, and the motion was passed to buy a plaque and provide places for names to be added to the plaque. We will display the plaque on a layout.

An additional donation of HO equipment was discussed and acknowledged.

Under New Business, we will display our small O gauge modular layout at the Seaford Museum from November 26th until after the first of January. This will once again be the Christmas Village display theme.

The club will be hosting three Open House dates at the Georgetown Library on Nov. 26th, Dec 3rd and Dec. 10th, from 10 am until 2 pm. We will set up the O gauge layout on November 21st at 10 am. Sign-ups for helping to run trains and greet visitors for those dates are open for all members.

The club will help with organizing the SeaSide Train tour once again. We will post the maps on the web site, and the hobby shop will collect \$1 donation for the printed map and schedule. Car Pools were set up for the trip to York on Oct. 13. We adjourned at 8:50 pm.

## DONATIONS DONATIONS DONATIONS

Given the events of 2011, its not hard to be humbled by the outpouring of kindness and support by our whole community, often reaching out into other counties.

Just looking at the results from the Basket Bingo night held on October 18th is enough to make one proud to be living in a community that is so responsive.

On October 21, more good news arrived in the form of a phone call from Mrs. Susan Savina, wife of the late Alex Savina, a former member of the club from 2008.

Susan had heard of the fire that had so severely affected our club, and wanted to donate her husband's trains to the club. She felt this would be something Alex would have been very happy about, seeing his trains go to a home where they would be appreciated. This has been an occurrence we have seen repeated time and time again since May 7th, but little did I know at the time of the significance of this donation. Alex collected and ran G scale trains. He had a quite extensive track work winding around their rear garden, elevated in several places. He built a pole building in the rear of the garden and build a 14 ft. by 20 ft. table that was strong enough for prize cows to be shown at the county fair. The most fascinating aspect of this project was that Alex was disabled, and did much of this construction from a scooter or wheelchair. On a visit to Susan's home on Sunday, October 23rd, Bob Hodges, Nelson Davison and myself just about needed the sturdy table Alex build for support when we first laid eyes on the collection in his pole building. With the inventory only half completed, we are up to 67 pieces of rolling stock and transformers. There are 13 engines, and remember we are talking G scale here. We were nearly speechless, but anyone who knows me understands that I can usually find something to say! We will certainly return in Early November to inventory and transport the remaining pieces, and disassemble the table for Susan so she can recover the use of the building for other needs. We now have enough G gauge track and gear to start a G scale Modular layout, and will soon look for members who want to try their hand at 'G' gauge.

John Hodges