Donations
Alcoa- $250 cash based on Claire, Ray & Timothy Martin’s
TCRM volunteer hours
Pat & Tommy Jones - $100 cash
Mark Matthews- $70 cash
T & T Family Foundation- $1,000 cash (John Stoecker contact)
Gene Turnage- $500 cash

145 Members Renewed for 2009
By Bob Hultman
As best I can tell, TCRM has 145 members who have renewed or recently joined. If you have not renewed yet for 2009, please mail your activity fee renewals (still $30 individual, $35 for family members of the same household) made payable to TCRM to TC Ry Museum, 220 Willow St Nashville TN 37210-2159 Attn – Amy Hannah. For payment via credit card, please call Amy at 615-244-9001 or stop by the Museum to do so in person. Include any updated roster information (name, address, phone numbers and current E-mail addresses). By the end of February we will remove from active membership those who have not renewed for 2009.

Excursion Train News
By Bob Hultman
TCRM’s first excursion trains for 2009 are the Feb 7 & 14 Valentines Day Murder Mystery Trips to Watertown. Safety meetings for these trips start on board diner 3119 at 7:00 am CST the day of the trips. If you want to work these trips please contact Bob Hultman at 615-833-5158 or cell 615-513-7187 E-mail hultman@bellsouth.net

Joe Sapp has changed out the Christmas lights in the cars for red & white lights for the Valentines Day trips. Car cleaning, including carpet cleaning (many thanks to Bill Howard) has been mostly accomplished with some exterior window cleaning to be done on Friday Feb 6. Also, many thanks go to Mike Pugh for multiple mechanical & minor electrical repairs and Steve Tomblin for electrical repairs and Gordon Smith for repairs on 7628 car. We can certainly use anyone’s help in interior car cleaning and minor repairs. Please contact Bob Hultman cell 615-513-7187, home 615-833-5158 or E-mail hultman@bellsouth.net if you will help with these tasks.

HO Model RR News
By Bob Hultman
Cumberland Division's Cumberland Valley Model RRers & Nashville Ntrakkers both completed successful modular RR displays Jan 10-11 at the Great Train Expo in Nashville’s Municipal Auditorium. Each group earned $150 for their efforts. We also had the wooden stand built by Jack Sircy for the tall TCRM color poster displayed next to the HO RR. Many onlookers took the excursion train ticket order forms displayed on the stand.

The HO RR configuration, starting at our 4’ Geezer Gate module & proceeding clockwise, was-

Griffin's Module - 24’ C Div New Yard - large radius outside corner - 4’ George Gilbert's Forge Creek - large radius outside corner - 4’ Quincy Styke III's Styrofoam Desert - large radius outside corner - 4’ George Gilbert's Forge Creek - 4’ Bill Griffin's Module - 24’ C Div New Yard - large radius outside corner. Overall footprint was ~ 14’ x 42’. Our next setup is Feb 14-15 at the Worlds Greatest Hobby on Tour Train Show at Nashville Convention Center.

Hobby Shop News
By Bob Hultman
Shop managers Eddie Justice & Mark Perry have announced the inventory reduction sale, 40% off list price for HO & N scale locomotives, rolling stock and structures (for Cumberland Div-TCRM members only; non-members get 25% off) will continue thru February.

New Members
Chris Brown, Murfreesboro TN
Jennifer Dawson, Clarksville TN
Jerry Stelmaszak, Nashville TN
Norro Wilson, Nashville TN

Please welcome our new members as they get to know us and take part in our activities.

Thursday Night Meeting – TCRM Willow St Bldg Nashville TN 6:30 pm Feb 12, 2009
Tennessee Central Railway Museum

Hobby Shop Sales Policy

- All current TCRM members will receive a 25% discount off the current list price of stock items or 15% above dealer net cost for special discounted items offered by the distributors.
- Members have 30 calendar days to pay for and pick up their special orders after having received notice from TCRM hobby shop staff that the order is available for payment/pickup.
- Members must not remove stock items off of shelves for hold. All stock items are for sale on a first come, first serve basis.
- Special orders do not go into stock if member ordered the wrong item or decided he/she does not want it. Members must pay for their special orders.
- Any item removed for use on Cumberland Division-owned model railroads must be reported to the clerk on duty before the item is taken from the shop.
- Any member working as hobby shop clerk must be trained on the hobby shop sales computer system.

Conductor Hat For Sale or Trade

By Will Constable

Back when Gordon Smith ordered hats I had no idea what size I wore so I guessed a 7. I now know I need a 7 1/4. My hat badge says "Trainman" and has never been worn. I'm offering this hat for sale or trade? If interested, please contact Will Constable at 201 Fox Run Way in Bowling Green, KY 42104 phone 270-782-1762, E-mail w.constable@insightbb.com

Mike Curtis Update

By Mike Curtis

Well, it has been a quick six months. I have had another scan to try to find the miniscule amount of thyroid cancer within me. This was a CT scan with contrast and the results were slightly disappointing news and good news. The good news is that they didn't find anything else wrong with me. The disappointing news is they didn't find the rest of my thyroid cancer. So, my lesson in patience continues and we retest in late July to early August.

Clarksville TN Train Fest 2009

By Carl Eisemann

The 2009 Clarksville TN Train Fest will be Saturday and Sunday, May 2nd 10 am to 4 pm & Sunday May 3rd noon to 4 pm at the Clarksville Customs House Museum & Cultural Center and at the restored L&N RR Depot, home of the Montgomery County Historical Society at Commerce & 10th Streets. Admission is $4.00 for adults, $2.00 for children. The admission price also allows the attendee to view the entire museum. It will be good for both days, at both locations. The L&N depot will be open for tours and be conducting interpretive discussions, ie, the old station-master, the station during the war, etc.

We will have several traveling model railroad layouts plus the normal Museum HO, N, & Lionel layouts running. We will also have a TCRM information display.

Nashville Ntrak News

By Brandon Baxter

Nashville Ntrak began 2009 with a setup at the Great Train Expo (GTE) show on January 10 & 11. We were joined at this show by the Tennessee Valley Model Railroader's group in Murfreesboro. We are always excited to host other groups at our layouts. The GTE layout was 20' x 50' (1,000 f²) and included the 42'-long Nashville Ntrak yard with many other modules from Nashville Ntrak members and TVMR members. Also on January 10, Nashville Ntrak member Mark Lindecker staffed the TCRM Hobby Shop.

In January 2009 Kalmbach Publishing Co. released Model Railroad Planning 2009, an annual magazine with planning and design tips to create a new model railroad layout and information that can be used to make an existing layout even better. Nashville Ntrak member Peter Sierson has a four-page article beginning on page 84 called "A Phased Approach to Layout Construction - An N scale Railroad that will grow to fit the available space". Model Railroad Planning 2009 editor Tony Koester also highlights Peter's article and layout plan in the opening editorial. Congratulations to TCRM and Nashville Ntrak member Peter Sierson for this wonderful article!

Upcoming events for Nashville Ntrak include Tom Staggs working in TCRM Hobby Shop on February 7 and the 2009 World's Greatest Hobby on Tour show that will be at the Nashville Convention Center on February 14 & 15. The Nashville Ntrak layout at this show will be 60' x 75' (4,500 f²) and will include many Nashville Ntrak modules. Model railroading is social hobby and we are always thrilled when we have the opportunity to set up layouts with other modelers from other places. We will be joined at this show by the following clubs/individuals (with Ntrak modules in tow) from around the region:

1. Tennessee Valley Model Railroaders (TVMR) - Murfreesboro, TN
2. Kentuckiana Society of N Scalers (KSONS) - Louisville, KY
3. Central Indiana Ntrak Club (CinTrak) - Indianapolis, IN
4. Knoxville Area Model Railroaders (KAMR) - Knoxville, TN
5. Leo Bicknell - Memphis, TN

The World's Greatest Hobby on Tour show has an average attendance of over 25,000 people per show. Obviously, an event of this magnitude offers a unique opportunity to reach many people who may be seeing the railroad hobby for the first time. We are looking forward to representing Nashville Ntrak and the TCRM activities/excursion trains at this event. If you are interested in being a part of any Nashville Ntrak activities, please come by and see us at the TCRM during a Tuesday night work session or stop by our website (www.nashvillentrak.org) and contact us.

NRHS News

By Herb Roth

The Shannondell Model Railroad Club of Shannondell, PA has been going strong for some time. They have an excellent web page. You can view a video tour of their railroad- Go to www.trainweb.org/Shannondell

The Kalmbach Publishing Co. is 75 years old this year. They have grown to produce 15 magazines – including Classic Trains, Trains and Model Railroader.