



# The Semaphore

## September 2019

### Official Newsletter of the Chicagoland Lionel Railroad Club

## The September Open House Brings New Guests

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, the CLRC kicked off the Open House season with a successful event. Over 130 visitors enjoyed the changes to the layout in the comfort of our new air conditioning system. Our returning guests were excited to see the changes in the logging camp, the area around the mountain, and the addition of the lift bridge. Our youngest guests were excited to see the new covered bridge and the new rolling stock on the Sodor layout. Many of our guests were first time attendees. The increase in the number of first time attendees is due to the increased marketing efforts by the club. These efforts are being coordinated by our own Joe Smolinski. Our outreach efforts include a growing presence on Facebook, increased use of targeted email and flyers in the local hobby stores. The club also advertised the Open House Event in the Joliet and New Lenox Patch. Continue to share the word about our upcoming Open House events. They are a vital part of our outreach and the financial success of our club.  
**Thank you to Herb K. for the pictures and input.**



**Operating the logging train is great!**



**Our diner car serves a great lunch.**



**How many trees are on the mountain?**

## Railroad Trivia Question

Who is Shimbleshanks?

The answer is found later in the newsletter.

## September Clubhouse Update

Our layout is looking great!

Thanks to the efforts of a talented and creative membership, the layout had many new changes in place for the September Open House event. Mark and Herb and John made great progress on the new lift bridge. Joe made improvements to the Sodor layout. Tom and Bill added rocks to the mountain and created a trailer park. Bill added new details to the logging camp. Joe and Tom added shelves upstairs for the new library. Jeff worked on track issues and modified the back shop vent. Many other members helped with the cleaning and organization of the club after the air conditioning installation. Thank you to everyone who helped. Our success would not be possible without your participation.



**Tom adds rockwork detail**



**Bill adds the finishing touches to the trailer camp.**



**Tom and Joe work on the library shelving**



**John works on the lift bridge wiring.  
Thanks to Herb K. for the pictures.**

## Trivia Question Answer:

Skimbleshanks is the name of the Railroad Cat in the musical "CATS". He is responsible for ensuring the train runs on time and the mail gets delivered. Just ask him.

Thanks to Kevin B. for the trivia

## CLRC 25<sup>th</sup> 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.



## 2020 Club Dues

Renewal notices were mailed to the address of record of each member during the month of September. If you have not received yours, please reach out to Bob Ciolino at [robertciolino@att.net](mailto:robertciolino@att.net)



## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 – October 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Open House Event – November 16<sup>th</sup>**