

## Upcoming Events

**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

**May 10, 2011**

Club Meeting  
7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse  
5259 Washington Road in Albany,  
Ohio

**May 24, 2011**

Work Session  
7:00p.m.

At the Clubhouse  
5259 Washington Road in Albany,  
Ohio

## Upcoming Birthdays

April 17 – Tom Metters

April 29 – John Tysko

## Murphy's Laws for Model Railroading

- X-Acto Knives have a thirst for human blood.
- Everything will work flawlessly UNTIL there is an open house.
- The number of rail joiners you have on hand is always less than you need to finish.
- That missing tool is shorting the track, behind a building, in a tunnel, or some other obscure place.
- Two weeks after finishing that scratch built boxcar, Accurail will have come out with it for \$9.95.
- Within minutes of saying "No one will notice that", someone notices it.

From Trains.com Forum



A Publication of the Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.  
April 2011

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*Lost in Time, But Rediscovered on the Web. By Roger Crigger*

History has shown us that people, objects and ideas can be forgotten and lost. It was easier for this to happen in the past then now because they did not have all the advances in technology and travel that we do now. With The World Wide Web (common known as the web) you can find almost any information you want from the life of H. G. Wells to the tomb of Tutankhamun to your ideas of what real happen in Roswell, New Mexico in July 1947.

For railroading fans the Web has allowed you to find lots of information about all kinds of things such as the history of your favorite railroad to how to weather that new model engine you just brought on Ebay. For me personally the web has allowed me to find out all kinds of information including a lot of information that I didn't know about like what the Whyte notation is. That when I came up the idea to write articles to educate you on anything railroading which could included Television shows and movies, Toys, and anything else I can find on the Web related in some way to railroading that you may or may not know about. So let get started with this month's Lost in time, But Rediscovered on the Web topics.

### **The Real Unstoppable**

Unstoppable was a 2010 film directed by Tony Scott and starring Denzel Washington and Chris Pine. The film is about a runaway freight train, and the two men who attempt to stop it. The film was inspired by the CSX 8888 incident (also called the "Crazy Eights" unmanned train incident) in 2001. In the real story the train, led by CSX Transportation SD40-2 #8888, left the Stanley Yard in Walbridge, Ohio on May 15, 2001 and began a 66-mile journey south through northwest Ohio

with no one at the controls, after the engineer got out of the originally slow-moving train to correctly line a switch, mistakenly believing he had properly set the train's dynamic braking system. The train ran uncontrolled for two hours at speeds up to 51 miles per hour through the state of Ohio. It was finally brought to a stop with the help of a railroad crew in a second locomotive which caught up with the runaway and coupled to the rear car. Once the runaway was slowed down to a speed of 11 miles per hour, a CSX employee ran alongside the train and climbed aboard, shutting down the locomotive. The train was stopped just southeast of Kenton, Ohio. If you would like more information about this event go to [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org) and type in CSX 8888 incident. The film was released on DVD and Blu-ray on February 15, 2011.

### **Supertrain**

Supertrain is an American television series that aired on NBC from February 7 to May 5, 1979. Nine episodes were made, including a 2-hour pilot episode. It starred Edward Andrews, Patrick Collins, Harrison Page, Robert Alda, Nita Talbott, Arrika Wells, William Nuckols, and Michael DeLano.

The series took place on the Supertrain, a nuclear-powered bullet train that was equipped with amenities like a cruise ship. The Train was so big it had to run on very broad gauge single track. The train took 36 hours to go from New York City to Los Angeles. Much like The Love Boat, the plots concerned the passengers' social lives, usually with multiple intertwining storylines. Supertrain was the most expensive series ever aired in the United States at the time and nearly bankrupted the network.

## March Meeting Minutes Highlights by Roger Crigger

DATE: March 8, 2011

MEETING STARTED: 7:08PM

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

SECRETARY REPORT: Minutes from February 2011 meeting were approved.

1<sup>st</sup> Tom Metters

2<sup>nd</sup> Keith Morrow

Approved by Members

### BUSINESS:

1. At the meeting there were 10 members out of 18 members present, which would make a forum.
2. The motion 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 was voted on and approved by members.
3. Kirk DePeel picked up an engine

and cars for the raffle table at a train show in Columbus.

4. Again it was talked about moving Railfair to the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend so we can get more help. Also it was talked about if we should be in the mall or a storefront. No decision was made at the meeting and the subjects will more than likely be talked about again at another meeting.

5. The Deshler, Ohio trip is scheduled for March 18-20, 2011. If you would like to go or need more information call Kirk DePeel.

6. Sam Ellis's family still plans to donate the Ho Scale Layout back to the club, but Roger Crigger does not know when the club will get it

7. After some talk it was decided to make a motion to extend the lease of the clubhouse another year. 1<sup>st</sup> Keith Morrow 2<sup>nd</sup> Kenneth Shank. Approved by members.

8. Kirk DePeel reported that somebody has stolen the Club's Mailbox. Kirk is looking into it

and will report back to the club when he finds out more information.

9. Roger Crigger has the results of the evaluation form he handed out and will report the results in the newsletter.

MOTION TO ADJOURN: 1<sup>st</sup> Walter Parks 2<sup>nd</sup> Roger Crigger

TIME MEETING ENDED: 7:26p.m.

## Railfanning = Friends, Family, Trains, and Fun. By Tony Magill



From Left to Right: My Dad, Walter, and Me railfanning in Cassandra, PA in Sept. 2010. I am not sleeping.

I have been model railroading for about thirty years. In this time I have always been interested in rail fanning but, never felt I had the time. I have watched and even photographed trains along the road while on trips or just out around town. But, I mean really

heading out somewhere just to watch trains.

Recently as a member of this club I have been given the opportunity to take a few such trips. It is a great experience to take some time and just head out somewhere with people who have similar interests for a nice "relaxing" trip. I have learned that there are great rail fanning opportunities that can be enjoyed in just a weekend or less. It is just a matter of checking a map, or Google earth or whatever you're preferred method of acquiring information is then planning a free weekend. It makes for a fun trip at little cost in fact less than \$200. It is hard to take a vacation for that but; the occasional

trip is a very nice thing and makes for some good stories. Hopefully there will be many more trips and more members interested in going. It is fun, though you have to endure the typical ribbing that comes from people spending too much time together. And plan to eat the occasional mediocre meal and stay in "interesting" hotels but as Kirk always says "It isn't good but' it's cheap."

## ***Evaluation Form Results by Roger Crigger***

In February I sent out an Evaluation form to all members of the club to see what you think of how the club is doing and to see what direction this club should go in the near future. My goal of this evaluation was to get everybody's option. I want everybody to be happy and have fun in this club, but at the same time I want to see this club grow. I sent out 19 forms and gotten back 13, which equals a 68% return. If you did not return your form it you're lost. Below are the final results of that evaluation. What the club should do now is take the results and build a blueprint for the club for now and the future.

85% of the members are satisfied or very satisfied with the direction the club is going with 15% being neutral.

85% of the members do think they are getting their money's worth as a member of this club with 15% being neutral or unsatisfied.

62% of members do not think we would get better attendances at club meetings if it was on another day besides Tuesday with 31% not answering and 7% saying yes. If another day was picked for meeting, Thursday was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 12% and Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday was 3<sup>rd</sup> with 6% each. 18% said anytime is fine.

46% of members do not think we would get better attendances at work sessions if it was on another day besides Tuesday with 38% not answering and 15% saying yes. If another day was picked for work sessions, Saturday was 2<sup>nd</sup> with 15% and Thursday was 3<sup>rd</sup> with 8%. 23% said anytime is fine.

46% of members would like to see the club do more besides mainly model railroading. 54% of members would like to see more on the history and historical significance of railroading,

especially in southeast Ohio? (Things like during displays to educate people more, speeches, and etc.). 38% would not like the club do more besides model railroading with 15% not answering. 23% said no on seeing more on the history and historical significance of railroading with 23% not answering.

When asked which activities the club would like to see more of. Slide shows, show and tell, and Clinic Night or How to Night came in first with 62% and a movie night came in second with 38%. 31% said no to slide shows and show and tell with 8% not answering. 38% said no to movie night with 23% not answering and 15% said no to clinic night or how to night with 23% not answering.

84% of members think we should have raised dues with 77% feeling their vote counts. 8% thinks we should have not raised dues with 8% not answering. 23% did not answer on their vote counts question.

77% of members think the club can do you to promote the club with 15% saying no and 8% not answering. 54% of members think we can do more to promote the hobby with 23% saying no and 15% not answering.

When asked if the club should do a new layout. 39% answered yes with 46% saying no and 15% not answering. If the club should start a new layout, N-Scale was picked 1<sup>st</sup> with 62.5% and HO-Scale 2<sup>nd</sup> with 37.5%. When asked if the club should expand the current HO-Scale layout. It was even at 38% with 24% not answering.

When asked if you think member's layouts should be displayed at the clubhouse to make it look better and fill empty spots. 69% said yes with 8% saying no and 23% not answering. 39% of members have layouts they would like to display at the club with 15% answering no and 46% not

answering. 70% of members think the layouts should be rotated with 15% answering no and 15% not answering. When asked how often layouts should be rotated. 42% said three to six months or whenever someone else wants to bring in a layout, with 8% saying six months to a year or under three months.

When asked about the clubs presences on the web. 92% think we should have a website with 8% saying no. 54% thinking we should have a Facebook or Myspace page with 15% answering no and 31% not answering.

77% of members think the club should do a raffle table for Railfair with 8% saying no and 15% not answering.

Other comments that were added included the following.

Layouts are too messy when not being worked on and this makes it look bad for people coming in off the street.

I believe that as the club can afford it, a new layout, maybe an around the room in N-scale should be built. U-shape, about the same width as the HO and about half the length.

Tall hills and surround the visitor so to make them part of the layout. It should be portable and take it to Rail Fair to show different ideas to inspire others. Maybe a shelf layout or a bookcase layout to show what can be done in a small space in their home.

The raffle table is good for the kids and should be continued. But maybe also do, as a club something different to change things so the trains don't just go round and round.