

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION
FOR
YEAR FROM SEPT. 2003 TO SEPT. 2004

OFFICERS: (as of Sept. 2004)

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DIVISION WEB SITE ADDRESSES:

<http://mywebpages.comcast.net/njdivnmra/>

Division e-mail list:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NJDivNMRA/>

MEMBERSHIP:

Number of participating NMRA members was 107 on September 1, 2003.
Number of participating NMRA members was 130 on September 1, 2004.

Membership is based on NMRA members who have chosen to pre-pay for the mailed newsletter and/or attending the Division Meets. Other NMRA members within the Division exist but choose not to participate in our events (based on non-response from direct mailings).

In an effort to recruit new members, we mail our newsletters and an invitation letter to new NMRA members using the list supplied monthly by the MER. This has brought in a few members. We also post our Division meetings in RMC and MR. This has brought in some walk ups. We also allow anyone wishing to do so to subscribe to our newsletter. This helps people figure what we are about, what we offer and help bring them on board.

DIVISION EVENTS:

September 2003 Division Meet in Deptford, clinics on Foam Core Backdrops and a review of the NMRA National Convention in Toronto, model and prototype photo contest, layout tours

November 2003 Division Meet in Hamilton Twp., clinics on model railroad detection and signaling, favorite train contest, layout tours

January 2004 Division Meet in Haddon Twp., clinics on scratchbuilding methods and techniques, weathered cars contest, Friday night and Saturday afternoon layout tours

March 2004 Division Meet in Delanco, Classic New Jersey Slides and Films presentation, maintenance-of-way cars contest, layout tours (including 3 new layouts)

April 2004 railfan outing to the Wilmington & Western Railroad in Bridgeton, NJ

May 2004 Division Meet in Eatontown (Monmouth County), clinics on milk car operations, NY Harbor operations and molding/casting with clay, trackside structures contest, annual business meeting, layout tours

June 2004 Division Garden Layout Tour, self-guided maps to many layouts throughout the Division area

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM:

Division AP Coordinator
P.J. Mattson
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During the past year, Division members received an 8 AP awards/ certificates. A complete all-time list of AP participants from our Division is on our website at <http://mywebpages.comcast.net/njdivnmra/boxcar/aplist.html>

MER CONVENTION ACTIVITY:

The NJ Division last hosted the MER Convention in 2002. As of now, no plans have been started to host the convention in the future. A number of members are involved with the National Convention in Philadelphia in 2006.

CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Continued regular video-taping of our clinic presentations as a source of educational materials available to all members

FUTURE DIRECTIONS:

The Division has plans to conduct 5 one day Meets throughout our Geographic area, including Vineland, Haddon Twp., Hamilton Twp. and Deptford. One Meet will be a joint Meet with the Philadelphia Division. In addition, a one day Meet at the Cape May Seashore Lines tourist railroad is being planned.

The Division will continue to help coordinate the annual one day Garden Railroad tour in June.

Investigate impacts of servicing all NMRA members within our Division without adequate funding from the National Headquarters

CONCLUSION:

The New Jersey Division is in good shape with adequate financial resources, a strong leadership group and good participation from our members.