



## Seacoast Division NMRA 2022 Summer Event Meeting Report

Saturday, July 16, 2022, 10:00am-2:00pm

Hosted by

The Great Falls Model Railroad Club  
144 Mill Street, Auburn, Maine 04210

The 2022 Seacoast Division Summer Event was held on Saturday, July 16, 2022 at the Great Falls Model Railroad Club in Auburn, Maine. The Event was simultaneously broadcast via a Zoom meeting. Nineteen(19) members and two guests were present for the Event, plus 7 members logged-in to the Zoom broadcast. I want to thank those members for taking the time to travel and/or be part of this Event.

### Clinics and Presentation Topics:

- **The Art of Soldering by Glenn Mitchell.** Glenn Mitchell presented the NMRA EduTrain Clinic – The Art of Soldering by David Carlton. The presentation focused on electrical soldering. It included techniques for using different devices as “extra hands,” use of flux in the soldering process, the importance of cleaning, soldering iron preparation, tinning, and how use the tip of the soldering iron as an effective heat bridge. Glenn explained what good wetting is on a soldered joint and also what a cold solder joint looks like. The presentation also discussed the “7 sins of soldering,” of which not having clean parts is probably the worst. He discussed the advantages and disadvantages of resistance soldering and also the different types of flux that are available. The presentation closed with a thorough review of safety precautions that should be taken when soldering. The presentation also provided several links to reference articles and suppliers. Glenn then provided his own personal insights gained based on his experiences with soldering. This presentation was excellent!
- **Scratch Building The Berwick Station by Jay Ehlen.** There are occasional times when there is neither a kit nor prototype plans available for a particular station. Jay explained how he got ideas for this station by searching for pictures on the internet, using pictures from books, via in-person inspection and from old photos. Jay went through all the steps he took to develop his plans and then construct his mock up, to include his 7-11 roof design. He included a detailed list of materials, which contained mostly styrene plastic and also some wood. Starting with the base, Jay explained how he constructed the station from the ground up, showing us all the exterior and interior details. This detailed, step by step, presentation was really good and was indicative of Jay’s excellent craftsmanship.
- **Resurrecting the J&RG by Jim Gore, MMR.** The J&RG is an On30 “what if” layout based in northern New Mexico. Since moving to New Hampshire a few years ago, Jim has been diligently working on building his J&RG layout. Prior to starting the actual work on the layout, most of his time has been spent finishing off the room. Jim described the creation of his layout room in great detail. This required a lot of carpentry work to complete because the room was converted from the

old wood shed in his house. Jim described the commercial benchwork that he uses, and then showed us his unique approach to layout design where the backdrop dictates the scenery and structures. This, in turn, determines the layout and design of the track work. The slides that showed the pictures of his backdrops were spectacular. Jim described how he uses Micro-Engineering track and Fast Tracks Bullfrog manual turnout controls. The progress that he showed us today, was only after about 8 months of work on the layout. So far, I would say that Jim is off to a great start. We are all looking forward to more updates from Jim as he makes progress on the layout.

- **Building the Coos Bay & Coos County Railroad by Jack Lutz.** Jack has made significant progress on his layout since his last update to us in 2017. His presentation went into detail about the different areas of his layout room, where he has chosen to position yards, the stations, reversing loops, scenery and other structures. His benchwork has progressed around the room, with wiring and electronics updates, structure construction, some new rolling stock, as he continues his model railroading efforts. Jack has designed his layout so that an operator can use either DC or DCC control. One of the nicest features of Jack's layout is that his normal daily work station for his real job, is just below the layout. So during a normal workday for him, he is surrounded by his model trains. This is definitely a great way to go to work everyday. Very nice!

### **Show and Tell and Ask:**



**Paul Lessard** brought in a display case that included many of his HO scale vehicles that he uses to populate his layout. Many of these were hand painted with unique lettering and detail. Paul went on to describe each item that he brought. Paul's detail work is exceptional! Thank you, Paul!

**Tom Oxnard, MMR** brought in a chemical plant that he decided to build, using materials that he had on-hand. We have all seen Tom's fantastic work and this latest creation was no exception. Tom went on to describe the different materials that he used, starting with a styrene base and the building walls and roof, and then getting into the piping and finally the old radio circuit board that he used for the interior of the building. This is a beautiful creation!



### **Layout Tours:**

The Division wishes to thank all the members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club for their terrific hospitality. We all appreciate the opportunity to visit the many different scale layouts that are available for viewing at the Great Falls Model Railroad Club.

### **FOR SALE!**

The Division netted a total of \$155.00 from the sale of 3 locomotives at the "for sale" table and also \$75.00 from the donations jar. Thanks to our members for their donations and also thanks go to the members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club for their generosity.

### **Raffle:**

As in past Division Events, we would like to hold a raffle for door prizes. But we can't do that unless we have items to raffle off. That was definitely the case for today. So unfortunately, the raffle did not happen. Maybe at the next Event?

In closing, I would like to specifically thank our 4 clinicians, Glenn Mitchell, Jay Ehlen, Jim Gore, MMR, and Jack Lutz for providing and sharing their knowledge with us. Thank you all for taking the time to put together these clinics. Additionally, I want to thank Paul Lessard and Tom Oxnard, MMR for sharing their items with the other members of the Division. Well done to all six of you! And finally, I want to thank the members of the Great Falls Model Railroad Club for their generous hospitality in providing this venue for our Summer Event.

Best regards,

Tage Erickson  
Summer Event Coordinator

**Next Event:**

October 8, 2022 at the firehouse in Stratham, New Hampshire. Mark your calendar and save the date!!

[www.seacoastnmra.org](http://www.seacoastnmra.org)