



NEW HAMPSHIRE GARDEN RAILWAY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 5, NO. 2

JUNE 2003

JUNE MEETING -- JUNE 6, 7:30 PM

Note new location

The June Meeting will be held at our new location: the Hospitality Center at Southern NH University, North River Road, Manchester, NH.

Directions:

From North or South take Route 93 to exit 9N. Follow Route 3 north to the McDonald's Restaurant. Go left onto Martin's Ferry Road. At the base of the hill, the road makes a sharp left and becomes North River Road. At the top of the next hill, SNHU is on the right. Go through the gate and turn right. The Hospitality Center will be about 2/10ths of a mile and is clearly marked.

Directions from the South (Everett Turnpike/Route 3) Take US Route 3 to I-293 North to Exit 6. Cross the Amoskeag Bridge, then turn left onto Elm Street. Follow Elm for 1 mile, then turn left onto Bennington Road. Go 1 block, then right onto North River Road. The university is 1.5 miles on the left.

President's Message

As we swing into the second half of 2003, Spring is still struggling to assert herself and the garden railroad calendar needs a jump-start. While the snow and ice are well behind us, the cool temperatures, wet weather and soggy ground certainly haven't been encouraging to get outside and start the MOW chores and ROW expansion that those with outdoor railroads have been anticipating, not to mention those of us who are starting construction on our RR empires.

Our participation in the Hooksett Lions Spring Model RR Show capped the Spring show season for the NHGRS. The club was particularly active in shows this Spring, hosting an expanded show at Milford, once again going to York, PA for the annual East Coast Large Scale Show with an expanded version of Big Green, and thanks to Harlow Richardson, setting up an outdoor layout for the first time at the Hooksett Show.

So as I am on the cusp of embracing Summer, I write this still feeling the warm fuzzies in the aftermath of the Spring shows. WHY?

Frankly, the Milford Show was probably the most enjoyable show in which I've participated. And the show

was a success beyond all expectations in every regard. Based on the proceeds from the gate, I estimate that there were at least 1300 attendees. An event like this certainly goes a long way towards promoting our hobby by bringing it to the attention of the public. I know that we garnered some new members as a result of this show, and I personally met, for the first time, several people already in the hobby that had not yet discovered the NHGRS.

Ken Hawes certainly deserves our unreserved gratitude for his vision and the exceptional job he did in chairing this event as does Harriet Cutler for her promotional blitz. I also want to thank Bill Savoy for loaning his curved modules for the kiddie layout as well as transporting Little Green to and from Milford. Harlow and Avery Richardson set up a delightful, mostly European, layout with lots of structures. Tom Reilly brought Mini Green to and from the show. Conrad Struckman and his daughter shared their Rokenbok setup for use on the kiddie layout. Conrad's daughter deserves a medal of honor for being driven to a frazzle trying to manage the kiddie layout while maintaining grace and composure well beyond what I could have achieved. Chuck Spence's efforts at putting together an HO display were interrupted by a significant medical event, yet his Pepperell Siding and Bedford Boomers friends followed through with an exquisite modular setup. And Chuck, trooper that he is, managed to be present for both days of the show to lend his support! The Milford Lions Club, not a large organization by any means, did a yeoman's job of putting together the

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After a hard day at the Milford show, Stumpy heads over to check out Wallaces' new airstream. Just his luck he timed it right, Hamburgs should be about medium by the smell of them. Hopefully the Misses has some of that brocolli salad she is famous for. After freeloading a late lunch, a nap to test out the airstreams new master bed is looking great. If I play my cards right I could get packed in this airstream for the trip to York, PA.

SCOTLAND CALLING

Hope you have seen the last of your poor weather and that serious train running is now the order of the day.

We had a terrific spell of weather from the beginning of February right through to the end of March with wall to wall to sunshine and day time temperatures ranging from 60 thought to 80 in the sun and only two days when it rained for part of the day. This is very uncommon here and we hope it may not have been our summer weather arriving too early.

I have carried out several repair jobs on the railway which the dry weather had allowed, meaning I could leave things in situ overnight and carry on the next day instead of putting everything away in case it rained. Trains now running on the main line with the others only needing a clean up first.

We had the AGM of the G Scale Society last weekend and three of us travelled south to 50 miles north of London for the event.

A couple of pictures below of a layout on operational display. Unfortunately there were a number of traders there who were only too pleased to take our money and several purchases of trains and accessories were made. I now have a new train made up with DR (German) coaches and the Hartz loco with the all sing all dancing sound system in it. Cost a fortune. Now I only have to find out how to pay for it!!!

I also bought a load of little people for the exhibition layout at a shop en route to the show, so we were all spent out on the return journey. However we had a good time.

Next venture is a trip to the north of England to see several garden railways. This is a biennial arrangement with a group of G scale people there. We go one year they come the next. That will be June 15. I also have a show day on June 8 which is open day to other G scalers, I usually only get about a dozen people. It depends on the weather.

After that it is Open Days almost twice a month May through September so it will be a busy summer.

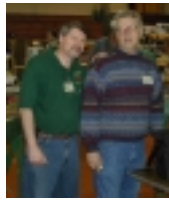
My cousin is coming over at the end of July beginning of August so we are looking forward to that.

That's it for now

Fraser



LEBANON IN REVIEW



The photos will probably only be of interest to Mr. Mullen as it is all that funny European stuff. I mean just look at the load of crocks in the left photo. Imagine all that LGB stuff owned by one guy, He must have been rich and had no wife or kids.

President's Message continued

infrastructure of this show. And I suppose I should thank Ken once again, along with the rest of the Milford Fire Department, for the fire drill on Sunday afternoon (with the help of the Lions Club's popcorn machine). Just kidding, Ken!

Now just why was this the most enjoyable show ever? Well, for one reason we raised a serious chunk of change for a charitable organization

AND we displayed our hobby to a large number of people. More importantly to me personally, for the first time ever, we displayed all of the club-owned or club related layouts at the same time in the same place. This involved the participation of more club members than ever before in a show. The fellowship involved in setting up, running and tearing down a show is a very important part of this hobby to me and I once again thank all of you for participating. I was also pleased that we shared this event with fellow model RRers in a different scale.

The East Coast Show this year was also the best yet. It expanded from one to two halls at the York Fairgrounds, and there were easily twice as many layouts exhibited. The number of vendors participating also increased significantly, and like every previous show, the bargains available turned the event into a feeding frenzy. Apart from the bargains, those of us who participated had the pleasure of reuniting with old friends from other parts of the hemisphere who share our passion for large-scale trains. We also had the pleasure of introducing new modules and expanded scenery to Big Green.

I have a special fondness in my heart for the Hooksett Lions Club. Those Hooksett Lions were the first group to extend the faith that our club could help raise money for worthy causes through our hobby. In the aftermath of the 9/11 tragedy, we helped them raise close to \$1,000 for 9/11 relief through the first ever exhibition of Big Green in New Hampshire. We look forward to doing another exhibition of Big Green this Fall. In the meantime, once again, we will be running trains on their float at the Hooksett Old Home Days Parade this August. And in Hooksett Old Home Days Parade this August. And in July, we will be setting up and running on a true garden layout at Strawberry Banke in Portsmouth, NH over the 4th of July holiday weekend.

Already, we have some exciting prospects in store for promoting the hobby in the coming year. On September 13-14, we plan on participating in an open house at Charlie Ro's (USA TRAINS) retail store in Malden, MA. We will also repeat the exhibition of Big Green at the Sacred Heart School in Hampton, NH on October 3-4. November will see us at the annual Bedford Boomers show in Bedford, NH and in December, we will be setting up Big Green for the annual Christmas show at the Villa Augustina School in Goffstown, NH.

Despite the increasingly heavy schedule of shows, please don't forget that the primary purpose, and most rewarding aspect of the club, is to bring large-scale RRers together to share information and the joy of the hobby. That we are able to share that joy with the public through exhibitions is merely a side benefit to the pleasure I get from playing trains with all of you.

On another note, we have been drifting for the last couple of months searching for a new home for our monthly meetings. Many of you have exercised great creativity in looking for a new home. We are fortunate in securing the Hospitality Building at Southern NH University in Manchester, NH for our new home. Many thanks go to Mike Bureau, a new member, for finding and securing this venue for us.

Dave

A LITTLE HISTORY

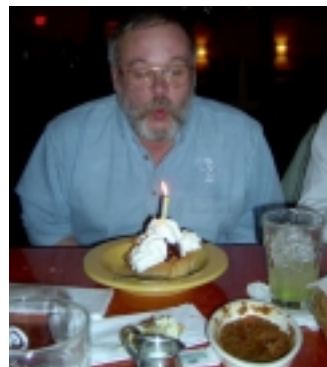
The New Hampshire Garden Railway Society was founded in 1986 by two large-scale model railroaders who lived in adjoining towns, yet found one another through a hobby magazine. In its early years, the club met informally on an occasional basis at various members homes to run trains. Over the years, the club has grown to 100+ members and meets on a monthly basis at the Anheiser Busch Visitors Center in Merrimack, NH and a soon to announced new location, as well as at members' homes during the warm months to run trains on garden layouts.

Large-scale (G-gauge) trains are truly that, a boxcar is the size of a loaf of bread, and they are designed to be run outside in the garden. Many of the NHGRS members have beautiful outdoor garden railways which recreate the world in miniature. The club also has three portable layouts and regularly participates in model railroad shows.

Big Green, the largest of the three layouts, is the largest G-gauge modular layout in the United States and has been exhibited at two national large-scale model railroad shows. On March 8th and 9th, 2003, it was exhibited at the Milford Middle School to help raise funds for the Milford Lions Club.



The punch line! Please the punch line!
Please clap after the punch line!



How many birthday parties
can one person have?
At last count at least 4!

SCENES FROM MILFORD SHOW



Minutes From May Meeting

1. President Dave Sawyer opened the May Meeting which was held at the Pepperell Siding Club Room. He thanked Chuck Spence for again allowing us to use the facilities.
2. Secretary's Report was read and accepted.
3. The Membership Chairman reported we had 91 members.
4. The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.
5. The Hooksett Show was a neat show. Attendance was up and we were able to run more trains than previous years. Thanks to Harland for his Outdoor set-up.
6. Discussion regarding the future meeting site for the Club. Some suggestions were status of Anheuser-Busch, Merrimack Railroad Station, Brookline VFW, Trains on Tracks future site. Committee to continue to look.
7. Pepperell Show is September 21.
8. Hooksett Lions' Parade, 3rd Saturday in August. August 16. We will participate again with the Lions' supplying the trailer.
9. Big Green will be in Hooksett (place to be announced) in October.
10. Outdoor Layouts? Looking for invitation to view Outdoor Layouts and perhaps hold meeting. Henry Anthony will host one. Ernie Bay will host one.
11. Discussion on selling the Club Trailer. Bigger than what we need (6x12). Suggested a single axle 5x10 with side door. Trade in or sell outright? Could we store Mini-Green and Little Green in it? Dave Miller would like to get Mini-Green out of house. Should we sell as is? Bring your thoughts to the next meeting.
12. Discussion on trailer brought up the subject that we might have to pay for meeting space in the future.
13. Discussion ensued regarding own building. Heat, lights, insurance etc.
14. John from "Pepperell Siding" spoke on their project at the Pepperell Library with setup on June 14th. Open and running June 17-21st. Object is present all scales of model railroading. They are open to a presentation on Garden Railroading in anyone is interested. Hours are 1-9 W&Th 9-8 Fri, Sat 9-12.



MESSAGE FROM MEMBER RICKY RUPP

Modern Rails Co. is going to be putting out a product line catalog about our decals, custom paint and Modern Rails Buffalo Brands line of HO rolling stock. The catalog will be available in paper and CD forms Can only say within the near future it will be available. I hope to make the CD version fully illustrated. Thanks, Ricky