

# Chattanooga Southern News

The official publication of the Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club, Inc.

March 2007

Volume XXXVIII - Issue II

## Welcome

### New Members

**Bob Gay**  
**Jasmine Mansel**  
**Velma Hughes**  
**Jackson Garrison**  
**Matthew Young**  
**Herb Keedy**  
**Bill Levy**



Send me the  
*Chattanooga  
Southern News*  
by e-mail.

Click on  
[CSNews@camrc.org](mailto:CSNews@camrc.org)  
and let us know.

## A New Editor

As a newcomer to the area, allow me to say "Thanks" to all the club members who have made me feel at home. With the influx of many new members into the club, we hope that we help continue the tradition of making this one heck of a model railroad club. Thanks especially goes to Karl Shaffer and Mark McAllister for helping to bring me up to speed on past issues of the newsletter which should be a valuable resource for everyone.

To make the Chattanooga Southern News interesting, your help is needed. Each of us has some expertise in the various aspects of our hobby and through this newsletter, let's share your talents. Contact me, by phone, 706-935-5605 (home), 423-598-9925 (cell) or e-mail [CSnews@camrc.org](mailto:CSnews@camrc.org), letting me know what you can do to contribute to future issues. You do not need to be a great writer. Just supply the facts and we can then work together.

The current planning is to publish the Southern News every other month. One immediate response we need from you is how do you want to receive the newsletter? Do you want a printed copy sent to you or would you prefer an e-mail copy? The e-mail copy would be in the form of an Adobe PDF file. If you are not familiar with the format, contact me. This month, everyone is receiving a copy via the mail and for those that have supplied an e-mail address, a copy has gone out that way also.

*Ed Juaire*  
*CSN Editor*

## January 14, 2007 Minutes

### of the C. A. M. R. C. General Meeting on January 14, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Karl Shaffer at 2:30 p.m. There were 29 members in attendance. Jerry Holmes, as the Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the following list of nominees for the upcoming Officers and Board of Directors:

President: Karl Shaffer  
Vice President: Scott Denson  
Secretary: Mark McAllister  
Treasurer: Jude Foxall  
Director (07-08): Ben Bedford  
Director (07-08): Mark Parks

Nominations were then taken from the floor. Chip Chipman nominated and Jude Foxall seconded John Ramatowski as Secretary. No other nominations

were received. At approximately 2:45 Joe Stapleton moved and Payton Hayes seconded that the nominations be closed. Motion was passed unanimously.

At this time Karl asked that all members stand and introduce themselves since there were so many new members.

After introductions were finished, Joe Stapleton presented a clinic on Computer Aided Design.

After the clinic, Karl announced that Dale Bryant had won the monthly door prize.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Scott Denson*  
*Vice President*

## Recent Events by *Karl Shaffer*

At our **January 19 Run Night at the Choo-Choo**, we had a record turnout of 16 with the 6 junior members having a great time running trains. Even the adults had a good time and the pizza was good, too.

At our **January 14 meeting**, Jerry Holmes presented the Nominating Committee's list of candidates for CAMRC Board and Officer positions. See the minutes of that meeting in this issue. Subsequent to that meeting, Mark McAllister withdrew his nomination. The election will be held at the Annual Meeting at our banquet on March 24.

Joe Stapleton provided us an excellent clinic on RailCAD. Thank you very much, Joe, for introducing us to this very useful tool.

At the **January 25 CAMRC Board Meeting** your Board approved procurement of a replacement insurance policy from State Auto for the one that lapsed. The new policy includes the same \$1M/\$2M liability coverage and \$20,000 loss/damage coverage, \$10,000 more than the old policy for a \$484 premium, \$16 less than the former policy.

Among other membership business, your Board approved the promotion to active status of the following members: Hal Crossland, John Hunt, Larry Jones, Ed Juare, Scott Gay, David Holsinger, Joe Stapleton, Jim Bailiff, J R Buttrum, and Robert Wildhage. Active membership is bestowed upon those who the Board feels are trustworthy, technically competent, and have an interest in the welfare of the club based on actions to date. This is an important step, because these gentlemen are now eligible to hold leadership positions in the club. Congratulations!

Your Board also discussed Banquet plans, CAMRC logo clothing and Choo-Choo yard repowering and DCC plans. Sample logo clothing are to be purchased and made available for your inspection by the March meeting, so that you may order any of the articles at that time. We also discussed the need to have junior members more closely supervised behind the layout by either the parent or another adult member. The next Board meeting was set for March 25 at 2 pm at the clubhouse.

Our **February 11 Layout Tour** at Chip Chipman's was a huge success with 21 members (not counting Chip and Tyler) coming to see the beautiful work Chip has done. Check out the photos on these two pages. Some other guests came as well, including 3 who signed up to join CAMRC! Thank you Chip, Kelly, and Tyler for sharing your home, your hospitality, and your superb railroads.



Some of the fine modeling on Chip Chipman's HO Scale layout.



### A big welcome to our new members!

**Scott Gay** and his son **Tristan** from Chattanooga are working on a layout representing the railways of Marion, Ohio where Scott grew up. Scott has a lot of experience with dioramas. He and Tristan are helping restore and put an interior in a building from the Choo-Choo layout.

**Bob Gay**, Scott's father, lives in Soddy Daisy and plans on helping us at the Choo-Choo. **Jasmine Mansel**, daughter of member Martha Prince, likes sports and trains. **Velma Hughes** and grandson **Jackson Garrison** live in Chattanooga. **Matthew Young** is from Rossville, GA. **Herb Kedy** is an HO modeler from McDonald, TN. **Bill Levy** is from Harrison, TN.

**Welcome all! We hope to see you often at club activities.**



Plan now for  
Convention 2007

**Choo-Choo Status:** January and February are fairly inactive months at the Choo-Choo layout, so we dove into a major project to repair the trolley line. We removed all the city blocks and ripped out the old track. Of course, all the city pavement came with it. We then proceeded to lay new track (2 weeks), and then replace the pavement using Hydrocal (2 weeks). Following that we cleared the track of Hydrocal and sanded the pavement (2 weeks). As of this writing we are still working on the pavement. Meanwhile, additional city buildings are being cleaned, repaired, re-windowed, lit with LEDs and some even internally detailed. Ed Juairé, John Hunt, Larry Jones, Joe Stapleton, Payton Hayes, Russ Huntley, Scott Gay, Tristan Gay and I have all worked on this massive project. We hope to get the city back together in a week or two.



Choo layout refurbishment process. It is a great way to learn new skills and show off your handiwork before an audience of thousands.

Join the fun. Work sessions are Friday 10am to 4pm. If another time is more convenient, or you would like to work on something at home, please call Karl at (423) 344-7505.

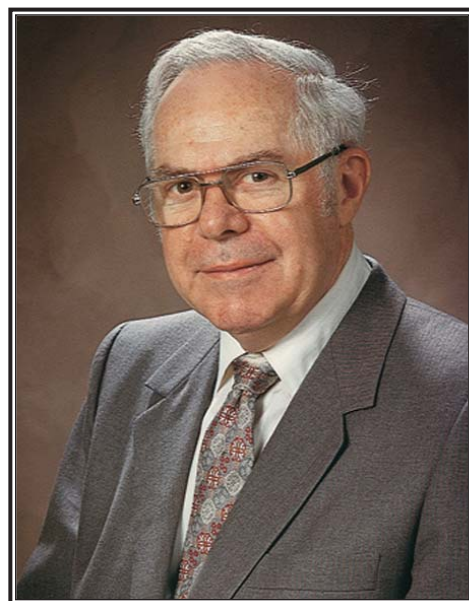
Meanwhile, Mark Parks has been planning the new industrial park, constructing buildings and doing site preparation. Joe and Payton helped. Larry Jones continues making much-needed repairs to our rolling stock, particularly our battered fleet of tank cars. Mr. Bambrey stopped by on 2/9 to check things out and complimented us on our progress with the layout. We still have lots of projects for anyone who is interested in contributing to the Choo-

## Bruce Walthers

Bruce Walthers, 87, chairman of the board and former president of Wm. K. Walthers, Inc., in Milwaukee, Wis., died on January 28.

In 1958, Walthers became president of the model railroad manufacturing firm his father, William K. (Bill), started 26 years earlier. Under Bruce's leadership, Walthers became the largest distributor of model railroad products in the world. During his 60-year career, Bruce was a board member and president of both the Model Railroad Industry Association and the Hobby Industry Association of American (HIAA). The HIAA awarded Bruce its highest honors, the Meritorious Award of Honor and Lifetime Membership in recognition of his years of service and contributions to the hobby. Bruce transferred the family business to his son, Philip, in 1984, but remained active in the company as chairman of the board.

*Courtesy of Model Railroader Magazine*



## C. A. M. R. C. Modular Group News by *Scott Denson*

The Club's Modular group had a busy year in 2006. We started off with two shows in June. The first show was in Stevenson, AL. We set up on Friday in the old Railroad Hotel building (most recently used as a restaurant). During the show on Saturday, we did not have very many visitors, but we enjoyed it anyway. We were treated by an NS train that parked on the tracks behind us. From what we understood, there was a derailment down the line so they couldn't go anywhere. That derailment did not stop the CSX from running their trains on their tracks, so we got to see several trains roll through. Late Saturday afternoon, we broke down the modules and headed back home.

The next show was the following weekend in Crossville, TN. After set up on Friday, we operated a couple of hours and watched the parade that night. We then closed up shop and went over to the "Taste of Crossville." On Saturday, we operated all day. As usual, we had a very good turnout in Crossville. As in Stevenson, we broke down late Saturday, but this time we opted to stay over and leave on Sunday morning. On the way back, we did a little railfanning at the Franklin Industrial Minerals quarry in Crab Orchard. After that, we looked around the yard at Rockwood for a little bit. After a layover at a hobby shop in Knoxville, we headed back home to unload.

The third weekend in July, we set-up at Smoke Rise Baptist Church in Stone Mountain with two clubs from the Atlanta area. For those that don't know, this is the biggest show that we participate in every year, with over 400 feet of modules setup and running. Thanks to the wonders of DCC, there are usually about 20-25 trains

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### C. A. M. R. C. CALENDAR --- *Reserve these dates!*

March 11, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Clubhouse  
Structure construction and detailing.  
March 16, 6 pm - Run Night at Choo-Choo - Pizza  
March 24, 6 pm - CAMRC Annual Meeting and  
Banquet at Choo-Choo  
March 25, 2 pm - CAMRC Board Meeting  
at Clubhouse  
April 15, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Clubhouse  
Griff Weathering Clinic  
April 20, 6 pm - Run Night at Choo-Choo - Pizza  
May 6, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Clubhouse  
May 18-20 - SER Convention - Atlanta, GA  
June 3, 2 pm - Board Meeting at Clubhouse  
June 10, 1 pm - CAMRC Picnic at TVRM  
June 15-17 - Modules at Crossville Fair  
July 15, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Choo-Choo  
July 22, 2 pm - Board Meeting at Clubhouse  
July 27-29 - Modules at Smokerise (Stone Mtn, GA)  
October 12, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Choo-Choo  
September 9, 2 pm - Regular Meeting at Clubhouse  
September 23, 2 pm - Board Meeting at Clubhouse  
September 28-30 - Modules at Hamilton County  
Fair in Chester Frost Park, Hixson, TN  
October 14, 2 pm - Regular Meeting Clubhouse  
Dues are due  
November 11, 2 pm - Regular Meeting Clubhouse  
November 18, 2 pm Board Meeting at Clubhouse  
December 9, 1 pm CAMRC Holiday Party at TVRM

#### Other dates of interest

March 24-25  
Great Train Expo  
N Atlanta Trade Center, Norcross, GA  
[gte.ciadv.com/schedule.html](http://gte.ciadv.com/schedule.html)  
April 14  
Coosa Valley Model Railroad Club Train Show  
[www.stagingtracks.com/shows/view/557-coosa\\_valley\\_model\\_railroad\\_club\\_train\\_show](http://www.stagingtracks.com/shows/view/557-coosa_valley_model_railroad_club_train_show)  
Operating train layouts, over 90 tables, a tour to the club's 26x72 foot HO layout.  
May 18-20  
SER Convention, Cartersville, GA  
[www.piedmont-div.org/ser2007](http://www.piedmont-div.org/ser2007)  
July 22-28  
2007 NMRA Convention, Warren, MI  
[www.nmra.org/2007](http://www.nmra.org/2007)

**What is your specialty? We need clinics.  
Share your knowledge with our members.  
Got a layout? Then, show it off!  
Contact Karl Shaffer.**

running at one time and it takes around one hour or so to go around the entire setup. This setup fills an entire gymnasium in the church, with our modules being less than one-quarter of the entire layout. We again set up on Friday, and ran all day Saturday and Sunday, with take-down late Sunday evening. I wish that everyone could come down and see this setup!

Next was another favorite, the Hamilton County Fair at Chester Frost Park. As usual, we setup the modules on Friday. This setup takes a good bit longer, since it is outside on ground that is uneven and sloping. On Saturday, we had a fairly good turn out between the rain showers. Unfortunately, Saturday night the clouds really let loose a torrent of rain. Thankfully, we had a few members that had gone up to look at the layout when the storm hit and they picked up the boxes off the ground from the river that began to flow through the tent. Since the weather was supposed to be rainy again on Sunday, the Fair Officials decided to call off the Fair on Sunday. This gave us all day on Sunday to leisurely take down everything.

We wrapped up the year with a setup in Dalton in conjunction with their Christmas Parade. Considering that this year's parade was on a Saturday morning instead of the usual Thursday night, we had a very good crowd that came through to see our layout.

We started off 2007 with a work session at the clubhouse on Saturday, January 20th. John Ramatowski began construction on FOUR new corner modules. I began the refurbishment of my oldest corner and six-foot module by ripping out the curves know as "Metcalf's Curve" (a.k.a. "Talledega Curves" by the Atlanta groups). John R. and I kept Dale busy helping out on both projects. While not officially working on modules, John and Pam Watson put up several shelving units and began sorting out some items in his area. It now looks like that he has opened up his own hobby shop.

I want to thank everyone that helped out this past year, and I would like to invite the rest of you to come out and see us setup at some of this year's shows. As usual, we would appreciate anyone that is able to help with the set-up or take-down.

The following is year's tentative schedule:

June 15-16 Depot Days Festival, Crossville, TN

July 27-29 Smoke Rise Show  
Smoke Rise Baptist Church  
5901 Hugh Howell Rd  
Stone Mountain, GA

Sept 28-30 Hamilton County Fair  
Chester Frost Park  
2318 N Gold Point Circle  
Hixson, TN

Late November or early December, setup in Dalton for Christmas Parade  
Peacock Alley  
311 S Hamilton St  
Dalton, GA

We also hope to have some more work sessions, but right now we are going to be flexible on these dates. If anyone has any questions or is willing to help out, please feel free to some of the following modular members:

Scott Denson: 706-270-3819 (cell) or 706-259-4950 (home).

Dale Bryant: 423-991-5243 (cell).

John Ramatowski: 423-619-4186 (cell) or 423-629-7772 (home).

Again, thanks to all that worked this past year with the different shows and I hope that more of you can come out and give a hand this next year. If you are interest in joining the HO Modular group, give me a call.

## Chattanooga Area Model Railroad Club Officers and Board Members

### President

Karl Shaffer (423) 344-7505  
[shafferkr@aol.com](mailto:shafferkr@aol.com)

### Vice President

Scott Denson (706) 270-3819  
[scott.denson@camrc.org](mailto:scott.denson@camrc.org)

### Secretary

Mark McAllister (423) 653-7487  
[mark.mcallister@camrc.org](mailto:mark.mcallister@camrc.org)

### Treasurer

Dale Bryant (423) 991-5243  
[livewire@fbright.com](mailto:livewire@fbright.com)

### Newsletter

Ed Juaire (706) 935-5605  
[CSNews@camrc.org](mailto:CSNews@camrc.org)

### Directors - 2007

Payton Hayes (423) 821-5389  
Bill Knoke (423) 296-6959  
[mech@mindspring.com](mailto:mech@mindspring.com)

### Directors - 2008

Paul Lemke (423) 488-8139  
[paul.lemke@camrc.org](mailto:paul.lemke@camrc.org)  
Bob Swanner (615) 459-2332  
[challenger4664@juno.com](mailto:challenger4664@juno.com)

If you have any questions about the club, please feel free to contact any of these gentlemen.

Our motto is "Railroading is fun," so if you have suggestions about club activities that you think we would all enjoy, please let us know.

## Meetings Details

**Sunday, March 11** - regular meeting at clubhouse at 2 pm. Clinic on painting, windowing and assembling plastic structures for beginners. Materials will be provided for junior members who can take it home when done.

**Friday, March 16** - next run night at the Choo-Choo at 6pm. Bring your trains and see how they run on the big Choo-Choo layout. Pizza and soda provided by CAMRC. Choo-Choo layout is DC, but we usually put DCC on a couple of the loops. Bring your Digitrax controller to run your DCC engines.

**Saturday, March 24** - CAMRC Annual Meeting and Banquet at Choo-Choo at 6 pm. **During the week of March 11 to 18 make your reservations with Jude Foxall at (423) 847-0711 or [jfoxall@comcast.net](mailto:jfoxall@comcast.net).** We need to know ahead to plan the number of dinners and gifts, so please don't fail to make your reservations!

The banquet begins with a social hour in the bar off the Choo-Choo Hotel Lobby at 6 pm followed by dinner in the Crystal Room at 7 pm, then a brief meeting and our guest speaker at about 8 pm. Mr. Andy Morrison's presentation will be about Live Steam Model Railroading and the Eagle Point Railroad in Dunlap, TN. We hope to provide an opportunity for club members to visit the EPRR later in the year. While you are at the Choo-Choo don't forget to stop by the Model Railroad Museum to check out our progress.

**Sunday, March 25** - CAMRC Board of Directors Meeting at Clubhouse at 2 pm. This will be the first meeting for the new Board. All members are welcome to attend Board meetings. Topics include support for and scheduling of CAMRC events, membership issues, Choo-Choo management issues and club finances. We also pass around hobby related news items: useful technologies, techniques, and resources.

**Sunday, April 15** - regular meeting and clinic at 2 pm. Michael "Griff" Griffenstein of Griff's Grime Shop on the web has agreed to do a clinic for our April 15 meeting. Griff does custom painting, decaling weathering, and graffiti. Pictures of his work are on his web site, [www.griffsgrimeshop.com](http://www.griffsgrimeshop.com). He has given clinics for CAMRC the last two years which have been enthusiastically received. The military is moving Griff and his family from Georgia to Louisiana this summer, so this may be your last opportunity to participate in his clinic in this area for a while.

Thanks to everyone who had the opportunity to visit my layout. I hope you enjoyed the afternoon.

*Chip*



## DCC and the Choo-Choo Layout

In November, your Board allocated funds for the purchase of DCC equipment. Most recently a meeting was held with various members to discuss the depth to which the incorporation of DCC would be made for, and the operations of, the Choo-Choo layout.

At that meeting, it was determined that four main loops, yards and passenger terminals would be converted to DCC. Additionally, interconnections between the loops would be reactivated and passing sidings added to the main loops to allow bidirectional operation with multiple trains.

This goal will allow for the layout to become a true operational layout while maintaining its simplicity for the normal daytime use. Only on "Run Nights" or other special occasions when club members are present will DCC be used.

The DCC equipment to be purchased is manufactured by Digitrax. If a club meets certain requirements with the layout to be converted, Digitrax offers a **one time 30% discount** for any of its products and this offer extends to all club members. This means you can buy full sets, throttles, and decoders. This is at least eight to ten% less than regular street prices.

If you want to get in on this deal, here is what you need to do and it must be done **no later than March 20**. Prepare your equipment list, typed or printed preferably, then using the manufacturer's list prices rounded up to the nearest dollar less 30%, send the list and a check, made payable to CAMRC, to Jude Foxall, 7608 W Clearwater Rd, West, Hixson TN 37343-2521.

Any questions, contact Jude at 423-847-0711 or [jfoxall@comcast.net](mailto:jfoxall@comcast.net) or Ed Juairé at 706-935-5605 or [anemrr@ejpj.com](mailto:anemrr@ejpj.com).

This conversion will require help from many of you. The entire layout will need to be rewired, so need we say more. So if you have time, contact either Jude, Ed or Hal Crossland at 423-344-0697 or [hcrossland39@comcast.net](mailto:hcrossland39@comcast.net).

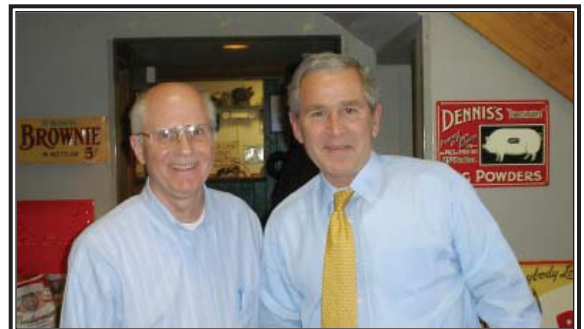
This will be an exciting time in the history of the Choo-Choo layout. Be part of it.

### Are you using DCC equipment?

We would like to compile a list of members who are using DCC.

If you do use a DCC system, send that information to [anemrr@ejpj.com](mailto:anemrr@ejpj.com).

Send us the manufacturer of the equipment, Digitrax, Northcoast, Lenz or other and let us know what you use for throttles.



### Recruiting for club members begins at the top.

While in Chattanooga on Wednesday, February 21, President Bush stopped for lunch at Porker's Bar-B-Que where Club President Karl Shaeffer visits often. Remember, it's always location, location, location.

Ben Bedford has been working on clothing items for club members. Unfortunately, we were not able to get that information in this issue. We will e-mail more details to those we have e-mail address for early in the first week of March or contact Ben for more details.

For those who received a copy via e-mail, text in red denotes either a link to e-mail or web site.

You can click on the text and your e-mail or browser should open.

Click on a logo for web site access.