



Members since June 1988

The Signal



April Edition
2018



Signal indicates **STOP AT OUR NEXT MEETING**
April 19, 2018 6:30! pm

Clinic: Computer Sites run HO trains after meeting!

Involve friends & relatives

Meetings demonstrate how Hobbies impart the trades
Fabrication—Finishing—Electricity
Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve 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 March 25, 2018
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 \$519.00
Last month: \$ 40.00

Used Printer Cartridges
Total Last Year \$ 350
YTD: \$ 107.00
Last month: \$ 12.00

**SPRING TRAIN SHOW
AT MT. ARARAT
SATURDAY, APRIL 28**

On Saturday, April 28, the Great Falls Model Railroad Club will hold its annual spring train show at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$4 and is free for those 12 and under.

This year the HO modular layout will be set up in the lobby of the entrance to the show. This will be the first layout that visitors see as they enter. By being away from other layouts, we hope to cut down on the electronic interference from our DCC operation. If you would like to bring your module to be part of the layout, please have it at Mt. Ararat High School before 8 a.m. on Saturday.

The Mt. Ararat Sports Boosters will provide refreshments throughout the day with coffee and donuts in the morning and luncheon specials beginning at about noon.

The rental tables will be delivered to Mt. Ararat High School on Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Club members are encouraged to come to the high school at that time to help take the tables off the delivery truck and arrange them for the dealers. A small crew of club members will be at the club on Friday afternoon to load the modular layout sections and surplus assets onto a rental truck for delivery at Mt. Ararat High School on Saturday morning at 7 a.m.



More than eighty sales tables have been rented to dealers from around New England who will be there to sell a variety of model railroad items, books, and DVDs. The club also plans to have several tables for selling surplus inventory items, books, and other items of interest to those attending the show. A test track will be available for buyers to check model locomotives before they are purchased.

We are looking forward to many club members coming to help by setting up tables and the modular layout, selling tickets at the door, running trains on the layout, and selling surplus inventory items. We will also need help taking down tables and displays after the show.

This is one of the club's most important fund-raising events which helps keep the annual dues to a minimum. Thanks for your help!

By Paul Lodge



Member #076805 00 Since 1988

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



Dave Gilchrist 1945-2018

It is with great sadness that the family of David B. Gilchrist announce his passing on Saturday, March 3, at his home surrounded by his loving family, after a long and courageous two year battle with cancer. Dave fought this with a positive attitude, determination, the love of God, and a smile on his face.

He was a member of the Lewiston school board, member of Great Falls Model Railroad club, and the Androscoggin Ham radio club.



By Lewiston Sun Journal

SPRING SURPLUS INVENTORY SALE AND DCC TRAINING

Another new adventure is set for the Great Falls Model Railroad Club on Saturday, May 19, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For the first time, the club has scheduled a series of clinics and a Surplus Inventory Sale on the same day. Drawing modelers to the club for DCC training and providing an opportunity for them to purchase additional model railroad equipment is a new experiment for us.

Several years ago we sponsored successful one-day model railroad clinics. This year the club's extensive HO model railroad will be used for instructing and demonstrating DCC operation throughout the day. Experienced club members will be available to answer questions about DCC installation, sound systems, and general DCC information. At this time, there is no set schedule for the various topics. Instead, people in attendance will be encouraged to ask questions about the aspects of DCC installation and operation they would like answered. Questions may also be sent to the club before May 19, using the contact button on the website, or in an email to paulodge@gwi.net. Answers to the questions asked in advance and/or on the day of the clinics will indicate the direction of the clinic at that time. There is no charge for the clinics.

The Surplus Inventory Sale on May 19 is the first one we have held in the spring. The club has recently received many donations and purchased large quantities of rolling stock, locomotives, and structures, including a number of Marklin trains. Many of these items have not been seen by the general public. Club members will have first pick from the newly-acquired items to add to their personal empires. Proceeds from this sale will help fund the continuing pay-down of our mortgage.

By Paul Lodge

GREG OUELLETTE 1939 – 2018



Greg Ouellette, a member of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club and an outstanding modeler, passed away on March 20. His workmanship was on display on the On30 modules he and long-time friend Bob Willard exhibited at many train shows and GFMRRC events. Greg was always eager to share his knowledge and experience with interested modelers.

Greg specialized in being a narrow gauge modeler. Diorama building was one of Greg's passions. In the 1980s he started building an On2 portable layout, which he took to train shows around New England as part of a group of modelers which included GFMRRC members Bob Willard and Dennis Lamarre. They traditionally attended the Father's Day Show in Edaville.

By Paul Lodge



MAINE 3-RAILERS SHOW AT AUGUSTA ELKS CLUB

On Saturday, March 17, Terry King and Ron Czaja sold surplus inventory from the Great Falls Model Railroad Club at the Maine 3-Railers model train show at the Elks Club in Augusta. Terry reported that he and Ron sold more than \$600 worth of surplus inventory. Terry was especially pleased that Ron was at the show all day and was a big help in selling items and engaging with the show goers.

Since Terry took all of the items for sale in his car, the club did not need to rent a truck for the show, which saved money. Thanks to both Terry and Ron for a successful day!

By Paul Lodge

GFMRRRC Events

Tammy Paine's B-day party!



OLE!



A SECOND SURPLUS INVENTORY SALE

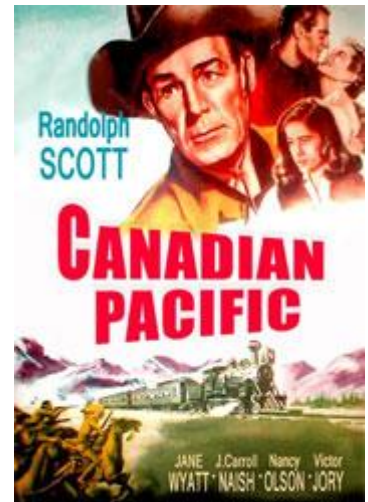
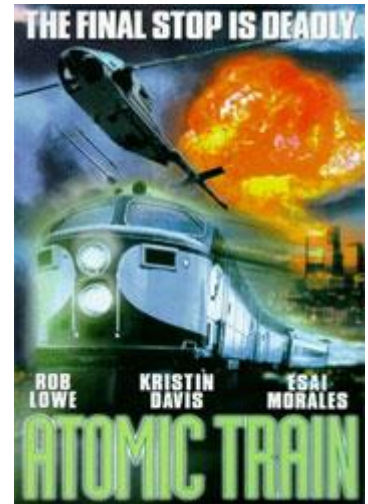
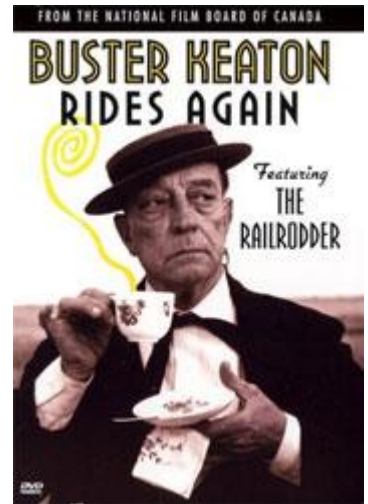
On Saturday, May 19, the Great Falls Model Railroad Club will hold a Surplus Inventory Sale at the club house at 144 Mill Street in Auburn from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sales items will include locomotives, rolling stock, railroad memorabilia, books, DVD's and videotapes. Many of these items have never been displayed at railroad shows.

On the same day and at the same times, on the lower level of the club building, members of the HO crew will hold a continuous series of clinics on the installation and use of DCC, the control system used on our HO layout. Model railroad fans are invited to see the HO layout in operation and to attend as many clinic sessions as you would like.

Both the Surplus Inventory Sale and the DCC clinics are open to the public, and there is no charge for admission.



Railroad Movies



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

MEETING MINUTES OF March 15, 2018



With the new meeting schedule, a railroad video was shown from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. while club members were arriving for the monthly meeting. This month's video was one of many available to all club members at the Great Falls Model Railroad Club library. At 7:00 the Power Point slide show of club activities in February and March was shown.

President Whitethunder McBride was not able to attend so Vice-President Mike Meserve led the meeting, opening with the Pledge of Allegiance.



Visitor Dale Blake and new member Matthew De-Jongh introduced themselves to the club.

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

Treasurer Owen Buck was not at the meeting. The Treasurer's Report was given by Mike Meserve and approved by vote.

Members were reminded that everyone is welcome to attend the Modelers Forum on the fourth Thursday of the month.

A report on the HO Division layout was given by Mike Meserve. He noted that progress is still being made on laying new track. The HO Division is attempting to create a passenger train for use during operating sessions. A student from the University of Southern Maine will attend the operating session on March 17 to make a video required for a class project.

Terry King reported that 89 tables have been rented for the spring model train show in Topsham.

The Maine 3-Railers show is Saturday, March 24, at the Elks Club in Augusta. Terry King plans to attend the show and sell some of our surplus inventory.



On Saturday, March 17, we will have a birthday party here for Jackson Corey. Jackson is 8 and this will be the third time he has had his birthday party here.

The next portion of the meeting was the clinic on DCC sound systems. Jamie Robinson created an excellent



40-minute Power Point Program which included video to demonstrate the locomotive sounds he was explaining.



At the conclusion of the meeting, the Attendance Prize was won by Mike Meserve. He selected a Great Falls Model Railroad Club bumper sticker. Paul Lodge won the 50/50 raffle.

The meeting adjourned.

"NEW" OLD TENDER FOR MEC 470

Members and Supporters of the 470 Restoration Project have been collecting donations throughout the year to replace the tender of the old Maine Central steam locomotive #470. With \$40,000 more, the tender will go to Pittsfield, where skilled Maine steel workers will turn out an identical new reproduction in about a year. In one year, something permanent and necessary will be ready to roll behind a restored icon of Maine railroading.

A locomotive cannot operate without a tender, and 470's tender body is corroded beyond repair. A complete replacement is required. The body will be taken apart to form templates to make CAD diagrams. A new riveted tender body will then be created

that is historically accurate and reproduced in much the same way as in 1924. Essentially, 470 will receive "a new, old tender". Original hardware, including coal bunker doors, the stoker motor, grab irons, steps, and ladder, will all be incorporated in the new body.



A Maine contractor has been identified to undertake this job, which will employ Maine steel workers for half a year. The funds you donate will stay in the local economy, doing even more good. The tender is big, it's essential, and what a showpiece it will be on completion!

Donations of all amounts are welcome and may be sent to New England Steam Corporation, P. O. Box 302, Winterport, ME 04496. If you are mailing a check, please indicate that is for the Tender Fund. Fmi: www.newenglandsteam.org

Adapted from Richard Glueck, NE Steam

Fun At Governor's Restaurant



Ed Webb clearing the tracks for the next meeting!



The Great Falls Model Railroad Club (GFMRRC)

GFMRRC 2018 Special Events

GFMRRC Recurrent Activities

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
paulodge@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
mecgp38261@gwi.net

Librarian/Archivist:
Ed Webb, 402-4604

Webmaster:
Joe Marshall - 344-7099
joe@braintriggers.com

Assistant Webmaster
Frances Lodge - 966-3641
paulodge@gwi.net

Social Media Editor:
Tami Paine 595-4668
tami.girardin@yahoo.com

April 28
April 28, GFMRRC Spring Show, Mt. Ararat High School, Topsham 10 to 3

May 17
May 17, GFMRRC Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers

May 19
GFMRRC Surplus Inventory Sale, 8 to 3
DCC Clinics on HO layout, 8 to 3

Please check web site or Facebook page

1st Thursday of each month - 5 to 7 PM
Family Night at Governor's Restaurant

4/7, 4/21, 5/5
HO Operating Sessions,

2nd Thursday of each month - 6:30 PM
Executive Committee Meeting

3rd Thursday of each month - 6:30 PM
Regular Monthly Club Meeting

4th Thursday of each month - 7 PM
Modelers Forum

HO Work Sessions
Second and fourth Saturdays and every Wednesday evening

Future Master Model Railroaders
No meetings until future notice

The HO Operating Sessions
April 7 and 21

The Signal

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Editor:
Nicholas Mamich

Correspondent/Secretary:
Please email all articles to:
Paul Lodge paulodge@gwi.net

