



# MAINE 3 RAILERS

## M3R CLUB NEWSLETTER FOR MAY 2025

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, May 08, 2025, at 7:00PM on Zoom.** Watch for the email from Dana Lindsey with the link to join.

## CLUB HEADLINE NEWS

- **Two long term highly engaged members passed in April**
- **Orders for 2025 Moxie Club Car exceed minimum to order**
- **Four Mobile Outreach model train layouts provided in April with three more scheduled in May**
- **Three Club Activities/Training events (one per month) scheduled from May through July**



### **President's Message** by Bernie Pender

As your President, it fills me with genuine pleasure to connect with you all. The rhythmic clickety-clack of wheels on rails, the powerful hum of locomotives, the intricate details of our miniature worlds – these are the sounds and sights that bind us together.

Our shared passion for O gauge trains isn't just a hobby; it's a journey into history, engineering, artistry, and imagination. Each carefully laid piece of track, each meticulously crafted building, each lovingly detailed locomotive tells a story. And together, we build those stories, piece by piece, in the company of friends who understand the unique magic of this hobby.

I've been so impressed by the creativity and dedication I've witnessed within our club. From sprawling layouts that transport us to different eras and landscapes, to the skillful craftsmanship in weathering and detailing, your enthusiasm is truly inspiring. Our meetings are always a highlight, a chance to share our latest projects, exchange ideas, and simply revel in the joy of model railroading.

Looking ahead, I'm excited about the opportunities we have available to further our shared passion. Whether it's our next outreach session, organizing a workshop to hone our skills, or perhaps even showcasing our layouts to the wider community, there's so much we can achieve together.

Let's continue to foster a welcoming and supportive environment where we can all learn and grow in our hobby. Share your knowledge, offer a helping hand, and most importantly, keep that spark of enthusiasm burning bright. Get involved!

Thank you for being a part of what makes our club so special. Your passion and dedication are the driving force behind our success.

All aboard for more great times ahead! *Bernie*



## From the Editor **by Art Shean**

While assembling the May Newsletter, I paused to reflect on last month. For our Club it should have been full of fun with numerous opportunities to set up and run model trains and with great expectations as to the multiple Club opportunities to meet and greet fellow members that lay ahead of us in May, June, and July thanks to our reinvigorated Activities/Training Committee. However, the passing of Fred Guth and Dave Kenyon placed a damper on a great month.

Both were long time Club members and in their own ways exhibited a deep and long-term commitment to model railroading as a hobby and lifelong pursuit.

Fred maintained elaborate layouts in his home - rebuilding each time he moved. He would often invite members and model railroad enthusiasts to visit his layouts well before our club offered organized open houses. Back in the early days, Fred was a regular crew member when we set up model train layouts for the public at fairs, libraries, veterans' homes, and senior living facilities. Doug Pollock remembers Fred working in bitter cold under the bleaches at the Cumberland County Fair. As recently as February, Fred and his wife stopped by our outreach layouts at the Bath and Topsham libraries to visit, chat, and check out our handywork. Dedicated to our Club and hobby to the end!



*Photo provided by Jeff Jacobs*

Dave expressed his interest in model trains in a different manner – he was a true craftsman. He had the skill and imagination to turn any model engine, rolling stock, or accessory into a Maine railroad livery product. Multiple members recall owning hundreds of individual pieces that Dave magically transformed into works of art. In fact, I own a MTH Jordan Spreader that he converted to Maine Central.



Talking with numerous Club members, they regarded Dave not just as a source of great models but as a true friend. Many recalled long conversations and many interests outside model railroading.

We will miss Fred and Dave! Unfortunately, based on our demographics they will not be the last of our members and friends to leave us. Our Club faces a slow guard change. We need to continue recruiting new and younger members as well as prepare our current members to assume the roles older members fill. We should have at least two members that know the fundamentals of every key function and skill our Club needs to support our activities.

**May it be said that Fred and Dave lived lives well spent!**

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## M3R Activities/Training Committee by Chair Rick Hills

Members: Mark David, Dave Hodgkiss, Brian Inch, and Jeff Jacobs

The M3R activity and training committee is now sponsoring three major events. Please update your calendars:

- May 10 9-2pm: Mark David Layout Tour & Seminar  
Location: 576 Western Road, Warren, Maine 04864  
Seminar Topic: Train Maintenance Tips (Jeff and Rick in Mark's shop, simultaneous with layout tour)
- June 18 10-3pm: Model Railroading Seminar  
**Location:** Curtis Memorial Library  
Morrell Conference Room  
23 Pleasant Street  
Brunswick, Me 04011  
**Seminars:**
  - Decorating People for your layout with Jan Williams 10:00 - 11:30am
  - Lunch (please bring your own) 11:30-12:00 noon
  - Budd RDC Car History and Models with Rick Hills and Gene Thayer 12:00-12:45pm
  - 3d printing with Mark Lasher 1:00pm-2:30pm
  - Wrap up - Bernie Pender
- July 16 Family Outing at Bradbury State Park  
**Location:** Pownal Maine 10-3:00pm  
**Activities:** Potluck, Cookout, and Events TBD

If you would like to open your home for a layout tour or suggest an activity or training program for the club, please contact any of the Activity/Training Committee members.

Please also note, members of our committee will be reaching out by phone to over 80 club members in April to ask for their input on future activities and training!

Hope to see you all at Mark David's!



## M3R YouTube Channel Update by Channel Master Carlton Spring

As predicted, April was a very busy month for M3R's Mobile Outreach Team with 4 events! On April 12th, we participated in the Southern Maine Model Railroad Club's Spring Show in Westbrook. April 22nd found us at the Thomas Memorial Library in Cape Elizabeth. The April 25th and 26th, back to back events in Topsham. First on the 25th we again participated in the Big Trucks - Big Trains Day at the Topsham Public Library and then headed over to Mt. Ararat High School to set up for the following day's Great Falls Spring Train Show. If you haven't viewed the video of any of these events, the direct links are listed below for your convenience.

Reminder: Some of our videos have had an advertisement placed at the beginning. You can usually click "skip" while the ad is playing to remove it and have the M3R video begin playing. M3R has no control over this.

Link to SMMRC Spring Show:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P\\_ryA5sHVII](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P_ryA5sHVII)

Link to Thomas Memorial Library:

<https://youtu.be/vUjDDKRQANI?si=djFD1WdeWzGdOXK->

Link to Big Trucks-Big Trains:

<https://youtu.be/-3qtE69tV2s?si=V8kZxGgwUnJDtMJ>

Link to Great Falls Spring Train Show:

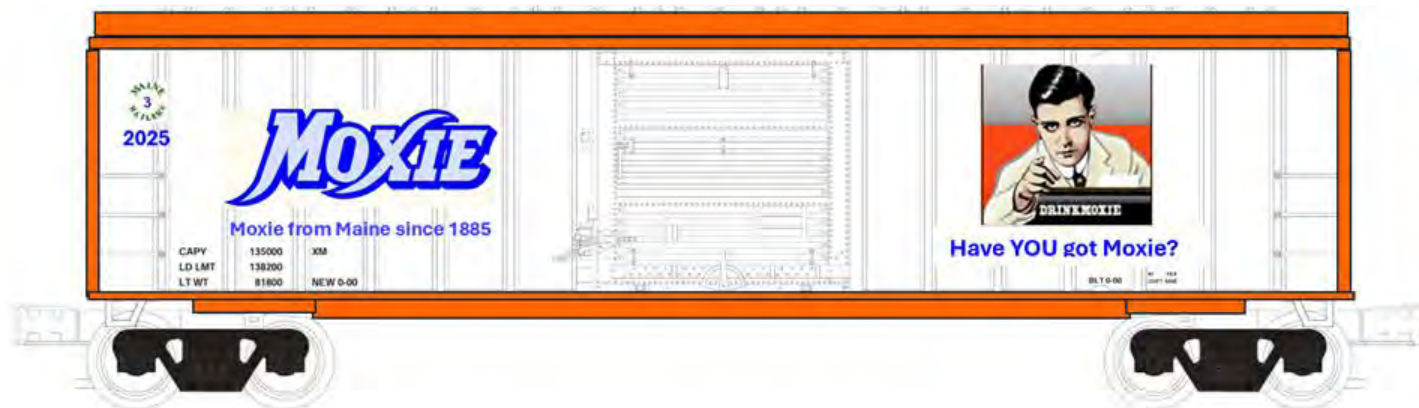
<https://youtu.be/2sLTON7rcBc?si=bniXI3OpRrZP70LZ>



## Club Car News by Chair Richard Ridolfo

We have reached enough orders to produce the Moxie Car. The order closing date is May12th. Up to this date the member price remains at \$56.00, after this date the remaining cars will be \$70.00. The car is being produced in 2 Road Numbers.

If you have not ordered a car yet it is important that you get your order and payment to Rick Hills PO Box 31, Amherst, NY 03031.



NOTE: Minor adjustments may be made prior to production.

	Description	Quantity	Price Each	Total
1889	Moxie 50 ft Plug Door Boxcar		\$56.00	\$
1890	Moxie 50 ft Plug Door Boxcar		\$56.00	
Shipping & Handling	Add: \$12.00 plus \$2.00 for each additional car and \$3.00 extra if outside of New England.		Add: S&H	\$
			Total Enclosed	\$

Checks will not be cashed until all approvals are met and the order is placed

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

eMail: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Orders with payment to  
Maine 3 Railers, PO Box 31  
Amherst, NH 03031





2025 Model Train and Dollhouse Show Committee by Co-Chairs Jeff Jacobs & Gene Thayer

The 2026 M3R Train Show will again be at the Armory on Western Ave in Augusta on Valentines Day. Set up will begin on the day before.

Many volunteers from 2025 will be returning to their posts– thank you.

The big push for 2026 focuses on getting about 100 more show attendees. The committee will be exploring how to inform potential patrons about the show in hopes of generating more visitors. Thanks to several members who have come forward with suggestions in that regard.

The show committee headed by Gene Thayer & me will meet again in late Summer/early Fall to be sure the tasks are assigned and progressing.

Club members are asked to mark their calendars early and save the Feb 13 & 14<sup>th</sup> dates to help or to at least attend and be a part of the club's premier show.

Some slight changes for 2026 will be the wording of the table rental agreements to be sure renters understand what is expected. Also, the popular White Elephant table procedure will be fine-tuned to be certain that we use the limited space to best advantage.

The 2025 caterers are already lined up for 2026.



## **The Maine 3 Railers have Club Cars, Clothing, and Collectables Available for Purchase** by Dave Hodgkiss

**Club Cars:** Here is a summary of the cars which the Maine 3 Railers club currently have for sale. See our Club web page for special pricing offers:

First, is the summer car from our “Seasons in Maine” series. The attractive light blue cylindrical hopper shows activity in Portland Harbor as well as the blue & gold BAR RR herald. The car is an MTH Railking model and is available in two road numbers.



Second, we have the 2023 offering which is an MTH Premier product. This car is a high quality flat with M3R printed on it and a Hannaford trailer riding atop it. There are 2 road numbers available. This car is a very versatile item which could also transport vehicles, bulky objects or boats (as in lobster). The quality and usefulness of this club car makes it worth purchasing.



Last, we come to the 2018 CIANBRO cars. These also are available in multiple road numbers and two colors. Again, they are quality Premier cars from MTH and have lots of practical alternative applications. I had one repainted in green and loaded it with Christmas packages for the 2024 LL Bean display. It brought many compliments. Further each car contains a bridge girder which is easily removed via 4 screws. You will find the metal girders to be substantial and a pair of them would make a quality bridge on your layout. On some cars the girder is labeled “Maine Central” while on the others we find “Bangor & Aroostook”. Pick up a couple of matching cars and get creative with a rugged bridge and two useful gondolas which can carry any load.





### In the Clothing Department:

Here are the current M3R clothing items for sale along with the newest pricing for them:

Polo shirts -short sleeve - \$25 to size XL, \$30 for larger (dark blue)

Denim shirts- Long Sleeve Blue- \$35 to size L, \$38 for XL, size

XXL and XXXL \$43, Hats, with or without '25 years' - \$15



### Collectables:

We also have the wonderful Peter Hsu created sketches of the MEC 470 steam locomotive.

These are unframed and are only \$20. Each print is numbered and M3R had the exclusive sales rights to them. If you are new to M3R, you may not have one of these collectables.

## EVENT REPORTS:

**Editor's Note:** With so many events in April, I simplified our reporting format. Let me know what you think about the change.

## MODEL TRAINS IN THE APRIL SNOW



### 2025 Southern Maine Model Railroad Club Train Show

Location: Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge Street, Westbrook, ME 04092

Set Up: Friday, April 11, 2025, 4:30-8pm

Ran Trains: Saturday April 12, 2025, 9am-2pm

Crew: John Ash, Sam Carr, Jeff Jacobs, Doug Pollock, Art Shean, and Carlton Spring

Layout:

- **Dimensions:** 9.5' x 14.5', 126+ square feet
- **Tables:** 7- 2.5'x6', 1- 2'x4', 2- 24"x30" ICF, 1-12"x24" ICF, & 1- 2'x4' Control Table
- **Track:** Three Independent Track Loops & Two Elevated Trolley Lines on 115.5 feet of Lionel FasTrack
- **Bridges:** 1- 36"x9" Girder, 1- 40"x3.5" Raised Truss, 2- Elevated Trolley Platforms, 2- 24"x48" Raised Platforms, and 3- Lionel 6-12038 Elevated Trestle Sets
- **Roads:** 28 feet of 6" Wide Asphalt
- **Buildings:** Atlas -2, Carole Towne -1, Korber -1, Lemax -14, Lionel -4, MTH -1, Menards -21, & Woodland Scenics -10





M3R Layout Detail Photos:









Key Features: Steaming Atlas rocket fueling on launch pad, Carnival on elevated platform, MTH Animated Fire Station, and Steaming caboose coffee shop



Venue: 2025 SMMRC Spring Train Show, Westbrook Community Center, Westbrook, Maine





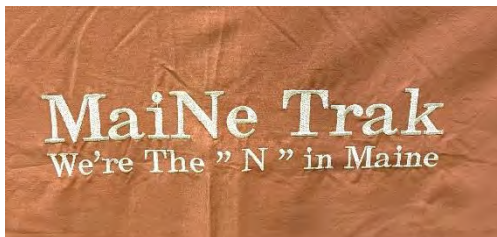


Other Club and Organization Participants:

The SMMRC Clubhouse is in the front of the Westbrook Community Center. Each time we visit they add additional detail and interest to their display. A long-term standby, however, is the last Howard Johnson's Restaurant in Maine. Examples of their attention to detail are the mountain climbers, exquisite train station, foliage, and realistic buildings.







The Four Corners of the MaiNe Trak Layout:







And some MaiNe Trak detail:



Other Organizations:







Participating M3R Members:







Public:







#### Note of Interest:

Often forgotten but of great service to our model railroad community is Sam Carr's information table. At each train show we attend, he provides a table of handouts listing New England train shows, model train clubs, train shops/vendors, and upcoming train show flyers. Obtaining this information never the less making it available is special. Sam is definitely an "Unsung Hero of the New England Model Train Scene".



Photography by Art Shean & Carlton Spring



New York Central # 39, 4-4-0 American Type locomotive, built in 1876 at the Boston and Albany Shops. The "Marmora" is the last survivor of the "Eddy Clocks" designed by Wilson Eddy.





# MODEL TRAINS ON THE CAPE

2025 Thomas Memorial Library



Location: 6 Dyer Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107

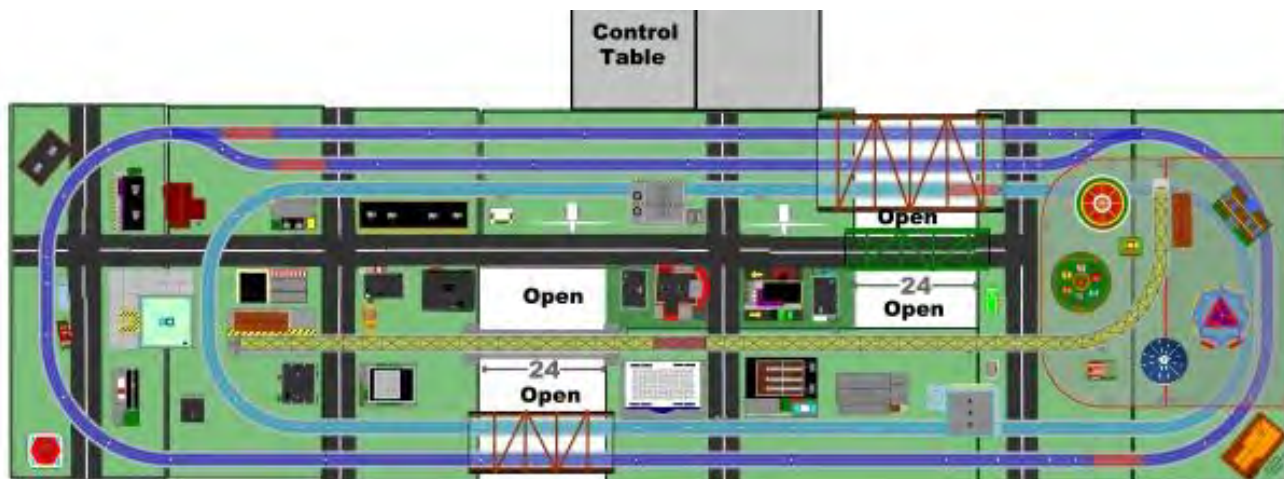
Set Up: Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 8-10am

Ran Trains: Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 10am-3pm

Crew: John Ash, Sam Carr, Art Shean, and Carlton Spring

Layout:

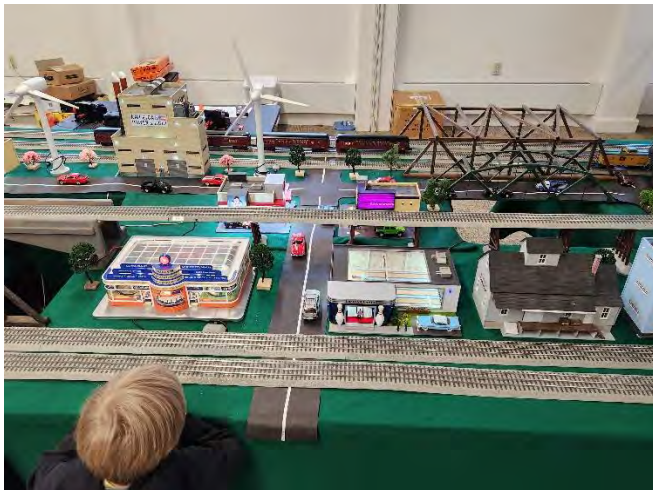
- **Dimensions:** 6' x 20.5', 123 square feet
- **Tables:** 7- 2.5'x6', 1-12"x48 GF, & 1- 2'x4' Control Table
- **Track:** Two Independent Track Loops, One Through Siding, & One Elevated Trolley Line on 117+ feet of Lionel FasTrack
- **Bridges:** 1- 36"x17" Truss, 1- 30"x4" Raised Arch, 1-28"x10" Truss, 1- Medal 28"x6" Truss, 1- Elevated Trolley Platform, 2- 24"x48" Raised Platforms, and 3- Lionel 6-12038 Elevated Trestle Sets
- **Roads:** 40.5 feet of 6" Wide Asphalt
- **Buildings:** Atlas -2, Carole Towne -1, Custom -1, Korber -1, Lemax -13, Lionel -3, MTH -1, Menards -12, & Woodland Scenics -7







M3R Layout Detail Photos:





Key Features: Carnival on elevated platform, MTH Animated Fire Station, Lionel Animated Hobby Shop, and Steaming Caboose Coffee Shop



Venue: 2025 Thomas Memorial Library Train Day, Cape Elizabeth, Maine







*Thomas Memorial Library Community Room*



Visiting M3R Member:



*Ronan Davis-Knowlton*

Public:

Healthy Crowd All Day









And Lots of Kids! They especially liked the animated hobby shop and firehouse. But the all time winner was running the trains by remote control.





Note of Interest:

While most of the kids played with the trains in the Community Room, some wanted more hands-on play. For them the library offered playtime with their Thomas wooden toy sets.



Photography by Art Shean & Carlton Spring



# BIG TRUCKS, BIG TRAINS, & BIG CROWD



## 2025 Topsham Big Truck Day

Location: 25 Foreside Road, Topsham, ME 04086

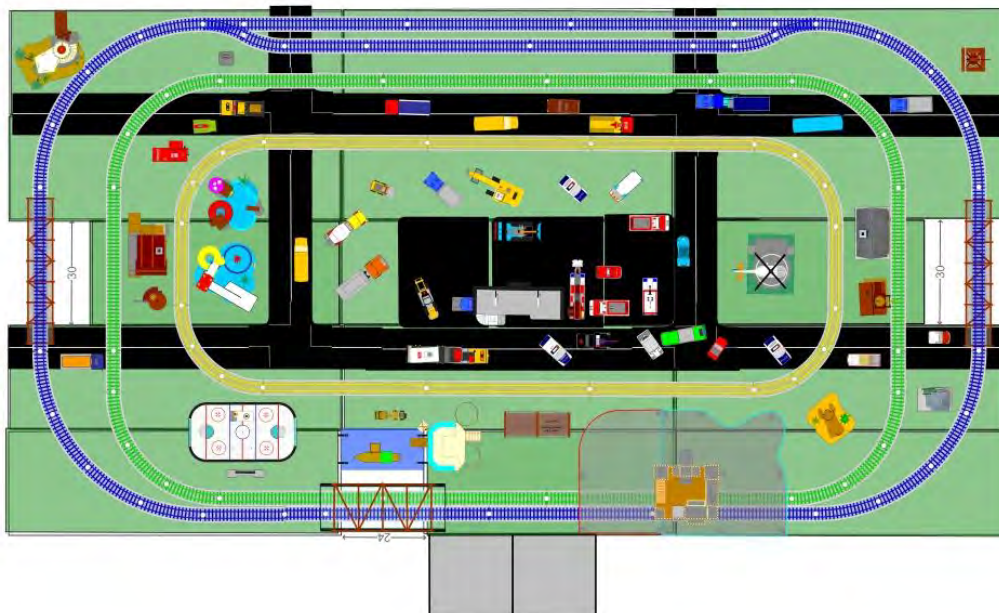
Set Up: Thursday, April 24, 2025, 4:00pm

Ran Trains: Friday, April 25, 2025, 10am-2pm

Crew: John Ash, Lou Bragaw, Paul Brown, Sam Carr, Doug Pollock, Art Shean, Kenzie Shean (Art's Granddaughter), Carlton Spring, and Ken Thorson

Layout:

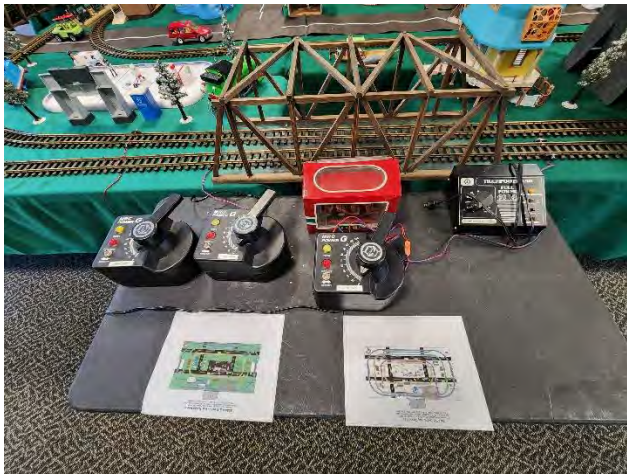
- **Dimensions:** 12.5' x 24', 300 square feet
- **Tables:** 12- 2.5'x8', 3- 2.5'x6', 1- 24"x12" River Fill, & 1- 2'x4' Control Table
- **Track:** Three Independent Track Loops on 170+ feet of LGB Brass Track
- **Bridges:** 2- Single Track 42" Wood Truss Bridge, 1- Double Track 36" Wood Truss Bridge, 1- 36"x36" Raised Platform, and 1- 24"x36" Raised Platform
- **Roads:** 63 feet of 12" Wide Asphalt
- **Buildings:** AristoCraft -1, LGB/Pola -2, Melissa & Doug -1, Playmobil -12, Pola -3
- **Vehicles:** Playmobil -38







M3R Layout Detail Photos:



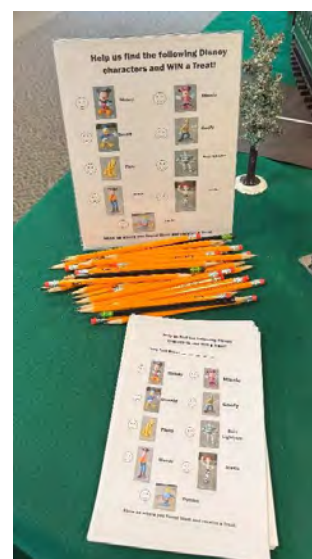
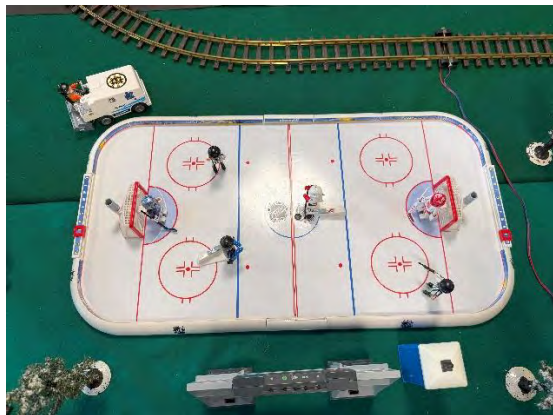
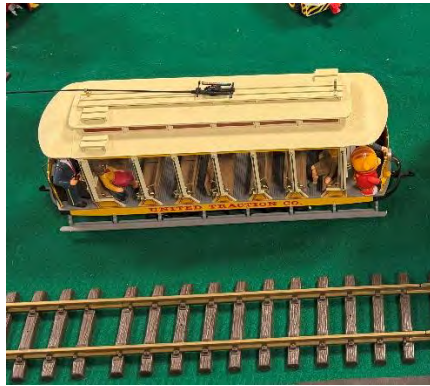


## Key Features:

2 Rail G-Scale Track, Thomas & Friends Engines, Scale Topsham Library with Big Truck Display in Parking Lot, Medieval Castle with Knights on Raised Platform, NHL Hockey Rink, Egyptian Sphinx, Water Park, and Disney Character Scavenger Hunt.









Venue:  
Big Trucks Outside:







Big Trains & Big Crowd Inside:

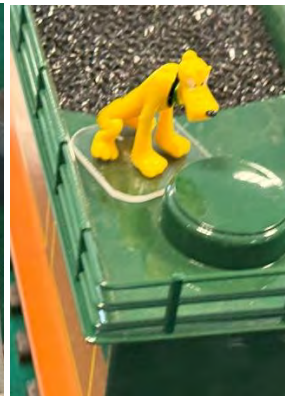






#### Note of Interest:

As a reward for finding the nine Disney characters on the layout, we gave away nearly 200 Tootsie pops. Thank you to Kenzie Shean and Doug Pollock for managing that function. However, some of those pops ended up in crew mouths.



Photography by Art Shean & Carlton Spring





# BACK IN THE MT. ARARAT GYM

## 2025 Great Falls Model Railroad Club Spring Train Show

Location: Mt. Ararat HS Gym, 68 Eagle Way, Topsham, ME 04086

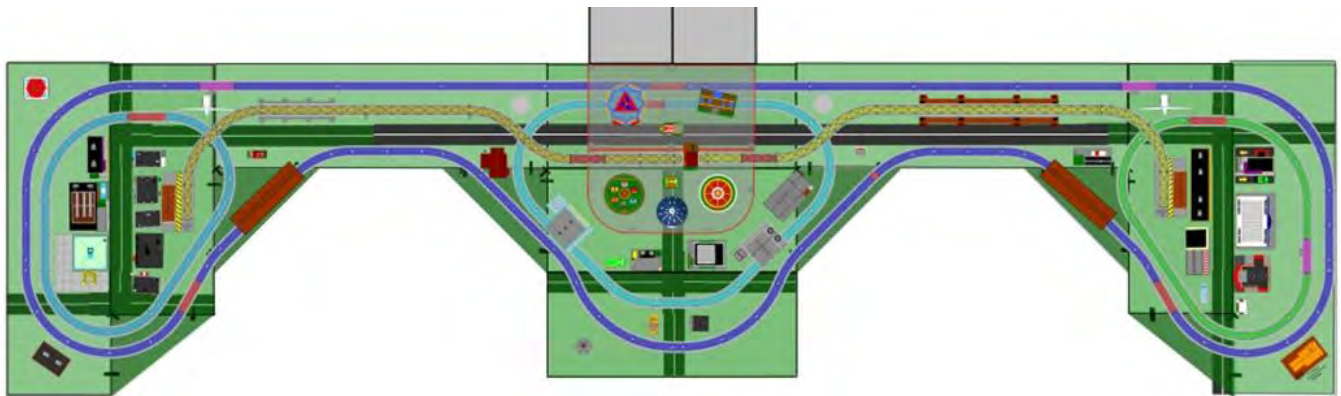
Set Up: Friday, April 25, 2025, 4:30-8pm

Ran Trains: Saturday, April 26, 2025, 10am-3pm

Crew: John Ash, Tim Averell, Lou Bragaw, Sam Carr, Jack & Carol Dexter, Vic Fuller, Richard Hamlin, Ernie Vannah, Dave Hodgkiss, Jeff Jacobs, Tom Kelleher, Ed McCreery, Peter Morissette, Lloyd Neal, Doug Pollock, David Smith, Art Shean, Carlton Spring, Gene Thayer, Ken Thorson, Jay & Caleb Westra

Layout:

- **Dimensions:** 8' x32', 172.5 square feet
- **Tables:** 5- 2.5'x6', 4- 2.5'x8', 2- 24"x30" ICF, 4- 30"x30" ICF, & 1- 2'x4' Control Table
- **Track:** Four Independent Track Loops & Two Elevated Trolley Lines on 163+ feet of Lionel FasTrack
- **Bridges:** 1- 22"x4" Raised Arch, 1- 40"x3.5" Raised Truss, 2- Lionel 6-24117 Covered, 2- Elevated Trolley Platforms, 2- 24"x48" Raised Platforms, and 4- Lionel 6-12038 Elevated Trestle Sets
- **Roads:** 46 feet of 6" Wide Asphalt
- **Buildings:** Atlas -2, Carole Towne -1, Custom -1, Korber -1, Lemax -14, Lionel -3, Menards -15, MTH -1, & Woodland Scenics -7
- 





## M3R Layout Detail Photos from Left to Right



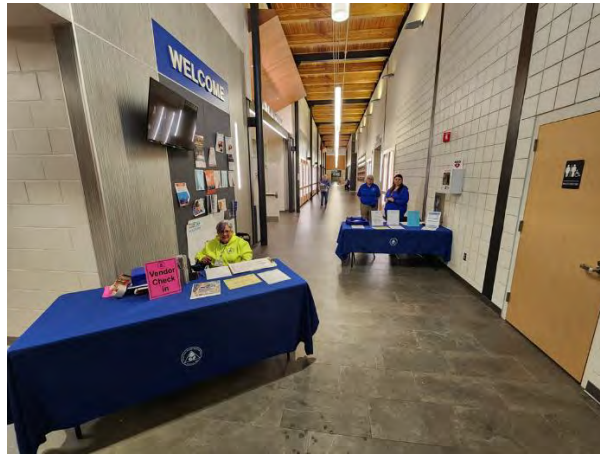
Key Features: Carnival on center elevated platform, Animated Lionel Hobby Shop, Old Brunswick Town Hall, and Steaming caboose coffee shop



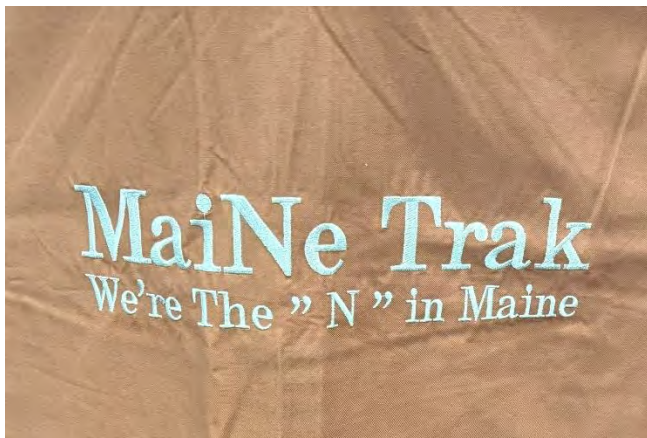




Venue: Mount Ararat High School Gym, Topsham, ME



Other Club and Organization Participants:







*GFMR O-Scale Layout*



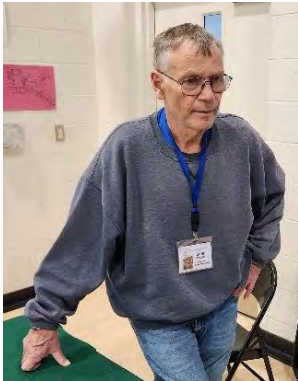
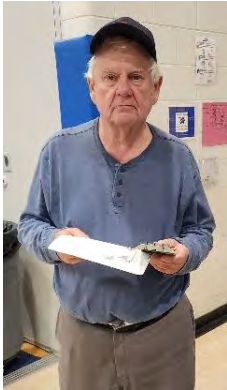


GFMRC HO Layout





Participating M3R Members:





Public:



Photography by Art Shean & Carlton Spring



## The View from Doug's Chair by Doug Pollock

Southern Maine Model Railroad Club Train Show in Westbrook: As usual our layout was very good. We set up late in the afternoon the day before. Saturday morning Art and I arrived around 8am and I set up the HONOR GUARDS.



Something new this time: I added a police officer and fireman with an American Flag to the grouping. After that we put out the trees and vehicles and were ready to roll.



It was a lousy snowy day and there were not to many people.



At around 10 it started to pick up. A dad with his daughter on his shoulders came around our tables. She had a fire hat on, and they spent a long time looking at everything. They left but came back multiple times. A family from Ohio came by. The mom was pregnant, and her father had her daughter on the other side of table having fun watching the trains. The mom on other side had the BIGGEST SMILE on her face watching her dad and her daughter's enjoyment. Two other guys came up to our table, looked around, and told me, "Pretty Awesome!", smiled, and walked off. A young couple with a very young daughter stopped by and were very interested in our layout. All in all, a very good day!



Sad Day: On a rainy Tuesday, April 22nd at 10 o clock we laid our comrade, Fred Guth, to rest in the Veterans Cemetery in Augusta with about 30-40 folks in attendance. He will be Missed and Remembered Forever!

Pullman Brown:

A retired UPS employee told me the color of UPS trucks is Pullman Brown. The Pullman company painted their vehicles that color for a long time, but they used to be painted Pullman Green. The familiar green color and its variable (also known as Federal Mailbox Green) came into use during the Robert Todd Lincoln administration of the Pullman Company. In the "Wood" era their cars were painted in the deep brown you see on UPS vehicles today.

Anyone ever notice that pullman green is very close to the olive drab color military vehicles and equipment use to be painted? Olive drab was some tough paint. It probably influenced R T Lincolns decision to use it. It was in use by the Army at least as far back as the 19th Century and Lincoln was Secretary of War at the time.

UPS is one of the most popular brands in America, and easily recognizable thanks largely in part to the company's primary color – brown. It's a color we've grown accustomed to seeing on the company's delivery trucks, drivers, and semis, and anything else with UPS's branding.

But brown wasn't always the color you'd see on a UPS truck.



It all started 115 years ago when UPS was started in Seattle by two teenagers, Claude Ryan and Jim Casey. Then, the company was first known as the American Messenger Company.



Six years later in 1913, the American Messenger Company had its first package car, which was red with a black Ford chassis. When it came time for a second package car, “the company was advised to paint it a more conspicuous color,” according to information about UPS’s history.

For the second car, the American Messenger Company used yellow. It wasn’t until 1916 that things changed.

Charlie Soderstrom, a UPS founder, started overseeing the company’s automotive fleet. He didn’t want to use yellow because he felt it was too conspicuous and impacted on the advertising value of the stores they delivered for. Instead, Soderstrom thought the stores would prefer a more conservative color.

A popular choice in the early 1900s was black but it required too much upkeep. Ultimately, Soderstrom and the company landed on brown after being inspired by the Pullman Company and its sleeping compartment railroad cars, which were symbols of “style and elegance and first-class travel” at the time.

The Pullman Company - which was at one point overseen by Robert Todd Lincoln, son of President Abraham Lincoln - was well-known for its luxurious and comfortable railcars. A brown Pullman Company car can be seen below:



*Boston, MA. United States. August 3, 2018. A Pullman railway car at South Station. (Getty)*

In 1919, when the company expanded to Oakland, California, it debuted the two features we’ve come to know: the name ‘United Parcel Service’ and brown company cars. Six years later, the drivers would get matching brown uniforms.

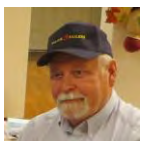
Eight decades later, in 1998, ‘UPS Brown’ became a trademarked color. UPS became the third company to have a color trademarked in the U.S. (Owens Corning was first, registering pink, followed by Qualitex, which registered a green-blue). Other companies like Tiffany and T-Mobile have since trademarked their colors.

I found this information on the web when I searched under “Pullman Brown”.

Railroad Superstition:

When traveling, put the germ of a bean in your shoe to keep from getting tired.

Until we meet again, B Safe and keep the tracks clean, Doug



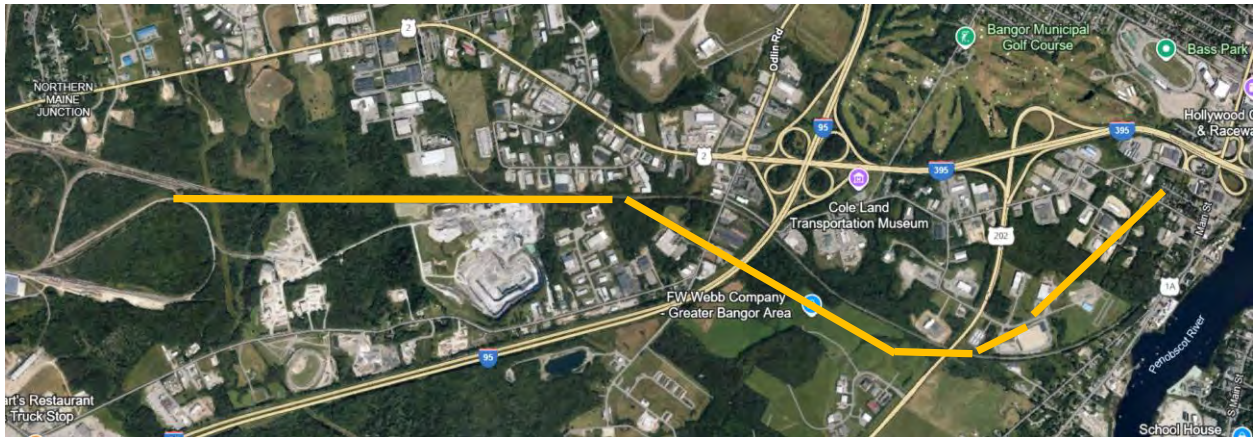
## The Wreck at the Tin Bridge by Jeff Jacobs

The Tin Bridge on Main Street in Bangor (so named for the tin roof over the wooden bridge) was constructed by the Maine Central Railroad around 1853 to cross over the public road near the Hampden town line. One summer at about 7:30 in the evening in 1871, a six-



car train began to cross the Tin Bridge when disaster struck. Two men were killed and 44 passengers injured as the train tumbled from the collapsing bridge.

Historically, tracks of the Maine Central and the Bangor & Aroostook met at Northern Maine Junction in Hermon. The MEC tracks extended from there to downtown Bangor by a short route which passed over Bangor's Main Street.



*Google Earth shows the line today (Orange)*

Here is a closer view of the area where a Bridge spans Main St (or Rt 9)



*Today a steel girder bridge serves the purpose as shown in this recent Google photo*





The 1853 bridge was a timber affair with the tin roof sheathing intended to protect the wood from rain and snow, but by 1871 (just 18 years) dry rot had so damaged the wood that it collapsed under the weight of the passenger/mail train.

A brakeman and a passenger died when the Bangor Express tumbled off the defective bridge at lower Main Street near the location of the landmark Webber Oil Co. The result was massive and sudden.



In the lower left of the above photo, you can see a truss having fallen completely to the road below. All but one of the coaches plunged into the opening.





Two thousand assembled that evening to view the wreck with approximately 10,000 spectators the following day.



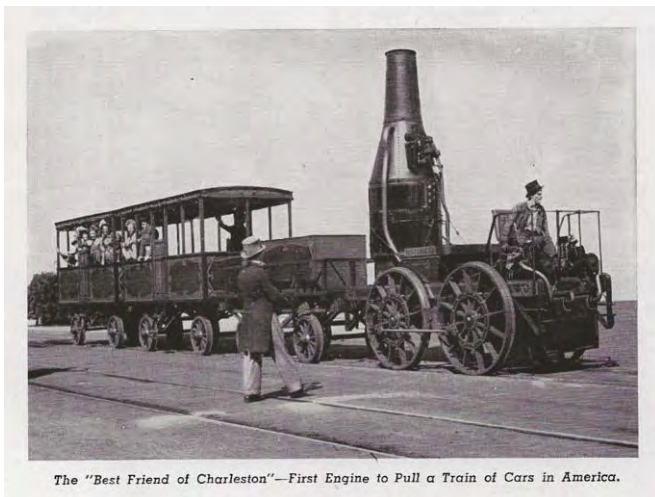
*Photos Courtesy of the Collections of Maine Historical Society.*

The MEC investigation concluded that rotten bridge timbers were the root cause of this tragic August 9 accident at the "Tin Bridge". Other contributing factors were increased speed as the engineer attempted to make a closing 'time window' to pass over the bridge and braking by the brakeman which caused the train to lurch while it was on the bridge.

Since I grew up in the Bangor area and heard tales of the spectacular wreck, I decided to create a diorama of the event. A few years ago, at the M3R annual show at the Elks Club, I presented a 2' x 8' scene of the demolished Tin Bridge and the jumbled trains complete with a wrecking crane attempting to unsnarl the carnage. The O scale model generated a lot of interest in this horrific piece of Maine railroad history.

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-THE END-



*The "Best Friend of Charleston"—First Engine to Pull a Train of Cars in America.*



*Driving the Golden Spike in 1869.*



## Maine 3 Railers Upcoming Schedule of Events

- May 10      Layout Tour/Training Workshop **at Mark David's Home (RSVP)**, 9am-2pm, 576 Western Road, Warren, Maine 04864. Seminar Topic: Train Maintenance Tips (Jeff and Rick in Mark's shop, simultaneous with layout tour) (Activities/Training Committee)
- May 22      Togus VA Medical Center, **(Public)** 1 VA Center lobby area outside Patriot Café in Building 204, Togus, ME 04330. Set up from 8-10am and trains running from 10am-5pm followed by moving out. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- May 27      Maine Veterans Home, **(Private)** 35 Heroes Way, Augusta, ME 04330. Set up 8-10am with trains running from 10am-3pm. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Jun 10      Woods at Canco **(Private)** (Atria Senior Living) 257 Canco Road, Portland ME 04103. Setup from 8-10am and Trains runs from 10am-3pm. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Jun 17      Sable Lodge, **(Private)** 74 Running Hill Road, South Portland, ME 04106. Set up 8-10am with trains running from 10am-3pm. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Jun 18      Model Railroading Seminar, **(RSVP)**, 10am-3pm, Morrell Conference Room, Curtis Memorial Library, 23 Pleasant Street, Brunswick, ME 04011 (Activities/Training Committee)
- Jul 12      Moxie Festival, **(Public)** Lisbon High School, 2 Sugg Drive, Lisbon, ME 04252. Set up Friday, Jul 11 after day camp with trains running Saturday from 8am-4pm. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Jul 16      Family Outing at Bradbury Mountain State Park **(Members & Family)**, 10am- 3:00pm (Details TBD). Members are encouraged to bring tasty items to be shared. (Activities/Training Committee)
- Sep 21-27    157th Cumberland Fair, **(Public)** Entertainment Building, 197 Blanchard Rd., Cumberland, ME 04021, 9am-9pm daily with set up 8am on Sep 20 and move-out at 8am on Sep-28. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Oct 18      Great Falls Model Railroad Club Fall Train Show, **(Public)** Mt. Auburn, Maine. Set up Friday, Oct 17<sup>th</sup>, 4-8pm with trains running Saturday from 10am-3pm (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Nov 01      Southern Maine Model Railroad Club Fall Show, **(Public)** Westbrook Community Center, 426 Bridge St., Westbrook, ME 04092. Set up Friday, Oct 31<sup>st</sup> at 4:30pm, with trains running Saturday from 9am to 2pm. (Mobile Outreach Team)
- Feb 14      Annual Maine 3 Railers Model Train and Dollhouse Show **(Public)**  
2026      National Guard Armory, 179 Western Ave, Augusta, ME 04330. Run trains from 10am-3pm. Move in on Friday Feb 13, 2026. (Train Show Committee)

M3R General Meetings (All meetings start at 7 pm on Zoom):

- May 08      Monthly Club Meeting **(By Invitation)**

M3R Roundhouse Sessions (All sessions start at 7 pm on Zoom):

- May 29      Roundhouse Session **(By Invitation)**, Topic: TBA, Hosts: Paul Brown & Art Shean



## Maine 3 Railers Group Email:

The Maine 3 Railers have a group email account in which all members are enrolled. This is the primary channel of communication for club meetings, events, and activities. This also enables members to send emails to other club members. Like club forums, this service allows members to ask questions, provide advice, help other members solve model train problems, buy, and sell items, and pass along model and prototype railroading news of interest.

This is a free service for each member. The group "owners" (Lou Bragaw, Dana Lindsey, and Art Shean) will add your name and email address when you join the club. You will then receive an email with a link to accept the invitation. Follow the link to confirm your account. You may not receive emails if this step is not completed. We restrict the use of this service to M3R members. Because the site is not moderated, Lou, Dana, or Art will review your first two posts to assure you are a member. The URL for our group is: <https://groups.io/g/M3R>.

Once subscribed you can email all other M3R members by addressing your email to [m3r@groups.io](mailto:m3r@groups.io), email individual members by using the Directory, update your personal profile, change how you receive emails, or unsubscribe. If you have any questions, contact Dana Lindsey, M3R Secretary.





# Maine3Railers Elected Officers and Appointed Positions

Elected Officers and Executive Board Appointed Positions and Committees

**2025-2026**

## President



Bernie Pender  
[president@maine3railers.org](mailto:president@maine3railers.org)

## Vice President



Dave Hodgkiss,  
[vp@maine3railers.org](mailto:vp@maine3railers.org)

## Secretary



Dana Lindsey,  
[secretary@maine3railers.org](mailto:secretary@maine3railers.org)

## Treasurer



Rick Hills,  
Maine 3 Railers  
PO Box 31  
Amherst, NH 03031  
[treasurer@maine3railers.org](mailto:treasurer@maine3railers.org)

## At Large



Jeff Jacobs,  
[jeff@maine3railers.org](mailto:jeff@maine3railers.org)

## At Large



Ernie Vannah,  
[ernie@maine3railers.org](mailto:ernie@maine3railers.org)

## Recent Past President



Gene Thayer,  
[pastpresident@maine3railers.org](mailto:pastpresident@maine3railers.org)

**Club Car Committee:** Richard Ridolfo, Chair  
Members: Bill Halley, Rick Hills, Dave Hodgkiss, and Jeff Jacobs.

## Club Car and Merchandise Sales:

Dave Hodgkiss,  
[clubcar@maine3railers.org](mailto:clubcar@maine3railers.org)  
Maine3Railers, PO Box 31, Amherst, NH 03031

## Event/Outreach Committee:

Sam Carr, Coordinator  
Members: Frank Folker, Jeff Jacobs, Doug Pollock, Art Shean, and Carlton Spring

## M3R Activities/Training Committee:

Rick Hills, Chair  
Members: Mark David, Dave Hodgkiss, Brian Inch, and Jeff Jacobs

**Property Manager:** Dave Hodgkiss

## Train Show Committee:

Co-Chairs: Jeff Jacobs and Gene Thayer  
Members: Paul Brown, Sam Carr, Dave Hodgkiss, Dana Lindsey, Doug Pollock, and Richard Ridolfo

**Special Projects Manager:** Jeff Jacobs

## Event Layout Design:

Jeff Jacobs (Special Events)  
Art Shean (Mobile Outreach Events)

## Webmaster:

Mark David, [webmaster@maine3railers.org](mailto:webmaster@maine3railers.org)

## YouTube Channel Master:

Carlton Spring,  
[youtubechannelmaster@maine3railers.org](mailto:youtubechannelmaster@maine3railers.org)

**Newsletter Editor:** Art Shean

*The IRS recognizes the Maine 3-Railers as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.*

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