

CLINKERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION,
MID-EASTERN REGION, NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

JANUARY 12, 2013

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 1

It's January, So This Must Be Haddon Township!

What has now become a tradition, our meet at Haddon Township High School on January 12 will be a joint meet with our neighbors across the river. We have a very nice large space, so come join the camaraderie and general good time. Bring your white elephants, no table reservations required. Bring your contest entries! The topic for this meet is Railroad Structures: Stations, Switch Block Towers, Water or Coaling Towers, MOW sheds, Bridges, Watchman Shacks, Yard Offices, etc.

As has also become our custom, we will have two very interesting clinics. The first will particularly interest

See **January Meet** on page 5

Bad News Comes in Threes!

Here I have some sad news to pass along. I recently received the following note from Eric Dervinis.

"After 38 years in the Old Fort Washington School, GATSME Model Railroad [Club] has lost its lease and is looking for a new home. The new owner of the building will replace the school with four single family houses.

The final Open Houses for GATSME are noon to 4 PM on January 5,6, 19 and 20 plus February 9 and 10. The location is Madison and Prospect Ave. in Fort Washington, PA 19034. The phone number is

See **History** on page 4

Wanted! Clinic Presenters for Work in Progress Program at the March 9, 2013 Meet

John V. Gallagher; Director, Clinics

Our New Jersey Division meet in March at Switlik Park will see a return to the popular multiple simultaneous clinics called Work in Progress [WIP]. Members can select from a variety of topics presented in 30 minute sessions, up close and personal with each clinic presenter. We present four cycles of clinics so you can attend up to four full clinics of your choice.

This is an early call for clinic presenters to participate in the WIP program so you will have plenty of time to prepare. Our goal is to have up to 10 clinics presented to provide topic variety to meet member preferences. Presenting these clinics can count towards earning an Achievement Award in the Model Railroad Author or Volunteer categories.

I will present a live demonstration of building old time wood passenger cars and interurban trolley cars using the ICC/East Gary Car Shop modular system of plastic car body parts. I developed procedures and some tooling to prepare these components for accurate assembly, taking advantage of the high quality of the components

See **Presenters** on page 4

NEXT DIVISION MEET

Saturday, January 12, 2013
9:00 AM to 12:00

Haddon Twp. High School
406 Memorial Ave.
Westmont, NJ 08108

Contest: Railroad Structures
Clinics:

Ramon Rhodes:
Santa Fe Ops in Chicago
Greg Shindlecker:
Backdrops from aluminum
flashing

Layout Tour:
Friday 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Saturday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Swap tables:
Contact Bob Clegg
856 696 0463
BobcatCS@comcast.net

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CLINKERS

Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Division
Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA
P.O. Box 8694
Trenton, NJ 08650
www.NJDivNMRA.org

Clinkers is published 5 times per year for the NMRA members and friends of the New Jersey Division. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Division. Products and publications mentioned in Clinkers in no way constitute an endorsement by the Division.

Contributing to Clinkers

Clinkers welcomes contributions from the New Jersey Division membership. Letters, articles, photos and other items may be mailed or emailed to the editor at the above address. Please include return postage if you would like materials returned.

Deadline for next issue: February 8, 2013

Board of Directors 2012 - 2013

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856 696 0463
BobcatCS@comcast.net

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856 293 9874

Division AP Chair

PJ Mattson, MMR
856 467 0421

Membership Information

Any person who is a member of the NMRA and lives within the boundaries of the NJ Division as defined by the NMRA is also a member of the division. Non member guests are welcome to attend two of our meets, after which they will be asked to join the NMRA.

NJ Division annual activity fee: \$10.00 (includes 5 meets) or individual meets \$5 at the door. First time guests, no charge! Online newsletter always available at NJ Division website. Mailed hardcopy newsletter \$7.00

National Model Railroad Association
4121 Cromwell Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119
www.nmra.org

SCHEDULES

NEXT BOARD MEETING

February 19, 2013
Host: Bob Liberman
rdliberman@comcast.net
609 298 7337

All members are invited.
Please let us know if you plan to attend.

NJ Division March Meet

Saturday, March 9, 2013
Switlik Park
5 Fisher Place
Hamilton Twp. NJ 08620

Contest:

Detailed & Weathered Hopper Cars w/Load

Clinics:

Work in Progress style multiple clinics

NJ Division May Meet

Saturday, May 4, 2013
Goetz Middle School
835 Patterson Road
Jackson NJ 08527

Contest:

Detailed Maintenance-Of-Way Cars

Clinics:

To be determined

Let us know if there's a
clinic you would like to see...
or see again!

NJ DIVISION AREA HOBBY SHOPS

Sattler's Hobby Shop*

14 Haddon Ave.
Westmont, NJ 08108
(856) 854-7136

Jackson Hobby Shop*

2275 West County Line Rd.
Jackson, NJ 08527
(732) 364-3334
www.jacksonhobby.com

The Train Room*

715 Arnold Ave.
Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742
(732) 892-5145
www.thetrainroomNJ.com

Bob's Hobbies and Crafts

67 S. Broadway
Pitman, NJ 08071
(856) 589 1777
Bobshobbiesandcrafts@yahoo.com

All Aboard Trains

118 N. Main St.
Forked River, NJ 08731
609-693-2552
www.allaboardtrains1.com
Specializing in Lionel
and Lionel repairs

Yankee Dabber - Track 33

101 W. Kings Hwy.
Bellmawr, NJ 08031
yankeedabber@aol.com

*Offers 10% discount to NMRA members

CLINKERS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION, NMRA

VIEW FROM THE CAB

Bob Clegg

Thoughts about the November meet

Our November meet was a real hoot for me personally. All went very well and I think everyone had a great time. We had two very good clinics, and the coffee wasn't bad either!

A big thank you to all of you who took the time to stop by to see the progress on my railroad. I didn't keep a sign in log, but I would estimate between 40 and 50 stopped in. Thanks to you, the room actually was cleaned out! It took four days! Now I just have to keep it this way!

As those who stopped by saw, I've made good progress so far and hopefully by the time we're back in this area again for a meet in 2014, I will have the mainline complete on both levels.

I have already started to erect the bench work for the railroad on the west wall. The left corner of that area will be Endicott including more Endicott Johnson shoe factories and the IBM plant. The immediate goal is to have the first level bench work complete and the mainline pieces connected by February. At that point, I'll begin adding some basic scenery and buildings and hopefully have an actual operating session by summer. Anyone interested?

NJ Division election procedures

Here's a heads up. Procedures for the elections for the NJ Division Board of Directors have been changed. Nominating petitions will be included in your May Clinkers. They are due back by August 1.

If an election is necessary, ballots will be included in the September Clinkers. Everyone will get a hardcopy ballot whether or not you are in our database of active members, as long as you live within the geographic boundaries of the division as defined by the region, i.e. in the counties of Mercer, Monmouth and those south.

They must be received by the Wednesday before the September meet, probably September 11. The exact date will be included with the ballot. Results will be announced at the meet.

If you are interested in doing something for your division, consider running for a position on the board.

Sandy relief fund


The members attending the November meet donated \$50 which has been forwarded to the Red Cross Disaster Relief Fund. Thank you to all who contributed.

Ron Baile receives his MMR plaque

Now for some good news! Region Vice President and NJ Division member Bob Price (left) presented Ron Baile with his plaque denoting his achieving Master Model Railroader number 496. Ron couldn't make it to the meet in November as he was working on his 12" to the foot railroad, AKA the Cape May Seashore Lines.

You may know that Ron works there as both a qualified engineer and as a mechanic keeping the equipment running smoothly.

Suggestions?

Recently, someone emailed me asking why we didn't publish suggestions any more. Simple answer: we haven't received any. If you have a suggestion about the way the meets or the division as a whole can be improved, please fill out the suggestion form and put it in the box at the next meet, or just drop me an email. There must be something we can do better! 

Cool Tools



This month our cool tool is the Husky Digital level mentioned in the May "View from the Cab". It reports angles in rise/run, degrees, and most useful, percent grade. It also displays the room temperature when first turned on. You need to use one of these to determine what your grade really is in any spot on your roadbed both lineally and cross section! Forty bucks well spent!



This is a Cool Tool!
If you have a "Cool Tool" send it to the editor at BobcatCS@comcast.net

Presenters continued from page 1

to build excellent models. Possibly, with a few components assembled beforehand, I can complete the body of an O scale interurban car during the meet. Completed and in process models on display will show you the potential for this modular modeling system.

What are you doing that would interest New Jersey Division members? Have you developed some modeling techniques that you can share with members? You could do a single theme presentation/demonstration like mine, or you could combine several items that members could use in their modeling.

Last year, our WIP clinics included soldering techniques, building a brass signal in 30 minutes, tree making, materials and tools for structure scratch building, making modeling tools from commonly available items vs. expensive commercial products, weathering N scale freight cars, to name just a few.

Are you concerned about presenting a clinic before a large group? You are not alone. All travels begin with small steps and participating as a WIP clinic presenter provides you with the opportunity to do just that, presenting to a small group sitting across the table, much as you would do at your home workbench demonstrating a modeling technique, and it is fun. This builds confidence so you can do another clinic at a future WIP program.

Eventually, you can advance to presenting a clinic before the entire division when you are ready. Remember, I am available to assist you in the preparation of any clinic. I did this professionally for 31 years at the university

level as a teacher educator so working with a beginning clinic presenter is not new for me. Questions? Contact me at 856-228-2239 or by email at: [gallagherjv39\[at\]Verizon.net](mailto:gallagherjv39@Verizon.net) and substitute @ for [at].

Finally, this call for presenters includes return engagements by prior WIP presenters. What else have you been doing in modeling?

Please volunteer! Sign-up on the form circulated at the January meet or contact me. Thanks!



Above and right: An operating session at the GATSM E Model Railroad Club. The railroad is scheduled for demolition in the not too distant future.

You'll have until February to get one more look at this long term favorite railroad.



History Continued from page 1

215-646-2033 and web site is www.gatsme.org.

The model railroad is nearly complete, with hand laid track, craftsman structures and a brand new engine terminal.

Come visit one last time."

If anyone is interested in a visit to the club, let Bob know and we'll see if we can get a group road trip together to visit while we still can. You'll find his email on page 2.

Dave Skinner, MMR has also announced that he will be pulling up stakes (and spikes) and moving to Massachusetts to be closer to his family. Dave's last open house was at our September meet and his last operation session was held in November. We wish Dave all the best in his new location. We will miss him!

The third railroad is that of long time member and contributor Jake Evaul. Jake's last open house was also at our September meet and his last operating session was also held in November. We'll miss the visits to him and his railroad as well.

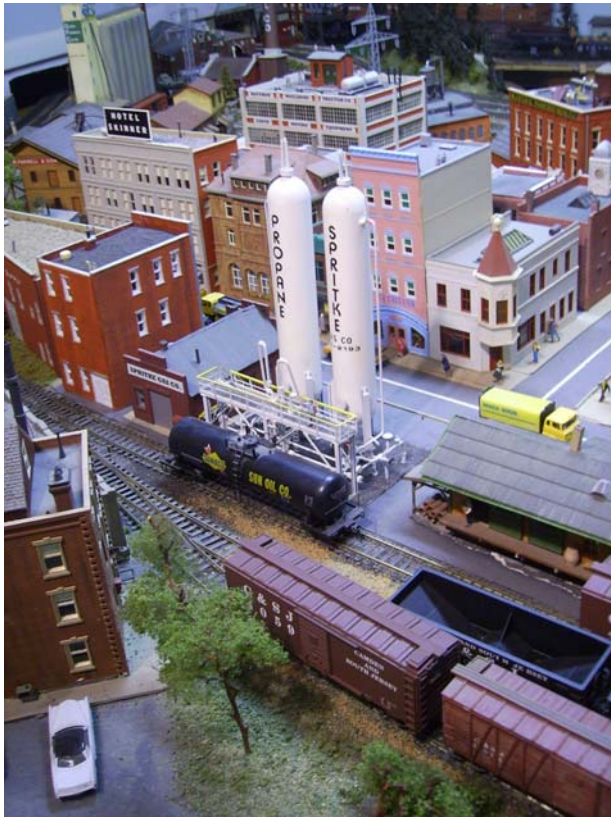


January Meet Continued from page 1

those who follow the Santa Fe or who, like your editor, just like the railroading in the Chicago area.

Guest speaker Ramon Rhodes will present Santa Fe Operations in Chicago. For those of you who had the opportunity to see Ramon at the Santa Fe society meeting earlier this year, I'm sure you'll enjoy the encore. If you didn't, you're in for a treat.

Our second clinic will be presented by Greg Shindlecker from the Philly Division. Greg



will show us how he created a nearly seamless backdrop for his railroad from aluminum flashing material.

Don't forget that there will be the usual January meet Friday night open house tour. We'll have five railroads open on Friday night and eight on Saturday afternoon. Maps and directions can be found starting on page 8. 🚂

Joe Zebrowski (right) is presented with a certificate and voucher for a free year's activity fee for winning the model contest last May. The award was made at the September meet.

Below: Several NJ Division members were in attendance at the last operating session on Dave Skinner's KADE Lines railroad. That's Dave in the hat in the center of the crew.



Left: Jake Evaul's terrific railroad will also soon be history. Thank's for the memories, Jake.



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM NEWS

PJ MATTSON, MMR & DICK GENTHNER, MMR

There are just a few news items concerning the Achievement Program this month.

I am sorry that I was unable to attend the last meet on November 17th. This was the meet at which Ron Baile was to receive his Master Model Railroader plaque at long last. PJ Mattson had the plaque for Master Model Railroader #496, but Ron was not at the meet so PJ arranged for Bob Price to present it to Ron after the meet. Ron finally has all of the certificates and plaques for MMR #496. Again we offer our congratulations to Ron.

PJ also advised me that there are several more members that have completed the work and most of the paperwork for certificates in the fields of Scenery, Electrical and Chief Dispatcher. So right after the beginning of the New Year we will have more certificates to present. It is great that so many members continue to work on the Achievement Program.

Don't forget that if you have questions about or problems with the AP please call either PJ or me. Our contact information is at the end of this article.

On a personal note I have been asked about how my wife is doing. I'm glad to report that she is much improved and doing quite well. She is enjoying our new home in Applewood and is now able to participate in a water aerobics class in the heated pool here among other things.

I've been busy getting two sections of the old

Arpee and Western RR back in operation in my grandsons' basement. (Twins Henry and Stuart Fechhelm who live in Mendham, NJ). It is running now and with a few more work sessions they should be ready for operation. I'm still planning my new A&W RR for the back of the garage here at Applewood.

One thing that just turned up this week were some golden spikes (HO scale) from the old layout in Manalapan. You may remember that I had a golden spike ceremony back on October 1, 2009 with three of the original crew participating.

The "spikers" were Diamond Bill Howard, Herb Gishlick and John Dragger. However, only two of the three Golden Spikes were recovered, so one is still floating around someplace in New Jersey. In a year or so I'll have to have another Golden Spike ceremony on the new Arpee and Western.

That's all the news for this month. Call if you have questions or problems.



PJ Mattson, MMR

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856 467 0421

Dick Genthner, MMR

agent1@optonline.net
732 462 0216

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD
APPLICATION FORM
is on page 15 in *Online Color Extras*.**



Region VP and NJ Division member Bob Price (left) awards Ron Baile his MMR, number 496.

MODULAR MODELING IN THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION

Mike McNamara

Happy New Year! I hope you got just what you wanted for the holidays and are busy at work building, creating, operating...just enjoying model railroading. Here is what has been going on with NJ Free-mo...

The weekend of November 23-25, 2012 there was a train show in Bordentown. Not your show where things are for sale, but more of a holiday train display. This 3rd annual event coincides with the lighting of the town Christmas tree and is really popular with the community.

This year, in addition to train layouts and displays in all scales, from Legos to Lionel, scale model railroading was on display in the form of 2 Free-mo module sets. Mike Prokop and I set up our multi-section modules in one corner of the recently restored Bordentown Old City Hall

building. The free event was visited by over 3000 people during the weekend. Just a bit more than your average open house! Check out the photos in this newsletter.

The train display stays up into December for some local school children to visit as well. All in all, plenty of people were able to see and enjoy model trains. Hopefully their exposure to scale model railroading in the form of the Free-mo modules will rub off on one or two to become full fledged model railroaders.

For those attending the Springfield train show at the end of January, be sure to check out the layout of the New England Free-mo group. They plan to have their CNC-routed return loop on display at one end of their layout.

The first weekend of February is the Timonium winter show, and Capitol Free-mo will be on hand as usual. There should be a number of New Jersey modules included in the layout too, so be sure to stop by and say hi. Check out the possibilities that Free-mo offers.

Tentative plans are being made for a larger Free-mo event somewhere in the New Jersey area to host regional groups from Washington DC, New England, Syracuse and possibly beyond.

If all goes well, a weekend in June may see a large Free-mo layout assembled. I'll keep you posted. If you were thinking about building a module, start now so you can participate in these and other future events.



Are you an arm chair modeler? Don't think you have room for a layout? Build a Free-mo module! It only needs to be 24 inches wide and can be as long as you have room to store and transport it! Above are Mike M's and Mike P's modules. One is three sections, the other is two sections. See close up on page 8.

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEET

From Philadelphia Via Ben Franklin Bridge

Follow **US 30 East** to Oaklyn. Turn **left** onto **Cuthbert Blvd.** and follow Local Directions below.

From Delaware Memorial Bridge or Commodore Barry Bridge Via I 295

Cross the Bridge and take **I 295 North** to **US 30 West (exit 29B)**. **US 30** (White Horse Pike) west to Oaklyn. Turn **right** onto **Cuthbert Blvd.** and follow Local Directions below.

From Points North Via I 295

Follow **I 295 South** to **US 30 West (exit 29)**. **US 30** (White Horse Pike) west to Oaklyn. Turn **right** onto **Cuthbert Blvd.** and follow Local Directions below.

Points Southeast in New Jersey

Use the **Atlantic City Expressway** or **US 322** (Black Horse Pike) and continue onto **NJ42 Freeway North**. Exit onto **US 130 North** (Crescent Blvd.) Just before the second traffic light, turn **right** onto **Wilson Ave.** then bear **left** and follow around to **Nicholson Road**. Continue to the end at **US 30** and turn **left**. Follow local directions below.

Local Directions

From **US 30** turn onto **Cuthbert Blvd.** and proceed about a mile. You'll see a driveway next to a chain link fence on the right. Turn into the driveway and follow it to the cafeteria entrance for Haddon Twp. High School. If you miss the driveway, continue on **Cuthbert Blvd.** and turn **right** onto **Park Blvd.** Turn **right** on **Briarwood Ave.**, stay **right** on Buckner Ave. and then left onto Memorial Ave. Follow Memorial Ave. to Haddon Twp. High School. The cafeteria and parking are in the rear of the school. The full address for GPS users is 406 Memorial Ave., Haddon Twp., NJ 08108.

Here's an up close look at where Mike Prokop is in construction of his module displayed at the train show in Bordentown.

FRIDAY NIGHT TOUR

It is the policy of the New Jersey Division not to publish the names and addresses of our tour hosts on the internet as a matter of privacy and safety. If you would like to participate in the tour, please email BobcatCS@comcast.net with the subject "Friday Night Tour". Within the text include your name, address, and phone number as well as your NMRA member number if you have one. These will be used for verification purposes only and will not be shared with anyone.

If you do not have email you can call 856 696 0463 for the information.



PATCONG VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD
OPEN HOUSE DATES

We are open the following weekends in January

Saturdays: 5, 12, and 19

Sundays: 6, 13, and 20

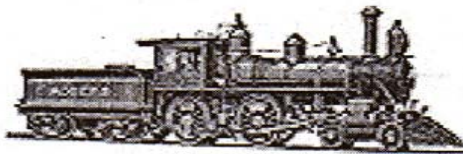
10 AM to 4 PM

Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club is located in Richland, NJ. Richland is on Route 40 about 10 miles west of Mays Landing.

Our building is at about milepost 38.5. We are on the south side of the highway directly across the road from Richland Carpets. The cross streets are Route 40 and Fir Avenue - for a web search.

The building is painted buff yellow, with brown trim and windows. It has been remodeled to look like an old freight station. There is a wheelchair ramp, at the front door.

YD



Yankee Dabbler - Track 33

(856) 312-8084 Fax (856) 933-3796

Frank, Mike & Vince – yankeedabbler@aol.com
101 W. Kings Hwy. Bellmawr, New Jersey 08031

CHERRY VALLEY

MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Holiday Open House

Grace Church • 7 East Maple Ave.

Merchantville, NJ 08109

50th Anniversary Year

Sat, Jan. 5, 12-4 pm

Sat, Jan. 12, 12-4 pm

Sun, Jan. 6, 12-4 pm

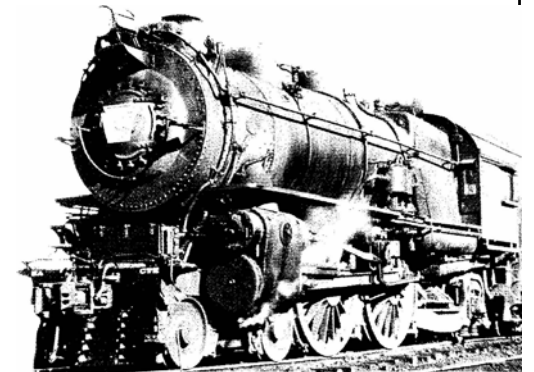
Sun, Jan. 13, 12-4 pm

**Enjoy the magic of
Model Railroading!**

**No admission!
Bring the family!**

**The only 2 rail O scale
operating club layout in
Southern New Jersey.**

For information contact:
John P. Dunn Sr. 609-432-2871
jdunn8888@hotmail.com





Here are a few more last looks. Left, Dave Skinners KADE Railroad. Right, Jake Evaul's Railroad. Both are slated for demolition in the near future. The last run for both of these railroads was at the September New Jersey Division Meet in Deptford. They will be missed!

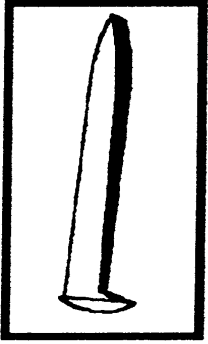


ONLINE COLOR EXTRAS



Looks like the folks at the Cherry Valley Model Railroad Club scenery department have been hard at work. Drop in to see all that's new either Friday night or Saturday afternoon in conjunction with the January 12, 2013 meet to be held in the Haddon Township High School cafeteria. For maps and directions, see page 10.





ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE THIS APPLICATION FORM AND SEND TO YOUR REGIONAL OR DIVISIONAL AP CHAIR

Member's Name: _____ NMRA#: _____ EXP: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State/Prov: _____ Country: _____ Postal Code: _____
Date Submitted: _____ Region: _____

The Golden Spike Award will be awarded to any NMRA member who has completed the Qualifications Checklist, obtained the necessary signatures and who does not hold MMR status. It will be administered by the regional and divisional AP Chairs. AP regulations and definitions apply for scratch building and super detailing. To qualify for the award the member must complete the following checklist, obtain the signature of the divisional AP Chair or another NMRA member designated by the divisional Chair. The divisional Chair will submit the signed form to the regional AP Chair who will issue the Golden Spike Award certificate.

QUALIFICATIONS CHECKLIST:

1. Rolling Stock (Motive Power & Cars):

Display six units of rolling stock either scratch built, craftsman kits or super-detailed commercial kits.

2. Model Railroad Setting (Structures & Scenery)

Construct a minimum of eight square feet of layout including scenery.
Construct five structures either scratch built, craftsman kits or super detailed commercial kits. If a module has less than five structures, additional structures separate from the scene may be presented.

3. Engineering (Civil & Electrical)

Three types of track required (e.g. turnout, crossing, crossover, etc.). All must be properly ballasted and installed on proper roadbed. Commercial track may be used.
All installed track must be properly wired so that two trains can be operated simultaneously (e.g. double track main, single track main with sidings, and block or command control).
Provide one additional electrical feature such as power operated turnouts, signaling, turnout indication, lighted buildings, etc.

Witness: _____ Print Name: _____ NMRA #: _____
Regional AP Chair: _____ Region: _____



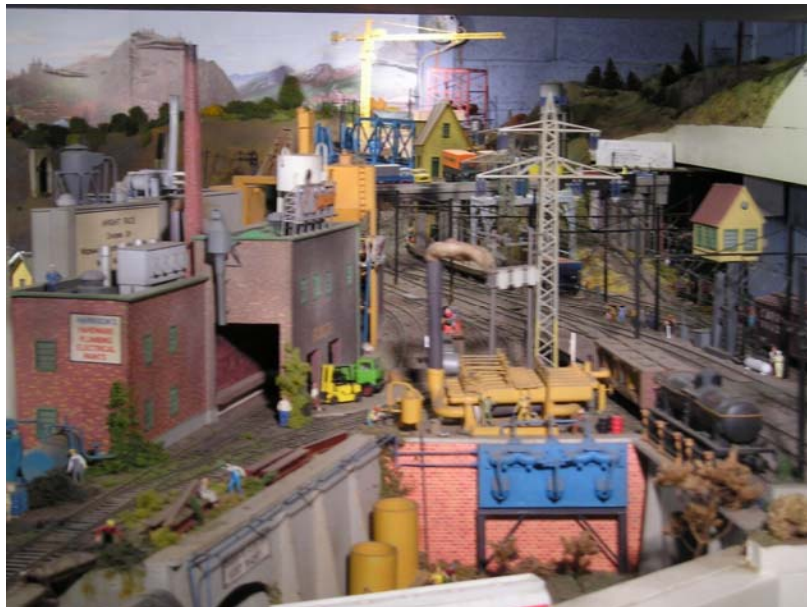
Above, Dick Kitz' HO railroad and below, Doc Patti's On3 railroad, both western logging themes. Dick will be open Friday night, Doc Patti, both Friday night and Saturday afternoon.





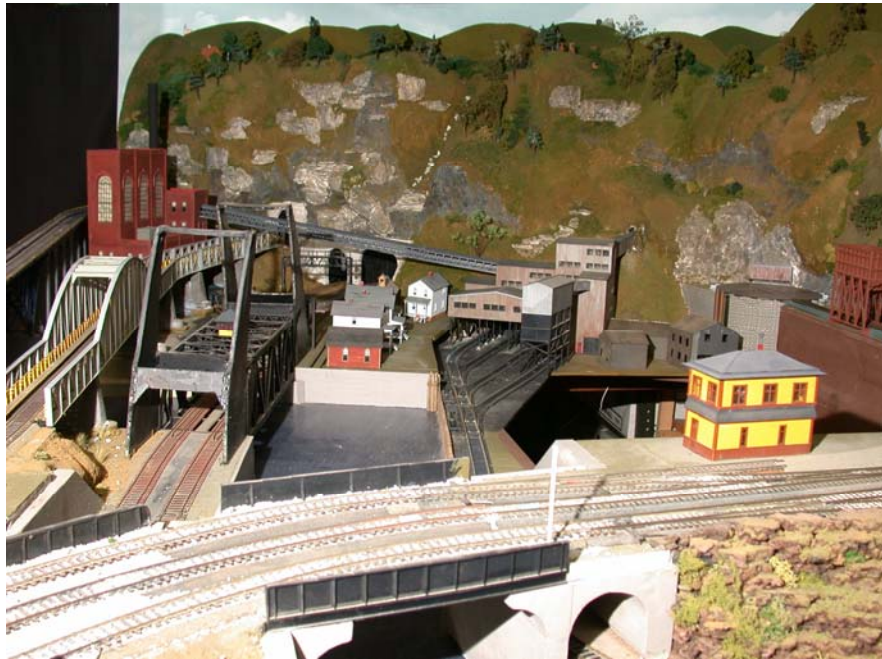
Above left Bob Price's BN themed railroad, and right, both photos of Chris Conaway's PRR. Both will be open Saturday afternoon.

Left, Mert Gardner's DRGW will be open both Friday night and Saturday afternoon.



Above, Bob Hubbard's heavily industrial railroad and below, Bill Rose's highly detailed railroad. Bob will be open Saturday afternoon, Bill will be open both Friday night and Saturday afternoon.





This page, Dick Perry's railroad, which will be open on Saturday afternoon

