



# CMM News

Official newsletter of the  
**Chattanooga Modular Modelers, Inc.**  
A 501 (c) (3) public charity

Issue 004: January 2015

[www.chatmodmod.org](http://www.chatmodmod.org) -- [chatmodmod@gmail.com](mailto:chatmodmod@gmail.com)



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	<p><b>Bill Orman</b>  <i>Director</i>  <a href="mailto:worman@epbfi.com">worman@epbfi.com</a>            (423)243-6829</p>

Membership and Communications:  
 Co-chairmen: Bryan Ford & Pat Turner

Standards Committee:  
 Chairman: Wade Murdock

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### Front Cover Information:

Group photo from the 1<sup>st</sup> anniversary cookout of our group also the cake and the train that we saw near "The Shack". A great big "Thank You" Llyod & G for hosting.

### Deadlines For Submission

1<sup>st</sup> Trimester (Jan) – Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester (May) – April 15<sup>th</sup>  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester (Sep) – August 15<sup>th</sup>

CMM News may be mailed on a per-cost basis. Please send material for publication to [chatmodmod@gmail.com](mailto:chatmodmod@gmail.com). All submissions become the property of CMM News unless otherwise contracted. **Please don't send previously printed materials.**

### ADVERTISING:

Rates are for electronic-format of scanner-ready ads. Preferred formats are Plain Text, MS Word and JPEG. Some Text or Text & JPEG ads can be done by the editor.

Include the company name, address, email address and/or a day-time phone number (email preferred). All ads must be prepaid before publication.

Make Checks payable to: CMM

### ADVERTISING RATES

Page Size	Number of Issues		
	1	2	3
Full	\$120	\$240	\$360
3/4	\$ 90	\$180	\$270
2/3	\$ 80	\$160	\$240
1/2	\$ 60	\$120	\$180
1/3	\$ 40	\$ 80	\$160
1/4	\$ 30	\$ 60	\$ 90
1/6	\$ 20	\$ 40	\$ 60
1/12	\$ 10	\$ 20	\$ 30
Pike Registry: \$12 for 3 issues			



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### Late breaking news:

The Choo Choo management has informed CAMRC that they are losing the layout space on the second floor. **THE LAYOUT WILL CLOSE PERMANENTLY ON SUNDAY JAN. 18th.** The current layout will be torn out beginning on the 19th. They have been offered space on the 1st floor in part of what was the Garden Restaurant for a new state of the art layout. They have 60 days to remove / salvage anything that they want to use on the new layout. Anything remaining will be removed and thrown in the dumpsters. The Choo Choo is hosting a “thank you” reception for all past club on Sunday Jn 18<sup>th</sup>.

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/local/story/2014/dec/31/model-train-attraction-finding-new-home-choo-choo/280417/>

## Transformer load at TVA Kingston Fossil plant

One of the nice things about my work travel to the TVA plants is that occasionally I come across some neat RR photo opportunities - such as this new transformer on heavy duty flat car in the rail yard. While I was taking photos of this, the heavy rigging contractor crew was cutting welds (transformer base to the flat car) in preparation of transfer to one of those 40 wheel heavy duty trailers.







Enjoy the photos!

By: *Brian Ford*

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### Random Ramblings:

*RFID on Model Railroads...*

What will they think of next? I am very excited about this as I think it will change the way we play with our model railroads. Follow some of the links below to see what I am talking about.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1z7nsspgsIQ>

[http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/sites/model-railroad-hobbyist.com/files/podcast/MRH14-10\\_01.mp3](http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/sites/model-railroad-hobbyist.com/files/podcast/MRH14-10_01.mp3)

<http://www.cti-electronics.com/news.htm>

<http://www.pcrnmra.org/pcr/clinics/RFID-in-Model-Railroading-20130123.pdf>

<http://www.corerfid.com/Files/Case%20Studies/043%20MERC%20Case%20Study%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf>

<http://jmri.sourceforge.net/help/en/html/hardware/rfid/index.shtml>

\*\*\*\*\*

We are talking about holding a train show the first or last full weekend in February. I would like to know how the rest of the membership feels about this. Will you be able to participate in the show?

\*\*\*\*\*

A lot has happened in the last four months and we hope to have as much happen over the next four months.

Remember that we are a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization now. That means that your dues and any donations to the CMM are tax deductible. You can also pay your dues ahead for as many years as you like. We will be sending out new membership cards in January.

We had a great time at the Hamilton County Fair in the year of 2014. Let's hope that we always will.

By: *Dale Bryant*

# Chattanooga Modular Modelers

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## KALMBACH VISIT

Since the last newsletter, Sarah and I spent a couple of weeks in Wisconsin, and I had time to visit Kalmbach Publishing in Waukesha, and toured their production area for Model



Railroader and Trains magazines. The company provides tours for subscribers on a daily basis as requested. Steve Otte was my host for about an hour and a half tour. I was the only person present that morning, so the tour was an opportunity to get a very personal look at their operation, which is indeed professional. Any and all of my questions were answered and I was allowed to take photographs of anything I wished as long as I did not post or publish them in any manner – the bad news for this article.



All of the editors except Drew Halverson (Drew's Trackside Adventures) were out that morning, but I enjoyed meeting him and Steve. If anyone is interested in the photos of MRR's layouts,

I can show them to you including the new “N” scale layout shown in the last issue. There were also several examples of engines and cars through the years, as well as, many photographs of Kalmbach’s past. Some of the engines were rather historical, such as the only remaining engine from John Allen’s Gorre & Daphetid.

Kalmbach publishes about 40 monthly periodicals for hobbyists in many areas, as well as, a few professional medical publications. They do everything except the printing of their magazines, which is done by a firm in the area. One of the neat things I observed was the coordination between the authors of articles, the editors and the computer layout design staff. Copies of the completed layouts were hung on the designer’s cubicles and the author and editors came by to see if they had white space to fill – add to the article content, make changes or give final approval. If you are in the area, I suggest giving them a call. It’s time well spent.

I also visited the hobby shop that the editors have visited in some of their videos, Hiawatha Hobbies. The store is not as large in square footage as Trainmasters in Buford, Georgia, but it is stocked floor to ceiling with current merchandise, heavily HO. The staff is knowledgeable and they probably have whatever you are looking for.

By: *Bill Orman*

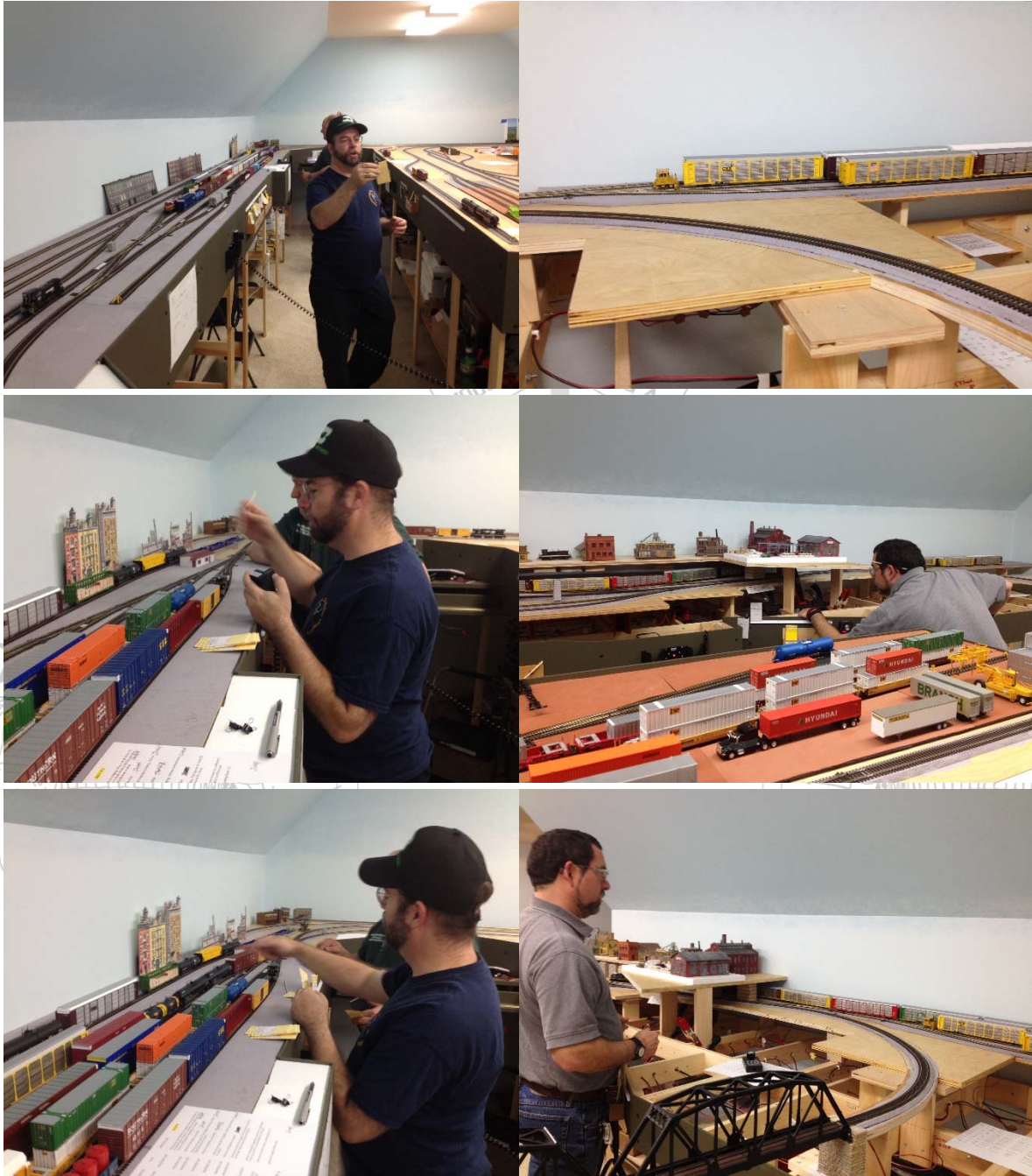
Modular Modelers



## OPERATING SESSION on the MLS&T

Recently, I hosted the second operating session on my railroad. Since the first session, I have added more engines and lighted passenger cars. A couple of weeks prior to my session, I placed most of these at various places on the railroad where they would normally be in action to see how the system functioned with everything on except the staging yard engines. Everything was fine for a while, until I experienced a couple of engines that were stationary and not addressed by a cab, just “running away” at high speed, on their own. I quickly shut down the power on the system. This occurred another time later, then the entire system shut down and I had to keep it off for several minutes to allow the system to “reboot” (I had removed several cars and engines before turning the system on again).





# Modular Modelers

A call to NCE confirmed my suspicions. I'm operating the layout as a single district since I never expected to have more than a couple of people operating. The answer was to install circuit breakers and divide the layout into 3 or 4 districts. The layout should not require an additional booster. I now have most of the supplies and the circuit breakers to install, but I could not complete this prior to my upcoming operating session.



Therefore, I make some adjustments in the number of engines and removed the passenger trains, etc., from the layout. Beyond that, it was just “hope for the best”.

The operating session ran reasonably well, but not as smoothly as the first. We did experience a power failure and were shut down for a few minutes. The pace of the trains leaving hidden staging was too fast for a single yardmaster to handle at Butler yard, so in the future we will assign an assistant yardmaster. Also, the flow of cars to/from their destinations, wasn't as even as the first session. The solution rests with me in the original staging process and/or the need for more cars to run. It is possible to have cars that are to be delivered to certain locations, that do not arrive if they are on a later train from the hidden staging, thus leaving that industry empty of any cars for the start of the next session. It's a matter of balance. I have included a few photos of the session. Thanks to all that attended.

By: *Bill Orman*

### From the Membership Desk:

The CMM was founded in 2013 with 20 members and gained 2 new members during 2014.

We designed and issued CMM membership cards to all members in 2014.

When I moved from a very active model railroad community in Kansas City to Chattanooga in 2010, I kept asking "Where are all the model railroaders? Where are all the layouts?" Now I am glad I found them! The CMM is always looking to add new members - if you meet another model railroader who is asking those same questions, invite them to one of our upcoming

activities or to the regular Thursday evening get-togethers at "The Shack". Or at least direct him to the CMM Facebook page, which has plenty of photos and information.

Additionally, several of us are planning some open houses for our home layouts in early 2015. More to follow.....

By: Brian Ford & Pat Turner

Thanks to all who helped me on Nov 22nd, it has kicked my butt in gear and I have done a little work just about every day on the layout.

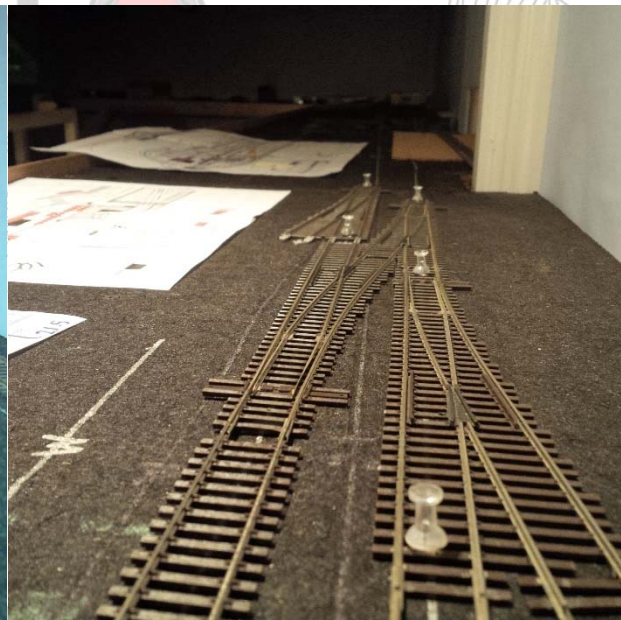
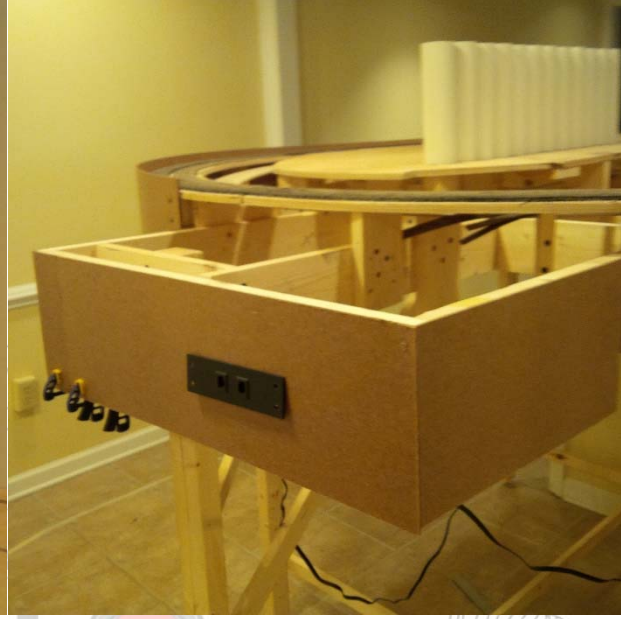
Since the work session, I have:

- finished fascia around the peninsula
- finished all subroadbed for peninsula
- drawn centerlines for all track/switches thru East Springfield industrial - so I know where to align cork

See attached photos. Caulking cork down now







Heads up, I am looking at hosting another work session and pizza feast on Sat 1/17/15 and another one on Sat 1/31/15 (unless there is an operating session up north) Same time, noon til 5 or so. Those are both Met Opera afternoons, so Ronda will be otherwise occupied

By: *Brian Ford*

## Happenings on the CC&S

Here is a short article to update everyone on the goings on here on the Conasauga, Coosawattee, & Southern Railway.

First, as most of you remember, I was hobbling around at the Hamilton County Fair due to surgery on my foot. Good news: my doctor said that he is pleased at how well I've healed, and I don't need to go back until June. The other, and more important, is the birth of another future railfan. My grandson, Noah was born on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>.

As for the railroad itself, I've done a few things on it, with plans to do some more work in the next few months. The first thing completed was the connection of some lighting in the buildings to the 12v power supply. I plan on installing more lighting in some of the other buildings in the near future, along with the installation of street lights. I already have the street lights, so it's just a matter of deciding where I need to place them, and then installing them.

In order to facilitate the installation of all my future lighting, I'm updating my wiring. First, I'm replacing a lot of my 2 or 4 position barrier strips with 6 or 8 position strips. This will give me the ability to add extra buss wires, plus run the 12v buss wire for my lighting. As I do this, I am installing the buss wire for the 2<sup>nd</sup> branch line, even though I don't have, nor the ability to put a 2<sup>nd</sup> branch on a lot of my modules. It will just give me the capability to run power to all of the modules that do have the 2<sup>nd</sup> branch line from my one power source.



As I do this, I am also replacing my 2-pin Jones plugs with 4-pin trailer type plugs on the modules that are dedicated (or clustered) to another module, or to the interchange track between some of my modules.

On another note, I purchased a number of pieces of rolling stock at the Club's picnic. Thanks to all of those that brought some of your "surplus" rolling stock, that was a good reason for me to add a lot of more modern equipment to the roster of the CC&S! While some of these cars have metal wheels, most of these cars have plastic wheels, so I'll need to replace the plastic wheels with the metal wheels. That's no big deal, all I have to do is go get the additional wheels. The last thing that I'll need to do is to paint my identifying marks on them.

Well, that should bring everyone up to date on the latest and future happenings on the CC&S. Hopefully, I can have an operating session for the Club to come down to visit my little empire!

By: *Scott Denson*

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## Treasures Report end of 2014

The following is the accounts balance as of Dec 31, 2014 for the accounts of the ChatModMod.

The TVFCU accounts are as follows:

Corporate Share Account (savings) \$139.00 (\$114 available). This is an account that must be carried so that we can have a checking account with them. The available balance will always be \$25 less than the current balance because it can never be below \$25 and still maintain the account.

Our Small Business Checking account contains \$596.70.

Between Sept 1, 2014 and Dec 31, 2014 we had 6 expenditures totaling \$360.01 and are listed as follows:

\$215.01, 09/02/2014, GoDaddy.Com

\$20, Squarespace Inc., 09/04/2014

\$20, Squarespace Inc., 10/04/2014

\$20, Squarespace Inc., 11/04/2014

\$65, Lloyed Coon, Check #1004, 11/20/2014, Plywood for Modules

\$20, Squarespace Inc., 12/04/2014

Between Sept 1, 2014 and Dec 31, 2014 we had 10 credits to our account totaling \$489.66 and are listed as follows:

\$9.41, 09/05/2014, Stripe - \$10 membership renewal, stripe fee \$0.59.

\$9.41, 09/29/2014, Stripe - \$10 membership renewal, stripe fee \$0.59.



\$276.00, 10/01/2014, Deposit - Memberships and Donation

\$55.00, 10/29/2014, Deposit - Memberships and Donation

\$30.00, 11/07/2014, Deposit - Memberships

\$19.12, 11/20/2014, Stripe - Memberships less fees

\$47.05, 11/20/2014, Paypal - Memberships less fees

\$10.00, 11/24/2014, Membership

\$10.00, 12/15/2014, Membership

\$23.67, 12/24/2014, Stripe, Memberships less fees

Still to deposit \$75.00, Donation. This will bring our total checking to \$671.70.

Respectfully Submitted,

*John Curtis Watson*

Treasurer

ChatModMod

# Chattanooga Modular Modelers

## Membership at end of 2014

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Membership Type</u>	<u>Position</u>
Lewis	Andrew	Regular	
Brendan	Brosnan	Regular	
Dale	Bryant	Regular	Pres.

Jessie	Carson	Youth	
Vince	Carson	Regular	
<b>Lloyd</b>	<b>Coon</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Director</b>
Pat	Denson	Family	
<b>Scott</b>	<b>Denson</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Director</b>
Brian	Ford	Regular	Chair
Dan	Jones	Regular	
William (Bill)	Knoke	Regular	
Calvin	Lloyd	Regular	
<b>H Owen</b>	<b>Maddux</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Sec.</b>
Roy	Masterson	Regular	
<b>Mark</b>	<b>McAllister</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>VP</b>
Gudrun	Miller	Regular	
Wade	Murdock	Regular	Chair
Ernie	Netz	Regular	
<b>William (Bill) T</b>	<b>Orman</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Director</b>
Klaus R	Peucker	Regular	
John	Ramatowski	Regular	
Joshua D	Smith	Regular	
Bob	Swanner	Regular	
Cass	Turner	Family	
Pat	Turner	Family	Chair
Rhonda	Turner	Family	
<b>John</b>	<b>Watson</b>	<b>Regular</b>	<b>Treas.</b>
Joseph (Joe)	Wilson	Family	

**Addition Railroad Events can be found at the following:**

<http://trc.trains.com/events.aspx>

<http://www.railserve.com/events>

<http://www.tvrail.com/pages/tvrm-calendar>