

The Switch Tower



Seacoast Division of the Northeastern Region, National Model Railroad Assoc.



THE CONCORD MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

The Concord Model Railroad Club was incorporated in 1986 by a small group of HO-scale model railroad enthusiasts, for the purpose of promoting model railroading and enjoying the fellowship of other modelers. Established as a modular club, the Club met in a round-robin format until the early 1990s, when they started a double-deck layout representing the two lines running north from Concord, the Northern and the White Mountain Mainline. Unfortunately, due to several moves this project never progressed beyond bench-work, but it did instill in the members a desire to actually operate trains.



Boscawen area of the Concord layout.

Photo by Jon Miner

In 2005, the Club moved into its current location, the third floor of the former Washington Street School in Penacook, NH. The new space is a well-lit, 22x35 foot classroom, with two adjacent storage rooms. All of the old heavy modules have been replaced with light-weight sections made from plywood and builders' foam. Inspired by the recent "Free-Mo" movement, the Club has completed new single-track sections representing the Northern Mainline from Concord to West Lebanon, and then across the river to White River Junction. Major track work is complete and scenery is progressing. To accommodate all members' equipment, we have used code 100 track throughout. Control is DCC with radio throttles (NCE).

The club meets weekly on Thursday nights at 7PM. The first week of each month is a business meeting-work session, the second Thursday is an operating

night; operations rotate between members' layouts and the Club layout. The third and fourth Thursdays are work sessions.

In addition to the regular meetings, the Club hosts a popular train show in Concord, NH, now held in late August. This show is in its 25th year and is one of the larger shows in New Hampshire. We also attend several shows in the area, setting up the modular layout with other clubs. Additional club activities have included constructing a display layout which is housed in the B&M Historical Society combine car in Lowell, MA. This past holiday season, a display layout was built and set up in a Penacook store front. The current club officers are: Gary Bowden, President, Dave

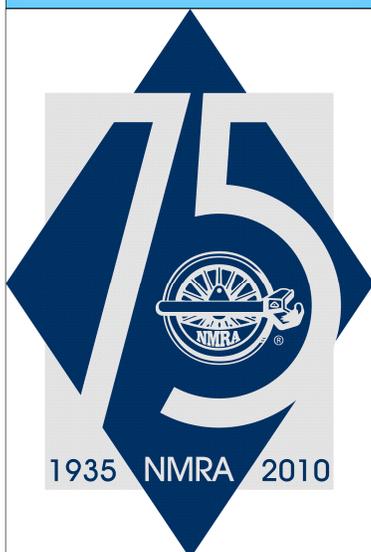
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Deadline for the next issue is

June 1, 2010

Send your article & photos to:

tpking@roadrunner.com



MILWAUKEE CONVENTION

The National Model Railroad Association, Inc.'s

75th Anniversary Photography Contest

Win a cab ride in a Union Pacific steam locomotive! The National Model Railroad Association and the Union Pacific Railroad are pleased to announce a model photography contest to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NMRA. The NMRA will pick one photograph submitted by an NMRA member in good standing depicting one or more models of UP equipment and/or structures in a realistic scene. The photograph will be judged for prototype fidelity of the modeling and scene as well as for photographic art.

The member submitting the photograph will win a cab ride in one of the mainline steam locomotives operated by the Union Pacific on the Kansas City to Jefferson City leg of the Missouri River Eagle Excursion. Airfare (up to \$500.00), two hotel nights, and transportation to and from the excursion will be provided for the winner by the NMRA.

To be eligible, the photograph must be in an envelope postmarked (or originated in transit by

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MINUTES

E-MAIL

SWITCHTOWER

The meeting was held at the First Congregational Church, South Portland, Maine

There were 30 members present including all elected Board of Directors and Officers.

Minutes of January 16, 2010 Seacoast Division of the N.M.R.A.:

The meeting started at 10:00 am with a presentation by Abby Robey from Xuron Tools showcasing the hand tools the company manufactures for the railroad hobby. Abby passed out rail cutters to all members present. Xuron Tools is located in the Division's area, calling Saco, Maine home.

Show & Tell featured Rich Breton showing how he made decals for a Z scale B&O box car; Then he was joined by Neil Falby describing a joint project to create decals for Neil's Falby Printing Company. Paul Lessard brought a building kit bashed to fit into a corner space. Mike Grahame and Bruce Robinson prepared presentations, but there was not enough time for them.

The model showcase table was populated with several models that members brought to display.

The business meeting commenced

with committee reports from the Treasurer, Newsletter Editor and Web Master. There was no Secretary report. Bruce Robinson included a membership report that showed that the Division had 185 members as of December 31. All reports were accepted.

Old Business:

There was more discussion regarding hosting a Regional Convention. The Division must appoint four committee chairmen prior to proceeding with a bid to the Region.

The Region will be holding an election for Area Director. Details will appear in the NER Coupler.

New Business:

Nomination and election of Officers; new Directors Neil Falby (two year term), Mike Grahame (three year term) and Tom Jones (two year term); Rich Breton was re-elected to a new two year term. Tom Jones was appointed to the position of Secretary.

The quarterly meeting schedule was set as:

- Spring- Rochester, NH April 17

- Summer- Auburn, Maine July 31
- Fall- Concord, NH October 9
- Winter- South Portland, Maine January 8, 2011.

Discussion on Suggested Division-sponsored events was suspended due to lack of time. These topics will be discussed at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30, and all present headed out for lunch and a visit to Bar Mills.

The next meeting of the Division will be held in Rochester, NH on April 17, 2010.

Submitted by: Bruce Robinson



BAR Spirit of 1776 in 1976

Photographer unknown

Seacoast Division Spring Meeting

Saturday, April 17, 2009

10:00 - 2 :00

Rochester Community Center

150 Wakefield Street

Rochester, NH 03867

(Behind the High School on Community Way and across from McDonald's on Rt. 125)

Guest Speaker: Scott Jewell

Modeling a waterfront terminal

All seacoast members, non-members and guests are invited to the spring meeting in Rochester, NH.

Clinics on model railroad building will be in the program and there is always the "bring it and show it" time. Members are encouraged to bring something they are working on or have built and share it with the rest of us. The model showcase table at the Portland meeting

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"The meeting started at 10:00 am with a presentation by Abby Robey from Xuron Tools showcasing the hand tools the company manufactures for the railroad hobby. Abby passed out rail cutters to all members present. Xuron Tools is located in the Division's area, calling Saco, Maine home."

"Members are encouraged to bring something they are working on or have built and share it with the rest of us. The model showcase table at the Portland meeting was popular so bring a model (loco, rolling stock, structure, etc.) to put on display."

Presidents Corner by Bruce Robinson

Seacoast Division Membership

The Portland Quarterly meeting was greatly successful. Thirty members came to see Rich Breton, Neil Falby and Paul Lessard present clinics and how-to topics. Guest presenter Abby Robey from Xuron Tools in Saco, Maine brought along hand tools to give to all members. A couple of weeks later I had the opportunity to join a group tour of the Xuron factory and meet all the fine Maine people that make the tools we use in our hobby. After the meeting the group went on a tour set up by Art Fahey of Bar Mills. Art did a great job showing us how those Bar Mills structure kits are conceived, designed and manufactured. We also got to see the exquisite layouts in HO, S and N-scale that Art has on display.

Attendance at the quarterly meetings is increasing, and I hope to

see more of the membership come to share their experiences and socialize with other modelers. We are indebted to the work that the presenters do to bring these meetings to the membership.

The next Seacoast Division meeting will be held on April 17, 2010 in Rochester, New Hampshire at the Rochester Community Center. The quarterly meetings are open to all Division members and you are encouraged to attend. The quarterly meetings are based on sharing the hobby. There are always show-and-tell and clinics on aspect of the hobby. Come to Rochester, bring a model to showcase, and join other modelers as they share our hobby.

The Membership Chairman position is still open. This person will be responsible for promoting the Division at shows and other displays, welcoming new members and maintaining member contact information up-to-date. If you can

spare a few hours a month please consider this invitation to help the Division continue to grow. The membership in the Division has nearly doubled in the last few years and now stands at 200.

The Division had a strong presence at the Amherst Railway Society show in Springfield, Mass. January 29 & 30, 2010. Six Seacoast Division members helped out at the NER booth in the Better Living Center building and gave out many NMRA membership applications. The face of the NMRA is the Division and these six members certainly put their "best face forward".

With the membership growing it is time to think about member benefits. It would be great if you bring your ideas about what you, the member, would like to see the Division do for you, to the Rochester meeting. Some suggestions

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"Guest presenter Abby Robey from Xuron Tools in Saco, Maine brought along hand tools to give to all members."

MILWAUKEE CONVENTION CONTINUED

(Continued from page 1)

a third-party service such as FedEx or UPS) by August 31, 2010, and received no later than September 7, 2010. Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there is no limit on the number of photographs a member may submit. Photographic prints, slides, or digital images are acceptable. Prints must be 8" x 10." Digital images must be taken with a camera of 7.1 megapixels or greater to satisfy the printing requirements. All submitted photographs shall become the property of the NMRA, and the NMRA and Union Pacific may use the photograph in any manner they choose. All members participating in the contest agree to provide to the NMRA the original medium of the photograph (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Please send all photographs to Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis MO 63111. Be sure to protect photographs from bending or mishandling in the mail.

The photo below from the archives of The Great Falls Model Railroad Club.



U.S.P.S. will honor the Boy Scouts this summer.

Provided by the U.S.P.S.

Below B&M 4-6-2 at Fitchburg Ma.



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Seacoast Division of the Northeastern Region, National Model Railroad Assoc.

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Model Railroading is fun!

The Switch Tower On Line

Seacoast Division Home Page

[http://www.trainweb.org/seacoastdiv/NER Home Page](http://www.trainweb.org/seacoastdiv/NERHomePage)

<http://pages.cthome.net/kenmay/NERHOME.HT ML>

NMRA Home Page/Web Site

<http://www.nmra.org>

Deadline for the next issue is June 1, 2010

Seacoast Division, Northeastern Region, N.M.R.A.

~ Chartered Nov. 17, 1963~

President, Bruce Robinson,

brobinson85@comcast.net

Past President, Richard Breton

Vice President, Paul Lessard

Secretary, Vacant

Treasurer, Tom Coulombe

Directors

Rich Breton, Tom Coulombe, Larry Cannon, MMR, Terrence King, Paul Lessard, Ron Palmquist, Bill Truehart, Sandy Roberts

Editor, Terrence King

tpking@roadrunner.com

Web Master, Rob Carigan

rcarigan@mac.com

Achievement Program, Chairman

Larry Cannon, MMR

larrycannon@roadrunner.com

The Switch Tower

The Switch Tower is the official publication of the Seacoast Division, Northeastern Region of the National Model Railroading Association, and it is published four time per year. Subscriptions are \$8.00 per year. Checks or money orders should be made payable to Seacoast Division, NMRA, and submitted to:

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E-mail tpking@roadrunner.com

CONCORD CLUB CONTINUED

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Sias, Vice President, Leo Quinn, Treasurer, Jon Miner, Secretary.

Additional information and a Club calendar are available on the Club website: <http://www.trainweb.org/cmrc>. We welcome visitors any time and only ask that if there will be more than four people in a group, the Club be notified in advance. It is always a good policy to contact us prior to visiting on operating nights, since the group may be at a member's layout.

by Jon Miner and Dave Sias



PRESIDENT CONTINUED

are: host a regional convention, create a modular group within the Division, sponsor a Youth Chapter, organize a weekend layout tour and run a weekend operations event.

MEETING CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

was popular so bring a model (loco, rolling stock, structure, etc.) to put on display. If the model needs judging for an achievement award there will be judges present to do the judging.

Lunch will be provided and the business meeting part of the day's activities will be conducted while the sandwiches are consumed.

If you still haven't had enough of model railroading after lunch you can head over to Rich Breton's house in Rochester and visit trackside on Rich's B & O Cumberland Division.

Come to the spring meeting and **Share the Fun of Model Railroading.**

CALENDER OF EVENTS

4/10/10 Sanford Lions Club All Gauge Model Railroad Show. Veterans Memorial Gym, 687 Main St., (Route 109), Sanford Me. 04073. 10:00 — 3:00

4/17/10 Hooksett, NH Lions Club Model Railroad Show, Hooksett Cawley Middle School, Route 27, (Whitehall Rd), 1 mile off Rte 3. (Approx. 3 Miles off I-93 Exit 9N) 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

4/24/10 Spring Model Railroad Show. Mt. Ararat High School, 73 Eagles Way (off U.S. Route 201), Topsham Me 04086

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m



Another picture of the Concord Model Railroad Club.