

THE ORDER BOARD

A Publication Of The
Cumberland Division SER-NMRA Inc
Tennessee Central Railway Museum
Nashville Chapter NRHS

Vol. 20 Issue 4

Cumberland Div/TC Ry Museum Donations

Allan Davis- \$100

H C Holderfield- \$150

Raymond Hudgens- \$54

Albert Marks- \$200

Mark Matthews- \$100

Bryan Turner- HO scale items for sale in TCRM hobby shop

John Campbell/Kentucky Railway Museum- Tennessee Central Ry correspondence, track maps, bridge plans; two copies of L&N Nashville Terminal Instructions, Book No. 1, dated March 9, 1980

O.D. Glaus- 24 hardcover and softcover railroad books; NC&StL reports to stockholders dated 1922, 1938, 1939 and 1941; large framed print of Union Pacific Challenger #3985

John Kennedy- RAILMODEL JOURNAL magazines

Robert Marsmaker- 60 VHS railroad tapes for TCRM videotape library

Lenard and Bob Measures- hardcover book - SANTA FE - THE RAILROAD GATEWAY TO THE AMERICAN WEST

Hank Sherwood- Model RR items for sale in company store & TCRM hobby shop; small file boxes for library; NRHS BULLETINS

Allen Stanley- photocopy of Military Ry. Services U.S.A. Equipment Data Book ca. 1940s

Allen Tuten- Central of Georgia Freight Equipment Stenciling Diagram Book Vol. 1

Year 2001 Activity Fee

If someone asks you why he/she didn't get a meeting notice, most likely reason is they didn't pay the activity fee for 2001. Contact **George Gilbert** at 615-352-1254 if you don't know if you've renewed for 2001 or not.

Attention NRHS members: Although we have not as yet received our regular renewal cards from Philadelphia you might wish to send your Nat'l Dues (\$17) and your TC Ry Museum Fee (\$20) - both for 2001 - to my attention - or you can wait until you receive your renewal card. **Herb Roth**, 8135 Devens Dr Brentwood, TN 37027.

April Meeting Host Committee

Glenn Martin	Porter McGill	Wiley Miller
Ron Musick	Bob Neal	DeLoy Nelms
Leroy Nessen	Hugh Nichols	Jim Nichols
Tim O'Neal	* Ken Oosting*	Charles Owens
Dave Parker	Jim Paty	Jim Perry

* Host Committee Chair

E-mail Addresses

If you have E-mail and want to receive Cumberland Division /NRHS/TCRM updates & news via E-mail, please send your E-mail address to hultman@nashville.com

Year 2001 Schedule

Apr 6 Excursion Train Old Hickory TN Land Title

Apr 7 Excursion Train Watertown Easter Bunny I Trip

Apr 12 Thursday Night Meeting- TCRM Willow St

Apr 14 Excursion Train Watertown Easter Bunny II Trip

Apr 21 Excursion Train Watertown Mile-Long Yard Sale Trip

Apr 24 Sircy Bldg Operating Session

May 3-6 Mid-South Live Steamers- Maury Co Park Columbia TN

May 4-6 SER Regional Convention Knoxville TN

May 5 Excursion Train Cookeville Springfest Trip

May 8 Excursion Train Watertown- Volunteer State

May 18 Nashville-Cookeville Deadhead move

May 19 Excursion Train Cookeville-Watertown Train Robbery

May 22 Sircy Bldg Operating Session

June 9 Excursion Train Lebanon Train Robbery Trip

June 26 Sircy Bldg Operating Session

July 7-8 GATS Show Nsv Municipal Auditorium

July 14 Excursion Train Watertown Murder Mystery/Jazz Trip

Program Notes

April- Painting with an Airbrush- **The Airbrushing Cadre**

Excursion Train Sign-Up Sheets

April 14, 21 & May 5 excursion train crew signup sheets will be at the meeting. Come to the meeting and sign up to help staff any, some or all of these trips.

More Museum Trackwork

TCRM's track Supergang has continued work on the spur extended to the TN Commercial Warehouse building. Ballast cars were brought in, TCRM rolling stock moved, and ballast spread on the track and roadbed. Now it's a matter of tamping the ballast, leveling the track and then bringing the grade to railhead height. Excellent work, Supergang!

Sick Call

Don Gage had left shoulder surgery about 2 weeks or so ago. Report is he came through the surgery fine and is back on light duty at work. Thanks also to **Don** for helping staff the hobby shop while recovering.

Membership Cards

Phil Utley will again take digital photos during the April meeting of members who did not get their photo taken during the February or March meetings. The photo will go on Cumberland Div/TC Ry Museum membership cards. Photo location will be upstairs at the Willow St building.

TC Ry Signal Update II

The TC Ry approach signal is now on the concrete foundation and bolted in place. Now, all we need is for conduit to be run, buried and Master Electrician **Steve Tomblin** to wire up the signal head and bring it to operating status.

NEXT MEETING Willow St Building Thursday April 12, 2001 7:00 PM

SER Convention

The **SouthEastern Region's Convention** is in Knoxville TN May 4-6, 2001. **Quincy Styke III** is coordinating the HO modular RR setup. We will be renting a truck to haul the modules, both HO & N scale, to Knoxville for this event. **Chris Dotye** and **Phil Utley** have agreed to drive the truck. There's a sizeable contingent from Cumberland Division heading to Knoxville. Contact **Quincy Styke III** at 865-2973 for more information. In preparation for this Convention, the HO modular RR yard, 4 corners and some other modules have been set up along the back wall of the meeting room for some electrical tweaking and refinement. Please keep food and drink OFF the modules whenever we're in the meeting room. Special thanks go to **Matthew Tomblin**, who was a great help Saturday, March 31. He helped **Bob Swanner** complete the setup of the HO modular RR. He helped haul four modules, all the module legs & the module rack in from a storage trailer & then reload the trailer with other module parts/pieces. He also bolted modules together, put in connector tracks, replacing loose or broken joiners as he went. He ran the first and only train on the completed set p. Thanks again, **Matthew**, for your help!

Excursion Train Report



TCRM's first school excursion train for 2001 ran March 9, the day after our last Thursday night meeting. The trips drew approximately 700 students total and were safe and successful. Photo above shows veteran carhost **Tom Larkins** directing a school group to the appropriate assigned car shortly before departure time. Thanks go to all who helped make these trips the success they are. More and more schools are asking when we'll do the next trip, so we're becoming more well known amongst the area school systems. Photo by **Ralcon Wagner**

Bringing Things to TCRM

Lots of our members want to help by bringing various items for use at the Museum. While the thought is excellent, on occasion the results are a bit different. We have asked that you please check with Terry Bebout, 615-244-9001 ext 4 or Bob Hultman, ext 6, before you bring items to the Museum site. There are several reasons for this request. First- does TCRM need the item? Second- is there a place to store the item when not in use? Third- does TCRM already have the item? Right now we're almost out of storage space.... So, check with Terry or Bob before bringing something and leaving it at TCRM.

Mentoring

Scenario: A family gets excited about trains enough to buy & build a model railroad. Soon the problems start: "The darn thing won't stay coupled, it keeps derailing, the engine slows down when it's at the other end of the layout, my mountains collapse, the paint job looks like a clown's makeup, the water looks like cake frosting, is everything in the "right" era? Do these cars "fit" the locale, structures & motive power? What else can go wrong?" Then we see smoke come out of the engine as it slows down. What happens? The train gets packed away in the attic & our excited family takes up cross-stitching, and model railroading loses another hobbyist. What a waste! Could this be reduced? Sure! Easily! How?

There is a definite fact I have observed- no matter what a person's talents are, model railroading can stretch our accomplishments to the max. There are some experienced model railroaders out there who have a vast amount of knowledge at their beck & call. They could easily straighten out the blundering neophyte in his quest for modeling perfection, but our super modelers somehow don't share their incredibly diverse stores of model railroad knowledge with the ones needing it the most, the neophytes. Are they being stingy with their "secrets"? Hardly! I haven't seen anyone who doesn't like to strut his stuff when the proper amount of appreciation is at hand. So what's the problem? **TIMIDITY**, on both sides. No one will talk to anyone he doesn't know. The old hands may need to grab the bull by the horns & start talking to the new guys. It's amazing that most of the new guys are nice folks starving for exactly what we are carrying around in our heads.

Many modelers have chosen to specialize, going their separate ways, but they're not **THAT** specialized. There is a common denominator, **track with flanged wheels rolling on it**. Some railroaders do not even own trains. They are interested in history, or working on, or just watching, or riding in, the real trains, or fellowshiping with fellow train lovers, or reading, or watching videotapes. There is one guy I know that is a fan of the IC RR, he is also a prolific builder of modules, the last count being over 120 feet of them. He is not an avid operator but whatever he does is high quality. There is another guy that builds bridges that would make anybody proud.

I have chosen to specialize also. My specialty is to have good performing trains by "souping up" the locomotives. The real ones pulled over 100 cars, so do mine.

Other guys may branch into their own specialty but that doesn't matter either. What does matter is that sooner or later all of us reading this article are going to pass on. Will we be leaving capable replacements behind to carry things on to complete this millennium & beyond?

Think about it- as I meet folks who are new to the hobby, I talk with them, determine their interests & weaknesses, then I will either help them directly or refer them to someone strong in the area of the new guys' needs or interests. Just because a new person doesn't share my particular interest means nothing to me, whether he prefers a different scale or is more intent on building a home railroad or whatever doesn't matter. Let's help these new guys while they can be helped. Sometimes when my club is at a public show & I am running my trains I will see a kid, regardless of age, really intently watching how the trains run so I will hand him [or her] the throttle. The excitement is palpable. Then we get acquainted. Written by Bob Swanner