



**ELMHURST MODEL  
RAILROAD CLUB  
NEWSLETTER  
Summer 2023**

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)

**CLUB HOURS OF OPERATION:**

Sunday: 12:00 pm - 9:00 pm. **Open House** is 1:00 – 4:00.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm. Friday night is **Open House**.

Saturday: 3:00 pm – 10:00pm.

**Tuesday is work night, there is no operation that night.**

**IN MEMORIAM.** Member Eric Lang passed away suddenly on April 7<sup>th</sup> at his home in Peoria. We ask that you remember Eric and his family at this difficult time.

**WELCOME.** Member Desmond Warren and his wife welcomed August Warren (AKA Gus) on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**SWAP MEETS.** This continues to be an ongoing mission for the club and the Board. One of the biggest considerations is parking and is one of the first things we have to look at. We need parking for at least 50-60 cars minimum and several of the locations we've looked at are lucky to have room for 20-25.

We are not giving up on this. We are going to have to explore facilities outside of Elmhurst proper. Melrose Park, Hillside and Lisle are some of the towns we'll be looking in. Changing the time from Friday night to Saturday morning is also being considered.

**SUMMERFEST 2023. Mark your calendars for July 16<sup>th</sup> starting around noon at the club.**

**PROTO SESSIONS.** The last Proto Session before summer break is set for June 15th. They will start up again in September .

While we're on the subject of Proto Sessions what follows is a request from Ashley Chmura: "Attention all members, I would like to remind everybody that yes, the club's equipment is not just for display, but it is also able to be used by members in good standing, but it is also used for the club's monthly operating sessions. Feel free to use the equipment but also please return it to the industry that you got them from. Leaving them in the freight yard not only makes the layout look empty but it also keeps other members from being able to use the yard tracks to park their train on for short times.

The reason that I ask for each member to return the equipment to the industry you got it from is that it takes about 4 hours to set up for each session. I have to say that getting the proper cars back to the industries by itself takes about an hour each month. So, I ask if you use any club equipment, please leave enough time to return the cars to the industries.

As an aid there will be sheets available from the key monitor so if you move any rolling stock write it down on the sheet and when you are finished for the night, please return the sheet to the key monitor.

This would be a huge help not only to myself, but it also helps to keep the layout looking more lifelike.

Thank you, Ashley Chmura."

**REMINDERS FOR MEMBERS AND KEY MONITORS.** When you are operating at the club you are doing so at your own risk. The club is not responsible for damage to your personal equipment.

**KEY MONITORS:** Inside the throttle cabinet door is a list of paid members. When a person signs in and you don't know for certain that they are members then check the list. If their name is not on the list then they are not paid members. It's pretty simple. We are still having a problem with former members from years back and members who were recently dropped for non-payment showing up and using the layouts. We will attempt to update the list every week. If you have any questions just contact Dan and we'll try to figure out what is going on.

Also during Open House only members are to be operating trains and the equipment must be finished and in good operating condition. Members (those who have them) must be wearing their name tag.

**ALL KEY MONITORS WILL BE RECEIVING A NEW "DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES" manual. This will have start-up / shut down procedures, emergency procedures and layout troubleshooting. Since key monitors are ultimately responsible it would be your best interest to read this and if you have any questions contact Dan or Darryl.**

**N SCALE.** Recently there were images taken on our layout in The Expediter, the official publication of the Friends of the Burlington Northern Railroad. They are reprinted here courtesy of the FOBNR. If anyone is looking for some form of background for a promotional purpose or advertising please don't hesitate to contact us about using our layouts.

## FOBNR Freight Cars (N scale) On the Elmhurst Model Railroad Club's N Scale Layout

The Elmhurst Model RR Club, founded in 1969, has a large HO layout as well as this N scale layout. After moving twice, the club is currently located in a basement located just off the UP main line in Elmhurst, Illinois, and is open to the public on Friday evenings. John Adams was able to pose the cars on the layout when he went there to visit in October of 2022. They appear next to a large grain elevator as well as an industrial scene.

If you are a modeler interested in having your own FOBNR covered hopper, we sell decal sets for O, HO and N scale cars through our company store. Just go to the FOBNR company store webpage ([www.fobnr.org/decals](http://www.fobnr.org/decals)) and put in your order.

Once you complete your car, take a photo of it on your layout and send it to me at [dave@fobnr.org](mailto:dave@fobnr.org).



**ELECTRONICS.** Additional UP-5's have been installed around the HO layout. This was done so that if the radio portion of the throttle should malfunction then you can plug in and gain control of your train.

The old wiring from when the layout was built is being examined with plans to replace and upgrade in the future. The set-up yards will be under particular scrutiny because of their age and the high volume of usage they receive.

**N SCALE.** While track ballasting and scenery has been progressing, wiring has really been the name of the game. There has been a concerted effort to get the branch line on the first peninsula up and running. Right now the feeder wires are being dropped and soldered while the bus wire is being run. As soon as everything is connected it will be added to the Crestron system.

**HO SCALE.** There has been a fair amount of scenery activity around Slate Gravel and the quarry while track ballasting continues in block 2. Masa Fuel has also been the recipient of a much welcome scenery upgrade that should be completed by now.

Wheelsets on hopper cars were changed to metal.

**BLURBS (again).**

Keys and name tags do not grow on trees. When you join you are given a top door key and a name tag (eventually). Replacements are now \$5.00 each.

During Open House trains cannot exceed the maximum length. On the HO it's the flags on the back wall. For the N scale use the longest 2 set up tracks. This includes power. No exceptions.

With summer coming please remember to take food waste outside when you leave. If you bring drinks in be sure to empty the ice in the sink when you are done so that we don't have trash cans filled with water or other fluids.

We are looking for additional key monitors. We've already had a couple of people step up to the plate but a few more wouldn't hurt. If you are interested contact either Dan or Darryl.

They are called "set-up yards" for a reason. This is where you set up your train. Not on the sidings. Not in the classification yard. Not on the mainline. Set up trains in the set-up yards.

If in the course of your time operating you damage something let the key monitor know so it can be written up and repaired.

