



ELMHURST MODEL RAILROAD CLUB NEWSLETTER

Fall 2018

THE ELMHURST MODEL RAILROAD CLUB 111 E. 1ST ST ELMHURST IL 60126 630-530-9584 WWW.EMRRC.ORG

DELAY IN PUBLICATION. Just like last year we waited on sending out this edition of the newsletter until after the September Swap Meet so we could report the results.

A GREEN INVASION. A sea of green t-shirts took over our club for a half-hour on the morning of June 15th when over 40 preschoolers from Buttons and Bows Daycare came down for their annual summertime visit. The ensuing chaos remained controlled and the kids had a good time. Thanks to all who helped.



OCTOBER 20th RPM MEET AND SOUNDTRAXX. George Bogatiuk from Soundtraxx will be spending Saturday night October 20th with us. He has offered to do a Tsunami clinic. We will need some type of head count. You can use the sign-up sheet at the club or e-mail us at 'emrrc@comcast.net' before the end of September.

SWAP MEET TOTALS FOR SEPTEMBER 2018

Concessions	\$357.00
Tables & Admissions	\$1428.00
50/50 Sales	\$144.00
Club Sales	\$62.00
GROSS SALES	\$2814.00
Church Rental	\$300.00
Table Rental	\$555.00
Food Items	\$250.00
EXPENSES	(\$1105.00)
NET	\$886.00

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.

THE SWAP MEET SCHEDULE FOR 2019. The dates for 2019 are January 11th, May 3rd and September 6th. If you're interested in getting a table or lending a hand, contact Steve Cerka at 630-309-8475 and let him know. Flyers are available at the club, feel free to hand them out.

CLUB FINANCES. The following is an overview of the income and operating expenses for the first half of 2018.

<u>GROSS INCOME: (dues, swaps, donations, vending)</u>	\$24,600
EXPENSES: Rent	\$7,290
Utilities (electric, phone, internet)	\$2,760
Insurance	\$550
Swap Meets	\$2,210
Layout Expenses	\$4,640
Vending	\$850
Waste Removal	\$590
Other (newsletter, office supplies, Funfest)	\$2,370
Total expenses	\$21,260

Please note that there are also petty cash expenses and that the expenses do not reflect the increase in the cash reserve.

USING THE CLUB FOR PERSONAL MAILING. The club is not meant to be a drop-off point for members personal packages. And it's this way for a couple of reasons. First, if we do it for one member than we be obligated to do it for all members. Second, we do not want to be responsible for someone's personal property that is not under our complete control. Packages would sit on the radiator outside the front door in the hallway and may be subject to any number of things.

N SCALE CONVENTION. In June of 2019 the 27th National N Scale Convention will be held in Rosemont. It goes without saying that we have been in touch with the show people and we're working on getting ourselves listed as a must visit during the convention. There may be some requests for special operating sessions or other events. This remains to be seen but as the date draws closer we will let the membership what assistance, if any, is needed.

N SCALE NEWS. Scenery is the order of the day and work continues in several locations around the layout. Tunnel walls and a portal were added for the hidden track to the industrial branch line.



The new quarry at the end of the first peninsula.

The new forest / recreation area tucked away in the back corner.



HO OPS (PROTO) SESSIONS. If you're interested in running something a little more prototypical then why not come down to one the monthly (almost) Ops Sessions and try your hand on a different way of running.

The sessions are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month, except July and August and December (hence the almost). They usually include locals that switch the industries on the layout, some that switch a single location and several mainline transfers that run from staging yard to staging yard with stops in the main freight yard.

Traditionally the trains are dispatched using verbal train orders but the next few sessions they will be trying a simplified track warrant system. There is a brief meeting before each session to review any paperwork and explain anything with the layout. All levels of experience are welcome and typically DCC locomotives are the order of the day but DC can be used.

If this sounds like something that may be on your radar then stop down on a Thursday night and talk to Ashley Chmura or e-mail 'opssession2012@hotmail.com' and get on the monthly notification list.

The last sessions for 2018 are on September 20th, October 18th and November 15th. The first round for 2019 is set for January 17th, February 21st and March 21st. Everyone meets at the club at 6:30 and the fun starts at 7:00.

On Sunday evening October 7th there will be a special session. A quick briefing will be at 4:45 with everything kicking off at 5:00. This session should hopefully wrap up by 10:00.

PICK YOUR BRAIN (ANSWER). All right, let's set the Wayback Machine to 1970 and go from there. Six depots in six seconds, ready.....

1. Union Station, 500 West Jackson Blvd. (Train Concourse is 225 South Canal St.)
2. Chicago & Northwestern Station, 500 West Madison St.
3. Grand Central Station, 201 West Harrison St.
4. Dearborn Station, 47 West Polk St.
5. LaSalle Street Station, 414 South LaSalle St.
6. (Illinois) Central Station, 135 E. 11th Pl.

AS THE WARM WEATHER FADES AWAY. And cooler weather prevails let us remember that long sleeves and loose coats CAN snag and damage things on the layouts.

FUNFEST 2019. Already? Well it is almost four months away but as was announced last year Mr. Pearson is hanging up his spatula. So we will be in need of a new person to step up to the trusty Weber and take over cooking duties. Let a Board member know if you're interested.

50th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS. Are still in the planning stages but it was decided by the Board that the official festivities will commence on the weekend of April 12th, 13th & 14th. While the actual anniversary date would be April 15th the following weekend is Easter weekend and participation would be questionable at best. So stay tuned for further updates and announcements.

HO SCALE NEWS. The steel mill extension into the front hall has begun and is slowly taking shape. After the wall work is completed benchwork will start. The Board decided to let the extension breach the block wall and loop in the area where the computer screen and phone are located. Some recently obtained amusement park rides will be assembled and installed within the confines of this area. This will hopefully create an animated, working display for visitors when they get into the main layout area.



The new “great lakes” photo backdrop has been installed at the steel mill. The lighting will be adjusted to help call attention to the area.

Shelbina continues to improve on a regular basis. The picture shows a test run of the station lighting. Other buildings and the surrounding environs are being upgraded.



CLUB ELECTRONICS. We are in dire need of members willing to learn the ins and outs of the electronics for all the layouts and assist with repairs and upgrades. The “Purcell Boards” and other electronics are susceptible to humidity. And since our little corner of paradise is two drops short of a rain forest at times the potential is there for corrosion. We know the track work and scenery is the part of the layout that everyone sees and gets the oohs and the aahs but it’s the electronics that keep everything moving along. If you’re interested contact a Board member so we can get the ball rolling.

HOn3 NEWS. Again it’s scenery getting the lion’s share of attention on the narrow gauge.



The rock face and tunnel area is nearing completion. A few more details and the space in front will be ready to go.

The cattle and farm area improves as each week goes by. Water, bridges and buildings are next,



KEY MONITORS. Keep up the excellent work with the shift reports. Issues are getting addressed quicker with this system. Also keep us advised of changes in e-mail or phone numbers so we can keep the list current. **If you are unsure of turning on the N scale layout** please contact Andrew Fidone and make arrangements to get a quick course in its start-up.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS. Are held on the Saturday after the swap meet at 7:00 at the club. The meeting schedule for 2019 will be on January 12th, May 4th and September 7th.

SWAP MEET ETIQUETTE. Purchasing a table for the swap entitles the buyer to one (1) admission per table. Just because you are a club member this does **not** exempt you from paying admission even if someone has already purchased a table.

PHASE 1 MEMORY. The HO engine facility at phase 1.



TRAIN SHOWS, EXCURSIONS OR OTHER EVENTS. There are display racks by the front door. Should you be made aware of a steam trip or an upcoming train show please let us know the details and we will gladly get the word out if possible. This also goes for historical societies and local museums. If it is something that may benefit the club then make sure we have contact information

PICK YOUR BRAIN. Is located on the back page of this edition. As something different it was suggested to try a word search. Ok, sounds challenging to me so we'll keep this one simple. The topic is Steam Fantrip type locomotives. We'll be ranging from the 1960's until today. Now as a disclaimer we did not list them all but stayed with locomotives that operated mainline steam trips. Easy enough? Ok we'll sweeten the pot. You will find the railroad's initials and blank lines on which to write the number. Figure out which locomotive first then you can dig in to the puzzle board and find out if you're correct.

AT&SF _____	0 9 6 5 8 0 6 2 2 4 2 1 3 7 9 1 1
C&NW _____	1 2 7 9 4 2 5 8 8 4 2 1 6 7 8 2 3
C&O _____	1 3 8 5 8 1 4 2 8 7 5 5 3 9 2 3 0
CB&Q _____	8 0 0 2 4 4 9 8 9 1 0 6 9 0 5 8 1
_____	9 1 4 5 5 7 8 1 2 1 5 8 8 2 3 0 0
CP _____	9 2 2 5 0 6 7 6 1 3 3 6 5 4 3 4 5
DM&IR _____	9 1 1 4 0 6 5 3 3 2 9 7 0 3 2 4 4
FRISCO _____	8 8 0 6 1 0 4 7 7 4 4 4 1 1 6 8 7
GTW _____	8 7 2 0 8 0 5 5 5 8 6 0 0 0 7 5 6
_____	1 1 4 5 8 4 5 7 1 4 4 4 9 0 3 1 7
MILW _____	9 2 4 6 6 8 4 3 6 6 2 2 6 0 9 0 6
N&W _____	9 5 6 2 3 1 1 7 0 3 5 8 2 2 1 0 5
_____	9 1 5 9 9 6 3 0 4 4 9 0 2 2 4 1 0
NKP _____	1 2 7 1 9 4 5 3 1 1 6 7 4 9 6 0 3
_____	1 0 9 4 2 4 3 6 1 6 2 3 7 0 2 1 1
READING _____	9 5 3 0 8 3 8 4 6 8 4 7 7 1 1 5 0
_____	7 6 4 5 0 3 5 8 8 9 6 1 5 7 2 2 0
SOO _____	2 2 2 6 0 7 7 1 8 4 6 2 8 1 4 2 5
SOUTHERN _____	5 6 3 2 5 9 0 4 7 2 1 1 7 5 8 4 3
_____	3 1 2 1 0 1 5 4 9 4 3 7 9 6 3 2 3
SP _____	
SSW _____	
T&P _____	
UP _____	

USUALLY WHEN YOU SEE A DIFFERENT COLOR IT MEANS THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT. WELL THIS TIME IS NO EXCEPTION. READ AND TAKE NOTICE.

CHECK-IN WITH KEY MONITOR. As a courtesy you should check in with the Key Monitor if you are just stopping by to visit. You **MUST** sign-in with the Key Monitor if you are going to be running on any layout regardless if you have your own throttle or not. This is clearly stated on page 6 of the operating guidelines that you all should have received and are kept at the front desk. In August the Board met and it was determined that since the problem of members not signing in with the Key Monitor when they show up to operate has become so pervasive that further, more extreme action had to be taken.

It was unanimously decided that Key Monitors now have at their discretion the authority to have a member pack up and leave should there be any infraction of this simple rule. Key Monitors will be left to handle the situations as they see fit and the Board hopes that the need to ask a member to remove his equipment until they see fit to follow our rules **never** comes to fruition. But be forewarned that the constant ignoring of such a simple matter will no longer be tolerated. We have 150 members so maintaining some semblance of order is paramount.

CLOSING FOR CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE. The Board also decided that the club will close for necessary cleaning and maintenance as needed. We anticipate this will be for a period of a few nights twice a year as it currently stands. Right now we will close up October 8, 9 & 10. How long we remain closed depends on the turn out we get from people and amount of work we get completed. Tuesday nights are for working on the layouts and making other upgrades and repairs and to pull members away from their other tasks to perform what can be construed as routine maintenance is a waste of manpower.

CLUB POLICIES AND CONDITIONS. A brief reminder regarding some club policies. **Key Monitors take note and be prepared to act accordingly.**

1. Firearms are not permitted in the club premises.
2. The consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed on the premises. Any person found drinking or appearing to be under the influence will be asked to leave.
3. The use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated. Again, any person found with them or appearing to be under the influence will be asked to leave.
4. If a person appears to be in some type of medical distress, you are call 911 and have the first responders handle the situation.
5. Smoking is not permitted in the club premises.