



## **SEACOAST DIVISION NMRA 2022 FALL EVENT RECAP**

The Seacoast Division of the NMRA held its Fall Event at the firehouse in Stratham, NH on Saturday October 8th. The Event was well attended with about 25+ members in attendance and several more participating through Zoom. All the presentations were well received with considerable participation from attending members.

### **PRESENTATION RECAPS -**

**SEACOAST TROLLEY MUSEUM** - James Van Bokkelen, Vice President of the Seacoast Trolley Museum in Kennebunkport, Maine, gave a slide presentation covering the campus, its mission and highlights of its rolling stock. Special focus was given to the recently acquired HO layout and the plans for a new building dedicated to housing the reconstructed layout. Hopefully, the project will be completed in 2024.

**THE NMRA ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM (AP)** - Tom Oxnard MMR and Rich Breton, gave a comprehensive two part discussion of the program. First, Tom discussed the various awards, summarizing the requirements and documentation needed for each one. Achievement awards range from volunteer efforts to building structures, rolling stock or a scratch built locomotive. He also covered the evaluation process which can be either through contest judging or individual judging. The key point of evaluation is to enhance modeling skills, not to make critical judgements.

In the second part, Tom and Rich explained how the judging matrix worked, discussing what earned points and what did not. They also displayed actual examples of projects that achieved the 87.5 point necessary threshold for Merit, as well as examples that failed.

**CAMERA AND TV TECHNIQUES FOR MODEL RAILROADING** - Rich Breton conducted a clinic on some basic considerations necessary to obtain superior photo results, such as the elimination of shadows through proper lighting. He then

discussed the use of miniature TV cameras permanently installed on a layout as well as mounted on rolling stock.

**PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS** - Glenn Mitchell, our Division President, announced to the group that we are investigating hosting the 2025 Annual NER Convention. He stressed the need for volunteers to be active in the preparations for the convention and asked anyone interested to contact him.

**LAKES REGION MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM** – John Simms of the Lakes Region Model Railroad Museum is looking for modeling volunteers to help build the museum layout.

**LAYOUT TOURS** - after adjournment of the formal meeting, there were two layout tours available. One was DAVE KOTSONIS' GREENLAND VALLEY RR, and the other was DICK FRALICK'S NEW HAVEN AND CONNECTICUT CENTRAL. Our thanks to both gentlemen for sharing their layouts with our members.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** - The next Event will be our WINTER MEETING to be held in Westbrook, Maine on Saturday January 7, 2023.

Submitted by Jay Ehlen, Event Coordinator