

# The Mud Ring

The Official Newsletter of the Cinder Sniffers, Inc.  
Home of the Original Clishay!

www.cindersniffers.org



Celebrating 62Years



Mar 2018

## Mud Ring Editor Report

Donna R Hill-Frozina

Where to begin? A lot has happened since the last Mud Ring in July: club visit to the New Unionville & Western Railroad near Bloomington Indiana, 2017 Buckeye Limited Run at Mill Creek Central in Coschocton Ohio, a Club Night Run at the Sniffers with Halloween decorations, the Thanksgiving Run and the always chilly New Year's Day Run.

I think the delay in the Mud Rings publication initially started with Donald and I driving to Missouri to pick up my 1 1/2" scale 7 1/2" gauge American 4-4-0 steamer and a load of Pocahontas coal—but this is a story for another Mud Ring. Then it really got delayed after the birthday party at the track for our President (my husband) Donald Frozina's 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday party – it had to be one of the **HOTTEST** days of the summer!!! A wonderful crowd attended and all especially Donald had a wonderful time. His brother and sister-in law came all the way from California for the event. A couple of days later Donald and I meet up with Denis Larrick at the track so Donald could fire up his new coal steamer, an Allen Mogul purchased from a dear friend at the Los Angeles Live Steamers. We showed up early on that Monday morning to discover that some low life's had dumped 3 adorable little kittens at the track.



Denis promptly named them Diesel (the only boy), American and Mogul who are now part of Donald and mine's family. With Denis's expert coaching, Donald fired up his new acquisition with Pocahontas coal and gleefully took it for several laps

around the Sniffer's track. It will be no surprise to those of you who own and love a Live Steamer that this first run revealed an injector who didn't want to inject and a lazy axel pump. Once Donald gets these issues properly addressed expect to see him on the Allen Mogul making steam out at the Sniffers – hopefully sometime this season!

Here's Donald blowing off steam using the big whistle located under the running board!

Stay tuned for the progress on Donald and mine's shop out at the farm. We are in the middle of converting a 36'x24' two car garage into a 80'x24' shop for woodworking and metal working. It even includes a multi-bay storage rack for nine 1 1/2" scale train engines. Did I mention we purchased 1,000 ft of 7 1/2" gauge steel track from an estate last year? Sounds like we better roll up our sleeves and get busy. But, not too busy to run trains!!!!



## Member Calendar

Apr 28 Tri-Club Meet at Indy Track TBD  
(Unconfirmed)

May 12 Member Only Run Day 10am  
May 26 Work Session 9am  
Member Meeting 1pm

June 9 Run Day 10am  
June 23 Work Session 9am  
Diner Host—Lynne Mense  
Member Meeting 1pm

### Club Run at New Unionville & Western Rail Road

Donna R Hill-Frozina

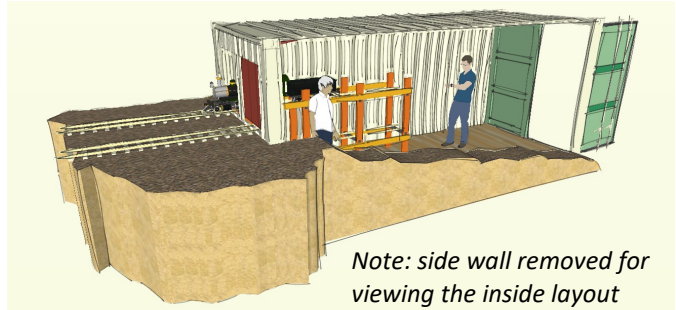
On the 16th of September the Cinder Sniffers gathered for an organized run at the private track of Pete Pedigo. His track is referred to as the New Unionville and Western Railroad (newrr.com). For those of you who were unable to attend, if you ever get a chance to go—do it! It is a beautifully laid out track with spurs and turnouts in heavily wooded areas and the facilities are top of the line. Pete operates his own company as a contractor for the state of Indiana Road works and you can see his talent and penchant for quality work everywhere you turn at New



Unionville.

One of the many really cool things at this track is where each “member” stores their trains and equipment. Members/volunteers can “buy” a 20’ storage container and the track will bury it at one end so that the loading doors of the container open out the back at ground level and access doors are cut out at the other end towards the ceiling so the trains can be loaded directly onto the track. These

containers are scattered around the track and each container has one or two spurs and or side tracks associated with it



that connects with the main line. Several members have customized their containers to serve as their main refuge from the outside world, i.e. turned them into their very own train/man-cave! One member even had a recliner with a TV and a G-scale track and train going around the inside ceiling perimeter of their container. Above is a drawing of how the containers work and in the picture to the right, Pete is directing traffic on the main line for our run day. Notice the container to the left of Pete, this one had a bridge from the container to the side track and was still under construction. The tunnel at New Unionville is designed to be multi-functional. It is set up so that fresh ballast can be dumped into a trough above the tunnel and ballast cars are loaded from a chute inside the tunnel, really nifty!!! I don’t think we could thank Pete enough for the wonderful run day provided for us, he and his family and group of volunteers provided a full day of fun and food.



Cinder Sniffers at New Unionville & Western Rail Road September 2017 with Host Pete Pedigo (far right)

### July Run Report

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July started out beautifully with an action packed run day at the Sniffers track. By 8:30 Roger Huerich and Ed Habel had the club engine out and were getting her into shape for a full day of rides. We also welcomed Cub Scout Pack 610 from Sunman Indiana for a full day of train fun and knowledge thanks to the work of Julie B and the guys running the club train. Denis L and Steve C had their

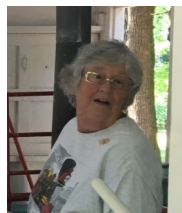


steamers fired up and all the Balmer's were present running the Allegheny and the Northern in 3/4" scale. Ray and Charlotte Hughes brought out their stable of engines and working cranes. Dave Sams was seen zipping around the track with the grandkids. Other club members out and about were Lee & Peggy Hodgson, who were taking a break from their awesome work in cleaning up the



grounds around the track. Ask Lee what # of burn pile of twigs/leaves/branches they are up to now! Peggy was busy this day running the gift shop at the track. Check out Lee's new awesome Conductors Cap—All

Aboard!!! Carl and Jeannette Schwab were running the diner, Bill Mense had a ball running the club train along with Donald Frozina, Ed and Herman. Some of the other members in attendance were Lou Lockwood, Ray McNeil, Herman Weir and Bill Bowser — Bill was the guy in the bright shirt with the beautiful white dog. It was also



great to see the Stauffer's in attendance. Other visitors at the track included Julie Balmer's sister - I think everyone had a thoroughly wonderful day!

Bill Mense taking his turn as Engineer on the Club Train.



Time	Club Loco	Club Loco	Station Master	Yard Master	Safety	Diner
10:00	Fransisco	Conductor				
11:00	ED	Lee	Don	Roger		CARL & JEANNETTE
11:00	Don	Charlotte	Ray H.	ROGER	LKH	
12:00	Bill M	Lee	Donna	RAY M	LKH	
1:00	Herman	Don		RAY M		
3:00						JULY 8 2017 CARL & JEANNETTE

Would love to see everyone's name on this list this coming year. Thanks to all the club members for making another wonderful day of train fun possible!



The Balmer boys firing up the Allegheny and Northern!



Andy Stauffer, Andy Jr and grandson Evan out at the Sniffers for the July run with their Clishay, Susan Too.

### Other Clubs Events

- May 24-28 Mill Creek Central Memorial Day Meet Coshocton, Ohio
- May 25-27 Michigan Central Railroad Spring Card Order Metamora, Michigan
- June 25/July 1 Train Mountain 2018 Triennial International Meet Chiloquin, Oregon

If you have not already done so, please get your club dues into Ed Habel, this years treasurer. We don't need a lot of funds to keep the track going but every dollar counts. Thank you!

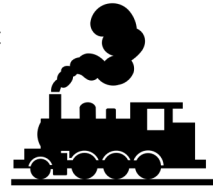


Chuck & Jim Balmer Prep'n the Allegheny for her boiler inspection by Steve Chromik.

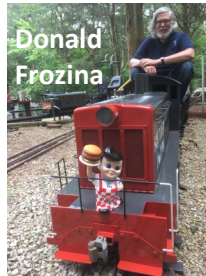
### September Run Report

September 9th was another beautiful day, a hint of Fall was in the air and everyone was relieved by the arrival of cooler air. It was a great turn-out at the track. I'll

let the pictures speak for themselves.



Philip Schram



Donald Frozina



Ray McNeil



Carl Schwab



Carl S & Denis Larrick



Jim Keith and his Hudson with Denis Larrick & Jim's son.



Ray Hughes & Ed Habel

### Night RUN

Donna R Hill-Frozina

Donald and I navigated our 32' RV into a prime parking spot up front before anyone else arrived and with the help of Katelyn Frozina and Gabe Redman the track was transformed into a festive spooky celebration!! The decorations were enjoyed by everyone and made for a nice glow for the after dark runs. And if the



decorations weren't enough to put everyone in a festive mood, the fact that Donald and I along with the kids camped out at the track so folks could leave their trains overnight could only be topped by the potluck and great comradery enjoyed by all in attendance. Some of those in attendance were

Kent & Linda Bolerjack, Chuck, Julie and Jim Balmer, Denis Larrick, Dorothy & Jim Keith, the McNiel's, Charlotte & Ray Hughes, Donald, Donna & Katelyn Frozina, Gabe Redman and Peggy & Lee Hodges. Earlier in the day Roger Huerich and his buddy were out but dark time driving isn't on their list of things to do. Look for decorations again this year at Halloween!



### October Work Day

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It's a sad day when a tree needs to be cut down and we have unfortunately needed too many trees to count removed from the track due to age and disease over the last few years. It became an even sadder day when we learned that our dear friends and fellow club members, Charlotte & Ray Hughes have decided to end their snow-bird days and move full time closer to the grandkids in Arizona. As I've looked thru the past years photos to put together this lengthy Mud Ring I couldn't help but smile and reflect on how much Ray & Charlotte have brought to the Sniffers—and that's just in the past 2 years that I have known them. I know that I and others are happy for their time with the grandchildren, but I for one will miss them dearly.



Ray brought his Kubota tractor for the clean-up day, its small enough to fit between our standing trees and the front loader makes quick work in removing debris, but don't worry folks!! Donald and I were lucky enough to buy this tractor during the Hughes downsizing sale. It will still be available for work at the track. Donald & I also bought their #50 Switcher, a radial arm saw, a concrete mixer . . . you get the idea.





HOLIDAY BANQUET 2017

### New Year's Day Run 2018

*Donna R Hill-Frozina*

I know from experience that it has been colder on New Years Day for our run day but it still felt pretty cold this



year. And it was a little snowy! The attendance wasn't high and I don't remember any guest showing up for rides but a good time was had by all. Especially when the wood stove in the diner started chugging out the heat!



**The Mud Ring is the official newsletter of the  
Cinder Sniffers, Inc.**  
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