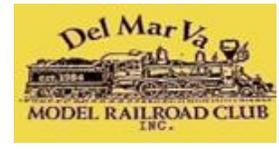




DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

1

Index	
Club News	1
Layout News	4
This Month in Delaware	
Railroad History	5
Railroad News	9
For a Laugh	10
Upcoming Events	11

Next Meeting

Due to problems on some of the layouts, the Wednesday, December 3, 2025 meeting has been postponed. It will be used as a regular work session to diagnose, and fix, the glitches. An email will be sent the members as to a rescheduled date and time.

Happy December Birthday to:

- Greg Coughlin Linda Long
- Bill Deeter Lou O'Day
- Pike Johnston Rowland Ritte

If I missed your birthday, please let me know. The membership list I am using is missing some members' birthdays.



Club News

Hartly Show Report

Jeff Shockley

Saturday, November 22, for me started at 6:30a, when I met John Gladmon and unloaded the club boxes from his trailer onto the 2 tables the club paid for. Had it all setup by 8:40.

One of the show organizers informed me that due to personal problems, the 2 neighboring tables would be vacant and we could use them if we wanted. We then had 4 tables to arrange the boxes to a more customer-friendly setup.

The doors opened at 9a and the sales were brisk and constant. It continued until almost Noon and then slacked off, as usual.

John Huntzinger was able to have a little area to setup some of Roger Sekera's estate items he had for sale. After the show, he told Sue, and she turned around and donated those sales to the club. It was a VERY good day for us.

I want to thank John H., Shawn, David, Cheryl & Russell, Ginger and Michael for stopping by and helping out with everything, John G. for getting all the boxes from the club to Hartly, and back, and for Shawn and Russell for staying to help load all the supplies into the trailer.

The next Harly show is March 21, 2026.

White Elephant Table Open House Report Saturday, November 29 – Sunday, November 30

Jeff Shockley

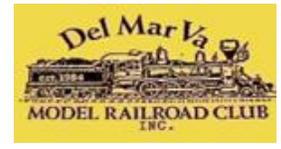
It is always a hectic time getting the White Elephant Table ready for Open House season, and this year was no exception. The O gauge guys were busy with getting the port area completed with the new water area, car float and the gantry crane in place. It all worked out and they finished up and I was able to be the tables full of sales items in time for the doors opening at 11a on Saturday.

When they came in, several visitors looked over the tables deciding if they wanted to buy any of the O, HO, O and miscellaneous items were had on display, they didn't. A few minutes later, the wallets came out, deals were made and money changed hands. David Legates was helping me out and I certainly appreciated his help. By the end of the day, there were several large vacant sections of where sales items had been.

After the doors closed, David and I started restocking the tables for Sunday. With all the large donations we received over the year, we had no problem finding items to put in the empty spaces.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

2

Sunday, the doors opened at Noon and David and I were ready to go. Again, it took a little while to get going, the but sales were strong. At one point a gentleman came in and started gathering some of the HO, N and O gauge items and he and I started discussing prices. We came to a total price that was agreeable to both of us and he walked away with several boxes of goods. Now they have a new home and we have to restock, which is a good thing, for us at least.

Hopefully the next three open house weekends are just as good.

From Delaware News Journal

Model trains chug into Delaware sites for the holiday season. Here's where to get on board

[Ben Mace](#)

November 16, 2025

<https://www.delawareonline.com/>

Wilmington, DE

A model train may be a favorite childhood memory or a hobby for teens and adults, and a railroad display around a Christmas tree can be fun for all ages.

People can revive magic moments or get ideas for their own railroad sets at train exhibits during the holidays.

Events are free, but donations are accepted.

Here are several ideas coming down the tracks in and near Delaware:

First State Model Railroad Club

Near Felton, the [First State Model Railroad Club](#) is hosting train displays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 29 and 30. The club's headquarters is the Willow Grove Community Center at 624 Horsepen Road, a Felton address, about 7 miles west of Route 13 between Woodside and Felton.

The club will exhibit two HO-scale layouts featuring landmarks of Delaware.

"You're going to see the old along with the new, state-of-the art display," said club president Jim Thompson.

The older layout is run by traditional transformers on the table, while the new layout features computer chips in the engines operated by a smartphone or other handheld device.

The club will have model railroad equipment for sale.

Thompson also recommends visiting the free Festival of Trains at the Kent Narrows Outlets on Route 50 near Kent Island, Maryland. His club will set up displays with about 10 to 12 other groups Dec. 6, 7, 13 and 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event is presented by the [Queen Anne's Railroad Society](#).

Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library

[Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library](#) features a toy train display and gingerbread railroad station during the holiday season.

The exhibit features standard gauge trains introduced in 1906 that were popular in the 1920s and 30s when Winterthur was in its heyday as the private home of Henry Francis du Pont and his family. The trains are big, with engines measuring up to 48 inches and weighing over 25 pounds. A symbol of luxury, these toy trains were crafted for affluent families.

Both pre-war originals and modern-day toy trains will be running at Winterthur's Brown Horticulture Learning Center.

The display is open during Brunch with Santa on Dec. 13, 14, 20, and 21, as well as Christmas Eve from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Trains will also zip around the tracks on Dec. 23, 26, 28, 30, 31 and Jan. 1 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

On Dec. 27, the display is open from 2 to 8 p.m. during extended hours that feature outdoor lights, fire pits and s'mores, specialty cocktails and mocktails and the Yuletide house tour. From 6 to 6:30 p.m. Dec. 27, members of the Standard Gauge Module Association will give a behind-the-scenes look into how this toy train setup came to life and how they got started in toy train collecting.

Email: DelmarvaTimetable@delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org

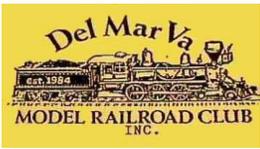
Bylaws: https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC_ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf

Physical Address: 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE 19940

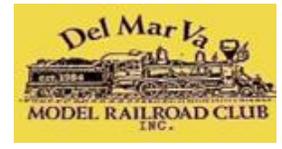
Open House Weekends: 2025: Nov 29-30 Dec 6-7 2026: Jan 3-4 Jan 10-11

Rules: https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC_RulesRev10-7-15.pdf

Mailing Address: PO Bos 19, Delmar, DE 19940



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our **41st** year of promoting model railroading

3

Tickets can be bought at the museum or online at winterthur.org.

Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights

At the [Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights](#), 3000 Creek Road, Yorklyn, near Hockessin, model trains are the focus at special holiday celebrations from 4 to 7 p.m. Dec. 5 and Dec. 6.

The events include operating model train layouts decorated for the holidays, rides on the larger Auburn Valley Railroad to see holiday decorations around the majestic Victorian estate, a free photo op with Santa in an antique car from the steam museum's collection, hot chocolate, live music, gifts on sale from local craft vendors along with food and drinks for sale.

Registration in advance is recommended because tickets are limited. See the website auburnheights.org.

Homestead Gardens

In Smyrna, [Homestead Gardens](#) lawn and garden center hosts a display by the Shore Line Garden Railroad Club, with model trains weaving around beautifully decorated trees at 5580 Dupont Pkwy. (Route 13 North).

Customers can see the miniature railroad for free while shopping for holiday decorations and gifts. Already on display, the layout will be featured through the rest of November and December.

Store hours are Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Georgetown Public Library and Delaware Seaside Railroad Club

The [Georgetown Public Library](#) and [Delaware Seaside Railroad Club](#) are teaming up for the 14th annual holiday model train display at the library, 123 W. Pine St., Georgetown.

The free exhibit is open Saturdays on Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, 13 and 20 from 10 a.m. to 1:45 p.m., featuring Thomas the Tank Engine, the Polar Express, the historic Delaware landmarks S-gauge and Brio hands-on wooden trains.

The club also gives tours of the exhibit to school groups by appointment.

For information, call 1-302-856-7958 or email dsrc.museum@gmail.com.

DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

In Delmar, the [DelMarVa Model Railroad Club](#) is hosting free model train exhibits on the second floor of Camelot Hall, 103 E. State St. (Route 54) west of Route 13. Only stairs are available, no elevator.

The events are on Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., ~~Nov. 29~~, Dec. 6, Jan. 3 and 10, and on Sundays from 12-4 p.m., ~~Nov. 30~~, Dec. 7, Jan. 4 and 11.

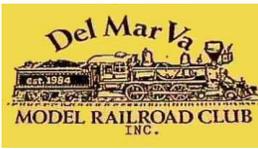
The display features 8,000-square-feet of model trains with 10 sizes on seven layouts and a scavenger hunt to find items in the exhibit.

Model trains and other items will be for sale at the white elephant table. The club will hold a raffle for prizes, and refreshments will be sold by the St. Stephen's Church youth group.

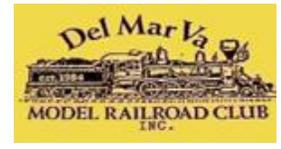
Brandywine Museum of Art

Just north of the Delaware line in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, the [Brandywine Museum of Art](#) features model trains and toy trains for the holidays at 1 Hoffmans Mill Road.

The Brandywine Railroad display includes 2,000 feet of track with locomotives, trolleys, passenger and freight trains passing through a small village, a farm, factories, a drive-in movie theater and a carnival. Visitors can see what happens when they push buttons and foot pedals to engage with the display.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our **41st** year of promoting model railroading

4

Opening Nov. 15 and continuing to Jan. 4, the trains will be operating during museum hours seven days a week from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. The museum closes at 1 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

The exhibit is included with the regular museum ticket, available at the museum or online at brandywinemuseum.org. For more information, call (610) 388-2700.

Free sensory-friendly hours are available with advance registration from 5 to 7 p.m. Nov. 20 and Jan. 2, with after-hours access to the Brandywine Railroad for people on the autism spectrum or with sensory processing disorder and their families.

Special events with different fees include "Breakfast with the Trains," 8:30 to 10 a.m. Nov. 23, Dec. 20 and Jan. 3 and "Polar Express Read-Aloud Pajama Night," 6:30-8 p.m. Dec. 3 and 19, when children are invited to wear their pajamas during the reading of "The Polar Express," with hot chocolate and cookies.

Reach reporter Ben Mace at rmace@gannett.com.

Layout News

Open House HO Layout Report

John A. Nawn, Chief Dispatcher

As I write this, we just wrapped up our first Open House for the 25-26 season. We will report Open House numbers at the end of the season, but without a doubt, this was a successful weekend and a good show on the HO Layout. Nonetheless, the gremlins were out in force Saturday morning, with a phantom short pulling down the entire OR Subdivision (the branch line). But for the most part, the public was unaware and the problem was quickly resolved with minimal lost time. It helped that the mainline was unaffected and continued to run trains while the branch line issues were resolved.

For those who participated in our last few operations sessions, none of the all too familiar slot max issues were experienced and most of mu's were in place at start up and consists remained throughout the weekend. I am pleased to say there were no major derailments, cornfield meets or track issues and no need to restart the computer. Kudo's to Bill D., our Superintendent, John G. and others who helped diagnose the issues and ensure processes and procedures were in place to keep the railroad operational.

Over a dozen members joined us with an eclectic mix of trains including cows, beer, big boys, hot metal, geese, guns and meteors from railroads such as Union Pacific, Santa Fe, CNW, Seaboard, EMMA, and of course the usual suspects, B&O/C&O/Chessie/CSX. It was a fun time, and we put on a good show.

So, one down and three to go. Our next open house is this weekend, which also happens to coincide with the Delmar Christmas parade, so a large crowd is expected. Why not join us. You do not have to have a train on the layout to participate. We have plenty of club equipment staged, ready to go and many of our members personal trains are available for anyone to operate upon request, so don't be shy. If you want to add a train, we will be present Wednesday to help you get your laps in and get you prepared for the weekend. We still have a few tracks left and can move club equipment to free up staging tracks for personal equipment.

Following this weekend, our next open house, of course, will be the first weekend of 2026. If you are holding out for that weekend, that's fine, but let's understand that after this weekend,

Email: DelmarVaTimetable@delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org

Bylaws: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf)

Physical Address: 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE 19940

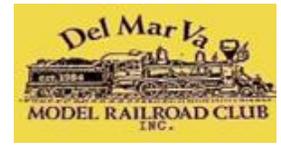
Open House Weekends: 2025: Nov 29-30 Dec 6-7 2026: Jan 3-4 Jan 10-11

Rules: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC RulesRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20RulesRev10-7-15.pdf)

Mailing Address: PO Box 19, Delmar, DE 19940



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our **41st** year of promoting model railroading

5

there are only, realistically, two Wednesdays to add personal equipment to the layout before the first January Open House, December 10th and December 17th. The next two Wednesdays would be Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve and there's no guarantee that the club will be open, of course.

So, if you want to see how cows, beer, big boys, hot metal, geese, guns and meteors coexist on the same track and are wondering who EMMA is, join us this weekend and run some trains. *AND, as an added bonus, if the Chief Dispatcher makes it through the weekend with all his appendages still attached and doesn't go directly to the hospital from the Open House, to celebrate, dinner is on him Sunday night for HO all operators left standing after Sunday's open house. I'm serious. Curious? Like free food? See you this weekend!*

This Month in Delaware Railroad History

Reprinted from the *Delaware Independent*

The Day Greenwood Blew Up

Andrew Sharp

September 6, 2021

December 2, 1903 was an unpleasant day to be riding a train on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore rail line. As Engine 5160, pulling 50 freight cars, rolled into Greenwood that day around 12:15 p.m., engineer William Shepherd was likely looking forward to a chance to take a break as he tried to peer ahead through the driving snow.

In the cab of the southbound train with Shepherd were conductor C.J. Hall, filling in for another conductor who was sick that day; John Barker, a fireman; and Edward J. Roach, the brakeman. Roach, trying to ward off the chill, climbed onto the train's tender, which carried fuel.

Shepherd, who had a reputation as a careful engineer, had worked in that job since 1885. On this day, visibility in the storm was terrible and he could only see a few feet ahead as the train rolled into town at 20 miles per hour.

Suddenly, the train plunged into a cloud of steam. Then amid the swirl of steam and snow a red train car loomed up directly in front of Shepherd. He reacted instinctively, immediately sounding the train whistle and putting on the brakes, shouting for the other members of the crew to jump for it. He was far, far too late. With terrific force the engine slammed into the other train, driven from behind by its tons of cargo. Cars piled up on top of each other like toys and the train's crew was trapped in a chaos of scalding steam and crunching metal.

A stove in the rammed train car was smashed into the wreckage and the crumpled cars quickly caught fire.

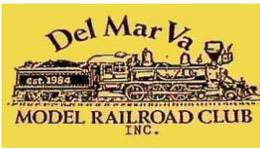
Shepherd, Hall and Barker were able to struggle free of the wreckage, but Roach, the brakeman, was trapped in the flames.

Not long earlier, Horace Lynch, the operator in the train tower at the intersection with the east-west Queen Anne's Railroad line, had watched as an engine on a siding, brakes failing, slid onto the north-south track. Multiple trains passed through Greenwood every day from both directions, and as Lynch watched the struggling engine throwing out clouds of steam at the intersection, it occurred to him that he should set out a lamp to warn any oncoming trains.

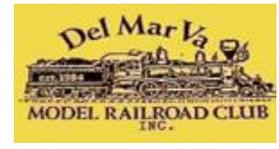
Lynch got a lamp ready, but he, too, was too late. A huge concussion sounded below him on the tracks as the scene turned into a mass of crunching steel and flying sparks.

The residents of Greenwood were sitting at lunch when they heard the commotion, and many of them came outside to see what was going on.

A Dr. Palmer, who worked in the area, was standing nearby when he noticed a freight train sitting on the tracks giving off a "great amount of steam." Then came a crashing sound and the engine jolted forward. Palmer went



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

6

over to see what had happened and was confronted with a scene of train cars piled on each other three or four high, flames licking out. He was about to go closer when a lot of things happened at once.

For miles around, as far away as Greensboro, Maryland to the west and Seaford to the south, people felt the earth shake, and window panes were shattered in Bridgeville. Trying to figure out what it could possibly be, many of them settled on an earthquake as the explanation.

Palmer had a front row seat and knew it was no earthquake. “There came an explosion,” he recounted, “the like of which I have never heard and hope never to hear again,” and he was thrown back against the wall of a nearby hotel.

A shower of wood and steel debris was blasted skyward and came raining back down. Horace Lynch, up in his signal tower, found the structure coming down around him and ended up amid and under the wreckage.

A man named James Hamilton had a very close call indeed, if the stories can be believed. He was reportedly standing at the scene of the crash, about 25 feet from the explosion, which threw him to the ground and knocked him unconscious — considering other possible alternatives, a pretty low-key result. He was standing, it turned out, on the right side of the tracks as the force of the explosion went the other direction.

A number of other people had a series of eerily close shaves. One man, George Saulsbury of Denton, was also headed to the scene of the crash when the explosion happened. He felt the earth shake under his feet, then found himself 20 feet away, shaking badly but unscratched. The railroad station agent, William Carter Jr., was grazed by a piece of timber that blew through the station window. While signalman Horace Lynch was getting shaken up in the falling train tower, his wife, at dinner, was likely very startled when an ax flew by her head, piece of the train's cargo turned into a missile. L.M. Houseman, the postmaster, was in his office looking at some mail when the blast pinned him to the floor under a wall of letter boxes (he was reportedly seriously hurt). A farmer named Owens, out cutting wood three quarters of a mile away, was thrown to the ground and his ax cut a gash in his head. William H. Morris, 81, one of the oldest people in town, was heading to the wreck scene when he, like George Saulsbury, was thrown 30 feet by the blast. He had no serious injuries.

His wife was not so lucky. Standing by a large window, she was struck by broken glass that lacerated her head, almost cutting off her nose and ears. One witness said her mouth was ripped nearly up to the ear.

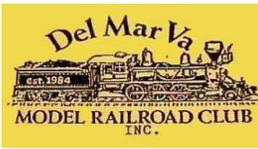
A teenage girl named Blema Jones was standing at a bay window in her home a few hundred yards away, looking out at the wreck, when the window exploded inward in a shower of glass, hitting both her and her mother in the face. Her mother lost an eye; Blema would eventually lose one as well.

“Many who were at dinner when the explosions occurred were hurled headlong from their chairs,” the Lancaster Intelligencer Journal reported. (In the confusion of the aftermath, the paper reported multiple explosions, but there was only one).

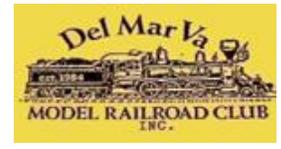
According to one account, in the minutes between the crash and the explosion, the crew of the train who were able to escape had been taken to a nearby house to have their severe burns tended to. They presumably thought their day could not get any worse at this point, but suddenly the house seemed to be lifted in the air, then shaken, then dropped and torn apart. Miraculously, the train crew got out alive (again).

Chaos ensued as debris from the blast rained down into the 6 inches of snow. People ran out into the streets, screaming. A house owned by a Dr. Johnson next to the crash site was soon in flames, and residents, still dazed and bleeding and unaware of how bad the damage was or how many casualties there might be, formed bucket brigades to fight the fire.

“Men with blood streaming from wounds on the faces and hands worked until exhausted,” the Wilmington Evening Journal reported.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

7

They were able to keep the fire from destroying the town, which at the time had about 500 or so residents, but several houses burned to the ground, as well as a stable with a horse inside.

The town was a bizarre mess. One of the train cars had been loaded with axes — one of which presumably was the one that nearly took Mrs. Lynch's head off — and they littered the scene. Another had a cargo of stockings, which ended up strewn around the area and hanging from nearby trees.

The explosion cracked rafters, toppled chimneys, tore off shutters, ripped holes in walls, knocked over household items, and broke windows. Some homes — seven, a dozen, reports conflicted — were destroyed, but many more sustained serious damage and almost every house in town had some kind of damage.

One resident, Thomas Todd, later recounted that his house was in good repair when he left it at 8 a.m. that morning, and he returned to find it a "wreck" and his wife "in a very nervous condition."

The schoolhouse was partly destroyed and pushed off kilter on its foundation, and other houses were reportedly knocked slightly askew as well. The new Methodist Protestant Church, dedicated only the week before, was seriously damaged. The unfortunate congregation's old church building, at Beaver and Minor streets, was in even worse shape.

The explosion cut off the town's telegraph wires, but railroad staff used a phone line to call for help from other nearby stations, and people managed to also patch up a telegraph line. Soon, trains were headed to the scene from around the peninsula, carrying doctors, nurses and gawkers.

It wasn't long before horses and carriages from surrounding towns started to clog the streets as people from nearby towns drove in to see the disaster. People from as far away as Seaford, Laurel, Delmar and across the border in Maryland began showing up too. It was, the Morning News reported, "the one absorbing topic throughout Sussex County."

A 1976 history of the town reported that one resident met the newcomers with the warning, "Go back, go back, Greenwood's blown to hell."

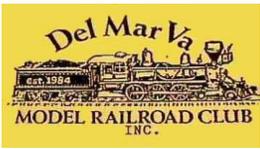
William M. Lofland of Rehoboth, who was at Seaford at the time of the disaster, recounted that "nearly everyone carried an axe as a souvenir of the wreck," and picked up the stockings, too. Lofland reported seeing one enterprising man carrying away a whole armload of stockings.

Some people were remarkably uncurious, as well. George Hollis, a magistrate from Wilmington, told the Morning News that he was having dinner with a relative about 5 miles away when the shock of the explosion hit the house, making it tremble on its foundation and rattling the windows. Neither of them made much fuss about it. When they drove in to Greenwood later in the afternoon so Hollis could catch a train, they were surprised to find the town in shambles.

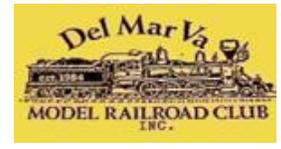
It was a different time and the priorities at the scene seem a little odd now. Faced with a devastated town and a crater big enough to bury a train car in, the railroad companies went into overdrive to get trains to the scene to take away passengers who needed to get on with their day, and spent the night desperately cleaning up and repairing the tracks so that they could get the trains moving again. One story, in a bit of understatement, noted that with train cars piled on top of each other and jammed together, "the task of pulling them apart was hard."

Shepherd, the engineer, was taken to Wilmington where he lived. Unaccountably, there was no ambulance at the station to meet him, so the badly burned man had to walk to catch a trolley to go to his house. (The rest of the surviving crew got more solicitous treatment at Delaware Hospital.)

In Greenwood, doctors from the surrounding towns cared for the wounded in makeshift hospitals set up in partially destroyed buildings.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

8

What happened

At first, reports on what caused the explosion were confused, with some claiming it was train cars filled with naphtha, a volatile and flammable liquid refined from petroleum. But a later newspaper report had it that while cars of naphtha were at the scene, they survived — a good thing for the town, too — and were eventually hauled away to Delmar.

The railroad staff quickly became cagey about just what had been on the train, given that they were facing a mountain of damages and potential lawsuits, but it emerged that one of the cars had been carrying 100 pounds of dynamite. It appears another car of oil may have spilled on the wreckage, which caught fire and then set off the dynamite, blowing a crater in the ground described by one newspaper as 30 feet long, 10 feet wide and 10 feet deep.

Almost unbelievably, there were only two confirmed deaths from the disaster. One was the brakeman, Edward Roach, who was burned to death, and the other was reportedly a baby who died of “shock.”

One theory was that people had rushed out of their houses when the crash happened, and so were not in them to be injured by falling pieces, but many accounts mention people indoors.

Houses nearest the explosion were "shattered from attic to basement and that their occupants were not killed outright seems remarkable," the Morning News wrote.

The head wounds of William H. Morris' wife reportedly left her in very bad condition, especially considering her advanced age, and it was feared she would die. But later newspaper reports make no mention of this happening, even though Morris testified later for a lawsuit. Names of those hurt vary in newspaper reports so it's not easy to count them, but about 10-20 people were seriously hurt and one doctor estimated that about 100 people in all were injured.

A mysterious story also circulated about three tramps who were spotted on the train when it went through Harrington, but who never turned up afterward. They were supposedly killed, the somewhat flimsy evidence being a belt buckle and bits of shoes. The Baltimore Sun boldly declared, “Three Tramps Blown to Bits.” Another report dismissed this story, but then the Wilmington Morning News reported on Saturday, Dec. 5 that railroad workmen had collected a “little pile of crushed and charred bones” possibly belonging to the men, and buried the bones in a nearby field. Again, these were different times.

So it's possible that a few fragments of unfortunate drifters are buried somewhere near Greenwood, but it's also possible that there never were any hobos on the train, or that they got off in Farmington, or simply melted into the crowd at the scene or hightailed it to less explosive environs.

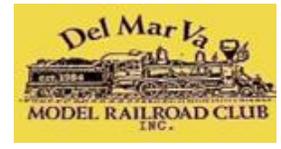
The aftermath

Faced with a cold winter day and houses with holes punched in them, the citizens of Greenwood did the best they could. The ones with homes in better shape took in the newly homeless, and some people were able to tack carpets or boards over the holes in their windows and set up a stove in one room to keep themselves reasonably comfortable.

It's difficult to know exactly how residents responded, since newspaper accounts varied and tended to border on the dramatic. The Baltimore Sun reported people wringing their hands and crying, “We are ruined!” which sounds a little like a nineteenth century novel and exactly like the kind of detail a reporter in a faraway newsroom might have stuck in to make the report seem a little more firsthand, in those days of more casual newspaper ethics. But in general, reports agreed that people were frightened, dazed, bleeding and crying about the loss of their worldly goods.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our **41st** year of promoting model railroading

9

By the next morning, town leaders were proclaiming that they would be able to get by without public aid, a perhaps admirable but puzzling can-do sentiment for a community as devastated as Greenwood was.

At any rate, they didn't have to get by on their own. Help poured in from the surrounding communities, and the railroad company put a crew of men to work making repairs. The company had a lot of settling up to do — property losses were significant, and people didn't waste much time in filing lawsuits or otherwise pressing for damages. A number of people were resettled in new homes, and it took years to wrap up all the cases.

What's left

The 1976 town history says people were still finding axes years later when they cleaned out ditches, and one man supposedly found a freight car brake wheel a mile west of town.

Aside from the old newspaper reports and an occasional mention in town histories, there's little evidence today of the disaster.

The north-south rail line still runs through Greenwood, but the east-west Queen Anne's Railroad has long since vanished.

The track intersection at Minor Street would have been bustling and loud in 1903, but the scene is quiet and sleepy now. Newspaper accounts put the explosion about 200 yards north of the train station and about 60 yards north of the intersection of the two railroads, which means the spot the train car blew up would lie somewhere beyond the outfield fence of the Little League field in town.

On a recent sunny day, the grassy area with tall weeds lining the train tracks was peaceful. The signs of chaos and destruction were gone, melted away like the dirty snow from that winter day 120 years ago.

Note: This narrative was pieced together mostly from a variety of newspaper accounts. Standards of reporting could be looser back then and there are slightly different name spellings, dubious stories and conflicting facts, sometimes in the same story. Did the southbound train slam into an engine or into a red train car? Did some of the personal accounts get garbled? What happened to the engineer driving the other train? We can't confirm all the details, but the general outlines agree and we've used those to try to stitch together a reliable, cohesive story.

Sources:

"Greenwood, a Delaware Town," a short history by the town's bicentennial committee in 1976, Wilmington Every Evening, Wilmington Evening Journal, Wilmington Morning News, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Baltimore Sun, Philadelphia Inquirer, Denton Journal

Postscript from the reporter:

When I was a teenager, I helped my dad restore an old house on Beaver Street in Greenwood, not very far from the site of the explosion. In the roof, we found cracked rafters that had been patched together, and I was told at the time that these had been damaged by the train explosion.

Railroad News

From John Nawn via Micro-Trains Line, Inc.

Industry Announcement:

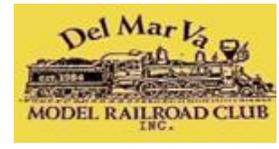
Atlas Model Railroad Company Acquired Assets of Micro-Trains Line. Co

November 19, 2025

Talent, OR – Micro-Trains Line Company, Inc. announced today that it has been acquired by Atlas Model Railroad Co., which includes substantially all assets of Micro-Trains Line Co., the Talent, Oregon-based manufacturer renowned for its precision N and Z scale model trains and couplers. The transaction marks a



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

10

significant expansion of Atlas's manufacturing and product development capabilities within the U.S. hobby industry.

Under the agreement, Atlas will assume ownership of Micro-Trains' molds, tooling, and associated intellectual property, ensuring continued production of the brand's hallmark products. Production will transition into Atlas' global manufacturing and supply network, ensuring continued availability and consistent quality standards worldwide.

Eric D. Smith, President of Micro-Trains Line Co., added: "Our family and team are proud of what Micro-Trains has meant to hobbyists everywhere. Atlas's commitment to excellence and long-term investment in the model railroad community makes them the right partner to continue our story."

Both companies emphasized that the integration will focus on preserving the authenticity of Micro-Trains' designs while leveraging Atlas's engineering, logistics, production capabilities to broaden innovation and future product offerings."

Smith also wants to thank our industry counterparts, many of whom we have worked so closely with making this hobby a true enjoyment to be part of. And a very special thank you to the model railroad consumers; your interest and patronage of our model trains is much appreciated.

Micro-Trains in Talent, OR. will continue to accept and process orders until our finished model train single car releases, multi-packs, trucks, couplers tools and accessories are sold out. This includes our December releases.

In closing, we once again extend our sincerest thanks to all, and wish everyone great success in all your future endeavors.

From FOX News

Fire erupts in US Capitol trolley system, 2 police officers taken to hospital

Underground transport tunnel connects Rayburn House and Capitol buildings as 2 police officers taken to hospital

[Alexandra Koch](#)

November 20, 2025

<https://www.foxnews.com/>

New York, NY

Washington, DC – Authorities confirmed two police officers were taken to the hospital after a [fire was reported](#) Thursday afternoon in the trolley system connecting the Rayburn House and U.S. Capitol buildings.

The D.C. Fire and EMS Department confirmed crews responded to a small electrical fire atop the underground trolley, which was later extinguished.

Fire officials confirmed two U.S. Capitol Police officers were taken to [the hospital](#) for evaluation.

As of 6:25 p.m. local time, all smoke was cleared and authorities were clearing the scene.

The Metropolitan Police Department said Independence Avenue was closed in both directions between Washington Avenue, SW and Second Street, SE, but later reopened.

The cause of [the fire](#) has not yet been released

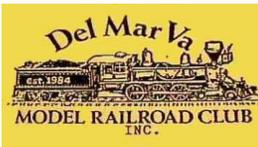
The [U.S. Capitol](#) subway system is used to move lawmakers, aides and high-profile guests safely between government buildings.

Its three lines are operated and maintained by the Architect of the Capitol (AOC).

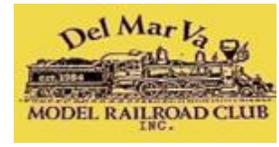
For a Laugh

Strange News Event

A truckload of hair, weighing 2,000 pounds, to be used to make wigs, spilled onto a New Jersey road. Police are still combing the area.



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

December 2025

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

11

Some People Should Not Sit Together



Upcoming Events

(Mid Atlantic Train Show List, Model Train Shows And Schedules 2.0 Facebook page and subscribers)

(Highlighted events signify club participation. Highlighted events signify tentative club participation.)

Ongoing 2025 – Tour the Red Caboose. PRR 477123, built in 1917, at the Lewes Junction Railroad & Bridge Association. 1st & 3rd Sundays. Hours: 10a-2p, weather permitting. The caboose is located between the Lewes Public Library and the Lewes History Museum, 111 Adams Ave., Lewes DE. For more information, please visit: www.lewesjunctionrr.org.

December 2, 2025-January 8, 2026 – Eagle Line Railroad Model Railroad Display. 12169 Ober Ln., Ridgely, MD. Every Tuesday & Thursday. Hours: 7p-9p. Handicapped accessible. FREE admission. Donations appreciated. Santa will visit Tuesday, December 23. **Open House Sunday December 21, 28, 2025 & January 4, 2026. Hours: 1p-4p.** Call 410-310-2861 or visit: <http://www.EagleLineRailroad.com>.

December 6-7, 2025 – DelMarVa Model Railroad Club Annual Open House. 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE. Saturday: 11a-4p; Sunday: Noon-4p. Free parking and admission. 8,000 sq ft of trains. 7 layouts displaying T-Scale to G-Scale, raffle prizes, white elephant table, “Seek and Find” scavenger hunt game, food and drink by St. Stephen’s Church youth group, railroad videos playing throughout the day. For more info, call 302-548-4586 or visit our website: <http://www.delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>.

December 6-7, 13-14, 2025 – Queen Anne’s Railroad Society Festival of Trains. Kent Narrows Outlet

Email: DelmarVaTimetable@delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org

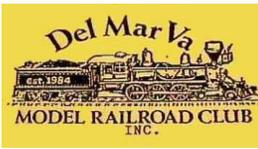
Bylaws: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf)

Physical Address: 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE 19940

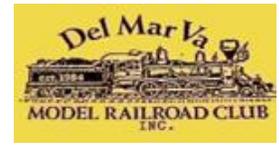
Open House Weekends: 2025: Nov 29-30 Dec 6-7 2026: Jan 3-4 Jan 10-11

Rules: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC RulesRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20RulesRev10-7-15.pdf)

Mailing Address: PO Bos 19, Delmar, DE 19940



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

12

Stores. 61 Piney Narrows Road, Chester, MD. 11a-4p. For general information, send an e-mail to: info@qarrs.org.

December 20, 2025 – Regal Railways Model Train Show. The Elks Lodge, 7201 Congress St., New Port Richey, NY. Hours: 9a-2p. Admission: \$6, kids 12 & under FREE. Featuring: Vendors selling model trains, sets, accessories of all gauges, Operating train layouts and test track. Food for sale, free parking and ATM on premises. For more info, call: Joe – 727-244-1341, or contact: www.regalrailways.com or visit us at our Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/Regalrailwysshows.

January 3-4, 10-11, 2026 – DelMarVa Model Railroad Club Annual Open House. 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE. Saturday: 11a-4p; Sunday: Noon-4p. Free parking and admission. 8,000 sq ft of trains. 7 layouts displaying T-Scale to G-Scale, raffle prizes, white elephant table, “Seek and Find” scavenger hunt game, food and drink by St. Stephen’s Church youth group, railroad videos playing throughout the day. For more info, call 302-548-4586 or visit our website: <http://www.delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>.

January 4, 2026 – Long Island Classic Toy Train Show Presents All Gauge Toy Train Show & Swap Meet. The Fireman’s Memorial Park, 555 Heling Blvd. (off Wellwood Avel & Hartford St.), Lindenhurst, NY. Hours: 8:30a-1p. Admission: \$5, kids 17 & under FREE w/paid admission. Repair parts and services, hobby tools available, all types of model railroad equipment, Hess items, plastic and die-cast vehicles, test track for N, HO, O and Standard gauges, food concession for breakfast and lunch. Handicapped accessible. Fire hall access number (day of show only): 631-957-7536. For more show info: John Mitchell – 917-596-3494 or John Miata – 516-353-1751.

January 3-4, 17-18, 2026 – St. Albans Model Railroad Club Open House. St. Albans Episcopal Church, 3625 Chapel Rd., Newtown Square, PA (in the basement under the Thrift Shop.) Hours: 1p-4p. Admission: FREE, donations appreciated. We apologize, but we are currently not handicapped accessible. Our HO model railroad is inspired by the industrial operations of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Reading Railroad. The setting is southern Pennsylvania in the 1940’s, 50’s and 60’s. Our layout fills more than 4,000 sq. ft. of space with more than 3,000 ft. of track and there are more than 100 locomotives and 1,000 pieces of rolling stock. Whereas the modeled era is mid-Twentieth Century, the control of the trains is strictly Twenty First Century, the railroad employs a state-of-the-art digital control system. For more info, visit our website: <https://www.StARR-mrc.org>.

January 10-11, 2026 – Greenberg’s Great Train and Toy Show – Oaks. Greater Philadelphia Convention Center, 100 Station Ave., Oaks, PA 19456. Hours to be announced. For details, please visit: <https://www.trainshow.com>.

February 7-8, 21-22, 2025 – St. Albans Model Railroad Club Open House. St. Albans Episcopal Church, 3625 Chapel Rd., Newtown Square, PA (in the basement under the Thrift Shop.) Hours: 1p-4p. Admission: FREE, donations appreciated. We apologize, but we are currently not handicapped accessible. Our HO model railroad is inspired by the industrial operations of the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Reading Railroad. The setting is southern Pennsylvania in the 1940’s, 50’s and 60’s. Our layout fills more than 4,000 sq. ft. of space with more than 3,000 ft. of track and there are more than 100 locomotives and 1,000 pieces of rolling stock. Whereas the modeled era is mid-Twentieth Century, the control of the trains is strictly Twenty First Century, the railroad employs a state-of-the-art digital control system. For more info, visit our website: <https://www.StARR-mrc.org>.

February 8, 2026 – Long Island Classic Toy Train Show Presents All Gauge Toy Train Show & Swap Meet. The Fireman’s Memorial Park, 555 Heling Blvd. (off Wellwood Avel & Hartford St.), Lindenhurst, NY. Hours: 8:30a-1p. Admission: \$5, kids 17 & under FREE w/paid admission. Repair parts and services, hobby tools available, all types of model railroad equipment, Hess items, plastic and die-cast vehicles, test track for N, HO, O and Standard gauges, food concession for breakfast and lunch. Handicapped accessible. Fire hall access number (day of show only): 631-957-7536. For more show info: John Mitchell – 917-596-3494 or John Miata – 516-353-

Email: DelmarvaTimetable@delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org

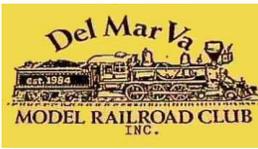
Bylaws: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf)

Physical Address: 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE 19940

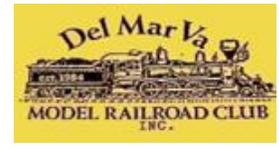
Open House Weekends: 2025: Nov 29-30 Dec 6-7 2026: Jan 3-4 Jan 10-11

Rules: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC RulesRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20RulesRev10-7-15.pdf)

Mailing Address: PO Box 19, Delmar, DE 19940



DelMarVa Timetable



News of the DelMarVa Model Railroad Club

Website: <http://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/>

December 2025

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DMRRC>

Jeff Shockley, Editor

Celebrating our 41st year of promoting model railroading

13

1751.

February 1, 14, 15, 2026 – Saint Alban’s Railroad Open House. Saint Alban’s Episcopal Church, 3625 Chapel Rd., Newtown Square, PA. 1p-4p. The St. Alban’s Model Railroad (StARR) is an HO scale layout that fills more than 4,000 sq. ft. of space with more than 2,000 ft. of track, more than 1,000 pieces of rolling stock and over 100 locomotives. It is a freelanced railroad inspired by the mainline of the PRR between Philadelphia and Harrisburg and a branch line between Perkiomen and Reading and their industrial operations in the steam-to-diesel transition era between 1940 to 1980. The site is NOT handicapped accessible at this time.

For more information visit our website: www.StARR-mrc.org.

February 28, 2025 – Seaford Volunteer Fire Co. Train & Toy Show. Seaford Vol. Fire Co., 302 E King St., Seaford, DE. 9a-2p. Admission: \$5, kids under 12 FREE with paying adult. 45 vendors, from 5 states, with over 150 tables of merchandise for sale. There will also be 3 large operating train layouts for everyone to view. SVFD auxiliary and members will be selling refreshments on the 2nd floor. For more info, call 302-629-3112.

March 14, 2026 – 38th Annual Harrisburg Railroad Show & Collectors Market. Sponsored by the Harrisburg Chapter National Railway Historical Society. The Scottish Rite Harrisburg, 2701 N. 3rd St., Harrisburg, PA. Hours: 9a-3p. Admission: \$5, kids under 12 FREE. Featuring: railroadiana, model railroad items, books, videos, apparel, operating train layouts, test tracks, snack bar, program on Conrail at 11a by Larry DeYoung. For table reservations, contact Mark Irvin, 3814 Leyland Dr., Mechanicsburg, PA, 717-343-7182. For show info, visit: <https://harrisburgnrhs.org> or email: harrisburgtrainshow@gmail.com.

March 15, 2026 – Long Island Classic Toy Train Show Presents All Gauge Toy Train Show & Swap Meet. The Fireman’s Memorial Park, 555 Heling Blvd. (off Wellwood Avel & Hartford St.), Lindenhurst, NY. Hours: 8:30a-1p. Admission: \$5, kids 17 & under FREE w/paid admission. Repair parts and services, hobby tools available, all types of model railroad equipment, Hess items, plastic and die-cast vehicles, test track for N, HO, O and Standard gauges, food concession for breakfast and lunch. Handicapped accessible. Fire hall access number (day of show only): 631-957-7536. For more show info: John Mitchell – 917-596-3494 or John Miata – 516-353-1751.

March 21-22, 2026 – Railfest 2026. Presented by National Model Railroad Association MCR – Divison 5, Lakeland Community College, 7700 Clocktower Dr. (State Rt. 306 at I-90, Exit 193), Kirkland, OH. Hours: 10a-4p. Admission: \$9, two-day pass: \$14, couple: \$14, family: \$14 (two adults with kids under 18). Featuring dealers, new/used items, exhibitors, operating layouts, books, magazines, apparel, collectibles, food services available at reasonable prices. For more info, visit: <https://www.railfest.org>, email: railfest@mcr5.org, or Facebook: www.facebook.com/RailfestTrainshow.

March 21, 2026 – Hartly Train Show. Hartly Volunteer Fire Co., 2898 Arthurville Rd., Hartly, DE. 9a-3p. Admission: \$5, kids 12 and under FREE. Over 150 tables of toys and trains. A model train will be on display in the engine bay. Food is available for purchase made by the Ladies Axillary. For more info, visit: <https://hartlyfire51.com/>

Club Officers		Committee Chairs		Scale Coordinators:	
Tim Burlingame, President	John Gladmon, Director (2026)	John Huntzinger, Activities	Joe Mueller, Museum	Tim Burlingame, O Gauge	Charlie Larrimore, Bill Shehan Room
Rowland Ritte, Vice President	David Legates, Director (2027)	Bill Hudson, House	Ginger Eby, Open House	Bill Deeter, HO Scale	Charlie Larrimore, Tin Plate
Linda Long, Secretary	Jeff Shockley, Director (2026)	Rommel Miller, Library	Vacant, Publicity	Ed Frampton, N Scale Mod, Z Scale	Steve Long, N Scale DCC
Bill Deeter, Treasurer	Ivan Smith, Director (2027)	Bill Deeter, Membership	Jeff Shockley White Elephant	Ed Frampton, T Scale	Robert Scott, S Gauge
	Charlie Larrimore, Director (Past President)		Jeff Shockley, Club Historian		

Email: DelmarVaTimetable@delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/

Bylaws: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20ByLawsRev10-7-15.pdf)

Physical Address: 103 E. State St., Delmar, DE 19940

Open House Weekends: 2025: Nov 29-30 Dec 6-7 2026: Jan 3-4 Jan 10-11

Rules: [https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About Us/DMMRC RulesRev10-7-15.pdf](https://delmarvamodelrailroadclub.org/About%20Us/DMMRC%20RulesRev10-7-15.pdf)

Mailing Address: PO Bos 19, Delmar, DE 19940