

TRAIN ORDERS

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

MARCH 11, 2017

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 2

Something Different for March Meet

The March meet will be in the usual location in Switlik Park. However, although it has become tradition to have Mitch Dakelman dig into his vast collection of slides and movies for our March program, this year we will give Mitch a rest and forego the videos. We will have our usual meet format with two interesting and instructive clinics rather than the videos.

First, Bill Kennedy will show us how to make our own decals. Whether you plan to have your own freelance railroad reporting marks, or you need some graphics on your buildings, Bill will show us how it's done.

He will cover the process from sources for materials to creating your designs on your computer and printing your decals, and everything in between.

For the second half of the clinic schedule we present a clinic by Herb Gishlick, MMR, "Planning Your Towns and Villages" for the model railroad. If you have an "unoccupied" space on your layout, Herb will describe techniques for designing a town or village for that space. Herb's layout has a few fine towns and villages that fit into the landscape as if the

land was there before the town was built.

Don't forget to bring your "Favorite Train" for the popular vote contest. Bring more than one if you can't decide!

Bring your items for the white elephant sale. There will be tables available, just let us know.

While you are bringing things to the meet, how about bringing a friend or two as well. Remember guests are always welcome and there is no charge for first timers.

As usual, we'll have refreshments; coffee and donuts, tea as well for those who prefer. Don't miss this chance to catch up with old friends and make a few new ones!

The afternoon home railroad tour will take us to several of our favorite home railroads. Be sure not to miss Bill Howard's totally from scratch reincarnation!



Cool Tools

Need a way to lay perfectly straight HO flex track? Insert a slotted shelf bracket upright. It should just fit between the rails



NEXT DIVISION MEET

Saturday, March 11, 2017

9:00 AM to 12:00

Switlik Park

5 Fisher Place

Hamilton Twp. NJ 08620

Contest

Favorite Train

Clinics:

Bill Kennedy:

Making Your Own Decals

Herb Gishlick, MMR:

Planning Your Towns and Villages

Layout Tour:

Saturday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Swap tables:

Contact Bob Clegg

856 696 0463

BobcatCS@comcast.net

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TRAIN ORDERS

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

Train Orders is published 5 times per year for the NMRA members and friends of the New Jersey Division. Online newsletter always available at NJ Division website. Mailed hardcopy newsletter is \$7.00 per year. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Division. Products and publications mentioned in *Train Orders* in no way constitute an endorsement by the Division.

Contributing to Train Orders

Train Orders welcomes contributions from the New Jersey Division membership. Letters, articles, photos and other items may be emailed to the editor, Fritz Plenefisch, at fplen3@verizon.net. Please include return postage if you would like materials returned.

Deadline for next issue: April 12, 2017

Board of Directors 2016 - 2017

Superintendent

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856 696 0463
BobcatCS@comcast.net

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856 228 2239

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609 585 4616

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856 824 1405

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Mike Prokop
609 586 9818

Director

Chuck Higdon
732 914 1161

Director

Michael Mosher
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 three of our meets, after which they will be asked to join the NMRA.

NJ Division annual activity fee: \$10.00 (optional and includes 5 meets) or individual meets \$5 at the door. First time guests, no charge!

National Model Railroad Association
P.O. Box 1328
Soddy Daisy TN 37384-1328
www.nmra.org

SCHEDULES

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, April 25, 2017

Host: Mike Mosher
mjmx@comcast.net
856 293 9874

All members are invited.

Please let us know if you plan to attend.

NJ DIVISION MAY MEET

Saturday, May 13, 2017

Joint meet

Hosted by Garden State Division
Ted Blum 4-H Center
310 Milltown Road
Bridgewater, NJ 08807

THE SUSQUEHANNOCK

2017 MER Convention

Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel
Harrisburg, PA
Sponsored by
The Susquehanna Division
October 12-15, 2017
www.mer2017.org

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM

is on page 14 in *The Second Section*.

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

Yankee Dabblers - Track 33

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

*Offers 10% discount to NMRA members

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

VIEW FROM THE CAB

Bob Clegg, Superintendent

Let It Snow!

First of all, thank you to all of you who braved the snow on January 7 to attend our meet. In spite of the fact that our second clinician did not make it to the meet, I think we all had a good time. This was only the second time since I've been Superintendent that we've had a weather event on the day of a meet.

Thanks also to those who offered to open their railroads for the afternoon tour. I don't know how many folks actually stopped by at each location, but be assured, we all very much appreciate the opportunity.

Changes Are Coming

Since our May meet will be a joint meet hosted by our northern neighbors, March will be the last meet that I will be your master of ceremonies. I will do a "State of the Division" report at the start of the September meet but after that I will be turning the meeting and the office of Superintendent over to someone else.

Now, considering that I will not be running for reelection to your board of directors, there will be at least one vacancy on the board. Keep in mind that in accordance with our division bylaws we do not elect anyone to a specific office. Rather, we are

all directors, and we decide at the yearly organizational meeting who will take on the various responsibilities during the following year. The assignment of responsibilities takes place at the August board meeting if no election is necessary, that is, we have a number of candidates equal to the number of open slots, or, if an election is required, that meeting will take place as soon as possible after the results are certified .

The board assignments are Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Secretary (Clerk), Treasurer (Paymaster) and three board members at large, who perform various duties as assigned.

It takes a bit of a commitment to be a board member, however speaking as one who has served on the board for almost fifteen years, the experience is quite rewarding. If you can spare a couple hours a month, please consider running for a two year term on your Board of Directors.

Also keep in mind that we have some POMs (plain ordinary members) who volunteer for various positions. These folks lighten the load of the board and we are VERY appreciative.

There are a bunch of you who have been clinicians and hosts and I'd like to list all of you, but there's just not enough room here!

There is one guy in particular who works with us every meet and so deserves special recognition: He is Mike Underwood who has kept the coffee hot and the donuts fresh for the past two years!

We also have a recent volunteer, Ron Baile is now the Assistant Division AP Chairman who will assist PJ Mattson. If you need help with standards or would like to have an evaluation for an AP certificate, contact Ron at rbaile@verizon.net.

Please thank all of these guys when you see them at the next meet!

March Meet

Our upcoming meet will be held at the club house at Switlik Park as it has for many years. I know you have become accustomed to having a slide or video presentation at this meet, but this time will be different. We'll still have the usual amenities, but the program will be two interesting clinics: Making Your Own Decals and Planning a Town or Village for an unused or under used spot on your railroad. Also, the contest is my favorite: Your Favorite Train. I'll have one or two entries. Bring yours, too. It doesn't have to be long, just your favorite!



MODEL CONTEST NEWS

Chuck Higdon, Contest Chairman

At our January meet in the Haddon Twp. High School, Westmont, I had Bill Howard's Contest Winner's Certificate and a NJ Division Dues Voucher, he was not in attendance. Bill was the winner of the Detailed/Weathered Livestock Cars Contest at our November meet in Turnersville.


The Contest at the January meet was Detailed/Weathered Covered Hopper Cars. The winner by popular ballot vote was by

John Swift's LNE #12185 covered hopper car.

Our next contest for the March meet is "Favorite Train". This will be held on March 11, 2017 at Switlik Park in Hamilton Twp., NJ.

The next contest will be in September, 2017. It will be for Detailed / Weathered Flat Cars w/Loads. There will not be a contest at the joint Garden State Division

meet in May. Remember the winning entry gets a voucher that covers one year's worth of meeting entrance fees. Just like a lottery, you got to be in it to win. So bring your model for an upcoming contest, the winner is picked by the popular vote of those attending the meeting.

If you would like to suggest a contest category, or if you have any other ideas about the contests, please let me know. 



Above: Contest winner, LNE covered hopper entered by John Swift

Upper right: A collection of four covered hoppers entered by Ron Baile

Lower right, Delaware and Allegheny covered hopper entered by Joe Zebrowski

ON THE ROAD AGAIN...NEW JERSEY FREE-MO AT THE 2017 AMHERST TRAIN SHOW

Mike Prokop, NJ Division Director

If it's the last weekend in January and you find yourself in the middle of seven acres of model trains, you are definitely at the Amherst Model Railroad Hobby Show in West Springfield, Massachusetts. The New Jersey Free-Mo guys were there joining in a gigantic Free-Mo layout with our friends and hosts, the New England Free-Mo group. The layout had 250 feet of mainline running snaking its way through many diverse and beautiful module sections.

New Jersey represented itself very well with Mike McNamara's beautifully scenic

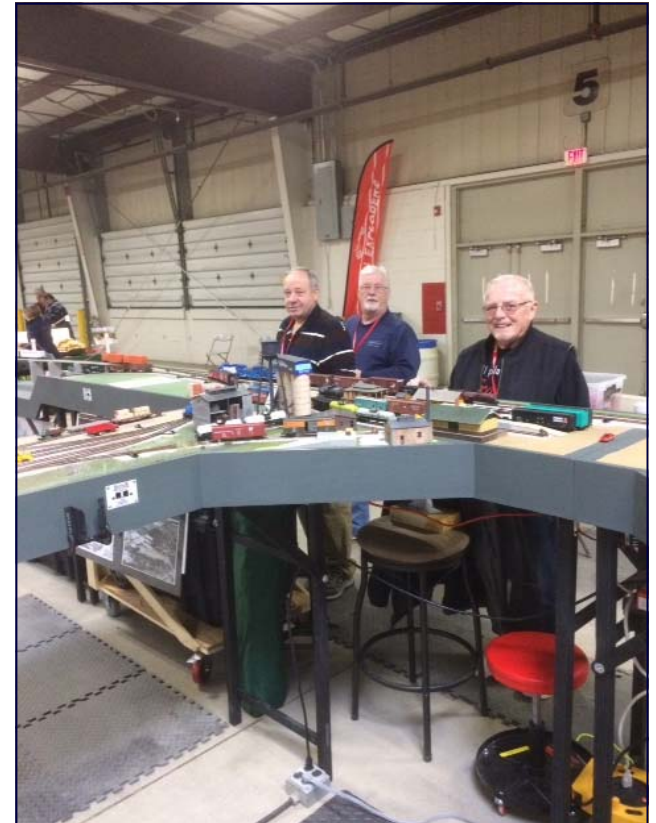


You know the Free-Mo layout ends somewhere down there, you just can't see it!

Woodstown Junction module that also provided some great operations. Bill Grosse had his Yardville module set in the mix. Bill made lots of progress in the development of Yardville especially with scenic details and some great looking ballasted track work. Bill gave more than a few impromptu mini clinics on module construction and electrical wiring. If you didn't see Bill around his module over the weekend, you would have spotted him underneath it explaining something to a visitor! I had my Linden Street module set up along the Free-Mo main which exhibited some added details to the freight house and upgrades to the tug boat to better reflect a Reading prototype steam tug, the "Ogontz." If you come to see my layout after the March meet, I'll also have Linden Street set up in my garage for viewing.

If you've never been to the Amherst show you owe it to yourself to get up there at least once in your lifetime. Just about everything model railroading is represented there. You'll also see one heck of a great Free-Mo layout!

See the New Jersey Free-Mo



Bill Grosse's "Yardville" Free-Mo module is modeled after its namesake town. If you come to the March meet in Hamilton, you can walk to the real area he models. Some of it is still there, most is not! Roadies Diamond Bill Howard and Joe Huber helped out to the best of their abilities!

guys next at the MER fall convention in Harrisburg this coming October.



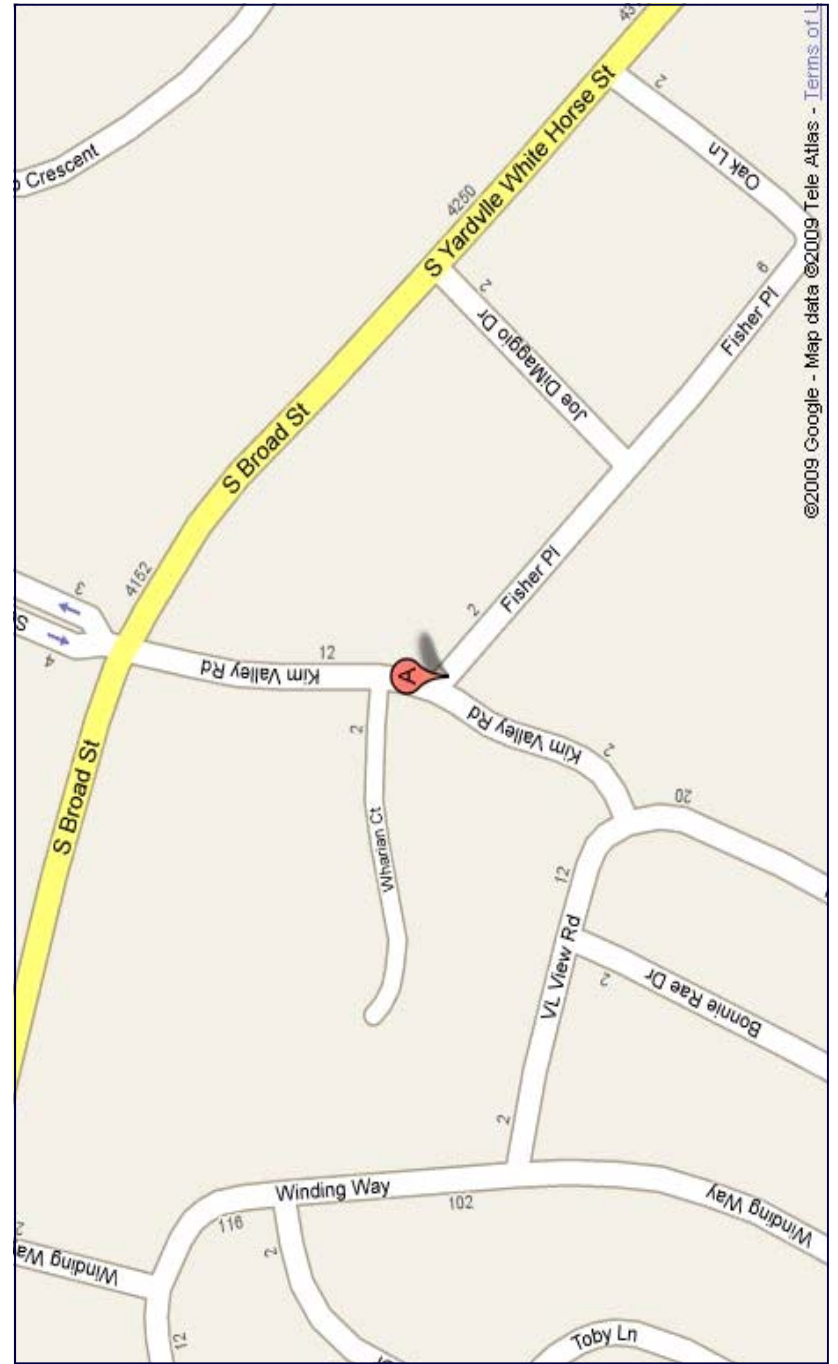
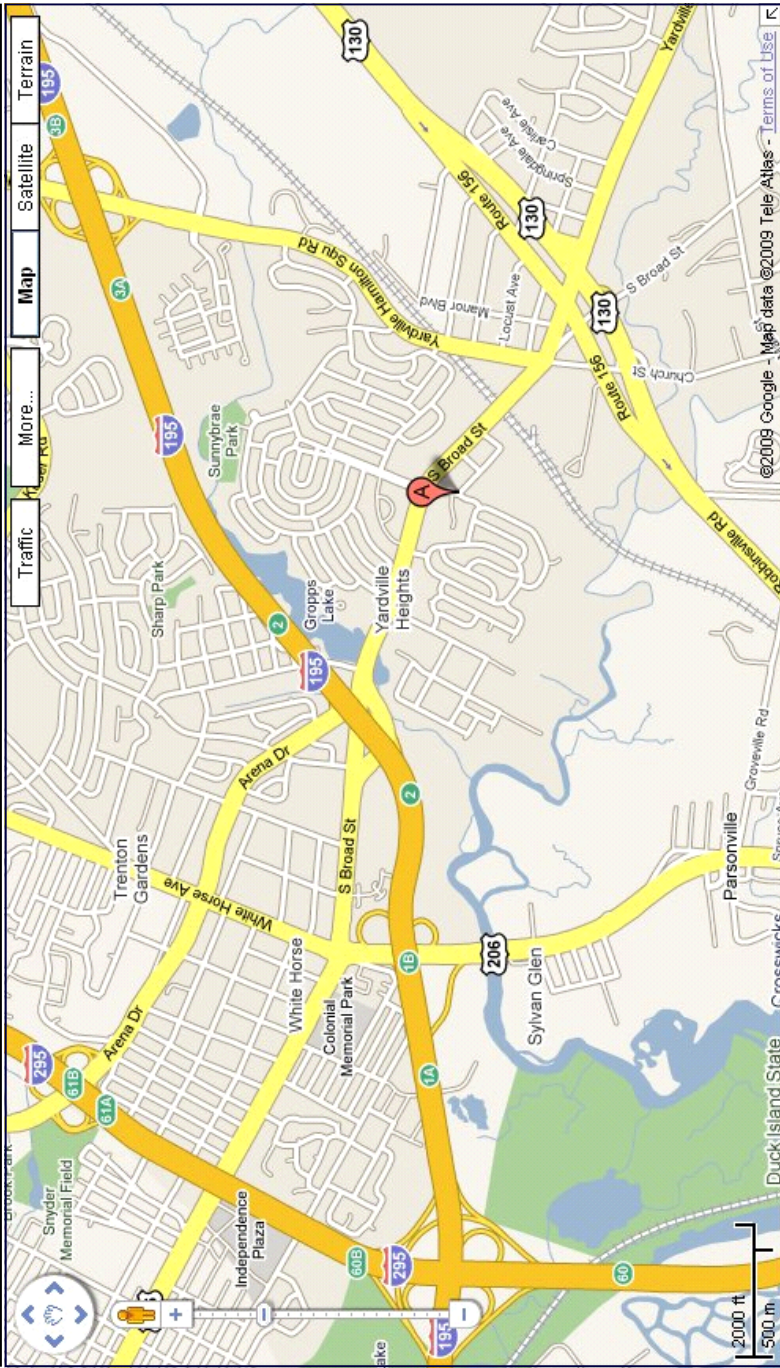


Above: Empty coal hoppers on the north coal trestle at Linden Street on Mike Prokop's railroad mean households will be warm tonight after local deliveries are made.

See many more photos of the March meet afternoon tour in the *Second Section* starting on Page 9 and available online at www.njdivnmra.org

More coal loading facilities. Upper left: Stetser Breaker Left: Pier 53 Bickmore Coal Export Allentown terminal on Bill Howard's new railroad.

MAPS TO THE MARCH MEET



DIRECTIONS TO THE MEET

From Ocean County and points East

Follow **I 195 West** to **Exit 2** 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 **I 195 East**. Continue on **I 195** to **Exit 2** and follow Local Directions below.

From Cape May and Atlantic Counties

Take the Atlantic City Expressway or Black Horse Pike (**US 322**) to **NJ 42 North** and continue onto **I 295 North**. Exit onto **I 195 East**. Take **Exit 2** and follow Local Directions below.

From US 130

From **US 130 South**, bear **right** onto **NJ 156**. Turn **right** onto **Yardville Allentown Road**. Continuing through the intersection, the road becomes **South Broad Street**.

From **US 130 North**, take the **Church Street Exit**. Turn **right** at the bottom of the ramp. Follow **Church Street** and turn left onto **South Broad Street**.

In either case, turn **left** onto **Kim Valley Road**. Turn **left** onto **Fisher Place**. The Switlik Park Recreation Center will be on the right.

From I 195 West

There is no direct exit from **I 195 West** to get to Switlik Park. Take Exit 2 onto **South Broad Street**, and make a **left** at the traffic light. This will take you on a "U" turn back onto South Broad Street headed in the correct direction. Continue with the **Local Directions** below, skipping the first sentence.

Local Directions

From **I 195 East**, **exit 2** is almost straight off the right lane. Follow the exit to merge onto **South Broad St**. Turn **Right** at the third intersection onto **Kim Valley Road**. Turn **left** onto **Fisher Place**. The Switlik Park Recreation Center will be on the right.

Help wanted

There will be at least one, and most likely two positions open on your Division's Board of Directors starting in September. If you think you can contribute to your division by serving on the board of directors, please begin considering it now. Nomination petitions will be included in the May edition of Train Orders.

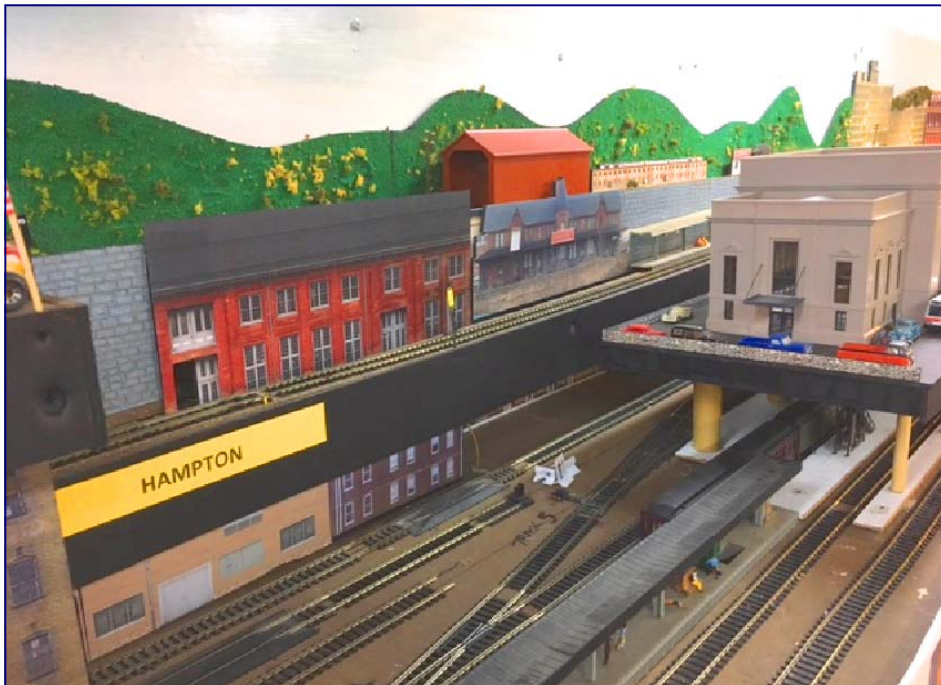
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TRAIN ORDERS

SECOND SECTION

MARCH 11, 2017

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 2



Your Second Section features some of the railroads you can visit during the afternoon tour at the New Jersey Division March Meet in Hamilton Twp. on March 11.

Photos on this page are of Bill Howard's new railroad. See it after the March meet!

Left: Jersey City Station

Below: Allentown terminal



We would love to see your railroad in the pages of *Train Orders*. Just take a few digital photos and send them along with short captions to BobcatCS@comcast.net



Top left: An eastbound extra hauling empty 50 ton coal hoppers rounds the curve at Washington pulling down the passing siding.

Top right: With the coal extra safely in the siding at Washington station, we see why it's in the clear. Lots of folks waiting for the local train to the big city.

Bottom left: Wow, lots of business down at the tracks in Beaver Creek. Between the freight house, the TOFC track and the Public Delivery siding things are humming!

All three photos are scenes on Mike Prokop's railroad.

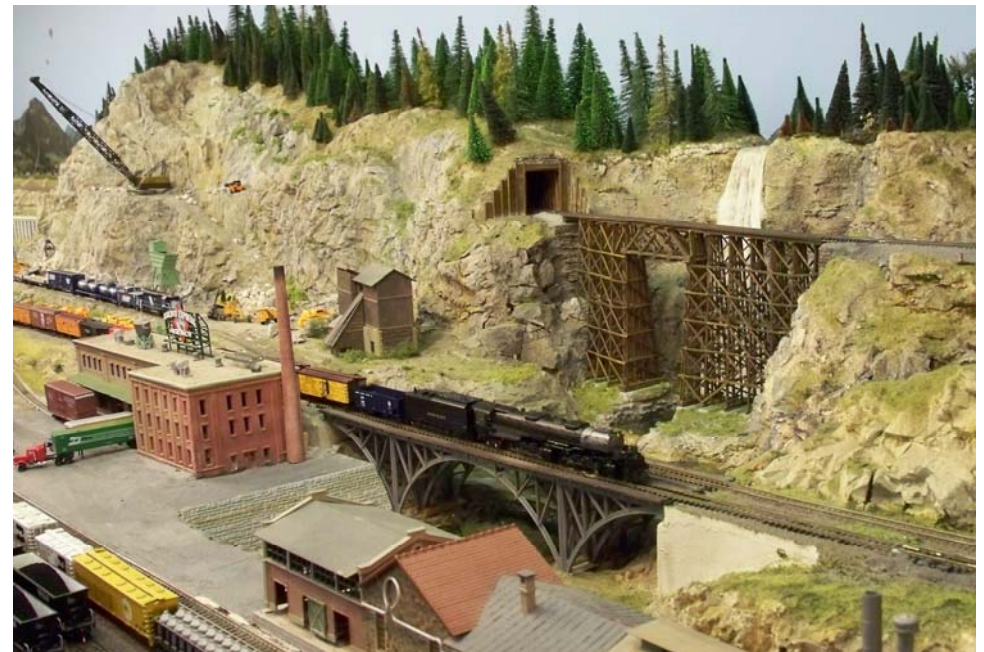


Scenes on Rick Spano's Sceniced and Undecided N scale Railroad

Above: Royal Hudson leaving Union Station at Multi-City with a newly constructed Trolley Line

Upper right: Royal Hudson coming out of Cascade Tunnel at Sceniced .

Right: Mixed freight crossing The Dells River by Anachron Yard with Smith Falls in the background .





Above left: Pineville Jct. with number 16 crossover. Note double motors on points.

Above: Springfield passenger and freight facilities with city behind the tracks. Both on Ed Sproles' railroad.

Left: CNJ and PRR crews wait at interchange yard for management decision on which RR will take the wrongly spotted TOFC car to wye and turn it . on Bob Duffield's Delaware and Raritan Railroad.

Check out the YouTube video of Bob's Railroad at <https://youtu.be/RK0S7NIhgqM>



Above View of the Reading's Linden Street freight station in Camden from high above the Delaware river on Mike Prokop's Free-Mo module.

Top right: Down the line at Beaver Creek, on Mike Prokop's New Jersey & Western Railroad passengers transfer from the Susquehanna to the New Jersey and Western across the platform. Both upper photos are scene s Lower right

Little activity on quiet Sunday at the freight house and in town as folks rest up for the Monday rush on Bob Duffield's Delaware and Raritan Railroad

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.