Piedmont Pilgrimage coming soon

Every Autumn, hundreds of train enthusiasts tour train layouts all over the Atlanta area. This year, several of the NAOGRRC members will open up their homes and turn on their transformers to showcase their O-Gauge layouts. In addition, the NAOGRRC Club layout at HobbyTown USA will be on the tour. The website for the Piedmont Pilgrimage is http://www.piedmont-div.org/pilgrimage/

Rick B.- Saturday October 22nd from 10am-2pm
Jim D.- Saturday October 22nd from 10am-2pm
NAOGRRC- Saturday Oct 29th from 10am-2pm
Eric S.- Saturday October 29th from 1pm-5pm
Dean B.- Saturday October 29th from 1pm-5pm
Cookie H.-Sunday November 13th from 11am-3pm
Bill D.- Sunday November 13th from 11am-5pm

Open call for more articles of interest for the Newsletter. Please email all submissions to newsletter@ogauge.org

http://www.ogauge.org/

DAVE H’S
MTH RailKing Brill Semi-Convertible Trolley

PICNIC PHOTOS
TRUST ME, I’M A DOCTOR
TRAIN DR. TED
CLUB MINUTES
PHOTOS FROM THE CLUB PICNIC

ACCORDING TO THE SIGN IN SHEET WE HAD 49 MEMBERS AND GUESTS AT THE NAVY LAKE SITE ON LAKE ALLATOONA. I WANT TO THANK EVERYONE THAT CAME. WE HAD SOME WONDERFULL SIDE DISHES TO GO ALONG WITH THE HAMBURGERS AND HOT DOGS.

ALTHOUGH EVERYONE HELPED IN THE EVENT, SPECIAL THANKS ARE EXTENDED TO THE COOKS RON S, TERRY H, DAVE H, WYATT W, BOB J AND JOHN C, DEAN B AND QUITE A FEW WIVES OF THE MEMBERS.

AL C AND HIS WIFE, MARYNELLE PLANNED THE SHOPPING AND ORGANIZING. A GREAT JOB !!!!!!

I ALSO WANT TO THANK TONY R. FOR HIS SUPPLYING THE BOAT FOR OUR PLEASURE AND THE FACILITY AS WELL AS THE INFLATABLE FOR THE KIDS TO ENJOY. THANKS ALSO TO JACK C. FOR THE TRAIN LAYOUT.

LES L.
The ‘Tortoise’ machine installation project is a ‘Hare’ away from completion on the Club’s layout at HobbyTown USA.

The electrical team has completed installing all of the Tortoise switch machines at the HobbyTown layout. All turnouts are operable and can be toggled from controllers installed around the perimeter of the table. Many thanks to member Bob P. who was asked to make 17 cover plates on a Saturday night. He had them ready the next day for installation. All of the metal plates will be covered by scenic material.

The main “Command Center” controller complex is currently being assembled by Jack C. and will be installed soon. The Command Center will have a new face on it. To make the graphics stand out better, the background will be a high tech black. There will be a toggle for each turnout and separate mini GREEN and RED LED indicator lights.

In the March 2011 issue of our newsletter, available online at our website, www.ogauge.org I wrote about why we were now using the Tortoise motors and how the system works. Nothing was installed at the time of that article except for 2 test Tortoise machines. The goal of the electrical team was to install a fully operational switching turnout system before the Piedmont Pilgrimage at HobbyTown on October 29, 2011. We began our massive installation project in mid August. Our normal work schedule is 4 hours every Tuesday. But for this project it was decided we would work full days, 8 to 10 hours per scheduled work day. All 17 turnout installations were completed in 4 scheduled work days in a 2 week period. Many thanks to the electrical team comprised of myself, David H., Jack C., Richard B. and Wyatt W. for their hard work.

The installation was extremely difficult. Usually, you would install the switch machines at the same time you install your track and before any scenic work. We had to work around the scenic material, which meant we were under or over the table instead of through the table. While one member was on top of the table, the other was underneath the table and we had to scream instructions to each other. Another challenge is that all
of us are older. Four of the five of us wear bi-focal lenses. When we were under the table soldering wires together, we could not focus on the solder connection. We made no less than 140 solder connections up-side-down and without proper focus, so it took many attempts. Once in a while you could hear someone under the table who apparently had the hot solder dripped on him yell - “@#$%&*”. Also, there were many bumped heads under the table. “@#$%&*”.

Features of the system:
** A master ‘POWER’ on/off switch to power ALL of the turnouts is located on the Command Center.

** An indicator LED light at each turnout shows GREEN for the ‘Main Line’, or RED for the ‘Spur Line.’ The LED is a single bulb that lights both colors.

** These Tortoise machines ‘may be’ the only set up you will ever see with a ‘throwing’, non-derailing system. This system is also explained thoroughly in the March 2011 newsletter article. There are two Non-Derailing control systems per turnout. One system is that the swivel is hinged with piano wire, allowing the swivel to move with the push of the wheel flanges. In the second system the entire swivel moves to the correct position.
** The Command Center allows any turnout to be thrown. The Command panel will also have push ‘momentary’ buttons to power up sidings and yard tracks. Also, there are buttons to activate the uncoupler tracks. The Command Center’s electronic panel is currently being assembled. The panel is a 14” X 11” copper sheet to mount the control switches and LEDs.

The Molex connectors are wired and in place waiting for the circuit panel to be finished and connected.

In other news from the electrical committee, there are 2 newly installed overhead cameras sending video to a monitor located on each side of the layout table. The video is clear and sharp. Both of the ore cars are running well. The HobbyTown trains have been running well a very long time now. Jim P. at HobbyTown has been taking care of their trains.
Meeting Minutes
9/15/2011 at Eric’s
Members attending- 18
Guests-1
New Members-0

Children’s Layout- will make its next appearance Nov 5-6 at the 2 day show at North Atlanta Trade Center in Norcross Ga. Dave reports that he will need help both days.

iPad User group -if you have an iPad, come join the User group on October 14th at Bill D’s house. We will demonstrate many uses for the iPad in our hobby.

Holiday Party- December 10th from 11am to 3pm at the Mountain View Community Center. Price will be $5.00 for adults. Children are free. We will need a crew to setup and cleanup and get the gifts for the children.

Member Photos- A second request was made by the President to look on the website and if you do not have a picture next to your name, please submit one.

Club Shirts- Dave says that the shirts were ordered and will be here in 2 weeks. He will bring them to the meeting. Not too late to buy one. Contact Dave H.

Other news:
- Ron S brought up a possible trip to visit layouts in Mobile Alabama Feb 15th during the Marti Gras celebration. More to come from Bill D in near future.
- The TCA Convention will be held in Atlanta during June 23-July 1, 2012 at the Waverly Hotel. We may go with the layout but as of now have not been asked. The trading hall will be opened 2 days Friday and Saturday admission will be $25 for 2 day pass.
- Scott F had 2 pictures for show and tell and were quite impressive. A long and skinny picture of Barnum and Bailey Circus Train and a photo of a train traveling at the same speed as the camera at the same time.
- Les- Lionel Parts order needed by October 31st.