

## Upcoming Events

**March 8, 2011**

Club Meeting

7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse

5259 Washington Road in

Albany, Ohio

**March 22, 2011**

Work Session

7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse

5259 Washington Road in

Albany, Ohio

**April 12, 2011**

Club Meeting

7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse

5259 Washington Road in

Albany, Ohio

**April 26, 2011**

Work Session

7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse

5259 Washington Road in

Albany, Ohio

## Upcoming Birthdays

February 11 – Keith Morrow

March 20 – Walter Parks

March 23 – Bill Creighton

## Change to Bylaws

As stated in the Code of Regulations, Article XIV - Amendment to Regulations, this is your written notice that there will be a vote at the March Club Meeting to make a change to Article 2, Section 1B to the following below.

**Affiliate Membership** is available to household and immediate family members of Regular Members, or to other persons under the age of ~~sixteen~~ **eighteen years** who are sponsored by Regular Members. They shall enjoy all rights of Regular Members except voting, and are subject to all responsibilities of Regular Members.



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## *Memories of Railfairs Past, Pt. 3* By Kirk DePeel

Here is the final part of "Memories of Railfairs Past" by Kirk DePeel.

**For Railfair 2004** my son and I built an unplanned, 4' by 8' HO layout, in less than a month. It came about when a couple of club members made the decision not to allow my son and I to scenic the raffle layout after it was agreed upon that we would. My son (and I) had been looking forward to working on the raffle layout, and I wasn't about to disappoint him or sore his view on the club. So we took a 4' by 8' frame that had been earmarked to expand our current N-scale layout and drew up a design. My son and I worked on the layout almost every night for at least an hour or two. Despite the tight timeline it turned out to be fun and rewarding project. At the show we invited kids who seemed interested in the layout to pick up the throttle and run our trains. Years later some came back to tell me they had started building their own layout after running our trains that year.

**Railfair 2006** holds an emotional memory. At Railfair 2005 my son and I had premiered our new 8' by 16' N-scale layout. It was only a month after my wife's nephew, Eric, was murdered in a senseless shooting. There was a deep sense of loss that came from this tragedy. My son and I sought some way to express it and honor his memory. We decided to do this on our layout. Starting in January we began work on Eric's Canyon. Hundreds of hours and everything we knew about scenery went into transforming a blank module into a memorial. Eric's Canyon wows the people at the shows, but it was the look on his parent's faces when they saw it for the first time that I treasure the most. I knew it meant a great deal to them, more than words could express.

**Railfair 2007** was the show that almost didn't happen. In October I got a call from Josh Pack telling me the club had voted to cancel the show. I couldn't believe the news. I immediately contacted Tony, who

agreed that even if the club didn't do the show we would bring our layouts to the mall and invite anyone else who had a layout to join us. It turns out things got worked out at the November meeting, and the club did do the show. As I recalled it was a pretty good show. It also became a wakeup call that we needed to change the way the club ran.

**Railfair 2009** was perhaps the funniest show I've been a part of. The raffle layout was a club effort and by far the best we had ever produced. As a group there was a strong bond among the members and things just seem to go right that year. Well, there was the "Kong" incident that sticks out. A young boy was playing on Roger's layout and decided to take King Kong home with him. When Roger discovered it missing, he asked the boy if he still had it. At first the mother was calm, and asked her son if he had taken it; which of course he denied he had. Then she became hostile toward Roger, stating angrily that he hadn't looked hard enough for Kong on the layout.

Now there was nothing funny about the situation. In fact I didn't envy Rogers position one bit while watching the event unfold. What struck me was how calm Roger remained throughout this incident, even after the kid pulled King Kong from his pocket. Roger could have easily lost his temper and shoved it back in the mothers face. Instead he handled it with tack, something that many people lack these days. I always knew Roger was a classy guy, but now I got to see him in action. It made me think what I would have done in the same situation, or rather what I should do if it happens to me.

And so after 20 years of Railfairs I still find myself waiting in anticipation weeks before the show, much like a child waiting for Christmas day to finally arrive. Some feel that Railfair is too much work, but I can't think of any better way to get people into the Christmas spirit. Trains and Christmas just go together, and when you think of one you can't help but think of the other.

## **February Annual Meeting Minutes Highlights By Roger Crigger**

DATE: February 8, 2011

MEETING STARTED: 7:15PM

PLACE: The Clubhouse at 5259 Washington Road in Albany, Ohio

### **BUSINESS:**

8. At the meeting there were 11 members out of 18 members present, which would make a forum.
9. Roger Crigger gave a belief summary of the previous year stating that we still have a clubhouse, gotten some new members, had a great Railfair and Christmas Open House.
10. David Jackson said the CD is Maturing, and our checking is in the Black.
11. The floor was opened for Treasurer nominations. David Jackson was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for Treasurer 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kirk DePeel. Approved by Members

12. The floor was opened for Secretary nominations. Roger Crigger was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for Secretary 1<sup>st</sup> David Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Parks. Approved by Members.
13. The floor was opened for Vice President nominations. Walter Parks was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for Vice President 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Parks. Approved by Members.
14. The floor was opened for President nominations. Kirk DePeel was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for President 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Kirk DePeel. Approved by Members.
15. The floor was opened for Trustee nominations. Tom Metters was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for Trustee 1<sup>st</sup>

- Keith Morrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Parks. Approved by Members.
16. The floor was opened for Trustee nominations to fill Walter Parks unexpired term. Tony Magill was nominated and he accepted. There was no more nominations, so if was moved to close nominations for Trustee 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Jackson. Approved by Members.
17. There was a motion to accept all nominations and to vote Nominates into position. 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow 2<sup>nd</sup> Walter Parks. Approved by Members.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: 1st Roger Crigger 2<sup>nd</sup> David Jackson

TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:25p.m.

## **February Meeting Minutes Highlights By Roger Crigger**

DATE: February 8, 2011

MEETING STARTED: 7:26PM

PLACE: The Clubhouse at 5259 Washington Road in Albany, Ohio.

TREASURER REPORT: Before the meeting there have been four members that have paid dues for the whole year and five that have paid the 1<sup>st</sup> installment. David Jackson has deposited \$618.31 in the checking and the balance as of January 18, 2011 was \$2,177.61.

### **BUSINESS:**

1. At the meeting there were 11 members out of 18 members present, which would make a forum.
2. There was a motion to vote the clubhouse rules that was talked about at the last meeting and was sent to all members before this meeting. 1<sup>ST</sup> Keith Morrow 2<sup>ND</sup> Tony Magill.
3. As stated before the mall was very happy with Railfair and has booked us for Railfair the second weekend in December for the next couple of years.

However the Mall would like us to do Railfair for two weekends and could set us up in a storefront. Kirk DePeel said that we might what to look into doing this because of the lack of help for Railfair. With James Patterson leaving in the summer and the possible of a few other members not being able to do Railfair, it might be hard to keep people at all the layouts if we are in the central of the mall, then if we where in a storefront. It was also talked about moving Railfair to the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend so we can get more help. No decision was made at the meeting and the subjects will be talked about again at another meeting.

4. The Deshler, Ohio trip is scheduled for March 18-20, 2011. We will meet at SEOVAC in Athens, Ohio on Friday at 5:00p.m and will leave from there. At the moment Kirk and Jason DePeel, James Patterson, Walter Parks, Roger Crigger, and Tom Metters are planning to going. Gas will be \$20.00 a person. If you would like to go or need more information call Kirk DePeel.
5. There was motion made to change

- Article 2, Section 1B of the Bylaws to say Affiliate Membership is available to household and immediate family members of Regular Members, or to other persons under the age of eighteen years instead of sixteen years. Because of the bylaws it will be voted on at the next meeting.
6. Sam Ellis's family still plans to donate the Ho Scale Layout back to the club so the club can refit it and Raffle it off at Railfair this year.
7. Roger Crigger has handed out an evaluation form for all members to fill out and return. Roger plans to use the information from this form to see what members think about how this club is doing and where we should go next.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: 1st Keith Morrow 2<sup>nd</sup> David Jackson

TIME MEETING ENDED: 8:01p.m.