

Train Orders

Official Newsletter of the New Jersey Division,
Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association



November 2018

Volume 29 Number 5

For November we are over the river to Delaware Chuck Higdon

This month's meet is on Nov 10, 2018, a joint meet with the Philadelphia Division. At the Brandywine Town Center, 4050 Brandywine Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19803. Located near the intersection of US-202 (Concord Pk.) and DE-92 (Naaman's Rd.) Held at the Community Center in front of the shopping center near the fountain and artificial pool.

There will be a clinician from our division and one from their division. John Gallagher will have the details on page 6.


In the past there have been some very nicely detailed layouts to visit after lunch. So, we should be in for a treat in Delaware.

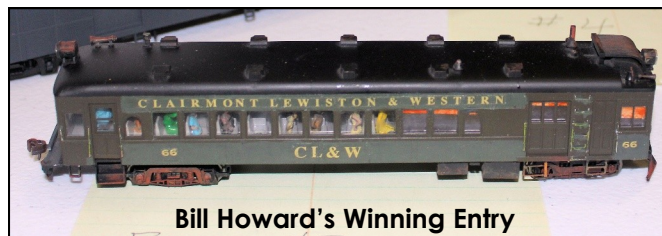
There will be no contest for us at this meet. Jack will have some comments about the January contest on page 4. A new first-time contest subject so enjoy the challenge.

Since I am writing this before our New Operators session on the Key West & Northern, I can't say for sure how it went. A few new operators have signed up and they should have had a good time. So, if you have not operated, but would like to give it a try. Please try to attend the next offering by the Division. You can learn a lot, get some pointers so you can set ops up on your layout and have a good time.

At the September meet, Ron Baile presented Joe Zebrowski with his Golden spike award.



A few of you did visit Joe's layout last month. I was able to visit the four "first time open" layouts, and glad I did. They have reported back to me they will open again for us. Remember if you would like to have your layout on the tour. Please let any Board member or me know, and you will be scheduled the next time a meeting is close to your location. 



Bill Howard's Winning Entry

Next Division Meet

Saturday November 10, 2018
9 a.m. to 12:00 noon
Philadelphia Division is Hosting NJ Div
Brandywine Town Center
Wilmington, DE

There will not be a Contest at this Meet

Clinics:

Joe Walters
Scratch-building a Type J Jordan
Spreader
Earl Hackett
Using 3D printing to produce
Casting Masters for parts

Layout Tours:

Saturday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Swap Tables:

Bill Grosse 609 532-3431
W.grosse.jr@optimum.net

In This Issue

November Meet	1
Schedules	2
View From The Cab	3
Model Contest News	4
Clinics	6
Layout Tour Information	7
Map and Directions	8

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

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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 the next issue: October 8, 2018

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Visit us at <http://www.njdivnmra.org/index.html> and join us on
Yahoo Groups at <http://groups.com/neo/groups/NJDivNMRA/info>

Schedules

NJ Division November Meet

Saturday November 10, 2018
Philadelphia Div. is Hosting NJ Div.
Brandywine Town Center
Wilmington, DE
No Contest

Next Board Meeting

Tuesday December 18, 2018
Host-Bill Grosse
Please let us know if you plan to attend
W.grosse.jr@optimum.net

NJ Division January Meet

Saturday January 12, 2019
Grace Episcopal Church
7 East Maple Street
Merchantville, NJ 08109
The Contest is for a 12"x12" Diorama

Garden State Division Winter Meet

Saturday February 23, 2019
Oakland Public Library
2 Municipal Plaza
Oakland, NJ 07436

2019 MER-NMRA Convention

Hosted by the Philadelphia Division
Liberty Bell Special
October 10-13, 2019
Crown Plaza Philadelphia-King of Prussia,
260 Mall Blvd, King of Prussia, PA 19406

Holiday Train Show at Old City Hall

13 Crosswicks Street, Bordentown, NJ 08505
Friday's, Saturday's & Sunday's
November 23rd thru January 5th 2019
First two Weekends 12 noon to 8pm; others 4 to 8pm

NJ Division Area Hobby Shops

* AAA Hobbies & Crafts

706 N. Whitehorse Pike, Magnolia, NJ 08049
(856) 435-7645
www.AAAHobbiesandCrafts.com

* Sattler's Hobby Shop

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

* The Train Room

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

* Trainpops Attic

400 Mill Street, Bristol, PA 19007
(215) 788-2014
<https://trainpopsattic.com>

* Yankee Dabber - Track 33

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

* Offers discount to NMRA members.
Must show Current Membership Card

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 Sody Daisy TN 37384-1328
www.nmra.org

View From The Cab

Bill Grosse, Superintendent

As I write this the Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA Convention in Rockville, MD is finishing up. New Jersey Division was represented by 14 members that made the trip to Rockville.

Changes to the MER Board and Administrative Staff are taking place. MER President PJ Mattson [NJ Div.] has reached his term limit and now Kurt Thompson has assumed the President's position.

I have been sitting at the Registration Desk since the 2014 Convention in Hagerstown, MD. Now after my 5th convention at the desk, I have informed the MER Board that I need to

step down from the Registrar position. A replacement is still being sought.

NJD's Bob Price has served as an MER Director and most recently has been fulfilling the Business Manager position. He has also requested to step down, and a replacement is needed for him.

If anyone would like to take the challenge for a little while in either of these positions, contact President Kurt Thompson. Contact me for his info if needed.

The NJ Division Board of Directors started the Bob Liberman Memorial, Car Inspector's Award in 2016. The award has been approved

to given through the 2020 MER Convention.

The winner is chosen by the NJ Division Members in attendance at the MER Conventions. Any Freight, Passenger, or MOW car that we think would meet Bob Liberman's standard of good, with lots of details can be chosen in the contest room.

This year's winner was Joe Walters of Delaware, with his scratchbuilt Jordan Spreader. Every NJ Div. member had Joe's entry on their best choice list. Joe received the Car Inspector's Award Plaque and will also receive a \$100 gift card to his favorite hobby shop.



Bob Liberman Memorial, Car Inspector's Award

The Jordan Spreader is designed for Right of Way maintenance to spread or shape ballast profiles and drainage ditches. It is also used for snow removal.

The various blades, wings, and plows allow them to remove snow, build banks, clean and dig ditches, evenly distribute gravel, as well as trim embankment of brush along the side of the track.

The model was constructed using styrene and Plastruct shapes. The 16 brackets that hold the hydraulic pistons in place are resin castings that were made for the model. The side wings have over 70 parts each. The only items on the model that are not scratch built are the trucks, couplers, wheel sets, air hoses and some Tichy Trains track-side signs.



(See page 5 for additional pictures)

Model Contest News

Jack Menaker, Model Contest Chairman

Contest News

Welcome to cooler weather.

Now that the pool is closed, and the beach is too windy, and the surf is up it is time to concentrate on modeling for your railroad.

I apologize for missing the last meet, but I was feeling under the weather and Chuck Higdon stood in for me at the last minute.

We had some issues just prior to the meet regarding the lack of tables. The Board all chipped in to ensure we had enough tables available to conduct the meet.

Thanks to the Board and special thanks to Chuck for filling in for me.

Here are the results of the modeling contest from September 2018. The contest was for favorite passenger car or favorite passenger train.

The following members entered the contest,
 Bill Howard – CL&W Doodlebug - **WINNER**
 Martin Zdzinski – LV Piker
 Tom King – NYC Rider Car
 Doug Nash – LLRR Passenger Train
 Ron Baile – PRSL Engine with 2 coaches
 Mike Prokop – Silver Streak
 Tom Lavin – RF&P E8's with some cars
 John Dunn – O Scale B&M Steamer with some cars

The next meet in November will be a joint meet with the Philadelphia Division. This meet will be held in Delaware and there will not be a contest.

The next contest will be in January 2019 and the topic is a new one. We will be judging

various model railroading items all combined in a 12" x 12" diorama. Good luck to all.

Some thoughts;

- Even though the favorite passenger train as a popular contest, I believe that the logistics might be too overwhelming. I realize that we had a table problem at the last meet, but the size of a complete train can be an issue. I think that going forward, the topic of the contest must have stated limits.
- If the contest title states a kit bashed, weathered, modified or built; must be by the presenter. In other words, you can't buy a weathered boxcar from another modeler and pass it off as your own work.

- If the contest title states "kit bashed", we need to know the name and manufacturer of the original kit used.
- If the entry is for a model based on a real building, car or scene, a picture of the original will help authenticate the model.

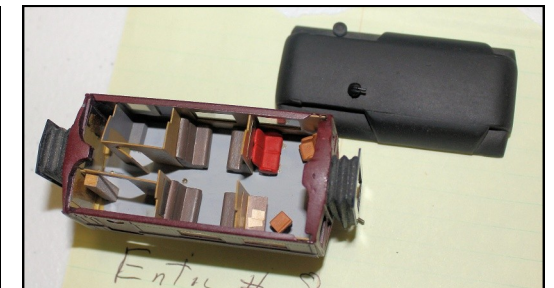


I am starting to accumulate some Contest Award Certificates. They are for Herb Gishlick, Bill Kennedy and Dick Genthner. If any of you will be at the next meet, please let me know by e-mail jackmenaker@yahoo.com

Contest pictures continued on page 5



Bill Howard's winning entry



Martin Zdzinski



Tom King

Contest pictures continued from page 4



Doug Nash



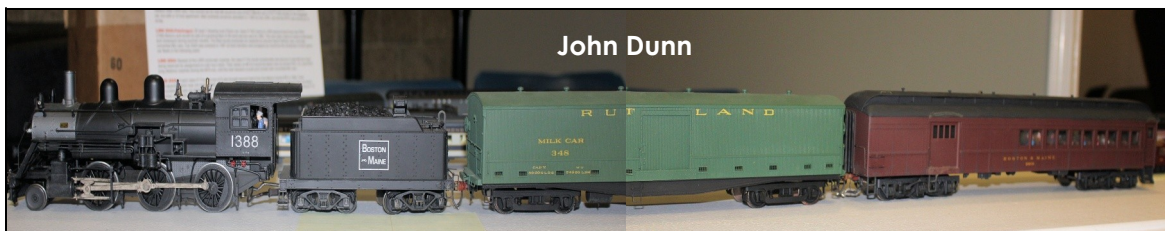
Ron Baile



Mike Prokop



Tom Lavin



John Dunn

Jordan Spreader pictures continued from page 3




Clinics for the November 2018 Meet

John V. Gallagher, Director of Clinics

Our November meet with the Philadelphia Division in Delaware will include two clinics provided by the host division. The following was extracted from the Philadelphia Division's newsletter, *The Dispatcher*.

The morning program begins with member **Joe Walters** presenting his clinic titled *"Scratch-building a 'Type J' Jordan Spreader."* The Jordan Spreader is a piece of maintenance equipment that is designed to spread ballast or shape ballast profiles. In addition, the various ploughs, wings, and blades allow the spreader to remove snow, create banks, and clean and dig ditches. The spreaders proved themselves to be an extremely economical tool for maintaining trackside drainage ditches and spreading fill or ballast. It's the perfect addition to a model railroad where the ballasting is in progress, but never finished. Over a 32 year career, Joe served in the mechanical departments of the Reading Railroad, Conrail and Amtrak. If anyone can describe or explain the ins and outs of a piece of railroad equipment, it's Joe. His own model railroad will be open to attendees in the afternoon.

Member **Earl Hackett**, best known as a milling and casting aficionado, will present the second clinic titled *"Using 3D Printing to Produce Casting Masters for Parts."* Making molds to cast parts for


modeling is nothing novel, but 3D printing provides a new way of producing the original master from which molds are made, and castings produced. While 3D products in the past were fairly crude and inappropriate for use in scale modeling, new technology allows for much better detail and accuracy. 

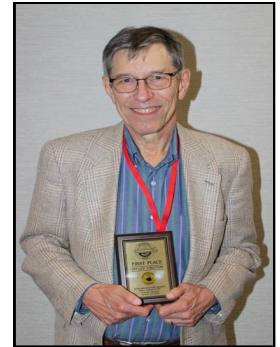


At the September meet, John Gallagher presented recognition certificates to clinicians Jeff Witt in the upper photo and Doug Nash in the lower photo.

Fred Willis Awarded First Place in the Structure Contest at the Rockville Convention

The recent convention of the Mid Eastern Division outside Washington, DC in Rockville Maryland included many clinics, layout tours, a banquet and the model contest. The contest room contained competitions from many categories and the models submitted demonstrated the high levels of modeling skills of the members. Careful examination of each model became a learning experience for the observer/modeler that motivates one to take personal modeling to a new level.

Our own Fred Willis submitted a model of a dockside supply company, an impressive example of modeling skill plus creativity and attention to detail. Fred won first place in the structures category and I can attest to the intense competition with excellent models submitted by other modelers. Fred earned about 107 points and a merit award in addition to the award. Congratulations, Fred. Your work inspires me to do better modeling. See page 7 for photos of the "FROST BROS SHIP STORES" structure. 



Photos of Fred's award winning dockside supply Company

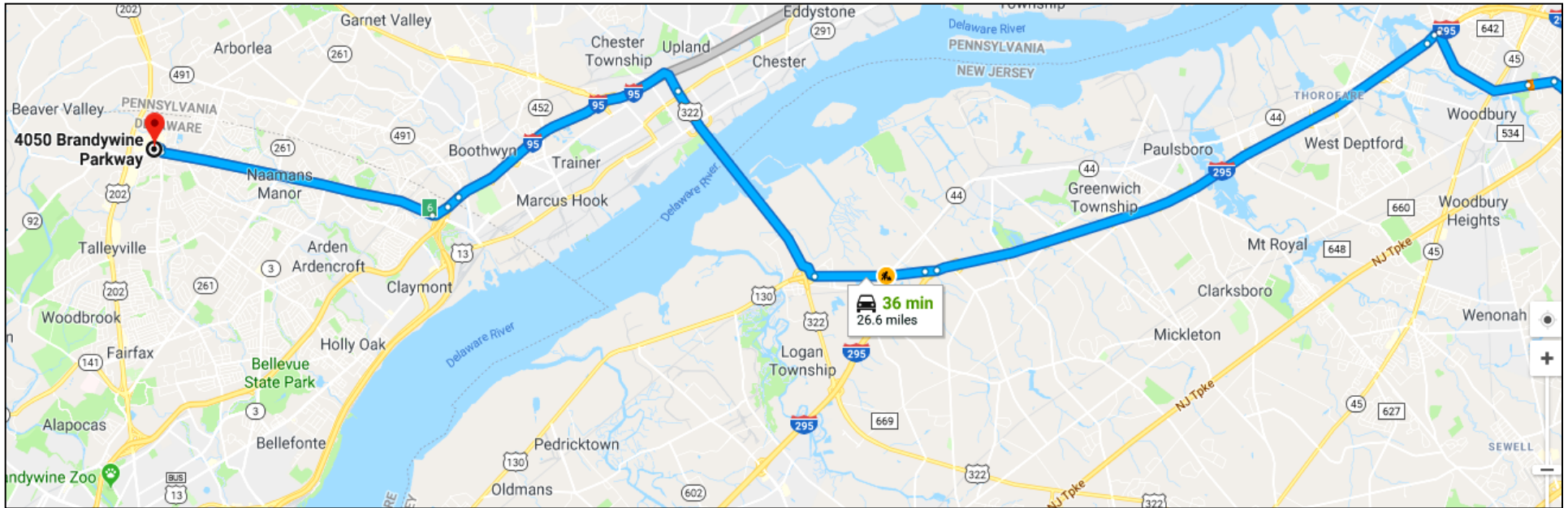


We do not have any Second Section Layout photos to share with you this month due to the Philadelphia Division hosting this month's meeting. We will be given a list from the layouts listed that are close to the meet location. <http://www.modelrailroadopenhouse.com/111018.html> The map will show the locations around the Brandywine Center and list the addresses. If you do not use GPS, review the layouts on the link, plan your course now as there will be no directions provided. In the past I have enjoyed seeing the layouts open on their tour.

Chuck Higdon

Directions to the November Meet

Meet Location: Brandywine Town Center, 4050 Brandywine Parkway, Wilmington, DE 19803.



From the East, North, and West make your way to I-295 South

Use the right 2 lanes to take exit 13 for US-130 S toward US-322 W/Bridgeport/Commodore Barry Bridge

0.2 mi, Continue onto US-130 S

1.7 mi, Take the exit onto US-322 W toward Com Barry Br/Pennsylvania Partial toll road, Entering Pennsylvania

3.5 mi, Use the left lane to merge onto I-95 S/US-322 W toward Wilmington

4.1 mi, Use the right lane to take the I-495 S exit toward Port of Wilmington/Baltimore

0.2 mi, Keep right to continue on Exit 6, follow signs for DE-92 W/Naamans Rd

0.3 mi, merge onto DE-92 W/Naamans Rd

4.3 mi, Turn right toward Brandywine Pkwy

325 ft, Turn left onto Brandywine Pkwy

200 ft, Turn right

180 ft, Turn left

From the South,

Get to US-322 to cross the Com Barry Bridge to I-95

