



NTRACKAGE Writes

The New Mexico Rail RunNers Club Newsletter

Issue 222 September 2008

The October 2008 meeting will be held at clubhouse located at 601 D-1 San Mateo Ne, Albuquerque, NM on October 7th at 7 PM. See map to club location below!

Remember, please park in back (north side) of the building. Our door is the first one to the East of the walkway through the building.



NTRAKage Writes September 2008 Issue # 222

Editor Dave Turner

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NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Deadline for submission of articles and reports for inclusion in *Ntrakage Writes* is no later than the 19th of each month. This will allow enough time to get the newsletter distributed in a timely manner.

President's Lines — Jack Dietz

President's Notes for September

Wow, what a month this has been. First I'd like to apologize for being absent at our September meeting, I'll do my best to keep that from occurring in the future. Life, however, does happen sometime. As for our month we saw the completion of the major rewiring of the club modules, thanks to Chris and Bud, the great news that Steve's surgery went well, a temporary waterfall and flood at the club house and a great show at the State Fair.

With the rewiring in place we saw a faster set up and fewer electrical problems as we set up the layout at the State Fair. Bud and Chris desire a big pat on the back for that. For those of you who didn't make it to the fair you were missed. Although attendance was down we still enjoyed a good number of visitors to the layout. By the way the layout looked super thanks to Steve's great design effort. We look forward to having you back soon Mr. Stein. The waterfall and flood did some damage to club property but it wasn't too bad and we'll get it repaired with a minimum of effort. Bark'in Bill did a great job at manning the Drawing Module ticket sales and I'd like to thank him for his effort. I would also like to thank every member who spent time manning the drawing module, I think most everyone did. But Beverly, Jacque, and Ruby did so much in manning this effort and I for one really appreciate it. Of course none of these thanks and efforts would have occurred if it hadn't been for the great efforts and coordination of our fair show manager Dayton. Everyone who participated in any of the activities at the State Fair owes their gratitude and thanks to Dayton. I know I do so Thanks Dayton I personally look forward to the fair every year.

With the State Fair now behind us we need to focus our attention on our next great projects. Included on this list is the construction of new yard modules and the design and purchase of our Twentieth Anniversary car set. I have only received one set of drawing so far but I do hope others are hard at work on their own ideas. Please remember that your design submissions should be on one of the templates provided or something similar to them. The submitted designs will be voted on at the December general membership meeting. Thanks again to every body's efforts, I truly appreciate them.

Jack

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Secretaries Report September 2nd, 2008

Attendance: Charles Baker, Bud Bechdel, Ted Brooker, Jim Bullock, Ed Duckett, Chris Friedmann, Doug Gary, Chris Gutierrez, Buzz Leander, Kenneth Martinez, Dayton Molzen, Kathy Montoya, Jay Norman, Mike Shannon, Dave Turner.

Meeting held at club house.

7:00 PM Call to Order, Charles Baker, Treasure

Secretaries Report: Approved as published.

Treasures Report: Update by Charles Baker on current state of expenses and income. Approved.

General Meeting Minutes cont.

October general meeting will be October 7th at 7 PM at the club house. The officers meeting will be held October 11th at 11 AM.

Current Issue: A major water leak was discovered by Chris and Bud when they arrived at the club on September 9th. It seems there was a water heater in the ceiling of the bathroom we only use for storage and someone stealing copper off the roof broke the line causing water to come cascading through the ceiling, over the 4 corner modules that Clovis gave us and out into the rest of the building. Quick action by club members was the only thing that saved the day! We did find out in the process we did not have the current contact information for the agents for the building. These are now posted in the club house and I am including them here: Fiesta Del Norte One, Suites D1 and D1A (our location) and their numbers Business hours 602-393-6600, after hours 480-894-8218.

Old Business:

1. Dayton has the gate are parking passes for the State Fair and will distribute them to members. Do to the change in parking and access Dayton asks that we make certain we do not block entrances or driveways (other than when loading/unloading)
2. The order to Digitrax was given to Charlie and will be finalize in the next couple of days so get your last minute requests in NOW.
3. Tear down for the State Fair will begin on Saturday September 9th with loading to begin on Wednesday September 10th.
4. Chris G. said there has been no further design change in the new yard modules and work on those is scheduled to begin after everyone recovers from the State Fair.
5. We will need to have the gas plumbing inspected before we will be able to get the heat turned on due to the length of time it has been out of service. We need recommendations for plumbers. It was also suggested the we use the plumbers the building management uses to avoid any issues.

New Business:

1. It was suggested and approved by general vote that the club purchase and additional PM42 from George as the one we currently are using has one of the 4 channels out. This will provide a spare and allow for the return of the defective on for repair.
2. We will send a sympathy card to the Clovis club as they lost one of their members who had joined us for the State Fair last year.
3. Buzz reported on the rail fan trip several club members made. The location was the east end of Abo canyon and between 9:30 and 1:00 15 trains went through that location. On the way back to Albuquerque they saw another train, the Railrunner, that we had been told would not be running that day. Buzz sent a friendly letter to them asking about their schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM

Dave Turner

Secretary

New Mexico RailRunners

Calendar for Sept/Oct 2008

New Mexico State Fair Sept 12th-16th 2008

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Toy Train Swap Meet, 215 Locust NE, Albuquerque, NM. Saturday September 27th from 10 AM to 2 PM.

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See special notice from Al Hovey on page 6 and 7

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Board Meeting

Secretaries Report September 6th, 2008 Board Meeting

An official board meeting was not held after the teardown of modules for transport to the State Fair. Instead a general discussion of prep for the fair was held with Dayton leading the discussion.

Dave Turner

Secretary, NMRR

If you like old cars and steam trains, this picture is a winner!

<http://www.railpictures.net/viewphoto.php?id=177612>

The race is on! <http://www.railpictures.net/viewphoto.php?id=443>

Honestly, I was just driving along when this train came out of the woods!

<http://www.railpictures.net/viewphoto.php?id=187551>

Hopefully someone will have some pictures from the fair I can use next month. I saved this space for some photos that never showed up.

	<h1>MODEL RAILROAD</h1>
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SUN OCTOBER 5, 2008 1:00-5:00 PM

AL HOVEY'S 9'X16' HO LAYOUT: C & NW MO VALLEY-FREMONT RR



725-18 TRAMWAY VISTA DR NE ALBUQUERQUE, NM

TRAINS WILL BE RUNNING

WHAT YOU WILL SEE:

BENCHWORK, FASCIA, TRACK LAYING, LIGHTING, DCC INSTALLATION, BLOCK DETECTION AND SKIRTING COMPLETED.

YET TO BE COMPLETED:

BUILDINGS, SCENERY, BACKDROPS, SIGNALS, ETC.

LOCATION: FROM THE COUNTY LINE RESTAURANT TRAVEL 1 BLOCK SOUTH ON TRAMWAY, TURN EAST TOWARD THE SANDIA ON TRAMWAY LANE, TAKE IMMEDIATE RIGHT TURN ONTO TRAMWAY VISTA DR. AND AL IS IN THE THIRD HOUSE ON THE RIGHT. LOOK FOR THE CROSSBUCKS.

DESCRIPTION OF RAILROAD

RAILROAD FEATURES THE CHICAGO & NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD' S "BLAIR SUB" FROM MISSOURI VALLEY JUNCTION IN IOWA, MILE POST .4 TO FREMONT, NE, MILE POST 37.0. IN 1989 THE BLAIR SUB WAS VERY IMPORTANT BECAUSE THE UPRR AND C & NW RR INTERCHANGED ENTIRE TRANSCONTINENTAL TRAINS AT FREMONT, NE RATHER THAN COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA TO SAVE DISTANCE AND RUNNING TIME. C & NW POWER "TIED UP" IN FREMONT UNTIL RETURNING EAST WITH A TRAIN. UPRR POWER RAN INTO OMAHA "LIGHT POWER."

THE "CUT-OFF" HANDLED HEAVY INTERMODAL, GRAIN, COAL AND GENERAL MERCHANDISE "DRAGS." AMTRAK'S CALIFORNIA ZEPHER RARELY DETOURED ACROSS THE LINE.

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ALWAYS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE

I'VE ENJOYED MODEL RAILROADING SINCE CHILDHOOD AND MOST OF MY ATTEMPTS TO BUILD A RR WERE ON A FLAT 4X8' PIECE OF PLYWOOD.

UNSATISFACTORY...

TODAY THE "BLAIR SUB" IS A FREE LANCED RAILROAD FEATURING:

L GIRDER CONSTRUCTION, HOMOSOTE ROADBED, GRADES AND ELEVATIONS, FASCIA WITH RECESSED SWITCH TOGGLES, FLOURSCENT LIGHTING, DCC WIRING WITH 32 BLOCKS FEATURING OCCUPANCY DETECTION AND MORE...

YET TO BE COMPLETED

LOTS OF BUILDINGS, SCENERY, BACKDROPS, WEATHERING, ETC.

THE LIST IS VERY LONG...WHEN WILL THE LAYOUT BE FINISHED? PROBABLY NEVER...IT'S A JOURNEY OF LEARNING!

A WHOLE NEW CHALLENGE

RAILROAD WILL ULTIMATELY FEATURE A COMPUTER DRIVEN ABSOLUTE- PERMISSIVE BLOCK SOFTWARE SYSTEM FOR SIGNALS. THE COMPUTER AND SOFTWARE WILL BE TRANSPARENT WITH ENGINEERS ENCOUNTERING GREEN, FLASHING YELLOW, YELLOW OR RED SIGNALS.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: I HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE FRIENDSHIP OF AND TRAINING BY A GREAT MODEL RAILROADER, JOE ROGERS. AS JOE SAYS, " I ONLY BUILD THEM TO LAST TWENTY YEARS."