



Member since June 1988

**NEXT MEETING  
FEBRUARY 21  
6:30 p.m.**

**Have a story  
you want to  
share?**

**Send it to the  
Editor today  
and you may  
be published!**

**Bring a friend to our  
next meeting.**

**DO YOU WANT TO WIN?**

**Attendance & 50/50 prizes are drawn at every Meeting, on the 3rd Thursday of the month.**

**YOU HAVE TO BE PRESENT TO WIN!**

**DONATIONS**

**Bottles for Basics:**

- ◆ 2018- \$407.00
- ◆ 2019— \$418.40
- ◆ January—\$71.00

**PRINTER**

**CARTRIDGES:**

**Total last year: \$222.00**

**YTD: \$36.00**

**Last Month: 18.00**

# THE SIGNAL



## THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

VOLUME 23. ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2019

By Tami Paine

## 2019 RAILROAD RECIPE CONTEST

The 2019 Railroad Recipe Contest which was postponed from January 31 has been rescheduled for the monthly club meeting on March 21. Those interested in trying out a recipe should contact GFMRR Librarian Terry King. Our library has two books with recipes actually used in dining cars on the railroads: *Dining by Rail* and *Dining on the Shoreline Route*. You can choose a recipe from either of these books, make a copy of it at the club library, and take the recipe home to test it. Terry is usually at the library from 9 until noon on Monday through Friday, but please call ahead to make sure he will be there and can let you into the building. His cell phone number is 576-3788.

The more club members who participate, the more food selections we will have at the March club meeting. Rumor has it there may be some other food as well.

### THE MISSOURI-KANSAS-TEXAS LINES

#### KATY KORNETTES

- |                                 |               |
|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 qt. boiling canned sweet milk | 1 Tbsp. sugar |
| 1 lb. white cornmeal            | 1 tsp. salt   |
| 4 oz. butter, softened          |               |

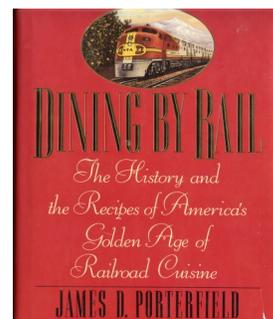
Lightly grease 2 large cookie sheets and set aside. Bring milk to a boil and pour into mixing bowl. Stirring constantly, add white cornmeal, butter, sugar, and salt and mix well. Let stand for 5 minutes. Using a pastry bag or tablespoon, drop silver-dollar-sized quantities onto cookie sheet. Cool at room temperature for 15 minutes, then place in oven for about 20 minutes, until cooked through.

#### KATY SPECIAL ONION SOUP

This dish originated with T. T. Turner, then superintendent of Missouri-Kansas-Texas dining service, to popularize Texas onions. When it was first introduced, stewards reported no great demand. Eventually, however, demand grew, and the railroad reported nine out of ten regular M-K-T passengers asking for this specialty in particular. Because the soup's taste can vary according to the skill of the cook, Superintendent Turner recommended following the recipe's directions carefully, using only good firm Texas onions. As confidence with the soup grows, he recommends experimenting with pinches and dashes of the ingredients to suit individual tastes. Other versions of the recipe, for example, have a half-cup of flour added to the onions-in-butter sauté, or salt and pepper added to taste. "If you have that certain something that is a natural attribute only of a master chef," Turner noted, "you'll be able turn out our Katy onion soup."

- |                                |                               |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6 large onions, 1/8-inch diced | 2 bay leaves                  |
| 4 oz. butter                   | 1/4 cup Worcestershire sauce  |
| 4 qts. rich chicken stock      | soup croutons                 |
| 4 sprigs parsley               | Parmesan cheese, fresh grated |
| 1 clove garlic                 |                               |

Slice onions 1/8-inch across, then dice. In the large skillet over medium heat, sauté onion in butter until light brown. Meanwhile, heat stock in pot. Add sautéed onions to heated stock. Add parsley, garlic, bay leaves, and Worcestershire sauce. Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer for 20 minutes. Remove parsley, bay leaves, and garlic. Place croutons in serving bowls, pour soup over, and top with a generous portion of freshly grated Parmesan cheese.



## CLUB VOTES TO PARTICIPATE IN AUBURN'S 150th ANNIVERSARY

By Paul Lodge

At the January monthly meeting of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club, members voted to participate in Auburn's 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Friday, February 22, 2019, is the date of the birthday party for Auburn, which was incorporated as a city on February 22, 1869. About two dozen locations in Auburn, including GFMRRRC, have volunteered to be "Cake Sites" for the occasion. Members of the public are invited to visit the locations and enjoy a slice of history. Terry King is getting our club ready by selecting pictures of local historic sites to display on our walls. Additional special exhibits and displays are being planned by various railroad club members. In honor of our building's original owners, Jake & Andy's Donuts, refreshments served by the GFMRRRC will include donuts from Lewiston's Italian Bakery. Robert and Rolande Breton, who owned Jake & Andy's until they retired in 2000, told us these are the closest to the ones they used to make. The railroad club will be open from 1 to 9 on February 22, and we hope many club members will join us for a few hours to help with layouts and refreshments.

The club's G-Gauge and HO divisions are doing their part in acknowledging Auburn's 150th Anniversary. Eric Long has made decals of Auburn's anniversary logo and given some to Dick Clark and to Travis Johnson. Dick has attached the logo to some G-gauge box cars and a caboose. He will also run one of his steam locomotives during the February 22 celebration. Travis Johnson has painted two HO locomotives in the shade of maroon used by Edward Little High School's Red Eddies and has added the Auburn 150 decals and the Great Falls logo.

Auburn officials have renamed the park next to Rolly's Diner as Auburn Anniversary Park and plan to build a special bell tower there for the "Bells of St. Louis" that were saved when St. Louis Church in New Auburn closed. Personalized commemorative bricks are being sold for \$100 each to raise funds for walking paths at the park. The club voted to purchase one of the bricks as our contribution to the New Auburn area.

Auburn is also planning a Memorial Day Parade to celebrate Auburn and its "American Heroes." GFMRRRC members voted to restore our parade locomotive so that members can walk with it and the club banner for the mile-and-a-half parade route. Live coverage of the event will include WGME television.

With these three activities, GFMRRRC will show its connection to the community. Railroad club members will be able to participate in various ways to draw attention to our facility and the amazing entertainment value we have available. For a complete listing of "Cake Sites" and more information about Auburn's 150th celebration events, check their website, [www.Auburn150.com](http://www.Auburn150.com)

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# SPIKEY'S STATION UPDATE

By Tami Paine

Several members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club have helped with Spikey's Station activities during the past three sessions. Our theme for January 5 was snowplows. Using excerpts from DVD's in the club's library and from a *Train Time* episode, Paul Lodge had created a short video that showed railroad snowplows in various locations throughout the USA. The *Train Time* episode included footage of a Maine train in a snowstorm videotaped by Dick Clark and Larry Cannon. Mike Meserve also showed a video of snowplows and brought some of Travis Johnson's HO snowplows so the children could see different types up close. The children then made their own snowplow attachments with popsicle sticks and tongue depressors. They fastened each snowplow to the Thomas the Tank Engine floor model and tried to direct its laser light to "plow" some cotton-ball "snow" into a Dunkin' Donuts box. Snack time featured "Snowballs," a favorite treat of upside-down cupcakes with white or pink frosting and coconut flakes.

On January 19 Dick Clark showed the Spikey's Station crew how to clean the track on the G-Gauge layout. They enjoyed getting their hands dirty with the tools Dick showed them how to use. Mike Meserve and Ed Webb demonstrated cleaning track on the HO layout and gave the children a chance to try using the specialized tools, including the long rod for cleaning the upper levels of the track and areas which would otherwise be unreachable.

February 2 was Groundhog's Day, which provided the tunnel theme for the day. After watching Paul Lodge's short video on tunnels, they created their own tunnels out of papier mache'. Since a groundhog digs his tunnels in the ground, the children made a special snack called "Dirt and Worms." They created the "dirt" by mixing crushed Oreos with chocolate pudding. They added "Gummy Worms" to finish the treat.

The railroad club will be closed on February 16 because GFMRRRC members will be participating in the Model Railroad and Dollhouse Show at the Augusta Armory. Some of those who regularly attend Spikey's Station meetings will be going to the show at the Augusta Armory. For more details, check with Tami Paine and/or the Spikey's Station Facebook page.





# JANUARY Minutes by Paul Lodge

**January 17, 2019**

The January 17 meeting started with refreshments and a social time before the unique video for the evening was shown. At their January 5 meeting, Spikey's Station kids were learning about railroad snow plows. For the Spikey meeting, Paul Lodge had produced a 10-minute video using excerpts from several of our library videos and footage from Larry Cannon and Dick Clark which had previously been seen in a TRAIN TIME video. Mike Meserve had also brought a short video to the Spikey meeting, and he demonstrated HO snowplows loaned by Roger Plummer and Travis Johnson. At the GFMRRRC meeting on January 17, Paul showed the video he had created for Spikey's Station, with the addition of a 6-minute video segment showing how Tami Paine and her helpers used the video and HO snowplows as part of their creative 3-hour Saturday morning railroad-related activity.

Vice President Mike Meserve opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Paul Lodge read the Executive Committee's report, which was approved as given. The Executive Committee will not be meeting in February and March in order to give all club members who are present at the GFMRRRC monthly meetings a chance to be more involved in planning club activities. We hope this will include new proposals for activities as well as open discussions and votes by the membership.

A motion was made and approved to have our layouts be part of the Maine Model Railroad tour on September 28 and 29.

Terry King formally resigned from purchasing potato chips. In order to satisfy club members, a variety of chips need to be available. Since the variety packs he was able to purchase included several varieties which no one wanted, the club ended up throwing them away after the expiration date passed. As a result, we were losing money on the chips. Terry suggested that another member volunteer to be in charge of obtaining chips. We hope someone will volunteer to accept this responsibility.

The club will be renting a vehicle to transport modules and sales items to the Whitefield Lions Club Dollhouse & Railroad Show at the Augusta Armory on February 16. We hope many members will be available to help at the show. If you want your module to be part of the club's large layout, please plan to be at the Armory between 7 and 8 a.m. on February 16.

A motion was made to approve the rental of six tables for the Southern Maine Model Railroad Show on April 6. A motion was made and accepted to allow Terry

King to rent a trailer so that the Lionel equipment can be transported to that event.

The City of Auburn's 150th Anniversary is in 2019 and they have planned several activities throughout the year. The club voted to participate in the city's celebration by purchasing a \$100 paver brick and paying extra for our club's logo to be added. The bricks will become part of the paths leading to the bell tower for Auburn's "Bells of St. Louis" which will be located at the newly-named Auburn Anniversary Park next to Rolly's Diner. There was excitement about using the railroad club as a museum to share railroad-related photographs and vintage railroad items. Members voted to have our facility be part of the "Cake Site" promotion on the city's actual birthday, Friday, February 22. Club members will be asked to provide cupcakes, brownies, or train-shaped cookies for this celebration. No one knows how many people will attend. Refreshments which are left after this occasion will be available for the HO Steam Session the next day.

The City of Auburn is planning a special Memorial Day parade. Our club members voted to participate by using our parade locomotive, which we hope to have repaired by then. City of Auburn events throughout the year, including the cake celebration and the Memorial Day parade, will be a great opportunity for positive public relations for our club.

There was interest in continuing to have snacks as part of the monthly club meeting. A motion was made and accepted to continue to fund up to \$35 a month for the platters. Some members felt that using \$420 a year for free snacks is not a justifiable use of club funds. The motion was approved with the addition of having a donation jar to help offset the cost.

The HO Division reported that they are upgrading some of the track and repairing other things. There are many pieces of rolling stock which need fixing and upgrading. All GFMRRRC members are invited to come to the work sessions to begin fixing the cars. The HO Operating Session on February 23 will feature steam engines with no diesel power on the layout. This was done once before and was a big hit. The April 20 HO Operating Session will feature Union Pacific, with only UP power allowed. It was announced that the HO summer shut-down will begin on Saturday, May 18 and last until Saturday, August 3. The Wednesday night work sessions will continue throughout the summer.

The N-Scale Division is working to upgrade the track and has obtained DCC sound locomotives to run on the layout.

The new GFMRRRC vests are now available at \$25. This is the same price as those available previously and includes the sew-on patch. There are a variety of sizes, including some for children. The vests are made in the USA of a sturdy light-weight denim fabric which should last well. They are the same shade of blue as before and the fabric is a good

*(Continued on page 5)*

## CLUB VOTES TO PARTICIPATE IN AUBURN'S 150th ANNIVERSARY CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

quality permanent press so vests will not need ironing.

Owen Buck gave an extensive Power Point presentation about container traffic from ships to railroads. Some of the views were from his personal picture collection of photos taken while he was on one of his around-the-world trips. Everyone enjoyed the presentation and many club members were able to add information.

At the end of the meeting, the Attendance Prize was selected. Terry King won and chose one of the hats. Paul Lodge won the 50/50 raffle.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.



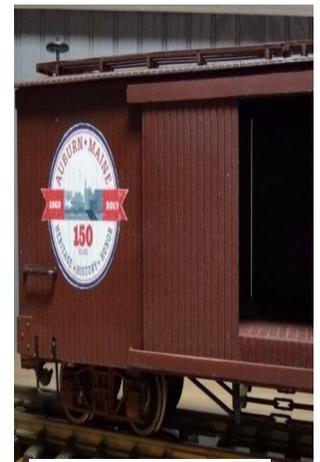
The Company Store now has a good supply of vests in all sizes, including some for children. The new vests are a sturdy permanent press fabric. The cost is \$25 for the vest and the sew-on patch.

The club's G-Gauge and HO divisions are doing their part in acknowledging Auburn's 150th Anniversary. Eric Long has made decals of Auburn's anniversary logo and given some to Dick Clark and to Travis Johnson. Dick has attached the logo to some G-gauge box cars and a caboose. He will also run one of his steam locomotives during the February 22 celebration. Travis Johnson has painted two HO locomotives in the shade of maroon used by Edward Little High School's Red Eddies and has added the Auburn 150 decals and the Great Falls logo.

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By Travis J. Johnson

## PAINT SCHEMES OF THE GREAT FALLS RAILROAD, PART 4

It is interesting what some railroads do to keep an image alive. When the Burlington Northern merged with the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, one of their early paint schemes was the "Cream and Green Warbonnet". I always found the scheme handsome, but apparently it was not well received by the public. It was nicknamed the "Vomit Bonnet" and was soon phased out in favor of simpler schemes in different colors. Other roads have been able to use schemes from their past to great success. Norfolk Southern is a prime example of this, with no fewer than twenty General Electric and Electro Motive Division painted in "Heritage" schemes for the railroads that became NS after the mergers.

### The Return of the Stripe!

The Great Falls Railroad went through the late 80's and most of the 90's without any new locomotive purchases. In late 1999 they ordered new General Electric locomotives in the form of six Dash 9-44CWs. With the arrival of the new GEs came a return to a familiar paint scheme. The Blue and Silver with White Stripe was back. In an effort to update the scheme, the new "wide-cabs" had the white stripe extend all the way down the sides of the cab. Because there was no more break where the numbers were placed, the numbers were applied in black instead of white. The words "Great Falls" on the nose were replaced with a simple "GF" across the nose. The words "The River Route" maintained a place of honor high above the "Great Falls Railroad" on the sides. Other than that, it was as though the Phase 2 paint was back. The scheme variant has quickly become "Phase 3" among fans and has been applied to all new AC4400CWs and nearly all of the EMD SD70ACs.

The decision to "return" to the scheme was made by an overwhelming vote of the directors of the GFR. Although the scheme is slightly different, it was hoped that the new scheme would boost a small slump in morale of the overall company. Even with most of the "legacy" Fs and Baldwin's still being used in day-to-day freight operations, the bigger units were needed for the "fast" intermodal and Autorack trains that had become a major part of the railroad's business.

### Model Time

The first locomotive to receive the Phase 3 scheme was GE Dash 9-44CW #1947, the "Thomas A. Coulombe". This unit was painted in memory of our

long-time club treasurer, Tom Coulombe, who passed away in June 2016. I wanted to try to return to the old scheme, but didn't want to copy it 100%. Adding the stripe across the cab sides, instead of trying to stop it, made a cleaner-looking scheme from the cab units. It also harkens back to the EMD F units and their schemes. This was the first locomotive I was honored to paint for a good friend and an all-round great member of our club.

### To Lease or Not to Lease

In the late 1960s, the GFR found that it needed more locomotives at certain times of the year. This influx in demand was due in part to traffic movement on the line and the product rushes that happened from time to time. While looking for options, it was decided to create a lease locomotive subsidy, Great Falls Rail Leasing (GFRX). When GFR ordered more locomotives, a few extras were ordered for its leasing arm. The GFRX units were painted in the Blue and White Stripe scheme, omitting the "Great Falls" wording on the nose and the "The River Route" slogans on the sides. Instead of the blue "Great Falls Railroad", they had "GFRX" in the side stripes colored black.

The leasing units were numbered in the 100 series. Although the experiment was a success, the GFRX units have mostly been absorbed into the racks of the GFR locomotive numbers. As of late 2017, only three of the twenty-five locomotives that ever wore the scheme had been repainted into GFR livery. The last road numbers are 100, 105, and GP40-2 115. In late 2018, GP40-2 119 was sent to the paint shop at the Central Maine and Western Mountains Railroad for repainting. As of this writing, it will be out shopped as the 1869 in early 2019. All leased locomotives are now taken from the GFR numbers for ease of locomotive acquisition and repair.

### But Why?

In developing this locomotive paint scheme, I couldn't pass up the opportunity to create an interesting backstory. I had a "spare" GP40 hanging around and thought, "What if?" Once the locomotive is finished, I plan to take it to as many operating layouts of our members as possible and get a photo of this unit at work on their layouts. I hope to create an interesting photo collection of one unit in many different settings. The paint scheme is a modification of the Blue and White Stripe

*(Continued on page 7)*

**PAINT SCHEMES OF THE GREAT FALLS RAILROAD, PART 4 CONTINUED**

scheme, which made painting this unit a breeze. The only thing that stopped me was figuring out the how and whys of what I had in mind. I knew that lease engines could have a paint scheme as diverse as the locomotive leasing companies that own them, so I felt it would be appropriate to do this one as a lease unit.



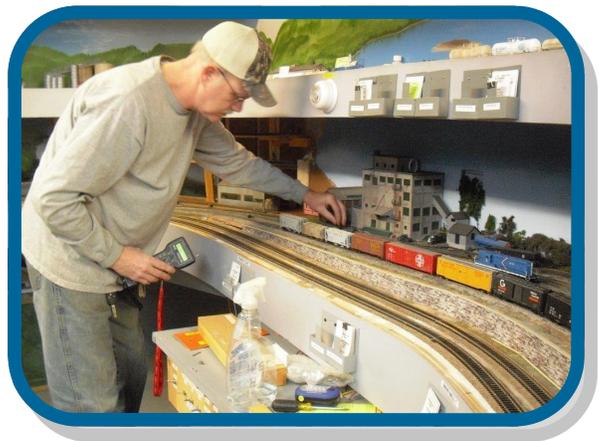
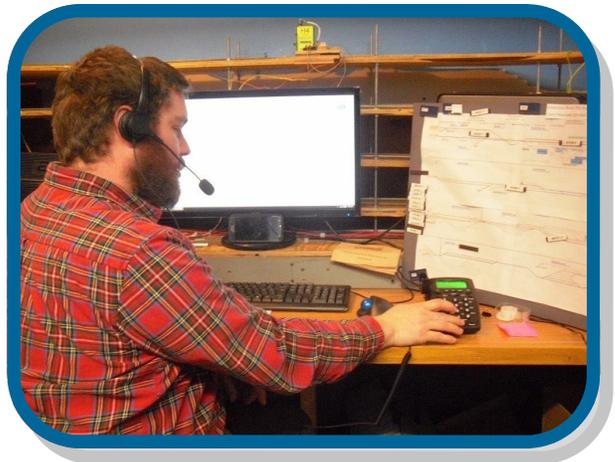
At the Modelers Forum meeting on January 24, Jamie Robinson displayed the lighted building he has created for his home layout. All GFMRRC members are invited to attend the Modelers Forum, which meets on the fourth Thursday of each month.

By Travis Johnson  
**NEW VIDEO SERIES**

A small group of members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club have joined me in an exciting new project. With the help of the Train Time Team, we will be producing a brand new video series, "Our HO Layout and You." The aim of the project is to create a series of videos to help people new to our HO layout familiarize themselves with the layout and to give a first-hand look at the how's and why's of our Operating Sessions. We hope to give all of our fellow club members an opportunity to learn about our system before they arrive downstairs for their first Operating Session.

I got the idea from another person's layout videos on the same subject. We will also be using this project as a stepping-off point for two other stalled projects: the layout mapping project and the GFMRRC Rule Book for operating the HO layout with personal and club equipment.

If you have any ideas about what you would like to see in these videos, please contact one of the members of the project and share your ideas. The easiest way is to send an email to Paul Lodge or to me personally at [slrmodlertj16@gmail.com](mailto:slrmodlertj16@gmail.com)





## THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

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## THE SIGNAL

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[www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org](http://www.greatfallsmodelrrclub.org)

## Upcoming Events

February 15, Set-up at Augusta Armory 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.

February 16, Train Show Augusta Armory—10:00 -3:00 p.m.

March 30, 3-rail train show, Augusta Elks Lodge, 397 Civic Center Dr., Augusta, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

April 6, Southern Me Model Railroad Club Show, Westbrook Community Center, 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.



April 13, Slide & Dine at club 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

April 27, Topsham Train Show, 10:00 a.m.—3:00p.m.

Please check web site or Facebook page.

## Recurrent Activities

### HO Operating Session:

February—2 & 23 9:00 a.m.—Noon  
March—2-23, 9:00—Noon

3rd Thursday of each month—6:30 p.m.  
Regular Monthly Meeting

Modelers Forum  
4th Thursday of each month— 7:00 p.m.

Spikey's Station- March 2 & 16— 9 :00 a.m.—noon

Work Session  
Every Wed. Evening - 6:00 p.m.

### SLIDE & DINE

April 13, 2019

Members and non-members are encouraged to bring 35mm slides, CD's, or power point presentations to show. Lunch will be Pot Luck, so please bring something to share.