



The Semaphore

June 2019

Official Newsletter of the Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club

The CLRC Hosts Another Successful Railroading Merit Badge Day

What do you get when you add 125 Scouts, both Boys and Girls, 75 adult scouters and volunteers and a 3600 square foot facility designed to explore and enjoy the hobby of model railroading? You get 125 Scouts learning about a part of America's past, train safety, and how trains move product and people.

June 1, 2019 was the date for 125 Scouts along with their Leaders and members of the Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club, located in New Lenox, Illinois to come together to learn and work on the Railroading Merit Badge.

Utilizing the CLRC layout and additional instructional spaces, the Scouts learned about model railroad gauges and scale, railroad equipment and its designated use and planned a dream trip via an Amtrak passenger train.

The Scouts got to design a model railroad and explore different career fields in railroading. Operation Lifesaver Volunteer, and a Licensed Engineer for both steam and diesel equipment with 24 years of experience, Engineer Brian presented the key Operation Lifesaver information. The RRMB day included a lunch of hot dogs, chips and a cold drink, so everyone could relax and compare their notes.

The day ended with the Scouts, many of whom were earning their first Merit Badge, meeting with one of our many Counselors. Our event draws Scouts from as far as Indiana and Wisconsin. With this year's success, there will certainly be a Railroading Merit Badge Day in 2020. We were also grateful to see the number of girls, who are new to the Scouting program,

come out and enjoy the opportunity to earn the Railroading Merit Badge.



Opening Ceremony



What scale was that?



Lunch was a busy place.



Railroad Safety anyone?

Thanks to Kevin for the story, Jerry for the pictures and Herb for the editing.

Herb's Trip to Lionel

I personally picked up the cars at Lionel at Concord, North Carolina. Much is going on. Lionel originally shared the building with another tenant and the other party has moved out. Now everything about Lionel has moved into the one Lionel building. While I was there, Service was moving in from the separate building across the street. Other remote Lionel facilities, such as the San Francisco location have been incorporated into the Lionel building as well as. While there, I had a chance to meet with Lauren Morris, Michael Phillips and Howard Hitchcock.

I passed on our 25th Anniversary CLRC Coffee Mug, CLRC Pen and CLRC Pin

Our club became a Lionel Service Station many years ago. Our relationship with the Lionel Service Station has been ongoing back to when Lionel was in Chesterfield, MI. While I was there, they were inventorying the many parts that were being transferred from their old building. I had a moment to see both Arron Fraser and Dean Brasseur in their new offices.

After the Lionel visit we had a chance to go to the Concord, NC Lionel Store. It has a few layouts and full of many items.



Herb and the Lionel Leadership team



Anniversary cars ready to be loaded

Thanks to Herb for the story and pictures

CLRC Library Move - 06/30/2019

CLRC Members - The CLRC Library is being moved in order to make room for the anticipation of an air conditioning unit. The library will be moved to north wall in the mezzanine. Not all the periodicals will be moved. Only the books, O Gauge and Classic Toy Trains, and Model Railroad (if there is room) will be moved. Work will begin on July 1st with the intent to be completed in two to three weeks. If you have any questions or comments please contact Joe Smolinski at 815-922-6689 or at Josephsmolinski1@comcast.net.



Work begins on the library move

Thanks to Joe S. for the story and picture

Train Derailment at CLRC - 06/29/2019

The National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) will be at the CLRC Clubhouse today to investigate the derailment of a Rock Island freight train. The derailment occurred on Saturday, 06/29/2019, at 11:45 am. While the investigation need to be completed the preliminary report points to a malfunction at a switch where pictures show the box cars derailed. The good news is that one was injured and the cars remained upright. The outcome could have been much worse at the derailment was right next to the popular Route 66. The C&NW railroad was called in to help to get the cars back on the track.



The Rock Island derailment



Work crews are on the scene

Thanks to Joe S. for the story and Mark F. for the pictures



CLRC LIONEL "WISH LIST"

Hi Members, Joe S. sent the document to Lionel with everyone's input. Lauren Morris has acknowledged she received it and has forwarded it to Lionel's Upper Management for their review.

Thank you for being valued CLRC club members and Lionel Ambassadors!

CLRC 25th Anniversary Club Car Two

Our Anniversary car TWO is Lionel's modern LionScale 57' O-Gauge Refer Car, with Rotating Bearing Cap Trucks, separately applied extras, including the ladders and more. This car will enjoy riding with the rest of your CLRC consist on your railroad or enjoyed on your wall of other CLRC trophy cars.

This car is made in the USA at Lionel's Headquarters, Concord, NC. Over 50 of the 100 cars have been sold. Sales are first come first serve. Get yours before they are gone.



Classified Ads

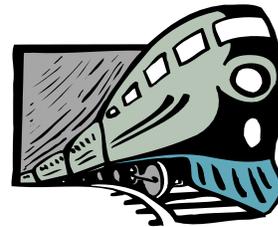
This space will be used to advertise items for sale by the Club or by members.

Club owned items may be purchased by seeing **Bob Ciolino** at the clubhouse or contacting him via phone at 708-828-2041 or e-mail at robertciolino@att.net. For member owned items, the seller must provide contact information.

Member listings are restricted to two specific items, or a general listing identifying the type(s) of items for sale. Listings will continue to appear in the newsletter for two consecutive months, or until sold, whichever is the shorter time. Member listings shall be submitted to **Curt Ward** either via e-mail at cward508@msn.com or via snail mail at 1211 Prairie Creek Trail Joliet IL 60431

Do you have something you want included in the newsletter?

Club member Curt Ward will be creating and distributing the newsletters. If you have material for the newsletter, you can send it to Curt via e-mail at cward508@msn.com. To help Curt please use MS Word to create the information and format it into a two column page.



Coming Down the Tracks

Important upcoming events:

Open House Event – September 21st

Open House Event – October 19th