



# SCALE RAILS of Southwest Florida

Newsletter

November, 2007

Volume 8 Issue 10

## OFFICERS

Chairman: Dennis Little

President: Peter Gross

Vice President: Jim Edmier

Secretary: Jim Morse

Treasurer: Stan Seeds, MMR

## Calendar

Dec 8, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Dec 8/9, Train Show, Sarasota Model  
Railroad Club, Palmetto, FL

Jan 4/5, Prototype Rails, Cocoa Beach, FL

Jan 12, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Feb 9, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Feb 16, Western Division Meet, Palmetto, FL

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## Layout Status

There has been very little done on the layout since last month as we have been getting ready for the Holiday Train Show. We have done a number of layout tune-ups to make sure the trains run smoothly and without derailments. For the most part that seemed to work well as the trains ran for the two days of the train show with no major problems. We set up six trains on each level, with the idea that in the even hours we would run three of them and in the odd hours we would run the other three. That gives the trains some rest. It worked out well, except for a few mishaps caused by little fingers! And the Ed Best layout ran for two solid days without letup with no problems at all.

On Tuesday after the train show, once we all assembled at the Depot, we discussed the plans to revise Victorville. With some minor changes to George Alexander's current plan we believe we have reached a path forward. Work is currently on hold pending receipt of turnouts.

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## Building Repair

As mentioned in the Monthly Meetings, we have a building problem. The most urgent was the closed off door in the East wall which was leaking and bulging due to mold and moisture. Fixing that began on November 27<sup>th</sup> and will be done by the end of the month.

On Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup> we discovered a

significant amount of water on the floor in the middle of the North wall. Water was leaking into the building along a crack at floor level.

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## Holiday Train Show

Our 25<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Train Show was a great success. Attendance was about average but all our layouts sold and brought good money so financially we made out well. The dealers all were happy too! And people all gave very positive feedback to us at the Depot and the amazing things we have done there. Truly it is something we can all take pride in.

Here are a few pictures from the show. Below is a shot of a young man examining the raffle layout. Our raffle layout and the three silent auction layouts brought us a significant amount of money.



Here are a couple of kids checking out the HO scale silent auction layout.



The NTRAK layout had a prime spot, next to the necessary rooms! It ran flawlessly both days and Alex bought an AMTRAK DCC locomotive!!!!



We sold out of tables in the show, and even had a couple of overflow tables out in the lobby area where the layouts were. Dealers did ok, but folks weren't spending this year like before.



We estimate that total paid attendance was about 830, plus kids. This was down from last years 880. However, we estimate about 2/3 of all attendees went to the Depot this year, while less than 1/4 went last year. The Depot was busy from 11 am to 4 pm both days, and the dealers came up Saturday after the show closed. Everyone was very impressed by the layout and the work we have done there. They said we should be proud, and indeed we should.



And of course the kids all loved Ed Best's layout, which ran flawlessly and continuously from 11 to 4 each day.



## Proposed Bylaw Changes

As discussed in the October, 2007, meeting, the BOD is proposing several changes to the

clubs bylaws. A copy of these changes is enclosed with this newsletter. Proposed changes are all in red, either strikethroughs of existing words or additions of new words. This will be open for discussion at the December 8, 2007, meeting and all Founder Members in good standing will be asked to vote on the motion to approve by ballot or proxy at the January 12, 2008, meeting.

## Free Tickets

Dan Cioffi has sent me 20 free tickets for the Sarasota Model Railroad Club Train Show, Dec 8 & 9, 2007. If anyone wants one please let me know. I plan to go up on the 9<sup>th</sup> as the 8<sup>th</sup> is our December meeting day. Peter.

## PROTOTYPE RAILS

COCOA BEACH, FL, JAN 4-6 2008  
AN NMRA SANCTIONED EVENT

A PROTOTYPE MODELING MEET FEATURING  
MODULAR LAYOUTS IN O, HO AND N SCALE

OVER 400 MODELS ON DISPLAY, PROTOTYPE  
BASED LAYOUTS  
PLEASE BRING MODELS

A star studded cast of Nationally know  
Clinicians.

Manufacturers/Dealers: Walthers,  
Branchline, Broadway Limited, Southern Car  
& Foundry, Speedwitch Models, Tangent Scale  
Models, Westerfield, 5th Avenue Shops, Dave  
Hoffman, F & C, Trolleys N' Dollies, Bob's  
Photos, John C. La Rue Photos, Jay Williams  
Photos, Mainline Photos, ACL/SAL HS.

HILTON HOTEL, 1550 N. Atlantic Ave.  
[highway A1a ], COCOA BEACH, FL,  
1-800-526-2609 or 321-799-0003. \$99 Room  
Rate. Refer to Prototype Rails.  
Preregistration \$35, payable to Prototype

Rails, to Marty Megregian, 480  
Gails Way, Merritt Island, FL 32953.

A special dinner on Saturday, Jan 5, for Prototype Rails attendees only will be available for \$ 20/person. Tickets are required and must be purchased no later than Saturday morning. Tickets may be purchased and reserved in advance and included with the cost of registration. Registration plus dinner is \$55/person. Spouses not attending presentations do not have to register. FOR INFORMATION: Contact Mike Brock at: brockm@... or 321-453-4140.

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## Nominations for Board of Directors

It is that time of the year again, when we call on individuals to step up and volunteer to self-nominate to run for election to the Scale Rails Board of Directors. This year there are two positions to be filled, those of Stan Seeds, MMR and Jim Morse. If you are willing, please provide Peter with your self-nomination no later than the end of the December meeting.

Contested elections will be held by secret ballot at the Annual Business Meeting in January, 2008. As a reminder, only Founder Members have the right to vote. If there are no contested positions, then at the end of the December meeting I will call for a motion to elect the nominees by acclamation at that time.

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## Scale Rails Meeting Minutes November 10, 2007

**Members present:** Jim Beliveau, Dan Cermak, Lyle Crouder, Walter "Ben" Curll, Tom

Dahlheimer, Jim Edmier, Lee Dobyns, Steve Gdovin, Alex Grantt, Peter Gross, Alex Halberda, Russell Hammer, Ryan Hannaway, Darrin Kerwin, Rich and Dianne Korf, Dennis Little, John Miles, Jim Morse, George Nink, Dwight Sedgwick, Stanley Seeds, 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 of the Oct 13, 2007 meeting, were approved as amended by the following addition: under New Business, item 5, Storage Trailer, at the end of that discussion add the following:

*Seeds noted that there are a number of capital improvement projects which need to be accomplished in the near term. The Club needs to establish the relative priorities of these projects, which include the building repair, sealing of the parking lot, examining the roof and repairing if necessary, and resolving the storage problem.*

**Financial Report:** Stan Seeds. Treasure, reported that we have \$10,325.00 in the checking and savings accounts. Our mortgage is down to \$ 35,525.52 The club net worth \$ 110,802.30

### **Old BUISNESS:**

#### 1. Layout Status

**Division one:** The San Bernardino Freight house is complete and is located at the east end of A yard. Several San Bernardino homes have been built and will be placed at the east end of A yard. The cement plant is now complete and is ready to serve the public at Victorville. Thanks Stan and Peter for these fine models. Now that George Alexander is back, work on the new and improved Victorville will begin soon.

**Joint line:** Some of the electrical glitches have been fixed and the trains seem to be running more smoothly. Jim Edmier's quarry

plant and crusher are being built near the north end of Colorado Springs yard.

**N-TRACK:** The N-Track modules are working great. Thanks for all the hard work. A turntable and roundhouse are being built and will be ready soon. The N-Track system is ready for the Train Show, thanks to all who helped make this a great show piece for the Train Show.

**Narrow gauge:** Work is continuing on the expanded narrow gauge empire, soon the tracks will be laid between the existing layout and Colorado Springs nearly doubling the amount of trackage.

**2. Train Show:** 90 Tables have been sold. Table set-up is at 9 am and all members should have their assignments. Let's make this the best show ever. Jim Morse will have a small Lionel Christmas and an On30 layout for display. The Train Show is one of our most important money making events and All Club members must make an every effort to make it a success.

**6. Building maintenance:** After the Train Show we will be working on the back door problem, as it is causing the building to leak on the outside wall. A permanent fix is needed by filling in the space with masonry and bricks. Tuesday before the Train show we will clean up the Depot, and need all the help we can get.

#### NEW BUISNESS;

**1. Elections** Self-nominations for the two BOD seats that are up for election need to be in before the end of the December meeting.

**2. CHANGES IN THE BY-LAWS:** The BOD is recommending changes in the BY-laws. Most are minor in nature. The significant changes include elimination of term limits for BOD

members and changing the election from January's annual meeting to the December meeting so the newly elected BOD will be able to assure the new years budget, to be approved at the Annual Meeting, reflects their strategies and priorities.

**3. NEW WEB MASTER:** Lee Dobyns is our new Web master. Thanks for volunteering Lee and we look forward to an updated web site.

**4. CLINICS:** Jim Morse is the new lead for the winter clinics. A list of topics and people to teach modeling skills is being prepared. Members are encouraged to participate in these clinics. These clinics are fun and as in the past so many new skills are learned. See Jim if you are interested in giving one of these clinics.

**5. Upcoming Events:** The Sarasota Model Railroad club is hosting the Western Regional Meeting in February in conjunction with their Train Show, and the Prototype Rails event is the 1st weekend in January.

**6. A Party:** A cook-out at noon will be held before the December meeting. This party is for all the hard work that went into the Train Show, so come one, come all and thanks.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43 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](mailto: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](http://www.ScaleRails.org)



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## EDITORIAL

Another Holiday Train Show is in the bag, and a great success it was do to the hard work of all of you. Thanks for all your efforts, have a happy and joyous Holiday Season and ....

Keep having fun!  
PETER GROSS, Editor