



Members since June 1988

The Signal



October Edition
2017



Signal indicates **STOP AT OUR NEXT MEETING**
October 19, 2017 6:45

Governors Family Night
1st Thursday @ 5 to 7 PM !

Involve friends & relatives

Meetings demonstrate how Hobbies impart the trades
Fabrication—Finishing—Electricity
Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I learn
- - Benjamin Franklin

Have a story you want to share?

Share your account at the meeting!
Or publish it in our newsletter!
Let us know by October 25, 2017
Email secretary Paul Lodge
See back page for contact info . . .

Do you want to win

Attendance & 50/50 prizes?

Don't let somebody else score a brass locomotive with the cash from the winning prize!
You must be present to win!

DONATIONS . . .

Bottles for Basics (B4B)

Total Last Year \$ 712.00
YTD \$282.00
Last month: \$ 11.00

Used Printer Cartridges

Total Last Year \$ 350
YTD: \$ 90.00
Last month: \$ 14.00

Why volunteer for Bottles to Basics?

- **Save time and effort** with our bottle dropoff; Avoid waiting in line at a redemption center!
- Your donations are a perfect way to **expedite your FALL cleaning!**
- Donations help keep dues low. **Low dues = More members.**

Fall Train Show at Mt. Ararat High School for third year!

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club's fall model train show will be held from 10 to 3 on Saturday, November 4, at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham.

The club will have its large modular layout and there will be a variety of other layouts. The new portable n-scale layout created by Benton, Kerry, and Julie Hayes was introduced at the Phillips train show on September 30 and will be operating in Topsham as well. Boothbay Railway Village has also been invited to display their village layout.



Jerry Johnston has made signs to put along the roads. Mt. Ararat High School is conveniently located near Route 1 and has good parking facilities.

The sale of refreshments will benefit the Mt. Ararat High School Boosters Club. Parents can enjoy their food while watching their youngsters playing with our Brio layout and with toy trains on our special play rug.

Dealers from around New England will be available to answer questions and to sell new and used model railroad items. Train Time videos will be shown continuously and can be purchased.



Club members are asked to be at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham on Friday at 4 p.m. to help unload dealer tables and club modules and set them up for the Saturday show. Anyone who would like to have his or her module included in the club layout needs to have the module at the high school on Saturday morning between 7 and 8 a.m. We will need help throughout the day supervising layouts and selling excess inventory. After the show we will also need help taking down layouts.



We hope everyone will help with the publicity by distributing the flyers that are at the club and by sharing information about the show with friends and family on Facebook, by email, and in conversations. Admission is \$4. Children who are 12 and under are admitted free.



By Paul Lodge



Member
#076805 00
Since 1988

Come share
your projects & tools
at our
Modeler's Forum



Guest Speaker Rick Seyb October 19 Meeting

At the October 19 meeting of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club, we will have a special guest speaker. Rick Seyb from Valley Center, Kansas, will be showing and discussing a Power Point presentation on the Iron and Steel Industries as they relate to model railroading.

Rick Seyb is a member of the NMRA, the Steel Mill Modelers Sig (special interest group), and the Wichita Area Model Railroaders (WAMRR). During the past few years he has given numerous presentations on different aspects of the steel industry. When the NMRA holds their 8-day national convention in Kansas City in August 2018, they have asked the Steel Mill Modelers Sig to do a day of clinics on the steel industry and Rick will be giving one of those clinics.

The Power Point presentation Rick will show at our meeting on October 19 was created by another steel modeler. It is a very good article on the steel industry and has been well received wherever it has been shown. Rick will also bring some copies of The Journal, a quarterly publication of the Steel Modelers.

Rick Seyb says he has been "playing" with model trains for more than 60 years. He started with a Lionel set, which he still has, and moved to HO in the early 70's. After "three layouts and lots of mistakes over the years," he is currently building a small portable steel layout.

By Paul Lodge

Run Trains After the meeting

Some club members have never run a train on the GFMRRC HO layout and would like the opportunity. Darin Long, leader of the HO group, has agreed to make arrangements for club members to operate trains on the HO layout after the monthly club meetings.

Many members have not seen the changes that were made during this summer's renovation projects. Although work is continuing, all trains were in operation for the Train Fest in August and all will be running after the meeting on October 19 and at the next HO Operating Session on Saturday, October 21.

It is hoped that this experience will increase the number of people who come to the Saturday morning operating sessions. Running trains on the layout will help people get familiar with the location names and the design of the extensive HO layout, which makes the operating sessions more interesting and enjoyable.

Come to the October meeting, enjoy the guest speaker, and plan to stay later to run trains.

By Paul Lodge

GFMRRC TRUCK FOR SALE

Club members can help with fund-raising by spreading the word that the Great Falls Model Railroad Club truck is for sale. This is a 1997 Chevy, Model 3500, with six tires and two axles, which has been driven for 133,000 miles. The gross weight is 11,000 pounds. It has a 5.7 liter (351 cubic inch) engine and uses gas rather than diesel fuel. The tires, drive train, engine, and transmission are all good. It has a new starter and battery. The frame



MODELERS FORUM

Come join the Modelers Forum on the fourth Thursday of each month. Bring a completed project or one that's still in progress, or come just to observe and learn. Share ideas with other modelers. Get answers to your modeling questions or help answer questions for other modelers. It's a great way to learn about new products and techniques that can improve your modeling skills.

Bottles for Basics

Bottles for Basics fund-raising has earned over \$700 for the club during each of the past 4 years. Thank you for bringing in your returnable bottles and cans. Now we need your help again. We need a Volunteer Redemption Assistant who would be willing and able to return bottles and cans once or twice a month to a local redemption center. Please see Thunder McBride, Owen Buck, or Ed Webb if you can volunteer.



needs two cross members reinforced or replaced in order to pass inspection. Jerry Johnston has parked the truck at the end of the driveway on Brighton Hill Road in Minot and there is a For Sale sign on it. For more information, call Jerry Johnston at 207-966-2932.

By Jerry Johnston

**MEETING MINUTES OF
September 21, 2017**

A Power Point slide show of club activities in August and September was shown from 7:00 to 7:15 p.m.

President Whitethunder McBride opened the meeting and asked someone to lead the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made and accepted to approve the Secretary's Report as published in the Signal.

Owen Buck gave the Treasurer's Report, which was approved as given.

Paul Lodge read the September 14 Executive Committee Report, which was approved as given.

Ed Webb reported that the library has acquired some new books, including some from Jay Calnan's collection. Ed is still receiving computer help from Terry King.

Bob Willard reminded members of the Modelers Forum meeting. All GFMRRC members are encouraged to come to share ideas and to bring finished projects or those which are works in progress.

Darin Long reported that work is continuing on the HO layout.

Because of the loss of some of the N-scale locomotives and rolling stock, a padlock will be attached to the storage cabinet in the N-scale room so that items can be stored securely.

It was announced that the new storage shed will have some modifications, which will include installing a roof cap, interior lights, and a lock on the door.

It was suggested that an attempt be made to try to sell the club truck to someone who could use it for parts.

For several months the Executive Committee has discussed the need for new locks and keys for the building. The new locks will be installed this month and keys will be issued to club members on a needs basis.

An appeal for a Company Store manager was made by President McBride. He noted that pricing of store items will be made by members who have a good knowledge of pricing options.

There is still a need for someone to volunteer to handle the Bottles for Basics program.

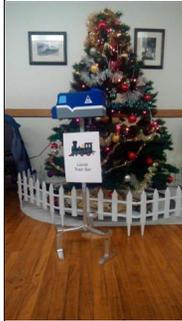
At the end of the meeting, the 50/50 raffle was won by Dick Holman. Charles Bagley won the Attendance Prize and selected a trailer hitch cover.

A new raffle was created because Staples has changed their policy. Credit given to the club for returning ink cartridges or purchasing items at Staples can now be used only for like purchases, either cartridges for cartridges or merchandise for merchandise. When club members donate used cartridges to the club, we will no longer be able to use credits for the cartridges towards purchasing the toner that our printer uses. After the Attendance Prize winner was chosen, the same names were used for drawing a name —>

ExTRAINaganza in November !

Does it seem too early to think about Thanksgiving and Christmas? Preparations are already under way for the 8th annual ExTRAINaganza that begins the Christmas season for the Great Falls Model Railroad Club.

The ExTRAINaganza is a four-day event held on the weekends before and after Thanksgiving.



In the past we have had different starting and ending times for each of the four days, but this year we will start every day at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. The dates for the ExTRAINaganza are Saturday, November 18; Sunday, November 19; Friday, November 24, the day after Thanksgiving; and Saturday, November 25.

Volunteers will be needed to help decorate the building on the evening of Wednesday, November 15, starting at 6 p.m. Projects will include setting up and decorating Christmas trees. Members of the HO crew have reminded us that garlands should not be hung near any track since pieces of garland which fall onto the track cause short circuits and disrupt the trains. Wednesday is the regular night for the HO work session. With help from those who are at the HO work session and/or their friends and family members, the decorating session will go faster.

The building will have a festive look for our regular club meeting on November 16. Any decorating which needs to be completed can be done after the meeting. Many of the decorations will still be in place for the club's annual Christmas party on Thursday, December 21.



Because of the number of days and the different activities going on at the event, club members are needed during the ExTRAINaganza to help by taking charge of games, supervising craft and cookie tables, selling tickets, monitoring layouts, and teaching young "Guest Engineers" how to run trains. The Executive Committee voted at the September meeting not to charge children to run trains on the HO layout, but we will still need someone to ensure an orderly system



of taking turns. Members are encouraged to volunteer to help at the ExTRAINaganza for all or part of a day or as often as you can.



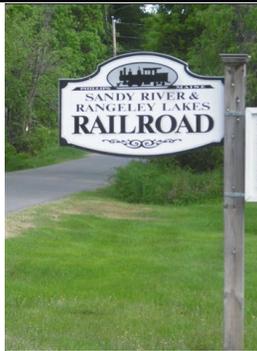
By Paul Lodge

to receive Staples ink cartridge credit. Since many people were unable to use the credit to purchase cartridges for their printers, several other names were drawn before Dick Holman won the Staples credit for new ink cartridges.

The meeting adjourned.

By Paul Lodge, Secretary

SR&RL SHOW IN PHILLIPS



The Model Rail and Hobby Show sponsored by the Phillips Area Community Center and the Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes Railroad on Saturday, September 30, was a successful venture on a

beautiful day. The Community Center on Depot Street in Phillips is much smaller than our usual venues, but it was well organized and the space was utilized effectively.

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club was well represented. Bob Willard had an interesting On30 display. It featured his award-winning, intricately detailed one-foot square multi-level scenic display that includes workmen performing various jobs at different heights. He had also brought a major section of a new project he had shown at Thursday night's Modelers Forum. Benton, Kerry and Julie Hayes have created a portable n-scale layout which was operating for the first time at the Phillips Show; and they had a collection of photos to show various stages in developing their layout.



Ron Czaja had three small layouts, all of which were displayed on a single table. The largest of the three was the Z-gauge unit, which is built to scale at 1/220. His smallest unit was the TY, 1/900, available from Tiny Trains in South Dakota. The middle unit was the T-gauge, 1/450, which is made in Japan and sold primarily in Scotland.

Paul Lodge brought the club's portable HO raffle layout and the Brio layout, which several young children really enjoyed. He regularly brings both of these layouts to the Family Night at Governor's Restaurant on the first Thursday of each month. Terry King had a good display of Lionel trains for sale, and there were several other vendors offering model railroad items in various scales.

The Phillips Historical Society added the Train Time DVD of the Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes Railroad to their sales table of Phillips and SR&RL memorabilia, and the video played throughout the day on a large screen on the stage at the front of the building. Art Shean of the Maine

Garden Railroad Society had an impressive 8' x 16' G-scale layout featuring Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes locomotives and rolling stock.



Refreshments were available at the old depot next door. An unexpected bonus was the antique car exhibit on the other side of the Community Center, which featured some beautifully restored cars and trucks.



Sharon Barber, a member of GFMRRRC and volunteer engineer on the Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes Railroad, spent the day with the steam train at the SR&RL. Rides were available on the two-foot narrow gauge railroad every hour from 11 to 4. There were two Ghost Train rides in the evening as well. The SR&RL is located less than a mile from the Phillips Community Center, which used to be the car barn for the railroad.



By Sharon Barber

Check out our Facebook page at:

Great Falls Model Railroad Club

For up to date Reports on our Activities...

Visit our web page!

See Facebook page And Web Site for posted pictures of club events

Dick Clark's Open Houses & Halloween !



Thank you to everyone who helped at the Toot'n Chug Rail Lines Open House as part of the Greene Village Day on Saturday, September 9. There were 130 folks who signed the guest book. The major storm the day before presented some challenges, but we were able to get the garden railroad cleaned up and ready for our visitors. The weather on Saturday was great, the food was delicious, folks were relaxed and enjoyed a good time.

Everyone is invited to the annual Halloween Open House at Toot'n Chug Rail Lines, 23 Barrel Road in Greene. The open house begins at sunset about 6:00 p.m. and ends around 8:00 p.m. Halloween decorations include ghosts, goblins, an old house which might be haunted, and special lights for the evening scenes. This will be our last Halloween Open House, and we hope you will come to enjoy the trains and the mood. Cost of admission is one smile.



By Dick Clark



GFMRRC Activities



N-Scale Portable Layout



The Great Falls
Model Railroad Club
(GFMRRC)

Contact Info:
144 Mill Street
Auburn, Me 04210

Virtual Address

<http://www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org>

See us on Facebook!

Great Falls Model Railroad Club

An educational foundation



Officers

President:

Whitethunder McBride - 213-6422
Wtthunder1750@yahoo.com

Past President:

Jerry Johnston, 966-2932
jjchef@megalink.net

Vice President:

Mike Meserve, 754-1476
yzf250mike@yahoo.com

Secretary:

Paul Lodge - 966-3641
paul lodge@gwi.net

Treasurer:

Owen Buck, 377-2872,
obuck61@hotmail.com

Directors:

Roger Allen - 783-2129
allenroger234@gmail.com
Roger Plummer - 740-0776
Darin Long - 782-3652
mccgp38261@gwi.net

Librarian/Archivist:

Ed Webb, 402-4604

Webmaster:

Joe Marshall - 344-7099
joe@braintriggers.com

Assistant Webmaster

Frances Lodge - 966-3641
paul lodge@gwi.net

Social Media Editor:

Tami Paine 595-4668
tami.girardin@yahoo.com

The Signal

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Editor:

Nicholas Mamich

Correspondent/Secretary:

Please email all articles to:
Paul Lodge paul lodge@gwi.net

GFMRRC
2017 Special Events

October 19th Meeting — 6:45 PM

Special Speaker

NMRA SIG Rick Seyb

October 31 — 6–8 PM

**Halloween Open House
Dick Clark Garden RR
Greene, Maine**

November 4 — 10 AM to 3 PM

**GFMRRC Annual Fall show,
Mt. Ararat High School, Topsham
HELP NEEDED!**

November 18, 19, 24, 25 — 10 AM to 4PM

EXTRAINaganza at GFMRRC

December 21

GMRCC Christmas Party



GFMRRC
Recurrent Activities

Please check web site or Facebook page

1st Thursday of each month - 5 to 7 PM

Family Night at Governor's Restaurant

1st Saturday of each month - 8 am to noon

HO Operating Sessions,

AND October 21 - 8 AM to noon

2nd Thursday of each month - 6:30 PM

Executive Committee Meeting

3rd Thursday of each month - 6:45 PM

Regular Monthly Club Meeting

4th Thursday of each month - 7 PM

Modelers Forum

HO Work Sessions

Except for Operating Sessions and special events, work sessions are scheduled:

- Every Saturday 8:00 am to noon
- Every Wednesday 6:00 pm - 8:00 PM

NOTE: There will be no Operating Session or Future Master Modelers meeting on November 4 because of the GFMRRC Train Show at Mt. Ararat in Topsham and no Operating Session on November 18 or 25 because of the EXTRAINaganza.

NOTE: After the monthly club meeting on October 19, all club members are invited to come downstairs to run trains on the HO layout.

