



**ELMHURST MODEL  
RAILROAD CLUB  
NEWSLETTER**

**Spring / Summer 2021**

THE ELMHURST MODEL RAILROAD CLUB 111 E. 1<sup>st</sup> ST ELMHURST IL 60126 630-530-9584 [WWW.EMRRC.ORG](http://WWW.EMRRC.ORG)

**WE'RE  
BACK!**

**OPEN HOUSE RESUMES.  
HOURS ARE BACK TO NORMAL.  
THINGS ARE FINALLY LOOKING UP.**

**WE STILL ARE FOLLOWING THE GUIDELINES BUT WE WILL BE CHANGING THAT  
AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.**

## SWAP MEET TOTALS FOR JANUARY 2020

Concessions	\$000.00
Tables & Admissions	\$0000.00
Club Sales	\$000.00
<b>GROSS SALES</b>	<b>\$0000.00</b>

Church Rental	\$000.00
Table Rental	\$000.00
Food Items	\$000.00
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>(\$0000.00)</b>

**NET**                      **\$0000.00 (what were you expecting)**

## CLUB HOURS

Sunday: Noon until 9:00 pm  
Open house until 4:00  
Monday, Wednesday & Thursday  
7:00 until 10:00 pm  
Friday: 7:00 until 10:00 pm  
Open house all night  
Saturday: 3:00 until 10:00 pm  
Tuesday night is work night.  
No operation.

**SWAP MEETS.** Once again we were informed that the church would not be opening to the level that we needed to hold the swap meet. With both January and May being canceled we are cautiously optimistic that September will be good. We will be talking to the church and seeing if can maybe try for something earlier or even outside. The Board will also be looking into another venue should the fall event be canceled as well.

**IN MEMORIAM.** Club member Dewey Jones passed away on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers as they go through this difficult time.

**COVID RESTRICTIONS ARE STILL IN PLACE AND WILL BE ENFORCED.** Until the Board decides otherwise masks are still required for now. They are to cover both mouth and nose. If you are so inclined we have facilities for you to wash your hands. We realize that actual "social distancing" would be difficult but we ask that you try to maintain a distance whenever and wherever possible.

**WEBSITE.** We will be turning our attention towards updating the website in the next few weeks. We realize we've gotten way behind and it's in need of a serious cleaning and updating.

## AS WE GET BACK TO NORMAL PERHAPS IT'S TIME FOR A REFRESHER ON A FEW ITEMS:

**OPEN HOUSE OPERATIONS.** There are a few simple and basic rules regarding that need to be addressed. Key monitors are charged with enforcing these rules.

For the HO layout train length is restricted to the three (3) longest tracks in the set up yard or the flags along the wall in block 19-20 show the maximum train length allowed. On the N scale the maximum length is the two (2) longest tracks in the set-up yard.

Equipment must be decorated and operating properly. If you have a piece of equipment that malfunctions three (3) times it is to be removed from the layout until it can be properly repaired.

Members are expected to conduct themselves in a proper manner. Be helpful and courteous to our visitors. Name tags are required. If you don't have one let us know and we'll get one made for you.

Eating is restricted to the Club Room. A candy bar or can of pop is OK around the layouts but be sure to clean up after yourself.

Keep the aisles clear as much as possible. We know they can be tight and congested at times but standing around holding up the wall isn't necessary and makes an already tight situation even tighter.

Our return to Open House in early April was a success. Visitors were glad we re-opened and we should reciprocate by showing them how much we appreciate their patronage.



**OTHER TIDBITS FOR YOU TO CHEW ON.** Not exactly Open House related but just as important.

Sometime back the Board decided to allow members to store their personal trains under the layouts. The criteria was that the containers be marked with the owners name, locked and on wheels to facilitate movement. During the recent cleaning we discovered some members had multiple storage containers, some were not labeled and others did not have wheels (not to mention that some are the size of a Buick). Please try to consolidate your possessions into a single container and check to be certain that they meet the proper criteria.

If you damage something be it track, scenery, throttles or whatever please report the damage to the key monitor so that they can write it down and we can fix it as soon as possible. We realize accidents happen.

Key monitors take note. Report any damage you may find or any problems that may arise during your time in charge. We cannot fix it if we don't know about it. Also report any shortages of supplies so that we can replace them quickly. Both of these items should be noted on the shift reports.

The work bench in the club room is for everybody to use. It is **NOT** a cutting, gluing, soldering or painting surface, you can use scrap cardboard or wood for these actions. When you are finished with your project **we expect you to clean up after yourself** and put things away properly.

**Parents: Pay attention to what your youngsters are doing.** We've had a couple of minor occurrences of items getting broken when mom or dad's back is turned. Fortunately it was nothing serious and we were able to repair it straight away.

**HO PROTO SESSIONS.** All indicators are pointing towards resuming the Proto Sessions in the fall. Customarily we take the summer off anyway so starting up again in September would fall right in line. While this is not etched in stone it's looking pretty good.

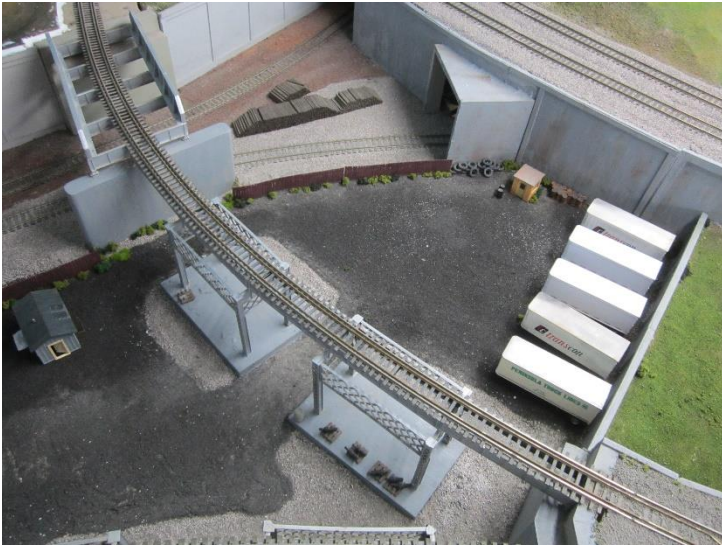
**SOCIAL MEDIA.** The club has a Facebook page. At times we do use it for disseminating information to both the membership and the general public. Those of you who frequent social media might want to check it every so often.

**E-MAIL ADDRESSES.** With the rest of the planet using electronic media more and more there is no reason we shouldn't either. Information and messages will be sent out from the club's address to members and it would be nice if we had a current address for as many of our members as possible to expedite the process. Please send your current e-mail address to:

**"emrrc@comcast.net". This will be for club business only!**



**ON THE HO LAYOUT.** There have been a few major changes to the HO layout. We'll start with the re-greening (for lack of a better term) of some of the scenery. Several members have been vacuuming and cleaning the scenery and then where it's been damaged or is just downright ugly we've been applying new ground cover and other items. Trees are also be refreshed, buildings are being upgraded and lit, new buildings, items and details are being added.



New DCC2DC control boards are under construction. The current boards will be renovated and upgraded. These are the boards hanging under the layouts that allow us to run DCC and DC at the same time. These are critical to operations and have to be handled with care.



**CONTINUING ON THE HO LAYOUT.** The steel mill / ore dock extension is under way. Most of the track is down in the new area and some of the wiring has begun.



The quarry is looking impressive with new installations. Lighting and color always improve the appearance of any layout and ours is no exception.

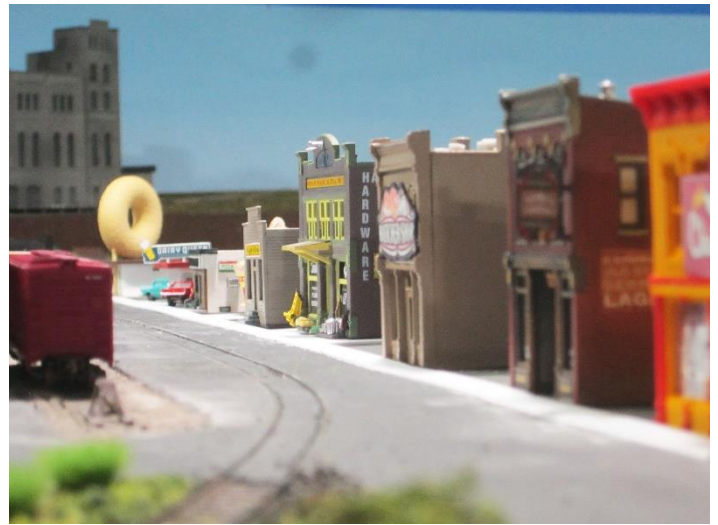


Other areas which were in need of upgrading are LaSalle and what used to be Masa. Watch as things happen at these locations.

You should be seeing an increase in the detail lighting around the layouts. These LED's are delicate so please be careful if you have issues that need attention in their vicinity. Maybe in the future we'll be able to have "dark times" during Open House when we get enough installed.



**N SCALE NEWS.** Electronics and scenery have been the rule of the day for the N scale layout. “Restaurant Row” and the surrounding areas have been receiving the lion’s share of attention.



**ON THE HOn3 LAYOUT.** The cattle pens and loading area are getting the last bits of spit and polish and then that area will be finished.



One more picture of the HO layout to show how the addition of some colored plants and shrubs makes a difference in the overall appearance.

