



East Coast Santa Fe Modelers Meet 2006 REPORT By Bill Jones

April 7-9, 2006

On Friday the 7th we started our meet at the Gateway Model Railroad Club in Brooklawn, NJ. We enjoyed an evening of operating and visiting with our fellow Santa Fe enthusiasts, many of whom we only get to be with this one time a year. We broke up into small groups for dinner and then returned to the Club where we continued visiting and running trains.



Don Borden with Andy Sperandeo at the Gateway Club. (Photo by Ron Powell)

Saturday the 8th finds us at the Brooklawn Fire Hall where we enjoyed attending clinics, purchasing items for sale by our attendees, and lunch.

We were very fortunate to have two clinics given by Andy Sperandeo. In the morning, with the help of our own Al Iezzi (who provided some well detailed models), we learned about the “Santa Fe Mail Trains #7 & #8, from Barstow and LA 1947.” In the afternoon Andy treated us to “Operations on Cajon Pass.” Both of these were well received and appreciated by our members.

Additionally we heard from Bill Van der Meer, our own east coast regular, and were the first to enjoy his clinic on “Building a Santa Fe Stock Pen” which he also gave later that summer at the National Convention. I am told his presentation was enjoyed there as well.



Bill Van der Meer's template for making stock pens as in second photo. (Photos by Ron Powell)

Finally another of our east coast's excellent modelers, Don Nyce, entertained us with his clinic on "Building Standard Santa Fe Trestle Bents," a very well done job.

We finished up with our auction and business meeting then all went to one of the local restaurants for a group dinner before returning to the Gateway Club for another evening of running trains and more small talk.

We finished up on Sunday the 9th with visits to two of our members homes for more operating and viewing of their well done layouts. Our first host for the day was Sam Natal's with his ATSF layout set in Arizona, New Mexico and Colorado.



Photos of Sam Natal's Santa Fe home layout. (Photos by Ron Powell)

Then on to Bob Liberman's with his spectacular "Crescent Lake to Klamath Falls, Oregon" layout.



Photos of Bob Liberman's SP home layout second photo with Bill Van der Meer's beautifully done sound equipped SF 5011. (Photos by Ron Powell)

These layout visits concluded our 2006 events but plans were already underway for the 2007 meet.



East Coast Santa Fe Modelers Meet 2007 REPORT By Bill Jones

March 23-25, 2007

On Friday the 23rd we once again met at the Gateway Model Railroad Club in Brooklawn, NJ. We enjoyed an evening of operating trains and visiting with our fellow Santa Fe enthusiasts. As is our custom, we broke up into small groups for dinner and then returned to the Club where we continued visiting and running trains.

Saturday the 24th takes us back to the Brooklawn Fire Hall where we enjoyed listening to clinics, having tables with items for sale by our attendees, and lunch.

This year we were very fortunate to have two clinics given by Mike Tomei who took time to join us while on a family trip to the east coast. Mike entertained us with "Helpful Modeling Techniques" and a "Photo Presentation on AT&SF in Kansas." Both of which were enjoyable and informative.



Photo 1 Don Nyce, Jon Dame, & Mike Tomei inspecting items for sale at Ed Shuy' table. Photo 2 Mike Tomei explains his modeling work to Kalman Toth and several others while Mike's son looks on.
 (Photos by Ron Powell)

We were also joined by Ron Elsdorfer, owner of River Point Station, who filled us in on his Santa Fe Northern project (for more info please visit his web site at

<http://riverpointstation.com/index.html>)

It looks to be a well thought out project and many in attendance are hoping for his success as it seems to promise much more to come.



Photo 1 Ron Elsdorfer of River Point Station. Photo 2 Al Iezzi gives his clinic to the group.
 (Photos by Ron Powell)

After lunch we were treated to two more clinics. The first by Al Iezzi on “Building Prototype AT&SF Freight Cars,” followed by Lou Nost (Loco Lou to us East Coasters) on “Spicing Up Your Models With Some Santa Fe Salsa.”



Photo 1 one of Al Iezzi's cars. Photo 2 Loco Lou Nost gives his clinic to the group.
 (Photos by Ron Powell)

What a day! And it wasn't over till we had dined and spent the evening back at the Gateway. A good number of attendees brought equipment to run on the Club's layout. No one topped first timer Robert Nelson who traveled up from Whiteville, NC by Amtrak and had his 2 locos, 14 grain hoppers and a waycar in, as the airlines call it, "a carry on bag."



Photo 1 Robert Nelson's Santa Fe grain train. Photo 2 Paul Morehead's E6 passenger on the clubs high steel bridge. (Photos by Ron Powell)

Sunday the 25th takes us to Don Borden's home and his "Cajon Pass Layout" set in the late 40's & early 50's. Where in addition to operating on this large multilevel layout, Don treated all who came to a short presentation on scheduling of passenger & freight trains over Cajon in the late 40's.



Don Borden's San Bernardino Engine Serving & Shops. (Photo by Ron Powell)



Photo 1 Don explains operations to Tom Woodward. Photo 2 the "Photos by Ron Powell" himself.
(Photos by Bill Jones)

Well that's it till the **East Coast Santa Fe Modelers Meet 2008** which is to be held April 4-6, 2008 at the Prince William County Model RR Club, Quantico, VA.

Contact Al Iezzi <mailto:iezzilin@ptd.net> for all the details.

**So long and happy railroading to you all,
Bill Jones**