

Pensacola Model Railroad Club Newsletter

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Dave Ramirez	President	John Hudson	Vice-President
Glen Hall	Secretary	Bobby Payne	Treasurer

Around the Club

Tons of events have happened with the club in the last few months. So standby for a couple of pages of catch up.

Hail and Farewell Welcome new Member

No new members!! We really need to get cracking.



Caboose Club Visit A Step into the Past

By Glen Hall

The minute you step through the door at the old Foley Alabama L&N Depot, you have entered the "Stargate" of times past. Pictures abound of area train stations, locos, and rolling stock in the waiting room. But, that's not all. The walls and most of the floor space in the freight area are devoted not only to railroading, but also to Foley's past. Old newspaper archives, photos of hurricanes back before they were named. Appliances, furniture and memorabilia dating back decades are displayed.

On the evening of 19 July, five members of our club journeyed to Foley to meet with the Caboose Club. The Caboose club is comprised of a small group of people interested in railroading and preserving the past as a whole. Either we were early or they were late, but we were greeted by Mr. Charles

Ebert Jr. who proceeded to give us a tour. Among the highlights was an L&N passenger car that has a REA Express office/small freight area in the middle, thus neatly dividing the car in half depicting the era of segregation.

We assembled in the rear of the freight area, where introductions were made all around. We had now been joined by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gass, both in their mid 80's and retired postal workers, and Mikie Harbin, retired 43 yr L&N/CSX employee. Dave presented them with a copy of our layout video in Fairhope AL., which we played, providing narration and answering questions.

They showed a new video on MOW equipment from steam to present. Of particular interest was the laying of concrete ties and ribbon rail a quarter mile in length. Almost everything is automated on this 100 foot MOW tracklayer. All takes place at once; spike removal, tie removal rail removal, roadbed prep, laying of new concrete ties and ribbon rail using lasers. Separate equipment follows to re-ballast, level and grade. On a good day they put down a mile of track. Also shown was a National Geographic video of steam train rides available to the public throughout the United States and Europe.



A wonderful and interesting evening with the Caboose Club sadly came to an end with promises to get together again in the near future.

The Golden Spike

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Meeting at Bobby's House

The club tried something new for our meetings. We decided to visit various members' homes to show off their trains, projects and hospitality. The meeting at Bobby's house was nothing less than exceptional. Club members started the meeting with a tour of the house and a visit to his awesome HO scale layout. Much time was spent viewing every part of his well-detailed layout. A couple of structures that stood out were a wonderful scratch built suspension bridge, and a well detailed engine house with transfer table. Although his layout is not yet complete (whose is?) the layout is well laden with detail and structures to make an awesome layout. After the tour, we were treated to true Payne hospitality with a spread fit for a king. Much thanks to the MRS. who we all know got everything ready for us. Overall the meeting has set a high standard for all of us, an evening of railroading overload and an evening with friends. Thanks very much to Bobby and family to allow us into your wonderful home.



Wiregrass Annual Model Railroad Show

Dothan Alabama

Thanks to many people involved we were able to be included into the show in short notice. Although we were included at the last minute we were given what we considered prime real estate, right at the front entrance. Terry Tucker's module sustained some damage but thanks to all that helped prepare for the trip we had everything available to do emergency track work on the mountain line. Bill King's wife made the perfect looking curtains for the layout. The layout had a very professional look to it. The show turned out to be a great day of running trains and meeting new people. This show is definitely added

to our growing list of annual events.

Transportation Museum

To add the million things that we already have to do, I have been in contact with Patrick Moore. He is our point of contact for our project at the TT Wentworth Transportation Museum. The latest news is that they are ready for us to turn in an official proposal on our intentions and product that we can provide. We have been given a tentative date of 01 NOV 2001 to submit this proposal. I will be requesting a lot of different types of information and assistance on completing this task.

PMRC Looking for a Home

A decision has been made to increase the effort in searching for a home for our club. Last month Terry Tucker invited the club to his house to look a building that we could possibly use. Upon inspection, the building required an extreme amount of work that although was within our capability was more than the club was looking for. Currently we are still in search of space to not only house a layout, but to also have a common meeting place where the public can be invited to experience what we call fun. If anyone has information on space that we can call our own in the Greater Pensacola area, please contact one of the club officers so we can see if the space will meet our growing needs.

Club Events

We recognize the following as significant events:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
18 Oct 01	Layout setup at Pensacola Fairgrounds at noon
18 -28 Oct 01	Show at Pensacola Interstate Fair
27 Oct 01	Williams Station Day, Atmore, Al Train show
01 Nov 01	Business Meeting at Terry Tucker's house
15 Nov 01	Train Run Day Ferry Pass Firehouse

Cyber Trains

I promised Bobby that I would send him the address to the Aristocraft sight for some radio-controlled throttles. I figured that all would benefit from this

The Golden Spike

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information not just for the club but possibly for your homes also. The address is:

www.aristocraft.com

Look in the catalog and check out information on the Train Engineer.

Current E-mail Listings

<u>Name</u>	<u>E-mail Address</u>
Dave Ramirez	SFWarbonnet@juno.com david.a.ramirez@ntc-pen.navy.mil
Bill King	wildbilldog@netzero.com
Bobby Payne	bobby@h20bugs.com
Glen Hall	glen@tuckerstrainsupply.com
John Hudson	johnkhudsn@aol.com
Kerry Muir	ksmuir@bellsouth.net
Kevin Carney	kwcarney@dolphintec.com
Terry Tucker	terry@tuckerstrainsupply.com
Marion Johnson	mjohnson@trains-usa.com

For Sale/Wanted

Nothing for sale, nothing wanted.

Editors Forum

Business meetings have recently changed. We have been in the practice of holding them at various members houses as they invite us. The last two meetings held at Bobby's and Glen's houses have in my opinion been the most productive meetings we have ever had. In addition, we gain the opportunity to share the particular members railroading interests at home also. Glen's N-scale layout and Bobby's HO scale layout have inspired all of us, especially those of us without a home layout (yet). Hopefully this meeting environment will continue and be as productive as it has been. As this is way late, I am sure that I have forgotten a bunch. For this I apologize. I have received an awesome article from Glen that I hope will spark more input from others. Keep in mind you don't have to write it if you don't want to, just pass me the idea and I will take it from

there.



Disclaimer

These are the opinion of the Editor alone and not necessarily the opinion of the Pensacola Model Railroad Club. Three things to remember, Keep it fun, keep it simple, and keep it stress free. Let the trains run.

Dave