MAINE 3 RAILERS

OUR CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR
APRIL 2015

Hello all,

Our next meeting is set for Thursday, April 9th at 7PM. We'll be meeting at the Richmond Fire Station in Richmond. The address is 7 School St. Richmond. Not far from the Sullivan's home and easy to find. Take a left or right (depending on which direction you are traveling on Main St.) on to School St. and you'll find it. If you become lost, call my cell, showing at the end of this edition.

Our annual show was well attended. All but a couple of the tables were sold, and the turnout was double what it was in 2014. A couple of pic's are showing later in this edition, as usual, more are showing on Facebook and our website. There were a couple of unexpected surprises at the show. The first was that a fellow named Travor Robinson was at the show with his wife and daughter. What is special about his stopping by is that his father, Steve was a founding member of the Club. Travor and Dana had a nice conversation. Perhaps Travor will follow in his dad's footsteps. And second, you may remember reading that Vern Cassidy took a fall and busted himself up pretty good. Well Vern was also at the show. Nice to see Vern up and about.

We have the tally for the membership for 2015. We stand at ninety-nine members. You may remember that our total for 2014 was 125 members by year-end. I'm sure that as the year progresses, we'll recover members that forgot to renew their membership and be up to our normal member tally. Rick Hills and Ken Thorson have been bird-dogging this activity of keeping the database up to date.

A few upcoming events worth highlighting…

- ***Thanks to the unrelenting efforts of Sam Carr, we are making our first ever visit to the Togus VA Hospital in Augusta*** to run trains and mingle with the Vets that are residents there. For those not familiar, Togus has a storied history, and if I understand it correctly, was the first VA Hospital in the US. It's a huge complex, so be sure to be at the meeting on the 9th, for the latest information, and as importantly, the directions. Of course, those who aren't able to make the meeting can simply get hold of Sam or me to have the info sent along via email. Sam's email address is secarr3@myfairpoint.net, and mine is showing at the end of this edition. We're hoping for a good turnout to spend some quality time with men and women that served us.

- ***The annual Great Falls Model Railroad Club Show is set for the Saturday, April 25th, at the Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham.*** We'll have a large layout there and will be looking for volunteers to help set up and tear down. This is always a good show, many treasures on the various tables. Be sure to alert your friends, too.

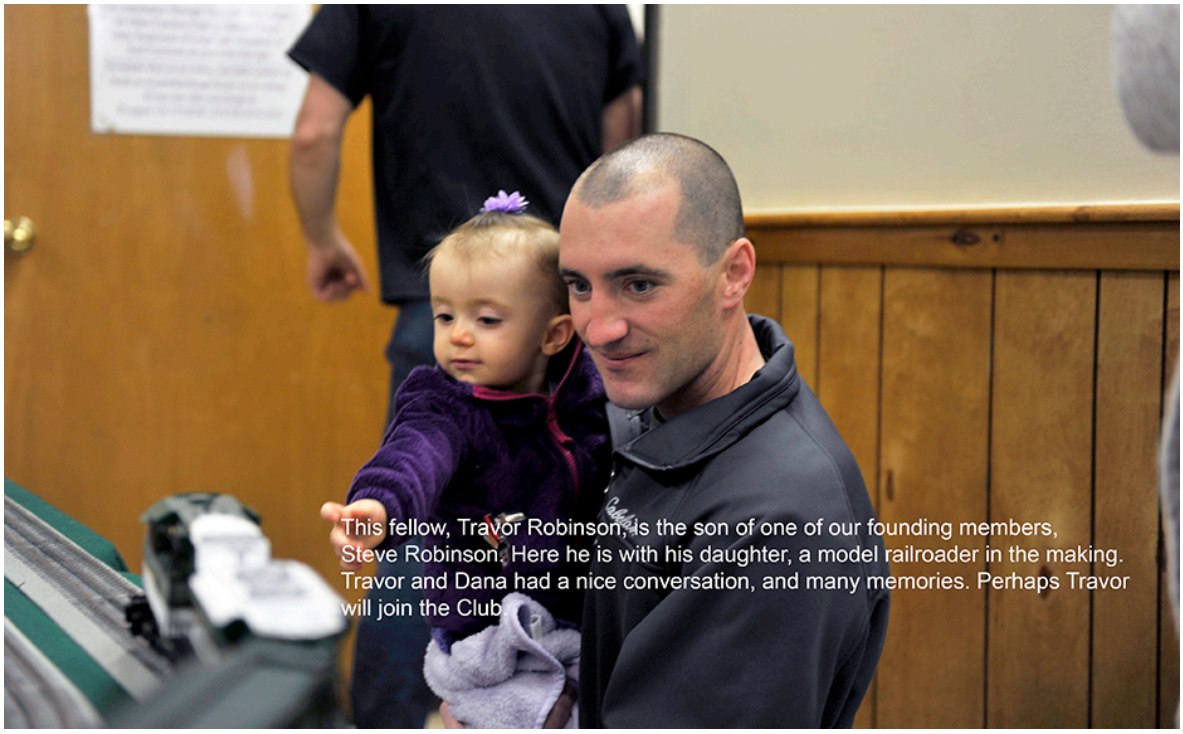
- ***National Train Day, usually the second Saturday in May,*** has morphed into *Amtrak Train Days* - www.amtraktraindays.com and there is apparently some confusion about celebrating this in Maine this year, nothing is posted as yet. Good meeting topic for anyone with more info…

- ***We've been asked by Lionel to provide a layout at the upcoming annual LCCA convention this year.*** It's close to home, right down in Danvers, MA. The details of this opportunity have yet to be worked out, but this one could be a real feather in our cap. I'm sure this will be discussed on Thursday evening.

There are many other activities on the schedule and in the planning stages so check out the "Upcoming Event's" section of our website to have the latest information.

We have sold out of our 2014 Club cars, please feel free to chime in on your ideas for a 2015 car at the meeting…

Here are a couple of pic's from our show, several more on facebook and our website –



Here are Lloyd Neal and Peter hanson having a chat.

Here's a shot of Vern Cassidy and Richard Ridolfo. Nice to see Vern back up on his feet and out and about. Take more that a couple of broken legs to keep Vern away from a train show.

We had good press coverage about the show, here is a link to the *Kennebec Journal's* article.

http://www.centralmaine.com/2015/03/28/augusta-train-show-showcases-hobby-for-kids-of-all-ages/

Thanks to our friend Joe Phelan, a photographer at the KJ, and his colleague Michael Shephard, a reporter for the paper.

Last but not least, Jeff & Cathy Jacobs have returned to Maine from their *"Where in the world is Winnebago"* bucket list winter road trip.

That's all for this edition, as always, your feedback, rants, and suggestions are always welcome. And remember to visit our website and our facebook page for all the latest breaking news. *Make it a habit… Whatever we are up to is posted on these two places first. Check 'em out…*www.maine3railers.org & https://www.facebook.com/maine3railers

Regards, Tom

thartwell@gmail.com
207.749.8246 cell