

TRAIN ORDERS

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

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 4

NJ Division Invites Everyone to the September Meet

The clinics of the NJ Division's September 2017 meet provide members with important prototype information to guide their modeling and operations.

Since their earliest days of railroading in the United States, railroads carried non-railroad vehicles to customers or the military in a quick and efficient manner. Searching through photographs of the mid 19th century, one sees drays and other wagons tied to flat cars and gondolas for transport to distant destinations. During the Civil War, the militaries of the north and the south used railroads to efficiently and quickly move whole divisions across several states to enter battle, stopping an enemy from further advance. On those trains, one observed the movement of personnel, supplies, animals, wagons, artillery, and mortars on open flatcars, gondolas, passenger cars, stock cars and box cars.

Later in that century and into the 20th century, one finds the movement of carriages and wagons in dedicated boxcars with wide double side doors for ease of loading these vehicles. Models are available in HO and O scale from model kit manufacturers such as LaBelle.

With the event of the automobile, the auto industry used the railroads to distribute their vehicles to dealers and customers nationwide and into Canada and Mexico. The availability of vehicles preceded long distance interstate roads in the early years.

Dave Albertson will present a clinic titled Auto Boxcars; A Brief History where he will take us through the era of transporting new cars from the earliest days through the midcentury. He includes lots of information on this aspect of rail transportation that you can use in your operations, rolling stock acquisition and modeling.

Our second clinic, Rail Served Industries on the Lackawanna Bloomsburg Branch, addresses the challenges most model railroaders face in designing a model railroad that serves realistically sized businesses and industries along the right of way. Eric Dervinis of the Philadelphia Division has studied the Bloomsburg branch of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad where he found examples of numerous rail served businesses and industries.

See **September Meet** on page 6

NEXT DIVISION MEET

Saturday, September 16, 2017
9:00 AM to 12:00

Cumberland County Community Church
1800 E Broad St,
Millville, NJ 08332

Contest

Detailed / Weathered Flat Cars

Clinics:

Dave Albertson:

Auto Boxcars; A Brief History

Eric Dervinis:

Rail Served Industries on the
Lackawanna Bloomsburg Branch

Layout Tour:

Saturday: 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Swap tables:

Contact Bob Clegg

BobcatCS@comcast.net

IN THIS ISSUE

Schedules	2
View From the Cab	3
NJ Division Bookstore	4
Crew Change Point 2017	4
Model Contest News	5
Maps and Directions to the Meet	7
Second Section: Tour Preview	9

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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

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, Bob Clegg, at SouthernTier@comcast.net .

Deadline for next issue: October 13, 2017

Board of Directors 2016 - 2017

Superintendent

Bob Clegg
856 696 0463
BobcatCS@comcast.net

Asst. Superintendent and Clinics Chair

John Gallagher
856 228 2239

Treasurer

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609 585 4616

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856 824 1405

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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

SCHEDULES

PHILADELPHIA DIVISION MEET

Saturday, September 9, 2017
West Whiteland Township Building
Exton PA

For Details go to www.phillynmra.org

NJ DIVISION SEPTEMBER MEET

Saturday, September 16, 2017
Cumberland Co. Community Church
Broad St. & Wade Blvd.
Millville, NJ 08332

Contest: Detailed/weathered flat cars

NEXT BOARD MEETING

October 24, 2017

Host: Bill Grosse

w.grosse.jr@optimum.net

609 532 3431

All members are invited.

Please let us know if you plan to attend.

THE SUSQUEHANNOCK

2017 MER Convention

Sheraton Harrisburg-Hershey Hotel
Harrisburg, PA

Sponsored by

The Susquehanna Division

October 12-15, 2017

www.mer2017.org

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 Dabber - Track 33

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

*Offers 10% discount to NMRA members



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



VIEW FROM THE CAB

Bob Clegg, Superintendent

Perhaps this time the title really should be "View from the Caboosel!" As previously noted, this will be my last meet as Superintendent of the New Jersey Division. Bill Grosse will be taking the throttle at the September meet.

When I took over the Superintendent job from Mike McNamara in September of 2009, the division was in really good condition with a good fiscal position thanks to Bob Liberman's stewardship and increasing attendance. Through the last eight years, we have tried to build on Mike's direction, and I think we have accomplished a lot.

Here are a few things, in no particular order, that we've done over the past eight years:

- ◆ We took over the 2010 MER Fall Convention from a division that backed out in the final hour and turned it into a successful event.
- ◆ We took what we learned from that experience and presented what I believe is the best convention in 40 years at the Delaware Valley Turn in 2015.
- ◆ We've expanded this newsletter beyond the 8 page hardcopy to include the full color "Online Edition" with photos of many of your railroads.


- ◆ Last year we held a special July Meet presenting an introduction to the Arduino micro computer and it's possible application to model railroading
- ◆ We have instituted a raffle at the meets providing high quality modeling items for a buck a ticket. The proceeds help to cover the cost of the meets.
- ◆ The Division contracted with Bowser Models to create a special edition set of covered hoppers with 4 different numbers. The whole subscription sold out in less than 6 weeks netting the division a substantial profit.
- ◆ This newsletter's name has been updated a bit from "Clinkers" to "Train Orders"
- ◆ The Division finances continue to be on a sound footing thanks to Bob Liberman, and more recently, Bill Grosse.
- ◆ The Division database can now be used to create the labels for the mailings that we send to you like this newsletter, your annual Data Confirmation sheets, the meet lists, and several other functions.
- ◆ We regularly hold "joint meets" with other divisions every year, the

Philadelphia Division in January, and the Garden State Division, NER in May.

As the deadline for submitting petitions for the new board of directors has now passed, I can announce the new team.

- ◆ Superintendent: Bill Grosse, Jr.
- ◆ Assistant Super: John Gallagher
- ◆ Treasurer: Mike Prokop
- ◆ Secretary: Tom Lavin
- ◆ Director: Chuck Higdon
- ◆ Director: Geert Marien
- ◆ Director: Jack Menaker

Your directors handle the tasks that make the division run smoothly. John Gallagher will continue to provide the clinics for our meets, Chuck Higdon will coordinate the meet home tours, Jack Menaker will take over as Contest Chairman. In addition to his treasurer duties, Mike will continue to run the Division bookstore.

One of the best parts of being superintendent is the opportunity that it has given me to know every one of you, our members. Thank you for the cooperation and friendship you have shown me. Please welcome Bill and the other Board members as the Division continues to move forward in the coming years. 

NEW JERSEY DIVISION BOOKSTORE

Mike Prokop, NJ Division Director

The New Jersey Division bookstore is ready for another season with some interesting and exciting changes.

Starting at our first meeting in September, the NJD Bookstore will be offering more than just railroad books for sale. Good news, the NJ Division has received another generous donation from a great friend of our organization. This current donation consists of over twenty HO scale locomotives, mostly steam, and a few other oddities, including a beautiful oak train display case.

These items covering a wide variety of quality and value will be offered to our members in a few different ways. Some of the locos we'll have for sale at great prices in the bookstore. Others will be raffled off at our meets and some will be available as door prizes.

We'd like to do a "Grand Prize Raffle" with some of the best items. More details on that will be announced at the first meet. Make sure to come by and check out what's available at the bookstore this season. You might find some stuff you can't live without!

Keep in mind all the proceeds from our sales go into helping pay for our division

CREW CHANGE POINT 2017

Bill Grosse Jr., Incoming Superintendent

You have heard and read about it, and it is actually happening. Bob Clegg is retiring from the Superintendents position and the New Jersey Division Board of Directors. Please help me give well-earned thanks to Bob for his 16 years on the board, along with being Superintendent since 2009

Director Michael Mosher has also decided to leave the New Jersey Division Board of Directors. Please give him thanks too, for the work he has done while on the board since 2011.

I have offered a commitment to take the Superintendent's position, and to work with everyone to keep your New Jersey Division running on the right track. I have been the Contest Chairman, Northern Member Contact Chair, and most recently the NJ Division Treasurer. This will be a step up, but I am ready, and I look forward the challenge.

There may be some special events in the very near future. For instance, the May

meeting costs including facilities expenses, acquiring quality items for our raffles, door prizes and other division expenses. Please don't forget, the store has many great railroad books still available at half off the cover price. See Mike or Geert at the NJ Division Bookstore table for friendly sales and service!

2018 meet will be the New Jersey Division's 50th Anniversary. Some suggestions have been hinted at already, so keep an eye out for them.

If anyone has ideas or suggestions for the Board of Directors, including meet locations, contest categories, special trips or events, clinics you would like to see or present, or anything else you think would be enjoyed by all, please let me know. Put a note in the suggestion box at a meet or tell me or another board member directly.

Also, if you would like to help the board once in a while with meet activities, special events, setting up meet locations, or opening your layout for a visit, we will greatly appreciate anything you offer.

Do you like to write? Please consider submitting an article or editorial to your *Train Orders*.

See you at the September meet.



ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM GOLDEN SPIKE AWARD APPLICATION FORM

Can be found on page 15 of the
Second Section, or download it
from our website NJDivNMRA.org

MODEL CONTEST NEWS

Chuck Higdon, Contest Chairman

As we look ahead to the Fall season and the November Open House Tour, your Division needs your help. We have not added many new railroads to the tours we have after our New Jersey Division meets. We have been able to see the improvements made to many fine railroads over the last few years, but I'm sure there are also new railroads we could be visiting. Have we been to your railroad?

Many of us tour members' railroads to learn things. An unfinished railroad offers a lot to learn "under the scenery." How is it framed and supported? How are the wire busses run and attached to the frames? If a train can run on your railroad or even if it has not yet progressed to that point, whether there is little or no scenery, many of us would like a chance to see it.


Not sure what it takes to open your home railroad for a tour? Here are a few suggestions:

- Have someone to greet and guide the visitors to the railroad area.
- Signs to your railroad help, too.
- Have one or more assistants to run trains on your railroad
- Be available to answer questions about what you have done.

At my first open house the railroad was mostly plywood. It still has lots of plywood, albeit mostly painted now. Some sections have had scenery installed, so there is less space to store stuff on it these days. Areas are more defined and the plan is on the plywood and not in my mind or a sheet of paper.

Most who do open their home railroads for tours

seem to have a good time. That is why they open again and again to allow us to visit. So please consider having an open house and send your contact info so we can include your railroad when we have a meeting in your area.

If you would like to join this group and host a railroad tour, please contact me at 732-914-1161 or vze5crrw1@verizon.net 

More Model Contest news on page 6

Because our May 13th meet was a joint meet with the Garden State Division in Bridgewater, NJ, no contest was held. There was the GSD "Bring and Brag" segment during the meeting with a brief talk about some nice-looking models.

I presented to Tom Griffiths his award certificate and voucher for a year of meetings for having won the March contest..



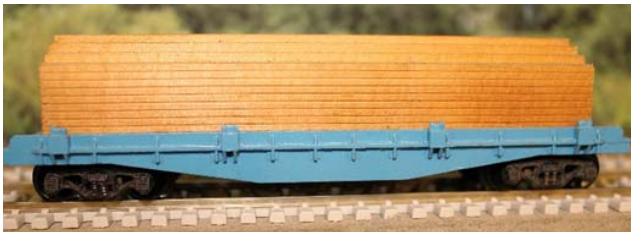
MORE MODEL CONTEST NEWS

Chuck Higdon, Contest Chairman

For our September 2017 meeting in Millville our contest will be for Detailed / Weathered Flat Cars w/Loads. Please bring a model for display and maybe it will win the vote and we can shine a light on it.



I have some more work on my lumber load flat car to be ready for the meet. If I can find the decals.



The contest in November will be "Detailed Cabin Cars / Cabooses."

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 it, 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, please feel free to let me know. Or if you have any other ideas about this, please contact me at 732-914-1161 or vze5crrw1@verizon.net.



MER President and NJ Division AP manager, PJ Mattson presented Chris Conaway with his AP certificate for Association Volunteer on July 14, 2017

September Meet from page 1

The modeler and railroad historian will enjoy taking a photo journey along the tracks of the Bloom. The stations, team tracks, freight houses and factories will be shown from contemporary (1910 - 1960) photographs and postcards.

Eric says, "While the Bloomsburg Branch (the "Bloom") is noted for large coal breakers, it had a diverse industrial base. The Lackawanna was very aggressive in pursuing all sources of freight. The

modeler and railroad historian will enjoy taking a photo journey along the tracks of the Bloom. Stations, team tracks, freight houses and factories will be shown from contemporary (1910 - 1960) photographs and postcards. Plenty of maps will help keep you oriented."

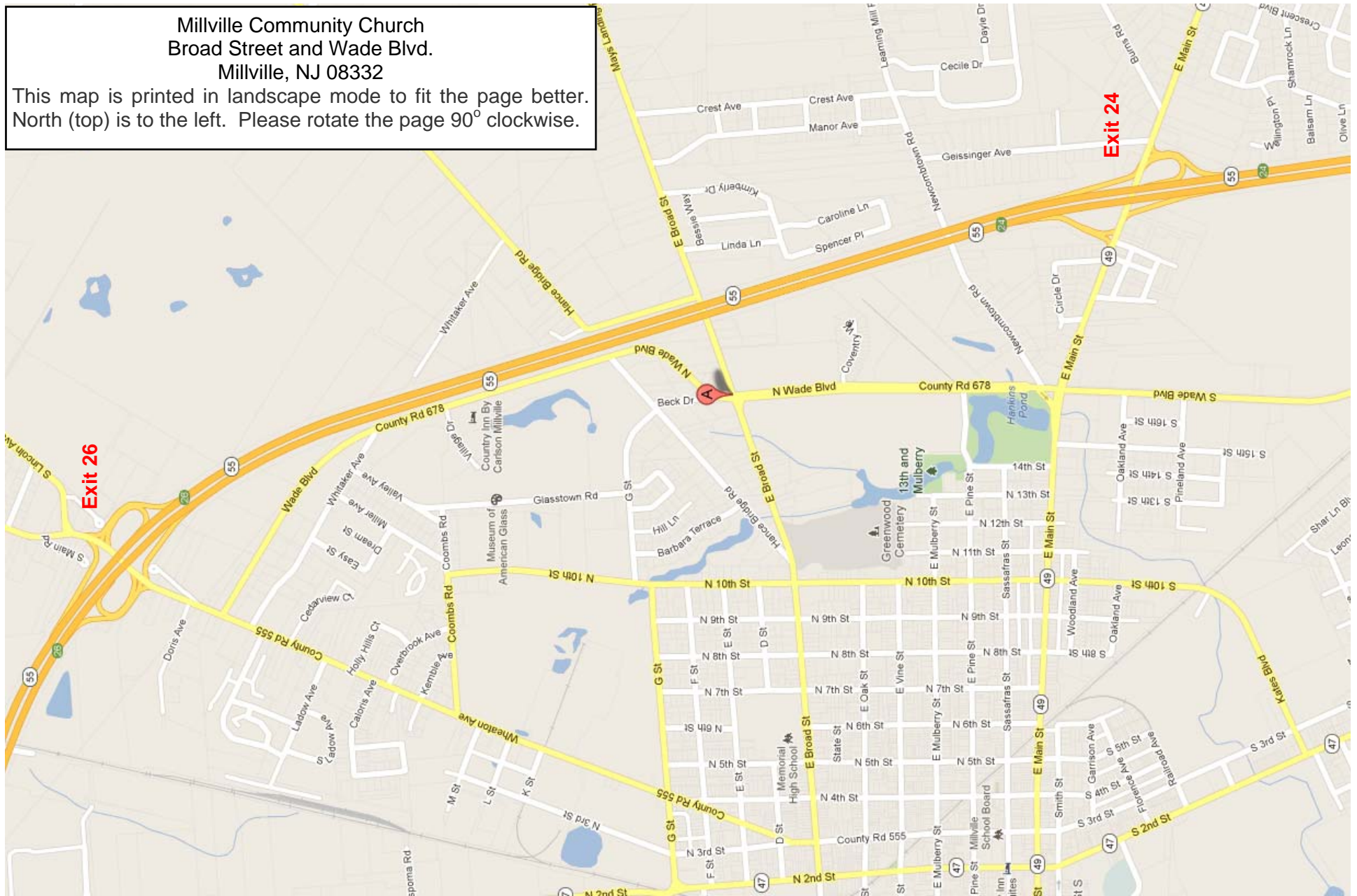
We invite all members to attend this meet to learn from these two experienced modelers and clinicians.

Finally, we'll have a short business meeting, and you can meet and greet your Division Board of Directors for the coming year.



Millville Community Church
Broad Street and Wade Blvd.
Millville, NJ 08332

This map is printed in landscape mode to fit the page better.
North (top) is to the left. Please rotate the page 90° clockwise.



Directions to the meet

From the northern part of the division

Use **I-195 West** and **I-295 South** as appropriate. Take **I-295 South** to **Exit 26** and stay **right** to exit onto **NJ 42 South**. Once on the exit ramp, keep **left** to stay on **NJ 42 South**, then continue for about 2 miles (keep right after passing Creek Rd.) to **NJ 55 South**. See local direction below.

From Eastern Ocean and Monmouth Counties

Use the directions above, or take the **Garden State Parkway** south to **exit 44**. Turn **right** onto **CR 575, Pomona Road** and follow to **US322**. Turn **right** onto **US 322** and **stay right** to enter the **jug handle** to follow **US 40 west**. Continue on **US 40** to **Mays Landing** and follow the directions from Atlantic County via Mays Landing below.

From Delaware

Take **US 40 East** to **NJ 55 South**. See local direction below.

From Pennsylvania

Cross the **Commodore Barry Bridge** and continue **east** on **US 322** . Take **NJ 55 South** and follow local directions below.

From Cape May County

Take **NJ 55 north** and take **Exit 24**. Turn **Left** onto **NJ 49**. At the first traffic light, turn **Right** onto **Wade Blvd**. Continue to the first light at **Broad Street**. The church is on the **far right corner**.

or

Find your way to **NJ 50** in **Tuckahoe** then proceed **west** on **NJ 49** for **16.3 miles**. Turn **right** onto **Wade Blvd.**, the meet location will be on your **right** on the far right corner at the traffic light at **Broad Street**. Turn **right** onto **Broad Street** and immediately **left** into the parking lot.

From Atlantic County via Mays Landing

Take **US 40 west** through **Mays Landing**. Turn **left** at the Traffic Light at **Avenue of the Pines**, then right on **Bears Head Road** (also called **Millville-Mays Landing Road**). Continue about **18.3 miles**. The meet location will be on your **right** just before the traffic light at **Wade Blvd**.

Local Directions:

Take **Exit 26** onto **County 555, Wheaton Blvd**. go **right** at the exit. Turn **left** onto **Wade Blvd**, (it only goes left and there's a turn lane.) Follow **Wade Blvd 1.3 miles** to the meet location on your **left** just before the traffic light at **Broad Street**.

Address Label

TRAIN ORDERS

SECOND SECTION

SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

VOLUME 28 NUMBER 4



All photos on this page are of Gus Foster's PRR railroad. Lots of railroad with lots of interesting operations and scenery. Gus will host us on the September Meet afternoon tour from 1:00 to 5:00

Appreciate great detail? The photos on page 10 are of Scott Pagliughi's very highly detailed Pennsy themed railroad. Scott will also be open on the September Meet afternoon tour from 1:00 to 5:00



SEPTEMBER 16, 2017

TRAIN ORDERS
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PAGE 9





Four photos of Pete Suhmann's freelance LNE themed railroad. Upper left: Pulling hoppers from the power plant. Upper right : Local freight returning to Engle Yard. Lower left: Pick up coal . Lower right: Pulling an empty from Atlas Cement.

See all of these on the Saturday afternoon layout tour at the NJ Division meet on September 16

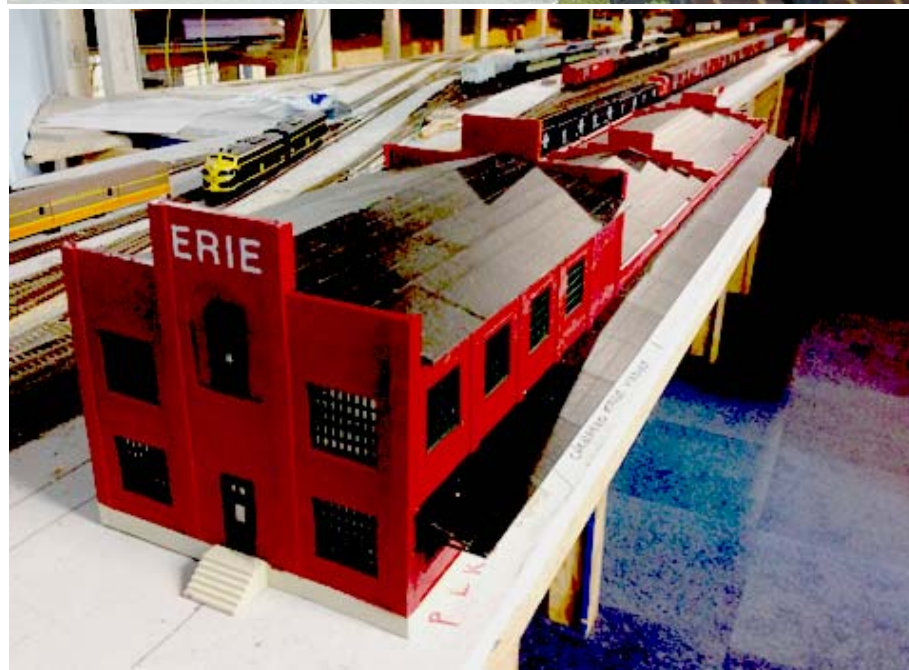
On this page a few photos of Bob Clegg's Southern Tier Railroad. Set in the mid 50s, the railroad is primarily Erie, but Lehigh Valley, D&H, Lackawanna, NYC, and Pennsylvania make occasional appearances. With a 525 ft double track main line, It's definitely still a work in progress, but come see what has been accomplished.

On page 13 are photos of Tom Todd's railroad. This stop is new on the tour and definitely worth taking the time to see.

Not far from Tom is the fully operational Lehigh Northern Railroad of Bill Wallace. Bill holds regular operating sessions monthly. Photos of the railroad are on page 14.

On page 16 are photos of the Patcong Valley Model Railroad Club in Richland, just a few minutes from the September meet.

Maps and directions to all of the stops on the tour will be available at the September 16 meet at the Cumberland County Community, Broad St. and Wade Blvd, that's 1800 east Broad St for you GPS users, in Millville.







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.

