



MAINE 3 RAILERS

M3R CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR DECEMBER 2016

NO M3R MEETING THIS WEEK THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8 – Next regular M3R meeting will be Thursday, JANUARY 12, 7:00PM at our usual location, the Richmond Firehouse. The address is 7 School St., Richmond, Zip 04357. The Firehouse just a very short distance south off Main Street on School St., and you'll find School St. almost directly opposite the intersection of Main Street and Alexander Reed Road.

EVENT ALERT – CANDY CANE TRAIN NEXT WEEKEND, FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 10 & 11 – Good news for Tri-County Literacy, the host of the Candy Cane event: the train is sold out; all seats taken. As Jeff Jacobs predicted, with fewer trips now that the Maine Eastern Railroad has abandoned its service to Maine and the Candy Cane Train, the new arrangements with the AMTRAK Downeaster and the Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority will run only two trips per day, Saturday and Sunday, versus the four trips per day previously scheduled. Additional complications arise from the new arrangements with the need to decorate and undecorate the passenger cars between trips so that the Downeaster may continue to provide its new, now normal three roundtrips daily between Brunswick and Boston. In addition to those of us who are manning the train as guest conductors and crowd hosts, others will be manning the layout in the Brunswick train station for all to enjoy. Another popular attraction of the event is the raffle of the Lionel LionChief Polar Express train set in memory of our late Vice President, Gene Blanc. This is a special tribute to Gene who was a faithful and enthusiastic supporter of the Candy Cane Train for many years. This is a fun holiday weekend for all who participate and it is for a great cause. Here is the time schedule for Candy Cane Train activity this Friday, Saturday and Sunday, December 9-11:

11:30 am Fri 12/9 M3R Setup

6:30am Sat 12/10 Visitor Center Opens for 7:25am Amtrak

8:30am Sat 12/10 Candy Cane AM Train Departs

3:30pm Sat 12/10 Candy Cane PM Train Departs

6:30am Sun 12/11 Visitor Center Opens

8:30am Sun 12/11 Candy Cane AM Train Departs

3:30pm Sun 12/11 Candy Cane PM Train Departs/M3R Breakdown Begins

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE OFFICERS ELECTED FOR THE NEXT TWO YEARS – Last month, the members present at the November 10 meeting elected the slate recommended by the Nominating Committee. The officers-elect serving two-year terms during 2017-2018 are:

President	Dana Sullivan
Vice-President	Richard Ridolfo
Treasurer	Rick Hills
Secretary	Ken Thorson
Member at Large	Doug Pollock
Member at Large	Moe Guevin

Past President ex officio Peter Hanson

Only Richard Ridolfo is new to the Executive Board. All others elected were incumbents.

REMINDER THAT DUES FOR NEXT YEAR WILL BE DUE AND PAYABLE BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017 - That is not to say that dues cannot be paid earlier than January 1. You may submit your check to our Treasurer at the following address:

Rick Hills
8 Winding Hollow Road
Amherst, NH 03031

In case you were not at the November meeting, the members present agreed to increase the schedule of dues, as follows, so make your check out to Maine 3-Railers in the correct amount:

Individual - \$20 (increase of \$5)
Couple - \$25 (increase of \$5)
Youth (under 18 years of age) - \$5 (Note this membership is unchanged from prior years)

MUCH SUCCESS WITH THREE EVENTS SINCE NOVEMBER'S NEWSLETTER – The Plant Memorial Home, the Maine State Museum Model Railroad Holiday Celebration, and the Victorian Home Christmas were all highly successful event. We will plan for one or more special editions of the newsletter to bring you some photos of the Maine State Museum and the Candy Cane Train. Until then, you can check out media coverage at the following two links, the first, WABI-TV coverage, the second, *Kennebec Journal* newspaper story:

<http://wabi.tv/2016/12/02/maine-state-museum-hosts-model-railroad-celebration/>
<http://www.centralmaine.com/2016/12/02/annual-holiday-train-show-draws-crowd-at-maine-state-museum/>

MTH WiFi FANS - RECENT NEWS OF THE LATEST PLANS FOR RELEASE OF MORE COMPREHENSIVE SOFTWARE PROVIDING MORE FUNCTIONALITY – The OGR Forum recently carried the following information from the York meeting of the MTH DCS Users Group about MTH's plans to release the long-promised software upgrade that will provide enhanced functions with more control of your trains:

Barry Broskowitz was quoted as saying MTH is about to take another huge step forward with the highly anticipated release of the Premium DCS WiFi App in December. It is expected that a new DCS version update, and possibly a new DCS Loader Program and a new WIU firmware release, will coincide with the release of the Premium version of the app.

Barry noted that the 3rd edition of the DCS Companion will be the last edition of the book. However, The DCS WiFi Companion, a new book, is being written and is planned to be released about the same time as the release of the Premium app.

With the release of the Lionel Legacy protocols, many Lionel Legacy operating features are expected to be accessible using the Premium version of the MTH DCS WiFi App.

Andy Edelman from MTH was also present at the York DCS Users Forum and he was quoted as saying that the Premium version of the DCS App will be available this fall. He noted that Fall officially persisted until December 21st. The Premium version of the DCS App would be available for both IOS or Android smartphones and tablets.

You will be able to import and export data to and from the DCS remote to the Premium app.

Under the Engine screen, a new window will allow additional app features, including building lashups of DCS, TMCC and Legacy engines.

PAY ATTENTION TO THE SCHEDULE OF FUTURE EVENTS! YOUR PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT IS ENCOURAGED.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event.</u>
Dec 10-11	Candy Cane Train, Brunswick Station, 16 Station Ave., Brunswick, ME 04011. Setup Friday and show Sat/Sun.
Jan 1	To be determined whether we will have our traditional New Year's Day open houses and dinner that day. With the passing of our Vice President Gene Blanc who hosted an open house in years past and with Jeff Jacobs being away on his national tour, we have lost two of our venues. Stay tuned for a later announcement closer to the day.

Visit our website and our Facebook page for all the latest breaking news. www.maine3railleurs.org & <https://www.facebook.com/maine3railleurs>

Here's hoping we will see you at the Candy Cane Train this weekend and in Richmond next month for our January meeting.

Ken Thorson
M3R Secretary
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