

he came home and inquired about the status of the family's fire protection plan and the smoke detectors. He's 8 years old. You are never too young to learn safe practices and never too old to take suggestions for safety from anybody. This suggestion for Dad to check the batteries in the smoke detectors probably saved his family's life. Thankfully, the fire was mostly contained to the garage with severe smoke and water damage to the rest of the home, thanks to stringent Indiana building fire codes; the home being fairly new was equipped with a fire resistant bulkhead between the garage and the rest of the house. Regardless, smoke inhalation is the number one killer and cause of injury in house fires, and Matt attributes the smoke detector with preventing that kind of tragedy. Check your detectors folks, check them at least once a month and if there is any doubt as to their age, reliability or operation, replace it! Smoke detectors are inexpensive, not

that you would want to put a value on your family's lives anyway.

Summer is, unfortunately coming to a rapid close as I write this. This always "bums me out" as it is my favorite time of year. Regardless, the weather is changing, temperatures are dropping (unless you live south of the Equator, lucky you!), and for a lot of you, this means snow, especially at the museum, so be careful, stay warm, take care of yourselves and we hope to see you and yours at "Santa Train" this Holiday Season.



Greg Elems explains the efforts of volunteers doing track work to the photographer on 10 May, 2014. The ties under the switch frog are being raised and tamped to correct settling that has occurred over time. Pictured left to right: Rick Gruninger, Matt Elems, Greg Elems, Duane Vander Veen.

—Dave Morton Photo