2004-2005 Schedule

June 10  C Div/TCRM Thursday Night Meeting at TCRM
July 10-11  Nsv Ntrak at Smyrna Library
July 10  Watertown Murder Mystery/Jazz Festival Trip
Aug 14  Nsv Ntrak at Viola Family Days in Viola TN
Sep 4-5  Day Out With Thomas at TCRM Nashville TN
Sep 10-19  Nsv Ntrak at Tennessee State Fair
Sep 11-12  Day Out With Thomas at TCRM Nashville TN
Oct 2  Watertown Train Robbery Trip
Oct 9  Watertown Mile-Long Yard Sale Trip
Oct 9  Cookeville-Watertown Mile-Long Yard Sale Trip
Oct 16  Cookeville Super Fall Foliage Trip I
Oct 23  Cookeville Super Fall Foliage Trip II
Nov 04-Jan 05  Nsv Ntrak at Adventure Science Center Nashville
Feb 12  Watertown Valentines Day Murder Mystery Trip
Feb 26  Watertown Mother Goose Fairyland Trip
Mar 19  Watertown Easter Bunny Trip I
Mar 26  Watertown Easter Bunny Trip II
Apr 9  Watertown Train Robbery Trip
Apr 23  Watertown Mile Long Yard Sale Trip

Program Notes

June- Allen Hicks will present a videotape on the locating and recovery of a P-38 Lightning fighter plane from WW II that crashed in Greenland. It’s related to RR preservation- locating something in a difficult spot and trying to recover and preserve it.

June 2004 Meeting Host Committee

Jon Sirrine  Bob Swanner  Bill Tucker
Gene Turnage  Tom Tyndall  Doug Uhler
John Upham  Chris Walla  Gary Walters
Rita White  John Wilkison  Jay & Michelle Wilson
Steve Wright  Nicho Young  Bob Hultman*

*Host Committee Chair in Bold type

New Members

Drew Foster, Franklin TN

Please welcome these new members as they join us in making our organization even better for the future.

Hobby Shop News

Still available- the Cumberland Division Red Caboose-produced HO scale 500 series & 7900 series TC Ry 40’ box car kits- 2 different numbered cars for the 2 series (TC 501, 537, 7923 & 7942). These cars include NMRA RP25 metal wheelsets with narrow wheel treads and realistically tapered metal axles. Price for local delivery (no shipping involved) is $16.50 each, $64/set of 4. Mail-order price is $17.50/car postpaid, $68/set of 4 postpaid. Notice about these cars has appeared in the June 2004 Model Railroader; if you want your set before they get gone, be sure to stop by the hobby shop and buy your set.

Day Out With Thomas – Publicity Needed!!

Calling all members!! We need to crank our Day Out With Thomas 2004 publicity efforts into high gear. Please take some of the posters and ticket order forms and distribute to any effective place you can. The following are excellent places to start-

Day Care Centers  Summer Schools  Drug Stores
Hardware Stores  Department Stores  Grocery Stores
Toy Stores  Mall Bulletin Boards  Workplace Bulletin Boards
Fast Food Restaurants  Churches  Park Bulletin Boards
Video Stores

Nashville Ntrak News

By Tom Staggs

Nashville Ntrak had a great month. We took a layout to the Grundy County Fair in Tracy City on the 21st and 22nd of May. Received a warm welcome on the mountain. Had to set up in a tent but other than the heat and some wind the layout ran very well. We also did some railfanning on Saturday morning. We drove the Mt. Goat rail line from Cowan to Tracy City. Got to see the Monteagle tunnel and experience several trains being pushed over by the pushers stationed in Cowan.

The second event was a Memorial Day weekend pot luck and train watching shindig at Mike and Amy Curtis’ house. CSX provided six trains and the food was wonderful. Looking forward to the next layout setup at Smyrna Library.

Good News

Steve Tomblin’s daughter Amanda graduated from high school. Congratulations, Amanda and to all the other graduates this spring!!

Sad News

Steve Tomblin’s mother Dorothy Tomblin passed away Saturday evening, May 29, 2004 in Cincinnati OH. There was a graveside service for her at the Odd Fellows Cemetery on Seminary St in Carrolton KY on Wednesday, 2 June 2004 at 2 pm EDT. Please keep Steve and his family (Sharon, Amanda & Matthew) in your thoughts and prayers. Steve's address is 4040 Elizabeth Dr in Hermitage TN 37076.

July 4th Car Hosts’ Trip

All Excursion Train Car Hosts- There will be a meeting with Terry Bebout after the general business meeting regarding the car hosts’ trip over the July 4th weekend. If you’re going on this trip, be sure to be at this meeting!!
Potential County Fair Setup for HO RR

Len Hollinger is in contact with representatives for the Williamson County Fair, tentatively planned for early August in 2005. Let’s hope these negotiations come to a positive fruition so we can promote model railroading and TC Ry Museum in the heart of Williamson County. Keep up the good work, Len!

Adding Weight To A Locomotive, Simply

By Bob Swanner

The two simple ways to add weight to locomotives are 1) get a supply of used lead car wheel weights from any place that balances car wheels/tires. Select a piece of lead the proper size; using a substantial pair of diagonal cutters, cut a section off a weight that is long enough to fit. I generally shun the steel clip in the center of the weight because it usually causes a fitting problem as well as detracting from the mass of the lead. Since the weight is curved you will need to straighten it by judiciously striking it with a hammer. Then you can glue it in place with your favorite adhesive. You’ll have better luck if you only use super glue (cyanoacrylate or CA) to initially retain the weight while using an RTV bathtub & window sealer (or similar) type adhesive that is essentially an uncured rubber for more permanency (Editor’s note- if you use silicone caulk in a closed space, like a box car, the caulk outgases acetic acid as it cures. If acetic acid will adversely affect the interior, use some other adhesive). Elmer’s Glue will also work best if diluted 50% with water & a drop or two of liquid soap.

Or, 2) buy a bag of #9 lead bird shot from your local shotgun reloading supplier. Pour the shot in position & glue with 50% diluted Elmer’s White glue & one or two drops liquid soap, this may take more than one application, until the available space is filled to your satisfaction. One way I have found to check for clearances is put a wad of modeling clay (you can pick your favorite color) between your lead & other parts, reassemble the model, then disassemble to see how much the clay is flattened. This will inform you how much clearance or interference you have. If interference is encountered a sharp pair of needle nosed pliers or a screwdriver can pull the necessary shot out until clearance is restored. Another way to check for fit is use a slow-dry paint then quickly reassemble & disassemble, looking for where the paint transferred. I suggest you don’t use dynamite, I know it’s quicker, but it sometimes overshoots, removing too much, including parts of the model & your house. I have used a combination of both techniques when expediency is required. I place the wheel weights in first, then pour the bird-shot to fill in the gaps, then pour in the Elmer’s.

There is another way to add even more heavy weight; I refer to it as maximum ballasting, by doing a lost-wax lead casting. This information is available on another article. It’s quite tedious but you will get the maximum weight added.