

# THE ORDER BOARD

Publication Of The  
Tennessee Central Railway Museum & Model Railroad Club  
Nashville Chapter NRHS  
December 2021

Volume 41 Issue # 12



## Call for Articles

Have a story to share? An experience to relate? Got some RR model pieces to review? A technical tip to dispense? Write it up, add a couple of appropriate photos\* Members will thank you and so will we!

Submit to Susan at [smt789@hotmail.com](mailto:smt789@hotmail.com)

The editors reserve the right to edit any submission for space, appropriateness and readability.

## With Gratitude

Thanks to all our members and friends who have submitted stories, updates, and photos to the Order Board in 2021 for the enjoyment and reading edification of all members and friends. Without you, this Order Board is not possible.

These folks have submitted stories or photos that were published in the Order Board in 2021. Thanks to everyone, for without you there would be no TCRM Order Board.

**Robert Bartley, Terry Bebout, Tim Bebout, George Benson, David Brooks, Randal Brooks, Joey Bryan, Terry Coats, Kevin Comer, Ed Davies, Alex Dmitriev, Ron Dunn, Ken Fagan, Mike Gillespie, Stuart Grinder, Moose Guzman, Allan Hicks, Bob Hultman, Ken Jenkins, Steve Johnson, Brenton Jones, Hugh Lowe, Jill McClintock, Brian McDonnell, Gary Miller, Lucas Moore, Carter Newton, Gwen Scott, Jason Sharpe, Don Strong, Braxton Starkey, Hank Sweetman, Susan Thomas, Brent Thompson, Steve Tomblin, Margaret Ann Trail, Bryan Turner, Tom Tyndall, Doug Uhler, Mike Volle, Ralcon Wagner, Jason Whipp, Steve Wright,**

## Donations

Thanks to all our donors during 2021, whether cash or in-kind items, it all goes towards a great cause of preserving our Tennessee railway heritage.

**Bill Strong-** \$1,000 cash for the Museum Restoration Fund

## New TCRM Members

**Lauren, Scott & Stephany Frick** Collierville & Franklin TN (Family)

Please welcome our new & RERAIEd members as they take part in our activities & events.

## Upcoming 2022 TCRM Excursion

### Complete calendar on page 10

Feb 12 DelMonaco Wine Tasting Excursion Train to Watertown

Feb 19 Valenshines Excursion – 4½ hour ride

Mar 12 St Patrick's Day Excursion Train to Lebanon

## March 25 Storm Recovery Update

### Submitted by Bob Hultman, TCRM Vice President

Gathered from telcons & various E-mails- The sheet metal roofing material for the total replacement of the shed roof has arrived, Terry Bebout reported it's scheduled to be installed the week before Christmas. The false wall between the large room-Museum room passageway and Willow St is being moved farther away from the old electrical panel & the new electrical panel because of Metro code requirements. The replacement will include several significant upgrades.

Three HVAC assemblies now adorn the large room roof, no information on plumbing & electrical wiring of these 3 units. Also, no additional information on large room floor repair-upgrade, the epoxy floor covering is now damaged even more than before the March windstorms. Increased rodent activity has been noted and the large new roll-up door is not installed yet.



*819 Leads the North Pole Express*

Car host participation on the Nov 27 trip to Watertown was significantly more than usual, always good when there's sold-out trains to staff. All our North Pole Express trips sold out for 2021

## Excursion Train Car Host Procedures

By Bob Hultman, TCRM Vice President



Many thanks to **Ted Brown** for generating a 1<sup>st</sup> draft of a revised TCRM Car Host Handbook. The draft has been E-mailed to the CarHosting subgroup of TCRMNashville.groups.io for additional review-revision & refinement. Goal is to have a final version ready for the car host safety class coming up in January hopefully.

In the meantime, car hosts need to keep in mind the end seat pairs in the 5 47xx series coaches, the 7628 car & 9400 dome car all should stay facing the adjacent pair of seats (aka quad seating). Occasionally someone does turn these seats, usually to accommodate a passenger's request..... Just be sure to return the seat pair to the quad seating configuration before leaving the car.

### TCRM Excursion Train News –

Submitted by Bob Hultman, TCRM Vice President

#### A Day in the Life of the Station Master

Submitted by Randal Brooks:

Following report on the Nov 20 Lebanon trips sent in by **Randal Brooks**



I arrived at 5:35 am to start activities, helped parking set out cones and other duties. **Lawrence** was by himself. **Mike Volle** arrived later.

7 am, safety meeting starts. **Carter Newton** and **Leenie** helped with 500-plus passenger check-in. Some passengers start arriving.

7:30am, passengers start congregating around building waiting to board. Line reaches out to Willow Street.

8 am, passengers start boarding, had to straighten out a ticket issue of moving a party to another car.

8:45 am, I go down to start working as car host on 4739 and 4717, start on car prep in both cars.

9 am, train departs on time. I escorted Santa and company thru two cars, while **Rick White** was attending to other duties.

11:30 am, train arrives back in Nashville. I immediately go to start greeting the next 500-plus passengers for the pm trip. People already congregating around the building. At this time **Lawrence Lilly** was working parking by himself. I helped him with parking & then started greeting arriving passengers. During this process I did sell two last-minute tickets,

12:40 pm, started boarding for the next trip. We got the passengers boarded, ready for an on-time 1:30pm departure. The train departs Nashville, I am car hosting on 4739 and 4717 & escorted Santa and company thru two cars, **Rick White** doing other chores.

4:15 pm (or thereabouts) train gets back in Nashville. Had to go directly to Buntin to unlock gate for passengers to get cars. 4739 and 4717 will be prepped during the upcoming week for the next trip.



*Santa, Elves and the Carollers, relaxing before the train leaves.*

Following is a report on the December 4 AM and PM Lebanon trips also sent in by **Randal Brooks**.

**Mike Volle** worked parking and car hosted 4739 on both AM and PM trips. **Leenie Newton** assisted with greeting passengers and boarding people on 4739 until **Mike** could get to the train and then she worked in the library. **Carter Newton** assisted with greeting passengers and stocking food items between trips and worked in the library. **Randal Brooks** greeted passengers and car hosted in 7602 on the PM trip and opened the Buntin Lot, thus I did not have time to clean the 02 car. 7602 needs to be prepped for next trip. **Bruce Hogan** assisted with boarding passengers on 7602 (until **Randal Brooks** could get to the train).



*Families Excited to Board the Polar Express*



## Next TCRM Excursion Train Trip – Feb 12

By **Bob Hultman**

TCRM's 1<sup>st</sup> CY 2022 excursion train is a DelMonaco Wine Tasting trip to Watertown on February 12. Safety meeting commences at 8 am, passenger boarding at 9 am, departing at 10 am, with return to Nashville around 6 pm.

## TCRM VP to Resign his Office in January 2022

by **Bob Hultman, TCRM Vice President**

### Letter to the TCRM Membership:

I've put this off long enough.... I am resigning from TCRM VP Office effective at the adjournment of the TCRM Board of Directors meeting scheduled for January 28 at 2 pm.

The reason for my action is that I and my daughters will be moving out of state this spring. There's no specific dead-line, time, no real estate bought-sold-pending, etc.

However, my daughter **Ashley's** worsening, and delaying this move out medical care, has come to an end. I will be returning to TCRM that material owned by TCRM and that I have in my custody. I will continue to do as much as I can to further the mission of TCRM while still in TN and also once relocated elsewhere.

I strongly believe you, the members of TCRM, have accomplished something over the past 30+ years that's not really been done by an essentially all-volunteer group anywhere else in the USA. Starting from scratch and putting together a quite size-able collection of classic lightweight stainless steel streamlined passenger rolling stock and several contemporaneous 1<sup>st</sup>-generation diesel locomotives with which to haul the passenger equipment, all on a cooperative short-line railroad with Centralized Traffic Control on a portion of its route. We have created unique opportunities in Middle TN for the fans of US Passenger Railroading in the Golden Age of the streamliner.

It's time for some younger and stronger folks to take leadership positions in TCRM and I am doing my part to create those opportunities. Other than marrying my wife and raising 2 pretty smart daughters, I consider TCRM and its predecessor model RR activities my most consequential accomplishments in my life. It's been a great run..... Bob H

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### Editors Note:

Bob – Thank you for your never wavering commitment over decades, 30 + years, to TCRM, to leading the model railroad group, coordinating volunteers, and leading the maintenance projects, as well as so much else that members can recall.



For my part, it has been a joy to work with you on the Order Board for the past year. Under your guidance, we have expanded the Order Board to a member oriented newsletter that depends on submissions from our members long standing and new, young and old, and friends. With the safety protocols during Covid and our building storm damage which has restricted our meetings, for many members the Order Board became their primary link to the organization.

I invite members to submit your stories, to me [smt789@hotmail.com](mailto:smt789@hotmail.com), your memories, your photos, the humorous adventures and also what you learned from Bob while working on the train excursions, the maintenance projects on both building and cars.

## TCRM Vintage Car Maintenance Team

**Ken Fagan** leads this team. He is down at TCRM most Wednesday mornings. He would welcome assistance from other TCRM members.

If you would like to help volunteer on the maintenance team, to help close our 52 open work orders, and more that are opened every week from car host after trip status reports, please reach out to **Ken Fagan** [2kenfagan@gmail.com](mailto:2kenfagan@gmail.com)

After the construction work is completed in the meeting room, we expect that there will be a lot of clean-up work to be done to prepare for our first event and celebration. We will be reaching out to our volunteers to work on various small projects to work with Ken. Stay tuned, we will need your skills and your sweat!

## Repaired Excursion Train Maintenance Issues from November 15 to December 15, 2021 Submitted by Steve Tomblin, Recording Secretary TCRM BoD

- 4711 – Floor heat grille loose. Repaired
- 4717 – Men's room sink faucet inoperative. Repaired.
- 4719 – Hall number board lights out. Repaired.
- 4733 – Seats 15/16 will not turn. Repaired.
- 7628 – Seat 44 armrest plate missing screw. Repaired.
- 7628 – Swivel chairs loose. Repaired.
- 9400 – Seats 43/44 will not turn. Repaired.

9400 – Seats 15/16 tray table broken. Repaired.

9400 – “B” end AC grille rattling. No problem found.

9400 – Seats 27/28 foot rest loose. Repaired.

## TCRM Volunteer Recognition

By Susan Thomas, Order Board Editor

### Excursion Train Volunteers

Thanks to you all, for all your hard work in 2021, your patience, your songs, your stories, delivering excellent customer service to our passengers to ensure those special memories were made for those families.

As you read the names of our dedicated volunteers, you will see many volunteer names repeated as they served in many different roles, serving where they were needed to keep the excursion trans running.

### Pre Trip Preparation:

Terry Bebout, Randal Brooks, Ted Brown, Ken Fagan, Eric Henry, Bob Hultman, Tanner Peterson, Steve Tomblin

### Christmas Decoration of the Passenger Cars:

Bob Donovan, Eric Henry, Brenton Jones, Tanner Peterson and his sister and brother

### Parking, Passenger Greet, Boarding Platform, and Station Master Check In:

Randal Brooks, Bob Hultman, Lawrence Lilly, Carter & Leenie Newton, Gary Miller, Hank Sweetman, Susan Thomas, Mike Volle



Lawrence Lilly

### Car Hosting:

Colby Adams, Robert Bartley, Robert Blanchard, Randal Brooks, Ted Brown, Joyce Chapman, Alex Clark, Jane Coates, Terry Coates, Aleksandr Dmitriev, Pasha & Peter Dmitriev, Bob Donovan, Cecil Elliott, Scott Frick, Steve Gibson, Carol Grandstaff, Thomas Grosse, Bruce Hogan, Bill Howard, Hugh Lowe, Don Marlin, Ross Musgrave, Larry Norton, Kieran & Mark Obrien, Ken Oosting, Adam Shaw, Chelsea Taylor, Susan Thomas, Margaret Ann Trail, Bryan Turner, Mike Volle, Becky White, Kelly White, Rick White



Alex Clark



Kieran and Mark Obrien



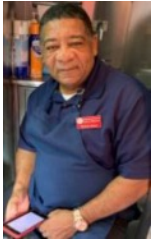
Adam Shaw

### Food Service:



Doug Uhler

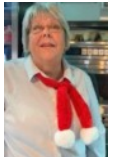
Terry Bebout, Randal Brooks, Joe Casavos, Brenton Jones, Thomas Jones, Gary Miller, Danny Oliver, Ross Musgrave, Tanner Peterson, Steve Tomblin, Doug Uhler and his grandson J. Winborn, Becky White, Kelli White



Thomas Jones

### Concessions:

Peggy Bebout, Janice Casavos, Stephany Frick, Susan Oliver



Janice Casavos

### Train Crew:

Tim Bebout, Alex Dmitriev, Bob Donovan, Thomas Grosse, Eric Henry, Stephen Hook, Tanner Peterson, Logan Sava, Brent Thompson, Lee Ware, Rick White, Jason Whipp



Brent Thompson

Sincere apologies to anyone I might have missed or mis-assigned. The editor scanned many documents and emails that I have access to, to pull together as many names as I could.

## Selected Feedback from some of our Passenger Surveys from 2021

### March 13, 2021 St Patrick's Day Trip

Car 7602 – Car hosts **Jane and Terry Coats**

Enjoyed the fellowship of other passengers, a peaceful ride

Car 4733 – Car hosts **Colby Adams and Thomas Grosse**

Scenery was really enjoyable, the seating was very comfortable, and the staff was very accommodating.

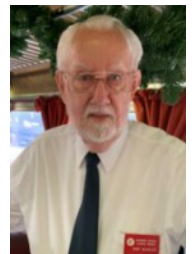
Car 4717 – Car host **Robert Bartley**

Comfortable ride, Rob was great! Food was good  
Host was very helpful and professional

### April 3, 2021 Easter Egg Hunt

Car 9400 – Car host **Don Marlin**

Mr Marlin is an exceptional host, very knowledgeable and incredibly hospitable. Consider having a historical presentation on Watertown given by Mr Marlin



Don Marlin

Car 7628 – Car host **Hugh Lowe**  
Hugh was so kind and taught us a lot about the route and trains



*Bill Howard*

Car 4739 – Car host **Bill Howard**  
The train ride is beautiful, enjoyed Bills help

Car 4733 – Car host **Colby Adams and Thomas Grosse**  
Colby was very nice and answered all our questions, they were very courteous, and good people to be around

Car 4719 – Car host **Alex Dmitriev**  
Thank you Alex, very courteous and knowledgeable about the trip, the train and cars, and an experience with the family

Car 3119 – Car host **Larry Norton**  
The staff was really friendly. Mr Larry was great and stopped by asking us about if we needed anything

### **April 17, 2021 Mile Long Yard Sale**

Car 4739 – Car host **Robert Blanchard**  
Staff was great – made the trip very fun and enjoyable

Car 7602 – Car host **Robert Bartley**  
It was so much fun and the car host, Robert, made it even more fun. Everything was great!

Car 4733 – Car hosts **Becky and Kelli White**  
Richard Becky and Kelli made us feel welcome and kept us entertained – loved the train ride

Car 7628 – Car host **Hugh Lowe**  
Very knowledgeable and entertaining host

Car 4719 – Car host – **Alex Dmitriev**  
Enjoyed the camaraderie of the host and passengers on the train  
Everyone who worked on the train was wonderful, and I've never felt so welcomed. Such a smooth ride, and all the people were very nice, especially Alex Dmitriev. I felt like I went back in time. Everything was wonderful – I really enjoyed the trip.

### **May 15, 2021 Wine Tasting Trip**

Car 4719 – Car hosts **Bryan Turner and Alex Dmitriev**  
We enjoyed the wine and the friendly staff



*Bruce Hogan*

Car 4717 – Car host **Bruce Hogan**  
Bruce was personable and fun on our trip, very informative.

Car 4711 – Car hosts **Carol Grandstaff and Susan Thomas**  
Carol and Susan were very friendly and also very knowledgeable about the train and Watertown. Carol went out of her way to make sure our trip was enjoyable, she even purchased a cork

screw for us, so we could enjoy our wine on the way home. We look forward to a future excursion

Car 7602 – Car host **Ted Brown**  
Ted was an outstanding car host. Ted was quick to fix a ticketing error, and when the AC went out, he got that fixed too!

Car 4739 – Car host **Steve Gilbert and Mike Volle**  
Very good customer service. Mike and Steve are awesome

### **September 25, 2021 Train Robbery**

Car 8519 – Car host **Hugh Lowe** – We really enjoyed Mr Hugh explaining what to expect during the ride

### **October 30, 2021 Fall Foliage**

Car 9400 – Car hosts **Don Marlin** and **Cecil Elliot**  
Both were great – we'll definitely do this trip again, in February and July 2022.

Car 7628 – Car host **Joyce Chapman** – Restful and most enjoyed Joyce's conversation and info on the area.

Car 4733 – Car hosts **Larry Norton** and **Margaret Ann Trail** – It was pleasant to ride on the train – the hosts were friendly and funny.

Car 4719 – Car host **Ken Oosting** and **Adam Shaw** – Most enjoyed the calm atmosphere created by **Ken** and **Adam**. Our volunteers were knowledgeable and courteous.

Car 4717 – Car hosts **Steve Gibson** and **Hugh Lowe** – Most enjoyed the train ride and visit with people. The volunteers did an outstanding job. Steve and Hugh were attentive, professional, and very cordial. Would love to do it again.

Car 4711 - Car host **Bob Donovan** – Pleasurable excursion – will do it again – thanks – **Bob** is a great host! Great to talk with!

Car 3119 - Car host – **Leenie Newton** – Our car host was wonderful! Give her a raise! **Leenie** was amazing! A wonderful hostess!

Car 3113 - Car host **Robert Bartley** – very relaxing trip – enjoyed the music – we love Rob – Thanks for making our trip so special.



*Robert Bartley*

Car 7602 – Car host **Ted Brown** – excellent host ! Great staff – crew were amazing. Very entertaining and accommodating.

Car 4739 – Car hosts **Alex Clark** and **Mike Volle** – We enjoyed our volunteer hosts – very friendly and customer oriented.



**October 23, 2021**

Car 7602 - Car hosts **Alex Dmitriev** and **Bill Howard** – Wonderful trip -volunteers, music, dining, and bar car. We loved the whole experience

Car 9400 – Car hosts **Don Marlin**, **Cecil Elliot** and **Alex Clark** – Its been a long time since we have ridden the TC Excursion train – nice to be back again!

Car 4739 – Car host **Bob Donovan** – **Bob** was great !

Car 4719 – Car host **Ken Oosting** – overall a great experience –the hosts were very helpful and friendly.



*Ken Oosting*

Car 4717 – Car hosts **Steve Gibson** and **Bryan Turner** –, our car hosts, **Steve** and **Bryan**, were hospitable, thanks for a good job!

Car 4717 – Car hosts **Joyce Chapman** and **Hugh Lowe** – **Joyce** and **Hugh** were great – enjoyed the stories and info from **Joyce** and **Hugh**.

Car 4733 – Car hosts **Becky White** and **Margaret Ann Trail** – awesome staff!

## **Excursion Train, Maintenance, Office, Library and Hobby Shop Volunteers**

### **Other Volunteer Responsibilities and TCRM Activities**

#### **Maintenance:**

Randal Brooks, Ted Brown, Ken Fagan, Bob Hultman, Eric Henry, Brenton Jones, Steve Tomblin, Jason Whipp

#### **Library:**

Carter Newton, Allene “Leenie” Newton

#### **Hobby Shop:**

Ed Davies, Mike Embree, Ron Fleitz, Alan Garner, Mark Henry, Hank Sweetman, Gary Willoughby



*Ed Davies*

#### **Landscape and Building Maintenance:**

George Benson, Ken Fagan

#### **2021 TN State/ Wilson County Fair Booth:**

Celine Bosch, Randal Brooks, Bruce Hogan, Hugh Lowe, Ross Musgrave, Larry Norton, Susan Thomas

#### **After the Storm Meeting Room Clean Up:**

Randal Brooks, Ken Fagan, Carol Grandstaff, Eric Henry, Brenton Jones, Larry Norton, Tanner Peterson, Susan Thomas, and many others that I have no information on.

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES at TCRM**

Many of our member volunteers help out in so many different ways. If you are not yet volunteering and want to, look at all the different roles, and reach out and find out from any of our active volunteers all about the different activities you can become involved with.

In particular we need more volunteers to help in the food service area. If we had enough volunteers who consistently worked the excursions, we could open up one of the snack bar cars. This would greatly relieve congestion on the 8510 car and would definitely increase our sales of snacks and drinks.

Apologies if we have left someone off the lists, we have tried to include everyone from the crew call sheets and other activities. If you volunteered, and are not included, please let the editor know.

### **TCRM Library and Archive News**

**By Carter Newton, TCRM Member**

Happy December, all!

The TCRM Library and Archive exists to serve several different groups, and in the last few months I’m proud of the work to serve them all. From the community of Model Railroaders that calls TCRM home, to the members who are working hard to keep the museum rolling, to those who are working to tell the history of the TC and railroading at large, to community historians writing new histories of Nashville, the Library and Archives has found many ways to connect and serve.

One of the more exciting projects that started in 2021 was the indexing of the TC employee files. Some of the files are over 100 years old, and they are turning out to be an invaluable resource for researchers. You see, in the first half of the 20th century, employment applications include more details about an applicant’s family than what a modern application form gathers. These applications include spouses and children’s names and ages, parent’s names and cause of death, if they are no longer living, siblings names, and any relatives who are also employed by the TC. The information in one application can fill out a lot of a family tree, if you needed it to - and there are researchers who are using our records to do just that. There’s much more to come about this, but for now the highlight is that information in the TC library in an archive is contributing to a new understanding of south Nashville, its residents, and their lives in the years before the construction of the freeways that cut through Nashville.

The New Year brings new projects and new mysteries to dive into, from first steps into digitization, to refreshed displays, to rumors about an unknown dining car deep in the TC’s past, there’s more to be done. I look forward to finding out more and sharing with you here, as well as serving the needs of the membership and community beyond.

The library will be closed on December 25 and January 1, and will resume its normal schedule in January. For those who celebrate, a very Merry Christmas, and to all a happy New Year. I leave you a little historical recording into Winston Link that captures a little spirit of the season.

<https://youtu.be/fbzAJow34DM>

The Tennessee Central Railway archives are open Saturdays between 10 am and 1 pm. Other times may be possible by special arrangement.

## **TCRM Hobby Shop**

**By Hank Sweetman, TCRM Member**

2021 was another challenging year for the Museum and the Hobby Shop. The impacts of the Covid pandemic continued to impact the availability of merchandise from our suppliers as well as the number of customers coming into the Hobby Shop. The March storm damage to the museum and the subsequent dismantling of the HO and N scale layouts drastically reduced the visits by members of those organizations. The Hobby Shop was open every Saturday during 2021, and we are looking forward to a better year in 2022.

Thanks go out to all of our loyal customers who made 2021 another successful year.

Our dedicated staff continues to operate the Hobby Shop to serve our customers. Special thanks to **Mike Embree, Mark Henry, Ed Davies, Ron Fleitz, Gary Willoughby** and our newest member, **Alan Garner**. The Hobby Shop could not run without your time and effort.

We have been fortunate to have received a number of donations this year. Currently our shelves are full of locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars and assembled structures. Our thanks go out to everyone who donated items to the Hobby Shop, and we welcome members of the museum to come in and check out our new offerings.

HO rolling stock from the **Gordon Smith** donation has been priced and put on display. These are extremely nicely done cars, weathered as prototypes would be and outfitted with good trucks and couplers.

We continue to need volunteers to staff the Hobby Shop. Our goal would be to only need a person to work every 6 weeks or so. The system we use is not difficult, and training is provided. This is a great way to meet fellow enthusiasts and learn more about the hobby. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Hobby Shop manager at [hanksweetman@gmail.com](mailto:hanksweetman@gmail.com) or by phone at 615-406-6917.

We have 2 display cases for sale. One is in the Hobby Shop and the other is in the upstairs conference room. Both cases have plexiglass covers and are made of oak. A great place to display your collection of rolling stock.

We still have a good supply of the Tennessee Central hoppers and box car kits from Accurail. We also have some additional decals for both kits to allow you to create new road numbers for your layout.

If there are items that you would like to have the Hobby Shop stock, please let us know. As always, we are ready to special order items for you.

## **HO Scale Model Railroad News**

**By Bob Hultman, TCRM Vice President**

Not much to report on, all the modules are still in storage, several have suffered damage during handling-storage, so there will be repair work to be completed as the RR gets set back up..... Well, there's 1 exception to the above story..... I brought the 4 Jack Sircy corner modules & legs home to work on them, clean the rails (these modules have been sitting in the shed for who knows how long.....), repair & improve the wiring & also to have a roundy-round RR to run on with better than 18" radius brass Snap-Track.....

## **Nashville Ntrak News**

**Submitted By Jason Sharpe, TCRM Member**

Nashville NTrak has big opportunities coming in 2022. New club layout with operating sessions. We will be attending 2 National Model Railroad Conventions. Hopefully 10+ Layout setups

And although the meeting room was closed and the Ntrak layout taken down, the Ntrak group had a busy 2021:

### **A Year In Review:**

"Nashville NTrak Saturday Morning Excursions  
February 13th  
February 27th  
March 13th

### **Nashville NTrak Train shows:**

Madison Train Show July 16th and 17th  
Dayton (Ohio) Train Show August 14th and 15th  
Viola Homecoming August 21st

### **Nashville NTrak Business Meetings:**

June 26th  
November 6th

### **March 25th**

Nashville NTrak had the majority of it's modular layout setup in the warehouse on the afternoon of March 25<sup>th</sup> (date of the storm), along with it's permanent club layout. The modular layout was setup in preparation for the 2021 and 2022 Nashville NTrak Train Show calendar. Six modules were damaged by flying debris and rain from the following evening. The club layout had minor damage. Nashville NTrak got lucky in the long run. Three of the damaged modules were easily repairable.

**April 23rd**

Nashville NTrak was able to move everything of value out of the TCRM warehouse and shed by April 23rd in preparation for the reconstruction of the two structures. Everything not including the modular layout is currently sitting in an RJ Corman boxcar.

### September 18th

Nashville NTrak had the opportunity to ride the excursion train. Thank you to the TCRM for that fun trip.

Please email [jwsharp2016@gmail.com](mailto:jwsharp2016@gmail.com) if you have any questions or would be interested in joining the organization.

## Railway Memories and History in Tennessee and Beyond

If you have stories, memories or photos\* to share on local RR history, or more, please contact Susan Thomas at [smt789@hotmail.com](mailto:smt789@hotmail.com)

## Memories of Working on the Railroads in Russia

Submitted by Alex Dmitriev, TCRM member

I started the first year of museum volunteering in the North Pole Express 2020. It was interesting to look inside the role of the car host job. I was familiar with the job in Russian Railways because my two university friends were car host and train chief, but to feel it from inside is different.

I appreciate Brenton Jones help - he showed me the job in my first trip. Very soon I started work alone. And in April this year (2021) for the first time I had a challenge to work alone in, not one but two cars, 4711 and 4719. It was difficult but I did it. During the first year each excursion is new and unusual, especially the first half year, each trip has different scenery.

From the first train robbery trip my sons Pasha and Peter began to work with me in the car. They like the 4711 car because it has room for the crew to sit.. They are a great help during car preparation, and cleaning after trip. They compete with each other for the opportunity to escort passengers to their seats in the car. They like to turn seats, but they are not yet strong enough yet to do it without help.



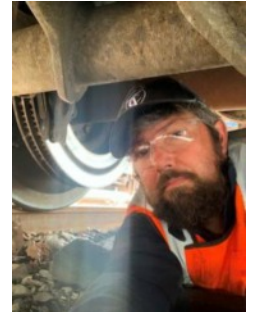
Although working as a car host for me is very interesting and enjoyable, what I really look forward to is the opportunity to participate in any switching work. And I try to use any opportunity I can to be part of the switching crew. Walking on the ballast rocks, coupling and uncoupling cars, turning the switches – all of these return me to my previous railway job that I loved very much.

And I was very happy to be at the museum when we did the switching to move #819 out from the maintenance track and

take its place at the head of the other locomotives. It was wonderful to see the first run of locomotive 819 after more than 20 years of restoration. I was happy to be there at this historical moment!

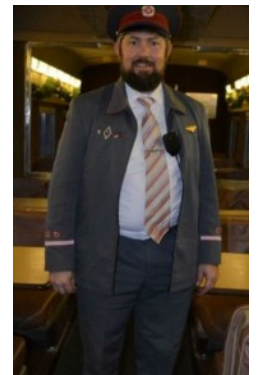
Also it was very interesting to do the brake inspection. I had to crawl under the cars on dirty gravel. It was difficult, a little scary, and dangerous, despite the fact that all the necessary precautions were followed. But to look at the cars from below is worth it.

What I really am sorry about is that I did not have enough time to take part in the restoration. I am feeling that I am not doing enough for the museum. I hope to be more useful in the future.



But for the last two North Pole Express trips, I brought to the museum something historical and unique! Three weeks ago I received parcel from Russia and inside was my old Russian Railways uniform. I wore this uniform to work for three years and it served its time. It was in a very worn condition and that's why I didn't bring it with me when we moved. I didn't know that I would be a volunteer at the railway museum. And so my mother's golden hands in Russia repaired it for me, and now there is a real railway worker from Russia in a real uniform of Russian Railways on the museum train.

But this uniform itself is also historical, because a couple of years ago the Russian Railways changed the color of the uniform and the shape of the stars on the insignia.



## TCRM Member Spotlight By Margaret Ann Trail, TCRM Member

We spotlight long-term members, the foundation of our Museum, and our new members who bring fresh energy and ideas to the group. We look forward to your participation.

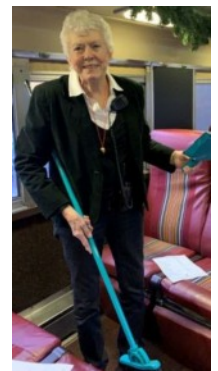
**Name:** Margaret Ann Trail  
**Membership #** 1405

**TCRM Order Board:** When did you join the Organization?

**MAT:** January 2020

**TCRM Order Board:** What was your primary interest or reason for joining TCRM?

**MAT:** One Saturday, I took the day off from Fiddlers and made the trip to the TCRM Hobby Shop looking for resources that I might use to get me started on creating a layout. Susan Thomas was volunteering in the store





and took me to see the N scale layout. Wow! It was the first I had seen in that scale. I became a TCRM member that day. When Covid closed the world, I began constructing a 3 x 6' layout. (That was all the space I felt I could make available for my new hobby.) And it might take me until I am 95 to finish it.

**TCRM Order Board:** Do you have a home layout and what inspired you to build it?

**MAT:** I gifted myself an N scale starter set for Christmas 2019. One Saturday, I took the day off from Fiddlers and made the trip to the TCRM Hobby Shop looking for resources that I might use to get me started on creating a layout. Susan Thomas was volunteering in the store and took me to see the N scale layout. Wow! It was the first I had seen in that scale. I became a TCRM member that day. When Covid closed the world, I began constructing a 3 x 6' layout. (That was all the space I felt I could make available for my new hobby.) And it might take me until I am 95 to finish it.

The fall of 2019 Ron Selliers invited me to attend a Nashville Garden Railroad Club meeting where they were planning for the 2020 National Convention to be held at Opryland Hotel (which was postponed until June 2021 because of covid.) I staffed the registration desk at that convention. My passion has always been gardening and I had dreamed of having a garden railroad, but I thought that was something I just couldn't have with my very small back yard. After seeing some of backyard layouts on the tours for that convention, I realized I could have a small train running through my garden. I am now hooked...I have the train, (a steam engine, coal car, box car, flat car and caboose), a dream, and an appointment with a landscaper to build a retaining wall to enlarge my garden. Now I just need about 100 feet of track and someone to take the plants that I will be digging to make room for my new passion.

**TCRM Order Board:** How has your interest in volunteering or participation changed over the years?

**MAT:** I moved to Lebanon in August, 2018 from a cattle ranch in East Texas. I found Fiddlers Grove, and while touring the Grove, I saw the Model Train Museum with the O and HO layouts and the little N scale train. I was fascinated with the miniatures, the scenes and the stories that were created in the dioramas. What imaginations! I enjoy crafting and had always wanted a train when I was growing up, but girls didn't do trains, just dolls. Over the summer of 2019, I volunteered at the Fiddlers General Store and visited the museum several times. One day realized that I could volunteer at the train museum and "play with their trains". I attended the train club one evening and Ron Selliers said he would teach me to run the trains. Soon I was a regular volunteer on Saturdays.

**TCRM Order Board:** What have been the highlights of your membership experience.

**MAT:** Fast forward to August 2021 and the Wilson County/TN State Fair where TCRM had a booth at the Fiddlers Grove Train Museum to promote the Excursion Train Service. Volunteers Susan Thomas, Randall Brooks and Larry Norton talked to me about being a Car Host. I finally decided to give it a try. My first Car Host trip was orientation by Don Marlin on 9400 on the ride to the Blues Festival in Watertown. I was excited about having a new experience and learning how a real train works, to ride a real

train, and to not just play with toys. The excitement of the passengers and their enthusiasm for their adventures that day was shared with me. It had been almost 25 years since my last train ride (a commuter train from New Haven to Grand Central Station). My first train trip was at age 11 when my brother and I rode from Grandmother's home near Herne, TX to Des Moines; then in college, from Ames, IA to Chicago. Then: Nashville to Chicago in 1998 so my daughter could have the train experience; then Anchorage to Denali in 1992, a sleeper car from New Haven to Washington DC in 1995; then taking my grandkids on the Palestine, TX Excursion train.

**TCRM Order Board:** What area of volunteering or activity do you participate in?

**MAT:** I have been a Car Host on 3 trips now and am looking forward to some Polar Express trips. It was hard to tell the fellows at Fiddlers that I can't do all Saturdays there. Would I have seen myself as a Car Host during my retirement? It would never have entered my mind. Nor would I have seen myself cleaning bathrooms.



**TCRM:** Do you think that you will still be a member in 5 years? Why or Why Not?

**MAT:** Will I be a volunteer five years from now? I will if I am able. My hobby is being a volunteer, and since I am planning to be this side of the ground for about 15 more years and since railroads and trains are my new passion, I will be doing something with TCRM. I am just learning about opportunities.

## Operation Lifesaver

By Jill McClintock  
Executive Director, TN  
Operation Lifesaver



New Year Resolution!

If you are thinking about doing more Volunteer work in 2022, please consider TN Operation Lifesaver! We offer an easy on-line and in-person training to get you started on saving lives around railroad tracks and trains. This is right in your area of expertise and interest - TRAINS!

If you are interested, please log onto our website [www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org) and click on "Volunteer". Complete the short application and I will contact you concerning the training.

The only requirements are to attend 2 events or make 2 presentations a year. We provide all the materials needed!

If you have any questions, please email me at [jmoodytnol@comcast.net](mailto:jmoodytnol@comcast.net). Plus there are several TNOL Volunteers already working at the museum if you want to discuss our program. We would love to welcome you All Aboard in 2022!!

Happy Holidays!  
Jill McClintock  
TNOL Executive Director

## 2022 TCRM Excursion Calendar

- Feb 12 DelMonaco Wine Tasting Excursion Train to Watertown  
Feb 19 Valenshines Excursion – 4½ hour ride  
Mar 12 St Patrick’s Day Excursion Train to Lebanon  
Mar 26 DelMonaco Wine Tasting Excursion Train to Watertown  
Apr 9 Spring Mile-Long Yard Sale Excursion Train to Watertown  
Apr 16 Easter Bunny Excursion Train to Watertown  
Apr 30 Watertown - Private Charter-Bespoke Tours  
May 7 4 ½ hour ride - German Mayfest Excursion  
May 14 Watertown - Wine Tasting Excursion  
May 21 Watertown - Train Robbery Excursion  
Jun 26 Watertown - Private Charter- Train Collectors Assn.  
Jul 16 Watertown - Murder Mystery/Jazz Festival  
Jul 24 Watertown - Private Charter-Lionel Collectors Assn.  
Aug 6 Watertown - Wine Tasting Excursion/Harvest Days  
Sep 3 Watertown - Brews and Blues Excursion  
Sep 24 Watertown - Train Robbery  
Oct 8 Watertown - Fall Yard Sale/Christmas Market  
Oct 15 Watertown - Wine Tasting Excursion  
Oct 22 4½ hour ride 90 mile round trip Oktoberfest  
Oct 29 5½ hour ride 100+ mile RT Fall Foliage Excursion  
Nov 19 2½ hour ride 64 mile RT North Pole Express AM & PM  
Nov 26 Watertown - North Pole Express  
Dec 3 North Pole Express 2½ hour rides RT AM & PM  
Dec 10 North Pole Express 2½ hour rides RT AM & PM  
Dec 17 North Pole Express 2½ hour rides RT AM & PM  
Trip dates, destinations, events and equipment subject to change.

## Monthly Thursday Meetings On Hold

First it was the pandemic, and now the damage from the storm in March, TCRM will not hold the monthly meetings until further notice.

## TCRM Limited Reopening

**Randal Brooks** continues to be at TCRM most Saturdays from 9 to 3 pm Central Time. The Museum room & meeting room will be closed to visitors until the meeting room is completed.

## Other RR Events of Interest 2022

**Spring 2022 TCRM Open House & Model Train Show**- We will aim for a restart in late March or early April 2022.

**May 5-7** Mid-South Live Steamers Public Spring Meet  
<https://www.midsouthlivesteamers.com/calendar/public-spring-meet-r2dw9>

**June 15 -19** National N-Scale Convention, Nashville TN

**Aug 7-13** NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION St Louis MO  
[https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?preview&event\\_id=13724](https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?preview&event_id=13724)

## 2022 Membership Renewal –

**Now on Website or In Person in Hobby Shop**  
By **Bob Hultman**

If you have not already renewed, please do so either online, or if you prefer to renew in person, you can go down to the Hobby Shop 10 am – 2 pm on Saturdays. Note that when you renew on

line thorough Etix, there is a fee of about \$3.50. If you prefer, you can go to the hobby shop, renew there, and there will be no additional fee.

The URL <https://www.tcry.org/volunteer> takes you to the Get Involved Web page, or you can scroll to the bottom of the TCRM Web Home page & click on the Get Involved choice. Once there, the left side is for new members to join, while the right side is for current members to renew their membership. If you need your TCRM Membership #, contact **Bob Hultman** at [hultman@bellsouth.net](mailto:hultman@bellsouth.net) or call cell 615-513-7187 for it. This Web page can now record renewals thru end of CY 2022.

If you have to mail your activity fee renewals (**\$35 individual, \$40 family membership**), make checks payable to TCRM & mail to :  
TC Ry Museum, 220 Willow St., Nashville TN 37210-2159  
Attn – **Admin Staff**.

## TCRM and Model Railroad Club Board of Directors

Next Board of Directors Meeting will be held on January 28 at 2pm. All members are welcome to attend.

<b>Terry Bebout</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>Bob Hultman</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Dominic Breeze</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Steve Tomblin</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

**BoD Members - Tim Bebout- operating crew trainer, George Gilbert, Allen Hicks, John Kennedy- legal adviser, Robert “Mars” Marsmaker, Gordon Smith & Gene Turnage**

## EDITORS NOTE

If you enjoyed reading this expanded Order Board newsletter, let the editors know- **Bob** at [hultman@bellsouth.net](mailto:hultman@bellsouth.net) or **Susan** at [smt789@hotmail.com](mailto:smt789@hotmail.com)

It took much work and time to put it together, with many members contributing articles and pictures\*. If you have interesting stories and photos\* of your model layout at home, Broadway Dinner Train memories, Railroad memories, TC History, a quiz, positive or humorous interactions and photos\* with our passengers, share them with all our members!

If you, or you would like to see one of our members featured in our **TCRM Member Spotlight** feature, let us know. We'll reach out to you or to them. Contact Susan at [smt789@hotmail.com](mailto:smt789@hotmail.com)

Note that for any submission to the newsletter, the deadline is the 17<sup>th</sup> of each month. Any submission received after the deadline date will held until the next monthly Order Board. The editors reserve the right to edit any submission for space, appropriateness and readability.

Contact the Order Board editor at [hultman@bellsouth.net](mailto:hultman@bellsouth.net) or call his cell phone.

All photos were taken by Susan Thomas unless otherwise noted.  
\*With Apple phones, make sure you are NOT using the HEIC format for photo submission.