



# The Switch Tower

Vol. 23 No. 4

October 2016

Seacoast Division NMRA [www.seacoastnmra.org](http://www.seacoastnmra.org)



Seacoast Division NMRA Fall Event

Saturday, October 15, 2016

10:00-2:00

Fire House

2 Winnicutt Road, Stratham, NH

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One of many amazing contest models at the National Narrow Gauge Convention. More pictures in this issue . I volunteered for the convention helping out in the contest room and on Brandon Kulik's Northern Terminal layout. Volunteering for the convention was a great way to attend and to meet new people as well as help out . It was a great experience and one I would do again. Photo and text by Geoff Anthony

Enjoy a trip through the [Seacoast Division's Web Site](http://www.seacoastnmra.org).

## The President's Lantern by Erich Whitney

September proved to be as busy as I had predicted, however, I'm afraid that I completely underestimated how much fun we were in for attending two back-to-back conventions. The Seacoast Division NMRA was very well represented at the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta, Maine September 7-10. Our members showed up in force to help staff the convention (for which we were given a full refund of our registration fee) and we added to the impressive lists of layouts for the layout tour. Many thanks to everyone from the division for helping out!

Right on the heels of the NNGC was the NER Pacemaker Regional Convention September 15-18 in Albany, New York. We will have a review of this convention at our October quarterly meeting but in summary, what a great time! From layout tours to operating sessions, clinics to prototype tours, the celebration of models and photographs, non-rail activities, a great hotel, and a fantastic banquet. Fun fact, the Seacoast

*Photo National Narrow Gauge Show floor of civic center by Geoff Anthony*



Division NMRA was tied with the Little Rhody Division NMRA for the greatest number of AP certificates (15) achieved by its members over the past two years.

Conventions are always an exciting time and I know I have fun every time I go. I'm kind of dumbfounded by why more members don't go to them. I'd like to hear from you—reach out and let me know if you have any questions or thoughts on the matter.

We have a fun program lined up for October and the planning for our annual meeting in January is already well under way. Remember that we elect three directors each year. This is an all-volunteer organization which means we rely on our members to help make things happen. It's the members present at the annual meeting who elect your representatives so make sure you join us in January! Keep your eyes out for our meeting notice emails and check out the website. Derry Model Railroading Fun Night is back in full swing this fall and we're looking for volunteers to contribute presentations.

And remember to share the fun of model railroading!!!

Sincerely,

Erich Whitney



**SEACOAST DIVISION NMRA FALL EVENT**

Come Join us for the Seacoast Division of the NMRA Fall Event on Saturday, October 15, 2016 from 10 to 2 at the Fire house on 2 Winnicutt Road in Stratham NH

All NMRA members and prospective members are invited to the fall event.

**Clinic Topics:**

**Making Mountains with a Chisel by David Kotsonis.**

David will show how to use plaster of Paris and a chisel to make a realistic mountain scene, without the cost or trouble of making a mold.

**Garden Railroad Update by Larry Cannon.** Larry will show and discuss his efforts to update his garden railroad for the National Narrow Gauge Convention.

**Rolling Stock Details by Paul Lessard.** Paul will show us some techniques that he uses to detail his rolling stock.

**NNGC 2016 Summary by Peter McKenney.** Peter will present a summary of the events at the recent National Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta, ME.

**Show and Ask:** Participants are encouraged to bring 1) examples of their modeling to show to other attendees for educational purposes (two-way!) AND 2) questions on model railroad topics to pose to others. Take advantage of the cumulative experience of all of the attendees to make your modeling experience more enjoyable.

**Social Time:** Between activities, please take some time to meet and talk with the other attendees. No telling how you can help each other out.

Bring a snack or, at your convenience, buy refreshments at a nearby food vendor.

Come to the Fall Event and Share the Fun of Model Railroading!

Board of Directors Meeting will follow the program at 1:30 p.m.

**Layout Tours:** After the meeting, on the way home, please take some time to visit:

Dave Kotsonis' Greenland Valley (HO) Railroad, 1 Annes Lane, Greenland, NH. Dave's layout was featured in the May 2004 issue of Model Railroader, is 22x30 ft., and is modeled after the B&M in the 1940's to early 1950's. There are lots of scratch-built items and examples of great modeling!!

Mike Graham's Union Pacific/Southern Pacific in New England layout, Stratham, NH. Mike has a double decker layout in a 22x44 space. The layout is about 70% scenery complete with a future expansion planned.

**NEXT MEETING:** Saturday January 7, 2017 10-2 :  
The First Congregational Church of Christ , 301 Cottage Rd , South Portland ME



Just one of many great modules at the National Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta .

Photo by Geoff Anthony

## BILL GAVER WINS ROBERT W. SPATE AWARD

### By Rich Breton

Bill, of Brookfield NH, is a very modest and humble person who often gives to others credit for things which he has started, worked on and championed himself.

Bill spearheaded the historical HO scale 1909 B&M Railroad located in the restored 1875 Freight House at the Union, NH Heritage Park Railroad Museum for the Wakefield Historical Commission. This has become a well-known and appreciated attraction in the town of Wakefield, NH. Bill has organized numerous promotional events at the Heritage Park Railroad Museum, such as Garden Railroad with live steam this past summer, Heritage Day events, and presentations for community and civic leaders.

Bill's enthusiasm for promoting this hobby goes back many years. As a prime example, during his tenure as Vice President of the Seacoast Division of the NMRA, Bill organized the "Tradition of Model Railroading" program presented at the Wolfeboro Public Library in November 2003. This four-week program covered the ABC's of Model Railroading, Selecting, Setting up and Maintaining a New Train Set, Model Railroad Construction, and Learning about Real Trains, including rail safety, and special features for little engineers (ages 5-8). His comprehensive program also featured the History of riding the rails from Boston to North Conway. Bill's many Boy Scout Railroad Merit Badge programs are well attended and successful. These were held at the Union Freight House with guest speakers, and a highly detailed informational program over two consecutive Saturdays.

An excellent model builder, whose extensive research to get the details right with well-organized reference documents, Bill opens his personal model railroad to

many visitors, is willing to answer any questions and offer hands-on assistance. His HO scale "Balboa Granada & Eastern Railroad" is located in Defern Depot in Brookfield, NH ([www.deferndepot.com](http://www.deferndepot.com)). Bill is serious about authenticity and this well-built model railroad is housed in its own railroad station building with all the period features representing the 1941 era of his free lanced railroad. Bill has opened his layout for several NER conventions, Tour de

Chooch, school group visits, local community events, and Seacoast Division NMRA events.

Bill is well organized and a promotional powerhouse. His publicity methods, through mailings and print media, promote the hobby as well as any Madison Ave pitchman. Bill's extensive contacts and model railroad friends and acquaintances span the country and extend to the UK and Australia. Bill has solicited and organized all-volunteer work crews, combining experienced model rail-

roaders as well as newcomers willing to learn, a task not unlike herding cats!

For these and many other examples of Bill's selfless service, he was given the Robert W. Spate Public Service Award at the Pacemaker Convention of the NER in Albany N.Y. on Sept 17. The award is voted on by the whole of the Northeast Region. Congratulations Bill well done!



# SEACOAST DIVISION NMRA HELPS MAKE MAINE MODEL RAILROAD TOUR 2016 A SUCCESS by Peter McKenney

Visitors on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Maine Model Railroad Tour enjoyed seeing many of the 9 layouts in eastern Maine on Saturday, Sept. 24, and 9 layouts in southwestern Maine on Sunday, Sept. 25. Visitors came from Maine, New Hampshire, New Brunswick, and Massachusetts, to see the modeling achievements of the hosts, and to chat with them and fellow visitors. Layouts ranged from G scale to HO, were large and small, standard and narrow gauge, and included both indoor and outdoor layouts.

Layout hosts uniformly expressed pleasure in receiving visitors to their layouts and look forward to future Tours. Hosts worked hard to make their layouts suitable for touring and mentioned that the Tour gave them extra motivation to clean up their layout spaces as well as enhance their layouts. The visitors appreciated their hosts efforts and learned something about modeling at every site that they visited. Host Rick Mills of Berwick wrote this about his experience hosting 24 visitors on Sunday: "Very pleasant and fun. We had a constant trickle through the day, no overloads, some periods of 30 minutes or so with no visitors. Having 2 people on hand was essential. My wife was the greeter and director, while I stayed with the layout. I was surprised to meet two model railroaders from my same town, whom had I never been aware of. Both have inactive layouts. Perhaps this sparked their interest." Host Lou Champagne wrote: "My first visitor didn't arrive until 11:30 am [but] it was then steady until 3:30 ... everyone was great and there were no problems of any kind ... lots of very gratifying feedback on the CP&W. Overall, the experience was very positive & I would certainly do it again."

Visitor Bob Henry from Rothesay, NB, wrote: "Dr. Don Fitzpatrick and I got to 6 great layouts during the Saturday open houses. We started at Orland with a club parking lot with 6 wild turkeys strutting around and ended up outside Augusta watching a CPR E-8 pull a passenger consist across Northern Maine, while we admired scratch built Paul Bunyan pulp cars. A most interesting day.



Rick Mills (left) and Bruce Campbell pose in front of Rick's HO Cape Ann Rail System. Rick entertained 24 visitors on Sunday, September 25. Rick has developed a well-scenicked, highly operational DC controlled layout (2 blocks). Note the track plan above their heads.



Noted railroad book author Robert C. Jones (l) visited Bob Bennett's layout in S. China, ME, during the tour to admire Bob's fictional On30 South China and Sheepscot River Railroad layout. Mr. Jones has written many railroad books, particularly books on Maine's 2-footers. Mike Stowe (R) served as Bob's helper during the Tour.



## **SEACOAST DIVISION NMRA HELPS MAKE MAINE MODEL RAILROAD TOUR 2016 A SUCCESS** by Peter McKenney

The mission of the Seacoast Division NMRA is to promote “model railroading throughout Maine and New Hampshire through education, promotion of model railroading activities, serving as local resources for individual model railroaders, and supporting local model railroad groups.” The Division’s role in the Maine Model Railroad Tour is a great example of how the Division can make a positive impact on our hobby in Maine and New Hampshire. Members of the Seacoast Division NMRA were overwhelmingly prominent in making this year’s Tour a success. The Division was only one of the 23 co-sponsors of the Tour, but ten of the twelve members of this year’s organizing committee belong to the Seacoast Division NMRA. Five of the six local Tour committee members are members of the Division and 7 of the 18 layouts on the Tour this year are connected to the Division. In short, the level of success of the Maine Model Railroad Tour 2016 could not have been attained had it not been for the members of the Seacoast Division NMRA.



**Peter Amershadian (Left)** was another host and Tour 2016 local recruiter and organizer. His impressive HO B&M York Division Railroad drew many visitors to the Tour.



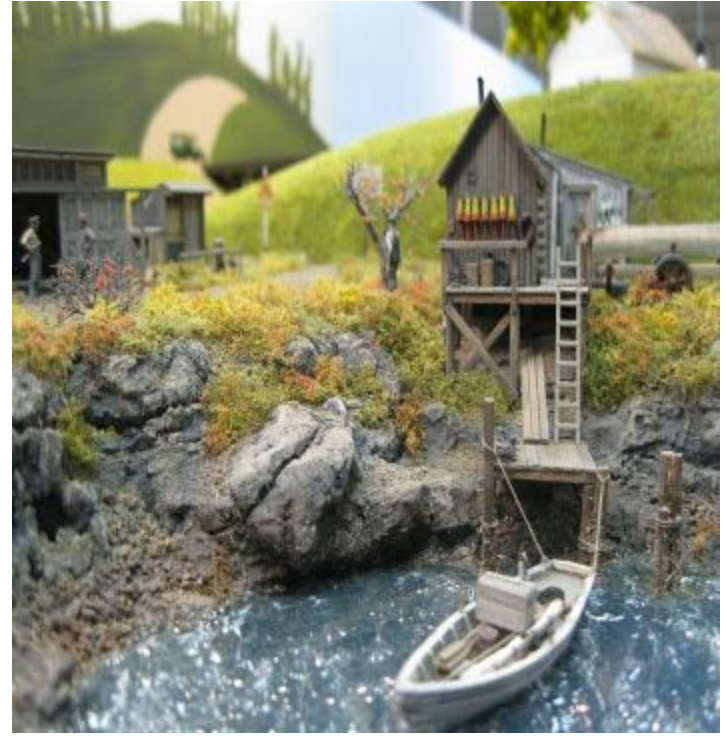
Dick Glueck (L) and Leverett Fernald were on-hand at the Washington Junction yard of the Downeast Scenic Railway near Ellsworth, ME, to show the work being done to preserve MEC’s 470, the last steam engine in passenger service on the MEC. Dick is president of the New England Steam Corporation, one of 23 co-sponsors of the Tour.



Host Mike Pedersen poses with visitors from NH John Newick, Matt Keiser, and Dick Fralick. Mike had 26 visitors during the Tour. He also was one of the three local committee members who worked to recruit layout owners to open their layouts and he provided significant support for the overall funding and organization of Tour 2016. Thanks, Mike!!



**Scenes from the Narrow Gauge Convention**  
Photo's by Geoff Anthony





## SUMMER EVENT HELD AT COULOMBE HALL

By Peter McKenney

Over 40 NMRA members assembled for the Summer Event at newly designated **Coulombe Hall** in the Great Falls Model Railroad Club on Saturday, July 23, 2016, in Auburn, Maine. The Club honored the memory of Thomas L. Coulombe by naming its large meeting room after him. The program was packed with interesting presentations, both formal and informal, and attendees were invited to visit nearby home layouts after the Event.

PowerPoint presentations were made on

Researching and planning layout design for the Chester and Derry Trolley- Erich Whitney

The history and preservation project of MEC's Engine 470- Dick Glueck

Researching, designing modules, and installing historically accurate structures, rolling stock, and track representing the BAR's Fort Fairfield yard as of 1951- Peter McKenney

Fun and learning from the recent NMRA convention in Indianapolis- Peter McKenney

New York Central Railroad. Rich Breton routinely finds new materials and techniques to share with the audience. Paul Lessard created a train consist that exactly mirrored an old photograph. Tim Swenton, the new owner of Maine Modelworks, introduced himself and made comments about weathering. Bob Bennett displayed some of his fine modeling of small structures and narrow gauge rolling stock. "Chef" Jerry Johnston, who also serves as president of the Club, cooked up another great meal for the attendees in return for a \$5 donation to the Club. After the Event,

members toured the Club's layouts and visited the home layouts of Paul Lodge and Jerry Johnston in nearby Minot, Maine. There was a lot of exchange of ideas and good conversation during the Event.

Be sure to see the next Event on October 15 in Stratham, NH!! You can see and learn a lot, and socialize with some fun people.



Brian Inch demonstrates weathering rolling stock with chalks

Brian Inch gave a physical demonstration of his weathering techniques for structures and rolling stock. Brian is a school teacher who also produces O scale structure kits and even contracts to produce home layouts across the country. Visit his website at [www.modelrailscenes.com](http://www.modelrailscenes.com).

Several members brought examples of their modeling for "Show, Tell, and Ask." Victor Hand showed how he uses photos to build accurate scenes of his beloved



# SUMMER EVENT HELD AT COULOMBE HALL

**By Peter McKenney**



**Victor Hand of Hulls Cove, Maine, has spent a lifetime taking photos of railroads around the world and has published several books. His modeling focus is on the NYC north of New York City and his accurately detailed structures reflect his attention to detail.**



**Tim Swenton, new owner of Maine Modelworks, loves weathering rolling stock. He is a good example of the future of the World's Greatest Hobby and is part of the young group of modelers organizing the Southern Maine Model Railroad Club.**



**Rich Breton always has something new and interesting to present during Show, Tell, and Ask. At the Summer Event, he reported on his finding on the use of polymer clay to make thin walls**



**Richard Glueck and his wife visited the Club from Winterport, Maine. Dick is the president of the New England Steam Corporation, the non-profit organization that recently acquired from the City of Waterville, Maine, the former MEC 470 steam engine and moved it to the site of the Downeast Scenic Railroad in Ellsworth, Maine. Pending donations, the organization aims to rebuild the engine to an operable condition. Dick presented an illustrated history of the engine and also the current efforts at preservation. To learn more, go to [www.newenglandsteam.org](http://www.newenglandsteam.org)**

## The Pacemaker Convention Albany NY By Chip Faulter

Each year the Northeastern Region (NER) of the NMRA holds a convention for its members somewhere in the region. You might recall that the Seacoast Division hosted the 2013 NER convention in Laconia, NH. This year's NER convention was in Albany, NY. The Pacemaker Convention Committee did a terrific job in planning and executing this convention. I thoroughly enjoyed myself for 3 full days and am already looking forward to going to the next NER convention in Newport, RI in November of 2017.

I grew up north of Syracuse, NY but have lived in Maine for 35 years. I have driven through Albany more than a hundred times during that timeframe but never stopped to check out what the city or surrounding area has to offer. This convention not only gave me a chance to visit somewhere that I had intended to visit but never took the time, but also to meet a bunch of new model railroaders, see their layouts and enjoy the hobby we all love best. I found Albany to be a great city. There are many things to do and see in the area, both railroad related and of general interest. My wife and I plan to return and explore the area together.

My trip actually started on Wednesday September 14.

I drove to Albany in the afternoon, knowing that I had a busy day planned for Thursday including an evening operating session. Although the registration desk for the convention would not open until Thursday afternoon, I found welcoming signs for the convention upon entering the hotel, and

found the hotel staff friendly and knowledgeable about hosting the convention. The hotel itself was an older hotel that had been updated and converted into a convention center. It was actually ideal for the NER convention and had space for all of the planned on-site convention functions. The room rate was \$126 plus taxes a night single occupancy. So, if you and a buddy wanted to share a room for the convention, you could do it for about \$70 a night. I think that is a pretty reasonable rate! The rooms were fine, the water warm, the fitness center adequate and the beer in the tavern was cold.



"Seacoast Division NMRA members Tom Oxnard, Peter McKenney, Chip Faulter along with several other Pacemaker convention attendees operated on Andy Clermont's beautiful Ogdensburg & Lake Champlain (O&LC) Subdivision HO scale layout. The O&LC Subdivision is a prototypical depiction of the Rutland Railroad in upstate New York with interchanges with the CV, CN, D&H, NYC, and Norwood and St. Lawrence Railroads. Shown in the photo is one of the signature scenes on the layout, this one showing the Rutland gauntlet-tracked trestle/bridge connecting NY and VT across Lake Champlain. The prototype trestle was nearly a mile long ... Andy's rendition is nearly 10 ft and beautifully done! Photo taken by Chip Faulter and used by permission of Andy Clermont."

Thursday afternoon I drove the back roads from Albany over Route 2 through the scenic Berkshires to Adams, MA to visit the well-known Hoosac Valley Railroad owned by Dick Elwell. The subject of many feature articles over the years, Dick's full basement empire did not disappoint. I spent over an hour looking at the beautiful modeling and scenery, and catching up with old friends as they started to stop by in route to the convention. Peter McKenney, Tom Oxnard and I met for dinner before all going to an operating session at Andy Clermont's O&LC Subdivision.

Andy was a gracious host and has a large prototypical basement-sized layout based upon the Rutland Railroad in upstate NY. 10 operators were kept busy for 3 hours in a relaxed operating atmosphere.



## The Pacemaker Convention Albany NY By Chip Faulter

Friday morning I attended several clinics before traveling with Tom Oxnard to see two layouts. Henry Propst's Mohawk Division is a full-basement layout base upon the New York Central's Mohawk Division with a mainline run of about 300 ft. From

Henry's, Tom and I traveled to the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) Model Railroad Society's layout which has been housed in the basement of a dorm on campus for many years. This is a huge layout that winds back and forth with a mainline run of over 500 ft. I attended 2 more clinics Friday afternoon before taking a break and getting ready for Friday night's operating session at Vic Roman's Hudson Division. The Hudson Division models the New York Central (NYC) mainline between Albany and Tivoli, NY, location of modeled track pans.

Vic's layout captures the feel of downtown Albany with many recognizable modeled landmarks. Vic told us to enjoy the layout because he was taking the sawz-all to after right after the convention! Vic had just added on to the back of his house and pointed to a crawl hole under the back of the layout. That hole led to a basement room that will more than double the size of his layout after the wall is knocked out!

Saturday morning I had another operating session, this one at Jack Cutler's Juniata Secondary. Jack's

layout is a fictitious PRR branch pressed into mainline service due to war sabotage on horseshoe curve. This is a large double deck basement with the top level controlled by the CTC dispatcher and the bottom level controlled by a roaming dispatcher. I had volunteered to

be the CTC dispatcher the session. This was the most intense 4 hours of model railroading operation I have ever participated in .... But what a blast !! I was assigned a "pilot", one of the regular CTC dispatchers who trained me helped me through the hectic times. The only time I saw the other operators was at the lunch break. I would do this again in a heartbeat. I checked out the model celebration room upon returning to the hotel. I had a few minutes of downtime before heading downstairs for the banquet. NER Achievement Program (AP) Committee Chair Bill Brown recognized



"Seacoast Division NMRA members Tom Oxnard and Chip Faulter along with Vin Gallogly and NER OpSig Coordinator Al Oneto operated on Vic Roman's Hudson Division on Friday night of The Pacemaker Convention. Vic's layout depicts the NYC mainline between Albany and Tivoli, NY in the 1940's. The layout features several signature schemes including this beautiful hand-crafted rendition of Albany Union Station. Photo taken by Chip Faulter and used by permission of Vic Roman."

over 40 NER members for achieving AP certificates including Tom Oxnard who recently achieved Master Model Railroader (MMR). The after-dinner speaker was author Bob Mohowski who spoke about his experiences on riding Amtrak all over the country.

Early Sunday morning (8 am) was the NER Annual Meeting of Members. I couldn't miss that as I am the NER Secretary and have to take the minutes after all. NER President John Doehring did a good job of keeping the meeting informal and informative summarizing

# The Pacemaker Convention Albany NY

By Chip Faulter

all of the good things that are happening in the NER as well as his vision for the next couple years. I got home about 3 pm, tired, satisfied and eager to head to the basement and get to work on a train project.

You can see that I spent my time at clinics and operating sessions. However, there were several interesting prototype tours offered as well as some non-railroad related activities.

You couldn't possibly do everything that the convention committee offered, and that is by design.

These conventions offer a wide variety of model railroad and prototype activities as well as activities for the spouses in interesting locations. If you have never been to an NER convention, plan on going to Newport, RI next year. The Newport convention Committee is already in notch 8 and planning a great program. NER conventions are a great value and a great time!



Seacoast Division NMRA member Chip Faulter spent an intense four hours of model railroad operations as the CTC Dispatcher on Jack Cutler's Juniata Secondary HO Scale layout. The Juniata Secondary is a large double-deck PRR themed layout depicting a fictitious PRR branch pressed into mainline service after WWII sabotage has shut down horse-shoe curve. Shown in the photo was Chip's "pilot" for the session, David Ricci. Without David's help, Chip probably would have brought the railroad to a standstill. Jack's layout uses Dr. Bruce Chubb's C/MRI for the signal control system with a virtual, prototypically correct US&S CTC panel (shown in the photo) driven by Bill Carr's homemade software using Visual Basic. Photo by Bert Pflegl and used by permission of Jack Cutler."



## Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta a Success

### By Peter McKenney

"I have been to many model RR conventions. This was the best one ever. Thank your whole crew for a job well done." Rick Wheeler -Tucson

Accolades like this have been pouring into the organizers of the 36<sup>th</sup> National Narrow Gauge Convention that was held in Augusta, Maine, Sept. 7-10, since the conclusion of the convention. The Seacoast Division NMRA played an important part in producing this wonderfully successful convention. The Division's

Board of Directors voted in November 2014 for the Division to be a co-sponsor to augment the capabilities of the original team of organizers who had begun organizational efforts over two years earlier. The Division assisted the organizers to qualify for NMRA liability insurance (a substantial cost savings for the convention), recruit home layouts for touring, and recruit and manage volunteers at the convention.

The convention attracted 1,357 participants, much higher than were at the 2015 national narrow gauge convention in Houston, TX (861). Seventy-nine Mainers took part in the convention, either as registrants, volunteers, guides, vendors, or layout hosts. A final financial accounting has not been completed, but all of the net surplus of the convention will be donated to Maine's narrow gauge railroad museums.

A major attraction to this convention was the fact that Maine has four museums actively preserving the history of Maine's narrow gauge railroads. This, plus many great layouts in the area attracted participants from four continents. Not often can Maine have a world-wide audience. In this case, visitors came from Canada, Mexico, Japan, Australia, United Kingdom, Germany, Sweden, Belgium, and France!



Dave Sias and Paul Lessard staff the display of the Seacoast Division NMRA on the vendor floor. Chip Faulter arranged the display materials for the convention. Bob Willard worked with others to extract a narrow gauge module from the home layout of Division member Wally Chase. The module was built in the early 1980s by Dennis Lamarre and the Narrow Gauge Gazette featured it in an article in its Nov/Dec 1981 issue. Shortly thereafter, Dennis transferred this module to Wally who connected it to his standard gauge model railroad. Larry Cannon helped prepare it for display at the convention. The module will be on display at the Great Falls Model Railroad Club hereafter. Thanks to Division members who staffed the display for the four days of the convention!

I was pleased to see many Seacoast Division NMRA members at the convention, many more than at other conventions in the region. They benefited from seeing great modular layouts at the convention center, going on special tours of the narrow gauge museums, hearing very interesting clinics, seeing examples of great

modeling in the contest room, and shopping in the huge vendor room. Many of our members qualified for free admission because they volunteered (4 hours) or opened their layouts for touring. Thanks to Chip Faulter and others, the Division had a great display in the vendor room. I satisfied one of my long-time goals of touring the former site of the Monson Railroad with a knowledgeable tour guide, and learned a lot about the slate industry. At one time, this railroad interchanged with a standard railroad that I have

## Narrow Gauge Convention in Augusta A Success By Peter McKenney

modeled.

Perhaps the greatest compliment that the organizers heard after the convention was: “When is the National Narrow Gauge Convention coming back to Maine?”

Sadly, there is no answer to that question until another group of energetic risk-takers forms to put in a bid to have one. Anyone interested? Come to the Fall Event in Stratham, NH, October 15 and see an illustrated report on NNGC 2016!





## Board of Directors Summary of Meetings

The Directors of the Seacoast Division NMRA held two meetings in the past few months. Following the Summer Event on July 23, the Directors met for 70 minutes. President Whitney appointed Tage Erickson to fill the seat on the Board vacated by Tom Coulombe. Bill Poor reported that he will not be able to continue in the position of division webmaster and Steve Russo volunteered to provide temporary services. President Whitney will serve as liaison to the New England Free-mo Modular Group. At the October meeting, President Whitney asked the Nominating Committee to report recommended candidates for the seats now held by Directors Whitney, Oxnard, and Lessard whose terms will end in January. He announced his willingness to serve one more term as President but wishes for another member to take this role

starting in January 2018. Membership Chair Dave Sias lead a discussion on how to learn more about the approximately 70 division members who are not known by the Directors. Activities Director McKenney stepped down from this position and President Whitney will reassign his duties. Director Faulter and Secretary Oxnard have filed documents with the Maine Secretary of State to make Chip succeed Tom Coulombe as corporate clerk. The Directors voted unanimously to nominate Bill Gaver as a candidate for the NER's Spate Award. (See separate article). The Directors voted to amend the bylaws to add a requirement that the Division retain certain historical records and add the office of Historian. They also voted on a specific procedure to implement this requirement. The bylaws amendment will not be effective until the Board votes in favor of it at its next

meeting following a 45-day notice period to the members. The Directors also approved the Division becoming a "supporter" of Tour de Chooch and posting a link to the Tour on the Division website.

President Whitney convened a special meeting of the Directors on August 18 which lasted 59 minutes. The primary purpose of the meeting was to assign tasks for upcoming activities. Tage Erickson will be the Event Manager for both the Fall and Winter Events. The positions of Webmaster and Activities Chair remain open and a new position of "Publicity Manager" was proposed.

Formal minutes of these two meetings, containing more details of the deliberations, may be found on the Division's website.



**Meet Tage Erickson, the newest member of the Division's Board of Directors. Tage moved to Embden, Maine, 2 years ago, after living in Connecticut for many years. He served in the USMC for 8 years and the ANG for 27 years, retiring as a colonel in 2005. A retired test pilot for Sikorsky Aircraft Co., Tage is building a large HO layout based on Conrail in New England in the late 70s and early 80s. Thanks, Tage, for adding your skills and efforts to the cause!**



## Achievement Program Success in Seacoast Division



Division AP Coordinator for Maine, Larry Cannon MMR, presented Achievement Program certificates to three deserving members during the Summer Event: Lou Champagne and Chip Faulter both earned Chief Dispatcher certificates and Dave Sias on the right earned Association Volunteer. Congratulations, fellows. Since the Summer Event, Tom Oxnard, MMR, Division AP Coordinator for New Hampshire, has submitted his application for Master Builder- Prototype Models.

More AP news on the next page



Photo on bottom left is from one of many outstanding modules. top right photo is from the contest from the National Narrow Gauge Convention  
Photo by Geoff Anthony

## Seacoast Division NMRA Engraved Name Tags Now Available

The Seacoast Division of the NMRA is now making available to members engraved name tags with up to three lines available, 25 characters per line. The badges will be \$5.00 per badge and \$3.50 for postage or you can wait and pick them up at a Division event. Orders will be held until we have ten badges ordered. Badges include the attractive Seacoast Division logo.

Please mail orders to Geoff Anthony, PO Box 187, Blue Hill ME 04614 -0187.  
Make checks payable to SEACOAST DIVISION NMRA  
Please include your mailing address if you want it mailed.



### Seacoast Division NMRA Engraved Name Tags Available

You may have up to three lines on your name tag. Badges will be at cost to Seacoast Division NMRA (currently \$5). If you wish the tag mailed to you, add \$3.50. Otherwise, your tag will be handed to you at the next regular Seacoast Division NMRA meeting that you attend. Orders will be submitted to engraver in batches of a minimum of 10.

First Line  
Second Line  
Third Line

[illegible]

Make check payable to: **Seacoast Division NMRA**

Mail order form to: Geoff Anthony  
PO Box 187  
Blue Hill, ME 04614

Send completed name tag to:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_



## AP Report by Tom Oxnard NH Larry Cannon ME

At the 2016 NER Convention this past week in Albany NY, Bill Brown, our NER AP Chairman, announced the AP awards that were given out over the past 2 years. This is because the NER did not have its own convention last year but joined with the MER at their convention in New Jersey.

The good news is that the Seacoast Division along with Little Rhody tied for the most awards given to a division with 16 each. Next came Garden State at 15 and HUB at 13.

The awards given out included almost all of the AP categories; Golden Spike, Dispatcher, Author, Civil, Electrical, Structure, Prototype, Scenery, Volunteer, Official, and Cars.

Larry Cannon and I can help answer questions about your projects and the process. Tom Oxnard

Peter Magoun, George Barrett and I judged Tom's Prototype Modeler submission of part of the BAR yard at Fort Fairfield, ME and found it worthy of a Merit Award score. Tom either is in process or has submitted documentation to Bill Brown for an AP Certificate in this category. At some point in the future, the Division probably will have a second MMR serving as an AP Coordinator who has all of the certificates. Way to go Tom! Larry Cannon

## Timetable

Oct 2	Pepperell Siding Club show	Pepperell MA
Oct 8	Transit day Seashore Trolley Museum	Kennebunk ME
Oct 14	Derry Model RR fun night	Derry NH
Oct 15	Seacoast Fall Event	Stratham NH
Nov 5	Great Falls Club Show	Topsham ME
Nov 5	Monadnock RR Club Show	Peterborough NH
Nov 11	Derry Model RR fun night	Derry NH
Nov 12	Northern New England Train Collectors	Rochester NH
Nov 19	Holiday Train Display Maine Mall	S. Portland
Nov 19	Eastern Maine Club Show	Brewer ME
Nov 25 -27	Tour de Chooch	NH, MA
Dec 9	Derry Model RR fun night	Derry NH
Jan 7	Seacoast Winter Event / Annual meeting	Portland ME
Jan 13	Derry Model Railroad Fun night	Derry NH
Jan 28-29	Amherst Society Show	Springfield MA

## New Members

David Simpson, Rochester, NH  
Eric Schade, Phippsburg, ME  
Aaron Mansur, Chester, NH  
Bruce MacLean, S. Portland, ME  
Dave Kotsonis, Greenland, NH  
Edward Hinton, Exeter, NH  
Jack Duffy, Hudson, NH  
Glen Barrett, Pittston, ME





## Seacoast Division NMRA Leaders

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