THE ORDER BOARD

Publication Of The

Cumberland Division SER-NMRA Inc

Tennessee Central Railway Museum

Nashville Chapter NRHS

Vol. 33 Issue 3

Donations

Dr Art Cushman- \$165 towards restoration of car TC 102 **Tommy Jones Sr-** \$65 cash **Gene Turnage-** \$400 cash

2013 Cumberland Div-TCRM Schedule

- Mar 7 TCRM Thursday Night Meeting Nashville TN
- Mar 9 Cumberland Division Spring Division Meet-TCRM Open House Nashville TN
- Mar 16 St Patrick's Day DelMonaco Winery Trip to Baxter
- Mar 23 Easter Bunny Excursion Train Trip I to Watertown
- Mar 30 Easter Bunny Excursion Train Trip II to Watertown
- Apr 20 Excursion Train- Watertown 24th Spring Mile-Long Yard Sale
- Apr 20 Dixie Line Days Train Show Wartrace TN
- May 4 Excursion Train- Spring Dogwood Festival Monterey TN

May 18 Train Robbery Excursion Train to Watertown

July 14-20 NMRA 2013 Nat'l Convention Atlanta GA

March 2013 Program

Our March 2013 program will be a DVD presentation from the TCRM video library. Anyone wanting to present a program at our Thursday night meetings, please contact **Bob Hultman** 615-833-5158, cell 615-513-7187 E-mail hultman@bellsouth.net

Host Committee - Mar 2013 Meeting

Michael Day	Jack Dill	Ron Fleitz
Al Gerth	George Gilbert	Harold Golk
Jerry Gray	Jimmie Guthrie	Allen Hicks
Bob Hock	Frank Holt	Stephen Hook
Bull Howard	Bob Hultman*	George Jackson
*- Host Committee	Chair	C C

New Members

Kevin Blevins Nashville TN Dana & Jeff Brisendine Springfield TN Don Ey Hendersonville TN - RERAIL Jerry Fox Wartrace TN - RERAIL Donald Garrett Nashville TN Paula Godsey Brentwood TN (Family) Steve Johnson Nashville TN - RERAIL Welcome to our new members as they take part in our activities.

Activity Fee for 2013 - Renewals By Bob Hultman

Please mail your activity fee renewals (the fee remains \$30 individual, \$35 for family members of the same household) payable to TCRM to TC Ry Museum at 220 Willow St in Nashville TN 37210-2159 Attn – **Marilyn O'Neal**. If you prefer to renew via credit-debit card, please call **Marilyn** at 615-244-9001 or stop by the Museum to do so in person.

ATTENTION NRHS Members – NRHS members need to pay their TCRM activity fee directly to TCRM, not to NRHS to be later relayed to TCRM. This policy was established by the Board of Directors a couple years ago and published in the Dec 2011 Order Board. The Board did this because of the confusion and administrative problems it was causing. Please adhere to it. Also, include any updated roster information (name, address, phone numbers and current E-mail addresses) with your renewal.

Excursion Train News By Bob Hultman

Our next trip for 2013 is the st Patrick's Day Trip to DelMonaco Winery in Baxter on Mar 16. Safety meeting starts at 7 am, with departure at 8:30 am; return to Nashville should be about 6 pm or so. Sign-up sheets for this and the 2 Easter Bunny Trips will be at our Mar 7 meeting. We are always looking for TCRM members to help work these trips. To do so, contact **Bob Hultman** at 615-833-5158; cell 615-513-7187 or E-mail hultman@bellsouth.net

Sad News – Passing of Timothy Martin, Son of Claire & Ray Martin By Bob Hultman

TCRM received the shocking news that **Timothy Martin**, son of TCRM members **Claire & Ray Martin** of the Ft Wayne area in Indiana passed away Feb 5 in Murfreesboro TN. He was struck by a passing motorist while crossing the street. Timothy worked with his parents as car hosts on our excursion trains and wore the Sir Topham Hatt costume during at least 2 of our recent Day Out With Thomas The Tank Engine events. Here's a URL to the Tennessean newspaper obituaryhttp://www.legacy.com/obituaries/tennessean/obituary.aspx?pid= 162926358#fbLoggedOut

The Martin's mailing address is 12514 Genesta Cove in Fort Wayne, IN 46845

TCRM's Administrative Staff

By Terry Bebout

I would like to acknowledge our administrative staff at the Museum for a fine job in running our administrative operations. The Museum is using an administrative service company by the name of Precision Staffing Solutions, a company owned by longtime Museum member **Tim O'Neal**. Instead of the Museum having its own employee, contracting with a service provider allows more versatility with constant coverage when a person needs to be off. The administrative staff that is provided by Precision Staffing is well-trained on our operations and performs many tasks necessary to keep our business running smoothly. We also appreciate our many volunteers that help out answering phones, giving tours and talking with our many visitors about what we do.

There may have been a question from some of our members about non-profit organizations like TCRM having employees that were also members or Board members of the organization. There is no violation of any Federal or State laws, TCRM bylaws or charter for having employees or contracting with a member that owns a company. Information on employees being members or contracting services with members is reported to our accountant who reports it to the Federal government in our annual tax return.

Non-profit status is not a business plan, it is merely a tax status that requires an organization to fulfill its purpose as an organization. We have had a great past in the years we have been providing excursion trains and model railroad activities. I hope that each of you will enjoy being a part of the organization and help us continue to provide fun, educational activities about railroading.

TCRM Hobby Shop Update By Ed Minnich

The crew at TC Hobby Shop continues to work hard at learning the skills of retailing. We're committed to promoting the hobby of model railroading and want to provide the best level of service possible to our customers. Just like our fellow TCRM members, we're all volunteers and sometimes our family and other personal commitments prohibit us from "clocking in" at the hobby shop. While a staff of four may seem adequate, it really is not because the Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays that are already committed by some of our staff. We were not able to open on Tuesday, February 19 because one person was out of town, another had outpatient surgery and the other two staffers had standing commitments for Tuesday. If we are to continue keeping the shop open on a reliable basis, we must have at least two more volunteers to help us staff the hobby shop. Another alternative would be through paid staff, but we can assure you that the member discounts that we now enjoy will shrink if we have to compensate shop keepers. So we're asking for volunteers that are willing to work one or two days a month, including Saturdays, to help us out. Just email us at tchobbyshop@gmail.com if you're willing to work in the shop.

In other news, some of our main distributors are squeezing the markups on selected products, especially when "on sale". The shop loses money if it applies the Members Discount to all Walthers sale items related to Digitrax, Soundtraxx, Micro-Trains Line, and Kadee. The shop also loses money on many of the Micro Mark "sale items". The Hobby Shop Committee has approved the policy that Member's discount no longer applies to "sale items" for Digitrax, Sountraxx, Micro-Trains Line and Kadee products offered through Walthers or other distributors and most Micro Mark items that are "on sale". Customers can still order these items that are on sale through the hobby shop, but additional members discount will not be applicable. In the case of Micro Mark, we can research each sale item before ordering and let you know if the discount will apply. All of these products are still eligible for the Member's Discount off the retail list price. In addition, full Member's Discount may not apply on all other "sale items". The Hobby Shop Committee has also approved a minimum markup for all products and sometimes we must limit the discount of sale items on products not listed above. The hobby shop crew will do its best to notify you of any limited discount items at the time of ordering.

Now that's the bad news, here's the good news. You may have recently received direct emails from the hobby shop about "quicky deals"! We routinely receive notices from vendors and manufacturers about close-out deals. Sometimes we get opportunities on newly released items. The InterMountain quicky deals and the Bowser discounted announcements are recent examples. Your hobby shop crew plans to enhance our ability to monitor these opportunities and offer the savings to our customers. If you have not been receiving these notices, please tell us to add your name to the list by emailing us at tchobbyshop@gmail.com.

Even better news- TC Hobby Shop will be discounting its entire inventory to our guests on the March 9 Open House and Train Show. The discount will also apply to any orders for products at regular retail prices. Please spread the word to your friends.

HO Freight Car Trucks Sought

By John Coles

I need to buy many new or used HO freight car trucks, with or without wheels. Please contact **John Coles** at 615 352-7230 or E-mail hotrainsho@aol.com

Photo of Lettering on Power Car By Terry Bebout



TCRM had our new power car, converted from the CB&Q Budd baggage car Silver Chest, lettered and numbered for its original CB&Q number 901 and name Silver Chest.

Upcoming Conventions & Shows

Cumberland Division Meet-TCRM Open House March 9, 2013

Dixie Line Days Train Show Wartrace TN Apr 20, 2013

4th Annual Madison Train Show July 26-27 2013

NMRA 2013 National Convention, The Peachtree Express in Atlanta GA July 14-20- <u>http://nmra2013.org</u>