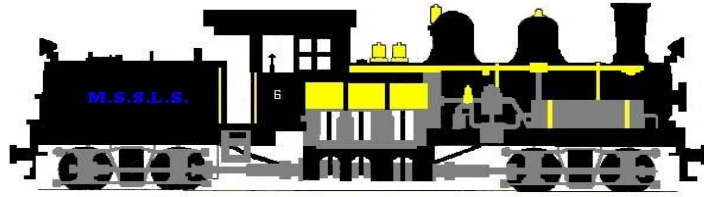


# Michigan



## Small Scale Live Steamers

**MSSLS at Rails-on-Wheels Train Show** by J. Bowers :

November 28, 2010

Upon arrival at 8:30 a.m., the setup crew, led by Tom Myers with the assistance of Tom Ehrmin, John Wessels and yours truly, unloaded the MSSLS track and began setting up in the north end of Hall B with it's direct entry and parking. By show time, Dan Samuels, Don Reilly, Tom Toth and Leroy Patterson had joined the earlier group and we were ready to entertain the crowd of attendees. While John Wessels steamed up his Shay with it's log train and John Ehrmin prepped his Aristocraft Mikado, Tom Myers ran his windup Hornby 0 Gauge train set to start things off. Following the initial runs were Leroy Patterson with a Christmas train pulled by his Roundhouse Stanley, Dan Samuels with an Accucaft Shay, Tom Toth and his Roundhouse Jack, and Don Reilly (missed what engine Don fired up, but if I remember correctly, it was red).

Will Lindley arrived feeling a little under the weather on a bright, sunny day and fired up his Roundhouse William and Jack with his backwoods train of custom crafted cars. Tom Myers then proceeded to fire up the 'Flying Scotsman' and it's 11 car train to showcase English mainline railroading. After noon the dynamic duo of Alex Azary and Ted Ramsey arrived with Alex's Aster Grasshopper ready to go and Ted's Aster B1, with a bound volume of instructions to follow for prepping the engine (with Alex helping with commentary), making runs. John Ehrmin got the rest of his roster on track with his Aristocraft 0-4-0 switcher.

Tom Myers then took to the rails and ran his Jane while Leroy Paterson fired up his Regner Lumber Jack and Energizer Bunny to entertain the kids with the Christmas train again as the afternoon waned. It was pointed out to Leroy by a young lady that there were two Sesame Street Ernie's onboard among the many 'Santa' figures. Let's see, oh, Jim Bowers ran a Roundhouse SR&RL Forney, what else?

The girl's from the concession stand delivered food orders to those who had the munchies during the day and club members wandered the aisles looking for those 'can't live without' deals that always seem to show up between runs. There was a noticeable thinning of the crowd around 2:00 p.m. and some of the Club members who had run early departed. The remaining members began teardown early with banners, rope barrier and viewing stand being packed up before the 4:00 p.m. close of the show. By 4:30, the track was down and packed away in the club trailer to await the next event.

Happy Holidays to all!