

Herbert Koch – President
Edward Carter – Vice President
Robert Ciolino – Treasurer
Joseph Smolinski – Secretary



Directors: Swav Kojro
Edward Zeglicz Jeff Mills
Bill Trzaskus James Ammirati

March 2023

The election results for Director are in

I want to thank Jim Ammirati, Joe Oster and Jim Simmons for entering the race for Director of our club. Each one of our candidates is a contributor to the club. I wish all of them could have won this election. After the ballots were counted, Jim Ammirati is the new CLRC Director. Please congratulate him and also thank Joe Oster and Jim Simmons for their continued contribution to the club.

Have you ever wondered if there is a way to get from the Beltline layout to the Mountain/Valley layout? I am sure that many of you have seen the big bridge that is between the two. Mark Fears made it years ago with fine tuning by Jeff Mills and Tom Zeglicz. The bridge can go up and down by manual action and is demonstrated by Bob Ciolino and Dave Lerner below. There are also safeguards to keep the track dead when in the up position and on in the down position. We do not use it during run days as our system assigns track runners to a specific loop. We have had run times, typically on a Sunday, where members would prototypically run their trains with a mission. An example would be coal trains picking up coal loads from the mine and then journeying around the Mountain/Valley layout, crossing over to the Beltline layout, going to the coal tipple to unload the coal. Other trains would be on their mission, from delivering grain to the Lumber Jack Brewery to picking up lumber at the sawmill and with the logging train taking cut trees to the sawmill. Everyone from conductors, engineers, switchmen and more would be directed by the Dispatcher. There are many options. If there is an interest, we could set up a run day to see how everything would happen. Please let me know if you would like to participate.



Bob, Tom, Dave, and Jeff demonstrate how our lift bridge works.

A Message From The Librarian: Bill Trzaskus, Board Member and Librarian advises that at the last board meeting it was decided that our library (yeah, we actually have one) is full to overflowing and it requires some judicious trimming. So, I will be removing duplicate hardcover books and DVD's, and ALL periodicals. These items will be placed on the lower-level tables after the April open house and offered to the membership to take home. There is **no charge** for these items. We have issues of CLASSIC TOY TRAINS and O GAUGE RAILROADING dating back to their inception, PLUS many years of CLASSIC TOY TRAINS are in binders. They will remain downstairs until the Thursday before the May open house at which time anything left will be disposed. So take some home, put them in your porcelain reading room, wallpaper the kitchen, or make papier mâché' mountains, the options are endless. Just help the Club out. Please contact Bill Trzaskus by email at wtrzaskus@gmail.com if you have any questions.

Club Phone Line 815-485-2588 • Visit us on the Internet: www.clrcrtrains.com

At the last open house, the MTH controlled CTA system went down. Jeff Mills did everything he could to get the system running, even calling for outside assistance. He asked if any member present could help. Nick Pucel looked up information, figured out how to address the problem and resolved the situation. The CTA was running again!

We are always concerned about our security. Swav Kojro has been installing video cameras to be able to observe our building when we are not there.



Bill is fine tuning our Library.



Nick gets the CTA running!

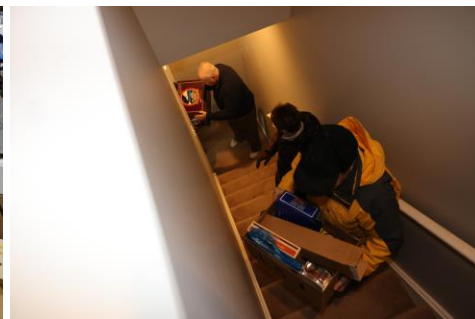
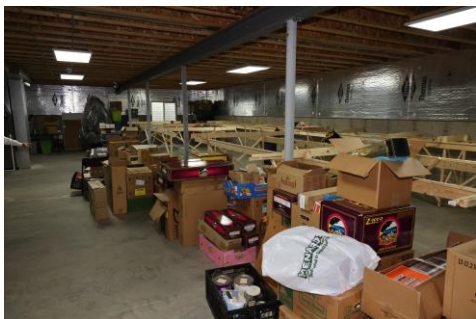


Swav is installing video cameras.

As I am sure many of you already know, Walter Peliachevski passed away earlier this year. His wife Lucy advised me that he wanted to give our club his train set. It is a big one. I have already brought many of the items to the club. I now need your help to bring the rest of the items back to the club.

With this note to our membership, we had many volunteers able to pick up Walter’s collection. His wife Lucy was very thoughtful in continuing Wally’s wishes in passing on the train to our club. There were about 20 members. The big obstacle was getting the trains up the stairs from the basement. We set up a “daisy chain” from the basement floor, up the stairs and onto loading the vehicles. The task was completed quite quickly. We duplicated the task back at our Train House and got all of the collection from the vehicles to the mezzanine level for inventorying and future sale to members. Many hands made this task workable.

I personally want to thank everyone who help out in transporting Walter’s super collection.



Walter had done quite a bit in putting together his second super layout. Members scope out Walter’s collection.



A bucket brigade was started from the basement, all the way to the waiting cars.



All of us made sure that Walter's collection was moved comfortably all the way to the cars.



From Walter's house to the CLRC Train House we ultimately moved the collection to the mezzanine level.

Train wreck of March

Speaking of Jim Ammirati, his train took a bad curve and wrecked near the mountain. Fortunately, no hazardous chemicals or substances spilled. The wreck was cleaned up within a half-hour by our MOW team and Jim was back running his train.



Bad wreck on the high curve near the old mining town. Chief MOW Director Jim gets the train running.

The Lager cars are in with TWO numbers!



The CLRC Lumber Jack Lager Cars are in. Members are already running them on the layout. If you ordered them with delivery, you should have yours. If you did not get yours yet, you can pick them up now. If you are out of town, you can order yours and get it promptly.

Take a look at the attached form and notice the “CLRC Water Tower Tap”, the Lumber Jack Lager logo and the two-tone paint on each car. Even better, there are two with different car numbers. Order now!

I posted a video of our March Open House. I get into this video. Let me know what you think about my special effects.

[March 18, 2023 Open House](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w3PFEGpqRjc>

Did you ever want to ride a train on your layout, well I welcome you to join me and ride on Track 96, the upper outer loop on our North Layout. Please let me know how you liked the ride.

[Riding on Track 96 of our CLRC Layout](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TsdJgqY25gE>

Stories and Pictures by Herbert W. Koch

Please let me know if you want any of the pictures in full file size.

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