2004-2005 Schedule

Apr 8  School Excursion Train to Donelson 10 am
Apr 9  Watertown Train Robbery Trip
Apr 23  Watertown Mile Long Yard Sale Trip
May 7  Cookeville TC Ry Spring Festival Trip
May 20-22 NC&StL Ry Preservation Society Convention, Cowan TN
May 21  Cookeville-Lebanon-Shoppers’ Special
May 27-29 SER Regional Convention in Montgomery AL
June 18  Nashville-Cookeville (special charter)
July 3-9  NMRA Nat’l Convention Cinti OH
July 9  Watertown Jazz Festival/Murder Mystery Trip
July 22  Ex Train Charter Trip Nsv-Hermitage
Sep 3-4, 10-11 Day Out With Thomas The Tank Engine- TCRM
Sep 29-Oct 2  L&N RR HS Convention Bardstown KY
Oct 1  Nashville-Watertown-Train Robbery
Oct 8  Nashville-Watertown-Yard Sale
Oct 15  Nashville-Cookeville- Super Fall Foliage I
Oct 22  Nashville-Cookeville- Super Fall Foliage II
Oct 29  Nashville-Cookeville- Super Fall Foliage III
Nov 4  School Trips
Nov 5  Cumberland Division Fall 2005 Division Meet Nashville
Nov 12  Nashville-Watertown-Murder Mystery, WWII
Dec 3  Nashville-Watertown-Polar Express
Dec 10  Nashville-Watertown-Polar Express
Dec 17  Nashville-Watertown-Polar Express

Program Notes

April  “Rock Carving” presented by Charles Owens

April 2005 Meeting Host Committee

Scott Kammerer  Randy Leath  George Lile-Henley
Doug Lindgren  Bill Lorenz  John Lowe
Mark Matthews  Porter & Lynn McGill  Gary Miller*
Wiley Miller  Charles Morton  Ron Musick
DeLoy & Ann Nelms  Jim Nelson  Leroy Nessen
*- Host Committee Chair

Hobby Shop News

By Eddie Justice

We are now a Digitrax authorized dealer. Call or E-mail Eddie if you want to order some Digitrax items.

Still available- the Cumberland Div HO scale TC Ry 40' box car kits 500 series & 7900 series produced by Red Caboose- 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.

New Members

Adolfo Barros, Nashville TN
Tim Laskey, Nashville TN
John Sparks, Nashville TN (rerail; John was a member years ago and has rejoined)
Tim Witzgreuter, Murfreesboro TN (Family)

Model Railroading Update

Both the HO and N scale modular RRs were at the Great American Train Show- March 12-13 at Nashville Municipal Auditorium. We brought back $300 cash for our efforts. Many thanks to all who worked to make our participation a success!

Nashville Ntrak Update

By Tom Staggs

Nashville Ntrak has had a great month! Nashville GATS was a real highlight for the Club. Sixteen or so of our members were able to set up and take down the layout very quickly. Those "H" legs are paying off. At times, during the weekend the club ran 12 trains on 4 lines giving the crowd a real show. The members met 3 or 4 real good prospects who have since visited us on meeting nights. We also had the opportunity to work with a Channel 5 news crew in setting up some nice shots of our trains and promoting the Museum.

During two consecutive weekends, we were also able to run trains for the passengers of the Easter Bunny Excursion trains. The TCRM Open House & Cumberland Division Meeting was another time for the club to get together and showoff the layout to visitors. We have two new members Tim Witzgreuter and his five year old son Max. Max is "our littlest engineer" and really knows his trains for his young age.

NRHS Notes

By Herb Roth

Some history from N & W Calendar, March 2005: In 1941- Virginian 2-10-10-2 #800 exploded at Stewartsville, VA. In 1951 - Last passenger service to Columbus, OH. In 1952 - Last Y-6b #2200 leaves Roanoke shops. In 1987 - Rebuilt Class "A" #1218 is ready for excursion service.

TCRM Update

The Easter Bunny Excursion Trains on - March 19 and March 26 were sell-outs, ran on time and with no safety incidents….. just the way we like it….. now to do the same thing through the rest of our excursion train schedule this year.

The TCRM Car Host Appreciation Dinner on March 24 at the Smokehouse Restaurant on Hermitage Av went real well, with 40+ gathered for fellowship and good food. Thank you, TCRM, for a great time!

By Terry Bebout

The Museum is very lucky to have a shortline RR like the Nashville & Eastern Railroad to work with on train operations. Many museums struggle to keep up their own right of way or are unhappy with their host railroad. We have a written contract with the NERR that includes our rate structure for operating excursion trains and leasing the 1,515’ of track and land that we occupy with our equipment.

In a like manner, we also have a written contract with the NERR that includes a rate structure for TCRM receiving payment
for the use of one office in our building for Transportation Services of Tennessee, and use of the facility for meetings, etc. In addition, NERR pays a percentage of the electrical use on the 480v electrical service at our shop building.

Each TCRM member needs to be aware of how important it is to maintain our partnership with the NERR. We have a great 108-mile railroad to operate on and an outstanding relationship with the management of the NERR.

Private Equipment
Attached is a listing of equipment at the museum site/Southern Jet Yard both museum and privately owned. There is additional equipment (caboose, box cars, camp car, scale test car) stored on a siding at Carthage Jct that I will have to update the next time I am there and send it out on a separate message. Facts and benefits of having or using the private equipment are as follows:

1) All private equipment has been restored at the owner’s expense. No TCRM funds were used for restoration. While some private equipment does use TCRM electricity and water, it is offset by other factors listed on other points below.

2) Private cars are used for guests and tour groups that visit our facility. Example: At the April 2 model railroad show and TCRM Open House, the following private cars were open for tours. 103, 4067, 7602, 9400, Allen Hicks’ caboose and Robert Mars-maker’s caboose. In addition, last year alone there were 20 tour groups (such as Red Hat Society) that toured these same cars which in at least 5 cases generated group ticket sales on excursion trains.

3) Privately owned locomotives cost us the same to use as NERR locomotives for excursion trips. In fact, they really cost less due to us buying the fuel at a cheaper rate than the fuel cost in the NERR lease fee. Locomotive owners do not charge us for non-revenue trips. Another advantage to using these locomotives instead of NERR is the appearance of passenger locomotives instead of freight locomotives and we have instant availability when needed with no worries as to what NERR would leave for us to use that might not be the right amount of units needed.

4) Privately owned cars such as 9400, 4739, 3113 are revenue generating cars for the TCRM that are leased on a per day basis as required.

5) Privately owned coach 7602 is used by TCRM at no charge. With 76 seats at an average price of $26 due to a mix of adult and children tickets, this car generates approximately $2,000 revenue per trip. Over the last two Saturdays (Easter Bunny trips), this car has brought in a little over $4,000 of clear revenue to TCRM.

6) Privately owned cars 103 and 4067 have been used several times by charter operator Marvin Clemons as a part of his special trains to Cookeville. His next trip is scheduled for June of this year. He pays a flat fee to the museum for his consist and the price is based on the destination and the consist required. The use of these two cars is donated to the museum for each of these trips which generates $1,000 of revenue for the museum.

7) Privately owned cars 103, 800129, 9400 and 4067 have been used several times for special NERR trains, either commuter or government related specials. While this does not generate revenue directly, it does allow TCRM to operate our own special trains such as the Carhost Special July 4 trip to Watertown last year at no cost to TCRM. NERR also donated use of the locomotives and fuel. The NERR has also moved equipment for TCRM to and from the interchange at no cost. Excess TCRM equipment is also stored on NERR tracks at no charge to TCRM. We also switch our train regularly using NERR tracks and turn equipment frequently on the NERR wye at Southern Jct. If it were not for the use of these private cars, these types of movements would be chargeable to TCRM. The Carhost Special would have cost around $1,000 and interchange movements are around $250 each way.

8) Privately owned car 245 is used at our Day Out with Thomas events as the story telling/video viewing car at no charge to TCRM. This allows our guests to have an air-conditioned place to sit, cool off and enjoy one of the features of the event.

Hopefully these facts and the attached equipment listing will clarify equipment ownership and benefits to the organization of equipment privately owned. Please contact me if you have any questions……… Terry

Museum Owned Equipment at Southern Jct. Yard

514- Power car
1266- Commissary car
1354- Power car
3119- 48 seat diner
4711- 48 seat coach
4717- 48 seat coach
4719- 48 seat coach
4733- 48 seat coach
7628- coach, under interior restoration, to be 56 seat coach
2095- Slumber Coach
102- TC Office Car, under restoration by Bill Griffith
9857- TC wood caboose, not restored
409- Air Brake training Car, not restored
2467- 10/6 sleeper, not restored
715- F/unit, not restored
719- F/unit, not restored
258- EMD F40, not restored
375- EMD F40
300- GP7, under restoration by Mark Matthews
8349- EMD GP10, not restored
52- EMD SW8
9014- EMD SW1 Switcher, not restored
170- Box Car (storage)
43962- Box Car (storage)
973437- Camp Car, used for storage
1155- Caboose, currently on NWRR
X358- Caboose, not restored

Editor’s Note- Since not all of the non-TCRM owned rolling stock will fit in the column space left for the April 2005 meeting notice, I’ll list it in the May 2005 meeting notice- Bob H