



MAINE 3 RAILERS

M3R CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR MARCH 2016

M3R MEETING NEXT WEEK THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 7PM at our usual location, the Richmond Firehouse. The address is 7 School St., Richmond, Zip 04357. Take a left or right (depending on which direction you are traveling on Main St.) on to School St. and you'll find the Firehouse just a very short distance off Main Street.

LOOKING FORWARD –

THE MAIN EVENT DURING MARCH - Our main event for March is our own annual M3R model train show March 26, at the Elks' Lodge in Augusta. The details are:

Friday, March 25, set-up 3:00-5:30PM

Saturday, March 26, 8:00AM-5:30PM (show hours 10AM-3PM)

Here are the directions to the Elks' Lodge:

Coming south on I-95, take Exit 112 to ME Rtes 11 and 27 West, turn right at end of off-ramp, proceed past the entrance to the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery on the right, slow down as you pass through the first traffic light intersection and the entrance to the Elks' Lodge is immediately on the right, with the Lodge set back off the highway up the hill. Parking is at the left rear of the Lodge.

Coming north on I-95, take Exit 112B to ME Rtes 11 and 27 West, turn right at end of off-ramp, proceed west under I-95, past the entrance to the Maine Veterans' Memorial Cemetery on the right, slow down as you pass through the first traffic light intersection and the entrance to the Elks' Lodge is immediately on the right, with the Lodge set back off the highway up the hill. Parking is at the left rear of the Lodge.

The Elks Lodge entrance road looks like this:



But, it does not stop there. We all, ALL OF US, need to promote the event in our communities. We have perennially tried to attract Lionel and MTH management to come to our show. Several years ago, Lionel attended the show. This year, Lionel has promised to come again. The success of Lionel's visit cuts four ways: (1) without a doubt it helps M3R feature a major show attraction that will significantly boost attendance at our show; (2) Lionel gets great exposure to showcase its latest gee-whiz products to an interested set of potential customers as well as die-hard hobbyists loyal to the company; (3) visitors to our show will have the excitement of face-to-face, close-up conversations with Lionel top management to learn about the Lionel product line, and to have their questions answered, views expressed and wants identified; and (4) our beloved hobby may have new life breathed into it with more generations getting excited about today's incredible model trains and all the things they can do now.

To support our annual show, please make copies of the poster attached with this newsletter and post them in key places in your community. We need to get the attendance numbers up or our credibility with Lionel will be in jeopardy. LET'S DO IT!!

DUES, DUES, DUES! If you have not already paid your dues for 2016, you have until the end of the month to get them in or your name will be moved to the inactive list and you will no longer receive communications from the club. Here's how:

The dues for 2016 are -

Single membership \$15.00

Family membership \$20.00

Youth membership \$ 5.00

Bring a check made out to the "Maine 3-Railers" to the March meeting, or send it to our Treasurer at -

Rick Hills, Treasurer

8 Winding Hollow Road

Amherst, NH 03031

CENTRAL MAINE POWER, DEPRESSED CENTER FLAT CLUB CARS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR \$35.00 EACH - We sold some sixteen cars at last month's meeting. We would like to do the same at next week's meeting. It would be helpful to let Peter Hanson know if you want him to bring a car for you to the meeting. You can reach Peter at pvhan@roadrunner.com.

THE SCHEDULE FOR APRIL - We are committed on April 30 to another appearance at the Great Falls Model Railroad Club Spring show at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham. There will be another reminder next month. No other events have been nailed down for April, but we have feelers out for the Togus Veterans' Nursing Home, the Augusta Veterans' Home and the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital. Sam Carr just received confirmation that we have a date for the Boothbay Harbor Memorial Library on July 13 and 14. Stay tuned for further developments.

LOOKING BACK –

Patten Free Library, February 16-17, Bath – Heavy snow and freezing rain killed our normal participation at the library in Bath because the trailer had to stay put. Nonetheless, three club members showed the club flag and put on a very limited display on both days. Sam Carr was not aware the event was cancelled and he showed up ready to go. Sam went back home to get some equipment. Sam called upon Doug Pollock to help and the two of them laid down track, transformers, trains and borrowed buildings to have something to show the kids who braved the weather. Here are three photos of the results of our stalwart members who were cheered on by Dana Sullivan.



Topsham Public Library, February 18, Topsham - This was a brand new venue for us in several ways. The roomy facilities had great access and the library staff hosted us with a lot of support and a great welcome. The library

and M3R were rewarded with strong attendance from students and families on break. We look forward to returning to Topsham. It is an ideal location. Here are three photos of the display at Topsham.



Whitefield Lions Doll and Model Train Show, Feb. 20, Augusta Armory- The show was very well attended and we had our usual premier location up on the stage. The Burns did their usual logging and trolley show of enchantment drawing large crowds to one end of the stage. Our club's very large layout ran well and looked great and held a steady flow of curious visitors all day long. Here are three photos of the event (apologize for the underexposure) –



Visit our website and our Facebook page for all the latest breaking news. www.maine3railers.org & <https://www.facebook.com/maine3railers>

Here's hoping we will see you in Richmond next week, Thursday.

Ken Thorson
M3R Secretary
kenthorson@comcast.net