

Mohegan Pequot Model Railroad



The News for: April, 2008

Larry Southwick

As many of you know, Larry was taken ill last week with a very high fever. He is in the cardiac care unit (CCU) at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in New London and cannot receive any visitors. Barbara Schubler has been talking to Susan, Larry's wife, a couple of times a day and getting updates. As of this date (4-1-01), Larry is still unconscious. Susan asks for your prayers for Larry. Barbara will send emails to the Club email list when she receives any more information.

Extracts: March Meeting Notes

John Waller's March 30
at Bill Library, 7:30 PM.

There were 9 members present.

Barbara reported on Larry's worsening condition. Our prayers are needed. His heart had stopped Saturday night, and he was put on a pump. Don was authorized to expend Club funds as the situation unfolds.

Jim Delany is doing well and is anxious to get back into his full activities. He is still at Waterford 447 2250 x 400.

Willimantic The show is to be held Sunday April 13, 10 AM to 3 PM. Setup is Sunday morning starting at 6 AM. Loading will occur this Wednesday April 2.

Friendship School The 32' by 28' layout from Willimantic will be used, possibly stretched on one axis to 40' by 28'. The schedule is:

Tuesday; 15 April setup 9:00 AM

Wednesday; Open Noon – 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Thursday; Open 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Friday; Open 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Saturday; break down

Check your email for changes.

Security is to be determined.

Christ the King This will probably be late Summer, early Fall.

Club pins Barbara made a proposal to buy *pens* rather than *pins*; 250 pens for \$67.90, or perhaps a *pin/pen* combo?

NMRA Convention July 2009 Hartford Bill Evans is coordinating modular layouts. The Club wants to make an offer for providing layouts in various scales. For HO scale there are constraints:

- Some key players will be absent.
- We must have enough people to operate the layout plus those who can talk to visitors.
- We must not appear to be greedy; the Springfield 2008 layout would be too big.
- Dan proposes an "L" shaped layout perhaps 42' by 56', with arms 16' and 20/24' wide, respectively. This would have a much smaller footprint than a rectangle.
- It would be comprised of all/mostly private modules; no passenger station.

We should have a "dry run" with the layout, possibly at Christ the King.

Other matters Dan will talk to Jonathon about operating sessions at his house.

Bob Murphy might host another operating session during the summer.

Meetings, Schedule & Work Sessions

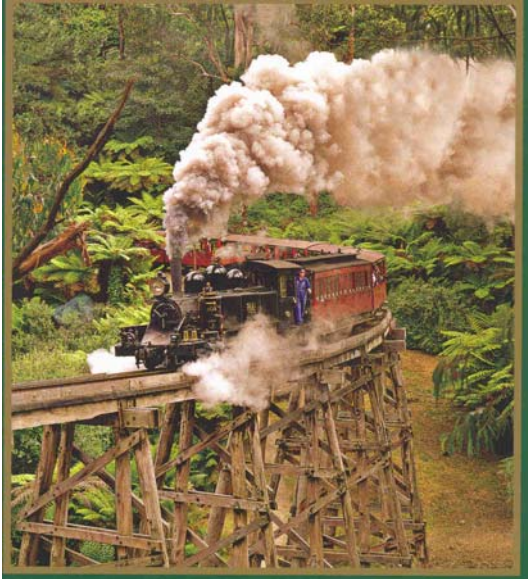
The main business meeting this month will be held on Sunday April 27 at 7:30PM at the Bill Library in Ledyard. Work sessions will be at Larry Southwick's house in North Stonington on Wednesday evenings April 9, 23 and 30.

M&P HO Layout at Willimantic and Waterford this Month.

John Waller's Column

I am in the process of building a trestle bridge for my module. It was always planned but now I have actually started work on it.

There is nothing I can buy ready made to use, except for the track. Everything else is scratch built. The trestle is on a curve and non-zero gradient. The inspiration comes from a real trestle on a former 2' 6" gauge working railway, now a tourist railway.



The picture shows a train on the Monbulk Creek Bridge trestle of the Puffing Billy Railway. I have written about this railway before, which runs through the Dandenong Ranges, to the east of Melbourne.

The above picture is on the front cover of Nick Anchen's book *Puffing Billy: Spirit of the Dandenongs*¹. The picture itself is attributed to Mal Austin.

The locomotive is one of the several NA class 2-6-2 tanks which operate the trains. All the NA class are about 100 years old. There are other locomotives including a Climax, two diesel switchers², and a 2-6-6-2 Garrett (G42), a mere youngster, having been originally purchased in 1926.

G42, and its twin G41, languished for many years after the Victorian Railways ceased operating all narrow gauge lines. The story of the resurrection

of what is now the Puffing Billy line is told in the referenced book.

G42 was purchased by the PB railway and funds were raised for restoration. Many years and \$1.7M later, G42 was ready for testing. It was put into service in April 2004³. G41 was also purchased and has been stored as a possible source of parts.

There are many trestle bridges on the line, but the Monbulk one is the most spectacular. They are all constructed similarly. A feature I found unusual is that the track on the bridge is laid with ballast, just as if it were "on the ground". Dan said this is not so unusual and there are "weep" holes to drain the ballast. I do not plan to include the weep holes.

Another unusual feature is the check (guard) rail is always next to the running rail on the inside of the curve. This I plan to include.

Behind my trestle will be a waterfall. This, in turn, is inspired by a line which runs from Cairns to the Atherton Tableland in North Queensland.

The President's Corner

The vote is in!
More Embarrassing Comments; Zero.
Blank Space; Zero. Abstentions: All
The winner by default; Apathy.

Dan

The Vice President's Niche

The effort this year to get ready for Springfield was so intense, we tended to relax after it was all over.

This, followed by the unusual spell of cold weather, has curbed activities on my own module in my unheated basement. I work for a while, but quit before frostbite actually sets in.

John

Operating Sessions

Jonathan Harger is still holding operating sessions at his home layout in East Lyme on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 7:00 PM. Check with Jonathan for directions and to see if there are any changes. Call (860) 739-4224 or hejeharger@ct.metrocast.net. See John Waller's notes from the March 30 meeting.

¹ ISBN 978-0-646-47315-4 (pbk.)

² Used when the fire danger is high.

³ I have a video about G42.

Letters to the Editor

You all talk a good game but are you willing to put it on paper?

The Market Place

Club Member Ads

Advertise (free) here to reach more than fifty model railroaders eagerly waiting to buy your wonderful stuff. (Editor's Note: Let me know when your item sells or when you want to stop running the advertisement.)

Wanted Items

Looking for junk plastic steam engine bodies for kitbashing, the Athearn clips to hold in the couplers if anyone had replaced them with something else and firewood or potential firewood (prototype). Contact Jonathan Harger at 860-739-4224 or hejeharger@ct.metrocast.net

The Club Store

Inventory is complete. Please buy from the Club store if you need "stuff". A list of "stuff" will be published in the Newsletter year 2008 (2009/10?)

Commercial Corner

Nothing here

The Life Section

The Technical Section

World-Wide-Web

Railroad Calendar

This Month in 2008

April 2, North Stonington, CT Load the trailer at Larry Southwick's house for the Willimantic and Friendship School shows.

April 9, 23 & 30, North Stonington, CT Work sessions at Larry Southwick's house at 200 Wyassup Rd., beginning around 7:00 PM.

April 27 Ledyard, CT M&P Club Meeting at the Bill Library at 7:30 PM.

April 12 Milford, MA Spring Training & Show -10 AM - 4 PM, , Sheraton Hotel NMRA-NER, Hub Division Info: 781-862-0388 or 508-528-8587, e-mail info@hubdiv.org

April 13 Willimantic, CT. - Windhan High School 10 AM-3 PM, Eastern Connecticut Chapter NRHS. M&P HO layout displayed.

April 12/13 Timonium, MD Great Scale Model Train Show 9 AM - 4 PM, Maryland State Fairgrounds, I-83, Exit 17E, Howard Zane

April 22-26 Waterford, CT The Friendship School. HO layout to be displayed. Set up on Tuesday, Run Wednesday-Friday. Breakdown on Saturday. Schedule on page 1 of Newsletter.

April 27 Wallingford, CT. 9AM - 3PM, Zandri's Stillwood Inn Contact: Lud Spinelli (203) 926-1327 or www.ClassisShowsLLC.com

Next Month in 2008

Train Shows from Ron's List

(Ron Pothier at repth@snet.net for latest information.)

June 28/29 Timonium, MD Great Scale Model Train Show, 9 AM - 4 PM, -Maryland State Fairgrounds, I-83, Exit 17E, Howard Zane

July 13-19, Anaheim, California Anaheim National Convention -, 2008. Anaheim Marriott Convention Center The Pacific Southwest Region National Model Railroad Association

The Lighter/Heavier Side

Lawyers

The United Way realized that it had never received a donation from the city's most successful lawyer. So a United Way volunteer paid the lawyer a visit in his lavish office.

The volunteer opened the meeting by saying, 'Our research shows that even though your annual income is over two million dollars, you don't give a penny to charity. Wouldn't you like to give something back to your community through the United Way?'

The lawyer thinks for a minute and says, 'First, Did your research also show you that my mother is dying after a long, painful illness and she has huge medical bills that are far beyond her ability to pay?'

Embarrassed, the United Way rep mumbles, 'Uh...no, I didn't know that.'

M&P HO Layout at Willimantic and Waterford this Month.

'Secondly,' says the lawyer, 'did it show that my brother, a disabled veteran, is blind and confined to a wheelchair and is unable to support his wife and six children?'

The stricken United Way rep begins to stammer an apology, but is cut off again.

'Thirdly, did your research also show you that my sister's husband died in dreadful car accident, leaving her penniless with a mortgage and three children, one of whom is disabled and another that has learning disabilities requiring an array of private tutors?'

The humiliated United Way rep, completely beaten, says, 'I'm so sorry, I had no idea.'

And the lawyer says, 'So...if I didn't give any money to them, what makes you think I'd give any to you?'

From (John Waller)

It was never like this when I joined the RAN!



My son David is talking to Commander Michelle Miller, captain of the HMAS *Perth* III at the Cenotaph in Martin Place, Sydney. The occasion is the annual commemoration of the sinking of HMAS *Perth* I in Sunda Strait, March 1, 1942. There are still a few survivors who attended the ceremony each year.



Club Administration

Club Scale Contacts

G - Bob MacGregor, O - Jim Weitlauf, On3 - Sandy Alonzo, S - Dave Alley, HO - Dan Delany, TT - Future, Z - TBD, N - Sandy Alonzo, Live Steam - Jim Weitlauf. These "Go-To" guys will mentor new members who want to learn more about particular model railroad scales.

M&PMRR Officers & Functionaries

The President	Dan DeLany	860 748-7581
Vice President	John Waller	564-3114
Treasurer	Don Counsellor	739-6381
Secretary	Robert Applegate	464-2118
Storekeeper	Larry Southwick	535-2996
Field Trips	Jim DeLany	889-4029
Newsletter	Clark Pritchett	444-1884
Newsletter Mailing and Meeting Speakers	Bill Evans	267-9482
New Passenger Modules, Name Tags and Show Layouts	Stu Dom	536-7637
Webmaster	Jim Spavins	

jimspav@alum.rpi.edu

Prototype Questions

Dave at <http://www.davesrailpage.com/>



The End

M&P HO Layout at Willimantic and Waterford this Month.