

NEXT MEETING
July 21
7:00 p.m.

NEXT MONTH
Deadline for
August
July 29, 2011

MEMBERSHIP
117

ATTENDANCE PRIZE

Mike Reed's name was drawn and he was not present to win.

Will your name be drawn on July 21?
You have to be present to win!

BOTTLES FOR BASICS

- ◆ LAST YEAR \$496.15
- ◆ YEAR TO DATE: \$44.30
- ◆ THIS MONTH: \$25.00

THE SIGNAL

THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

VOLUME 13. ISSUE 2



JULY 2011

Governor's Restaurant By Paul Lodge

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club gives Operation Lifesaver's cardboard railroad hats to the children who attend the club's ExTRAINaganza in November. Carlene Barnies, General Manager of Governor's Restaurant in Lewiston, saw a child with one of the hats and felt the hat would go well with the restaurant's railroad theme. Many customers who come to the restaurant enjoy watching the G-scale trains which circle the upper walls of the restaurant. While searching the Internet, she learned about Maine Operation Lifesaver. Through Operation Lifesaver's State Coordinator Fred Hirsch, Mrs. Barnies was able to contact our club to get more information.

Carlene Barnies was already familiar with some of the club members. Tom Coulombe is a regular customer at the restaurant, and Stephen Martelli had once provided an N-scale train for a cake decoration. After getting the e-mail request for railroad hats, Paul Lodge took several of the hats and a number of coloring books and activity books to the Lewiston restaurant. Tom Coulombe has also delivered hats and coloring books to them. Hats, coloring books, and activity books are given to families while they are waiting for their meals to be served. Each table has a set of crayons available. The restaurant



Owey the postal dog, coming to your post Office on July 27, 2011.

also uses the hats during children's birthday parties and other special events.

The Lewiston General Manager, Carlene Barnies, got permission from the Governor's Restaurant District Manager to become affiliated with Operation Lifesaver to help provide railroad safety information. Even though this cooperative effort is in its early stages, the club will have opportunities for publicity through distribution of club brochures and flyers for club events such as the Train Festival in August, the

club show in November and the ExTRAINaganza. In addition, Ray Parent is currently painting a G-Scale box car with our club's information on it. The car will be presented to the restaurant and will run as part of the train consist for all to see.

The restaurant and the club are looking forward to coordinating more ideas to help each organization. Members can help by frequenting the restaurant and letting them know you are from The Great Falls Model Railroad Club.



"Dave Gilchrist provided railroad safety literature to about 150 adults and children at the Cruise Night in New Auburn."

Club Members Active for OL by Paul Lodge

Club members have been active in presenting railroad safety messages. Tom Coulombe has been making Operation Lifesaver presentations to school children. In Mexico, he spoke with about 150 school children and in Rumford he spoke to about 125 more. Dave Gilchrist provided railroad safety literature to about 150 adults and children at the Cruise Night in New Auburn. Dick Clark is also scheduled to give out information and materials at one of the Cruise Night. Stephen Martelli shared safety information with parents and children at the Auburn Public Library.

Maurice Fortin has made contact with a driver education program in Westbrook. He will be able to make a presentation for each new class.



Club Sign Installed By Paul Lodge

"Ed and Brenda Leslie had made a silhouette of a steam locomotive, tender, and caboose. The caboose has the name of the club on it, and locomotive #144 indicates our street number."

On Saturday, June 18, a crew arrived at the club house to put up the club sign on the outside of the building on Mill Street. Ed and Brenda Leslie had made a silhouette of a steam locomotive, tender, and caboose. The caboose has the name of the club on it, and locomotive #144 indicates our street number.

Tom Coulombe brought staging from which the 20-foot train silhouette could be installed. Bob Purington, Ed Webb, Ed Leslie, and Larry Cannon helped Tom set up the staging. Larry Cannon and Tom attached the train to the wall while other members on the ground passed up the signs, tools, and supplies.

After the train silhouette was set in place, a bracket for an

"OPEN" flag was attached next to the double doors on the Mill Street side of the building. When we have special events at the club or when members are working, the "OPEN" flag can invite people to come in.

The next project will be to attach the railroad cross bucks to the east end of the building on Fifth Street.

[This is now done!]



Train Trip Scheduled By Paul Lodge

Several Great Falls Model Railroad Club members have signed up for a special train ride in September. The Maine Eastern Railroad, which runs tourist trains between Rockland and Brunswick, is adding a car to the train set for the benefit of Maine Operation Lifesaver. All the ticket proceeds from the 50-seat car will go to help Operation Lifesaver purchase hand-out materials or pay for other annual expenses.

The train ride is scheduled for Sunday, September 25. On Sundays the Maine Eastern Railroad runs only one train. It leaves Rockland at 10 a.m. for Brunswick. After a two-hour layover in Brunswick, the train returns to Rockland, arriving at 4 p.m. Approximately twenty club members and their spouses are looking forward to riding

the train between Rockland and Brunswick. The fall foliage ride along the Maine coast in late September is always picturesque and can be spectacular.

UNITED NEW AUBURN ASSOCIATION VISITS CLUBHOUSE

By Paul Lodge

Stephen Martelli, Vice Chairman of the United New Auburn Association (UNAA) invited Paul Lodge, Great Falls Model Railroad Club Secretary, to speak at the June 28th meeting of the association. Lodge was asked to speak about the club's purposes, goals, and history. His talk included information about the club's origins and its varied activities, including the *Train Time* Team and the shows on cable television, the club's Operation Lifesaver efforts, and our Adult Education Model Railroad classes.

Before the United New Auburn Association members came to visit the clubhouse, the UNAA held its monthly meeting. After several local items were discussed, Leroy Walker announced his candidacy for Ward 5 Councilman.

At the clubhouse, Stephen Martelli, Tom Coulombe, and Paul Lodge acted as tour guides. The guests enjoyed their tours of the layouts and asked questions about the layouts, the club library, and potential Operation Lifesaver presentations.

Rail Fan Day At Leslie's by Paul Lodge

On Saturday, June 25, Ed and Brenda Leslie had invited club members to Rail Fan Day at their garden railroad in Casco. Unfortunately, it rained on Saturday, so the event was moved to Sunday, June 26. About a dozen club members and their spouses were able to come for an enjoyable afternoon.

Dick Clark, Dave Kierstead, and Bob Russell brought G-Scale equipment to run on Ed & Brenda's outdoor layout. At one point during the afternoon, Brenda invited anyone interested to come into the house where she taught them how to make mustard using her own

recipe. It was very flavorful and HOT!

Those attending also brought snacks and desserts to eat while watching trains, exchanging railroad stories, and sharing modeling tips.

The next club member railroad open house will be at Jerry Johnston's during the club picnic on Saturday, August 27.





Paul Lodge

May Minutes by Paul Lodge, Secretary

Before the meeting started, early arrivals were treated to fifteen minutes of slides and video prepared by Ed Leslie. The presentation was made from pictures taken by club members at different events since the May meeting. The *TRAIN TIME* program for the evening featured the Union Pacific Railroad in beautiful Cajon Pass in California.

The Secretary's Report was approved as published in the newsletter.

Tom Coulombe gave the Treasurer's Report, which was approved as given.

The Station Master's Report was given by Tom Coulombe. He listed several accomplishments since the May meeting. Flowers have been planted under the club sign and mailbox, and bushes and flowers have been planted on the hill above the retaining wall. Work in the Crew Lounge has been completed. Kitchen cabinets have been installed above the sink in the Dining Car Café. In the workshop area on the lower level, sheetrock has been put up so that the HO Scale layout can expand. On Saturday, June 18, a new sign will be placed on the outside of the building. The sign is a train silhouette with a steam locomotive, tender, and caboose. The caboose has the club name on it, and the locomotive has the number 144, our club's street address. The City of Auburn charges a fee for having the club name on the building. The \$37 fee has been paid. A set of cross

bucks will be attached to the east end of the building at the same time. Mike Reed has donated a speeder body to the club. A platform will be made on which to put the speeder on the lawn at the east end of the building as an attention getter for our club's location.

Brenda Leslie, Activities Director, talked about the events planned for this summer. On June 25, there will be a Rail Fan Day at the Leslies' home in Casco. There will be a 50/50 raffle to benefit the G-Scale group. On July 29, 30 and 31, a camping trip is scheduled for the Eagle Lake and Eastern Branch Railroad in northern Maine. About a dozen club members have signed up to go on the overnight trip. On August 27, the summer club picnic will be held at Jerry Johnston's home in Minot. This will be a pot-luck affair and there will be a sign-up sheet to help coordinate the food offerings. On Sunday, September 25, Maine Operation Lifesaver will have a 50-seat coach on the Maine Eastern Railroad. Club members can sign up for the trip at the following rates: seniors, 24; other adults, \$29; children, 15; and a family limit price of \$75. This is a first come, first served event. When the 50 seats have been sold, a waiting list will be started. Interested members need to contact Operation Lifesaver state coordinator, Fred Hirsch to reserve a seat on the train. The train will leave Rockland at 10 a.m., travel to Brunswick, and return to Rockland at 4 p.m.

The Executive Committee vot-

ed to have state Department of Transportation signs put up to lead the public to our location. Tom Coulombe reported that we need to get a permit from the state before we have the signs made. It takes about two months to complete the project.

The Executive Committee has created a "Wish List" to let club members know about items that could be donated to the club. The club is not in a position financially to purchase these items. One of the "Wish List" items is a 35,000 BTU air conditioner for the meeting room. Secondly, donations of flat screen television sets can be used in different locations around the building.

Terry King reported that the internet connection has been installed at the club.

As chairman of the *Trainfest*, Terry King announced that the event will be held from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Saturday, August 20, one of the days for the annual Lewiston/Auburn Balloon Festival. He suggested charging \$3 for adults and children get in free. He asked members to give him ideas to help make the event a success. At this time the following suggestions have been made: Dick Clark's daughter will do face painting, Ed Leslie will bring live steam on the back of a flatbed trailer, Mike Reed will display a speeder, and Beth and Jeff Chaffee will exhibit two of their layouts. Stephen Martelli will propose to the Auburn City Council that we be given permis-

(Continued on page 5)

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When: Saturday - August 27th *Where:* Jerry Johnston's Home

554 Brighton Hill Rd. Minot jjchef@megalick.net 966-2932

Time: 1:00 to 6:00pm - eating @ 4:00 p.m.

Dinner will be pot luck so please use the signup sheet at the club house. Fill in your name and how many people that are in your party. And what you are bringing for food. If you cannot get to the club house to sign up- please email me at

mrandmrsdeere@maine.rr.com)

There will be Hot Dogs & Hamburg's and we ask for a contribution to cover the cost.

Thank you - Brenda Leslie

Come and join in the fun -

There will be "badmitting", horseshoes, running the Rocky Ridge RR & more.

Minutes Continued

(Continued from page 4)

sion to set up a sign in the park next to Rolly's Diner directing people to the club house. There is a sign-up sheet for members interested in helping during the event.

Tom Coulombe reported that he has taken Operation Lifesaver hats and coloring books to Governor's Restaurant in Lewiston. It is hoped that working with Governors will be beneficial to both organizations. We should patronize them, and they will publicize our club during our events. We will also be donating a G-scale car with our club logo on it to be run with the other rolling stock used at the restaurant.

Stephen Martelli gave a report about the United New Auburn Association's Cruise Night. The club is promoted several times each Friday night during the Cruise Night

event. This is new and they had about 40 vintage cars and 175 people attend their first event at which Dave Gilchrist distributed Operation Lifesaver materials. Cruise Night will be held in New Auburn every Friday night through September. On Tuesday, June 28, club member Paul Lodge will be the guest speaker at the Association's monthly meeting at Rolly's Dinner.

Terry King reported that Joe Brown, one of the members of our adult education class, has donated over two hundred books to the library. The books cover a wide variety of subjects. Terry invited members to borrow some of the more than 750 books now available in the club's library.

Progress on the club's layouts was reported. Larry Cannon reported that the HO layout has the main

line completed. Some of the main line will be replaced with turnouts as time goes on. The wiring is progressing throughout the layout. G-Scale members will hold a meeting on Saturday, June 18, to determine their next steps. The N-Scale layout is ready to put up buildings and start the landscaping. Their trolley line is functional. A Z-Scale layout will also be displayed in the N-Scale room. Tom Coulombe reported that Rick Bibeau has donated his N-Scale layout to the club to be sold for \$350. There are two locomotives on Rick's layout that have a value of about \$200. In addition, there are more than a dozen train cars.

The meeting adjourned.

Mike Reed's name was drawn for the Attendance Prize. He was not in attendance.



THE GREAT FALLS MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

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An Educational Foundation

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Address Change

If your mailing or e-mail address changes please notify
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Upcoming Events

July 16, Seacoast Division meeting at
The Great Falls Model Railroad Club.

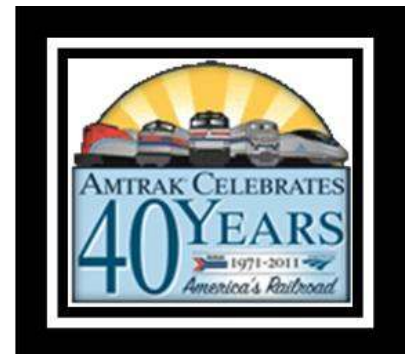
July 29,30,& 31, Camping trip to West
Branch & Eagle Lake Railroad. If you
are interested in going, call Brenda or
e-mail
mrandmrsdeere@maine.rr.com.
Soon!

Aug 20 & 21, 25th Train Fest. 8:00
a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Aug. 27, Club Picnic at Jerry John-
ston's home.

November 5, 2011 Model Railroad

Show, The Great Falls Model Railroad
Club, Auburn Middle School 10:00—
3:00.



The new club cars are almost
gone! They are only \$20.00
each.