IRONHEAD GAZETTE

A Publication of the Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.

Upcoming Events:

May 12, 2015
Club Meeting
7:00pm
Ohio State Highway Patrol Post
13600 Della Drive, Athens
<u>Bring something for show and tell!</u>

May 16-17, 2015
7th Annual Ohio N Scale
Weekend
Hilliard, Ohio
Admission: $5
<u>50+ tables of new/used N scale items, 10+ N scale layouts</u>

June 13, 2015
Bradford Railroad Festival
Bradford, Ohio
Admission: $5
<u>Celebrating 130 Years of Railroad History, Telegraph School, Lincoln Funeral Train Exhibit, Operating Layout, Speeder Display</u>

June 27-28, 2015
10th Annual Miami Valley Rail
Festival
Dayton, Ohio
Admission: $5 - $8
<u>Model Train Displays, Historical Displays, Live Steam, Flea Market, Miniature Train Rides</u>

July 11-12, 2015
Model Train Show and Swap
Van Wert, Ohio
Admission: $3
<u>100+ Vendor Tables, Operating Layouts</u>

August 8, 2015
Summerail
Cincinnati, Ohio
Admission: $25
<u>Cincinnati Union Terminal, Tower A, Railroad Show and Sale, Multi-Media Presentations</u>

Scratch Building
By: Walter Parks
Continued from March 2015

Now that you have decided on the structure which you will build, there are any number of decisions you have to make. What material will you use, wood or plastic? Ask a purist and he will tell you wood is the only choice. Granted it is a good choice, but you are some what limited in your suppliers… Northeastern puts out a fine line of structural shapes and sidings but in this day of ready-built structures, these items can be hard to find. On the other hand, Evergreen produces a great line of structural shapes and sidings and can be found in most well stocked hobby shops. Other items such as windows, doors, chimneys, etc. can be obtained from Grandt Line, S.S. Limited, and Campbell to name a few. But choices are becoming limited.

Once you have decided on the material, you will have to draw up a diagram to determine size of the structure. This does not have to be to scale at this point because you need to know in inches, not scale feet how much to order. You will also need to

Scratch Building

know how many doors, windows, and other details you will need. Remember, there are a great many styles in both the doors and windows.

Now after getting your materials on order, you can make the scale plans for your structure, you know 3.5 mm to the foot. If this is your first project scratch building, you may want to get a couple articles on the subject and read them. There is more than one approach to this. E.L. Moore and Jack Work both wrote and illustrated great articles on the subject. Check them out.

After your materials arrive, cut out the walls and such to size, mark, and cut the openings for the doors and windows, wood or plastic strips to make posts (interior), and in some instances interior walls to add strength and stability to the structure.

If you are using plastic, I prefer Plastic Weld Liquid Cement and if using wood, I like Elmer's Carpenter Glue applied with a toothpick (otherwise it gets on everything). I also use Walther's "Goo" for dissimilar materials; metal to wood, wood to plastic, etc. Ambroid is also a good all purpose cement.

If you are building with wood or cardstock, you will have to coat both sides of the material with sealant, I like a clear spray for this, it will prevent the structure from warping when painted.

Hope this will stir some interest. A well done job will be your pride and joy!

New Hobby Shop

Gone Loco Hobby Shop

10755 State Route 39, Millersburg

O and HO scale retailer

"Hobo Speak"

http://www.hobonickels.org/terms.htm

Adventure - The encountering of danger, exciting, and dangerous undertaking.

Moonville Searching for Bridge to the Future

By: Tyler Buchanan | Courier Editor | The Vinton County Courier

When you're dealing with an abandoned, supposedly haunted ghost town, nothing is easy.

Such is true even if the question at hand is not the legendary tunnel, but the bridge down the path ... or lack thereof.

The Moonville Rail Trail Association wants to install a permanent bridge over Raccoon Creek near the tunnel where there used to be a rail trestle. The good news is the group has already received $50,000 toward the project, thanks to state funding earmarked by Ohio Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) and Ohio Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Washington Court House).

The problem is a contractor estimated the project would cost around $115,000. Oh, and the group has a deadline of June 2016 to spend the state's $50,000, meaning the clock is running on trying to search for the remaining cash.

Blair has been helping the group with grant work for several years and took over as president after Moonville Rail Trail Association founder Neil Shaw died in 2014.

"We're in a dilemma," Association President Brian Blair told Vinton County Commissioners on Monday. "We want to spend that $50,000."

The need for a bridge

As it stands, Moonville explorers are at the mercy of Raccoon Creek. The modest parking area and tunnel are on opposite sides of the waterway; if the water isn't low enough, you have to take the long way around through Zaleski State Forest to reach the tunnel.

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Continued on Page 4

Interested in Membership?

Interested in becoming a member? Join today! Membership dues are as follows:

- $40 for a single membership for 1 year
- $60 for a family membership for 1 year

Benefits of becoming a member:

- Voting
- Several great trips throughout the year
- Friends who share a common hobby and interests

Moonville Searching for Bridge to the Future

way around through Zaleski State Forest to reach the tunnel.

Grant writing can be very competitive. The fact that Moonville is located in the least populated township in the least populated county in Ohio is not exactly a great selling point for those with the money to invest.

This leaves the project vulnerable to being passed over in favor of larger, more metropolitan projects. After all, why donate thousands for a bridge to benefit a few explorers when instead one could build a trail in Columbus or elsewhere that gets traversed by hundreds, if not thousands of visitors each day?

On the other hand, Moonville has been described as sort of a "chicken or the egg" type of scenario. The point being, the path is not well-traveled ... but if real infrastructure investments took place, would that not draw more visitors?

Filling in the gaps

The next place for the Moonville Rail Trail Association to look is a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant, which has a deadline to apply of May 1.

The details are sort of convoluted, but the grant is only available for government entities. Since MRTA is a non-profit organization, it is seeking Vinton County's help to be eligible for securing the grant.

The commissioners tentatively agreed to Vinton County's name being used in the grant writing, though the county will not itself be investing any money in the project. The commissioners agreed to have Vinton County Prosecutor Trecia Kimes-Brown to look the agreement over before completely signing off for Blair to submit the grant application.

"We want to support you the best we can," Commissioner Jerry Zinn told Blair.

More information about MRTA can be found on its newly-created Facebook page of the same name or at: www.moonvillerailtrail.com.

Our Mission

To Teach...
Those who want to know more.

To Educate...
Those who want to learn the history.

To Promote...
The hobby with enthusiasm.

And to share and enjoy the pleasure of all that is Railroading.

Like us on **Facebook**!

Find us on the web!
www.ironheadsofseo.org

Have stories, articles, or pictures?

Want to see them in a future edition of the Ironhead Gazette?

Send them to us!

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All Aboard!