



Members since June 1988



Signal indicates **STOP AT**
OUR NEXT MEETING
September 15, 2016 6:45

Notice: Governors will restart
 Family night in September!

Involve friends & relatives

Meetings demonstrate how
 we adhere to schedules

- - -

Better three hours too soon
 than a minute too late.

- William Shakespeare

Have a story you want to share?

Share your account at the meeting!

Or publish it in our newsletter!

Let us know by July 25, 2016

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 \$ 814.00

YTD \$343.00

Last month: \$ 120.00 (!!!)

Used Printer Cartridges

Last month: \$ 18.00

YTD: \$ 70.00

Why donate to Great Falls?

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

The Signal



September Edition
 2016

Sixth Annual TRAIN FEST

A Success!

On Saturday and Sunday, August 20 and 21, the Great Falls Model Railroad Club hosted its sixth annual Train Fest. Dates for this event correspond to those of the Lewiston/Auburn Balloon Festival. This year more than 175 adults and 61 children attended the Train Fest.

Many people visited the club for the first time, including some from Connecticut, Oklahoma, Alabama, Vermont, and Kansas. **Jerry Johnston and Ed Webb** placed Train Fest signs along the roads leading to the club house. A high percentage of those attending the event indicated they came because they saw the signs. Others mentioned our website, Face Book, and the newspaper publicity.

This year for the first time, our parade locomotive was included in the Balloon Festival parade. Thanks to **Bryce Weeks and Nancy Weeks** for operating the locomotive and to Mike and Tami Paine for carrying the Great Falls Model Railroad Club banner.

As usual, many families with young children came to the Train Fest, enjoyed the layouts, ran trains, and played games. Tickets were sold at the door so that children could play the "Roundhouse Roulette" and "Balloon Bag Toss," drive the Ride-on Train, decorate cookies shaped like hot air balloons, or become a "Guest Engineer" on the HO layout. Many of the club members who helped guide the trains of Guest Engineers throughout the HO layout were from the club's Future Master Model Railroaders Committee.

"The Great Balloon Chase" scavenger hunt asked guests to find specific hot air balloon images on the walls in the three layout rooms. After finding all the items, they brought their completed cards back to the game room and were rewarded with a "hot air balloon" with a Reese's Peanut Butter Cup in the balloon's "basket." Train Time shows were shown



continuously throughout the weekend and were available for sale. Both the Scavenger Hunt and the outdoor Bubble Blast were free activities.

The Company Store had many sales. Jerry Johnston and **Larry Cannon** sold excess inventory on Sunday at the train show in Concord, New Hampshire, which added to the weekend's profit.

On Saturday, Jerry Johnston served a lunch for the club members who came to help with the event. Several members, including Jerry Johnston and Nancy Weeks, provided the food. On Sunday, Nancy Weeks served the food for the members.

Pictures were taken during both days and some were sent to Uncle Andy's Digest for publication. Many pictures of the Train Fest are included in this newsletter and even more will be shown in the Power Point at the club meeting on September 15.

As one of the major fund-raisers of the club, the



Train Fest was a success because so many of the club members came to help during the two-day event.

Thanks!



By Paul
 Lodge



Member
#076805 00
Since 1988



Come share
your projects
at our
Modeler's Forum



Parade Locomotive in Balloon Festival Parade

The Parade Locomotive donated to GFMRR by Bill Soule of Bangor was in the Balloon Festival Parade for the first time on Saturday, August 20. Although we had submitted an application to be in the parade last year, we did not participate because of the high probability of rain.

Bryce and Nancy Weeks were the power and brakes for the locomotive and Mike and Tami Paine walked in front of them with the club banner. Paul Lodge took video of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club entry during its one and a half mile trip from Elm Street



in Auburn to Railroad Park in Lewiston. As he was taking the video, he heard many comments from the parade watchers about the locomotive. Many of them did not know about the club, and the club's entry created some curiosity. While she and Mike were marching in the parade, Tami invited some of the families to come to the club's Train Fest.

On Sunday during the lunch period at the club, the DVD of the parade was shown in place of a TRAIN TIME show.

By Paul Lodge

BOTTLES FOR BASICS (B4B) We are meeting our goal !

Since 2009, Bottles for Basics—B4B has raised over \$3,200 in additional revenue for the club. Those five cent contributions add up when everyone pitches in. Thanks to everyone who has donated bottles to the club and to **Jim Vatter & Jerry Johnston** for signing up to take them to the bottle redemption recycling center each month.

Donating at least \$90 worth of bottles per month will meet our goal of setting a new B2B \$1,000 record next year! Meeting this goal will keep **Owen Buck, our new treasurer**, smiling! Thanks for making B4B a success!

Train Fest at D'Youville

When **Tami Paine** discovered that she would be working on the Alzheimer's unit at St. Mary's d'Youville Pavilion just before the Train Fest, she thought it would be fun to bring the Train Fest to the residents. She talked with her husband Mike to see if it would be possible to put a train together on the unit, and he thought it was a great idea.

Tami is the Manager of the Activity Department at d'Youville Pavilion. When a staff member in this small department takes a vacation, everyone fills in. Tami often fills in on the Alzheimer's unit since this is her passion and she has over 20 years of experience working with this population.

On the day of the activity Tami came to work in the colorful attire she wears to special train club events. The morning



Mike Paine ^

started with the movie The Silver Streak, followed by a Hobo Coffee Time with some train discussion. Tami talked a lot about the Chessie, since that is her train of choice. After lunch she created train engine pins and made them with the residents, who wore them for the rest of the day. Then Mike came upstairs and helped Tami set up his Lionel train. They started with a steam engine which had smoke in it. Because they were worried about setting off the fire alarm, they changed to a diesel engine that Mike had brought along just in case.

The Alzheimer's residents enjoyed watching the train so much that they stayed for an hour and a half. The staff were surprised that the train had kept the residents' attention for so long, and they asked Tami if she could bring it in again as often as possible. Mike and Tami are now hoping to create a small layout with scenery that can easily be transported and stored. This way Tami can display it not only on the Alzheimer's unit but also on the six other units in the nursing home.



By Tami
Paine



MEETING MINUTES

August 18,

A Power Point slide show of club activities in July and August was shown from 6:45 to 7:00 p.m.

The evening's TRAIN TIME show featured trains in Pennsylvania.

President **Jerry Johnston** opened the meeting and asked for the Secretary's Report. A motion was made to accept the report as published in the Signal.



For the Treasurer's Report, **Owen Buck** reviewed the spending for the last couple of months. Owen reported that Mt. Ararat in Topsham has been booked for the fall show on November 5 and for the spring show in April 2017. He also explained the mortgage refinancing which has taken place since the conclusion in July of the special fund-raising drive to reduce the loan for the mortgage. The report was accepted as given.

Dick Holman made the presentation for "What's on Your Workbench Boxcar?" He explained his experiments with lights inside some of his build-ings.

Terry King had found a secretary's report from December 18, 1997, which welcomed **Tom Coulombe** into the club. Members attending the July meeting were organized into small groups and asked to come up with ideas for honoring Tom Coulombe during the club's 30th anniversary. The committee created at the end of the meeting will bring a report to the club on September 15.

Dick Clark invited club members to the Greene Village Day event on September 10. His G-gauge outdoor layout will be operating and open to the public. Club members usually bring the raffle layout to Dick's home to sell tickets and some members help run his layout. The Parade Locomotive is also invited to be in the Greene Village Day parade.

Secretary **Paul Lodge** read the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting from August 11. He noted that the next Adult Education Model Railroad-ing class starts at 6:30 p.m. on September 6, and everyone is invited to come and participate in the class, either as a class member or occasional helper.

Drawings were made for the Attendance Prize and the 50/50 raffle. **Jamie Robinson** won the 50/50 raffle. **Ray Anderson** won the Attendance Prize and selected a newly designed "Hobo" t-shirt.

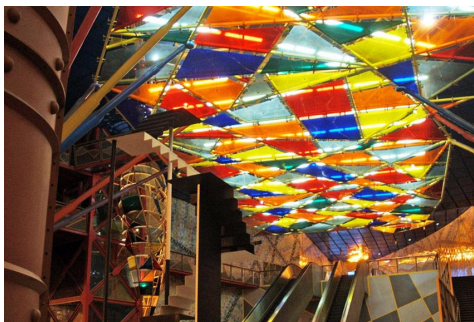
The meeting adjourned.

Strange Train Stations

Too often, riding a train or subway involves waiting in a dingy, dark, bland station. Some architects hear your pain and have designed stations that are comfortable, efficient and interesting. Here are the most innovative transit-station designs in the world

By Kathryn Kennedy

Olaia Station—Lisbon, Portugal



Background: The second station on the list built for Expo '98, the Olaia station was designed by Tomas Taveira and a team of Portuguese artists.

Why It's Unique: The station, like many others in Portugal, boasts a contemporary art design in its interior, with dramatic coloring and beautifully designed tiles, allowing the station to stand as a work of art on its own.

Bockenheimer Warte—Frankfurt, Germany



Background: A busy transfer station in west Frankfurt, the Bockenheimer Warte station is home to three Frankfurt U-bahn lines.

Why It's Unique: "In terms of the stations themselves, they need, in our mind, to have some form of identity," Nielsen says. "You should be able to identify that that is a transit station and that's a transit stop." The Bockenheimer Warte station could not possibly make it more clear, with its strange entrance that is a classic-style train car bursting through the ground. Inspired by surrealist art, this station is one with a sense of humor.

Outstanding Library Additions

September, the end of the summer, and life as it should be. It is once again time to start thinking about dusting off the layout and to start modeling again. The wall cabinets have been moved from the n-scale room into the library to make room for the HOn30 narrow gauge layout donation we received from Wally Chase.

We have had a donation of three very informative DVD's. Craftsman Kits 101 includes the clinics presented in 2011 at the Northeastern Region of the N.M.R.A. in Warwick, R.I. A lot of these clinics were presented by Jack Ellis of New Hampshire who is an excellent modeler and is able to present his ideas in a clear and concise manner. Roger Williams Express DVD is from another convention and also has great clinics on it. Another interesting DVD is FAST TRACKS RESOURCE. This DVD has printable track templates, complete builder's guides and Fast Track videos.

As I have been writing this, we have received another donation from Dale Darling, the son of a former member. He acquired these items from a doctor in Portland who was moving and was going to throw them away. Thank God for people like this who understand that these are historical items and should be preserved. Over the years we have received thousands of dollars' worth of donations from people like this.

Among the books in this collection is the COLORADO MIDLAND by Morris Cafky, produced by the Rocky Mountain Railroad Club with a copyright date of 1965. It has 467 pages with great pictures and maps. This is a limited edition with fewer than 6,000 numbered copies ever published. We also received a 1948 Chicago Railroad Fair Official Guide Book.

The gem of the collection is a set of maps in a leather-bound case showing all of the railroad lines in the U.S. This map collection was put out by International Correspondence Schools, in 1909. The map of Maine shows all of the narrow gauge lines in the state including the WW&F, the Saco & Bridgton, and the Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes. It also shows all the standard gauge lines, including the Maine Central line through Lewiston, the Sabattus line, and the Rumford branch. This is a must see.

Remember, whatever prototype you are modeling, your library probably has something for you.



Terry King

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

Maine Model RR Tour September 24-25th

People in and near Maine interested in model railroads are in for a special experience during the weekend of September 24-25. Close to 20 model railroad layouts will be open for touring during the weekend. Layouts in different scales, sizes, and stages of construction, outdoor as well as indoor, are on the Tour. Most of the layouts are of the popular scales such as O, HO, and G, but there are also narrow gauge layouts (e.g., On30 and HOn30). Partially finished layouts offer the best opportunity to learn layout construction techniques. Layouts closer to being "finished" offer examples and inspiration for modelers to strive for.



The second Maine Model Railroad Tour will take place in eastern Maine on Saturday the 24th and in southwestern Maine on Sunday the 25th. To participate in the Tour, log on to www.mainemodellrrtour.com and register. Upon registering, instructions will be emailed to enable one to open confidential web pages which contain descriptions, locations, and images of the layouts on the Tour. For those who have previously registered, they can use their previously issued username and password to open the confidential pages again.

The inaugural Maine Model Railroad Tour in 2015 focused on layouts in central and mid-coastal Maine. The 2016 Tour will be in different territories of Maine to give visitors new vistas and to give new layout hosts the chance to welcome other hobbyists. The eastern Maine territory ranges from Augusta in the west to Bar Harbor in the east. The southwestern Maine territory ranges from York in the west to Windham in the east. Tools and information will be available online so that planners can create customized routes that will enable them to visit the layouts in which they have the most interest.

Maine Model Railroad Tour, a joint program co-sponsored by 23 entities, is a free, self-guided, inclusive, model railroad layout tour program in Maine which welcomes layouts of any scale and gauge and all stages of layout construction and percentage of scenery. The co-sponsors' goals include nurturing interest in the history of railroads and in model railroading, and helping model railroad hobbyists meet each other, learn from each other and learn where they can obtain information and resources to pursue their hobby. For more information, see www.mainemodellrrtour.com, contact any of the co-sponsors, or email mckenp@maine.rr.com.

Children's Spikey T-Shirts available at company store



Spikey T-shirts

now available at
the Company
Store

In children's sizes

Stephen Martelli traverses Appalachian Trail To attend GFMRRRC meeting



Stephen Martelli,
welcome back
from Appalachian Trail &
Lyme Disease

The Appalachian National Scenic Trail, generally known as the Appalachian Trail or simply the A.T., is a marked hiking trail in the east-

ern United States extending between Springer Mountain in Georgia and **Mount Katahdin in Maine**. The trail is about 2,200 miles long, though the precise length changes over time as parts are modified or rerouted. The trail passes through the states of Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine.

The Appalachian Trail was completed in 1937 after more than a decade of work, although improvements and changes continue. It is maintained by 31 trail clubs and multiple partnerships, and managed by the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, and the nonprofit Appalachian Trail Conservancy. The majority of the trail is in forest or wild lands, although some portions traverse towns, roads and farms. The trail conservancy claims that the Appalachian Trail is the longest hiking-only trail in the world.



FORUM HINTS

Panel Direction Indicator Lights

Adding panel directional lights can dramatically improve visual confirmation of a switch direction. If you are using Tortoise machines via a toggle switch, it is simple to add LED lights (red, green, or ...) to the wiring.

The Tortoise wiring diagram gives clear instructions explaining how. LED lights do require a transistor. To avoid the hassle of choosing and installing the correct transistor, go to the web site below for LED lights. These lights/diodes have the transistor installed along with a 6-inch lead wire.

Products:

- LED Panel lights (includes transistor and 6 inch wire leads)
- Where: <http://www.ebay.com> and search on 100pcs 3mm Pure Green LED Pre Wired
- Product: Green LED: 100pcs 3mm Pure Green LED Pre Wired 12V DC Lights Bulb
- Lamp LED Light: 20cm Wires
- Red LED: 100pcs Red 3mm LED Pre Wired Lights 12V 20 cm Bulbs Lamp
- Cost: Green, \$14.61 as of April 2016; Red, was \$12.61 with free shipping
- Degree of Difficulty: 5 (Difficulty Scale: 1 -easy to 10 - most difficult).

THE FORUM

On the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 p.m., members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club meet to share modeling techniques and ideas. Future newsletters will have a "Tip of the Month" submitted by club members who want to share their modeling experiences. All club members are invited to come and learn or share their modeling skills. New model railroaders as well as those with many years of experience have participated in the Modelers Forum.

By Paul Lodge



White Thunder McBride demonstrated Indian artifacts, some of which he had made

From the Forum:

Tool Tips for the Trade

Jamie Robinson demonstrated lighting HO buildings



Kent Waterson explained his project

Dick Holman, blacksmith



Thunder's bear jaw knife handle

White Thunder McBride demonstrated Indian artifacts



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See us on Facebook!

Great Falls Model Railroad Club

An educational foundation



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The Signal

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GFMRRC FALL EVENTS

September 7th -10th

36th National Narrow Gauge Convention,

Augusta Civic Center

For details, see www.nngc2016.com

September 24-25th

ME Model RR Tour (see article page 4)

November 5—10am to 3pm

Annual Fall Model Railroad Show

Mt. Ararat High School

Topsham

November 19, 20, 25, 26

ExTRAINaganza



GFMRRC Recurrent Activities

Please check web site or Facebook page

1st Thursday of each month

Family Night at Governor's Restaurant

Come & enjoy good food anyway!
1185 Lisbon St, Lewiston, ME 04240

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

Tuesday mornings - 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

NOTICE: Retired Renovators will re-

sume meetings on 9/13/2106. We meet to restore railroad equipment and buildings donated to the club. This helps to sell excess inventory at higher prices. If you would like to help, come whenever you can.

Tuesday evenings - 6:30 to 8:30 PM.

Model Railroading Class.

HO Work Sessions

Except during special events,
work sessions are scheduled :
- Every Saturday 8:00 AM to noon
- Every Wednesday 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Future Master Modelers

First Saturday of every month from noon to 1:00 p.m.

(Except will meet November 12 because of Topsham Show and ExTRAINaganza)

Is anybody interested in having dinner before the Regular club meetings? Please email greatfallsmodelrailroadclub@yahoo.com

