



DELAWARE SEASIDE RAILROAD CLUB

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ISSUE # 147
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NOVEMBER 2016
P.O. Box 479, Ocean View, DE 19970

ENGINEER'S TWO CENTS



Every month, around the 29th or so, I get an Email from our Newsletter Editor, the famous Bill Mixon, asking me for "My Two Cents", or as he likes to refer, 'my BLURB' for the coming month's newsletter edition. It brings me to marvel at some small things that make our club a little different from some.

First, the newsletter, which I believe has been running continuously, every month since 2005. Since we are a club with a fairly large population, but with many who live too far away to routinely be involved in our activities, the newsletter is a vital link to our extended family, and one I believe, adds value to our members.

Secondly, it feels as though the one item from our mission which we have not been able to execute lately, and a goal for the opening our own facility, is coming into reality. I am referring to the education of the public, especially of the youth. This is being shown by the interest of several youngsters who have earned "Junior Membership" status through a recent vote of the membership attending a monthly meeting. We since have also welcomed a senior student at Indian River High as a Sponsored Member. Yesterday, I met Paul, a high school Sophomore, who is really into O gauge railroading at home, and I hope he is considering joining the club.

To shift gears a little, several of us got together for a drive to York, Pa. and the Eastern Division-TCA Train Meet. I barely had enough time to see every hall, even though the size of the meet was obviously smaller than when I first visited the show in 2005, dropping from 7 full halls to just 6 now. The highlight for me was the enormous O Gauge layout presented by the Capital Trackers of DC, MD and VA. They had done something that I have never seen before in any traveling layout. They had a 3-track system that went down-grade to pass under/over itself in two different locations, and the masterpiece was a steel girder bridge that was about 12 feet long, the top of the superstructure about 5 feet above the ground, and the width about 20 inches. Wow!

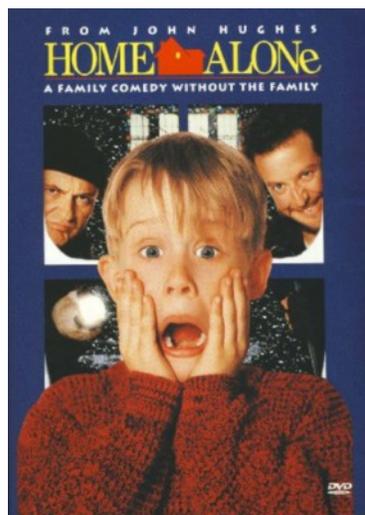
We have a very busy schedule for the week of Thanksgiving, and then for every weekend leading up to Christmas. The club house will be open on it's normal schedule, and will be included on the Seaside Railroad Layout Tour, as will the Georgetown Library displays with the modular O, Polar Express, the Brio wooden play set, and Thomas the Train layout. I hope you will be able to volunteer some time to come and meet/greet the public and help run trains at one of these venues.

John Hodges



NOVEMBER:

- ...8 - Club Meeting - South Coastal Library
- ...12 - First Frost Train Show - Allentown
A great, large train show. We will carpool, meet at Dunkin Donots on Route 1, Lewes at 6:30 am
- ...14 - Set up O-gauge - Seaford Museum
Old O-gauge modules, Christmas Village
- ...15 Set-up Layouts - Georgetown Library
O-gauge, Thomas, Polar Express and Brio
- ...19 - Hartly Train Show- one of the best train shows in Delaware.
- ...22 - Movie Night - Clayton Theater
- ...



D S C R Family Night at the Movies this year will feature the film "HOME ALONE" on Tuesday, November 22. Information and tickets will be available at the November meeting. Bring your family to this very funny holiday film. Tickets are \$10.00 of which \$5.00 goes to our club.. You can get tickets at the Clayton Theater in Dagsboro.

Thinking of building a layout ?

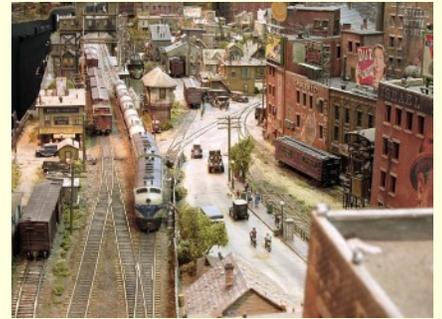
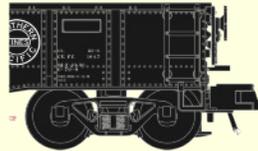
There are basically three types of layouts: TOY TRAIN, HIGH RAIL, AND SCALE.



TOY TRAINS - no attempt is made to keep items to scale. Notice the crossing gate is much larger than the steam engine coming down the track. This is a fun layout to build .



HIGH RAIL - On high rail layouts, almost everything is made to scale. They are generally very much landscaped. The main difference between "scale" and "high rail" is the size of the rails (hence the name), wheel flanges, and couplers.



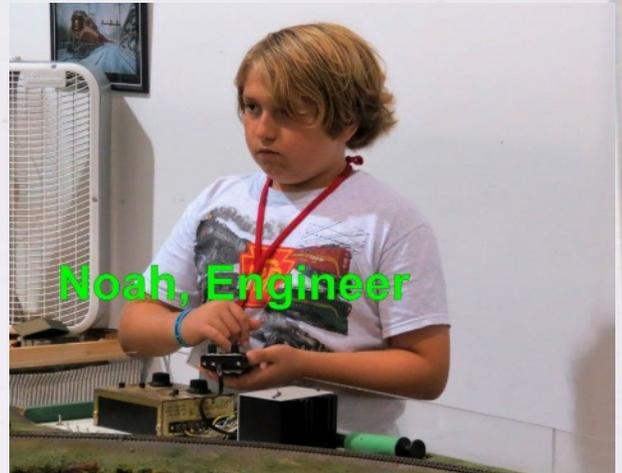
SCALE LAYOUT - very detailed, with "hand laid track". An attempt is made to keep everything to true scale. These operators are called , in a friendly way, "rivet counters."



DAVE'S PHOTO ALBUM



Bill Mixon, Jean Hodges, "Doc" Dougherty, & Bill Gluth, Jr.



Noah, Engineer



Rick Kresge, Mark Fisher, Dr. Dave Lawrence, & Tim Abbott



Bill Ziegler, Rick Kresge, John Hodges, Ralph Gellura, & Steve Caxander