



The News Bulletin of the READING SOCIETY of MODEL ENGINEERS

Spring Open House May 19th and 20th!

Welcome to 2007. The RSME has another big year coming up. For starters, three Open Houses have been approved for this year. The first occurs in about two months on May 19th & 20th. A lot must occur before then, both indoors and outside.

Equipment and track need some maintenance to prepare them for the upcoming operating season. Maintenance and repairs on layouts need to be completed, cleaned up, and made operational, if not already so. Lots to do in a limited amount of time. Let's all work together to help achieve this goal and have a successful Spring Open House. Remember that we are an organization of individuals with a common interest in model railroading. Yes, we may have varied specific interests within this category, but there is a common interest.

The operating schedule is in the planning stages. Everyone's help is needed and appreciated. There are job assignments for active, participating and associate members, and a few assignments that even non-members (e.g. Family members and significant others) can help with. We also need baked goods for the dining car. Even if you can't help full time on both days during the Open House, whatever time you can contribute will be appreciated. Please inform our planners if and when you are available to help. We need your help (weeks and days) prior to the Open House, the mornings before each Open House operating day to take care of last minute preparations and activities, during the Open House operating times, and afterwards to clean up. When you have completed cleaning and packing up your own equipment or assignment, please check to see if there are other assignments (e.g. Bringing in the signs, cleaning up the parking lots) or help another member clean and pack up for the day.

Doing so, will allow us all to leave at an appropriate time and have the facilities ready for the next operating day. Working as a group is the only way we will have a successful Spring Open House and 2007.

(Submission by William Ingham with editing by Jay Searle)

The Second Floor

The RSME O Gauge Group on the Second Floor of the Clubhouse has been working to improve the reliability of the standard gauge layout. Currently we are working to rewire the most troublesome electrical blocks with larger diameter wire and electrically sound connectors. These newly wired blocks will be tied into a new control panel. The new panel is being designed to make it easier to operate for novice operators and will provide detection indication. Turnout switch control is being relocated to directly next to the turnout diagram for each turnout. This will allow a more intuitive manipulation of the railroad turnouts. As time progresses, new drops will be added where needed to improve power transfer around the layout. The group plans to have the most troublesome blocks rewired and moved to the new control panel for Spring Open House.

Recent Events

Since it is winter, the RSME has not been out and about as we might want to be at other times of the year. As the weather warms up we will begin to again go out in the community and meet people and introduce them to what we do. If you know of or have any ideas for an event the RSME can attend to promote itself, please inform any BOD member or myself, so it can be brought before the board or membership as appropriate for approval. The sooner the better, so planning can be done as needed.

Newsletter Submissions

I received one submission for the newsletter for this edition. Much thanks to Bill Ingham for the submission. As the year moves on, I would appreciate a submission from each sub-group of the RSME for each bi-monthly newsletter. Just simply letting the rest of the organization know what your group is doing and your goals for the year are all that is needed. You don't need to be an author.

Remember, this newsletter is an extension of the club, and may be used as correspondence with other clubs and organizations, so we want the ***ENTIRE*** club well represented in each newsletter.

Please make your submissions prior to the first of the month for each publishing month. (January, March, May, July, September, November) Also, ensure they are in a Microsoft Word format (Word, Wordpad, or Notepad) OpenOffice Writer format, RTF, or TXT. Open Office is a freeware office suite of programs much like Microsoft Office, in fact, it is meant to be a free replacement for Microsoft Office. You can search 'Open Office' on Google and follow the links to download. It will open and manipulate any Microsoft Office files. If you have any questions on format please send me an email or see me at a meeting. Any other format causes me to reformat the entry for inclusion in the newsletter (or it may be completely unusable), which takes a considerable amount of time. Just for note, MS Works

seems to be an odd format and causes double spacing issues and other abnormalities when imported. So please, stick to one of the formats listed above. If you are using Windows, you have Notepad and Wordpad at a minimum. Any picture files should be attached separately from the text document. You can insert them in your document to demonstrate your layout, but providing them separately will allow me the best chance to get them in the newsletter should I have any issues with cutting and pasting your submission. The picture files can be JPEG, BMP, or any common file type.

RSME Calendar

The following is the RSME Schedule of Events. If you have any additions or corrections, please let me know.

Membership Dues	Currently Due
Monthly Meeting	Second Saturday of each month
Annual Meeting / Elections	October Monthly Meeting
<i>Spring Open House</i>	<i>May 19th and 20th</i>
<i>Summer Open House</i>	<i>July 21st and 22nd</i>
<i>Fall Open House</i>	<i>Oct 6th and 7th</i>
Laurel Run Operating days	First Sunday of Month (June - September)
2ND Floor Meeting	Monday Evenings (7:30)

(Any submissions, comments, or corrections can be emailed to the editor at tweetiebird94@yahoo.com or see me directly at a club function.)