



Central New York
Large Scale Railway Society

November Newsletter
2013

SYRACUSE FAIRGROUND

AT THE TRAIN SHOW

The train show was a good turnout for many adults and kids to enjoy. We thank our members who were committed for setting up the display, maintaining the trains and tracks, and their commitment to cleaning up as well.



TRAIN SHOW CON'T



Selling raffle tickets for
The Polar Express G scale
train set!



MEETING: DECEMBER 14TH

Due to the holiday, the meeting and voting will be on the 14th

The membership dues were due in October. It remains at \$35/year. For those who have not paid or forgotten, please send your dues to Bob Loran by November 31st. Make check out to CNYLSRS and send it to...

- + Bob Loran
- + 102 Mohawk Ave
- + Central Square, NY 13036

December is election month for the committees listed below. The next 4 pages are the goals requested by Guy Garnsey who is running for President. There are 2 openings for Vice President. If interested, please inform Jim Higgin and Gordon Davis by November 24th so we can let our members know in the December newsletter.

President- Guy Garnsey

Treasurer- Bob Loran

Vice President (Show Coordinator)- OPEN

Secretary- Jon McCumber

Vice President (Layout Planning)- OPEN

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Current Status :

While the club has a handful of very active and engaged members, there is a definite lack of participation by many members.

The most active functions of the club currently are the layout at Driver's Village, participation at shows, and open houses. I believe that an expanded program would engage more member and offer a more interesting membership to all.

Recommendations :

Membership :

- Goal : Increase member participation !!
- Conduct a survey of all members to determine what their interests are and desires for club activities. This can be done by e-mail using a paper form or "Survey Monkey" questionnaire. Goal : complete by end 2013.
- Obtain photos of all members (and spouses) and post on Club website (members only page), along with short bio and a few photos of layout if they have one.
- Create a CNY map with home locations all members to appreciate the geography of members. Post on "member only" webpage.

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Leadership :

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Review the current Bylaws for potential changes. Consider expanding Ex Committee based on recommendations below, and possibly adding a few "Members at Large".

Create Committees for each Club function type, to expand membership involvement and participation. Committees meet independently and report at Club meetings and newsletter. Assign budget to each committee.

Potential Committees :

Ex Comm / Finance

Layout

Shows

Open Houses

Special Events / Programs

Membership / Communication / Awards (?)

Consider Committee meetings at member homes or elsewhere where a better "sit down working forum" can be achieved. Possibly use conference call/Skype for participants. Merge Ex Comm and Member meetings (since largely a duplicate).

Consider partnerships with other RR clubs/organizations (nearby GRR associations, NMRA, HO clubs, etc).

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Driver's Village Layout :

Evaluate improved security (video, etc)

Shows :

While ambitious, it would be nice to add some "landscaping" to layout at State Fair ... maybe get a landscaper or horticulturist to partner with ? Consider raise track for better visibility.

Confirm our objectives for shows ... raise Club awareness/membership?

Entertainment for observers?

Consider temporary or permanent layout at Upstate Children's Hospital.

Open Houses & Member layouts :

Encourage more members to have open houses, regardless of status of layout. To increase participation (by members and/or public) consider grouping by geography so guests can "tour" several in one day. This of course limits hosting members for going around. Pre-schedule dates and rain dates.

Take photos / videos at (before) open houses on member layouts for website and newsletter. Use for "virtual tours".

Consider Club awards for layouts (overall layout, new features, etc).

Goal : have member layout featured in garden Railroad !! ???

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Communication :

Continue to develop the Club newsletter (via Committee). Use input from meetings, open houses, and all other functions. Study newsletters from other clubs and model best parts.

Have a “featured” member/layout each month.

Special Events / Programs :

Offer member special events such as scenic railroad trips, convention group trips, museum trips, other club trips (even in other scales!!).

Offer presentations by club members or outside experts (vendors, other modelers, etc) on a wide range of topics related to hobby (eg electronics, landscaping, modeling, weathering equipment, historic topics, etc, etc, etc)

Goal to arrange for member participation in 2015 national Convention in Denver !!??

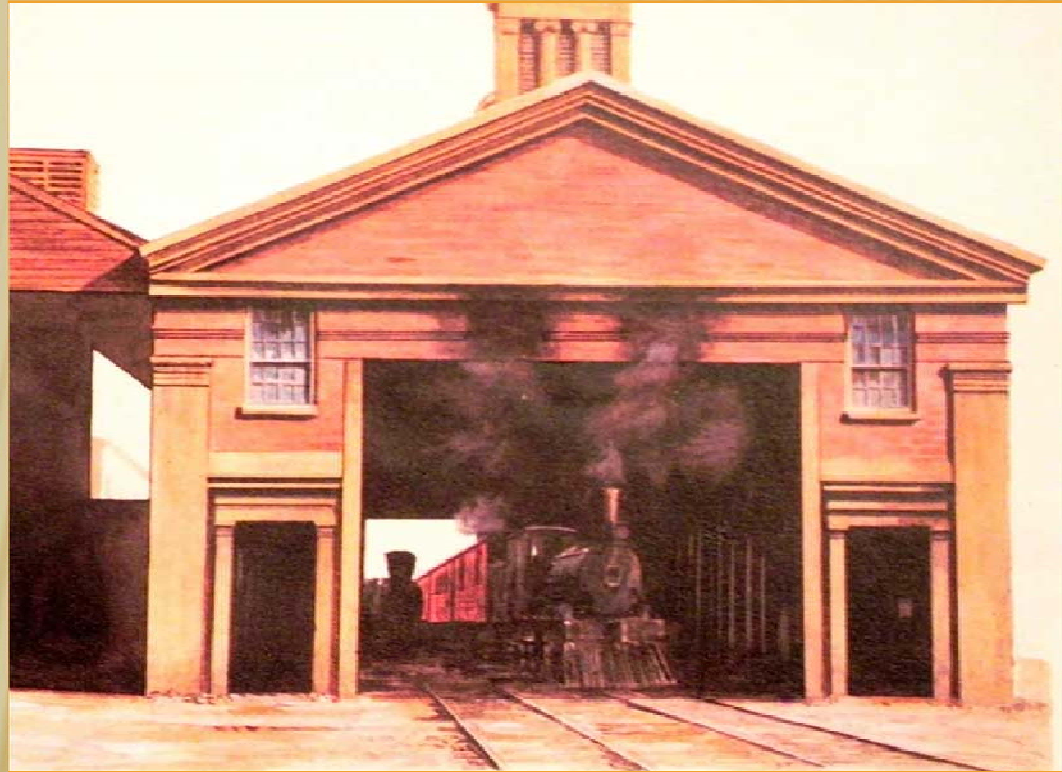
Finance :

Review Club budget and budget for each activity above. Review dues structure based on goals.

Look for vendors that will offer Club and member discounts.

Going Back in Time!

AUBURN & SYRACUSE RAILROAD 1839



The Auburn & Syracuse Railroad shared the expense of construction and maintenance of the first permanent depot that stood on East Washington street between Salina and Warren streets. It was built in 1839 and stood for 30 years.

End