

# The Rusted Rail

[www.pennscalers.org](http://www.pennscalers.org)

The club has been busy the past few months. Work is progressing on current modules along with a few new ones added to the mix. The club participated in a show for the National Railroad Historical Society Railroad Show and Collectors Market in Steelton. This was a good event as many people stopped by to inquire about the club and show their appreciation for the hard work of our members. As with many events, we wait to see if any new memberships arise. The club members have been working hard to make the show setups run smoother. The rail joiners on the connector tracks have been swapped out for new ones, the recent discovery of the conduit legs seems to be sweeping through the ranks. The recipe for the conduit legs is located in the Red Line Ramblings section of this current edition for those interested. Ron has made some track layout suggestions for our new club project modules. Bill graciously donated two blank modules for the club to use. These will be two straight modules and will be completed by the club during the summer meetings. The track plan will add some switching and industry action to the layout. Should be a fun club project and educational for the novices in the group. Mike's module should be ready as planned for the PRR show in May. The connector wires are soldered to the track and the track is in position. He is currently in the process of wiring and starting some scenery. A new forum has been added to the club website for all members and non members to use, thanks Dale and Mark. It should be an exciting couple months for shows and for club work on new modules. Keep up the good work everyone.

You may notice a new look to the publication. There has been a changing of the guard with the completion of this publication. I hope everyone enjoys the new stuff mixed with the old stuff. If there are any suggestions of things you would like to see added, changed, etc. please email the editor at the email address listed on page three.

— Mike Deremer — Editor

## Red Line Ramblings

### Conduit Legs Formula

- The legs are made from 3/4" conduit, cut to 36" lengths. (2 pieces of conduit will do 6 legs).
- The floor end uses a 7/8 plastic caster socket pounded into the hole in one end. I then use a 3/8 x 5" eyebolt screwed into the caster socket. The sockets are available at Ace & True Value Hardware stores. I have a few extra packs that I acquired for anyone that needs them.
- On the module, I made sockets with are glued and screwed to the corners of 2, 2" square pieces of 2x3 glued together with a 15/16 hole drilled in the center (not all the way through). The leg is secured into the hole with a small screw which is tapped into the socket perpendicular to the leg. This keeps the leg from falling out when the module is righted.

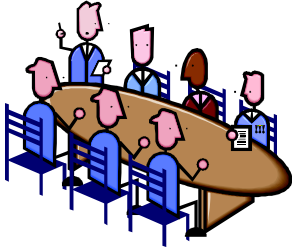
#### Cost:

2 sticks of conduit (currently \$3.75 ea at HD) - \$7.50  
 pack of sockets ~ 2 - \$2.60  
 Screw hooks ~ \$1.00

a buck or two for the lumber for the sockets, scrap works fine... you could always use 2x4 or whatever. I used the 2x3's because I had the old legs handy to cut up into pieces.

Total: around \$15.00

\*\*Contributed by Mark



## Meeting Schedule

Meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday and Third Sunday of every month.

### Tuesdays

- April 4th, 7pm
- May 2nd, 7pm
- June 6th, 7pm

### Sundays

- April 23rd, 1-5pm (4th Sunday Due to Easter)
- May 21st, 1-5pm
- June 18th, 1-5pm

## Club Participation Events

These events are events the club has agreed to participate in.

### **April 8th, 2006**

Private showing

### **May 5th and 6th, 2006**

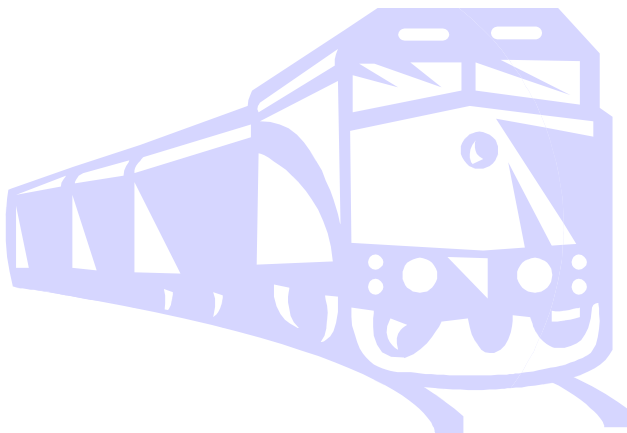
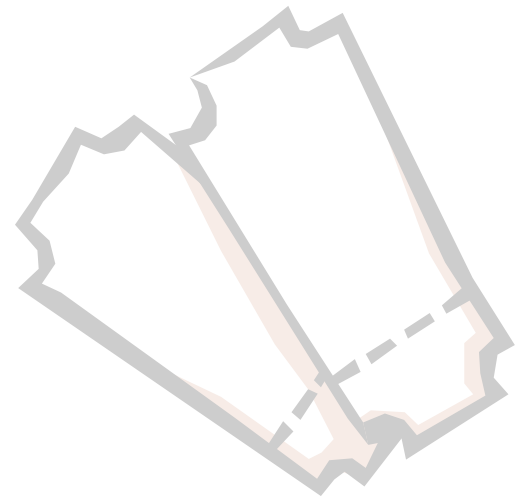
PRR Technical and Historical Society Convention  
Camp Hill, PA

\*\*Open only to PRRT&HS members

### **August 26th & 27th, 2006**

“N-Scale Weekend”

Bedford, PA  
Bedford Ford Auto Mall



## Other Events

### **Great Train Expo Shows:**

Timonium, MD: July 29-30

Ft. Washington, PA: August 5-6

Admission \$7

[www.GTExpo.com](http://www.GTExpo.com)

### **Great Scale Model Train Show**

Timonium Fairgrounds

Sat 9-4, Sun 10-4

Admission \$7, (covers both days), under 12 free  
Family \$14

[www.gsmts.com](http://www.gsmts.com)



# Railroad Spotlight



## Conrail Corporation (1976-1998)

Conrail was formed by Congress out of the remains of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, Penn Central, Lehigh Valley, Reading, Erie Lackawanna and Lehigh & Hudson River Railroads. The Northeast Rail Services Act mandated that Conrail return to the private sector when it became profitable, which occurred in 1981. Conrail was sold in 1987 through the largest Initial Public Stock Offer in the nation's history, totaling more than \$1.8 Billion. Norfolk Southern and CSX Corporation agreed to acquire through a joint stock purchase in 1997. Conrail became a switching and terminal railroad under the approved merger plan in the restructuring. The railroad was sold to a joint venture of Norfolk Southern and CSX Corporation in Summer of 1998.

\*\*This information has been obtained by Conrail's Website @ [www.conrail.com](http://www.conrail.com)

Club Financial Statement	
Previously Reported Balance:	\$175.50
Income:	
Dues:	\$32.50
Show Proceeds:	\$0.00
Expenditures:	
March 7th:	
-Rail Joiners	\$8.00
March 17th:	
-(4) 10' Conduit	\$15.00
-2'x4'x1/8" masonite	\$2.39
-3 packs, caster sockets	\$7.80
-12 hooks for leg	
set screws	\$3.92
-Sales Tax	\$1.75
Ending Club Fund Balance:	\$169.14
Financial Summary:	
The March 17th purchase were for legs and sky-board on Rich's former module, now in club custody and for the two modules donated by Bill Lewis that will be worked on by the club. 12 eye-bolts (leg feet) and other accessories for Bill's modules will be acquired over the coming months.	



Suggestions, Inquiries, Comments?  
 Please contact the editor of the newsletter at [newsletter@pennscalers.org](mailto:newsletter@pennscalers.org). Please let him know of any comments or concerns you may have with the content presented in this edition. The contents contained within are at the understanding of the editor. ©2006 [Capital PenNScalers](http://www.CapitalPenNScalers.org)

## *From the Desk of the Imperial Leader*

*First off, I'd like to thank Mike and Cindy for taking over production of the newsletter. Thanks, Mike! Because of this, I will be doing a consolidated version of the Imperious Leader's Report to include my usually inane thoughts on where we are and where we are going.*

*Once again, since the last newsletter, a lot has happened. We had a successful showing at the NRHS annual train show in March and we are on track for our biggest outings yet at the PRRT&HS Convention in May and the N-Scale weekend in Bedford in August. Along the way, we have picked up a few more members and we are going to get started with a summer project to construct several "club owned" straight modules (thanks to Bill Lewis for the modules to get us started). This will be a great exercise for everyone to get some experience in all aspects of model railroading.*

*Rich and I are also making a foray into T-Trak. We are doing this for a number of reasons including personal interest (or perhaps insanity), expanding the club's offerings to draw members and as a 'kid pleaser' at future shows. If anyone else wants to get in on the T-Trak action, just let us know. I hope to update the website with our progress in this area at some point in the future.*

*Also, a big thanks to Dale for two things: 1) Contracting Bowser for a add-on run of uniquely numbered PRR GLa hoppers that he is selling to raise money for the club's incorporation and 2) we now have a 'real' forum linked off of the website using the same software that most of the big forum sites use. This is a great place for us to exchange ideas to the benefit of us all. Let's make sure to put it to use.*

*Until next time,  
Mark*

