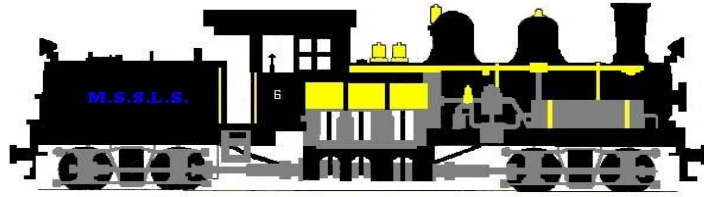


Michigan



Small Scale Live Steamers

MSSLS at the Troy Train Show by Bob Winkel

Jan 16, 2011

Our small but dedicated group of MSSLS members met on Saturday and assembled the track. The early access meant less of a traffic jam at the single back entrance. By Sunday morning members were back at the gym and getting ready for the first run of the decade.

As usual the show was well attended, with two large display areas and several long corridors packed with vendors. We got steaming right on time and it wasn't long until our little viewing stand was filled with happy, pointing youngsters. The only problem that occurred during the run was the loss of the overhead lights several times during the afternoon.

Jim Bowers steamed up his Sandy River equipment, but not a Forney. It was his Roundhouse Baldwin 2-6-2 Prairie #24. It ran very smoothly with 3 flats and a cattle car. And, part of the time, it ran with a Sandy River caboose... Was that a moose in Jim's cattle car? John Erhmin was steaming early with his 0-6-0 and he entertained a number of people with his RC capability.

Bob Paternoster was running his "superbly maintained" (his words) 2-6-0 Nevada County mogul with both a mixed freight and, later, an all-billboard reefer consist. There were relatively few MSSLS members at the show, so Jim was practically encouraging the guys to be track hogs. There were a few lulls but we kept the steamers running pretty good all day.

We had new members present for this first run of the year. Parker and Taylor Moon brought along their Accucraft Forney. Taylor had it out on the track several times with a few freight cars and a passenger coach. In addition we welcomed Adam Barr from Cleveland. Adam brought and ran an Aster model of a B-20.

Fritz Braun, wearing his engineer's hat, was steaming his 0-4-0 Dockside locomotive. This little machine moves right out. Bob Winkel ran his 2-8-0 Denver, South Park and Pacific #51 pulling a flat car, gondola and caboose (with a rascal raccoon hitching along).

This show closes up at 3:00pm and we were mostly packed by 4pm. It was another fun run. Thanks to all who helped.