



SCALE RAILS of Southwest Florida

Newsletter

October, 2007

Volume 8 Issue 9

OFFICERS

Chairman: Dennis Little

President: Peter Gross

Vice President: Jim Edmier

Secretary: Jim Morse

Treasurer: Stan Seeds, MMR

Calendar

Nov 10, Monthly Meeting, 1:30pm

Nov 24, 25, Holiday Train Show,
Ambassador Hotel and the Depot

Dec 8, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Jan 12, Monthly Meeting, 1:30pm

HO Layout Status

LA Division 1

Peter has finely called it quits on working on the Southwest Portland Cement plant and has it weathered and installed in Victorville. He still needs to build a power supply for its lights. Here is a picture of it in its current location.



In spite of the recent downturn in the housing market nation wide, it seems that San Bernardino has a housing boom on-going. Stan has been busy building a number of house kits, and Ryan Hannaway has also built a house kit. Ryan's is the one on the far right, white with blue trim. He did a great job, and this is only his first kit. Congratulations, Ryan.



As noted last month, Stan has finished the San Bernardino Depot, and it has been mounted onto the layout for all to enjoy. Here is a picture of the Here is a picture from the 'rail' side with the lights on.



Congratulations again Stan on a magnificent model.

Joint Line

Lee redid the wiring and the reversing loop on the "Y" at Pueblo to eliminate the potential of two trains requesting reversing at the same time. It took a while, but it now works flawlessly.

Don has completed the control panel for the double slip coming from the Colorado Springs yard to add a yard lead for making up consists without having to go out onto the main. It should be installed shortly.

Narrow Gauge

Jim Morse and Bob Veefkind have been busy building a mountain home for a roundhouse and turntable in Cripple Creek. Due to lack of space this of necessity extends over the tracks going into and out of Denver. However, once the scenery is complete it will blend in and look good. Right now it is foam city.

AP Presentations

At the October monthly meeting two of our members were presented with AP awards.

George Nink was presented a Merit Award and a Master Builder Achievement Certificate

for Scenery.



Dennis Little was presented a Merit Award and a Master Builder Achievement Certificate for Structures.



Congratulations to George and to Dennis. Keep it up guys.

Holiday Train Show Preparations

It is that time of the year again, when we get ready for our annual Holiday Train Show. Again this year the show will be held at the Ambassador Hotel, with our Depot also open as part of the show. At the November meeting we will finalize job assignments. There are two layouts undergoing refurbishment to serve as a raffle layout and also a silent auction layout. The raffle layout will be finalized by the NTRAK folks,

and the HO layout will be finalized by the HO folks. Here you see Jim Edmier and Ben redoing the wiring on the HO layout.



The afternoon at the Depot went very well. The first 45 minutes or so we were in show loop mode, showing off the layout and answering questions. We then went into operations mode, where our guests operated a train around the layout in accordance with the operating scheme that Dennis had developed for this event. We had several club members serving as yard masters to keep all the guests on the right track. All those who ran trains had pretty big smiles on their faces, so I guess they had a pretty good time. They all gave us compliments on the NTRAK and HO layouts.

All in all it was a very successful event, and we plan to do it again next year. Thanks to all of you who contributed to its success, it would not have worked at all without your efforts.

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

Western Division Meet a Success!

Thanks to the efforts of many of you, the Western Division Meet that we sponsored on October 20, both at the North Shore Alliance Church and at the Depot went very well. We had 48 ½ attendees. Dan gave some great clinics that were well received, and Tom did his audio/video magic and is now developing a DVD of what he recorded which the Division will offer for sale on its web site, <http://western.sunshineregion.org/> The President of the NMRA, Mike Brestel, was kind enough to say a few words and answer some questions, which was much appreciated from the attendees. Here are some pictures from the morning's festivities.



Lyle Crouder took a third place ribbon in the popularity contest for his flat car with wood load.

motion to elect the nominees by acclimation at that time.



Scale Rails Meeting Minutes October 13, 2007

Members present:

Jim Beliveau, Dan Cermak, Lyle Crouder, Walter "Ben" Curll, Jim Edmier, Lee Dobyons, Steve Gdovin, Peter Gross, Ryan Hannaway, Rich and Dianne Korf, Dennis Little, John Miles, Jim Morse, George Nink, Dwight Sedgwick, Stanley Seeds, Don Sprotbery, Oren Stephans, Robert Veefkind, Luther Ward.

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

Minutes: The minutes for the September, meeting was published in the Newsletter. Motion by Ben Curll, seconded by Lee Dobyons, to approve the minutes as published, Motion carried.

Financial Report: Stan Seeds, MMR, Treasurer, reported that we have \$10,178.53 in the checking and savings accounts. Our mortgage is down to \$ 35,706.74. The club net worth \$ 110,474.42. The written report was passed around for review and posted on the bulletin board. The Treasurer's report was approved by the membership as summarized by Seeds.

Membership: We welcome our newest member, Mr. John Miles.

A letter was sent to Paul Kruger regarding his past dues, with no response. Mr. Kruger is 9 months in arrears in his dues as of this meeting. In accordance with the Club's bylaws, any member more than 2 months past due may be dropped from the rolls. A motion was made by Gross and seconded by Seeds to drop Mr. Kruger from the rolls. The motion carried.

OLD BUISNESS:

1. Layout Status:

Division One: The San Bernardino Station is complete, with the highway overpass. The roundhouse is near completion and work is continuing on the two diesel engine houses. Work on the new and improved Victorville will begin in December.

Joint Line: Rock Island interchange is complete and the north end of Colorado Springs has a new Edmier gravel pit. The narrow gauge extension has started with the turntable installed at Colorado Springs. The staging yard at Denver is in and will allow three trains to be held for operating sessions. The Rock Island interchange is working and a new signal is in place to protect the Rock Island interchange.

N-TRACK: The N-Track modules are working great. Thanks for all the hard work. A turntable and roundhouse are planned for the blank area inside the turn around modules. The N-Track is a nice addition to our Depot and will give us a lot of train running for years to come.

Narrow gauge: Our new K-27 engine is on the layout. It runs and sounds great. The new turntable for Cripple Creek is in place over the Joint line near Denver.

2. Train Show

Jim Edmier reported that 78 Tables have been sold but table sales are behind last years pace. We need new ideas for advertising and new layouts to view. The raffle layouts will be at the Depot after the Division Meet. These layouts need some work to be ready for the train show. Jim Morse will have a small Lionel Christmas layout, 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. A task list is being prepared for each one of us to help make this years Train show the best one ever.

3. AP AWARDS

George Nink was awarded a merit award for Scenery and also received his Master Builder Scenery Achievement Certificate. Dennis Little was awarded a merit award for Structures, and received his Master Builder Structures Achievement Certificate. Congratulations to both. This shows how much talent we have in our Club.

NEW BUISNESS:

1. Donation to the Shriners: Seeds noted that our club is a 501(c)3 not for profit corporation. Part of that is a commitment to the community and a willingness to help others when possible. Seeds stated he had been approached by the Shriners requesting a donation to buy circus tickets for underprivileged children. Motion was made to donate \$100 to the Shriners to purchase tickets for children to the Shriners' Circus. Motion was seconded, and carried.

2. Clean floors: We now have clean and shinny floors and the only way to keep them this way is for each one of us to clean up after each project, and put away our tools. Please do so.

3. Web Site: We need a new web master. Lee Dobyns volunteered to take on this task. Thanks Lee.

4. Building maintenance: Mold has been discovered at the east end of the inside of building. Upon inspection we discovered the east wall has several long cracks in it, and the door that is blocked off is bulging out and is

'spongy'. We are concerned about the integrity of the wall itself, as well as the obvious in-leakage of water and damage to the inside of the Depot. There also appears to be a crack opening up on the inside between the wall and ceiling, along the north and east walls. This is serious, and will need to be address soon. Our Depot is very important and must be properly maintained. In the next few months we will evaluate what will be needed and how much it will cost to keep our building safe and sound. At this time this is the highest priority for us in terms of use of our resources.

5. Storage trailer: After the first of the year, all material that we want to keep will be moved to the box car, and the storage trailer will be scrapped. In order to do this we will first need to remove all the debris in the one box car that still has some integrity. We will then decide what will be needed to replace the old trailer.

6. Elections: We have two seats on our Board of Directors that are up for elections, Seeds and Morse. If any one is interested in these seats please provide a self-nomination to Gross no later than the end of the meeting in December. If there are only two nominees at that time I will ask for a vote to elect those two by acclimation. If there are more than two nominees, we will hold a formal election at the Annual Business Meeting in January with a secret ballot by those eligible to vote.

Meeting adjourned at 2:43.

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

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www.ScaleRails.org



Scale Rails of SW FL
1262 Piney Road
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REMINDERS

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Nov 24, 25, Holiday Train Show

Dec 8, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

Jan 12, Monthly Meeting, 1:30 pm

EDITORIAL

It is now November, that time when we put up the hurricane shutters, pull out the longer sleeve shirts and jackets, and prepare for the Holliday Train Show. We count on this show to be a success each year as it is the major source of money for our club. We will need everyone's help again this year to make it a smooth running operation, and lots of fun. So come to the meeting and volunteer your efforts. Help your club to continue to grow and prosper.

Keep having fun!
PETER GROSS, Editor