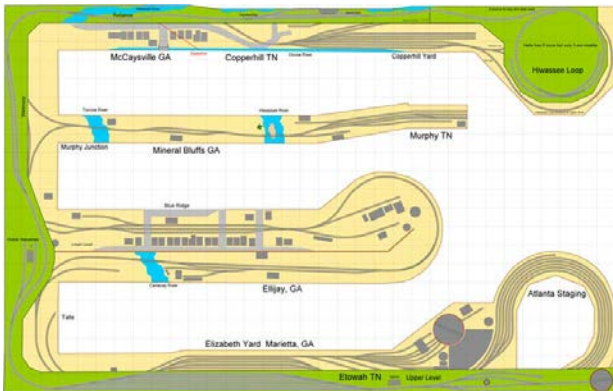




**The Clubhouse**



**Scene from the layout**



**The Club Layout**

## TSMRI Youth Group

Come to the club and get the experience of seeing a first-class layout in a real train depot. Even if you are just visiting the area, you could be invited to drive one of our many trains. Those that drive a train and satisfactorily complete certain tasks will be given a certificate worthy of framing. Be sure to ask...

**The Tri-State Model Railroaders have a youth group for youth ages 9 up to 18.**

The youth group have special meetings and activities that are geared to the interests of our youth.

The purpose of the Youth Group is to provide a young individual with the resources and support needed to learn and enjoy model railroading for the rest of their lives.

We teach youth how a train works by using realistic models and introduce them to the many aspects of the model railroading hobby. Our layout closely models the L&N railroad in this area around 1950.

We meet in the historic Mineral Bluff depot built in 1887. In addition, many of our members have worked in the railroad industry and are experts in many areas of the industry and the hobby.

We believe it is in the community's best interest to give this opportunity to our youth. So, the cost is very low, or even free.

Youth participating and getting certified have the fees waived. This would enable someone to be a youth member free for several years.

**There are no requirements to purchase anything. Everything you need will be provided.**

The program will, using our model train layout, teach how a locomotive works, how to drive a locomotive, how train cars are used, and their safe switching.

In addition, if you continue on, you could learn how to setup and model a railroad of your own.

# TSMRI Youth Group General Information

Version 1.2  
April 26, 2023



**Tri-State Model Railroaders**  
150 Railroad Avenue  
Mineral Bluff, Georgia 30559

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[tsmri@yahoo.com](mailto:tsmri@yahoo.com)

(423) 299-3914

## TSMRI Club Layout

The club's layout is based on L&N's (Louisville and Nashville Railroad) route in 1950.

It runs from **Atlanta, GA to Etowah, TN** passing through Tate, Jasper, Ellijay, Blue Ridge, Murphy Junction, McCaysville, GA / Copperhill, TN and then on to Etowah, TN.



At the last count, the layout has 1,076 feet of track, 111 switches, 167 buildings, and hundreds of trees on two levels. You will be able to run trains through a very realistic layout including tunnels and a mountain.

The train will wind through the hills and towns. You will recognize buildings and locations that still exist today. You'll blow the horn as your train crosses the roads.

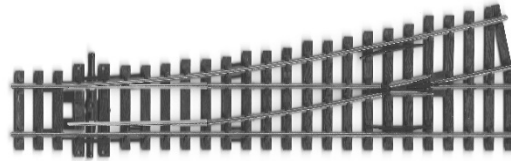


## What will you do?

**You will learn by doing.** This is very much hands on. You will drive trains. You can work on the layout. Members learn how real operations work. Eventually you could participate in full club operational sessions.

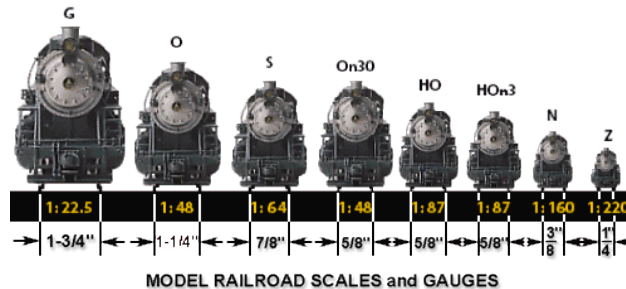
Some of the things you can learn about operations are:

- Role of the Engineer.
- Role of the Conductor.
- Role of the Station Master.
- Role of a Dispatcher.
- What is Rolling Stock .
- What are the operational signals (horns and bells) and how and when are they used.
- How to best pickup and dispatch cars in the most efficient way (like solving a puzzle). You need to do this while keeping track of other trains coming that might need your track.



Some of the things you could learn about model railroading are:

- What model railroading scales are and the advantages of each scale.
- How modern model trains are controlled.
- How to lay track for your own layout.
- How to handle and work with rolling stock.
- How to maintain the railroad.
- How to maintain and optimize rolling stock.



MODEL RAILROAD SCALES and GAUGES

A realistic layout is much more enjoyable than track around the Christmas tree. You will be able to learn how to make a layout more realistic by:

- Adding ground cover.
- Ballasting the track.
- Making Trees.
- Constructing roads and bridges.
- Modeling buildings.
- Painting.
- Weathering buildings and rolling stock.
- Adding lights to the layout.
- Making the layout come to life with people and animals.
- Building stories into the layout.

There is so much you can learn. Few modelers know it all. Most pick their favorite interests and become good at those. We do not expect you to learn everything about everything.



TSMRI has experts and mentors in all the areas and you will be able to learn from the best.

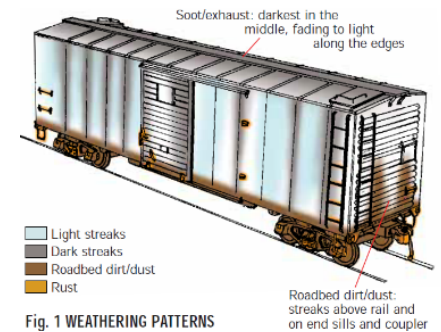


Fig. 1 WEATHERING PATTERNS

You will learn the basics so that you can enjoy a lifelong hobby in model railroading.

**If you are interested, come to an open house and see if this is right for you.**

*(See the website for the current schedule)*