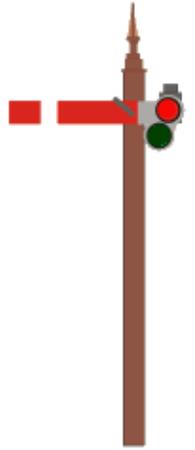


The Semaphore



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
WNC MODEL RAILROADERS, INC.

A 100% NMRA CLUB



On the web at www.wncmrr.org & Facebook

March 2014

VOLUME 43 NUMBER 9

Our next meeting is on March 7th at 7 PM.

Send comments about and contributions to this newsletter to [editor](#).

Please keep us informed of changes in your address, phone number or email address.



Rick Pyeritz brought in this good example of a ice bunker reefer, which obviously hold beer kegs or bottles. As an example of the specialty revenue cars (reefers, hog head, woodchip, etc.)



NEWS FOR OUR MEMBERS

OUR NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be starting at 7 PM on Thursday March 6th

Clinic: Maintenance of way cars.

Synopsis: A look at maintenance of way non revenue cars. Bring in your example or latest project (in progress or finished). **See you there! (Weather permitting)**

REPORT ON THE LAST MEETING

Superintendent **Dave Anderson** called the meeting to order at 7:00 on Thursday, February 6, 2014

We had a repeat visitor **Dean Kahl**, welcome!

The weekend for our Train Show is approaching. We look quite strong with the vendors – some seventy dealers have rented over 200 tables. We now have to do our part to support this event. We will set up the modules on February 27 starting at 8 AM. The show will be open at noon on Friday, February 28 and 9 AM on Saturday March 1. We will need help covering all positions, sign list was sent around. It is incumbent on all company store watchers to sell as many items as possible, for the best price since that provides the most revenue for the member and the club.

Next years 25th Anniversary Asheville Train Show will be on March 6 & 7, 2015. Please put this on your calendars. The LOST RR has been invited to the Hickory show on April 12. We need a crew to setup and operate the layout, please contact **Fred** so he can gauge interest in going.

Troy had hip surgery and is in recovering well our thought and prayers are with him. No other people were mentioned for health or welfare item. Continue to keep **Mike Smith** and **Jack Mershon** in your thoughts and prayers for there longer term issue, personal and family members. No birthdays this month that I know of.

We also need someone to help with local publicity for our train show. The activity for this position involves getting information to model railroad websites and the local area publication and media community bulletin boards, if interested see **Dave**.

Paymaster reported that we are still solvent and able to meet Train Show obligations.

Raffle ticket are available from **Fred** of the framed picture

Penn Bullock revealed that *Eliada* is developing plans for a renovation and an expansion of area where we usually meet. We will be assisting in incorporating a G-scale model train into the décor of the dining room

Fusion Fiber is the stuff I mess up last month to see the demo go to <http://www.truescene.com>.

Eliada is wanting to use the train from the Biltmore Square Mall in the corn maze activities in the fall, and wants our help in planning what is needed.

Norfolk Southern is promoting the next NMRA convention look at this website for www.akronrrclub.wordpress.com/2014/02/02/ns-adorns=loco=for-cleveland-nmra-convention/

We then went into a discussion of reefers, ventilated cars, wood chip and other strange revenue cars.

(Continued on page 3)



Members showed their favorite car in the category with a brief explanation of why it was brought for viewing. **Ric Pyeritz** brought a six-pack of beer reefers (of the ice era) with billboard sides. One of his cars is on the cover of this issue. (Thanks to all who brought examples.)

Our next meeting is on March 6th at 7:00 pm.

CLINIC RECAP

REEFERS

Started in 1842 with ventilated cars on the Western Massachusetts for delivery of produce to Boston. They lasted till the transition era, Central of Georgia had them on the roster till at least 1957

First reefer was in service in June 1851 on the Northern Railroad (New York) NRNY.

Swift company designed refrigerated cars were rebuffed by the railroads since they had a lot invested into stock cars, pens and other items. So he contracted with the Grand Trunk Railroad to haul his cars to Michigan and eastward thru Canada. Swift formed the Swift Refrigerator Line in 1880. He had 200 made in that year, by 1920 it was 7000 cars. General American Transportation Corporation (GARE) would take ownership of this fleet in the 1930s.

Icing had to happen every 250 to 400 miles.

Fruit Growers Express started in 1920 using 4280 reefers from Armour

FGE forms National Car Co to service meat transportation market

1930 – Refrigerator car roster approximately 183,000

1934 - ICC regulation #201 banning billboard advertisements on freight cars

1950 - Refrigerator car roster 127,200

1957 - Last ice bunker refrigerator car built next year mechanical refrigeration enters service

1960 - Plug doors introduced, with these doors and better insulation and temperature control

1971 – Last ice cooled reefers retired

1980 – Refrigerator car roster 80,000

2001 – Refrigerator car roster 8,000

2005 – Refrigerator car roster approximately 25,000

WOOD CHIP CAR

Specialized in that it can only carry wood chips, many varieties are out there. Southern had about 1622 in service in 1986.

WHAT IS A HOGS HEAD CAR?

It is a tobacco car which was made in 1961 the Southern Railway decided that they needed a better and more efficient way to transport 1,000-pound bales of tobacco. The 40' cars used in the past had lived out their usefulness and were ready to retire. With a new, much larger design, more bales could be hauled in one car and cut back on costs. With a capacity of 9,610 cubic feet, the hogshead had nearly three times the capacity of the 40' cars they replaced.



OUR RAFFLE PRIZE WINNER OF THIS YEAR'S RAFFLE



KADEN ELKINS WON THE RAFFLE. HE IS ATTENDING WEST MARION ELEMENTARY IN THE 3RD GRADE. HE IS LOOKING FORWARD TO PUTTING THIS ON HIS WALL NEAR HIS TRAINS.



THE END OF BILLBOARD RAIL CARS

By Clint Smoke

When did "billboard advertising " end on railroad cars?

It depends on what you mean by "billboard advertisements". Do you mean sign writing for the owners of the car, railroad, or items being shipped? Or do you mean something like the adverts you see on the sides of buses?

Looking through old books, most boxcars and the like are sign written for the owners of the car, and frequently incorporate an advertising line. Frisco's cars all seem to say "Ship It On The Frisco!", CB&Q sometimes say "Route of the Zephyrs", and so on. This certainly counts as advertising, as it's advertising the railroad, and its still seen today. I've not seen any that carry advertising for other products, say a boxcar with a Coca-Cola ad on it (unless it was a Coca-Cola owned car, I guess). It must not have been a widespread practice.

Older rail cars had very colorful advertisements covering the entire side. Heinz was a large user, beers/ breweries were even larger. Model Die casting (MDC) makes HO scale models of a lot of these. They were common in the era of wooden-sided boxcars, around the turn of the century (1900 for you young 'uns)

I'm pretty sure this was a section of the interchange rules, which prohibited cars from being used as advertising.

I believe it was an ICC ruling that led to the creation of those rules; I think it applied mainly to "billboard" reefers. I'm not too sure about the particulars, but I do remember reading something about an ICC decision on this subject; like you, though, I don't have anything that actually mentions or explains this in any detail.

The ICC ruling had to do with leased cars, rather than privately owned cars. These schemes were applied to cars that were leased to private owners and served as rolling advertisements for their products. The billboard era lasted until July 1934. On this date the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) regulation #201 came into effect.

By the way, this has implications for model railroaders. If you like to run billboard reefers, apparently you are modeling the era before 1937, since they were prohibited in interchange on 1/1/37. So, if you worry about being authentic, you can't run your billboard reefers behind E units or F units (or anything later).

JUST A FEW F THE MANY BILLBOARD REEFERS AVAILABLE



BRANCHLINE PHOTOGRAPH

(Continued on page 6)



Altered Greenway Photograph



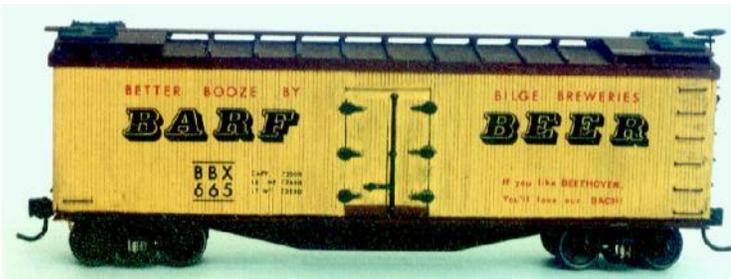
Obae



Altered Greenway Photograph



Obae



Obae



Obae



Beer was shipped in bottles in these days. How many bottles of beer would a typical ice reefer hold? The first person with the closest answer gets....a bottle of beer!



CLUB CALENDAR

This is listing of know activities for our club members in the near future:

March 5th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

March 6th 7:00 PM **Club Meeting**
Eliada Admin Building

March 12th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

March 19th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

March 26th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

April 2nd **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

April 3rd 7:00 PM **Club Meeting**
Eliada Admin Building

April 9th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

April 16th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

April 23th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

April 30th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

May 7th **Eliada Hobos**
Downstairs in the Barn
 Session 1 2:30 –3:15 PM
 Session 2 3:30—4:15 PM
 Session 3 4:15—5:00 PM
 Session 4 6:00—6:45 PM
 Session 5 7:00—7:45 PM

May 8th 7:00 PM **Club Meeting**
Eliada Admin Building

We have things for you to do, expand the hobby and your talents! Come out to see what your fellow club members are doing.



EVENTS FOR MODELERS:

2014 MODEL TRAIN SHOW

MARCH 15TH AND 16TH, 2014
SATURDAY: 10 - 5 & SUNDAY: 10 - 4
COBB GALLERIA, ATLANTA GA.

Sponsored by the Piedmont Division.

Admission: \$10 Adults - Kids 12 and under are FREE!
Scouts in Uniform get free admission

See their [website](#) for more information.

LAND O'SKY DIVISION MEETING

APRIL 12TH, 2014

At the Deerfield retirement community, time to be announced.

PALMETTO DIVISION MEETING

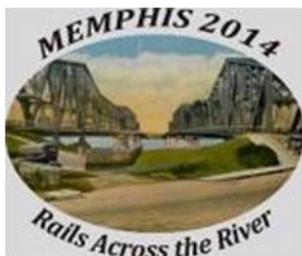
Saturday March 15 9 AM—12:45 PM at The Cottages at Brushy Creek in Greer, SC

They are having a Swap Meet (No vendors!), Popular model and Tips & Techniques contest for members, Clinics, Layout tour in the afternoon

SPRING 2014 PALMETTO TCA TRAIN SHOW

MARCH 22 FROM 9 AM—2 PM

Westminster Presbyterian Church
1715 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC



2014 Memphis Convention - Rails Across the River

Fri, 06/13/2014 (All day) - Sun, 06/15/2014 (All day)

The Memphis Railroad and Trolley Museum and the Bluff City Division of the NMRA are proud to host the 2014 Joint Convention of the Southeastern and Mid Continent Regions of the NMRA.



2014 NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

July 13 - July 19

79th Annual NMRA National Convention, Cleveland, OH. Check out [the convention's website](#) for details.
