

Junction Gang News

July 31, 2010

(Tips and links for model railroaders and railfans!)

Installing track - European style!

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFE8nmKpmXY>

A new railway museum is underway in Fort Erie, as posted on the TRHA blog: <http://www.trha.ca/news.html>

On June 15 & 16, 2010, Canadian National Railway 4-8-4 steam locomotive No. 6167 was moved to a location closer to the VIA station in Guelph.

<http://www.trainweb.org/j.dimech/>

“Here we will keep you up to date on the construction of our brand new, 15-stall, brick roundhouse, 115-foot turntable and all-new back shop in which we shall house and maintain Jerry Jacobson’s roster of venerable old railroad equipment. This web site will also display photos, news and information about our activities in the acquisition, restoration and operation of the steam locomotives, historic diesels and vintage passenger cars in the Jerry Joe Jacobson collection.”

http://www.ageofsteamroundhouse.com/aerials_10_07.html

**Save the LRC campaign - final push! [Posted by Jason Shron
Thu Jul 22, 2010 11:14 pm]**

The Toronto Railway Historical Association has so far raised almost \$26,000 towards the purchase of LRC #6917.

We have until August 11th to raise the remaining \$14,000.

Please pass this on to everyone you know (who would care!) and please donate what you can before the deadline.

The web site is here: <http://www.SaveTheLRC.org>

FINALLY, A CALL FOR HELP!!

The Model Railroad Magazine Index run by Trains.com (Kalmbach Publishing) no longer exists. [I for one will miss the ability to look up article that ran years ago as I have most of MR and RMC from the early thirties.]

Since there is hope that the index might be donated to the NMRA, you may want to contact Bill Kaufmann, the VP of the NMRA who has been charged with this project. (Email I have is to Mike Brestel NMRA President, not Bill!)

pres@hq.nmra.org

Some notable and intelligent quotes:

“Instead of complaining about the loss of a free service someone ought to be on the horn to Kalmbach and doing something constructive.”

mrmag@mrmag.com or customerservice@kalmbach.com

“Anything that makes model railroading information more convenient to find makes the hobby more attractive, which is good for us, them (Kalmbach) and the hobby industry in general.”

And more!!!!

Joe Fugate met with some higher ups while at the NMRA convention in Milwaukee and he is confident that the NMRA could end up with the index. Joe is recruiting techies to help unravel the code and get it moving forward. Here is Joe's message from over at the MRH site:

quote:

Joe Fugate @ MRH forum

We have progress

Submitted by joef on Fri, 07/16/2010 - 20:16.

Okay, after talking to the powers that be in the NMRA, they agree they want to resurrect the index and they will talk with Kalmbach about donating it to the NMRA. They will work on getting access to the digital assets.

What I need is for volunteers to step forward who can help disassemble this app and recover the data. This is a call for highly technical volunteers who can assist with this once we get access to the app and data.

Please pass the word - this index is too valuable to just let it die - and the NMRA officials are very interested in taking ownership of this index if we can muster the technical savvy to resurrect it. I would say today's talks were a success and the wheels are now in motion to start pulling this together.

Hooray!

Joe Fugate
Publisher, Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine

The entire thread at MRH is found here:

http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/discontinued_mag_index#comment-23389

Joe's comment above is found in page 2 of the thread (penultimate post on page 2):

http://model-railroad-hobbyist.com/discontinued_mag_index?page=2

And finally??

The latest happenings from Joe Fugate at MRH:

Next steps

Submitted by joef on Tue, 07/27/2010 - 11:52.

Okay, the next step is to solicit "resumes" for someone to lead this effort who is "willing and able to lead the charge."

Please post to other boards and forums that we're looking for someone to lead this effort and that we're accepting resumes. This is a totally volunteer effort, and the idea is whether or not Kalmbach agrees to release the assets, we will stand up a comprehensive model railroading magazine index and turn it over to the NMRA.

The NMRA has agreed the resulting index will be publically available to all and not behind a login, which I believe is a key goal of this effort. The index must not be a proprietary offering and it must remain forever freely available to all.

Joe Fugate
Publisher, Model Railroad Hobbyist magazine

So, I urge everyone to make their voices heard as this is an

extremely valuable resource!