

THE ORDER BOARD

Publication Of The
Tennessee Central Railway Museum & Model Railroad Club
Nashville Chapter NRHS
January 2021

Vol. 41 Issue 1

We continue our expanded Order Board News Notice with some new sections, a little humor, some member recognition, railroad memories and stories, and lots of input from members – so be sure to read the whole thing.....

Donations

Owl's Roost Campground- Club Car brand battery-powered golf cart. 2 photos below-



Photo by **Moose Guzman**



Photo by **Moose Guzman**

TCRM member **Moose Guzman** planted the seed of Owl's Roost Campground donating this unused golf cart to TCRM back last fall. The donation was shown in the Dec 2020 **Order Board**, but here are 2 photos of the cart. Boswell's has repaired the battery support frame, installed new batteries & replaced the windshield. Earlier this week, the cart came to TCRM & is permanently lodged in our meeting room. **Moose** also donated the rental of a U-Haul trailer to bring the cart to TCRM + he donated a power washing of the cart at a semi-trailer truck-RV

facility. **Tanner Peterson** also helped out by hauling the cart to Boswell's from TCRM.

2021 TCRM Schedule

- Feb 6 **CANCELLED** - 2nd Annual Bellevue Model Train Show at Bellevue Baptist Church
- Feb 11 Board of Directors Meeting at TCRM 1230 Hr
- Feb 13 Valentines Excursion Train to Watertown – Adults Only
- Feb 20 Murder Mystery Excursion Train to Watertown
- Feb 20 sHOW Model RR Club Winter 2021 Model Train Show Bowling Green KY Rail Park & Train Museum
- Mar 13 St Patrick's Day Excursion Train to Lebanon
- April 3 Easter Bunny Excursion Train to Watertown
- Apr 10 TCRM Open House & Model Train Show
- Apr 17 Mile-Long Yard Sale Excursion Train to Watertown
- May 1 Maypole Festival Day Excursion Train to Carthage Jct
- May 15 Wine Tasting-Spring Excursion Train to Watertown
- May 22 Train Robbery Excursion Train to Watertown

Monthly Thursday Meetings On Hold

Until the COVID-19 pandemic is under better control TCRM will not hold monthly meetings.

Anyone wanting to present a program at a future Thursday night meeting, please contact **Bob Hultman** landline 615-833-5158 or cell 615-513-7187 or E-mail hultman@bellsouth.net

New TCRM Members

Harold Stansberry Nashville TN

Please welcome our new members as they take part in our activities & events.

2021 Membership Renewal – New Feature Now on Website

By **Bob Hultman**

TCRM now has on its Website a Get Involved page where new members can join TCRM and where current members can renew their membership. This is a service provided by Etix, our current ticket-selling service provider who has absorbed WhistleTix.

TCRM annual membership renewal is now due. This URL <https://www.tcry.org/volunteer> takes you to the Get Involved Web page, or you can scroll to the bottom of the TCRM Web Home page & click on the Get Involved choice. Once there, the left side is for new members to join, while the right side is for current members to renew their membership. If you need your TCRM Mbrship #, contact **Bob Hultman** at hultman@bellsouth.net or call cell 615-513-7187 for it.

If you have to mail your activity fee renewals (**\$35 individual, \$40 family membership**), make checks-MO's payable to TCRM & mail to TC Ry Museum 220 Willow St in Nashville TN 37210-2159 Attn – **Admin Staff**. TCRM office is not being staffed for the immediate future.

TCRM BoD Meeting Thursday Feb 11

By **Bob Hultman**

The Board of Directors will meet in person on Fri Feb 11 at 1230 hr Central Time. Venue will be the meeting room with at least 4 8' tables deployed so distancing can be obtained. Members are welcome to attend. The CY 2021 budget will be considered & adopted, along with other agenda items. Members will have a chance to address the Board. Soft drinks & btl H₂O will be available.

2021 -- Purpose -- Plans -- Programs

By **Bob Hultman**

The plan for CY 2021 is to recover financially from the hit TCRM took in 2020. To that end some new kinds of excursion trains have been created (Irish Express to Lebanon, Maypole Festival Train to Carthage Jct). TCRM has a mortgage payoff due in 2021 or 2022 (I can't remember precisely).

New programs include a Company Store selling donated items & some hobby shop items during excursion train Saturdays. A new incentive for members to car host on our excursion trains is Caboose Rides on excursion trains. Specifics & details are yet to be worked out, but hopefully this incentive will encourage members to help staff our excursion trains.

Tuesday Maintenance Team

By **Randal Brooks & Susan Thomas**

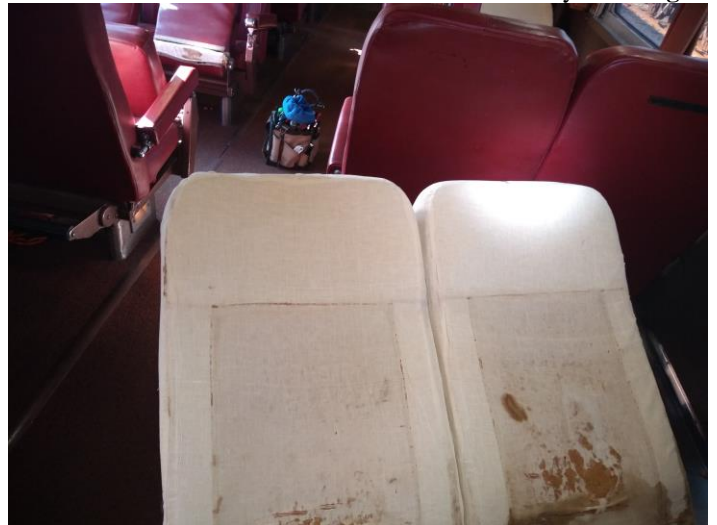
Randal Brooks and **Ken Fagan** have been working on getting seat cushions, armrests and footrests repaired. They have to remove the components and take them to Rogers Seat Cover Co, and then replace them in the cars. This is a long, tedious and difficult process.



4719 Seat renovation - Photo by **Ken Fagan**



4719 Seat w/cushions & armrests removed Photo by **Ken Fagan**



4719 Seatback cushion damage - Photo by **Ken Fagan**

Ken Fagan has also installed locks on the glass display cases that are in the Company Store area in the meeting room. **Hank Sweetman** plans to place some Hobby Shop items in those display cases to let our Excursion passengers know that we have a Hobby Shop and there are items for beginners as well as expert railroad modelers.

Ken Fagan also attached a long large piece of weather stripping to the bottom edge of the sliding door on the Willow St side of the meeting room. There was a significant gap between the door and the floor. This flange helps keep out dirt, cold air, and on really rainy days, water from flowing in to the building. The door is in the corner next to the Union Station model, and is rarely ever opened.

If you would enjoy participating in repair and renovation projects on Tuesday mornings, let **Bob Hultman** know. Sometimes working alone, or with a partner or two on a project, it is a great way to practice and upgrade your handyman skills!

CAR HOSTS REMINDER - For each trip we provide a car report form in the car folder. Please make sure to fill these out so that the maintenance team can fix the issues. This can be problems with the seats, roof leaks, light bulbs burned out, vacuum cleaner not working, no water, sink and toilet leaks, etc etc. If there are no issues, then just write NONE. These forms are the

only way the team has to know what needs attention and repair in each car.



Photo by **Susan Thomas**

Maintenance and Restoration News

By **Brenton Jones**

Tim Bebout, Alex Dmitriev, Eric Henry, Tanner Peterson, Jason Whipp and I (Brenton Jones) will be continuing work on standard yearly maintenance throughout the excursion train this year, including replacing brake shoes, brake valves, wheel maintenance, replacing air hoses, replacing windows, and patching leaks.

I will also be continuing my work on updating the bathrooms on board as I believe they are one of the least visually appealing areas of our train. Here some pictures of the first one I was able to repaint.



Photo by **Brenton Jones**



Photo by **Brenton Jones**

Also the six of us will be focusing on different restoration projects such as **Tanner's** continued work on EMD F7A 819. He would like to have it in the locomotive consist by the end of the year. It will be nice to finally see a ABBA locomotive consist on the train.

We also have plans to work on 3 of the 7 cabooses TCRM currently owns. This year we will be focusing on the OLS caboose (TCRX 1155), Southern bay window caboose (SOU 358) and Chessie caboose (C&O 3229) which are all currently at TCRM. We would like to see the Operation Life Saver caboose get sand-blasted and put in fresh paint this year. We were looking at doing this in 2020 but COVID happened. I would also like to see rotted/burned out flooring in the Southern and C&O cabooses replaced. It would be nice if we could find someone to donate the lumber for those projects. Wouldn't it be amazing to one day see all the Museum cabooses in a row in fresh paint?!

See the photo directly below for a view of fire damage inside the C&O caboose. The Southern has water/rot damage to a large part of the floor.

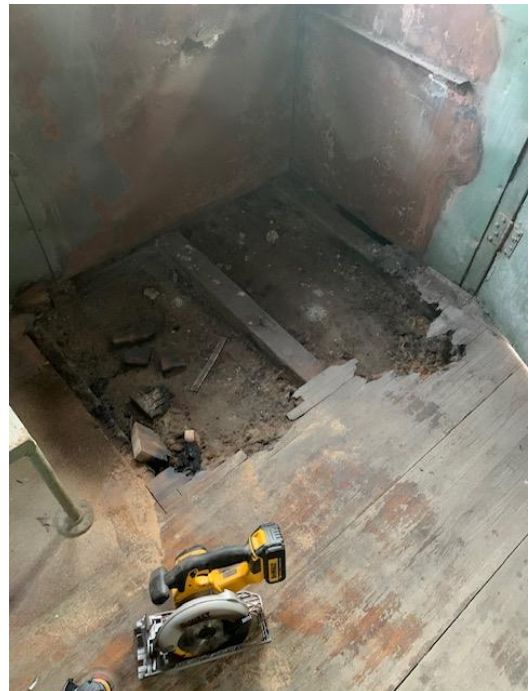


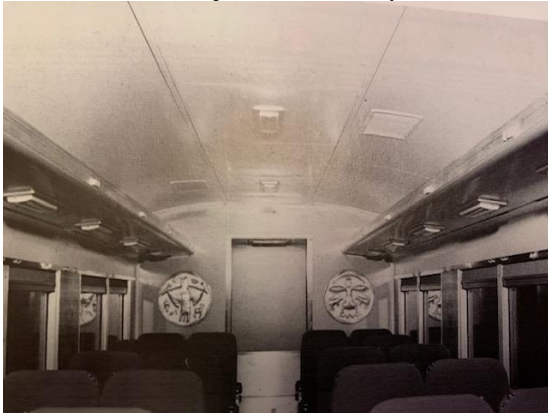
Photo by **Brenton Jones**

Jason Whipp will continue his work on the EMD SW1 switch engine cosmetic restoration. I believe he hopes to get it into paint by the end of the year. He is planning on putting it back into its original IC RR colors.



Photo located by **Brenton Jones**

Also one of my current side projects is trying to locate original Santa Fe coach car medallions. All of our 47xx series cars would originally have had 4 of these in each car. I'd love to find at least 4 so we could have one car with them. If any Museum members have any leads on these please contact me.



Medallion Photos by **Brenton Jones**

Also, the restoration crew is looking for the following items to be donated- 20+ milk crates & a sewing machine.

Sad News – Passing of Rev Mark S. Womack, 1923-2020

By **Terry Coats**

It is with much sadness that I must report the passing of **Rev. Mark S. Womack**. Born in 1923, **Mark** went to work for the NC&StL Ry in 1942 as an operator and was versed in the art of telegraphy, an attribute long lost as the years passed. He entered military service 1943 during WWII serving in the European theater and was the last surviving member of the 753rd RR Transportation Battalion.

Returning to the US after his service he resumed his position with the NC&StL Ry serving as operator all over the system. While working at his railroad position, he completed his college degree at MTSC in Murfreesboro.

With the merger of the NC&StL and the L&N, he was advanced to the position of Assistant Train Master and then as Rules Examiner in Louisville, KY and Jacksonville, FL. **Mark** advanced to the position as Superintendent of Rules for Seaboard RR. a position he held until his retirement back to Chattanooga.

After retirement, **Mark** always wanted to share his experiences and his love of railroading; he was a constant contributor to national train publications (Trains), railroad historical societies (L&N Historical Soc., NC&StL Preservation Society), as well as numerous local newspapers. Always active in the Methodist Church, he became a pastor late in his life and served churches in the Chattanooga area in that capacity.

Mark was a devoted husband as proved by the fact he was married to his wife Betty for 77 years until her death in 2019. **Mark** was our go-to for anything railroad-related. He had the most astonishing memory when it came to his career and those men and women he served with on the NC&StL Ry. On a personal note, I could ask him a question about who were the members of a train crew on a particular day in the 1940's and he could recall the names and their positions. Or, I could ask him to recall the time he worked at a depot on the NC&StL and he would give me a 30-minute recitation of what happened that day or that week... he was remarkable.

Mark will truly be missed as a touchstone to a bygone era of American railroading.



The Rev Mark S Womack

Excursion Train News

By **Terry Bebout**

Valentines Excursions are now on sale! On Feb 13 we have a Valentines Excursion featuring Grand Ole Opry performer Buddy Jewell playing live on the train! One Feb 20 we have a Murder Mystery Excursion train to Watertown!

Also coming up is a St Patrick's Celebration Train on March 13 that will have Irish Beers and drinks along with a Irish Buffet for lunch and a live Irish Band and dancers!

We do have health protocols established for the train, you can view this on our website.

Tickets along with other information can be gotten from our website at www.tcrm.org or call 615-241-0436.

Caboose Rides Proposed for Active TCRM Car Hosts and Members

By **Susan Thomas**

We have received a lot of interest in the Caboose Rides being included as a Volunteer Benefit. So we would like suggestions from our car hosts to develop a set of criteria and publish it so that we car hosts know how Caboose Riders are selected for each excursion. Please submit your suggestions to Bob Hultman – email hultman@bellsouth.net

TCRM Library Update

By **Don Strong**

Please place anything addressed to me or to the Library in the **Don Strong** folder on the admin desk slide it under the Library door.

Broadway Dinner Train Flashbacks

By **Susan Thomas**

Do you have memories, pictures, or stories to share, please contact the editor.



Photo by **Ron Dunn**

Broadway Dinner Train Conductors **Bert Aldrich** and **Ron Dunn** pose with the freshly-painted EMD E8A No. 5764 on a warm Friday evening in 1995. This view is taken at the BDT station on First Avenue South under the Shelby Street bridge. Today, this is where the downtown dog park and the Ascend Amphitheater are located. The dinner train operated between downtown and Old Hickory from 1988 to 1999.

Memories of the Great Train Robbery Excursions

By **Ken Jenkins** and **Susan Thomas**

Remember when our Train Robbers were on horseback? Did you know that a Train Robbery could be so much FUN with horses galloping and guns firing, as the mounted robbers rode down Pruitt Hill (MP41) to halt and board the TCRM excursion train? There were six Tennessee Desperadoes for whom riding their horses, putting on a show, and raising money for local charities was a passion. So they thought, what better to raise money than to rob a train for some local folks that needed help, like children in hospitals!

Once the mounted bandits managed to stop the excursion train, they boarded the train with gun shots blaring (Single action pistols and rifles of the late 1800's era, both firing cartridges with nothing but black powder, lots of noise and smoke) to take donations from the passengers. The fun rush was out of this world for everyone on the train! And yes, the passengers donated generously! On a couple of occasions they even kidnapped a young girl from the train, passengers were devastated, and even a little worried. It was such a scary scene when the robbers rode off with that little girl, not to mention the money that we took from all of the poor passengers on that train.

Of course, the little girl that was kidnapped and dramatically spirited away on horseback was actually the granddaughter of one of the robbers. And it was all pre-planned, and a well-kept secret!

It was a wonderful thing that the money that the robbers we "took" from the poor passengers was for a great charity and helped many others in need. It was win-win for everyone. Fun for the passengers who were just a little scared and couldn't believe it when they saw gun-toting horseback riders racing down the hill, fun for the team of train robbers who put on a great show, and of course great for the children in local hospitals.

(Editors note – Thanks to the Tennessee Cowboy Mounted Shooters who put so much time and effort into "The Great Train Robbery" for the Excursion passengers and the charities that they supported over the years.)



Photo by Ken Jenkins



Photo by Ken Jenkins



Photo by Ken Jenkins

HO Scale Model Railroad News

By Bob Hultman

Progress on the HO RR has slowed some, but **Randal Brooks**

has been doing some scenery & structure work & some mechanical work on turnouts. My family came down w/SARS-Cov-2 illness over Christmas so my participation has been slowed. **Moose Guzman** has added some LED lights to some building interiors on the RR. Next project is to get the trackwork on the new 6' module next to **Randal Brooks'** module group fully functional. Farther out we need to firm up a plan for the 6' module next to the 36' yard.

Nashville Ntrak – 2021 Plans

By Steve Wright

The Ntrak group has made a decision to not make any plans for 2021 until the Covid-19 shut downs are over, and Nashville life is back to somewhat normal. They are no longer meeting officially on Tuesday afternoons. Stay tuned!

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1210543609120218>

Website: <http://www.nashvillentrak.org>

YouTube:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCafw5a8YVISHQFaNBPU_D34g

TCRM Hobby Shop Update

by Hank Sweetman

Lots of exciting things to start the New Year! We have recently received some Atlas GP38 locomotives in RJ Corman colors. While these are not Nashville & Eastern Corman locomotives, these DCC and Sound equipped units make a nice addition to your collection. Available in 3 road numbers. Also just received is some liquid paint in Tennessee Central Boxcar Red, from the 1940's and 1950's.

Thanks to the hard work of **Ed Minnich**, we have a major change to the TC Hobby Shop website. You can now place your orders for merchandise using our new online order form, instead of having to come to the shop to place your order. Your orders will be reviewed and you will be notified within 5 business days of the projected status of your order. This new online order form is found on the Hobby Shop Website Home page (tchobbyshop.com), and the Hobby Shop website can also be accessed from the TCRM Website (TRCY.org).

We are restarting the use of Mail Chimp to communicate with our customers via email. The Hobby Shop had used Mail Chimp in the past, but over the past few years it has not been used. This tool will allow us to communicate on a regular basis regarding news from the Hobby Shop and will also let us tailor emails to users with specific interests when suppliers have special offers available. You may have recently received a request to register in Mail Chimp so that you can be included in our communications.

We continue to welcome new volunteers to staff the Hobby Shop. If you are willing to donate one Saturday a month to helping us out, please contact Hobby Shop manager Hank Sweetman at hanksweetman@gmail.com

Union Station Model and Restoration

By Susan Thomas

Who would like to step up and participate in the restoration/adaptation of the Union Station model into an artifact that honors the history of Union Station and passenger railroad service in Nashville and Middle Tennessee? It has a fascinating history!

According to **Brian McDonnell**, “the model was built sometime in the late 1940s/early 50s as part of the 2-Rail O scale layout display at what was originally the Nashville Children's Museum (now Adventure Science Center). When the layout was dismantled sometime in the 70s/80s (I think), I think it ended up with the Nashville Garden Railroad Society, who had it displayed at their operating layout sites first at the Global Mall in La Vergne, and later at 100 Oaks in south Nashville. It probably would have come to TCRM from them when their working space was dismantled in 2009 thereabouts, and was placed in the display room before it was remodeled throughout 2012-13.”

Folks have dreamed up different possibilities for how we could revitalize the model and make it one of the star exhibits in the Museum. One suggestion offered by **Brian McDonnell** is to turn it into an interactive exhibit in the display room, with working lights and an added-on cutaway section of the trainshed. With O scale models of L&N, NC&StL and Amtrak trains positioned below, visitors could push a button to hear the station announcement for that train, a brief synopsis about its history and significance, and the sounds it would've made.

In order to accomplish a project like that, we need a team of those talented in model building, some to do the electronics, set up the train tracks, some to do the historical research and write the narrative, another to do the voice over, and maybe a train song or two. There's so many possibilities for member involvement! (TCRM member **Hugh “Nick” Nichols** worked at Union Station for several yrs before he retired, so he's TCRM's authority on Union Station.... Ed.)

Union Station opened on October 9th, 1900, and exactly 79 years later, the last passenger train departed from Union Station. A sad day for railway enthusiasts. If you have stories or factoids that you'd like to share, please contribute to the editor.

If anyone can add to the history of this unique model, or have an interesting story regarding the model, please contact the newsletter editor. It is a treasure and we need to make sure it is preserved and protected.



Steam engine front photo structure #3 will make its debut on Saturday Feb 13th 2021. Its inaugural run will be the Valentines Excursion during which Grand Ole Opry Performer Buddy Jewel will be performing on the train. The structure was built by TCRM members **Terry Coats** and **Randal Brooks**. The trim pieces, boiler, cylinders, etc. are plywood pieces that are layered. The headlight is mounted in a box and actually lights up. The structure is mounted on pieces of wood to simulate rails. This should be popular with the kids.

Patrons (or Carhosts) Say The Darndest Things

By **Susan Thomas**

Car hosts and volunteers, we know you have some great stories and memories to share. Please share your stories with the Order Board editor. This should be a fun section of the Order Board that we can all enjoy!

Hugh Lowe recounts an exchange he had with a young passenger on a Polar Express trip.

“So, one story from the North Pole train involves a little girl about nine years old who picked up on my usual comment about "Majestic Mount Trashmore" which is a little joke I make about the landfills that we see as the train passes by.

She told me that her school teacher has talked about what a wonderful function that landfills provide as they take all of our trash and hide it underground forever. I gave her a sympathetic look as I got this vision of her schoolteacher trying to sugar coat what I view as a detestable solution to our trash problem.

I don't think that I mentioned the methane gas generated by landfills but I held up an aluminum Coke can and asked her why it is such a crime to put an aluminum can in a land fill? I told her about how bauxite ore is mined in Jamaica (among other places) and then shipped to Iceland to be refined because of the cheap electricity in Iceland. Then I asked her why the electrical energy is cheap in Iceland? She struggled to come up with an answer and seemed very uncomfortable that I had asked her something that she couldn't answer. Then I told her about the geothermal energy available in Iceland due to how thin the crust of the Earth is there. Water is pumped down to come in contact with the molten lava that makes up the center of the Earth, generating high pressure steam which is then brought back to the surface and run through a steam turbine, generating electricity without burning any fossil fuels and without the resulting pollution. I told her that once refined, the aluminum ingots are then shipped back to populated areas to be made into soft drink cans.

Then I told her it is a real shame that some people put these aluminum cans in landfills where they can never be reclaimed. This wasteful process could be avoided if people would just put in the extra effort to recycle their cans so that the aluminum metal can be reclaimed with a fraction of the effort that it took process the natural ore.

The little girl seemed impressed with this story and I hope she will take it back to her teacher to explain the evil of landfills. If nothing else, the little girl's mother seemed to be impressed.”

How about we set up procedures to recycle all those aluminum soft drink cans we throw out after an excursion? Car hosts, would you be willing to separate out the aluminum cans from the rest of the trash?

Do you recall a humorous exchange with a patron? Please share your stories with the Order Board editor.

Sick Call – Robert “Moose” Guzman

By Bob Hultman

Moose called me earlier on Sunday to say he slipped & fell at his home, breaking his right leg right at the ankle. He was able to call a fellow TCRM member **Sherry Raymond** for help. A trip to Skyline ER & the ER did an initial setting of the broken bones. **Moose** will go in for an orthopedic evaluation later today (0224 hr right now.....). Please keep **Moose** in your prayers, he’s had a lot of medical-surgical things to overcome in the last couple years. If you’d like to send him a card or note, his address is PO Box 266 in Goodlettsville TN 37072.

Moose also wanted to show the red LED rear lights he bought for the golf cart. Each light assembly is powered by 2 AA batteries with magnets holding the assembly to any magnetic metal. Many thanks to **Moose** for his many donations to TCRM!



Operation Lifesaver Update

By Jill McClintock

Executive Director - TN Operation Lifesaver

TN Operation Lifesaver Is Moving Forward in 2021: The purpose of Operation Lifesaver is to educate people on how to be safe around highway-rail grade crossings and railroad tracks. To make our purpose a reality, our plans or goals for 2021 are to increase our Volunteer Base. Volunteers are the heart and soul of our program. Once you go through the on-line and face-to-face training, you are ready to get out there and share our message with the adults and children who visit the Museum. Please contact Jill McClintock (jmoodytnol@comcast.net) if you

are interested in becoming a Volunteer. We also plan to collaborate with other safety education programs, attend safety conferences and community events to share our program. TNOL will continue to build statewide partnerships with law enforcement, emergency responders and firefighters. And always use social media to get our safety messages out to as many people as possible. Anyone is welcome to re-post safety tips posted on the OLI National Office media sites such as Face Book, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat.

Operation Lifesaver has age-appropriate programs for children from pre-school through high school. We have specific programs for adult/teen drivers, pedestrians, law enforcement, EMS, school bus drivers, professional drivers, the media, photographers and transit riders. We even have lesson plans for teachers. Our newest program called Railroad Investigation Safety Course (RISC), instructs law enforcement, EMTs and firefighters how to safely approach and assess a train/vehicle incident or derailment. Check out our website (www.oli.org) to view our safety education materials (printable color pages, safety tips, e-learning games and downloadable videos/PSAs), public awareness campaigns and Federal Railroad Administration Statistics. These materials were created to increase visibility and awareness concerning rail safety – so please use them!

TCRM’s Volunteer Incentive Program

By Bob Hultman

Back in 2007, TCRM established the Volunteer Incentive Program where members could earn additional benefits by working volunteer hours & recording such hrs in the VIP Logbook. Here’s a 2010 description of the VIP-

Volunteer Incentive Program

The Board of Directors approved on April 26, 2007 a volunteer incentive program whereby members can earn benefits after volunteering a certain number of hours of work for the organization. The overall intent of the incentive program is to 1) encourage more members to volunteer their help and 2) encourage those members already volunteering to consider increasing their volunteer hours.

Benefits are in the form of free tickets on TCRM excursion trains or some additional discount on purchases in the TCRM Hobby Shop or purchases of TCRM souvenirs.

For every 20 hours of volunteer work, a member earns 1 free 1st-class seat on Watertown trips; for every 40 hours a member earns 1 free 1st-class seat on Nashville-Cookeville trips. If members do not want excursion train tickets, they can earn an additional 5% discount (going from 25% to 30%) on most items in the TCRM hobby shop, up to a limit of \$250 (MSRP) worth of hobby shop merchandise.

To keep track of volunteer hours earned, **Ben Gerth** prepared a record sheet and also obtained a binder for the record sheets. The record sheet binder would be kept in the TCRM admin office where members will have access to it. Each time a member works volunteer hours, he or she can record the hours on the record sheets. A 2nd member should initial the 1st member’s entry to confirm the volunteer hours worked. When a member wants to redeem his/her volunteer hours worked, the member should so indicate to Bob Hultman or Amy Hannah, who will make appropriate notations and issue a written authorization for the benefit desired by the member.

Officers and Board of Directors members are not included in this incentive program.

Bob Hultman, VP TC Ry Museum
4 Aug 2010

The BoD will reconsider the VIP at its upcoming Feb 11 meeting. Another reference to the VIP appears in the Jan 2017 issue of the Order Board found at <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5e704e9d9fc3e82f87aba533/t/5ef6cb4b4414c65091ec0501/1593232203467/17-01+january+2017.pdf>

The current logbook is a bound hardback book on the wood admin desk. We most likely will convert to an electronic recordkeeping method rather than the paper logbook. This will most likely occur after the BoD Feb 11 meeting. Ant questions, contact **Bob Hultman**.

Railroad Store & Flea Market

By Susan Thomas

Spring time is clean out time!

As you make plans to reconfigure, replace and revitalize your railroad layout, donate your railroad-related items to the Railroad Company Store and Flea market. The money raised goes to support membership initiative programs.

Our first program funded from this source will be the "Member of the Quarter." For more information on this program, look for a separate section.

If you have a suggestion for a Member Initiative Program, funded by the Railroad Store and Flea Market, please contact **Susan Thomas**.

Not only is the Railroad Store of interest to the visitors, it improves the look of the meeting room with all the pictures displayed on the racks. A big thanks to **Ken Fagan** for retrieving the rack components from the depths of one of the storage sheds, and repurposing them. All the pictures, posters and vintage calendars on the racks are for sale. We even have a needlepoint picture that was donated! (pictures on the walls of the meeting room are not for sale!)

So, members, please, to donate your RR items to the flea market, contact **Bob Hultman** or **Randal Brooks** or **Susan Thomas**.

Model Trains Wanted

By John Coles

I BUY LARGE COLLECTIONS of TRAINS.
johnR.coles@yahoo.com

TCRM Member Spotlight

This is a new feature of the Order Board, to spotlight long-term members, the foundation of our Museum, and our new members who bring fresh energy and ideas to the group. We look forward to your participation for future Order Boards.

Brian McDonnell

Member # 1069

When did you join the Organization
May 27th, 2011

What was your primary interest or reason for joining TCRM?

I had always wanted to learn more about the railroad industry; specifically how it worked, and why what it does is this hard edged business, and allowed me to share my amateurish perspectives with still important to us. Joining with the Museum offered a firsthand look into the bowels of experienced rail-roaders who know this stuff inside and out.

Do you feel that you achieved your goal - of learning more about the RR industry?

In a sense, yes. The knowhow I gained has become instrumental with the videos I make today, especially with the history-focused editorials about the Burlington Northern and Union Pacific, as examples.

Do you have a home layout and what inspired you to build it?

At one time, I had a, "Plywood Empire," for my 3-Rail O Gauge trains to run around with. Plans were made to use it as the base for something with scenery and prototypical operations, but conditions with its storage space and commitments with college meant putting everything away. The collection is still intact, and I hope to do something with it in the near future.

How has your interest or participation changed over the years?

I joined up just like any other railfan, thinking that anything was possible in the rail industry, which it certainly seemed like in 2011. It took me a while to find what I was good at, but it eventually settled into giving visitor tours of the facility, while also manning the HO scale model railroad layout. Over time, I'd get to show off some of my videomaking expertise, with my ultimate showcase being, "With Personal Service," a feature length documentary about the original TC Ry.

Editors note - If members would like to view the **Brian's** documentary "With Personal Service" [click here](#). Every car host should enjoy watching it so they can share the stories and history of TC Ry with their passengers.

What has been a highlight of your membership experience over the years?

Being able to lead a repainting effort with the Operation Lifesaver caboose 1155. With the help of fellow members **Stephen Hook, Tanner Peterson, Brenton Jones** and **Benjamin Eby**, we got the car recertified for mainline operation in May 2017, and the caboose made its first mainline run in June of that year. We are hoping to do a full repaint on it in the near future. I had always wanted to try my hand at bringing a full scale piece of rolling stock back to life.

What area of volunteering or activity do you participate in?

Normally, I'm on the parking crew, standing out in the street with **Lawrence Lilly** directing cars where to park. Other duties include doing things around the Willow Street facility include giving visitor tours, operating the HO scale railroad, and being an extra hand around the office.

How could the organization better meet your needs?

That can be best summed up simply as, "Don't be afraid of the future." Nashville Steam has proven time and again that the impossible can be done. We are based in the largest city of Tennessee, which is also the fastest-growing and the most culturally diverse. Between our vintage rail equipment and our

working relationship with RJ Corman, we can be more than just an old train ride. We have members that are willing to go above and beyond to bring the silver age of passenger rail travel out of the pages of history, who care deeply about the future of this place. They will be very important to us in the coming years.

Do you think that you will still be a member in 5 years?

In all honesty, it's hard to tell.

Why or Why Not?

Lots has happened since I joined, especially in regards to my video work. I've been making a name for myself with my YouTube channels [Dynamo Productions](#) and [High Iron](#), which is slowly evolving into a full time hustle. In the long term, I would like to be able to relocate to a place where I can do bigger and grander things, and hopefully leave a noticeable impact on the rail preservation industry.

TCRM Members In Memoriam

John G Payne DDS 1930 - 10 Jan 2021

Rev Mark S Womack 31 Dec 1923 – 25 Dec 2020

Upcoming Conventions & Shows

Feb 6 2021 **CANCELLED** - 2nd Annual Bellevue Model Train Show @ Bellevue Baptist Church – Tentatively Rescheduled to Feb 5, 2022
Nathan Baker, Chairman - 2nd Annual Bellevue Model Train Show

Feb 20 2021 sHOW Model RR Club Winter 2021 Model Train Show in Bowling Green KY at RailPark & Train Museum-L&N RR Depot 9 am – 2 pm For information contact Kevin Comer, BGTrainShow@gmail.com

July 16-17, 2021 12th Annual Madison Model Train Show
Friday 2 pm - 6 pm & Saturday 9 am - 3 pm NEW TIME
@ City Road Chapel UMC 701 Gallatin Pike S, Madison, TN
Vendor tables still available. Request food donations for Christian Cooperative Ministry
Contact: Nathan Baker, Chairman
Cell: 615-612-3324 nathanbaker@comcast.net

If you enjoyed reading this expanded newsletter, reply to the newsletter editor with 3 thumbs up. ☐☐☐.

It took much work and time to put it together, with many members contributing stories and pictures.

If you have stories and pictures, Broadway Dinner Train memories, humorous interactions with our passengers, share them with all our members!

If you, or you would like to see one of our members featured in our **TCRM Member Spotlight** feature, let us know. We'll reach out to you or to them.

Contact the Order Board editor at hultman@bellsouth.net or call his cell phone 615-513-7187