



SCALE RAILS of Southwest Florida

Newsletter

January, 2008

Volume 9 Issue 1

OFFICERS

Chairman: Dennis Little

President: Peter Gross

Vice President: Jim Edmier

Secretary: Jim Morse

Treasurer: Stan Seeds, MMR

Calendar

Feb 9, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Feb 16, Western Division Meet, Palmetto, FL
No clinic this Saturday

March 8, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

April 12, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

May 10, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

May 16 - 18, SSR Convention, Winter Haven,
FL at Cypress Gardens

Layout Status

Significant progress has been made in the revisions to Victorville. Below is a picture of Victorville with the old gone, with the plywood subroadbed cut out to make room for the new layout being constructed on plywood on the workbench.



Here is a picture of Victorville, now installed on the layout. We do not believe it will come down again. In this view you can also see the new control panel, installed and ready to be wired into the layout.



Here Mike is installing the building bases for Victorville.



Here is a view of the 'team' working on the wiring, on the bottom of the new Victorville. Imagine trying to do this with Victorville installed over the two helii (plural of helix??) and you can see the value of building it on the bench where you can stand all around it and clamp it vertically.



Jim Beliveau has been detailing the scenery around the oil tank farm on the north side of Pueblo.



Dennis has been busy doing some landscaping and scenic in the north side of Colorado

Springs where the Edmier ready mix plant is located.



Jim Morse has finished up the engine service building for the locomotives serving the Rock Island interchange on the south side of Colorado Springs.



Jim Morse has also been busy layout track to the turntable and roundhouse on the narrow gauge just south of Denver.

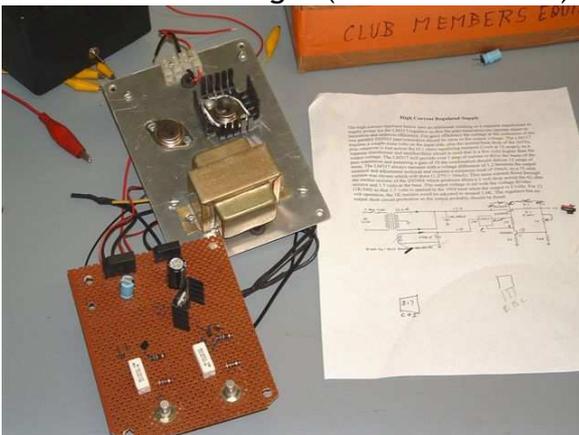


Dwight has finalized the NTRAK turntable installation, as well as the roundhouse. Once this is finished it will add a great deal to the appearance and functionality of the

NTRAK layout.



Peter, with Lee's help, has been building a power supply for the lighting features in the Southwest Portland Cement Plant that will go west of the new Victorville. The power supply will provide all the current needed at two different voltages (11 and 1.3 volts).



Make and Take Clinic

Based on the power supply project that Peter was building, Lee has suggested that we could consider a clinic for club members on building a very well regulated bench power supply. Purchasing such a tool would cost sever hundred dollars. He estimates the cost to build one would be less than \$35. He suggests that if there is interest (besides me!), he could set up a make and take clinic for those who sign up and pay the materials fees. Then once a week he could meet with all those building the bench power supply to answer questions, provide suggests, trouble

shoot, and provide overall help to each person. The work can be done at home or at the club. If at the club, each member would need to bring his own tools since there would not be enough to go around the also allow other club work to get done. It is just an idea now but thinks about it and we can discuss it further at our next meeting.

Western Division Meeting February 16, 2008 Manatee Convention Center, Palmetto, FL

Below is the tentative schedule for the February Division Meeting in Palmetto. The cost will be \$10 per person and will include Coffee & Donuts for Breakfast during registration. Lunch will be available at the meeting. At the Sarasota Club's December Train Show they had a roast pork loin platter with mashed potatoes and green beans and it sold out in 30 minutes it was that good and only cost \$6.50.

	Western Division Meeting	Train Show
7:00 AM		Setup
8:00 AM	Division Meeting Setup	
8:30 AM	Registration & Breakfast	
9:00 AM	Registration & Breakfast	
9:30 AM	Clinic 1	
10:00 AM	Clinic 1	Train Show Opens
10:30 AM	Show	
11:00 AM	Clinic 2	
11:30 AM	Clinic 2	
12:00 PM	Show	
12:30 PM	Lunch	

1:00 PM	Lunch	
1:30 PM	Lunch	
2:00 PM	Clinic 3	
2:30 PM	Clinic 3	
3:00 PM	Show	
3:30 PM	Clinic 4	
4:00 PM	Clinic 4	Train Show Closes

The Sarasota Model Railroad Club has asked us to bring up our NTRAK layout for display at the Train Show. Dwight has worked out the details and plan to have 32' of the NTRAK hook up at the show be from our modules!

Sunshine Region Convention May 16 - 18, 2008

The spring 2008 Regional Convention will be held at the Best Western Admirals Inn at Cypress Gardens, in Winter Haven, FL. In addition to clinics, layouts, dealers, etc there will be an extra fare buss tour of 6 layouts: John Wilkes, MMR, Tom Wilson, Lake Wales Club layouts, Keith Williams, and the Cypress Gardens HO layout. Contact Walt Roberge, Registrar at 863-294-3297 or write to him at 4120 Sprucewood St., Winter Haven, FL 33880. The Registrar will handle all registrations and room reservations at the hotel. Costs are as follows:

Convention & Banquet	
Single	\$70
Couple	\$100
Convention only	\$40 (\$45 at door)
Banquet only	\$35
Hotel	\$79 + tax/night

Let's see if we can't get a bunch of us to go to this one from Scale Rails.

Scale Rails Meeting Minutes December 8, 2007

Members present: George Alexander, Dick Bell, Dan Cermak, Lyle Crouder, Walter "Ben" Curll, Tom Dahlheimer, Lee Dobyns, Jim Edmier, Steve Gdovin, Peter Gross, Russell Hammer, Ryan Hannaway, Darrin Kerwin, Rich and Dianne Korf, Dennis Little, Ted Marshal, Jim Morse, David Nelson, George Nink, David Parsons, Gary Randall, Dwight Sedgwick, Stanley Seeds, Donald Sprotbery, Oren Stephans, Robert Veefkind, Luther Ward, Ray Welliver Jr.

Meeting was called to order by President Peter Gross at 1:30 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: The minutes for the December meeting were published in the Newsletter. Motion by Dennis Little, seconded by Don Sprotbery, to approve the minutes as published. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Stan Seeds, MMR, Treasure, reported that we have \$9,797.18 in the checking and savings accounts. Our mortgage is down to \$35,160.06. The club net worth is now \$110,639.75.

2007 Financial report was summarized. The full report is on file with the Secretary. Here are some of the highlights. \$1,726.19 in donations, \$4,379.21 for HO layout expenses, \$2,233.78 for utilities. Total budget was close to forecasted. Thanks Stan for keeping the Club on sound financial footing.

Correspondence: Christmas cards were received from Floyd Hobbs, Youngblood trains and the Cub Scouts.

Membership: Welcome back Mr. Heino Hartman. Mr. Hartman left us for a little time, but is back where he belongs. Welcome back! Member John Miles is in arrears and will be sent a letter stating that if he is not current by the February meeting he will be dropped from the roles.

OLD BUISNESS:

1. Layout Status:

Upper level: The Victorville modification is ready to be lifted onto the layout. The new Victorville should be running with in two weeks, thanks for all the hard work. Check the upper and lower level TO DO LIST, as there are lots of projects which need to be completed.

Lower level: Lots of new lighting is in Castle Rock buildings, work is being completed at Edmier Gravel pit and batch plant. A new concrete block and culvert plant is being installed at the north end of Colorado Springs.

N-TRACK: The turntable and Roundhouse is just about complete and looks great. Thanks Dwight for all your work.

Narrow gauge: The Turntables are in at both ends of the line. A new Roundhouse is being installed at Cripple Creek. The new expansion is starting soon.

2. Building maintenance: The new paint looks great, the Depot looks like new. Some fill is needed on the north end and volunteers are needed. The storage trailer will soon be history and the Box car can be moved to the Depot to take its place. More on this later.

3. PROMOTIONS As mentioned last month, H&R Block will give us \$ 25.00 for each new customer that mentions the club. The brochures are in the Depot.

NEW BUISNESS:

1. BYLAWS; a Motion was made by Mr. Gross to accept the revised Bylaws that were published in last month newsletter, and discussed at the last monthly meeting, Mr. Curll seconded the motion and the motion carried.

2. Propose 2008 Budget. Mr. Seeds, MMR, presented the BOD proposed 2008 budget. After close review by the members present a motion to approve the 2008 budget was made by Dwight Sedgwick and seconded by Ray Welliver, the motion carried.

3. CLINICS: Starting in Jan 19, we will have clinics every Saturday for approximately 10 weeks.

5. Western Division Meet: Feb 16 Our Western Division will meet in Sarasota. Our N-Track will be on display. All of our members are encouraged to attend. This is our region and we will car pool there. Clinics and layouts are planned, as well as admittance to the train show. We need to show support and would like as many of us to attend as possible.

6. PICNIC: A cookout is planned for the first weekend in April, with spouses invited to participate and see all the great work we have done.

7. LONG TRAINS; Please refrain for running any trains longer than 10 cars. Our layout was designed for this length of train, and any longer train will damage our power management circuits. Also all of our pre-made up trains have been disassembled, and need to be rebuilt and put back were they belong. Steve, Ben, Skip and George Nick have agreed to rebuild these trains and put them back, so we can again start having our operation. You may run these trains, but do not break them up and make sure they go back where they belong.

8. Mr. Little's home layout: Dennis Little will begin operations on his home HO layout soon and would like volunteers to sign up. 3-4 people are needed each Monday evening from 6:30 till 9:30. This will be lots of fun and will help for your dispatcher certificate.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:40 pm.

Shirts

If you want a Club shirt, contact the Club Shirt Lady, Dianne Korf. Shirts are about \$28 each. Let her know your size and she will order them for you. You can contact her at (239) 281-8636 or by email at dkorf@msn.com

Scale Rails of Southwest Florida

Our Charter

Our intent and purpose is to promote and encourage the art of model railroading and preserve the history, science and technology of rail transportation. To this end we have organized our efforts for charitable, educational, literary and scientific purposes. As part of our endeavors, we host railroad displays, give talks and presentations for school, museums and various organizations. Our members do not presume to be experts, but rather a group of individuals sharing knowledge with each other.

Scale Rails of Southwest Florida

1262 Piney Road

N. Fort Myers, FL 33903

www.ScaleRails.org



Scale Rails of SW FL
1262 Piney Road
N. Ft. Myers, FL 33903

REMINDERS

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EDITORIAL

Watching the team of people working together to build the new Victorville has been very inspiring. There are many folks doing lots of different parts of the job, and it is all going very smoothly. If it all goes well we should be able to run trains through the new Victorville on January 31. What a great job. Thanks to George Alexander for all his hard work in designing and managing this project; and to all of you who have helped out in its building. Our team really works well together, and we do have fun!

Keep having fun!
PETER GROSS, Editor