

Mohegan Pequot Model Railroad



The News for: July, 2008

Larry Southwick

Larry has returned home to Wyassup Rd. in North Stonington and is continuing to recuperate. Congratulations Larry on meeting and beating the biggest challenge!

Club RailFanning Trip

This year the Club trip will once again head to the sacred land of the Iron Triangle at Fostoria, Ohio. (<http://www.fostoriairontriangle.com/>) We hope to add the yard at Willard, Ohio (B&O/CSX) to our itinerary too this time. As we are all painfully aware, gasoline prices are still rising with no end in sight. We can ameliorate the effect somewhat if we can get more people to share the load. If you have not made this trip, now is your chance. Five days (August 6-10) of intense train watching, picture taking, comradery, fine dining and just plain fun can be had for around \$400.

We will be making final plans for the trip at the next Club meeting on July 27. If you have any questions or want to go, contact Stu Dom or Jim Delany (See Club Admin.).



Amtrak Station Fostoria, Ohio

Meetings, Schedule & Work Sessions

The July meeting will be held at the Bill Library in Ledyard at 7:30 PM on Sunday July 27. Work (and discussion) sessions will be held at Larry Southwick's house in North Stonington on Wednesday evenings starting around 7:00 PM.

The President's Corner

From Dear Old Dad

Rachael Cion and Daniel DeLany were married on June 28, 2008 in a civil ceremony at the Wampanoag Country Club, West Hartford, CT. This joyous occasion was attended by nearly 140 guests. All enjoyed a fine dinner, much music and dancing. Rachael and Dan flew to Hawaii on June 30th for a two week honeymoon.

John Waller's Column

Before the railroads came there were waterways. Before the national highway system came into use there were railroads. Anyone who

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has used I-95 between Bridgeport and northern New Jersey will know what congestion is like.

Late last year I happened to be on travel, and a copy of USA Today landed outside the door of my room in the motel. An article by Larry Copeland, *Waterways could be the key to freeing up freeways*, was on page A-5. The U.S. Department of Transportation is pushing the idea of using waterways to remove thousands of trucks from highways on the east coast.

At least the DOT has admitted there is a problem on the roads in their “back to the future” solution to that problem. But rail is not even mentioned.

Just as crowded as the roads are the airways. I don't fly too much, but every time I fly recently there have been frustrating delays. I have now lost three toothpaste tubes that I tried to carry on. Each time my oversized tube was confiscated I was told the maximum weight you can carry on is now X grams. Each time I bought a tube weighing $X - \Delta$, only to find that the allowance kept changing downwards.

Just a small point, obviously, the DOT doesn't care if my teeth fall out, but it is symptomatic of frustrations among airline travellers, according to Bob Johnson in *Trains* of July 2008, pg 18.

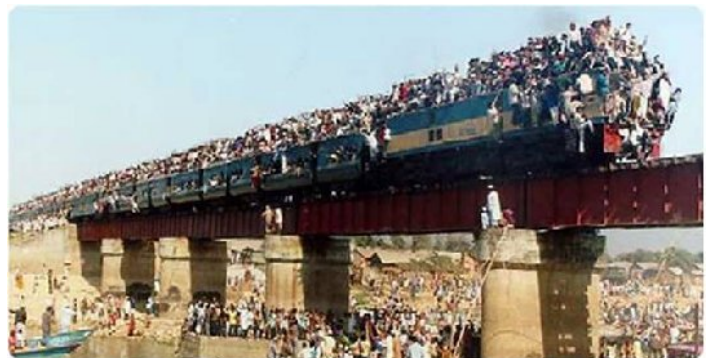
Bob claims the passenger counts on the New York to Boston segment have “grown exponentially” as travel by air becomes more and more unpleasant. The train has a fare advantage too in the range \$\$ 84 to 120, against flying \$\$ 118 to 297.

Furthermore, Bob claims the Amtrak Keystone corridor 20% increase in ridership has forced a Harrisburg-New York non-stop air service out of business.

Sure the train takes longer than the plane from doors closed to doors opened. Obviously the travelling public is starting to recognize that the train goes door-to-door for a goodly percentage of customers.

Wake up DOT!!

John



And you thought Metro North was crowded?

The Vice President's Niche

I have mentioned my trestle bridge before. The prototype trestle, the Monbulk Creek crossing, I have been using for inspiration has all the elements for what I am trying to build, on a curve, with a non-zero gradient, and over a waterway.

It has one more feature, a check (guard) rail close to the inside running rail of the curve, but between that and the outside rail. I asked around as to how to attach a single rail to the existing ties. “Use track nails?”, is the advice I received.

So I got a piece of old brass rail of sufficient length and went to work. Things went well at first, till I got near the end, and the rail went “twang”, resuming its original shape. I could get it back into position, but it would not stay. So, out came the crazy glue.

Then it hit me (as things are wont to do); the prototype trestle uses ballast actually on the bridge, as I mentioned previously. So, out came

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the ballast, and a 50/50 mix of glue and water, and I installed ballast between the check rail and the outer rail, while the crazy glue held it in place well enough.

So far, so good!

John

Operating Sessions

Jonathan Harger will try holding operating sessions at his home layout in East Lyme on the second and fourth *Tuesdays* 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.

Letters to the Editor

Never was a group so impossible to embarrass into doing the right thing.

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

Go on the Club railfanning trip.

The Technical Section

No technology this month.

World-Wide-Web

From Barbara Schubler

MASS BAY RRE's JULY EVENTS:

Saturday, July 12: PICNIC AT PALMER: An informal get-together at the Steaming Tender Restaurant in Palmer for train watching and socializing. There will be guided tours of the "live, dead and stillborn" rail lines of Palmer at 10:30 AM and 12:30 PM. Van connection from Boston (subject to availability). Complete event details and order form at <http://www.massbayrre.org/Palmer.pdf>

Steaming Tender Restaurant web site: <http://www.steamingtender.com/>

Saturday, July 26: MAINE EASTERN RAILROAD: Group trip using Maine Eastern's regularly-scheduled train Brunswick to Rockland & return. Side trip in Rockland to Owl's Head Transportation Museum. Complete tour package includes motor coach transportation Boston to Brunswick and admission to Owl's Head Transportation Museum in Rockland.

Full trip details at:

<http://www.massbayrre.org/MaineEastern.html>

Mass Bay RRE Trip Committee

Railroad Calendar

July 2008

July 27; Ledvard, CT: Monthly meeting at the Bill Library starting at 7:30 PM.

July 3, 10, 17, 24 & 31; North Stonington, CT: Wednesday night work sessions at Larry Southwick's house at 200 Wyassup Rd.

Next Month and Beyond

August 6-10; Fostoria, OH & Other Places: Annual Club Railfanning trip.

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Train Shows from Ron's List

(Ron Pothier at repth@snet.net for latest information.)
July 13-19, Anaheim, California Anaheim National Convention —, 2008. Anaheim Marriott Convention Center The Pacific Southwast Region National Model Railroad Association

The Lighter/Heavier Side Seven Degrees of a Blonde

FIRST DEGREE:

A married couple were asleep when the phone rang at 2 in the morning.

The wife (undoubtedly blonde), picked up the phone, listened a moment and said, "How should I know, that's 200 miles from here!" and hung up.

The husband said, "Who was that?"

The wife said, "I don't know, some woman wanting to know if the coast is clear."

SECOND DEGREE

Two blondes are walking down the street. One notices a compact on the sidewalk and leans down to pick it up.

She opens it, looks in the mirror and says, "Hmm, this person looks familiar."

The second blonde says, "Here, let me see!" So the first blonde hands her the compact.

The second one looks in the mirror and says, "You dummy, it's me!"

THIRD DEGREE

A blonde suspects her boyfriend of cheating on her, so she goes out and buys a gun.

She goes to his apartment unexpectedly and when she opens the door she finds him in the arms of a redhead.

Well, the blonde is really angry. She opens her purse to take out the gun, and as she does so, she is overcome with grief.

She takes the gun and puts it to her head. The boyfriend yells, "No, honey, don't do it!!!"

The blonde replies, "Shut up, you're next!"

FOURTH DEGREE

A blonde was bragging about her knowledge of state capitals.

She proudly says, "Go ahead, ask me, I know all of them."

A friend says, "OK, what's the capital of Wisconsin?"

The blonde replies, "Oh, that's easy: W."

FIFTH DEGREE

What did the blonde ask her doctor when he told her she was pregnant?

"Is it mine?"

SIXTH DEGREE

Bambi, a blonde in her fourth year as a UCLA freshman, sat in her US government class.

The professor asked Bambi if she knew what Roe vs. Wade was about.

Bambi pondered the question then finally said, "That was the decision George Washington had to make before he crossed the Delaware."

SEVENTH DEGREE

Returning home from work, a blonde was shocked to find her house ransacked and burglarized.

She telephoned the police at once and reported the crime.

The police dispatcher broadcast the call on the radio, and a K-9 unit, patrolling nearby was the first to respond.

As the K-9 officer approached the house with his dog on a leash, the blonde ran out on the porch, shuddered at the sight of the cop and his dog, then sat down on the steps.

Putting her face in her hands, she moaned, "I come home to find all my possessions stolen. I call the police for help, and what do they do?"

They send me a BLIND policeman.



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/>

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