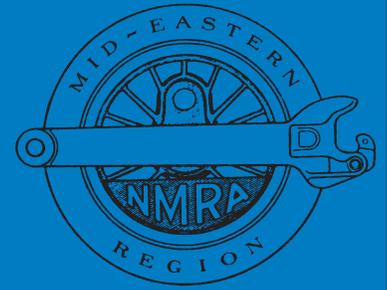


The Local

A PUBLICATION OF THE MID-EASTERN REGION OF THE NMRA



Volume 68

NOVEMBER — DECEMBER 2013

Number 6

I Learned How to Operate – Part 1

By Peter Mosiondz, Jr.

IS IT GOING ANYWHERE?

MANY OF US CAN TRACE our beginnings in this greatest of all hobbies to that well-remembered Lionel or American Flyer train set going around the Christmas tree. Going around and around and around. You get the idea. It wasn't really going anywhere.

We grew up. Some stayed with O, O-27 or S. Others ventured into HO and later to N scale. Of course girls and cars got in the way for awhile but we eventually came back. But, for the most part, the trains kept going around and around.

During the late 1950s and early 1960s HO grew in popularity by leaps and bounds. So did the hobby. This was due in large measure to a new and wide variety of equipment and accessories made available to us at affordable prices.

Kits were simpler and quicker to build. More detail could be found in those better performing locomotives and rolling stock. Forget for a moment those dreadful horn and hook couplers. I believe the NMRA called them X-2F and they did conform to their standards at the time. And I still have an Athearn F7 with rubber-band drive. I fondly call this period of growth the "Golden Era" of model railroading.

Thanks to all of these improvements we had some extra time on our hands with which to think about being more creative in our track planning and design efforts. Gone was the oval of yesteryear. We began to add sidings and passing tracks to our newly built "L" or "S"-shaped layouts. The trains were now running differently but they still weren't going anywhere.

To "go somewhere" we need to think about the function and purpose of our transportation system. In other words we must decide on a line of travel in a realistic direction. This could be east to west, north to south or perhaps something a little different such as an eastern starting point then traveling westward for a while and eventually branching out to the north or south. Your own

imagination, if you are freelancing, will provide the right answer. Now we have the beginnings of a definite purpose in mind. Where did this train come from? Where is it going? How many towns will be located on our empire? What industries will be located in those towns?

Now we're traveling in some meaningful direction – without looping back. We are going to serve industries and maybe even transport people. We now have a sense of purpose.

But to make our railroads more prototypical, we have to do some interchanging with other railroads. On many occasions, products manufactured by a shipper on your pike will need to be shipped to other distant cities. These carloads will have to be shipped off-line to one or more other railroads. This is easily handled through end-to-end connections between railroads, mostly in medium to large cities, or at interchange points where one railroad crosses or otherwise connects with another. You will not just be handing off to other railroads. They will be

interchanging with your road as well.

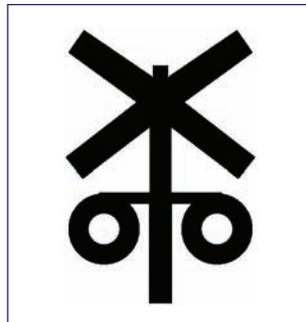
These interchange locations are typically funneled by stub tracks. These do not need to be seen but rather they can be hidden behind a bridge, a building or some scenery to create the illusion that they are really there.

Our next task is to select the era and locale we plan to model. Then we arrive at track planning which will now be quite a bit easier since the foundations are in already in place. Next we build the layout and start running trains. Most importantly we now have a true transportation system with trains that are performing actual service and are really "going somewhere".

NOW WE'RE GOING SOMEWHERE

Operation is the culmination of all that hard work performed in planning, designing, building and scenicing our model railroad

continued on page 5



The Local

Official Publication of the Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA – A Tax-Exempt Organization

The Local is published six times a year. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect those of MER elected officials. Commercial suppliers, supplies and materials addressed in **The Local** in no way constitute an endorsement by the MER. Copyright material that appears in **The Local** is used for educational and historical benefit only and does not constitute infringement of the copyright holder.

EDITORIAL STAFF



Editor / Photographer: Earl Hackett
3 Forrest Lane
Hockessin, DE 19707
(302) 239-5509
Hackett@verizon.net



Webmaster: Martin Oakes
8057 Lucky Creek Lane
Denver, NC 28037-8004
(704) 483-7972
martinoakes@charter.net



Publisher: Julianne H. Smith
7221 Ridgeway Drive
Manassas, VA 20112,
(703) 794-7309
dragonjuls@verizon.net

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF



President: John Janosko
264 White Cedar Lane
Youngsville, NC 27596-9196
(919) 562-0260
johnajan@embarqmail.com



Vice President: P. J. Mattson, MMR
129 East Avenue
Swedesboro, NJ 08085-1209
(856) 467-0421
pjmattson@comcast.net



Secretary: Mike White
3800 Chaneyville Road
Owings, MD 20736
(410) 286-2873
mm.white@comcast.net



Treasurer: Thomas R. Buckingham
7216 S. Osborne Road
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-4206
(301) 952-0427
tombuckingham@juno.com



MER Archivist: Position Open
Contact Bob Price or President
Janosko to apply.



MER Contest Chair/Manager:
Martin Brechbiel
3404 Monarch Lane
Annandale, VA 22003
(703) 309-3082
martinwb@verizon.net



Director: Martin Brechbiel
3404 Monarch Lane
Annandale, VA 22003
(703) 309-3082
martinwb@verizon.net



Director: Jack Dziadul
1488 Abercorn Ln
Sanford, NC 27330-9152
919-721-8757,
dziadul@windstream.net



Director: J. Gary Tyler:
315 Sourwood Dr
Hardy, VA 24101-2863
405-921-8058,
tylerenergy@aol.com



Achievement Program Manager
Charles Flichman, MMR
6909 Crandall Court
Clemmons, NC 27012-9056
(336) 766-8353,
cwflich@aol.com



Business Manager:
Bob Price
666 Princeton Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108
(856) 854-8585, MER-
BusMgr@comcast.net

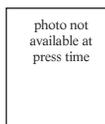


Nominations Chairman:
Bob Minnis, MMR
11 Marwood Drive
Palmyra, VA 22963;
(434) 589-3011,
kahlualab@aol.com

MER DIVISION CONTACTS



New Jersey Division 1
Superintendent: Robert Clegg
(856) 696-0463
bobcates@comcast.net
Division web page:
www.njdivnmra.org



Potomac Division 2
Superintendent: Brian Sheron, MMR
17120 Campbell Farm Rd
Poolesville, MD 20837-2170
bwsheron@mac.com
Division web page: http://home.comcast.net/~potomac_nmra/



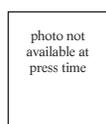
Philadelphia Division 3
Superintendent: Joe Bergmaier
(610) 269-8558
jober922@gmail.com
Division web page:
<http://www.phillynmra.org/>



Tidewater Division 4
Superintendent: Gary Brown; (757) 481-2348; alleghenyrr@yahoo.com
Division web page:
www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org



James River Division 5
Superintendent: Bob Minnis, MMR
(434) 589-3011,
kahlualab@aol.com
Division web page:
<http://www.trainweb.org/jrd/>



South Mountain Division 10
Superintendent: Richard C. Lind
202 W College Ter.
Frederick, MD 21701-4844
301-694-9496,
rc lind202@verizon.net

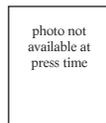
Division web page: www.smdnmra.org



Susquehanna Division 11
Superintendent: Barry Schmitt
(717) 877-1810, bschmitt@susquehannanmra.org
Division web page:
www.susquehannanmra.org



Carolina Southern Division 12
Superintendent: Bob Halsey;
(704) 660-9712; xnavman@roadrunner.com
Division web page:
www.carolinasouthern.org



Carolina Piedmont Division 13
Superintendent: Grif Bond;
(919) 556-7066,
grifbond@embarqmail.com
Division web page:
<http://www.trainweb.org/cpd13>



Chesapeake Division 14
Superintendent: Kurt A. Thompson
(410) 544-7247;
super.chesdivmnmra@gmail.com
Division web page:
www.chesapeake-nmra.org

All subscription information, advertising rates and publication deadlines are now located on page 16.

The MER website is <http://mer.nmra.org/>



From The Business Car

By John Janosko
MER President

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE that the year is almost over. It seems as I get older the days seem to fly by. When you read this the MER convention will just be memories, hopefully happy ones. I will have more on the convention in my next newsletter in January. This is also the time of year that a lot of you have open houses to show off your modeling expertise and a chance to get together with friends that you have not seen probably since this time last year. This is the time of year we reflect on family and friends and to be thankful for all the wonderful friends

we have met because of our love of trains. Putting a smile on a small child while he watches one of your trains go by on your layout is worth all the time and effort you have put into this hobby. Just maybe they will catch the bug that we all have gotten over the years and model railroading will continue on to the next generation.

I hope everyone has a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas. 🏠

I Learned How to Operate - Part 1 continued from page 1

together with the selection and detailing of our motive power and rolling stock. The efforts expended to this point created the purpose of our transportation system.

Our locomotives will be transporting cars of products to places where they are needed and people to destinations they wish to reach. These predetermined ends of the trip can be on-line or off-line. As we discussed previously, a good number of your trains will be performing an interchange with another pike. All of these movements are carried out expeditiously as practical. Such trains are often moving in opposite directions, even over a single-track railroad. Accordingly we need some sort of system to prevent collisions or undue delays. As a result, railroads have published rule books and timetables which outline the priorities and schedules of every train negotiating their rails.

It all boils down to moving freight and passengers over the system to their intended destinations, or to a connecting railroad, as quickly and as safely as possible in accordance with a well-defined set of rules and following a comprehensive schedule.

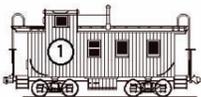
When a model railroad attempts to emulate such practices, we describe this as operation. And operation thus goes hand-in-hand with purpose on a model railroad.

My personal desire to operate came from articles on the subject by many hobby luminaries, such as Bill McClelland and Tony Koester. I must admit that I was scared to death when I was first asked to operate on a friend's model railroad. But with the urging of my friends, I agreed to give it a try and was handed a throttle. These great friends graciously tutored me. My trepidations were unfounded. It was really easy and the experience was a great deal of fun. I was warmly welcomed into the "South Jersey Operators" group.

We have already pondered the question of whether or not our railroad was really going anywhere. In other words, does it have a purpose? Is it logical? If that railroad is logically designed with a definite purpose in mind, you'll have the greatest amount of fun operating it. We're on the way!

There are many other areas to talk about concerning operating a model railroad. These include the actual operating session, car cards, way bills, switch lists and other items. One tip I'd like to offer is that too tight a schedule or too many trains running at one time results in tension for the operators and the dispatcher and defeats the purpose of this wonderful hobby that we turn to in an effort to reduce our already high stress levels. 🏠

ANNUAL REPORTS BY DIVISION



NEW JERSEY DIVISION 1
Annual Report – No Report



POTOMAC DIVISION 2
Annual Report – 2012

Meeting Times and Dates:

January 7, 2012, Meeting opened at 12:30 PM
March 10, 2012, Meeting opened at 12:30 PM

August 11, 2012, Meeting opened at 12:30 PM

September 22, 2012, Meeting opened at 12:30 PM

List of officers plus AP coordinator: Contact information:

Superintendent: Marshall Abrams,

Abrams_Railroad@comcast.net

Senior Assistant Superintendent: Bill Day 4112

BillDay22@verizon.net

Assistant Superintendent and AP Coordinator: Brian Sheron

BWSheron@mac.com

continued on page 4

Keeping In Touch...

By Bob Price
MER Business Manager

BY THE TIME YOU ARE READING this newsletter, I hope you experienced the fun at C&P Junction, MER's annual convention in Rockville, MD. The Local editor's timetable each year at this time calls for articles to be written before the convention but read by members after the convention. So while I am writing this column, I am just anticipating that the convention will again be an outstanding event, complete with clinics, layout and prototype tours and auctions.

I trust most of you received your MER Ballot in September. We sent out 1862 ballots to eligible MER members. Eligible, of course, means those fully paid up NMRA members living within the MER territory at the time of the mailing. As usual, about thirty ballots were returned to me by the Post Office for such reasons as bad addresses, temporarily away, etc.

But a total of 324 ballots were forwarded to Bob Minnis, the Ballot Chairman. That's just under 18 percent participation. The results of the election are reported in this issue of **The Local** and

were also posted on the MER website and the MER Yahoo discussion group. Congratulations to the new Directors and thanks to everyone that assisted in the election process.

One member has expressed an interest in taking on the Archivist's position. That matter should have been finalized at the Board meeting at the convention by the time you read this. I thank him for stepping up.

The cool weather, Model Railroad Month and the holiday season are rapidly approaching. This is the perfect time to get back into the basement, knock some cobwebs off the layout and start on some new projects. Maybe think about hosting an open house to show neighbors and friends what you been up too. Maybe you'll end up recruiting a new member.

As always *Keep in Touch* with any questions or changes in your subscriptions or addresses. A current address on file saves the MER some money. 

Annual Reports by Division continued from page 3

Paymaster: Murray Michael White mmwhite@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor: Martin McGuirk mjmcguirk@comcast.net
Layout Disposal Coordinator: Clinton Hyde chyde@cox.net
Clerk: Andrew Dodge orocity@hotmail.com

Achievement Program highlights: Certificates received by Division members in 2012:

Ron King – *Golden Spike, Electrical*
Bill Lyders – *Electrical*
Bill Day – *Merit awards for two scratch-built cars*
Murray (Mike) White – *Volunteer*
Marty McGuirk – *Volunteer*
Mat Thompson – *Master Builder – Structures*
John Pagononi – *Master Builder – Cars*

Planned activities from the past year:

In cooperation with Chesapeake Division, we held our annual Mini-convention on Saturday March 31, 2012 which featured several modular layouts, clinics, a model display and contest room, a featured clinician, and white elephant sale. The Division's annual meeting and election of officers was held during the mini-convention.

We conducted the five "White Flag Extra" clinics:

January 21: Tom Brodrick, Steel Construction; Bob Johnson, Rocks

March 3: John Glaab, Steel Mills, Bruce Greenburg, Shows

May 12: Clint Hyde, Airbrushing, Andrew Dodge, Plexiglas

September 8: Marshall Abrams, Photo Backdrops

November 17: John Drye, Weathering, Marty McGuirk, Tall Trees

We conducted 8 open house/layout tours (one a month with the exceptions of March, July, August, and October)

Special projects or working with other organizations:

We agreed to co-sponsor the 2013 MER convention with the Chesapeake Division and began to actively plan for that convention during 2012.

Any successful or new ideas that your division has tried that might be helpful to other divisions?:

The Potomac Division began a seminar program that is designed to have small groups of hobbyists meet with individual seminar leaders who conduct a session on a well defined model railroad topic. Each seminar runs approximately one to two hours and can be conducted in the leader's home or other venue. Seminar leaders also will designate in their announcements the general skill or interest levels they would like to have for all those attending their program in order that all will have a rewarding experience.

Where in your opinion could the MER provide support to your division?:

Continue to provide periodic e-mails to all of the MER members advertising the October MER convention (C&P Junction)

Superintendents name and signature:

Brian W. Sheron, MMR, Assistant Superintendent



PHILADELPHIA DIVISION 3
Annual Report – 2012

Meeting times and dates:

The division Meets 5 times a year in January, March, May, September and November. It chooses a Saturday well in advance and publishes the meeting times and location in its newsletter as well as announcing it at prior meets. The meetings start at 9:00 AM and run until noon. In the afternoon we typically have 2 or 3 member's layouts open for "open house" We rotate the location of each meeting so that we have one each in Delaware, Bucks Montgomery and Chester counties. Ironically, very few of our members actually live within the city of Philadelphia.

2012 started off with our annual joint meet with the New Jersey Division at Haddonfield High School. This meet was well received by our members due to the unique format offered by our New Jersey friends. We had a rotation of about 8 different mini-clinics featuring works in progress. It gave our members a chance to be exposed to a variety of first hand looks at various modeling techniques and projects.

In March we had our bi-annual Valley Forge RPM meet which is put on by our standing RPM committee within the Division. Once again there was a record turnout and we have learned from informed sources that this is the 2nd largest RPM type event in the country. We are quite proud of the continued efforts and success of this committee of dedicated Philly Division modelers headed by Paul Backenstose.

In May we held another joint meet with the East-Coast Santa Fe Modelers at Delaware Valley college. We held our annual business meeting during the course of this meet. We have decided that, starting in 2013, we will be holding this joint meet every other year in the off year of the Valley Forge RPM meet. In September we did something new and held a joint meet in Drexel Hill with the Pennsylvania Railroad Historical Society. In November we moved to our annual Delaware venue; the Brandywine Town Center in Wilmington DE.

List of officers plus AP coordinator: Contact information

- Superintendent, John Seibert BOD
- Assistant Superintendent, Joe Bergmaier BOD
- Clerk, Mark Wallace BOD
- Treasurer, Howard Kaplan BOD
- Achievement Program Coordinator, Dave Messer, MMR
- Board Member at Large, Pat McTeigue BOD
- Board Member at Large, Greg Shindledecker BOD
- Board Member at Large, Brian Good BOD, b3good1@verizon.net

Achievement Program highlights:

We do have several people working towards various AP certs.

Planned activities from the past year:

We continue to look at ways to add value to division members by changing things up to keep it interesting and draw attendance. Not to steal from 2013's report but we planned in 2012 to have a meeting in an actual railroad venue. We chose the restored former Reading Company station in Quakertown, PA. Just last month in March of 2013 we had a meet there. We had a great turnout!! It was decided to make it an annual event to have our March meets there. It also contributes to

our goal of having venues at different locations around the division to support all our members.

Special projects or working with other organizations:

We are still selling our Division Car: An HO scale RDG HTv off-set side hopper car in 6 different unique road numbers. Originally offered for sale at discounted prices for members of the division, we are now offering the discounted pricing to all MER members-in-good-standing as well. The model is manufactured by Kadee and is exquisite. We have sold about 2/3s of our original quantity and we find many buyers taking all 6 road numbers.

We continue to support various local model railroad clubs through publicity in our division newsletter **The Dispatcher**. We also report on progress of individual members layouts plus news within the model railroad community.

We have assisted our RPM committee in planning and running their Valley Forge RPM meet held in March of every even numbered year at the Desmond Hotel in Malvern, PA.

Any successful or new ideas that your division has tried that might be helpful to other divisions:

We have been sending out a personal email welcoming new members to the division and informing them of what the division has to offer. This has had a positive impact in turnout of new members at our meets.

Where in your opinion could the MER provide support to your division.

Provide more communication within the model railroad community as to the MER and division's existence, activities, and overall benefits of NMRA membership. After all, this is a grass roots type organization.

A hot button for us: Nurture and support an active pool of clinicians who volunteer to rotate through-out the MER in presenting quality clinics. This can be enhanced: There is now a proven ability to give clinics remotely so that clinicians do not have to travel every month to a different division. The capability exists to give clinics to multiple remote venues simultaneously thus giving broader exposure to the clinic with less strain on the presenters.

Superintendents name and signature:

John Seibert, Superintendent, Philadelphia Division



TIDEWATER DIVISION 4
Annual Report – 2012

Meeting information:

Meet on the third Saturday of the month in Jan, Mar, May, Jun, Oct and Nov. Social time 9-10 AM, Meeting start at 10 AM.

Officers and AP Coordinator:

- Superintendent – Gary Brown, AlleghenyRR@yahoo.com, 757-641-7671
- Asst. Super – Conrad Haas, conradh4@verizon.net, 757-256-5989
- Timekeeper – Pat Mahoney, pat_mahoney@verizon.net, 757-498-4296

continued on page 6

Paymaster – Len Boucher, lenboucher@aol.com,
757-420-7879

AP Coordinator – John Johnson MMR 339, 757-562-5917

Achievement Program highlights:

Issued one Golden Spike Award

Planned activities from past year:

Conducted 6 regular meetings.

Held our Annual Train Show in the Virginia Beach Convention Center with 6 operating layouts, 43 vendors and attended by over 1,500 people.

Paired with the Virginia Beach Library for National Railroad Month in November with displays in the library, an operating layout, and our November meeting.

Participated with the Aviation Museum for their “Trains and Planes” show in November.

Participated with the Chesapeake Library in March for their “Train Days” weekend.

Weekly open house events by the TMRC operating layout including every day for two weeks through the Christmas season
Held our June meeting at the Army’s Transportation Museum and toured the Army’s Railroad facility.

Special projects or working with other organizations:

Hosted the MER convention in October

The Albermarle Railroad Club from North Carolina asked to join our Division

Successful ideas to share:

Having a clinic and presenter for each meeting

Holding meetings in various locations

Where could the MER provide support:

Provide feedback from the other Divisions

Facilitate communication between the Divisions

Fix the links on MER website, email links often do not work

Have National provide Division contact information to new members

Attend Division meetings more frequently

Superintendents name and signature:

Gary Brown, Superintendent, Tidewater Division



**JAMES RIVER DIVISION 5
Annual Report – 2012**

Meeting Dates and Time:

March 2012 – Lynchburg

June – Charlottesville

September – Richmond

Officers:

Superintendent – Bob Minnis

Assistant – Bob Carroll

Clerk – Jim Mueller

Paymaster – Doug Barry

AP – Chuck Hladik

Advanced Placement Highlights:

MMR #401, Bill McMillan passed in July.

Planned Activities Past Year:

Each meeting usually consists of registration, one or two clinics, a popular vote contest for a railroad related item such as a small engine facility, MW equipment, and photos.

Special Projects:

JRD is investigating ways to increase meeting attendance. Possible areas include additional meetings in other locations such as Fredericksburg.

Superintendents name and signature:

Robert Minnis MMR, Superintendent, James River Division



**SOUTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION 10
Annual Report – 2012**

Meeting Times and Dates:

Typically 2 to 5 PM on the second Sunday of the month, except in June, July and August there are no meetings

List of Officers plus AP coordinator:

Superintendent, Richard Lind, rlind202@verizon.net

Paymaster, Raymond Price, wmrryar1904@gmail.com

Clerk, James Fisher, aliceandjimf@cermak.com

AP Coordinator, Jane Clarke, ebtmx5@aol.com

Achievement program highlights:

Robert C. Johnson just received AP certificates for Chief Dispatcher and Master Builder Scenery. Bob gave a clinic on changes in the MMR program at our regular January 13, 2013 meeting and showed us his application for Master Builder Scenery as he spoke about how applications have gotten easier.

Planned Activities from the past year:

Group trip on a tourist railroad the first Saturday of June.

We schedule a couple of operating sessions a year on layouts outside the SMD area.

Special projects or working with other organizations:

None yet. We did get an inquiry about this topic from Susquehanna Division Super Barry Schmidt on 12/21/2012. We sent information about our April 13, 2013 to him. No response.

Any successful or new ideas that your division has tried that might be helpful to other divisions:

We had a mini-con co-hosted with a hobby shop on November 17, 2012 and will have another on April 13, 2013 in another location. We have clinics at the mini-cons, which is nothing new. However, we have members sitting at tables working on model railroad projects

who are available to our guests all day. Guests can circulate around and sit down at the tables and ask questions. It's a one-on-one learning and teaching opportunity, and it's been enjoyable for all. It was not well publicized, so we thought it was a public outreach flop. However, there is a two-page story about our November 17, 2012 mini-con by Potomac Division member Sam Powell in the December 2012 issue of the National Association of S Gaugers **Dispatch** magazine, starting on page 10. In this article, Sam encourages NASG members to participate in the NMRA, and he uses our mini-con as an example of the opportunities that are available in the NMRA.

Where in your opinion could the MER provide support to your division:

Notify division superintendents of your meetings, and please send a copy of the MER Operating Manual to Richard Lind, 202 West College Terrace, Frederick MD 21701-4844, so we will know how to properly handle administrative tasks when dealing with MER.

Superintendents Name and Signature:

Richard Lind



SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION 11 Annual Report – 2012

Meeting Times and Dates:

No set pattern – uniquely set for each event.

List of Officers

Superintendent; Parry Schmitt, bschmitt@susquehannanmra.org

Assistant Superintendent; Wayne Betty,

wsb@susquehannanmra.org

Clerk; Paul Tice, ptice@susquehannanmra.org

Director; Robery Lyter, rlyter@susquehannanmra.org

Director and Membership CHair; Howard Oakes,

hoakes@susquehannanmra.org

Director; Ron Aarisi, rparisi@susquehannanmra.org

AP Chair; Robert Charles, MMR,

rcharles@susquehannanmra.org

Training and Clinic Chair; Alan Mende,

amende@susquehannanmra.org

Achievement Program highlights:

Member Ron Parisi is working towards cCars AP Certificate. His NYC gondola converted to "Cement Service" won Best of Show Award and Bud Kaiser Award for Best Weathered Freight Car at 2012 MER Convention.

Planned activities from the past year:

4/28/2012 – Clinic on the coal industry by retired coal industry expert Dave Tilman and personal layout tour in Easton, PA.

7/1/2012 – Division Officer Elections

9/15/2012 – Division sponsored 5 layout open houses during Mainline Hobby Supply of Blue Ridge Summit, PA weekend layout open house event.

10/5/2012 – Division sponsored LOPS 4 event that included 6 layout operations in both the Harrisburg and Allentown, PA areas

with 23 operators from 7 states.

10/10/2012 – Division sponsored 6 open house layout tours in support of National Model Railroad month.

2013 planned events:

Hold 1 or 2 events in the Johnstown, Altoona, and State College areas

Hold 1 event in the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton area

Hold multiple events in the Harrisburg, York, Allentown, and Reading areas

Sponsor LSOP 5, Oct 4-5 in traditional Harrisburg/York and Allentown areas

Sponsor Layout Open Houses in September in support of Mainline Hobby Supply of Blue Ridge Summit, PA weekend program

Sponsor November Layout Open Houses throughout the Division area in support of National Model Railroad Month

Special projects or working with other organizations:

Have contacted surrounding NMRA Division adjacent to our Western Territory to begin planning joint events – work in progress.

Plan to cross list adjoining Division events in future Division newsletters – work in progress.

Long term goal – host or more likely jointly host a MER Convention



CAROLINA SOUTHERN DIVISION 12 Annual Report – 2011

Meetings:

CSD meets monthly on the third Saturday 10:30 AM at the Hobytown in Mooresville, NC.

Division Officers/Board of Directors:

Superintendent: Bob Halsey xnavman@roadrunner.com, (704) 660-9712

Asst Superintendent: Larry Paffrath, larrypaffrath@bellsouth.net, (704) 778-2745

Clerk: Dave Draxler, ddraxler@carolina.rr.com, (704) 526-5036
Paymaster: John Stevens, jstevens8@roadrunner.com, (704) 663-5565

Director 2013: Rick Knight, rghkiii@roadrunner.com, (336) 202-2474

Director 2014: Roy Becker, ACL.Installation@gmail.com, (704) 644-5555

Director 2015: Gil Brauch, csdweb@charter.net, (828) 256-5708
AP Chairman: Dave Chance, loconut@carolina.rr.com, (704) 933-4200

Achievement Program Highlights:

2 Golden Spike awards in 2012: A. Perkins and C. Hardee
Merit award (scenery): A. Perkins

1 Master Model Railroader: Jack Parker

A dozen others working on various certificates

Planned Activities from the Past Year:

Conducted several railfan visits

continued on page 11

C&P JUNCTION MODEL CONTEST WINNERS

Martin Brechbiel and Greg Meeks

WE HAD A GOOD LEVEL of participation in the Contest Room at the **C&P Junction** Convention this year. Our hosts, the Potomac and the Chesapeake Divisions really did a nice job—thanks to the entire convention staff for a fun convention and for making our contest experience minimally stressful by providing us a good contest room at the Crown Plaza in Rockville, MD.

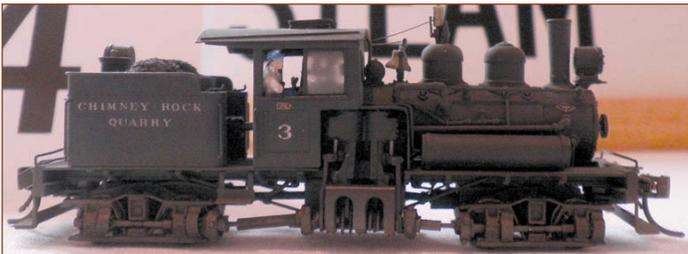
Special Thanks also to all of those donated their time on Saturday to judge the Model Contest. We were fortunate this year to be able to also have a good number of MMRs to lead each of the judging teams participating as well: Bob Charles, Charlie Flichman, Bob Minnis, and PJ Mattson. We were again fortunate to have 2 apprentice judges this year.

While we may have not had as large a number in the Contest Room as last year, we were graced with an excellent selection of some very fine models. There were but 28 models entered with 1 Favorite Train entry, but that also included 4 modules that were entered which was a great change of pace for the judges. I hope that we can see modules as entries more frequently in the future! The judged entries populated 11 categories, and there were 11 Merit Awards, and then there were 13 entries in the Photo Contest.

MODEL CONTESTS:

Steam –

1st place – Alan Mende – Chimney Rock Quarry No. 3*



First Place – Steam: Chimney Rock Quarry No. 3

Diesel –

1st place – John Johnson – Norfolk Southern 701 70-ton switcher*

Freight Cars –

3rd place – Fred Lagno – C&O Gondola 39275*

2nd place – Ron Parisi – NYC RR 421-S Single Deck Wooden Stock Car*

1st place – Herbert Gishlick – NMRA Bulletin Car Sides Swift Refrigerator Car*

Non-Revenue Cars –

1st place – Bruce De Young - HON3 Water Car*



First Place – Non-Revenue Cars: HON3 Water Car

Caboose or Cabin Car –

1st place – Martin Brechbiel – CVRR 19



First Place – Caboose: CVRR 19

Passenger Cars –

1st place – Martin Brechbiel – CVRR Coach 153

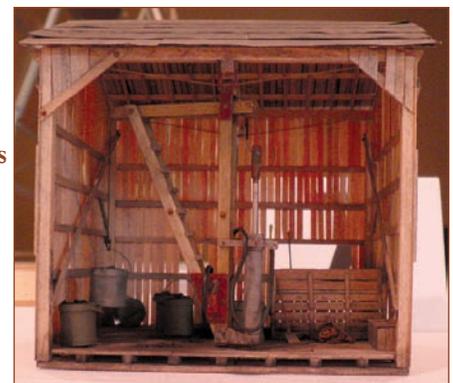
Structures On-Line –

3rd place – Alan Mende – Central RR of NJ Dunellen freight house*

2nd place – Fred Phillips – Minersville Passenger Station*

1st place – George Downer – Branchline Bucket Coaling Station*

First Place – Structures On-Line: Branchline Bucket Coaling Station



Structures Off-Line –

2nd place – Bruce Blackwood – Gas Station

1st place – Mike White – Poor Man's House Residence



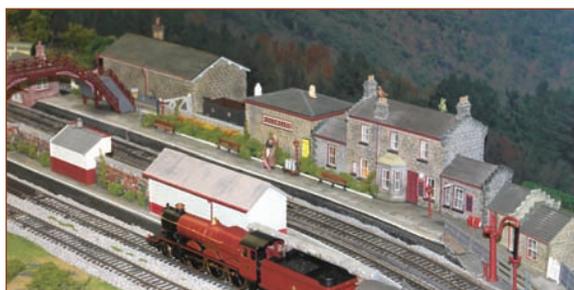
First Place – Structures Off-Line: Poor Man's House Residence

Displays Off-Line –

1st place – Gene Sing – Harris Southard's – Small Engine Sales and Repair*

Module –

3rd place – Clayton Holland – Hogwarts Station
2nd place – Clayton Holland – Hogwarts Castle
1st place – Gerald Fitzgerald – Biscuit Run



Hogwarts Station

PHOTO CONTEST:

Prototype Steam –

2nd place – John Johnson – N&W Fan Trip
1st place – John Johnson – Steam in Vermont

Prototype Other –

3rd place – Gerald Fitzgerald – 440V
2nd place – Gerald Fitzgerald – CSX Snow
1st place – Gerald Fitzgerald – Ballast Train at BA&MO

Model –

3rd place – John Johnson – Local NYC freight
2nd place – John Johnson – M1 Near Driftwood
1st place – John Johnson – Off the Low Grade

Best-in-Show –

1st place – John Johnson – Steam in Vermont

THE SPECIAL AWARDS:

The MER has always prided itself on the Special Awards given out in parallel to the judged model contest.

Clyde Gerald Kit-Bash Award: The best kit bashed model in the model contest.

Gerald Fitzgerald – Biscuit Run

The Blue Lantern Award: Sponsored by the Narrow Gauge Car Shop and given to the model that best represents branch line or private line equipment or facility with no more than 40 percent commercial parts.

Gerald Fitzgerald – Biscuit Run

The Henry (Bud) Kaiser Award: given the best detailed and weathered judged model entered.

Ron Parisi – NYC RR 421-S Single Deck Wooden Stock Car*

Ray Bilodeau MER Narrow Gauge Award:

Bruce De Young – HOn3 Water Car*

Favorite Train – chosen by popular vote!

John Johnson – Local Freight

The President's Award: This year was for a On-Line Structure:

George Downer – Branchline Bucket Coaling Station*

Best-in-Show: Given to the entry with the highest point's score in the model contest.

Alan Mende – Chimney Rock Quarry No. 3*

NOT AWARDED:

Pride of Dixie Award: Sponsored by the James River Division. This year's objective was a Still!

The Philadelphia New Modeler Award: given to the first-time entrant in the model contest with the highest point score. (A \$25 cash prize as well as a plaque from the Philadelphia Division!)

Favorite Model: chosen by popular vote!

*Denotes AP Merit Award—scoring a minimum of 87.5 points.

Now, a few brief notes about the Contest Room operations. Overall, this number of entrants this year remained somewhat lower than in the recent past, we had limited entries, and several categories had only one or no entrants at all! This was despite near record registration numbers for this convention. As a result, we once again ended up trashing some of the brass plaque faces! We got a bit of a bump up in the On-Line Structure category due to that being the President's Award for 2013, so next year an entry in Passenger Car will qualify you for the President's Award! So, let's see some passenger cars in next year's Contest Room and maybe you too can take a nice plaque home. On a similar note, we did not award either the Pride of Dixie award or the Great Decals! Award as there no entries that qualified for either award. Next year, the Pride of Dixie award is for a Y'all (South of the Mason-Dixon Line) Railroad pulpwood car, so I expect to see a few pulpwood cars.

If you have any questions about NMRA or MER contest rules, regulations or forms, NMRA judging of models, would like to be a Judge, have contest questions of any kind, complaints, suggestions, or whatever you might want to talk about, please contact me at martinwb@verizon.net 

C&P Convention Highlights

By Earl Hackett

WE'VE BEEN HOLDING **The Local** to include some convention highlights, so this will be very brief. This had to be one of the best conventions ever. About 350 people attended the event. There were many excellent layouts available to visit and I visited as many as time would allow.

There was a wide range of models on display. There was even a scratch built model shay, the first scratch built steam engine I've seen in years. Martin will have a complete contest report in the next issue, but here are some of the highlights.

There are many forms of model railroad modeling, from fine scale prototype to free lance layouts, but a beautiful model of Hogwarts Castle on the Meade Area RR Society modules was like nothing I've ever seen before. The castle is of course the destination for trains leaving Hogwarts Station, an excellent model of a British Rail passenger station. Model and photos by Clayton Holland.

Enough writing. I'll let the photo captions do the rest. 📷



This well detailed lumber mill on Matt Thompson's layout is typical of the quality construction seen throughout this relatively large layout.



Hogwarts Castle



Jim Brewer is constructing an impressive large layout with many eye-catching features, but by far this full size, detailed model of a rayon plant is amazing.



Fred Lagno's layout is not large, but it is heavily detailed as this engine house scene clearly demonstrates.

This Hullet by Bill Day would be an impressive static model, but this one operates. Note the location of the operator in a cabin just above the clam shell.



There were several O scale layouts open for visits, including this one by John Sethian.

Continued restoration of the Brookford layout and conducted 12 open house visits there in 2012, including a swap meet.

Conducted annual Boy Scout Railroad Merit Badge training & qualification classes (about 15 scouts attended).

Continued to publish Division newsletter **The Brass Pounder** (6 issues in 2012) and the ENews every other month.

Continued to update CSD website www.carolinasouthern.org (as always a first class effort due to our very talented webmaster!) and conduct Operation Lifesaver classes for school kids and Boy Scouts.

Conducted our annual Railroad Modeling University (an all-day series of instructional classes/seminars, from basic subjects to complex electronics). As a follow-up to this, we occasionally schedule half-day RMU classes in addition to classes/clinics at the monthly meetings. Recommend all Divisions institute an RMU-type program – not only is it very popular with members and non-members, it helps with recruiting and motivates both potential and current members to become more active.

Special projects and/or working with other organizations:

CSD will schedule more railfan visits to rail museums, tourist railroads, and places like the Tweetsie steam engine repair shop. We continue to conduct RailRun weekend in coordination with OpSig group, including 4-hour operating sessions at a half dozen or more member layouts.

Possible additional MER support:

Offer more clinics (especially hands-on) similar to those given at the annual national and regional conventions. Publicize Division activities in the MER Local and possibly the NMRA.org magazine, including Railfan tours. Have MER try to arrange group tours or discounts to all rail-related locations, activities, and museums.



CAROLINA PIEDMONT DIVISION 13 Annual Report – 2012

Meeting Times and Dates:

Fourth Tuesday of every month

Meetings in November and December held on second Tuesday
St. Michael Archangel Centre & Gallery, Cary, NC

6:30 PM Board of Directors meeting

7:00 PM Division membership meeting

All monthly meetings (except December) included an educational program on prototype railroads and/or railroad modeling. A monthly modeling contest was held and the popular vote winner received a \$10 gift certificate donated by Kim A. Parker, Train Buddy Products, Wake Forest, NC. Each monthly contest had a theme.

Average monthly meeting attendance was 24 members.

Refreshments provided at each meeting.

List of officers (for 2012) plus AP coordinator: Contact information

Superintendent – Grif Bond, grifbond@embarqmail.com

Assistant Superintendent – Jim Murphy,

berkshireshort@yahoo.com

Paymaster – Jerry Mersch, jbmsow@nc.rr.com

Clerk – Jack Dziadul, dziadul@windstream.net, newsletter editor

Achievement Program (AP) coordinator – Vic Bitleris,
vbiteris@nc.rr.com

Director – Vic Bitleris, vbiteris@nc.rr.com

Director – Rob Rousseau, railroad@nc.rr.com, webmaster@nc.rr.com

Director – Steve Milley, rsmilley@yahoo.com

Holiday Trains for Kids program coordinator – Steve Milley,
rsmilley@yahoo.com

Achievement Program highlights:

Eight achievement program certificates and two Golden Spike awards were earned:

Jack Dziadul – *Chief Dispatcher*

Dan Fisher – *Model Railroad Author*

John Janosko – *Golden Spike*

John Janosko – *Association Volunteer*

Rob Rousseau – *Golden Spike*

Rob Rousseau – *Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical*

Stephen Wood – *Master Builder – Structures*

Stephen Wood – *Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical*

Stephen Wood – *Master Builder – Scenery*

Stephen Wood – *Association Volunteer*

Planned Activities from the past year

Moved to a new monthly meeting location

Monthly meetings held with educational programs and popular vote model contest

Elected one new Director, Steve Milley, for a 3 year term ending January 2015

Announced the latest “special modeling contest” and offered Life-Like HO scale coaling tower kits to Division membership for \$5.00 each. Contest ends with display and voting in March 2013.

Produced 12 monthly issues of Division newsletter, The Carolina Piedmont Herald. Primary distribution was via the Division’s Yahoo Group list with a few paper copies sent US Mail. Newsletter is also posted on the Division’s website www.cpd13.org

Division booth/display with switching layouts at the Amtrak Station in Cary, NC for National Train Day

Three Division members attended the NMRA 2012 National Convention in Grand Rapids, Michigan

White elephant sale before/during membership meeting in October

Division booth/display with switching layout at the annual Neuse River Valley (NRV) Train Show in November

Special projects or working with other organizations:

Holiday Trains for Kids program – Eight (8) HO scale electric train sets were provided to less fortunate children at Christmas time. Division members identified children through local contacts such as churches, civil clubs and schools.

Any successful or new ideas that your division has tried that might be helpful to other divisions

Holiday Trains for Kids program that provides HO scale electric train sets to less fortunate children at Christmas time. Train sets are purchased using Division funds, contributions and funds raised from the sale of “raffle layouts”.

continued on page 13

New Membership Recruitment Program

As an aid to membership recruitment, NMRA recently instituted a six month "Railpass" trial membership program which costs the applicant \$9.95. Building on this idea, the MER is instituting a program whereby it will pay the \$9.95 Railpass fee for interested applicants in the MER. In other words, we are making available FREE six month Railpass trial memberships to encourage recruitment of regular members.

What's covered?

Same as Railpass—receive six issues of **NMRA Magazine**, three issues of **The Local**, eligibility to attend conventions and meets, eligibility to participate in contests.

What's not covered?

Same as Railpass—applicants cannot vote or hold office, and will not receive the New Member Pak from national (it's rather expensive).

Who can be recruited?

Anyone living within the MER who has not been a member of NMRA during the past two years.

How will the recruitment process work?

(1) The prospective member fills out the MER trial membership application form which was sent to all division superintendents (not the standard NMRA Railpass form) (2) The "recruiter" should

also sign the form, and then forward it to: Bob Price, Business Manager, 666 Princeton Avenue Collingswood, NJ 08108. (3) Bob will record the information he needs in his data base, and will forward the application to the MER Treasurer. (4) The Treasurer will add the necessary check and forward the application and check to the national headquarters in Chattanooga.

What happens after the member's six month trial period?

The Railpass trial member will receive a standard dues notice from national headquarters. We hope a substantial number of Railpass trial members will sign up to become regular members.

Are there limits on the program?

The MER initially allocated \$2,000 for this program. The Board recently voted to extend the program to the end of 2013, or when the funds are spent – whichever comes first. When and if we approach either limit, Division Superintendents and members of the MER Board of Directors will be notified. At that time, the program will be evaluated by the MER Board of Directors. If successful, we will try to continue it.

For questions?

Contact Bob Price, Business Manager (mailing address is below, (856) 854-8585, MER-BusMgr@comcast.net), or John Janosko, MER President (see contact information on page 2). 

National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) Mid-Eastern Region Application for Free "Railpass" Trial Membership

YES, please sign me up for a free six month Railpass trial membership in the NMRA—which includes membership in the Mid-Eastern Region, and in my local Division. During this six month period, I understand that I may attend conventions and meets, and participate in contests. I will receive **NMRA Magazine**, the monthly national magazine, and **The Local**, the bi-monthly regional newsletter. I will not be eligible to vote, hold office, or receive a New Member Pak.

I also understand that the \$9.95 cost of this six month Railpass trial membership is being paid by the Mid-Eastern Region. (Regardless of who pays, six month \$9.95 memberships are available only once to each person.)

At the end of the six months, I may join NMRA, paying the regular active member dues.

During the past two years, I have **not** been a member of NMRA.

=====
Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Scale(s): _____ Date of Birth: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

Signature of Sponsor: _____ (Required)

(A Regional or Divisional officer or board member)

When this form is completed,
mail it to:

Bob Price
MER Business Manager
666 Princeton Avenue
Collingswood, NJ 08108

Do **not** mail it directly to MMRA
headquarters in Chattanooga, TN.

=====
Date of form: 2/1/2013

Clinics at the Convention

THE CONVENTION presented 38 clinics from hand-laying turnouts to building with paper and plastic. Celebrity clinicians included author Tony Koester, who led two clinics, one covering his new Nickel Plate Railroad and another covering creative kitbashing; Model Railroader editor Neil Besougoloff, who brought modelers up to date on video and other features at Kalmbach Publications, and National Model Railroad Association Vice President Dave Thornton, who spoke on hand-laying turnouts.

Steve King conducted a clinic and then a follow up operating session on his home layout; Bernie Kempinski assembled a modular stretch of his Civil War-era layout, then described it in a clinic, and Marty McGuirk talked about the features of his new Vermont Central layout and hosted an open house to show it.

Stan Knotts covered building a 1930s tannery, Bill Ataras spoke on signaling practices and, later, on turnout construction and Paul Dolkos showed how to make photographic veneers on buildings and enhance them with plastic additions. George Downer led a hands-on clinic using paper for scratch building and Martin Brechbiel covered the fine points of judging.

John Glaab, describing steel mill modeling 101 and, later, narrow gauge lines in the mill, led the steel mill track with the help of Bill Wolf on Tidewater Steel, Vince Altieri on kitbashing steel mill structures and Richard Buchan on prototypical steel mill operation. Fred Lagno covered photography, Andrew Dodge discussed modeling with Plexiglas and, later, building steam locos, and Dave Vaughn led clinics on two-rail O scale layouts and moving heritage layouts.

Clint Hyde taught hands-on airbrushing, Dave Emery and Bruce DeYoung led clinics on tips and tricks, and Chuck Diljak led a hands-on clinic on tricks with bricks. Bruce also led a clinic on slate roofs. Steve Williams discussed building the B&O. Arthur Boyd showed registrants how to get started with a switch list system and Marshall Abrams discussed computer-generated switch lists as well as how to create photo backdrops. Matt Thompson showed how to build a yardmaster's office and Matt Chibbaro led a clinic on modeling in small spaces. Ben Hom led a clinic with the intriguing title of Green Dot at 28, and Gerry Fitzgerald discussed chemistry and the iron horse. Terry Terrance got modelers started with a Launchpad for modeling. 🚂

Annual Reports by Division continued from page 11

Where in your opinion could the MER provide support to your division?

MER could provide increased membership dues rebates to fund Division activities.

Subsidy of the Rail Pass program (\$9.95 fee) by the MER has been positive for the Division.

Superintendents name and signature:

Grif Bond, Superintendent, Carolina Piedmont Division



CHESAPEAKE DIVISION 14
Annual Report – No Report 🚂

Election Results:

Jack Dziadul	296
Martin Brechbiel	245
J. Gary Tyler	216
John Siegle	196

CLASSIFIED

ATTENTION ALL MER MEMBERS:

Do you have a wanted/trade/for sale item(s)? Looking for carpool options to an event or options for sharing a room? **The Local** publishes a FREE classified section for all MER members. Send your classified ad to the Editor at **Hackett@verizon.net**, or see all the editor's contact information on page 2. The ad must include full name and contact information and will be limited to one issue. Word count is also limited to seventy-five (75) words. 🚂

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

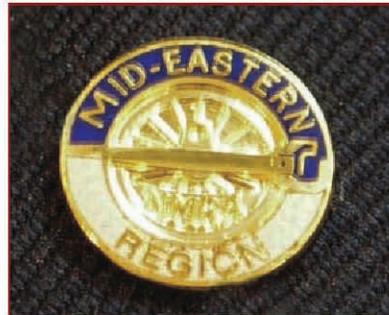
Visit the MER's website for all the latest information, contacts and archives
www.mer-nmra.org.

SUPPORT YOUR NMRA REGION AND PURCHASE THESE GREAT PRODUCTS FROM MER



MER Polo Shirt

MER Cloth Patch



MER Lapel
Pin/Tie Tack

~~Light Gray short sleeve with collar MER Polo Shirt **~~

~~Specify Shirt Size (S, M, L, XL) Size: _____ Quantity _____ \$21.00 plus S&H \$ _____~~

~~Specify Shirt Size (XXL, XXXL) Size: _____ Quantity _____ \$23.00 plus S&H \$ _____~~

~~S&H: For each group of 3: \$3.00 for first, \$1.50 each for second & third \$ _____~~

MER CLOTH PATCH** QUANTITY _____ \$5.00 including S&H \$ _____

MER LAPEL PIN/TIE TACK** QUANTITY _____ \$6.00 including S&H \$ _____

THE LOCALS**
(all issues 1947-2012) on CD QUANTITY _____ \$5.00 postpaid \$ _____

** Only available to MER members. MER or NMRA Membership # _____

DONATION \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MID-EASTERN REGION

Ship to:
NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Mail to:
Roger Ossman
MER Merchandise Sales Agent
3307 Englewood Road
Wilmington, DE 19819-3323

CALLBOARD

Coming Events

November 16. M. Joan Pearson Elementary School, 1301 Burlington Ave., Delanco, NJ 08075, Contest: Detailed Flat Cars with Load, Times are 8:30 registration, program begins a 9:00, home railroad tours from 1:00 to 5:00. Clinics have not yet been confirmed and will be announced in our newsletter, **Clinkers**

November 30 – December 1, 2013, December 7 – 8, 2013, January 4 – 5 and January 11 – 12, 2014. The DelMarVA Model Railroad Club open house located in DelMar, Delaware.

January 18. Haddon Township High School (joint meet with Philadelphia Div.), 406 Memorial Ave., Westmont, NJ 08108, Contest: Favorite passenger cars/train, Times are 8:30 registration, program begins a 9:00, home railroad tours from 1:00 to 5:00. Clinics have not yet been confirmed and will be announced in our newsletter, **Clinkers**.

March 15 (tentative). Switlik Park, 5 Fisher Place, Hamilton Twp. NJ 08620, Contest: Detailed display, scene, or diorama, Times are 8:30 registration, program begins a 9:00, home railroad tours from 1:00 to 5:00. Clinics have not yet been confirmed and will be announced in our newsletter, **Clinkers**.

May 17. Christ Episcopal Church (joint meet with Garden State Div, NER), 90 Kings Highway, Middletown, NJ 07748, Contest: Detailed diesel locomotives, Times are 8:30 registration, program begins a 9:00, home railroad tours from 1:00 to 5:00. Clinics have not yet been confirmed and will be announced in our newsletter, **Clinkers**.

Divisions and Clubs tell MER members about your upcoming event!! Send your FREE (limit of 75 words) event listings to the editor (contact information is listed on page 2.) Be sure to include all the specifics for the event: including the date/time, place, cost, a contact person, and a means of getting in touch with him/her (address, phone, e-mail, etc.), and if available a web site for updates or to get more information. Please see the publication deadlines on page 16 to make sure your event is published on time. 

Achievement Program Update

By *Charlie Flichman, MMR*
MER AP Manager

A Little Housekeeping – Thanks

1. Keep copies of everything you send me.
2. Send MMR SOQ with your 7th certificate SOQ.
3. Prepare an article about yourself and a photo when you obtain MMR status. Send the article to both **The Local** and the **NMRA** magazine.
4. I ONLY accept one R&V form, and that is for the Author certificate because there isn't a SOQ form. R&V forms are for the modeler and National will NOT accept them.

Since the last report in **The Local**, the following Achievement Program certificates were earned and awarded:

Division 3 – Philadelphia

Gregory Shindledecker – *Association Volunteer*

Division 11 – Susquehanna

Jerry Britton – *Master Builder Scenery*

Division 12 – Carolina Southern

Dan Alexander – *Golden Spike*

Division 13 – Carolina Piedmont

James F. Babcock – *Golden Spike*

In a perfect world, this information will appear soon in the **NMRA** magazine. This should not deter you from giving recognition locally. Normally you will be able to recognize AP accomplishments long before the names appear in the **NMRA** magazine. 

Congratulations



on your
Achievement!

Great Decals!™

Fallout Shelter Signs
CP Mandarin Orange
B&O—3 titles
Interstate—2 titles
Virginian—15 titles

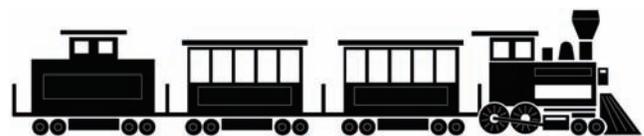
Southern cabooses
PRR X-29 box cars
L&N—6 titles
RF&P—6 titles
FEC—3 titles



...and more! In G-, O-, S-, HO-, and N-scales

William Mosteller, P.O. Box 994, Herndon, VA 20172
SASE for list, or see www.greatdecals.com

03/11



The Mid-Eastern Region Inc., NMRA
 An IRS Tax Exempt Organization
 Business Manager
 666 Princeton Avenue
 Collingswood, NJ 08108

**Non-profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 York, PA
 Permit No. 363**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

I Learned How to Operate 1
 Staff & Division Contacts.....2
 From the Business Car3
 Keep In Touch4
 Annual Reports by Division4
 C&P Junction Contest Winners.....8
 C&P Junction Convention Highlights 10
 Clinics at the Convention 13
 MER Products For Sale..... 14
 Callboard / Achievement Program..... 15

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

The Mid-Eastern Region Inc., NMRA
An IRS Tax Exempt Organization
 Business Manager
 666 Princeton Avenue
 Collingswood, NJ 08108

Subscriptions to The Local

I want to receive the printed copies
 of **The Local** at \$9.00 per year (6 issues) \$ _____

I want to receive the free electronic
 version of **The Local**
 Email: _____

Donation \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip (+4) _____

Email _____

NMRA # _____ Expire Date _____

Scale _____ Telephone # _____

Make checks payable to the Mid-Eastern Region

The Local welcomes articles, photographs and model railroad related material as contributions to members' mutual enjoyment of the hobby. Materials should have a wide appeal. The editor will exercise all due care of submissions, but contributors should not send originals without having back-up copies of both articles and photographs. Editors, by definition, reserve the right—and have the responsibility—to make corrections, deletions and changes to accommodate space. Upon receiving any submission the editor will also confirm receipt and at a later date indicate the anticipated edition the submission will appear in **The Local**. If you do not receive a postcard or e-mail within two weeks please resend your submission or contact the editor by phone.

<u>Publication Schedule:</u>	<u>Articles/Callboard items due to Editor by:</u>
Jan/Feb	December 1st of previous year
Mar/Apr	Feb 1st
May/June	Apr 1st
Jul/Aug	Jun 1st
Sept/Oct	Aug 1st
Nov/Dec	Oct 1st

If you are interested in advertising with the Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association please contact the Editor, as listed on page 2. The current advertising rates for **The Local** are as follows and must include camera ready art (jpeg, pdf, bmp, tiff formats):

Callboard Ads (30-50 words) (Div. and Clubs Only)...	Free
Business Card size (6 issues)	\$60.00
Quarter Page ad (6 issues).....	\$125.00
Half Page ad (6 issues).....	\$225.00
Half page ad (per issue) (Div. Only).....	\$25.00