

TRAIN ORDERS

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

NOVEMBER 12, 2016

VOLUME 26 NUMBER 5

Next Stop Turnersville

The November meet of the New Jersey Division will again be in a new location. Well, new if you weren't in attendance at the Arduino Clinic we held in July. The location will be the St. Charles Borromeo Church school. The official address is Sicklerville, but it's actually in Turnersville. See the details at the right and the map and directions on pages 7&8.

We will have two clinics, as is customary for our regular meets:

"Weathering for beginners-no airbrush required" will be presented by Ralph DeBlasi. The clinic is designed to help bring a complete novice up to a proficient beginner, intermediate modeler in weathering techniques. The clinic will cover fades, rust, grime, graffiti and show a number of easy to learn techniques.

In the second, Dave Albertson will show us how to design a railroad modelling a specific prototype, and in limited space, no less!.

Dave describes the clinic this way: "Using system maps, photographs and freight customers to build a model railroad that can function similar to the prototype.

The clinic will present track diagrams from the prototype and blend them in to usable model form and function. The era will be the late 1950's New York and Long Branch including the Farmingdale branch and South Amboy coal yard. The process of selective compression for sidings, main lines and industries will be depicted from prototype to model.

Industry selection rationale will be presented as cluttering a small railroad reduces the reality factor in most cases.

Sounds like a very interesting subject. Be sure to be there!

Don't forget to bring along your entries for the model contest. This meet's subject is detailed and weathered livestock cars. Bring all that stuff you don't need and put it out on the swap tables, too.

As long as your bringing things, why not bring a friend or two and introduce them to the New Jersey Division and the NMRA? Share your interest. Give others the opportunity to enjoy the hobby you enjoy!



NEXT DIVISION MEET

Saturday, November 12, 2016

9:00 AM to 12:00

St. Charles Borromeo Church
176 Stagecoach Rd.
Sicklerville, NJ 08081

Clinics:

Ralph DeBlasi
Weathering for beginners
Dave Albertson
Building a prototype Model RR in limited space

Contest:

Detailed / Weathered Livestock Cars

Layout Tour:

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: December 9, 2016

Board of Directors 2016 - 2017

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BobcatCS@comcast.net

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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, December 20

Host: Chuck Higdon
vze5crrw1@verizon.net
732 914 1161

All members are invited.

Please let us know if you plan to attend.

NJ DIVISION JANUARY MEET

Saturday, January 7, 2017
Haddon Twp. High School
406 Memorial Drive
Westmont, NJ 08108

NJ DIVISION MARCH MEET

Saturday, March 11, 2017
(tentative pending confirmation)
Switlik Park
5 Fisher Place
Hamilton Twp. NJ 08620

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Can be found on page 9 of the
Second Section, or download it
from our website NJDivNMRA.org

NJ DIVISION AREA

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 Dabbler - Track 33

101 W. Kings Hwy.
Bellmawr, NJ 08031
yankeedabbler@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

New Face on the Board of Directors

For those who missed the September meet, let me update you on your Board of Directors. Long time director and video librarian, Bill Howard has retired. Please join me in thanking Bill for his long dedicated service to the division!

Joining the board is Chuck Higdon. Those of you who were involved with, or even just attended the 2015 MER convention, Delaware Valley Turn, will recognize Chuck as the driving force behind one of the largest operating sessions and home railroad tour programs ever at a convention. Join me also in welcoming Chuck to your Board of Directors.

Since we now have a change in faces, we also have a few changes in assignments. I will continue as superintendent until September and John Gallagher will remain as assistant superintendent and clinic chairman. Bill Grosse will continue as treasurer, Tom Lavin will be secretary and Mike Mosher will be meet tour coordinator. No changes there.

Mike Prokop will now handle door prizes and raffle taking over for Bill Howard. He will also be the keeper of the division book store.

Lastly, Chuck will take over the contest chairman's duties.

2016 MER Convention

As I write this, I am preparing to travel to Durham, NC for the 2016 MER Convention this year called Tracks to the Triangle referencing the location in the "Research Triangle" of the Raleigh, Durham, and Cary, NC area.

This year promises to be another very good experience with the usual clinics, home railroad tours, operating sessions and some prototype tours.

The tour I have chosen is of the Tichy factory, you know, where Don makes all those terrific window, doors, detail parts, and a few well chosen freight car kits.

Next year's convention will be a bit closer. It's being hosted by the Susquehanna Division in Central Pennsylvania. I don't think a specific location has been determined yet, but it definitely will be closer than North Carolina! Start making plans to attend.

Southern Tier Railroad

Some of you may be wondering how my railroad is coming along. In a word, slowly.


You know how when someone "retires" they say they don't know how they had time to go to work? Well, welcome to my world!

I have made some minor progress on the railroad after cleaning up from the inch or so of water I had in the basement when my sump pump quit during the heavy rains of three months ago,

I have started extending the second level and have also been working on ballasting the first.

Once that's complete, I'll need to give the track a good cleaning, being sure to remove any ballast interfering with the wheels on the rolling stock, and checking for dead spots.

At that point, I'll be able to entertain the idea of having a preliminary operating session or two. At this point, it looks like it'll probably be sometime in the spring. The initial sessions will be to identify any bottlenecks (not always a bad thing) and working out the schedule. If you'd like to come and help out let me know. Best way is to drop an email to me so I have a contact list.

That's it for now. See you at the meet! 

NEW JERSEY DIVISION MODEL CONTEST NEWS

Bill Grosse, Jr. Contest Chairman

At our September meet in Delanco we presented a Contest Winner's Certificate and a NJ Div. Dues Voucher to Bill Howard. Bill was the winner of the Detailed/Weathered Milk Cars Contest at our May meet in Wall Twp.

The Contest at the September meet was Detailed/Weathered Baggage and/or Mail Cars. Thanks to the 7 entrants who showed their great modeling skills

The winner chosen by popular vote was by Joe Zebrowski with his Delaware & Allegheny #394, a Walther's wood and metal 62' baggage car.

The other entrants are shown here and on page 5.

There is a new Contest Chairman who will be starting at the November meet. Chuck Higdon, our newest addition to the Board of Directors, has taken on the contest duties. Please be sure to check in with him at the next meet.

Be sure to VOTE for your favorite contest entry, this helps say thanks for your entry and job well done to your fellow modelers.



The winner chosen by popular vote was by Joe Zebrowski with his Delaware & Allegheny #394, a Walther's wood and metal 62' baggage car.



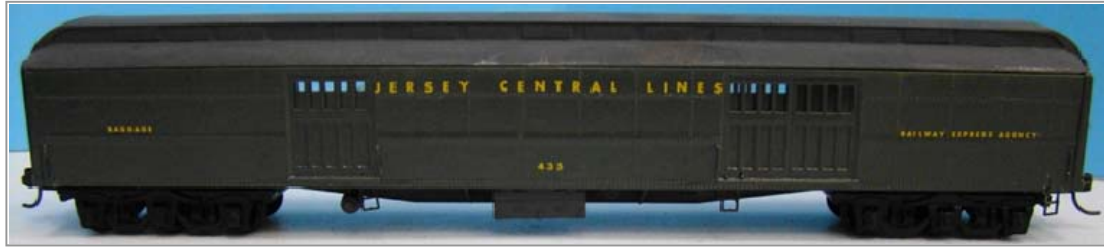
Bill Howard, The Kade Line #801 REA, modified kit by Dave Skinner, one of a kind.



Bob Duffield, PRR #6529 RPO, Cal-Scale Details, Diaphragms, Interior, and painted/weathered.



Frank Neufeld, REA Combine #1759



Glyn Thomas, Jersey Central Lines #435 Combine, Bethlehem Car Works Kit and Added Details



Dick Genthner, Arpee & Western #179 RPO, Walther's Kit from the 1960's with Custom Decals



Tom King, 9 modified, kitbashed, painted, & detailed models to represent the prototypes.

CLINICS NEEDED FOR NJ DIVISION MEETS

John V. Gallagher Assistant Superintendent and Director of Clinics

Members vote with their feet. Our exceptional attendance at NJ Division meets says to me that you find the programs and clinics of our meets worth your attendance so you may learn new techniques or information about modeling and the prototype. I thank you for being at our meets.

However, I am challenged in getting members to step up and become presenters at our meets. I do have valued members who willingly give their time and talents in preparing and presenting clinics. I, too, have learned so much from them and will certainly ask them to present at future meets. My concern is that I may become guilty of "going to the well" one time too many.

At our September meet, we ran the Works in Progress format with eight simultaneous clinics presented four times each. Attending members could select clinics by topic and/or presenter to meet their interests and modeling needs. Feedback indicates that you, the members, like that format of meet clinics. In fact, the complaint I get is that you wanted to attend more of the 30 minute clinics than possible. I consider that a good complaint!

The problem with the Works in Progress format is that I use up at least four meets worth of clinicians. I need more members signing up to become division clinic presenters with topics they want to present. I asked members at the meet to carefully consider signing up for a future meet and a number did. My plea here is to get more members to consider presenting and to volunteer. Here are some ideas that may help you say "yes."

1. What interests you the most in model railroading? How does that become an activity you pursue in your modeling? How could you turn that into a presentation for a future meet.

2. What do you do "best" in your modeling? Could you demonstrate that skill, technique, approach, etc. in a clinic? Don't compare

yourself to a modeling leader such as Tony Koester, Bruce Chubb, John Allen, or other craftsman found in model magazines. They all started as beginners, right where you are now. Show us what you do well. I'll bet most of us can learn from you. You may have a better way to do some modeling procedure than the one we use.

3. What in the prototype interests you deeply? How could you tell us about that? Do you have photos, a library of books, films, papers, or other resources that you could tap to do a presentation on your prototype? How do you apply that knowledge in your modeling? Show us some of your models including some you are still working on. I always like to see a model in progress to learn how you are approaching problems.

4. Don't fear getting up before us to tell us about your modeling. Don't be concerned when a member offers an alternative. The member is NOT challenging you. He or she is engaging you. In my 40 years as a teacher and professor, I ALWAYS learned from my students. That was one of the best parts in teaching. A good teacher is a life long learner and excellent listener.

Please think about it. Contact me if you have questions or want to explore your idea. I can help you. Clinics range from 30 minutes [a minimum for the Achievement Program] to just about one hour. You don't have to do it alone. You can team up with a partner or partners to present a program. We accept many options. Below is my contact information. For phone contact, if I don't pick up, please leave a message on the answering machine and I will call you back. [I get a lot of junk phone messages so I am reluctant to pick up an unknown number.] You can also email me. And, a big THANKS for considering this.

gallagherjv39@jVerizon.net
or Phone: 856-228-2239



DIRECTIONS TO THE NOVEMBER MEET

From Points North

From I 295 South take exit 26. Stay right to go south, then stay left to merge onto NJ 42 South and follow for approximately 8 miles.

From US 130 South Using the left lane, pass under NJ 42 / I 76 then merge onto NJ 42 South and follow for about 8 1/2 miles.

From Philadelphia Walt Whitman Bridge to NJ 42 south then follow common directions below

Common directions for Points North

Turn left at the traffic light onto Johnson Road. The Whitman Diner is on your far left. Go approximately 3/4 mi. The church is on your right just before the stop sign, the school is behind the church.

From Points South

From Cape May, Atlantic, and Cumberland Counties, find your way to NJ 42 North. Turn right onto Stagecoach Road. Several car dealerships will be on your near right. Proceed about 3/4 mile to the church on your left just before the stop sign.

From Delaware and Salem County

I 295 north or Commodore Barry Bridge to US 322 east. Follow US 322 through Glassboro to a right on NJ 47 south, Go 1 block to a left onto New St. Cty 689. Turn left onto Cty 555, Tuckahoe Rd. When you reach NJ 42, stay in the right lane and cross over NJ 42. The road becomes Stagecoach Road. Follow for about 3/4 mile to the church on the left just before the stop sign.

TRAIN ORDERS SECOND SECTION

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Photos from New Jersey Division Members' Railroads



On this page and page 10, scenes from John Gallagher's O Scale traction railroad. See it after the November meet. John's railroad is less than a mile away!





Would you like to see your railroad featured in Train Orders Second Section? Send your photos to the editor, Fritz Plenefisch at fplen3@verizon.net.



**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM
GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD
APPLICATION FORM
is on page 16**





Photos on this page and page 12 were taken on the railroad of Ralph DeBlasi. Ralph will be open on the afternoon of the November meet so you can see this and a whole lot more in person.



Right: Part of Ralph's CTC panel



Below and on page 14 are scenes from Steve Moylan's railroad. Steve will also be open in the afternoon of the November meet. Come see Steve's magnificent railroad as well as the others. I'm sure you will enjoy seeing them and, who knows, you may be inspired or learn something, or both!





Looking ahead to the January meet, scenes from the Cherry Valley O Scale railroad. You'll be able to see this railroad up close after the meet on January 7 at the Haddon Twp. High School.



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.