



## MRHS MAINLINE

The Official Newsletter of the  
Muskegon Railroad Historical Society  
Volume 20, Issue 7: July 2005

### **NOTICE: TIMETABLE CHANGES!** **JULY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING: JULY 12, 2005** **JULY BOARD MEETING: JULY 26, 2005**



#### **A FUNNY LOOKIN' AND FUNNY TALKIN' KID** By Robert J. Jackson

Bill, the engineer, introduced Tom, the new kid, working his first run as fireman, and the kid showed up for work in this white shirt. We was grinning and rolling our eyes about that, I can tell you. Then Carl, the conductor, comes along in his Spiffy uniform and creased pants. Well, He and Lucky, his mascot dog, joins in the fun.

The kid was kinda sulking And just leans back with his arm resting on the valve box like you see in the picture, staring off into the distance, pretending we wasn't there and he can't hear us.

Well, wouldn't you know this was the kid's lucky day because Wham! Bang! Out of nowhere comes this peculiar kinda metal car with another kid driving about 80 miles an hour. He screeches to a stop about thirty feet away and opens the door. The company that made that car must have been pretty poor and stupid, because there wasn't any paint on the car, just bare metal. And the door was put on wrong, 'cause it lifted up, kinda, instead of swinging to the side like it's supposed to. Then this kid gets out, dressed real weird, and with the most gosh-awful shoes you ever seen!

But he was friendly-like and shook our hands, even the fireman's sooty hand. Then he told us this absolutely loony story about being from the future, said he was from the twenty-

first century and he came back in time to tell us about what railroads was like in his time. Well, we figured out right away he was crazy, because he said they didn't have steam locomotives because they used these contraptions called

De-suls! "What's that?" we all asked. He said they was locomotives that run with electric made by burning kerosene.

That made us all double over laughing, 'cause everybody knows a kerosene lamp can't make steam enough to drive a locomotive, so's how could it make electric enough?

Then he showed us some colored pictures of these gosh-awfully big and long boxes on wheels, running along the tracks, pulling the longest gosh-durned freight train we ever did see. We all nodded and agreed they were painted up so pretty like ice cream or a birthday cake.

"So where's the coal tender?" I asked. "Ain't there supposed to be one behind the locomotive?"

He pointed to the big metal trough-like thing under the De-sul. "That's where we carry the kerosene," he said.

Then the kid in the funny clothes and shoes asks if any of us would like to return to the future with him and see the De-suls work. Our fireman kid says he'll go back with the strange kid, and they both climb into the car. Roar! Zoom! The car takes off like a bullet and disappears before it's a hundred yards away.

And now I come to the sad part of my tale. Bill lost his fireman, so I had to sweat and shovel coal all the way to Kankakee! Hope I live long enough to see one of those pretty De-suls myself.

***Has summer fun removed model railroads from your activity list? Maybe this will help!***

***Chicago Botanic Garden:  
Model Railroad Garden:  
Landmarks of America***

Marvel at 15 garden-scale model trains as they journey coast to coast! Watch them chug across bridges, through tunnels and past miniature scenes of America's favorite landmarks, from Wrigley Field to Yellowstone to a quaint Main Street. All in an amazing garden setting.

"Landmarks of America" trains travel through miniature scenes of the most treasured sites in the United States. Buildings, tunnels and bridges are intricately handcrafted with natural materials, including twigs, bark, leaves, acorns and pebbles. Evergreens, small trees, grasses and little flowering shrubs are all sized to the scale of the trains. Vignettes of tiny people and animals give the exhibit a storybook feel. Sound effects and a working geyser capture the imagination.

May 28 - October 30, 2005,  
10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily  
Extended evening hours Thursday -  
Sunday 'til 8 p.m.,  
June 2 - September 4

Get More Info at:  
<http://www.chicago-botanic.org/>

***Nominations and Elections:  
Open Board Positions of Vice  
President and Director***

At the September 6, 2005 Board Meeting, we will be electing a new Vice President and Director. These positions have been vacated in the past month, and we need you to help us fill the positions and lead your club. Before we can hold elections, we need to know who is willing to lead the club. If you (or someone you know) are a member in good standing and would be willing to serve in either of these positions, please contact any current board member.

#### **July Meeting Program**

#### **Steam on the Ohio Central**

Presented by: Jim Funnell

DON'T MISS IT!

**SPECIAL DATE:**

**JULY 12, 2005**

**7:00 PM**



**Prez Sez**  
**By President Thomas Anderson**

This year is half over with and I hope all have enjoyed your train equipment this spring. We are noticing smaller turnouts at the meetings as summer and vacation time comes upon us. The layouts are (O) running fine, need someone who knows wiring, (HO) running good, and (N) claims "N"othing "N"eeded to be said. The building hasn't changed and additions are constantly being received for our library. The fall train show scheduled for Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> has the LEGO display committed and has sold some tables already.

If you were at the meeting then you heard that Henry Zack is selling out his HO equipment and Ken Kadrovich is selling his full size railroad items. First come, first serve (money helps also).

Tom Buettner presented a great program on "The Georgetown Loop". Thank you, Tom, for a job well done! We also would like to thank Jim Beal for his donation of the carpeting in the HO and O rooms to add softness to our ole bodies. (Sorry we missed that last month, Jim)

The board meeting had 6 guests and the five members present. The layouts this time are "running fine, future concerns", "thumbs up, running OK", to " 'N'othing 'N'ew, naked lady still running around layout." As to the building, things are happening as the meeting room is having the wall fixed, and plans are in place to clean out the big back room. We are trying to dispose of the not needed stuff (junk) from there so see Jim Funnell as someone may find treasures back there. The track on the old N scale layout is to be saved for the club. The baggage cart in the Heritage building is being fixed up by the Heritage Association for display in the depot building across the street.

A thank you goes to Doc Radel for fixing up our once stolen and damaged, but now recovered donation station. 2000 postcards are being printed that show our building location on Western and also tell a bit of history of the Society. These cards should be available soon. Thank you, Kent.

We have 2 board openings and according to our bylaws a special election is to be held in 60 days for the membership to fill those openings. If you are interested see any board member, we have had some members come forward already. The 60 days outlined in our bylaws presents a problem as our August scheduled meeting

is always a social event with no business, so the board ruled the election will be held at the Sept. meeting. We will be filling the Vice Pres. and a regular board position.

As July is vacation time for many and the Muskegon Summer Celebration is the first week, the board took action to change the July meeting to the second Tuesday, July 12<sup>th</sup> with the board meeting moved to the 26<sup>th</sup>. Mark your calendars now so you won't be lonely at the clubhouse the regular nights. We are looking for a "few good men", no, that's the Marines, a few good members to help out by taking on the responsibilities of getting the rolls for meeting nights, wiring the O gauge, working in the building, etc. Don't be shy, and then complain that someone else is always doing 'everything'. On July 12<sup>th</sup> at noon the Muskegon Lions will be touring and on July 13<sup>th</sup> a group of children are scheduled to see our layouts in the evening.

Remember we are here for our interest in TRAINS. Invite your friends to join us also.

**Prez Tom**

**Bylaws Committee**

Treasurer Andy Busard is heading up a bylaws review committee. The first meeting of the committee was held on June 21. Some great preliminary work has been done, and review of new bylaws and policies are occurring. The committee is exploring the concept of utilizing the bylaws more as a document outlining the structure of the MRHS, and utilizing policies as the means to implement procedures and specific rules and regulations. This would be a significant change from the structure we have operated under. If you have thoughts, comments or ideas you want considered, speak with any committee member. The committee is made up of: Andy Busard, Jamie Morrison, Tom Anderson, Tom Van Bruggen, Kent McFaden and Jason Bach.

Make Sure Your Thoughts Are Known!

**DUES...DUES...DUES**

Discounts, Library Access, Layout Access to name a few...

Get your dues in so you don't loose these privileges of membership.

If you have a check mark by your name on the envelope, your dues **have not** been paid

**Individual Membership:**

**\$20/Year**

**Family Membership:**

**\$30/Year**

**August MRHS Picnic!**

The Board is planning the annual MRHS Member and Family Picnic. We are trying to pull together some new possibilities, and we'll let you know ASAP. Until then, just reserve the date:

**Tuesday, August 2, 2005**

**Member News and Donations to the Club**

The Library continues to add new materials. Numerous books, magazines, and videos are in and on the shelves.

Ken Kadrovich is selling prototype railroad equipment. Contact Ken at 231-798-2331 if interested in any of the following:

- PM/C&O Ground Throw Switch Stand
- GTW High Switch Stand
- PM/C&O Glass Bead Cross Buck & Steel Pole
- GTW Railroad Motor Has 2 cycle Hercules motor and comes with or without trailer. Originally from the tri-cities area

Henry Zack is selling his HO Layout and Equipment

**Calendar of Events**

- Tuesday, July 12, 2005  
MRHS General Member Meeting
- Saturday, July 16, 2005  
Coopersville & Marne Railroad  
Great Train Robbery Train Excursion
- Saturday, July 23, 2005  
Coopersville & Marne Railroad  
Great Train Robbery Train Excursion
- Tuesday, July 26, 2005  
MRHS Board Meeting
- Tuesday, August 2, 2005)  
MRHS General Member Meeting Picnic  
Details TBA
- August 12 and 13, 2005  
Coopersville & Marne Railroad  
Summerfest Train Excursions
- Tuesday, August 15, 2005  
MRHS Board Meeting
- Tuesday, September 6, 2005  
MRHS General Member Meeting  
Election of Vice President and Director

Sunday, September 25, 2005  
MRHS Fall Train Show!  
Plan now to help out!

Every Tuesday and Saturday the Club is Open! Stop by and Enjoy!

**MRHS Officers**

- President: Tom Anderson H: 744-9782  
W: 773-6411
- V. Pres: Vacant
- Treasurer: Andy Busard 755-6298
- Secretary: Thomas Van Bruggen 767-8177
- Director: Vacant
- Director: Kent McFaden 726-2606
- Director: Jim Funnell 744-1979

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