

Member since June 1988

**NEXT MEETING
JANUARY 17
6:45 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- \$407.40
- ◆ 2019— \$11.00
- ◆ December—\$11.00

PRINTER

CARTRIDGES:

Total last year: \$222.00

YTD: \$18.00

Last Month: \$18.00

THE SIGNAL



THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

VOLUME 23. ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2019

RAILROAD RECIPE CONTEST

By Tami Paine

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club will be holding our first "Railroad Recipe Contest" on Thursday, January 31, at 6:30 pm.

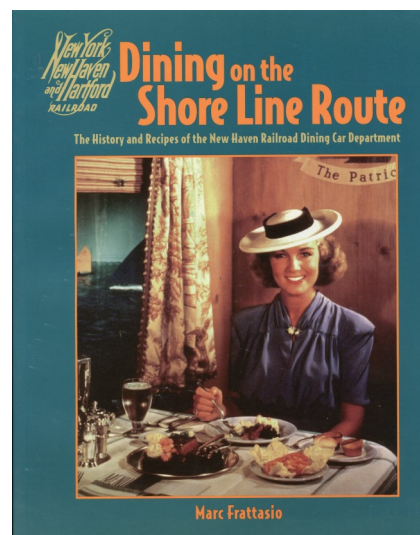
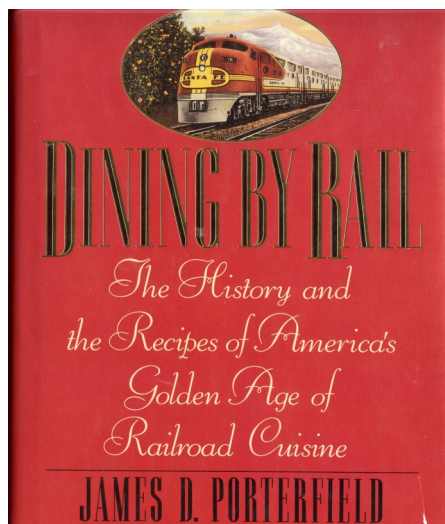
Did you know that the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad is often credited with serving the first meal to passengers? This meal was a cold meat plate catered by the City Hotel in Baltimore and served on the train on November 3, 1842. In 1862 the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad converted a pair of coaches into what many historians consider the first food service passenger cars.

This information and more can be found in two books that were donated to our library: *Dining on the Shoreline Route* by Marc Frattasio and *Dining by Rail* by James D. Porterfield. The recipes in these two books have inspired the GFMRRC to create the first "Railroad Recipe Contest". To participate in this event, you need to go to the library and look through these two books. Find a recipe that jumps out at you. Let our librarian Terry King know what you will be cooking. Bring in your finished menu item on January 31 to be judged and to share with other members. (For those of you who decide not to cook, please come and enjoy the food!)

I found a recipe from the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad called "Corn Bread Pie". According to the book, the B & O claimed that passengers would miss their station stops for second helpings of this very popular dish. It sure sounds like a winner to me.

In case of bad weather, the snow date is February 7.

We hope to see you on Thursday, January 31, at 6:30 pm. Happy cooking!



AUBURN, ME 1869-2019

The city of Auburn is celebrating its 150th birthday in 2019 with a number of special activities.

Travis Johnson is painting two locomotives in the color of maroon used by Edward Little High School and adding details to represent the Great Falls Model Railroad Club and Auburn's 150th.



Photo by Travis Johnson

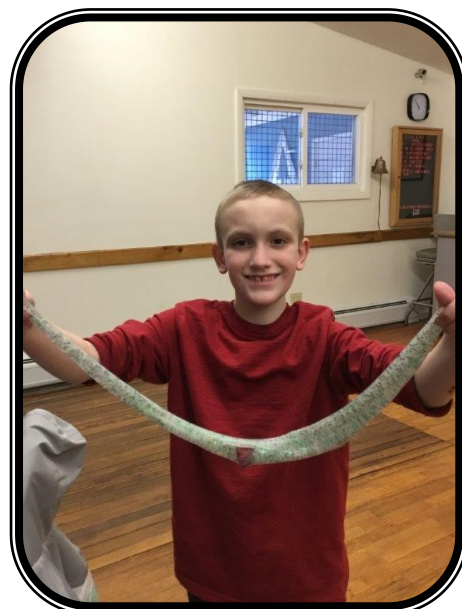
SPIKEY'S STATION UPDATE

By Tami Paine

Spikey's Station had a Grinchmas Party on December 22, 2018. This was our first event that did not involve trains. The only thing we could find that the Grinch did with trains was to steal them.

Our party started with the showing of the movie "The Grinch." While the movie played, the kids made Grinch ornaments out of paint brushes. As the paint on the ornaments dried, we melted white chocolate and died it green to create Grinch bark candy. Then the fun began while each child made his or her very own Grinch Slime. All of the kids had a great time and each one left with an ornament, bark candy and Slime. I am sure the Grinch would have wanted to join us if he had not been so busy stealing Christmas.

On January 5 the subject for Spikey's Station is snow plows, and the meeting will include a *Train Time* video. The January 19 meeting is about cleaning track. We're looking forward to having Dick Clark show us how to clean track.





December Minutes by Paul Lodge

December 20, 2018

Darin Long won the Attendance Prize and selected a Conrail hat.

The December meeting is the traditional Christmas Party meeting. For nearly a half hour before the meeting, a DVD of the Boston and Maine Railroad's Mountain Division was shown.

President Whitethunder McBride opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Power Point program of activities since last month was shown. Since this was the 10th Anniversary of the ExTRAINaganza, the Power Point included a series of pictures from all previous ExTRAINaganzas, highlighting the growth of the club. Many of our younger members were present and could see their own growth through the years as well as the evolution of the club.

Paul Lodge thanked Rick James, Mike Meserve, Carl Butland, and Ed Webb for providing coverage at the club for the Mid-Town Athletic Club Christmas party which was held during the same hours as the funeral service for Wally Chase. They also helped during the many birthday parties we have had recently.

All reports were suspended. Paul Lodge announced that new club vests are on order and should be available at the January meeting.

A sheet was circulated to sign up for the Utility Team pledge. Members who can afford it were asked to pledge \$150 for one month's electric bill or pledge \$30 for the monthly water and sewage charge. These pledges help keep the annual dues to \$30 and still keep the building functioning.

The HO Division is spearheading a campaign to help out the family of club member Calvin Ames. Because the parents have had severe medical problems caused by Lyme disease, Christmas is a financial burden. Calvin has been a loyal contributor in the HO Division and does not have a locomotive to run on the layout. The members of the HO Division decided to purchase a locomotive for him. The idea of providing one was discussed at the Surplus Assets Sale on December 8. Tim Swenton of Maine Model Works was at the sale and heard about the effort and volunteered to give a DCC-equipped locomotive to Calvin. In order to be fair to his twin sister, club members started a collection which will result in the donation of a gift certificate for her and her family.

It was suggested that the proceeds from the evening's 50/50 raffle also be donated to Calvin's family. The club members agreed and the winning ticket was drawn. President McBride was the winner and donated his portion of the 50/50 raffle to the cause.

THE SIGNAL



BELGRADE COMMUNITY CENTER CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

By Travis Johnson

On Friday evening, December 7, the Great Falls Model Railroad Club provided the railroad games and trains for the annual children's Christmas program at the Belgrade Community Center. John Robertson brought his On30 layout with an inner z-scale loop. Nancy Weeks and Travis Johnson brought the GFMRRRC portable HO layout, the Brio layout, Hoop-a-Caboose, the play rug with some toy trains, and the snowman cutout in which children can be photographed. Sharon Barber was also there to help. Santa Claus made an appearance, and everyone had a good time.

There were two areas of concern which should be addressed. The snowman cutout tipped over twice and will need be more firmly stabilized before it is used for further events. It was used successfully at this year's ExTRAINaganza and we hope to use it again next year. The second issue involved an apparent need for some kind of barricade to prevent children from getting too close to the layouts or running into them when playing in such an unrestricted area as the Community Center gym.

The Belgrade Community Center has already invited us to participate again next year in their Christmas celebration, which is scheduled for December 13, 2019. It might be interesting to have a new portable HO layout with a winter scene to take to shows like the one in Belgrade and as an alternate for Governor's Restaurant. If it could be created in a Model Railroading Class from September through October, it could be ready in time for our November show at Mt. Ararat in Topsham as well.

Nancy mentioned that the lights are turned out for the movie, which leaves it dark for the train displays. It would be nice if the GFMRRRC display had more lights such as street lights and lights in the cars. Dick Clark in the past had brought a display that had several lighted areas, and it was really effective.

SLIDE & DINE

April 13, 2019

TIME: 10:00 a.m. until around 3:00 p.m.

LUNCH: Noon until 1:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Great Falls Model Railroad Club, 144 Mill Street, Auburn, Me 04210. 207-576-3788. e-mail:

PROGRAM:

Bring your slides on a subject of your choice , We can supply a Kodak or a GAF projector, but please feel free to bring your own. If you have a Power Point presentation, we have a projector & laptop for that also.

Lunch is pot luck. Please bring food to share for a light lunch. We have plenty of cups (both hot and cold), forks, spoons, knives, napkins, plates, bowls, even toothpicks. We have sodas and chips on sale for 75 cents, and coffee for 50¢, or you can bring your own.

The hall will be open at 8:00 a.m. Hopefully everyone will be here and ready to go before **10:00 a.m.**

MODELERS FORUM FOR DECEMBER

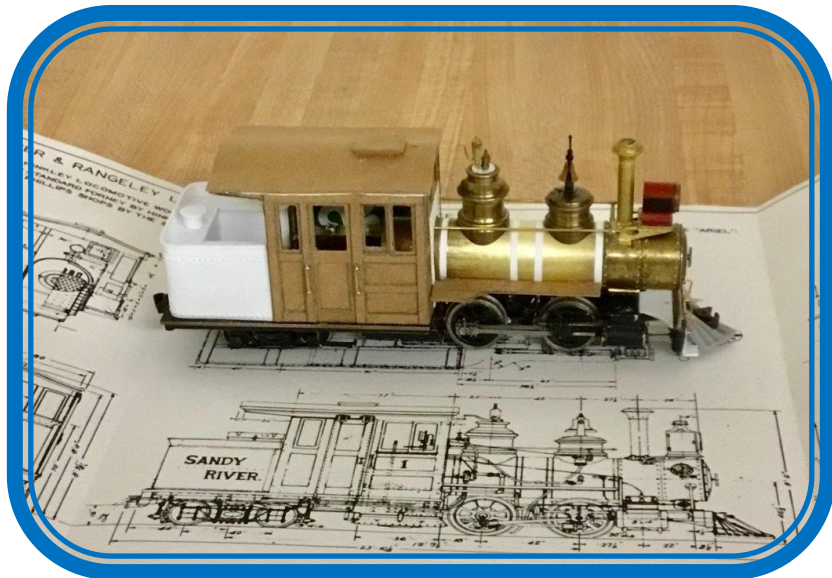
By Paul Lodge

At the December 27 meeting of the Modelers Forum, several club members brought interesting examples of their works in progress. Among the highlights were a group of buildings Bob Willard had created, including an unusual barber's chair for his Barber's Shop. George Pitchard showed us the narrow gauge locomotive he is making and the blueprint he is using. As usual, there was a wide variety of projects and an opportunity to ask questions about ideas and techniques. All GFMRRRC members are invited to come to the Modelers Forum, which meets on the fourth Thursday of every month.

SURPLUS ASSET SALE

By Paul Lodge

The GFMRRRC Surplus Asset Sale on December 8 was a successful event. Thanks to all who helped set up the sales tables on Friday and those who helped with the sale on Saturday.



G-Gauge December 2018 Activities

By Ray Parent

The G-Gauge Work Crew had another productive day on December 15 working on the upgraded yards. We installed split jaw clamps throughout the Service Yard trackage. We removed the temporary track wiring on the back of Loop #1 and fixed a bad clamp/track connection on Loop #3 near the reversing Wye. The Wye operation still needs to be checked out and the wiring in the Service Yard needs to be installed and tested.

While testing all of the track switches in the Middleton Yard, we found that we will need to fix a couple of button connections in the Control Panel. We reviewed and decided not to add the additional switch and trackage to place a second Train Shed into service for the Middleton Yard.

Our next work session to address all of these issues is scheduled for January 12. If all goes well, we could potentially have our first G-Gauge Operating Session in February.





THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

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January 2019

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Upcoming Events

January 21, Membership meeting -6:45 p.m.

January 31, Railroad Recipe Contest-6:30 p.m.

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

March 30, Augusta Elks Club, 397 Civic Center Dr., 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

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

Please check web site or Facebook page.

January 31, 2019
Railroad Recipe Contest
6:30
Contact Tami Paine at
Tami.girardin@yahoo.com



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.

FMI: Terry King 207-576-3788

Recurrent Activities

HO Operating Session:

January 5 & 19 -9:00 a.m. - Noon

Executive Committee Meeting

2nd Thursday of each month—6:30 p.m.

Regular Monthly Meeting

3rd Thursday of each month—6:30 p.m.

Modelers Forum

4th Thursday of each month— 7:00 p.m., 1/24

Spikey's Station

January 5 & 19— 9:00 a.m.—noon

G gauge work session

January 12 - 9:00 a.m. until noon

HO Work Session

Every Wed, Night 6:00 p.m.