

THE COUPLER

A PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHEASTERN REGION NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

ISSUE NO. 239 • JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2010



Photographer Gustav W. Verderber puts us directly on busy Main Street of Wooden Hill, VA, in June, 1918, as the local freight rumbles into town on Bob Durkin's HO Pennsylvania, Maryland & Chesapeake Railroad. A mainline model railroad designed for operation, the PMC is the largest layout in Vermont and will be open for operating at the upcoming Northeastern Regional Convention based in Burlington Sept. 9-12.

(Photo by Gustav W. Verderber/Railscenics.com)

Champlain Flyer Guide to Convention

Vermont organizers announce details for fall convention

6

Imagine a New Photo Contest Category!

Photo Chair announces unique opportunity to think about

13

Big Changes Coming to NER Leadership

Your chance to vote in a new slate with bios and ballot

16

DEPARTMENTS AND L-C-L

NER Brass Page	2	NER News and Events	4	Letters to the Editor	14
NER President's Letter	3	NER New Members	13	Made in the NER	15
		Division Spotlight	14	Visit us online at www.nernmra.org	



www.nernmra.org

THE COUPLER

The official publication of
The Northeastern Region of
the National Model Railroad
Association

Issue No. 239

EDITOR

PHIL MONAT

3125 Independence Ave.
Bronx, NY 10463
(718) 884-0261
phil@philmonat.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

FRANKLIN LANG

Stamford, CT

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

TOM BARTLEY

Pleasantville, NY

COPY EDITOR

BARRY ABISCH

Somers, NY

GRAPHICS & LAYOUT EDITOR

JEFF PASTON

Syracuse, NY

© 2010 Northeastern Region NMRA.

The editorial policy of *The Coupler*, the official publication of the Northeastern Region, shall be to contribute, wherever and whenever possible, to the promotion, growth, and understanding of the hobby of model railroading. *The Coupler* is published four times a year by and for the members of the Northeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association. Subscription rate is \$7.00 per year. Any items related to the activities of the Northeastern Region and its member divisions are gladly accepted. Please address all correspondence, news, photos, and drawings to the Editor. Any submissions sent by mail will be gladly returned if the sender provides a self-addressed stamped envelope.



NORTHEASTERN REGION NMRA

NER OFFICERS AND STAFF

PRESIDENT

KENNETH MAY

71 Buff Cap Road
Tolland, CT 06084
(860) 872-3441
kenneth.may@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENT

PAUL ALLARD, MMR

53 Rollin Irish Road
Milton, VT 05468
(802) 893-2228
pallard@wildblue.net

TREASURER

LARRY CANNON, MMR

516 Pond Road
Lewiston, ME 04240
(207) 786-3929
larrycannon@roadrunner.com

SECRETARY

KEITH F. SHONEMAN

21 Freedom Farm Road
Acton, MA 01720
(978) 376-0080
kshoneman@verizon.net

OFFICE MANAGER

MARK HARLOW

280 S. Main Street
Hopedale, MA 01747
(508) 528-8587
nerofficemanager@verizon.net

ADVANCEMENT PRGM. CHAIR

PAUL ALLARD, MMR

53 Rollin Irish Road
Milton, VT 05468
(802) 893-2228
pallard@wildblue.net

MODEL CONTEST CHAIR

BOB HAMM, MMR

460 Grand Avenue
Saratoga Spgs, NY 12866
(518) 587-0743
rhamm1@nycap.rr.com

PHOTO CONTEST CHAIR

ROGER OLIVER

61 Franklin Road
Denville, NJ 07834-1558
ner.photocontest@gmail.com

CONVENTIONS CHAIR

VACANT

NER HISTORIAN

JOSEPH LECAROZ

PO Box 7150
Newburgh, NY 12550
(914) 564-4626
jlchoochoo@aol.com

NER OPSIG COORDINATOR

AL ONETO

327 Springer Road
Fairfield, CT 06430
(203) 255-1331
aloneto@juno.com

NER WEBMASTER

MIKE ROQUE

(585) 615-4862
ner@mikeroque.com

NER REGIONAL DIRECTORS

CONNECTICUT

& RHODE ISLAND

VINCENT GALLOGLY

105 Woodhaven Drive
Trumbull, CT 06611
(203) 268-0437
railvin@charter.net

LONG ISLAND

& NEW YORK CITY

ANDREW WASOWICZ

P. O. Box 863320
Ridgewood, NY 11386-3320
(718) 366-3830
rwasowicz@aol.com

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

TERRY KING

P. O. Box 188
East Livermore, ME 04228
(207) 933-2477
tpking@roadrunner.com

NMRA EASTERN DIRECTOR

KEVIN FEENEY

831 New Norwalk Road
New Caanan, CT 06084
(203) 966-5175

EASTERN CANADA

Vacant

NEW JERSEY

ROGER OLIVER

61 Franklin Road
Denville, NJ 07834-1558
(973) 625-3414
oliverr2@verizon.net

MASSACHUSETTS

WILLIAM BARRY

35 Blaiswood Avenue
Marlborough, MA 01752-3910
(508) 251-1252
wbarry@dmberg.com

NEW YORK STATE

MIKE EVANS

838 Mason Street
Morrisonville, NY 12962
(518) 563-3989
dnhrwy@charter.net

NER DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

NUTMEG DIVISION

SUPERINTENDENT

SEELEY C. KELLOGG

PO Box 619
Durham, CT 06422-0619
(860) 349-8774
seeleyk@comcast.net

HUDSON-BERKSHIRE DIVISION

PRESIDENT

PAUL HOFFMAN

128 Woodfield Blvd
Mechanicville, NY 12118
(518) 899-5707

CENTRAL NEW YORK DIVISION

SUPERINTENDENT

BRIAN CURRY

3594 Chamberlain Road
Weedsport, NY 13166
(315) 689-1303
banddcurry@peoplepc.com

SEACOAST DIVISION

PRESIDENT

BRUCE ROBINSON

19 Hunt Pond Road
Sandown, NH 03873
(603) 887-5922
brobinson85@comcast.net

HUB DIVISION

PRESIDENT

RICHARD JOHANNES

40 Pelham Street
Newton, MA 02459
(617) 244-0068
president@hubdiv.org

SUNRISE TRAIL DIVISION

PRESIDENT

FERNAND "BUZZY" WASHINGTON

179-65 Selover Road
Jamaica, NY 11434-3411
(718) 528-2308
buzzyfernand@aol.com

GARDEN STATE DIVISION

PRESIDENT

TOM WORTMANN

68 Carmel Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10314
(718) 494-0388
miskyrails@msn.com

GREEN MOUNTAIN DIVISION

PRESIDENT

DANA BROWN

17 Skyline Drive
Essex Jct., VT 05452
Dana24mn@gmail.com

HUDSON VALLEY DIVISION

SUPERINTENDENT

CARL SARDARO

1295 Turkey Hill Road
Milan, NY 12571-4307
(518) 398-1960
csardaro@fairpoint.net

METRO NORTH DIVISION

SUPERINTENDENT

CARL LIBA

14 Adams Farm Road
Westport, CT 06880
(203) 226-0562
cjbhliba@optonline.net

LITTLE RHODY DIVISION

SUPERINTENDENT

HENRY PIERCE

75 Shady Hill Drive
West Warwick, RI 02893-2336
(401) 821-4256
jhp341@cox.net

INACTIVE DIVISIONS

PIONEER DIVISION

MARITIMES DIVISION

DIVISION ALOUETTE

SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR COUPLER #240 IS SEPT. 10

We want to hear from you — Contact Editor Phil Monat at phil@philmonat.com



Welcome to all of the NMRA members residing in the Northeastern Region. As a current NMRA member, you are also a member of the Northeastern Region and therefore entitled to vote in the upcoming election

of NER Region Officers and Directors. The ballot and candidate information is contained in this issue, which is why those of you who don't normally get *The Coupler* are receiving this issue. This will be an important election for the Region since five of the seven directors will be replaced and a new president and vice-president will also be elected. While the leadership will change, I'm sure the focus on improving Region events and activities will continue. New leadership may result in change, but life is dynamic, not static. After all, an operating locomotive is far more interesting than one that is only on display!

Many of you may not be aware that your NMRA membership entitles you to participate in Region and Division activities. Each year, the principal activity of the Region is a weekend convention usually sponsored by one of our Divisions. This year our Region Convention will be held September 8–12 in Burlington, Vermont, sponsored by the Green Mountain Division. Beginning with Thursday afternoon, the weekend will be full

of prototype and model activities to keep you busy. There will be operating sessions on local model railroads as well as layout visits, an extensive clinic program, model and photo contests and banquet. In addition our annual membership meeting will take place where members hear updates from the leadership and can ask questions or make comments and suggestions. Many of our Divisions hold several meetings each year. Travel distances are shorter and most Division meets last one day and have low to moderate associated costs.

In recent years, the Northeastern Region has rebuilt our Worldwide Web presence. It now resides at www.nernmra.org. While we are working hard at extending the content of the Web site, it remains a place where notices of upcoming events can be placed easily and more quickly than the quarterly newsletter. We are placing our archive of our newsletter, *The NER Coupler*, on the Web site as well. Next up will be organizational documents and model contest winners.

Your Region continues to publish a quarterly newsletter, *The NER Coupler*. Published and mailed to subscribers, this quality publication continues to provide organizational updates and notices, information on upcoming Region conventions, and articles on modeling techniques, home layouts and their builders, manufacturers in the area, and notices of Division activities. Be sure to

check out the information in this issue promoting the upcoming Burlington convention. The Region continues to actively support the Achievement Program; we have a new Region AP Chairman – Norm Frowley – while many of the Divisions also have AP Chairmen. These individuals help guide you along the path toward qualifying and applying for AP awards. The ultimate goal of this program is to help you improve your modeling while winning designation as a Master Model Railroader.

In my opinion, however, the most valuable resource that the NMRA and the Northeastern Region offers to you – the members – is fellowship. While some prefer to enjoy this hobby as a “lone wolf,” I think the majority of us enjoy sharing the fun of the hobby with others who share our interest. I think that explains the popularity of our operating sessions as a part of our convention programming. It provides the enhanced fun and fellowship many of us crave. While it can be fun to run the trains on our layouts alone, it becomes a lot more fun to share that experience with friends. Many of those friends may become life-long companions on the journey we all call “model railroad-ing.” I invite all of you to join me on this enjoyable journey. The next adventure begins in Burlington, VT, in early September. I look forward to seeing you there!

Happy Model Railroad-ing!
Ken May

FROM THE EDITOR

Your vote means a lot!

By PHIL MONAT

Another NER election is upon us and it's time for you to exercise that much maligned, often overlooked, seemingly futile and frequently frustrating civic right – Voting! You need to select and confirm your representation in the body that governs your NMRA Region and it is critical that you do so. Why you might ask, especially since most of the positions only have one name on it? Who are they running against? Themselves?

No, they are running against apathy. The challenge – and trouble – with most volunteer organizations is that many of the people who benefit are seldom willing to step up to work for the group in an official capacity. The NMRA/NER is no exception. They are too busy or don't have the time, or they are shy, unwilling, perhaps they don't “speak the language,” or they are beginners and not leaders. It really doesn't matter what the reason is. But some people do step up (thankfully!) and they need to hear

from the rest of us. They need to hear that we care about the organization, that we appreciate their commitment of time and energy, and especially, that we give them our vote to go forward with what they think is best of our group. It shows we care. It's that simple.

After the last election more than two years ago, I attended a Board meeting when they read the vote totals. I recall the number of ballots received was 33! Thirty three people took the time to show they care about the NMRA and to give the current leadership a simple nod, out of a membership of almost 2,000. Barely six percent of us exercised our civic duty. Are we really that apathetic? Yes, I *KNOW* there is often only one choice. So, what's the point? The point is it gives the person (often the *ONLY ONE* who would step forward) a vote of confidence and empowers them to act. That's how we make the NMRA – and the NER – better.

So, please take the time to vote. It's critical to the health of our organization. If you don't like the folks running, cross out the name and write in somebody else in the space provided. But at least respond and show you care about the future of our hobby. Do *your duty*. Please! ☒

NER News and Events

Schedule of model railroading events from around the Northeastern Region. To have your event listed here (space permitting), please contact Phil Monat, Editor.

COMPILED BY THE COUPLER STAFF

GREEN MOUNTAIN DIVISION

2010 NER Convention in Burlington, VT. *The Champlain Flyer*, NER Fall Regional Convention, Sept. 9-12. This will be the first NER convention in Vermont in more than 10 years. You won't want to miss it! See information in this issue of *The Coupler*. Contact Glenn Glasstetter at cenorwy@gmavt.net.

GARDEN STATE DIVISION

The GSD has a brand new Web site, www.nergsd.com. Please make a note of our upcoming summer picnic and BBQ on Sunday, August 29th, starting at noon. Hosted by the HO scale Garden State Central Model Railway Club and the O scale Model Engineer Railroad Club High Mountain Road, North Haledon NJ.

We're also starting to ask for volunteers for Railroad Day at Lake Mohawk. Any NMRA member can help out, just contact Anthony Piccirillo, at anthony13trains@ptd.net

August 1 — Northwest Jersey Train-O-Rama, Dover High School, 100 Grace Street, Dover; 9 AM to 3 PM — \$5 if pre-registered or \$6 at the door. For more information: www.dovertrainshow.com.

August 29 — NMRA Garden State Division Summer BBQ, Garden State Model Railway Club, 575 High Mountain Road, North Haledon; 11 AM-4 PM. For directions: www.gsmrrclub.org.

Who says 75-year olds forget names?

Jack Burgess, Bruce Chubb, Bill Darnaby, Chuck Hitchcock, Tony Koester, Sam Swanson, Bill Schaumburg,

Andy Sperandeo, Tony Thompson, Wayne Wesolowski. Names we'll never forget presenting clinics you'll never forget. All at one unforgettable convention. Learn more at ...



www.nmra75.org

METRO NORTH DIVISION

June 12 — 2010 Metro North Meeting at the Danbury Railroad Museum; 10 AM. Featuring two clinics:

1. *Fitting the Prototype* to the layout space available. Rick Abramson has incorporated Downtown Bridgeport, the Devon Junction and the Maybrook NY yard into his basement layout. This session was first presented to the Layout Design Special Interest Group during the NMRA's HN2009 convention. It clearly demonstrates how to select prototype elements, then compress and model them to create an operating layout.

2. *Casting Resin facades and walls*. John Grosner has enhanced his layout with his own resin castings. He will share with us the materials list and techniques that permit a modeler to replicate prototype buildings for or personalize features within a layout. Both of our presenters and their layouts have been featured in the model railroad press. *Popular Vote Contest*: Bring and display your loaded flatcars. Members will select by popular vote their favorite.

The Division will announce it's first fall meeting on the Web site in early August - nernmra.org/divisions/metronorth.

SEACOAST DIVISION

July 31 — 10 AM-2 PM; Seacoast Division quarterly meeting hosted by the Great Falls Model Railroad Club. Agenda includes clinics, how-to clinics, model showcase, business meeting and a tour of the club headquarters. Lunch will be provided by GFMRRRC. The club building is located at 144 Mill Street, Auburn, ME.

October 9 — 10 AM-2 PM; Seacoast Division quarterly meeting hosted by the Concord Model Railroad Club, Washington Street School, Washington Street, Penacook, NH.

October 22 & 23 — Non-stop Operations weekend. Three operating sessions beginning Friday night and continuing to Saturday afternoon featuring multiple operating model railroads. A social

gathering with a catered meal will be held Saturday night. More information and sign-up information will be soon. The operating layouts are located in the Portsmouth, NH, seacoast area. For more information, contact Bruce Robinson at brobinson85@comcast.net.

NUTMEG DIVISION

July 10 — Division Meeting at Wethersfield Police Department Community Room.

July 28 — Division board meeting; Kellogg Seeley's home, contact him if you would like to attend.

August 14 — Division Meeting at Wethersfield Police Department Community Room.

August 25 — Division board meeting; Kellogg Seeley's home, contact him if you would like to attend.

September 11 — Division Meeting at Wethersfield Police Department Community Room.

Visit our site at www.nutmegdivision.org for more information. Modular specs are moving forward and soon we will begin to start assembling the first modules. Please let Tom Compton or Seeley Kellogg know if you are interested and how many modules you would like to build initially so that materials can be purchased to assemble the standard kits.

HUB DIVISION

June 11-13 (Fri-Sun) — White Mountains Railfest 2010 in Lincoln, NH. [Note: This is not a HUB event, but is listed on behalf of the Flying Yankee Restoration Group.]

June 18 (Fri) — HUB Railfun Meeting; 8 PM; Cambridge School of Weston, Weston, MA. Topic: "Communication Connections for Modelers," presented by Shack. A hands-on clinic covering the basics of wiring, soldering, crimping, with soldering equipment, tools and wire provided at the clinic. Topics include wire selection and tips on wiring communication buses for DCC and signals. See the current issue of the *Headlight* for details.

**NER**

News and Events

September 18 (Fri) — HUB Railfun Meeting 8 PM, Cambridge School of Weston, Weston, MA. Topic: "Our Season Opener and Welcome." 15-minute presentations by members, known as information sharing through short demonstrations by models for other modelers. It also gives members an opportunity to learn about the interests and skills of others in the group.

For updates and directions see our Web site www.hubdiv.org.

HUDSON BERKSHIRE DIVISION

September 19 — 2-4 PM; Joint meeting with Central New York Division. Host is Lenn Amrhein, Rome.

HUDSON VALLEY DIVISION

August 14 — 10 AM; Division meeting at Hyde Park Restored NYC passenger station
August 21 — Dutchess Fair exhibit committee
August 22 — Set up exhibit at fairgrounds
October 9 — 10 AM; Division meeting at Hyde Park Restored NYC passenger station
December 10 — 10 AM; Division meeting at Hyde Park Restored NYC passenger station

All meetings are scheduled for Saturday, at 10 AM at the restored NYC passenger station at Hyde Park, NY, unless indicated otherwise above. Changes, if any, will be announced at the preceding meeting and will also be published in the *Headlight*. All Division members are invited to the Division meetings. Guests are also welcome. After a short business meeting, clinics, open discussion, contests and show and tell are planned.

Any Division member who wants to assist in the preparation of the layout and other parts of the exhibit for the 2010 Dutchess County Fair is welcome. Any member signing up for at least one shift (three or four hours or less, depending on the number of volunteers)

at the Fair exhibit will receive a pass for free admission to the Fair for that day. It runs six days, Tuesday thru Sunday, August 24 thru 29, 10 AM to 10 PM. The exhibit is indoors. The Fair is the largest in New York outside of the State Fair, drawing 300,000 to 400,000 visitors annually. It's a great opportunity to present the hobby and particularly the NMRA. There are exhibits, rides, games, shows starring big name performers, and all kinds of food. At the Fair administration's invitation, we tried it out last year and were well received.

CENTRAL NEW YORK

August 6 — 9 AM to noon; Hanson Quarry Tour, Jamesville.
August 21 (Sat.) — 12-4 PM; Jim Heidt, Clockville. Division annual picnic and presentation of the 2010 MOW Award.
September 19 — 2-4 PM; Lenn Amrhein, Rome. Joint meeting with the Hudson Berkshire Division
October 24 — 2-4 PM; Bill Brown, Jamesville. Learn about signaling and how to implement a signal system on your layout.

LITTLE RHODY DIVISION

The Little Rhody Division Annual Meeting was held June 9th at the Greenwood Inn in Warwick RI. Watch this column in the next issue of *The Coupler* for a report on the meeting. Plans are being explored for some future activities in conjunction with Friends of Kingston Station. More later.

Cape Cod Model Railroad Club
(News report from CCMRR Club President, Doug Scott)

We went from planning the show, to not sure we would have it, to finally getting enough dealers and running the show. Stressful for sure! The CCMRC annual fundraiser dealer show and layout set up went well for us. The layout ran flawlessly all day, and our club tables sold some "White Elephants." When the final figures came in, we were up in attendance and money this year over 2009. We have booked the Cape Cod

Community College Phys Ed building again for a 2011 show to be held on the last Sunday of April.

The "SATURDAY SECTION" which is a newly formed group within the Little Rhody Division is off to a good start. The new section meets once a month on a Saturday (hence the name). It is an informal group with varied interests. This is a new direction for the Division and the members involved are excited with the new concept. By the next issue we should have more on the group's plans for the future.

In a recent meeting, the BOD discussed plans for the coming year. They are looking forward to a year of programs and field trips of variety and interest. For more information, contact Henry Pierce, Supt., at jhp341@cox.net.

OTHER EVENTS

July 11-17 — NMRA National Convention, Milwaukee, WI. See www.nmra75.org for more information.

October 3 — 9 AM to 3 PM; Durham Fairgrounds — Commercial Building, 68 Main Street, Route 17, Durham, CT; New Haven Society of Model Engineers Inc. present operating layouts, modeling, vendors, model exhibits. Adults \$6, Seniors \$5 (+62), Children (5-12) \$1, others free. Wheelchair accessible, free parking. For more information contact Lou at 860-543-2359, info@nhsme.org.



**RPM
REVS
UP
AT
NMRA
75**



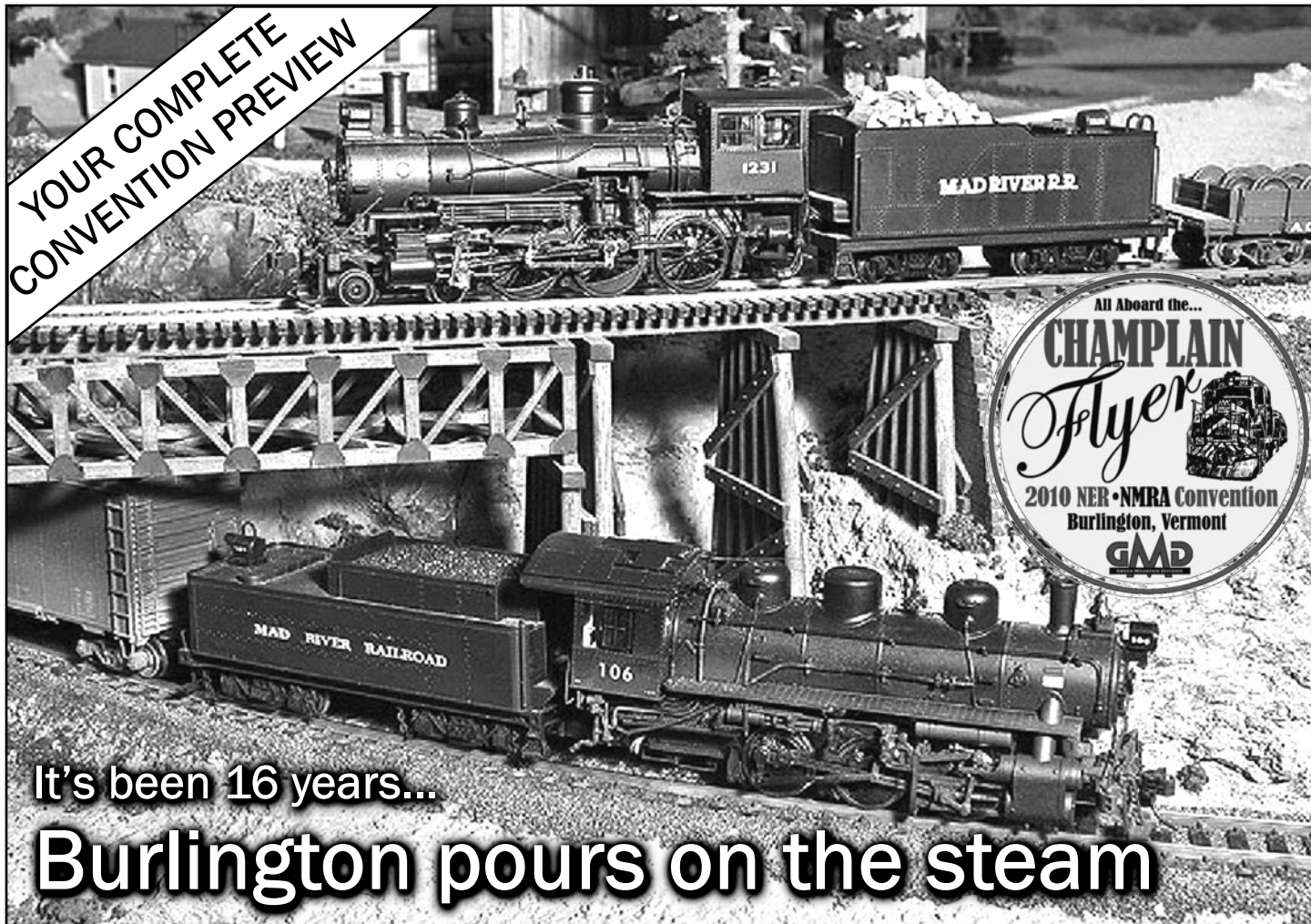
It's the Railroad Prototype Modeler's 25th Anniversary.

It's the NMRA's 75th Anniversary.

Let's party... together!
Get revved up at ...

www.nmra75.org

YOUR COMPLETE
CONVENTION PREVIEW



It's been 16 years...

Burlington pours on the steam

By GLENN GLASSTETTER

It's been 10 years since we have hosted an NER convention in Vermont, and 16 years since we have held one in Burlington. We are pulling out all the stops to ensure that the CHAMPLAIN FLYER will provide you with our best program ever. Visit our Web site at www.greenmountainnmra.com/champlainflyer/champlainflyerhome.html for up-to-date information and changes as they occur. The Convention Registration Form is available on the "Registration" web page, as well as in the pages following here.

HOTEL

The convention hotel will be the Sheraton Burlington Hotel and Conference Center located at 870 Williston Road, at Exit 14 on I-89. The Sheraton is the largest hotel and conference center in the state of Vermont and is just a few minutes from the airport, downtown Burlington's Church Street Market Place, beautiful Lake Champlain and many area activities and destinations. The special guest room rate for the convention is \$123.00 per night, single or double, and includes free parking, a heated indoor pool

and a complimentary fitness center. Reservations can be made on line at www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/Champlain2010, available on the "Hotel" web page, or by calling (800) 325-3535. This rate will be available to convention attendees for two days prior and two days after the convention. Come early and stay after. Vermont is a great place to vacation. Check the "Local Attractions" listing on the Convention Web site to see what is available.

The "cut off" for accepting reservations into this guest room block is 5:00PM, August 10, 2010. An early departure fee of \$123.00 will be assessed unless guests advise the hotel at or before check-in. The hotel will inform guests of this fee upon check-in.

LAYOUT TOURS

At this time, we have more than 20 layouts that will open for viewing with several more expected. We have layouts from N Scale to one-inch live steam, including HO, O scale and Lionel. Several of these layouts have appeared, or are scheduled to appear, in the model railroad press. Layouts will be open both Friday night and Sunday. See "Layouts" on the Web site – which is being

updated regularly – for photos and details.

OPERATION CALLBOARD

There are 44 operator positions available on seven railroads. Two railroads will be open Thursday afternoon for those traveling to the convention. Two will be open Thursday evening in the Burlington area, and three will be open Friday afternoon in outlying areas. See the "Operation Callboard" listing on page 12 in this issue for details, and check the Web site for photos and details.

FREE-MO MODULES

The Free-mo modular system www.free-mo.org is a relatively new and innovative concept for modular HO railroads. The Green Mountain Division has been constructing what will eventually become Free-mo modules of Bellows Falls, VT, designed by Brian Whiton. Bellows Falls was a very active yard in the early to mid-1900's, with four lines, three railroads, and many industries. It was operated by both the B&M and Rutland with the CV running through it. In addition to these modules being available at the hotel for operation, Mike McNamara will be presenting a clinic on the Free-mo modular system.

Burlington Champlain Flyer Preview



CLINICS

Paul Allard has put together a great lineup of more than 30 different clinics for this convention and he is working on a few more to round out the schedule. In addition to model and prototype subjects, there will be two hands-on clinics.

"Gluing with the Good Guys" will be a hands-on-clinic which will be conducted by Master Model Railroaders Larry Cannon and Paul Allard. Combined, they have more than 70 years of model railroading experience. The clinic will run from 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM on Friday, September 10,

Attendance is limited to 20 individuals. The fare is \$20.

National Clinician Bill Day will present *"Build an Animated Warehouse Roll-up Door."* Following a PowerPoint presentation on fine scale animation, this make-and-take clinic enables attendees to build the key mechanism for an animated roll-up warehouse door using a unique (provided) kit that includes Design Preservation Model panels and pilasters, Evergreen styrene H-columns, door and bearing. Upon returning home, the modeler will need to provide a Tortoise switch

restroom facilities. The first tour will leave the hotel by bus at 11:15 AM on Friday and is expected to return by 1:15 PM. Due to the timing and lack of a dining area, a light snack and drink will be provided on this tour. The tour of the McNeil Generating Station is planned for Sept 10 for a maximum of 50 people. The expected arrival time is 11:30AM. Once on site, everyone will be given hard hats & safety glasses. People should wear sensible shoes, meaning no open toed shoes or sandals. Slacks are recommended for

Gluing with the Good Guys

YOU NEED TO BRING:

- ✓ rail cutters
- ✓ scale ruler
- ✓ file set
- ✓ 25-50 watt soldering iron
- ✓ Testors liquid plastic cement
- ✓ Xacto knife with #11 blades
- ✓ quart bag of plastic, wood or metal parts from your junk collection (kit leftovers, etc).

with a one hour lunch break. Participants will be given prepackaged project bags containing building material and instructions for each of the modeling projects. The projects will involve constructing layout detail items using styrene, wood and brass. Emphasis will be placed on construction techniques, which can be applied to a broad spectrum of model railroading projects. Participants will produce multiple detail items that they will be proud to add to their layouts. There will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions. Example projects: A) Building right of way signs using brass stock. Signs include whistle posts, flange warning signs, switch indicator signs, etc. Participants will learn to neatly solder small brass parts. B) Box culvert from styrene. Participants will learn simple styrene construction techniques. C) Build a rail rack using construction jigs to improve accuracy and reduce construction time. D) Turn trash into treasure. The title for this clinic (GWGG) is a play on words since "Modeling with the Masters" (MWM) is reserved for the National Program. We are sure that this regional clinic with provide a great learning experience.



Above, A Maine Central geep works a lumber load-out on Dave Meyer's Mid Atlantic & New England HO scale layout. *Opposite page*, 4-6-0 #1231 crosses over 0-6-0 switcher #106 with a time freight on Bill Stinson's HO scale Mad River Railroad. Both layouts can be viewed during the Champlain Flyer convention. (Photos by Gustav W. Verderber / Railscenics.com)

machine and several DPM panels to complete the model. This roll-up door design has been covered in *Model Railroader*. Three working models are used as teaching aids. This clinic will run on Saturday from 8:30-10:30 AM. Attendees receive a 15 page handout and two CD's replicating the presentation. Bill will provide all materials and tools required. Attendance is limited to 20. The fare is \$15.

See the list on page 11 of this issue for the full list of confirmed clinics. A full description of the clinics can be found on the convention Web site. As this is written in early May, the clinic schedule has not been finalized. It will be posted on the "Clinics" web page when it is complete.

PROTOTYPE TOURS

We have three prototype tours lined up for this convention. Although these tours are close by, travel will be by motor coach with

women visitors. Tour participants will be walking on grating floors and stairways.

The group will be split into two sections of 25 each and a guide for each will start the tours. Guides are expected to be the plant manager & the chief forester. Photographs are allowed, and questions are encouraged. Visitors will see the plant inside & out, wood chip arrival to ash removal. McNeil is economically dispatched. The plant will most likely be in operation, but this changes constantly depending on electricity prices, fuel prices, and plant maintenance outages throughout New England.

The tour groups will learn the plant's history; vital statistics, power output, tons of chips received; see the control room; learn how daily prices are set; see the boiler (hopefully in operation) and the continuous moving grate; see the generator/turbine; see the arrival of NEC's chip train (due at noon,



Burlington Champlain Flyer Preview

but no guarantees); and see the fuel unloading and conveyor transfer. The cost for this tour is \$20.00.

The second tour will be of the Vermont Railway – ex Rutland Railroad – rail yard in Burlington. During a guided tour, you will see the yard and the yard engine performing the morning's switching duties. The tour will include the roundhouse with its original turntable still used on a daily basis. There are usually several engines undergoing some type of repairs in the roundhouse at any



A Maine Midland road freight, led by a torpedo Geep, roars by the paper mill in Chamberlain on Dick Merriam's HO Scale Maine Midland Railroad. An S2 is busy lining up box cars at the loading dock. (Photo by Gustav W. Verderber / Railscenics.com)

to bring some other interesting railroad equipment to the yard. Although we don't know the details yet, we suspect it will be MOW equipment or a new low emissions Genset locomotive. This tour is limited to 50 people and will leave at 8:45 AM, returning at 10:15 AM on Saturday. The cost for this tour is \$18.00.

Our third tour will be a VTR train ride on the old Rutland Railroad route. Come along with us as we board at the Burlington train station and ramble south through Shelburne, Charlotte and Ferrisburg to Vergennes and back. This is not the normal rail trip, but a special extended version by the VTR just for the NMRA. The tour will

include a box lunch (see the Registration Form for the selection). An optional Vermont wine tasting experience will be available on the train for \$5.00. Buses leave the hotel at 10:30 AM and are scheduled to return at 2:30 PM. The cost of this train ride and lunch is \$45.00. (See the "Prototype Tours" Web page for more.)

MODELS & PHOTOS

Bob Hamm, our NER Model Contest chairman and NMRA National Contest Chairman, has been leading an effort to revitalize the National and Regional Model Contest programs. In addition to the model and photo contests, people are encouraged to bring models for display (they don't even have to be completed) and models for a popular vote. Both of the judged Model and Photo Contest rules and registration forms are available on the NER Web site at www.nernmra.org/contests. So bring your models and photos to share with others. (More at the "Contests" Web page.)

NON-RAIL PROGRAM

Pat Godburn has been busy creating an exciting Non-Rail Program for our convention. She has lined up tours to Vermont's premier chocolatier, Lake Champlain Chocolates, and the Birds of Vermont Museum. You will be car pooling to drive to these venues. At Lake Champlain Chocolates, you will see how they make their world famous truffles and other fine chocolates. At the Birds of Vermont Museum, you can see over 470 hand carved birds by award winning wood carver Bob Spear. Many of these carvings are in scenes of native habitat. Admission to the Birds of Vermont Museum is \$6.00 at the door. You can access the Web sites of both of these organizations by going to the convention Web site and clicking on the "Non-Rail Activities" link. Pat has also lined up a presentation on Vermont's maple syrup industry and a book discussion of "The Edge" by Dick Francis (you'll need to pick up a copy and read it to participate in the discussion).

There will be two extra fare make-and-take clinics to create decorative boxes and a framed keepsake collage. See the Registration Form to sign up for these two clinics.

RAFFLE

In addition to our normal raffle, we are holding a Limited Edition Raffle of George

Sellios's *Fine Scale Miniatures* kit, Avram's Baking Company. We would like to thank Dave Myers for donating this FSM limited edition kit in memory of his good friend Dennis Eberlein. Tickets are \$5.00 with a limit of one per person. Only 50 tickets will be sold. Your ticket number will be your registration number. (See the Registration Form to purchase a ticket, and the "Sponsors" Web page for more.)

BANQUET

Our traditional social half-hour and banquet will be held on Saturday evening. The new slate of NER Officers will be installed after the meal. Our after-dinner program will be a presentation by Dave McLeod entitled "Steam at Midnight." Dave is an accomplished photographer and raconteur who has been documenting the last working steam in the far corners of the world during his trips to acquire unique products for his Burlington emporium, Tradewinds Imports. In a presentation sure to interest everyone, his photographs are also a travelogue of the countries he visits. See the "Banquet" Web page for the menu and a few of the many examples of Dave's fine work.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

In addition to our convention program, there many more things to see and do in the Burlington area. We urge you to come early and stay afterwards to enjoy our beautiful September weather, and the late summer and early fall attractions. Click on the "Local Attractions" link on our Web page to see many of the venues and activities you can enjoy.

NER ANNUAL MEETING

The NER Annual Meeting will be held at the hotel from 9:00-10:00 AM on Sunday morning. This is your chance to meet the new NER Officers and discuss anything you have on your mind.

IN CONCLUSION

Since this Special Election Edition of *The Coupler* is going to all NMRA members in the NER in addition to the regulars we see at most conventions, we hope to see many new faces come to participate and enjoy two major benefits of membership in the NMRA—the camaraderie of your fellow model railroaders, and the new skills and information you can learn about our wonderful hobby. We look forward to seeing you in Burlington, Vermont! ☒



**NORTHEASTERN REGION
of the NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

Fall 2010 NER Convention

Hosted by Green Mountain Division

Sept 9 - 12, 2010 Burlington, VT

Fees and Activity Numbers are Listed Below



Office Use Only

Primary Registrant Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (_____) _____ NMRA # _____ Division _____ Is this your first convention? Yes No Circle One Registration Fee # _____ Amount \$ _____ Banquet # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ OP Sessions 1 st # _____ 2 nd # _____ 3 rd # _____ Special Requests: _____ Email address _____ Total Primary Registrant \$	Registrant 2 Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (_____) _____ NMRA # _____ Division _____ Is this your first convention? Yes No Circle One Registration Fee # _____ Amount \$ _____ Banquet # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ OP Sessions 1 st # _____ 2 nd # _____ 3 rd # _____ Special Requests: _____ Email address _____ Total Registrant 2 \$
Registrant 3 Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (_____) _____ NMRA # _____ Division _____ Is this your first convention? Yes No Circle One Registration Fee # _____ Amount \$ _____ Banquet # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ OP Sessions 1 st # _____ 2 nd # _____ 3 rd # _____ Special Requests: _____ Email address _____ Total Registrant 3 \$	Registrant 4 Name _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (_____) _____ NMRA # _____ Division _____ Is this your first convention? Yes No Circle One Registration Fee # _____ Amount \$ _____ Banquet # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ Activity # _____ Desc _____ Amount \$ _____ OP Sessions 1 st # _____ 2 nd # _____ 3 rd # _____ Special Requests: _____ Email address _____ Total Registrant 4 \$

Payment in US Funds only. Sorry, NO credit cards. Make check payable to "NER Conventions."
Terms and Conditions are on page 2.

Total (add all registration and activity fees) \$ _____

REGISTRATION

11	Early Registration – Prior to August 15, 2010	\$ 30.00
12	Late Registration – After August 15, 2010	\$ 35.00
13	Registration for non-NMRA members (Prior to August 15, 2010) ¹	\$ 40.00
14	Registration for non-NMRA members (After August 15, 2010) ¹	\$ 45.00
15	Registration for Spouses / Family members	\$ 15.00

SUBSCRIPTIONS

21	NMRA Bulletin Subscription	\$ 22.00
22	NER Coupler Subscription	\$ 7.00

MAP PACKAGE ADVANCE MAIL

31	Map Package Advance by Mail	\$ 5.00
----	-----------------------------	---------

Everyone planning to drive to an op session WILL NEED TO ORDER this item.

BANQUET (Saturday Night)

No Banquets Sold after August 27, 2010

101	Grilled 6 oz NY Strip Steak with Peppercorn Demiglace	\$ 29.00
102	Grilled Breast of Chicken topped with Parmesan & Tomato & Lime Herb Sauce	\$ 29.00
103	Penne Primavera with fresh Vegetables & a light Parmesan Cheese Sauce	\$ 29.00

Meal includes tossed garden salad, rolls, fresh vegetable, rice or potatoes & chocolate mousse pie

EXTRA FARE ACTIVITIES

201	McNeil Wood Chip Generating Plant Tour (includes light snack)	Limit 49 \$ 20.00
202	Vermont Railway rail yard in Burlington Saturday Morning	Limit 49 \$ 18.00
203	Champlain Valley Flyer (includes box lunch – <u>Choose one below</u>)	Limit 110 \$ 45.00

203A **Box Car Willy:** Turkey with cranberry mayo, lettuce, and red onion on whole wheat _____

203B **Box Car Mary:** Grilled chicken, lettuce, and tomato, served in a wrap _____

203C **Coal Car:** Baked ham, Swiss cheese, tomato, and garlic mayo served in a wrap _____

203D **Caboose:** Bagel with tomatoes, cream cheese, lettuce, cucumbers & hot peppers _____

203E **Caesar Salad with Chicken:** Romaine, grated Parmesan & Romano cheese & croutons _____

203F **Caesar Salad:** Romaine, grated Parmesan & Romano cheese & croutons _____

Lunches come with chips, cookie & drink

Limited Edition Raffle

301	Fine Scale Miniatures Avram's Bakery (Limit 1/person; Only 50 will be Sold)	\$ 5.00
-----	---	---------

Make & Take Clinics

401	Gluing with the Good Guys	Limit 20 Friday 8:30-12 Noon & 1-4:30 PM \$ 20.00
402	Animated Warehouse Roll-up Door	Limit 20 Saturday 8:30-10:30 AM \$ 15.00

Non-Rail Clinics

410	You're Framed	Limit 10 Friday 7:00-8:30PM \$ 10.00
411	Decorative Boxes	Limit 10 Saturday 1:00-2:00PM \$ 10.00

OPERATING SESSIONS (Pre Registered)

YOU MUST PRE REGISTER TO GET AN ADMISSION TICKET

Operating sessions will be assigned in order of convention registration number (the lower the number the higher the priority). Given that there are other activities, such as tours, which happen at the same time as some operating sessions. The following priorities will be used in making assignments unless you request otherwise (see box below regarding making such requests).

Contact OPSIG Coordinator Al Oneto who is making the assignments at aloneto@optonline.net, 203-255-1331 or 327 Springer Rd., Fairfield, CT 06824 by **Aug 12, 2010**.

1. You will first be assigned to tours and other activities.
2. Then you will be assigned to your highest choice (just ONE) operating session available that does not conflict with your tours and other activities.
3. Needing a month to finalize operating session groupings, deal with special requests and get lists and tickets out as needed, August 12 will be the cutoff for primary operating session assignments.
4. On August 12 any remaining operating session slots will go to people (in registration number order) who have requested a second op assignment.
5. If any openings still remain, people will be assigned (in registration number order) to their third choice.
6. If any openings still remain they will go to late registrants.
7. Examples of special requests
 - a. Person "X" and I are driving together, could we be assigned to the same operating session(s). (This may be done if space is available when we get to the person with the higher number).
 - b. I prefer operation at my first requested layout to my tour or "Modeling." request. Please give me the operating assignment and take me off the other.

Thursday Sept 9		Host	Miles	Crew	Time
150	Boston & Maine	Roger Robar	86	5	1-4 PM
151	Delaware & Hudson	Kip Grant	92	6	12-2 PM
152	Pennsylvania Maryland & Chesapeake	Bob Durkin	32	10	7-10 PM
153	Northern Vermont	Paul Allard	12	5	7-10 PM
Friday Sept 10					
154	Adirondack Rail	George Bissell	43	8	1-4 PM
155	Georgetown Fordham & Burlington	George Bissell	43	4	1-4 PM
156	Great Northern	Jim Ferguson	72	6	1-4 PM

HOTEL INFORMATION

Reservations are made either through the exclusive web site or by phone.

Reservations can be made through the following exclusive web site,

<http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/Champlain2010>

or by calling 800/325-3535

and using the key words "**National Model Railroad**".

Cut off date for hotel convention rate of \$123.00 is 5:00PM on August 10, 2010

Send your completed registration form and payment to:

John Campbell Jr.
63 Alexander Drive
East Hartford, CT 06118

E-mail: john_ner@yahoo.com
Telephone: (860) 568-5075
Fax: (860) 568-5075

All activities are ala carte including the banquet. Parking is FREE at the Hotel.

¹ Non-NMRA member's fee includes a 6 month NMRA Membership (Rail Pass Program).

Non-NMRA members attending, who pay the \$9.95 NMRA introductory fee, will receive a 6 months NMRA Membership.

Payment must accompany registration form.

Bounced checks will not be put through twice - you will be required to pay your entire fee by money order or cashier's check through the mail or in cash at the convention. You will be responsible for all bank fees charged. DO NOT enclose hotel room reservation requests with your registration. If you pre-register and later need to cancel, a full refund will be given only if the registrar receives the request by **AUG 27, 2010**.

Allow 4 - 6 weeks for the processing of your refund.

DO NOT mail a registration after **August 27, 2010**; register at the door. DO NOT staple your check to your registration form.

Champlain Flyer Clinic List (Subject to Change)

See the "Clinics" Web page for full descriptions.

Time	Clinician	Topic			
Thursday, Sept. 9					
4:00PM	Paul Allard	CN Penetang Subdivision	2:30PM	Robert VanGelder	South River Model Works 101
7:00PM	Peter Eaton	Reporting Marks Eastern US & Canada	4:00PM	Lew White	DCC Locomotive Decoder Installations
7:00PM	Mike McNamara	Covered Bridge Road of Vermont	4:00PM	Jerry Fox	B&L as a Division of Central Vermont Railway
8:30PM	Peter Eaton	G Scale Buildings	4:00PM	Bob Hamm	NMRA Contest Judging
8:30PM	Mike McNamara	Introduction to Free-Mo	7:00PM	Rich Breton	Bring Your Model Railroad to Life
Friday, Sept. 10					
9:00AM	Paul Lessard	Model Railroad on a Budget	7:00PM	Robert Carmichael	Railfan Trips Produce Modeling Ideas
9:00AM	Dwight Smith	Bellows Falls VT in the 1950's	7:00PM	Mike Evans	Realistic Waybills for a Four Cycle System
10:30AM	Tony's Staff	Performance Features: Quantum Sound Decoders	8:30PM	Chris Carfaro	Street Running
10:30AM	Dwight Smith	What's in those cars? Part 2	8:30PM	Brian Whiton	Switching Layouts in Confined Spaces
10:30AM	Bill Stinson	Scratch Built Structures from Photos	8:30PM	Bill Day	Fine Scale Animation
1:00PM	Tony's Staff	Unique Features in DCC Specialties Products	Saturday, Sept. 11		
1:00PM	Michel Boucher	The Forgotten Player	9:00AM	Jack Ellis	Craftsman Kits 101- Fit, Finish & Details
1:00PM	Robert Jones	Researching Railroad Histories	9:00AM	Mike Tylick	Layout Scenery Design
2:30PM	Tony's Staff	Speakers: The Cheapest Element of Loco Sound	9:00AM	Dave Myers	Not Foam Core. It's Gatorfoam
2:30PM	Andy Clermont	Modeling the Rutland's O&LC Subdivision	10:30AM	Jack Ellis	You Don't Have to Buy Everything at a Hobby Shop
			10:30AM	Mike Tylick	Layout Scenery Construction
			10:30AM	Tony Steele	Yard Design
			1:00PM	Paul Allard	CN Penetang Subdivision
			2:30PM	Dave Myers	Backdrops for Dummies
			4:00PM	Glenn Glasstetter	Railroad Bridges, Power Houses & Dams



Operations Callboard Layouts

Boston & Maine by Roger Robar

Crew/5 – Miles/Time 86/1:37

Scale/HO – Car cards/Waybills – NCE wireless –

Access/2nd floor house stairs

The fully tracked, 35% sceniced B&M White Mountain Division is a triple decked 12' 6" x 27' layout. It is a point-to-point railroad serving 44 industries. It includes three staging yards totaling eight tracks, a main yard of nine tracks, three turntables and two branchlines. One of the branchlines climbs up to the large paper mill at Groveton, NH. The railroad operates mostly first generation diesels with some late steam.

Delaware & Hudson by Kip Grant

Crew/6 – Miles/Time 92/2:15

Scale/HO – Switchlists – NCE wireless - Access/Basement stairs

The 100% sceniced 13'x19' Sonnyvale Branch is a fictitious 7 mile branch of the D&H set in the fall of 1962 operated with QSI sound equipped locos. The point-to-point operation of freight and passenger trains is loosely patterned after operations on the D&H Lake George Branch. Two yard jobs handle switching chores for 12 on-line customers and 100 team track customers. The Hill Freight links both yards with inbound/outbound freight. This highly detailed layout also features a short branch to an industrial area. This railroad will be featured in the 2011 issue of Great Model Railroads.

Pennsylvania, Maryland & Chesapeake by Bob Durkin

Crew/10 – Miles/Time 32/39

Scale/HO - Car cards/Waybills – NCE wireless & tethered– Access/Basement stairs

The fully sceniced freelanced PMC is one of Vermont's largest layouts and is modeled in 1929. Dispatcher controlled by phones and block signals, the 350' mainline is single and double tracked and operates many freight and passenger trains each session. Many parts of this point to point railroad have been recently rebuilt with many updated and large new industries. The almost 6' long Ford plant in Norfolk has recently come on line. There are two large yards with a total of a dozen towns. Most locomotives are sound equipped.

Northern Vermont Railway by Paul Allard

Crew/5 - Miles/Time 12/22

Scale/HO – Car cards/Waybills – NCE - Access/Basement stairs

The layout is modeled in 1954 east/west across Vermont with 3 sets of staging. Interchanges with CNR/CVR, CPR/B&M, MMR/BAR. Layout is twice around the room with peninsulas and a swing gate to enter the room. Visible track is 95% hand laid combination of code 70, 83 and 100 rail. Motive power is primarily diesels with a few steamers still in use. The layout features a division point with a yard, roundhouse and turntable. There is also a rail to marine interchange.

Great Northern by Jim Ferguson

Crew/6 – Miles/Time 70/1:43

Scale/HO – Car cards/Waybills – Digitrax - Access/2nd floor garage stairs

The 90% sceniced prototype freelanced GN in Washington, Oregon and Northern California, where it connects to the ATSF, is modeled in 1955. The 21' x 35' layout operates point-to-point manner with a number of sound equipped first generation diesels and some steam locomotives. There are two major yards, two smaller yards, two branchlines, a small seaport, quarry, coal tipple, a large major industrial area and hidden staging. The majority of traffic is freight, with a couple of passenger trains. This railroad was featured in the September 2009 issue of Model Railroader.

Adirondack Rail by George Bissell

Crew/8 – Miles/Time 43/1:20 due to ferry

Scale/HO – Switchlists – Digitrax wireless – Access/Basement stairs

This 1970's-1980's, 11'x32', double tracked mainline layout 80% sceniced. A new large 4'x20' passenger yard is now operational and is being sceniced. It includes 4 other yards in 4 towns and features sound equipped diesels. This layout is located next to the GF&B O Scale layout. See below.

Georgetown Fordham & Burlington by George Bissell

Crew/8 – Miles/Time 43/1:20 due to ferry

Scale/O – Switchlists – Digitrax wireless – Access/Basement stairs

This 1970's-1980's, 65' long layout varies from 15'-18' wide and is 90% sceniced. This large layout features 3 towns, one main yard and engine facility with a turntable and a smaller yard. It also includes a 75' long branchline. Operations include both freight and passenger trains with QSI sound equipped locomotives. This layout is located next to the AR HO Scale layout. See above.

A photo contest for your imagination

By ROGER OLIVER
NER Photo Contest Chairman

At this year's Burlington NER Convention, the Photo Contest will debut a new non-judged category: IP – Imagineered Photography. This idea has been simmering in my head for quite some time. Back in the 1960's, there was a photo and brief description in *Model Railroader* about an advertisement bookmark for a brass Berkshire that was tacked up on a bulletin board at Kalmbach Publications. Someone took it down and reworked it to show three locomotives. I don't remember all the details, but one was the untouched Berkshire, one was a 4-14-8 (or something like it) and the last was a 4-2-4 helper. It made you smile. Later on, I became familiar with the photographic work of Karen Parker of the C&O society in which she 'reworked' photographs to show what could have been. I have also seen similar work by other individuals and I was impressed by the technical skill and imagination that was put into their work.

The Photo Contest is a well-established and time-honored part of model railroading conventions. I am not looking to change any of the regularly judged areas of the Photo Contest or of the Popular Choice non-judged contest. These provide appropriate venues for our members to display their work and

to receive well-deserved recognition for their skill in taking and processing photographic works.

However, as photographic technology changes and new technologies become available, it is appropriate to acknowledge those members who use these new technologies to good effect. I appreciate that in the past there was concern that photographs would be altered or engineered and passed off as something other than what they were; a "manufactured" photograph or slide. The integrity of prototype photography was and still is very important to the documentation of what existed in the past and as a valuable tool to our modeling efforts.

But, railroading and model railroading are based on the ability of people to look at something and imagine something else; some other possibility. Our ability to imagine something and to communicate what we have seen in our imagination to other people for their use or enjoyment is a key component to all the technological advances we enjoy today. While Imagineered Photography is not, and probably will not encompass, 'scratch built' photography, it certainly has a firm foothold in photographic 'kit-bashing'. What I am proposing at this time is to add IP - Imagineered Photography as a non-judged

category to the Photo Contest; similar to the Popular Choice non-judged contest. I intend to run this category for the next several years to see the overall reaction of the membership to this category as well as what results come in from the members who display their work. At the end of that time, I will make a decision in consultation with appropriate members and representatives of the region as to whether I should modify, abandon, or continue with this project. Your input during this time will be very valuable. ☒

Rules for the Non-Judged Imagineered Photography Contest:

1. All of the rules published in the "Photo Contest Guidelines," apply and must be followed.
2. In addition, a copy of the unworked (before) photo of the same size as the "worked" photo must be submitted with the entry form.
3. A brief type-written statement of what was to be accomplished by the modifications must accompany the entry.
4. A brief type-written description of the process used to achieve the final print must accompany the entry.

NER New Members

List of new members joining the Northeastern Region NMRA. Lists are updated quarterly. Please send all membership corrections and additions to the Office Manager, c/o Mark Harlow.

COMPILED BY MARK HARLOW NER Office Manager

As of 5/15/2010

APO
Dennis Kamper

CONNECTICUT
Michael Hogan
Concetta Mauri
Nicholle Thompson

MASSACHUSETTS
Mark Antonelli
Venkat Bala
J Bille
Christopher Boit
George J Busch
Mike Chesla
Richard Corkey

Dimitri Emelianoff
Ralph Geddes
Michael Goguen
Dennis Goodwin
Wendy Gunnison
Douglas Hotchriss
Amelia Jamieson
Barry Jamieson
Christopher Lane
Andre Lepage
Thomas Lewis
Lewis Lindquist
Maurice Manny
Boris Maznek
Andrew Mazurka
Chuck McNamara
Bob Perlman

Arthur Pickett
Richard Sandberg
August Shar
Jim Tilley
Ken Weir
Brian White

MAINE
Edmund Cyr
Howard Palmer
Ronald St Pierre
Kenneth White

NEW HAMPSHIRE
Brenda Cormier
Gerald Cormier
Zachary Duve

John Feeney
James Keohane
David Sias

NEW JERSEY
Gregory Ciurpita
Carol Greengrove
Michele Howe
Judy Koester
Joseph Mazzeo
Michael Mazzeo
Michael Pitogo
Harry Westervelt

NEW YORK
Cyrus Bacchi
David Berner

William Craven
Thomas Fitzgerald
Charles Haley
Gary Jones
Darrin Nash
Melanie Sembratt
FrederickSteiz
Philip Stoddard
Walter Traeg
Dave White

RHODE ISLAND
Frank Heppner
David Kelly
Curtis Oldford

VERMONT
John Emrick
Richard King

NEW BRUNSWICK
Michael Walz



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

I read and agree with Phil Monat's letter in the recent *Coupler*. I go to the conventions and local meets and have made some great friends, but no one was living nearby.

I just lost a great modeling friend from the other side of town, a mile away. I am going to really miss him. We had a regular lunch date every week and dinner out at least once a month. He would have a problem under his layout, where he could no longer reach. I would drive over to his house, resolve the problem, and be back home in no time. We shared scratch building material and paints freely. No long trips.

I know there are other modelers nearby, but how do I find them? Using a zip code sort of NER email addresses at minimum would be great. Opt-out capability would make everybody happy.

Thanks. And, thanks for a great NER!

Lou Matuyza

To The Editor:

Just something to warn others of my mistakes. I started my HO layout some 10 years ago in the spring in my barn. I never gave any thought about how the locomotives, switches and controllers would react to severe temperature changes. Installing a propane heater and running it when the outside temperature was below freezing resulted in an immense fuel bill. On top of that, I had to run much more to get everything on the layout working. Adding further to the "don't build a layout where the temperatures vary dramatically" point, keeping the track clean was not easy due to condensation, corrosion and nature's little critters. The train room must be critter proof, I can say with authority! Hopefully, these comments will help a newcomer to our hobby.

Ed Currie
Southbury, CT

LAYOUT SECTIONS FOR SALE!

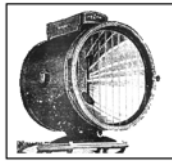
Proceeds to Benefit Sunrise Trail Division!

My neighbor tore down a medium size layout he had started. He donated everything to the Sunrise Trail Division and I am trying to sell it for them. There are several benchwork modules that have been disassembled but are numbered and ready for re-assembly. They vary in size, but most are 2'-2.5' wide and 4'-6' long. There is a lot of Atlas flextrack, turnouts, cork roadbed, and many electrical components (Atlas and other brands). No reasonable offer will be refused. All proceeds go to the ST Div. Contact Steve Perry at seperry@optonline.net or (631) 744-6462 for more info.

Steve Perry

CORRECTION:

The Union Pacific / NMRA 75th Anniversary Photography Contest (1st place wins a cab ride on UP steam!) published the incorrect deadline for this exciting program. It is *not* April 15 (as published in our last issue); materials must be postmarked by **August 31** and received by **September 7**. ☒



Division Metro North Spotlight Division

By TOM BARTLEY
MetroLines Editor

Members of the Metro North Division are spread out over a wide swath of New York City's northern suburbs, covering two counties in two states.

The youngest division in the NER, Metro North officially meets five times a year — every other month from September through June — to hear guest speakers, sharpen modeling skills and visit layouts and other rail-related locales. Some of the division's 60 or so members informally get together once a week in round-robin sessions to operate and work on each other's layouts, or, as often happens, just to talk railroads and modeling.

Given the geographic expanse of the two counties, taking part in these activities makes a long drive inevitable, ironic since the driving force behind the birth of Metro North, Kevin Feeney, was motivated in part by a desire not to drive too far!

An NMRA member since 1985, Kevin was, by the early '90s, a newly-minted resident of New Canaan, CT. Eager to swap his lone-wolf modeling for membership in a division, Kevin faced a dilemma. Attending division activities meant either returning to his New Jersey roots or schlepping cross-state to Nutmeg Division meetings; alternatives with decidedly distasteful driving distances.

His solution was to carve out a new division with a shorter commute to meetings. "I wrote to the NMRA and found out how to do this," Kevin recalls. He was surprised to learn that the national organization did not create divisions and that he would have to deal with the Northeastern Region. "This was the first time I had ever heard of the NER," he says.

With characteristic energy and enthusiasm (he'd been elected a Nutmeg Division director the first time he walked into a meeting and today serves as the NMRA's treasurer and chief financial officer), Kevin set out to create a bi-state division encompassing Connecticut's Fairfield and New York's Westchester counties. "I had decided to include Westchester, thinking there were not enough members in Fairfield County," Kevin says. Moreover, he points out, "Westchester was not part of another division whereas I was

proposing that Fairfield County actually secede from the Nutmeg Division."

Kevin obtained the names of NMRA members living in the two counties. "I needed to get a certain number of NMRA members in the area where I wanted to start the new division to sign a petition," he says. While the signatures came in, Kevin passed out flyers at train shows and hobby shops.

Meanwhile, Brian Sullivan had come aboard. A giant of a man, as taciturn as Kevin is garrulous, Brian had spent 20 years re-creating Santa Fe railroading in HO and attending meetings of the National Railway Historical Society. He enlisted in the cause of getting the unnamed division off the ground, hosted an early organizational meeting in his Stamford, Conn., home and went on to become the division treasurer, a post he still holds. He's also a division director and was the longtime chief of the modular layout group, the division's biggest moneymaker and principal outreach. A lethal combination of dwindling train-show dates and declining member enthusiasm killed off the traveling exhibit in 2007. Still, for the better part of a decade, the modular group kept the Metro North Division name in the public eye.

A name for the fledgling division had eluded Kevin, who struggled to find something appropriate until his wife, Carol, suggested adapting the name of the Metro-North Commuter Railroad, which serves passengers in the two counties. It quickly became a done deal.

Today, under Carl Liba's leadership, the division continues to adapt, and grow. Metro North maintains a Web presence on the NER site and publishes a newsletter, *MetroLines*, available to members in their mailboxes or on the Web.

The membership itself is diverse. "The division's makeup cuts across all lines," the Web site notes. "We have beginners who have sought and received help from the round-robin group, we have experts whose work has appeared in *Model Railroader* and other national publications, and we have others for whom a layout remains a dream on a sheet of paper. Some members — not many but still a countable number — are more train buffs than modelers." ☒

MADE IN THE NER: XURON CORPORATION



By **BRUCE ROBINSON**
Seacoast Division

It all began with a phone call. "Hello, Bruce. This is Abby Robey from Xuron Corporation." Abby went on to explain that she is VP Sales & Marketing for the company and was looking at the Seacoast Division Web site and saw that our winter meeting was going to be in Portland, Maine, on January 16th.

Xuron Corporation is located in Saco, Maine, just down the road from Portland. Abby wanted to know if she could come to the meeting and give a presentation.

On the morning of the Seacoast Division meeting, Abby described what the company does, gave some historical background, took some questions and passed out sample tools to all 30 members present at the meeting.

A couple of weeks later, I thought a call to Abby might wrangle a visit to the business. So with invitation and directions in hand, Dick Lord and I drove from New Hampshire to Maine to go "a visiting" in Saco. Abby welcomed us in her office and we were soon joined by Bob Warner, VP Manufacturing & Facilities. For the next two hours Bob showed us every step of the manufacturing process used to produce the company's tools.

Founded in 1971 in Danbury, CT, Xuron Corporation develops, manufactures, and sells high quality precision hand tools. In 1986, the company relocated to Saco. The move allowed for expanded manufacturing and warehousing space and access to a highly skilled and dedicated workforce.

Xuron's original target market was the electronics industry, specifically providing tools for trimming lead wires on printed circuit boards. However, as the product range broadened from one cutter to well over



100 different cutters, pliers and specialty tools, the markets for Xuron® tools grew. Today, Xuron® tools are sold worldwide in multiple markets including electronics, aerospace, hobby/craft, jewelry making, plastics, and fishing.

Xuron's founder and owner – who is still very active in product development – invented a unique method of cutting, which is now defined by the registered trademark, Micro-Shear®. All Xuron® cutters utilize this cutting method, which, in simplest terms, means that one cutting blade bypasses the other (as compared to compression cutters that squeeze the material in order to cut), resulting in a clean, flat-cut surface. This is the reason the Track Cutter cuts so well, requiring almost no post-cut clean up.

Xuron® tools are manufactured using a stamping process (think "cookie cutter"). Once the soft steel is stamped to a rough shape, the pieces are sent to be heat treated and coated with a protective finish. These parts then become further refined by a variety of precision grinding operations which determine the size and shape of the cutter head. Post grinding, the pieces are riveted together and the sharp cutting blades are de-burred and left with a fine beveled edge to prolong sharpness. Quality is of utmost importance – tools are continuously checked during all phases of production.

Xuron® tools were first introduced to the hobby market in 1989. The first product to gain the attention of the industry was the Model #2175B track cutter. Twenty years later, the track cutter is still Xuron's most



At far left, Doug Cordner grinds and sizes the two halves of the cutting tools. Ralph Bolduc files a cutter, at left. This process is done by hand on every tool manufactured by Xuron. Above, Tina Brown packages tools for shipping.

(Photos by Richard H. Lord)

popular seller and a favorite of model railroaders worldwide. Xuron credits the model railroading community, and especially NMRA members, for much of its success. The word of mouth advertising and support from these groups has been invaluable. Xuron's range of hobby tools has grown to include a variety of cutters for trimming wire, plastic sprue, and photo-etch material. They also manufacture precision pliers, wire strippers, and the WickGun™, a unique device for dispensing desoldering braid.

At present, Xuron employs 21 people – several of whom have been with the company since its relocation to Maine.

As Bob showed us around the facility, we saw all aspects of the processes used to produce the rail nippers and cutters modelers use. We saw the custom-designed machinery that is used to grind, bend, assemble, and package the tools for shipment to the marketplace. The one aspect of the company that comes through loud and clear is the people. As visitors, we were treated as guests in their home. The pride and attention to every detail put into the product was very evident.

So, every time you see or purchase a Xuron tool, whether it be a Track Cutter, wire stripper or tweezernose pliers, think of the slogan "Maine-built is better built." ☒

MADE IN THE NER

Xuron Corporation
62 Industrial Park Road
Saco, Maine 04072
207-283-1401 www.xuron.com



2010 NER BALLOT

It's time again to vote for your representatives of the Northeastern Region NMRA. Take a moment to read statements from the candidates. Fill out the ballot on Page 19, and send it to the Ballot Committee no later than August 15, 2010.



For PRESIDENT: George Youst

My name is George Youst, but some of you may know me better as "Scooter," and I am seeking the office of Northeastern Region president. I feel that my background and contacts in the model railroading world will aid me in maintaining the NER as one of the best Regions in the NMRA. I have been an official NMRA member for 11 years, but I have been active in model railroading since I joined my first club in 1993. I have been a very active member of the Central New York Division as a past Superintendent and a "Maintenance Of Way Award" winner for exemplary service to the CNY Division. I have also been the CNY Division Webmaster since 2001 when we launched our first Web site. I have been on the committee for two extremely successful conventions in Syracuse as well as being the Webmaster for those conventions and the Hartford National Convention. But many more of you probably know me for all the model contest slide shows and visual media at the National Convention, the Syracuse Conventions and several of our other regional conventions.

Hopefully by the time you read this, the bench work on a new layout should be underway. Up to this point in time I have sort of been an armchair modeler because I lived in a house with a very small basement that flooded. But on June 1st, we would be closing on a new house with a dry 1,250 sf basement with 9 foot ceilings. So for the past years, I've built some small structure kits, worked on club layouts, helped out on fellow modelers layouts, and I attend clinics and conventions whenever I am able.

For the region, I would like to get all of the divisions involved on the regional level. I would move the board meetings around the region taking each one to a different division and asking the divisions to host the board meeting along with one of their division meets or functions. This way all of the local division members could attend, ask questions, give

suggestions and be involved with the board and the region. I believe this would help give the general membership a real feeling of ownership for the region. I will promote interaction between neighboring divisions. This would include the possibilities of joint meetings, mini-conventions and prototype tours. I also would invite all of the division leaders to attend any and all board meetings to help build a strong line of communication between the region and the divisions. I would also like to set up layout design/operation SIG sessions throughout the year around different areas of the region.

In conclusion, I would greatly appreciate your vote as president of the Northeastern Region because I have a great passion for the hobby and I have been an extremely active member of the NMRA on both the regional and the division level. So I believe my enthusiasm for model railroading and my love of the friendship of fellow modelers will aid in keeping the NER as one of the most outstanding in the NMRA. ☒



For VICE PRESIDENT: Henry Pierce

My name is Henry Pierce, NMRA #13295. My first hobby began when I received my private pilot license. After I gave up flying, my hobby interests turned to radio controlled model sail boating, then radio controlled model aircraft.

Then the model railroad bug bit me a few years ago. My wife and I joined the Little Rhody Division, NER/NMRA and almost immediately became involved in an HO modular group. My wife and I have both earned our "Golden Spike" and are presently working on Achievement Certificates. I have served on the board of directors for the past five years; including the last two years as superintendent. I have actively promoted the achievement program, encouraged membership recruiting, created a division newsletter, and attempted to create variety in Division meeting programs.

I will try to 'support and improve' the lines of communication to all and work to keep them open. I hope to be ready to assist the local divisions and to help the region to assist them as well. I hope to vote only on what you honestly believe in and only if it furthers your ideas to help the region and the divisions. ☒



For DIRECTOR— Long Island/NYC: Kevin Katta

Kevin Katta has been a model railroader since 1972. A member of the Sunrise Trail Division since 1994 and the NMRA since 1991, he has served as Sunrise Trail Division Secretary, Director, VP and 3 yrs as President. He is currently completing another term as a director for the Sunrise Trail Division. Kevin models in HO scale, with a special passion for water and juice (rail-marine and electric) and is a member of the modular group HOTrak. He is also a director for the LI Sunrise Trail Chapter of the NRHS. He lives on Long Island with his wife Juliana. Together, they have three children and three grandsons.

Campaign Statement: My goal is to represent NMRA members who reside in New York City and Long Island in the NER. This position gives me the opportunity to serve the members in this area in a greater capacity. I would like to attempt to implement new programs to offer to all of the current and future members of the NMRA additional value for their annual dues. It is my hope to grow the membership as well.

For the last four years, I have become actively involved in model railroad operations and am also a member of the NMRA Operations SIG. I am owner-operator of a small delivery and shipping service, which allows me the opportunity to visit and operate on a variety of layouts in the region. This has really expanded my modeling knowledge as well as developed contact with others in the NER and MER regions and divisions. It is this association aspect, while contributing to the

2010 NER CANDIDATES



NMRA, that I wish to further broaden as a candidate. Thank you for your support and consideration. ☒



For DIRECTOR— New Jersey: Roger Oliver

At the age of two, my father introduced me to model railroading when he built my first Lionel train table in the basement of our home in Rutherford, NJ. Except for a few years when I was off to college, I have been immersed in it since. I started like many of us, as a child with Lionel trains. Later on, I graduated with the help and encouragement of my father, uncles, and railroading family friends, to HO. A short stint with N scale confirmed that either they made these trains too small or my eyesight just isn't up to modeling in that scale. Now I model in HO scale and "Garden Scale" at The Model Railroad Club in Union, NJ, while at home I'm starting a new modular logging layout in On30 scale.

I didn't really get involved with the "politics" of the hobby until I ran for the HO Department Head position at The Model Railroad Club in Union, NJ. I served in that capacity for three years and had the opportunity to work with one of the great innovators of the model railroading hobby, Paul Mallery.

I next became involved with the Garden State Division, which had basically become dormant in the late 1980's for a variety of reasons. Tom Matthews called a meeting of NMRA members to see if it could be reactivated and I volunteered to work with Tom and serve in any way I could. A core group was formed and I became the Secretary-Treasurer. I started publishing the Division's newsletter, the Whistle Post. With the help and input of the other board members, I wrote the new constitution and bylaws for the Garden State Division as well as filed the papers that incorporated the Division as a not-for-profit corporation in the State of New Jersey. I then filed the necessary paperwork with the Internal Revenue Service to obtain tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3). I served as Whistle Post editor for a couple of years and I served as Secretary-Treasurer and then Treasurer for a total of about eight years.

My latest project took close to eight years to finish. It was to define and establish the boundaries between the Mid-Eastern Region and the Northeastern Region within New Jersey. This required enlisting the support of both region's boards of directors, negotiating the zip code lists, working with two division boards of directors, getting a ballot out to the membership in one county and tabulating the results, then reporting all this to the various boards for the divisions, regions, and the National. My part in all this was very small and I would like to thank my fellow board members in the Garden State Division, in the Northeastern and Mid-Eastern Regions, and all of the rest of you who helped me with this and many other projects over the years.

For the last five years, I've served as your representative to the Northeastern Region Board of Directors. For the last three years, I have also served as the Northeastern Region's Photo Contest Chairman. I look forward to being able to serve you again. ☒



For DIRECTOR— NEW YORK: Bill Brown

My name is Bill Brown and I am seeking to represent New York State on the Northeastern Region Board as a director. I believe my unique background and experiences would give me the skills and insights to help enhance the function of the NER. I am a long time NMRA member and past superintendent of the Central New York Division in Syracuse, New York, one of the most active and progressive divisions in the region. I have served on the planning committee for three regional conventions, and have aided in contest judging at both regional and national conventions. I will be retiring from my vocation as a school district administrator on July 30, giving me the time and motivation to spend on a hobby I love. For the past 33 years of my profession, I believe I have developed exceptional organizational and people skills that would be quite useful in this position with the NER.

I have been a modeler for close to 45 years and have constructed several layouts over that time. My Lehigh Alliance of Rail Carriers was featured in a cover story in the August 2006

Model Railroader magazine. I have been active in the contest room, achieving two Baldwin Trophies for Best of Show at NER conventions, and won the National Gold Award for Best of Show at the Detroit NMRA national convention. In addition, I am the president of a local club – The Central New York Modelers – that has also been featured several times in the hobby press and achieved numerous display awards. Just a few years ago, I was honored by the NMRA as Master Model Railroader # 377.

In summary, model railroading has been a passion for me for several years. This passion extends well beyond just modeling. I have supported the activities of the NMRA at the local, regional, and national levels, and have always looked at myself as a positive promoter of model railroading efforts. I believe my unique background, deep insights, ambition and positive attitude would make me a strong asset to the NER. ☒



For DIRECTOR— NEW YORK: Paul Hoffman

Hello. My name is Paul Hoffman. I am 48 years old, a small business owner, and my wife and I are the proud parents of five children ranging in age from 8 to 20. I have a Bachelor of Arts degree from the State University of New York at Albany, and have been a lifetime resident of the state. I am the owner and president of a small computer consulting firm, PHPC Inc., that my wife and I started nearly 15 years ago. Prior to the creation of my business, I was employed by the General Electric Company in a variety of positions and locations.

I have been a life long model railroader, starting with the obligatory Lionel set under the Christmas tree when I was 5. I am currently working on a basement empire depicting the Santa Fe Railroad of the Southwest in HO Scale. In addition, I am serving as president of the Hudson Berkshire Division of the NER.

I feel my experiences in life and with the NMRA leave me uniquely qualified to help guide our region into the future. This will be a journey of challenges, both economical — as I'm sure you are no doubt aware — and

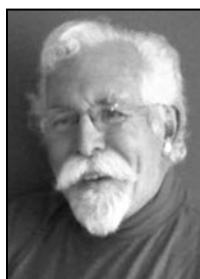


2010 NER CANDIDATES

also demographically. Unlike some, I do not see the “demise” of our hobby. In fact, based on trends in the population, we are heading for an increase in the number of people moving into “prime” hobby years. This will help offset the current graying of the hobby. The challenge will be to get through the trough between these population swings while keeping our organization intact. It is here that I can bring some of my business acumen to bear. As a voting member of the board, I will be in a position to help assist our president and other elected officials in coming up with solutions that will help the region in the long term without “selling our soul” for short term gains.

In my role as Division president, I have taken a previously moribund Division and with the help of a dedicated team of officers and board members, restored the HBD to a vibrant, growing entity. We have partnered with other local groups in developing mutually beneficial programs and have expanded our appeal to Division members. I am a firm believer in the division structure and it is here that I have always felt the need was the greatest. The division is usually the only contact many members have with the national organization and it is a welcome relief to see the National starting to make its way out of the desolate wilderness where the divisions were neglected.

It is my intended purpose to continue to help expand the role of the division and allow the membership to get real value for its dollar. The message I will be trumpeting is not “What does the National do for me,” but instead, “How can we make the system mean more to the member?” That will require change — change on both sides — but necessary change if we are to maintain relevance in the hobby we all care for. The NMRA, in my opinion, is more than just a “standards” organization. It is a clearinghouse of knowledge and contacts, a social organ that promotes friendships and good will, and most importantly, it should be a tireless advocate for the hobby of scale model railroading in all of its varied forms. ☒



For DIRECTOR— CT & RI: Justin Maguire Jr.

Born in New Jersey 68 years ago, Justin Maguire has lived in Barrington, Rhode Island, since 1982 and is a member of the NMRA’s Little Rhody Division. An artist and designer, Justin received his degree at the famed Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York. After a long hiatus, he returned to model railroading in 1990, building his East Bay & Westerly home layout in HO scale. In 2001, he co-founded the Narragansett Bay Railway & Navigation Company, billed as Rhode Island’s premier On30 modular railroad. His award winning work has been demonstrated in clinics at several regional NMRA conventions. Justin has served in many capacities at the division level. He is a past director, assistant superintendent and for several years, served a superintendent of the Little Rhody Division

Campaign Statement: I hope to have the opportunity to represent the Connecticut and Rhode Island Division in an energetic and productive way at the regional level. I’ll endeavor to improve the coordination between the Division’s needs and the Region’s response to those needs. “Tip” O’Neill famously said, “All politics is local,” and so it is in the NMRA. The divisions are the bedrock on which both the NER and National organizations are built. ☒



For DIRECTOR— Massachusetts: William Barry

Hi. I am William H. Barry. I live within the HUB Division in Marlborough, MA, and I have been a member of the NMRA since June, 1994. I got started in model railroading on my 14th birthday, when my parents bought me one of John Armstrong’s layout books and gave me all of my older brother’s discarded model railroad equipment. I started my first HO scale layout on my own, but after moving to Vermont during high school, I joined the Northwestern Vermont Model Railroad Society. I attended college in Massachusetts and ended up staying permanently. Soon after graduating,

I discovered the HUB Division.

Over time, I’ve become active in the HUB Division and am currently working (slowly) on two modules for the HUB Division’s modular railroad. I hope to build a permanent layout someday, and maybe a garden railway with the gardening by my wife Sarah. My 3-year-old son Douglas has also gotten the railroad bug and I look forward to having him involved in our model railroading projects as his skills develop.

Campaign Statement: I have been serving as the NER Massachusetts Director since 2006. During my term, I have been involved in updating the NER Executive Handbook, including final revisions to the new bylaws that were voted on in 2008. The process of updating the entire handbook is nearly complete and the full version will soon be posted on the NER Web site.

If re-elected, I hope to direct my time during my next term to improving other aspects of the NER. Now that we have gone to a one convention per year agenda, I would like to find ways to utilize our region’s resources to benefit the membership during the rest of the year. I also hope to work on improving the channels of communication, so that the region can act as a better conduit for information sharing between the various active divisions and with members within areas without active divisions. I will do my best to serve you and help the NER promote and enhance the hobby. So, please cast your vote for me! ☒



For DIRECTOR— North New England: Rich Breton

My name is Rich Breton. I’m a resident of Rochester, NH, married with three children and two grandchildren. I have a mechanical engineering degree from the University of Connecticut, and was employed at Goss International, designing high-speed folders for web printing presses for 32 years. I am a member of the Baltimore & Ohio Historical Society and have been an avid model railroader for 42 years, modeling the Potomac Valley region of the B&O around 1953 in HO scale.

I have been an NMRA member for 26 years. I served as chairman for the Northeastern



2010 NER CANDIDATES



Region NMRA convention held in Nashua, New Hampshire in 2005. I served as Division President for the Seacoast Division for six years and continue to serve as director for the Seacoast Division. I actively promote the NMRA by actively participating in numerous model railroading activities; such as holding public library hobby introduction programs, teaching/supporting ongoing adult education model railroading classes, and setting up and manning informational displays at Maine, New Hampshire, and some Massachusetts train shows. I promote our hobby by presenting clinics at all skill levels at local train shows, division meetings, regional conventions, and at the recent 2009 National Convention in Hartford. I have received my first Master Model Achievement Program certificate for Association Volunteer, and near completion for the Model Railroad Author requirements. I have participated in, and have also helped with, judging regional model contests, and believe NMRA model contests are an important function of our organization.

We need to actively promote our hobby and the benefits of NMRA membership with more emphasis on local, division and regional activities. We need to continue to make our conventions affordable, to make our programs

available to more people, and to get people of all ages interested in this exciting educational hobby.

My motto — which I use in my Division communications, newsletters, clinic presentations, and my E-mail correspondence — is “Share the Fun of Model Railroading.” I believe, fundamentally, that is the route to continued success and growth of our organization and the key to increased membership with active member participation. (X)



For DIRECTOR— Canada: Steve McMullin

Steve McMullin grew up a few hundred feet from the CNR's Centreville Subdivision in Woodstock, NB, and has been an active model railroader since he was in junior high school. He now lives in Saint John, NB, where his HO scale “Carleton Railroad” is a double deck layout that is built for operations and fills his 23 x 28 basement. He is a member of the Saint John Society of Model Railroaders and the Maritime Federation of

Model Railroaders. He also belongs to the Operations and the Layout Design Special Interest Groups. As an NMRA member, he has attended several NER conventions and the recent national convention in Hartford, and he chaired the planning committee for the joint NER/MFMR convention in Saint John in May. He is in the process of completing his Ph.D. in sociology. He and his wife Rosalie have two grown children.

Campaign Statement: My interest in serving the NER is based on my desire to promote the hobby of model railroading and to encourage people north of the border to take advantage of the opportunities to meet and learn from fellow model railroaders in the NER. At the same time, I will also seek to remind the NER of the model railroad activity and talent in eastern Canada. I always try to be a team player and I am interested in working together with others to make sure that the NER continues to be a strong organization that brings model railroaders together and furthers the hobby. I have received a lot of enjoyment from the hobby of model railroading and I am hoping that I can contribute something back to the hobby through this opportunity to serve. (X)

2010 NORTHEASTERN REGION NMRA BALLOT

Fill out this ballot completely, and send it to the Ballot Committee no later than August 15, 2010.
NER Ballot Committee, c/o Charles Bettinger, 16 Kindsbury Avenue, Vernon, CT 06066

You may not vote if your NER or NMRA membership has expired and, to be valid, the following conditions shall be met:

The ballot must be sealed in an unmarked envelope. The unmarked envelope shall be placed inside an envelope upon which the member's name, address and NMRA and NER numbers must appear on the outside.

NMRA members whose membership is defined as "family" shall not be entitled to vote. All members, whose membership has not expired, can vote for President and Vice President. You may only vote for the Director who represents the area in which you reside. You may vote for one of the candidates OR a write-in candidate of your choosing.

PRESIDENT

- ☐ George Youst
☐ _____

VICE PRESIDENT

- ☐ Henry Pierce
☐ _____

LONG ISLAND & NYC

- ☐ Kevin Katta
☐ _____

NEW JERSEY

- ☐ Roger Oliver
☐ _____

NEW YORK STATE

- ☐ Bill Brown
☐ Paul Hoffman

CONN. & RHODE ISLAND

- ☐ Justin Maguire
☐ _____

MASSACHUSETTS

- ☐ William Barry
☐ _____

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

- ☐ Rich Breton
☐ _____

CANADA

- ☐ Steve McMullin
☐ _____

THE NORTHEASTERN REGION
National Model Railroad Association
N.E.R. OFFICE MANAGER
280 S. MAIN STREET
HOPEDALE, MA 01747

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
STAMFORD, CT
PERMIT No. 1245

REQUESTED IN MAILBOX BY JUNE 17

ADVERTISEMENT

Tony's Train Exchange



Sounds of Perfection!
QSI's "Quantum Revolution"
DC/DCC Aftermarket Sound

DC/DCC

- 2 Amps, HO/S Scale
- 6 Lite Functions, 20 Total Functions
- Advanced Analog™ DC with Quantum Engineer
- System and Specific Volume Controls
- Sound-of-Power™ Sounds of locos under load
- Pro-Power™ Reduces shorts/opens
- Regulated Throttle Control™/BEMF (Super Smooth)
- Quantum Air Brakes
- Stat Chat™ Verbal Feedback
- Magnetic Wand™ Reset and Volume
- Quantum Doppler™ Effect
- Quantum Download - Edit and Install Sounds
- New Sound Effects
- 32 bit co-processor, List \$109.95, TTE \$87.95

Pinewood Plaza
57 River Rd, Suite 1023
Essex Jct, VT 05452
info@TonysTrains.com
fax 802-878-5550
★ Discount Prices, All Scales
★ Digitrax Zephyr \$159.95
★ Sup E. Blider \$274.95, Radio \$439.95
★ Sup Chief \$349.95, Radio \$499.95
★ NCE PowerPro \$412.95, Radio \$569.95
★ NCE PowerCab \$149.95
★ Lenz Set-90 \$229.95, Set-100 \$279.95
★ MRC Prodigy Advance2 \$189.95
★ Soundtraxx DSD-101LC \$51.95
★ HO Tsunami \$95.95 / Micro \$111.95

- ★ FIRST in DC/DCC Sales & Support
- ★ Installations and Loco Work
- ★ Club Demos & Discounts
- ★ We Guarantee Your Satisfaction.



800-978-3472
INFO, QUESTIONS, CATALOGUE
TonysTrains.com