



Grand Opening July 21, 2001

The Mainline

ALL POINTS NORTH MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Volume 21

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Side Tracks

Steve Hashagen

Last Saturday morning I got down to the club about 8:30 am. All was quiet (kind of a nice change for me lately), and I had time to reflect on all we have accomplished in just 2 ½ years. It's hard to believe we poured our slab a mere 29 months ago, and celebrated our grand opening just 18 months ago! As it stands now we have for all practical purposes completed the building and are just a few weeks away from construction of our permanent railroad! Our membership has grown by 50% and we are operating solidly in the black!

No matter how long APN prospers every past, present and future member owes those 20 charter members a debt of gratitude for believing in the dream and taking the risk to make it happen!

I don't always say it but I am extremely proud to be associated with a club who continues to set the standard for excellence and teamwork!

You are an amazing group!

2003 Election Committee Members

Your fellow club members have elected the following to the 2003 election committee:

Terry Bryant

Dave Tumulty

Duane Darling

Their duties are to be present at the January 2003 meeting and to distribute, collect and count the ballots.

PLEASE NOTE:

Stephen Foster has been replaced with Duane Darling because Stephen Foster is a candidate for the Member-at-Large position.

GATS 1st Half 2003 Schedule

Gats has confirmed our space for the January 25th & 26th show @ the Astro Arena. As last year we will have a 3-table booth to promote our club.

If anyone is interested in buying a table or two @ \$59.00 each contact me ASAP so they can be reserved with a credit card.

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The Mainline is published by **ALL POINTS NORTH Model Railroad Club**

The opinions expressed here are those of the authors and may not reflect those of the club or its members.

The Mainline welcomes your contributions and comments. The deadline for all articles is the 25th of each month for the following month's newsletter.

Articles must be submitted in writing or via

E-mail to:

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ALL POINTS NORTH Model Railroad Club

meets the **third** Saturday of every month @ 10:00 a.m. at our club located @ 611 S. Magnolia Drive, Conroe, Texas 77301.

Visitors and prospective members are always welcome!

Visit our website on the worldwide web

@ www.allpointsnorthmrrc.org

2002 Officers

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The Mainline Staff

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Permanent Layout Footprint and Assessment Approved

I am pleased to announce that the footprint for the permanent railroad and the accompanying assessment passed unanimously at the November business meeting! As a result the following is the timeline discussed and agreed upon:

- \$250.00 assessments will be due January 18, 2003. For those who would like more time we will extend that date to the July 2003 business meeting on July 19th (that gives you eight months to pay). Asking for money from some as early as January allows us to begin construction in February.
- Layout room to be cleared out by February 1, 2003. All modules not being used in the small meeting room layout and all personal items must be removed by this date!
- Concurrently, a small layout to be set up in the meeting room throughout construction to run and program trains. This layout will be set up immediately following the January 18th business meeting.

As far as the modules go, their owners can dispose of all privately owned modules as they see fit. They can be sold, taken home, donated to the club, whatever!

All club modules will be labeled with a selling price that will include the modules, legs and everything on it except the structures (structures will be saved for the permanent layout). Any club owned modules left over will be offered for sale to other clubs or anyone outside the club. If we have no takers they will be dismantled and disposed of. All club owned modules must be out of the building by the March 15th business meeting. Hopefully this allows time for club members to pick the ones they want by January and then get us another couple of months to get the words out to others.

Modules To Be Used For Small Layout

We will be using the following modules for the small meeting room layout.

- The two transition modules
- Mike Kremheller's module
- Will Smith's module
- The Corner module between Mike Kremheller's and Will Smith's modules
- Steve Hashagen's corner module

Research on 501-3C

Bob Miller & Jerry Williams presented the following at the July 1999 business meeting. The issue was discussed at length and voted upon by the membership.

The unanimous decision was that the disadvantages far outweighed the advantages, and it was agreed to not pursue becoming a 501- C - 3.

As always if the laws have changed or if there is a compelling reason to revisit the issue we will do so.

Tax-Exempt 501(c)(3) Organization

Advantages for APN:

- If granted, contributions to APN would be tax deductible to members.
- If granted, we would have a sales tax exemption (but **not** property taxes).

Disadvantages for APN:

- \$150 fee for application, with **very** little assurance of approval.
- Must revise articles of incorporation to limit our activities to one of the 8 categories allowed.
Note: Of the 8 categories of activities allowed, only "educational" would possibly apply, and it would require a real s-t-r-e-t-c-h to make a case that APN is a benefit to the general public.
- In event of dissolution of APN, **all assets must** be given to a like charity or given to the US government.
- No part of APN's Revenue may be used for the benefit of members as opposed to the general public.