

# Sparks & Steam

Newsletter of the Central New York Large-Scale Railway Society • [www.cnylrs.com](http://www.cnylrs.com)

Dec  
2010  
Edition



MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS!

1/9—The  
Roberson Show,  
Binghamton

1/16-22—The  
Diamonhead, Miss  
Steamup

1/16—TTCS Show,  
Utica Union Station

1/29 & 30—The  
West Springfield  
Show...carpool?

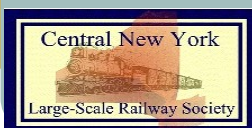
2/19-21—Penna  
GRS Show,  
Scranton...carpool?

3/12-13—  
Greenberg Show,  
Rochester ...  
carpool?

Also, check out:  
[www.trains.com](http://www.trains.com)  
under "events."

"Sparks & Steam"  
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## Entrapment

A certain member, with the initials CG, is trying to get me into 'the other large scale' by gifting me a Standard Gauge refrigerator car and a piece of straight track. While the will is there, the means are lacking. However, it will grace my library. Thanks, Charles.

Lionel exited the Standard Gauge field in the late 1930s with a few cars appearing in later catalogs. There is now a new generation of enthusiasts, those who never experienced the trains in their heyday. Very fine reproductions are now on the market and what was once an annual around-the-Christmas-tree train now has evolved into an extension of the model hobby.

## Train Fair Observation

The varied interests of our membership was most evident with representation at various locations; the live-steamers, the Finger Lakers, the standard gaugers, the Euros and probably others. Multiple memberships seem to prevail among our group. However, we never experience a shortage with our own layouts. Perhaps there is an advantage to our being in other groups, too many cooks spoil the broth, hence some members are elsewhere.



## Upstart Live Steamers

Oops! It's UpState, sorry.

Tom Bowdler of Brockport firing up one of his live-steamers at the recent train fair. Member, Roger, is part of this group whose display adjoined that of Finger Lakes Live Steamers, a group with several of we large-scalers as members.





Courtesy of John Spencer for the recent Halloween party at Burdick's. That's John's battery operated switcher pushing a car filled with goodies. Trick or Treat, John?

# Candyland Express



## 20th Century Limited

This is Jim Exner's latest acquisition, the flagship of the New York Central. There is even a dome car in the consist, something the NYC was unable to incorporate due to clearances at Grand Central Terminal. Dome services in New York State have been limited; the D&H ran ex-Canadian Pacific units when operating non-Amtrak service and today the Canadian Pacific line hosts Amtrak great-dome service over the same route (Albany-Montreal) during leaf-peeping season.



### Aerie

No, it isn't a bird house. This tower controlled several street crossing gates of the Lackawanna in Utica. A similar unit exists in Norwich serving the same purpose. The access ladder is not in place,

however the entrance is on the right side of the unit.

This might make an interesting addition to our layout. .

## Workshops

**The December 11th Figures Workshop** has been postponed until further notice.

Jim Exner will not be conducting a loco detailing workshop.

We are always looking for more workshops which explore the many interesting aspects of our hobby. Every topic from "show and tell," to "how to do..." to whatever you would like to share. Contact Gordon Davis if you would like to offer a workshop.



## Winter Reminder

As is my usual custom, I'm including a snow scene for our December issue. New York Central at North Ilion, NY with a westbound freight powered by a lash-up of ALCo FAs & FBs. During the late '50s and '60s these units predominated the Central's Mohawk Valley freight service.

As the year 2010 draws to a close, I trust that you all have your trains selected to run under that seasonal bush. I've already chosen mine for this season, which brings out the little boy in Gordon.

I wish you all a wonderful and festive holiday season and may that Jolly Elf bring you lots of new trains to run in your gardens and during the winter at Burdick's!

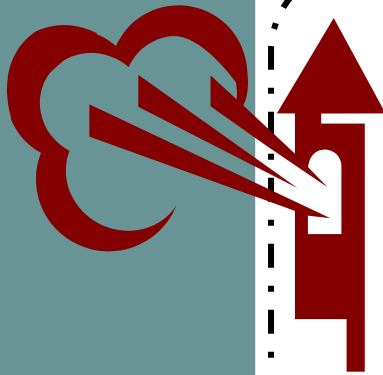
*Gordon*



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# Club News...Member Page



## PREZ'S TWO TOOTS

December is here and with it the winter season and holiday activities.

The layout's winter scene is confined to the village area, which has a new winter recreational centerpiece. This second centerpiece will be alternated with the summer scene as our seasons change. The centerpiece not in use will be stored under the layout.

The backdrops which are mounted on the walls add a nice dimension to our layout. June Kraus, a friend of the club, has been working with Paul Torrey to plan the scenery so that it will provide interesting extensions to the scenery on the layout. Of special note are the extensions of waterways and roads from the backdrop into the layout scenery. June has done this work for us without charge for her time and labor. We would like to present her with a monetary gift at the end of the project, so the Executive Committee is asking that each member of the club donate \$1 to \$5 or even

more towards that gift.

There are two holiday parties occurring this month at Driver's Village for which we need members to run trains. On Saturday, December 11 from 6:00 to 9:00 PM is the Driver's Village Holiday party. We need folks to run trains and to come and enjoy the party. We need to let them know how many of us will attend so they can plan accordingly. Please let me know if you plan to attend and if you will be bringing a guest. Recall that our main purpose is to entertain the Driver's Village folks with our operating layout, so being included as guests at the party is a bonus for which we can be thankful.

The second party is on Sunday, December 12 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the layout. It is the same Advocates group that we ran trains for during their August party. They advocate for local children with a variety of disabilities. Please plan to bring trains to run for one or both of these activities. As I become aware of any other activities at Driver's Village I will keep you

informed.

The club will again be providing a holiday train running around the Christmas tree at Driver's Village this year.

Please plan to attend our General Membership meeting at 9:30 AM on Saturday, December 18, 2010 at the layout.

I hope you all have a very pleasant holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Very sincerely,

*Bruce Haney*  
President



### 2010 FUTURE MEETING DATES

All meetings will be held at 9:30 AM at the layout at Driver's Village with the exception of the traditional summer meeting.

### General Membership Meetings

Saturday, 12/18/10

All dates are tentative, but will be changed if necessary and with proper notice given to the membership.

# Club News...Member Page

FOR  
SALE

## MEMBER SALES, SWAPS & WANT ADS

If you have train engines, rolling stock, or other large scale accessories that you wish to swap or sell, you may use this space each month to let club members know what you have for either swapping or selling.

### WORKSHOPS...

We are always looking for more workshops which explore the many interesting aspects of our hobby. Every topic from "show and tell" to "how to do," to whatever you would like to share. Contact Gordon Davis if you would like to offer a workshop.



### General Membership Meeting

Saturday, December 18, 2010  
9:30 AM near the layout at Driver's Village

#### Agenda

Opening remarks  
Approval of minutes of 10/16 meeting  
Treasurer's Report—Bob Loran  
Vice President Shows—Ed Feeley  
Vice President for Layout—Paul Torrey  
Old Business  
New Business  
Adjournment

### Happenings @ Driver's Village

We need members to bring and run various trains, railcars, trolleys, etc. and to enjoy these events:

- **Driver's Village Holiday Party**  
Saturday, December 11, 2010, 6:00—9:00 PM
- **Advocates Party**  
Sunday, December 12, 2010, 2:00—5:00 PM