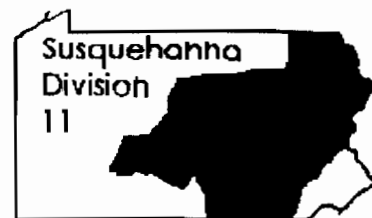


# Susquehanna Sidetracks



Serving the Susquehanna Valley, MER, NMRA, Inc.

[HTTP://member.aol.com/mvmra/mvmra/mra11.htm](http://member.aol.com/mvmra/mvmra/mra11.htm)

OCT - DEC

NMRA/MER

Susquehanna Division 11 July - Sept 1997

Vol. 5 No. 4

## Request Part of NFR Move to MER

By Wm. Terry Nesbit

While I was in Waverly, NY, I was introduced to Mr. Thomas Chamberlain of Sayre, PA (Bradford Co.). He would like to have his county changed from the Niagara Frontier Region to the MER, as he attends MER events.

I was also approached by Mr. Robert Bailey of Wellsboro, PA (Tioga Co.) during the Bellefonte/Castanea division meet. Mr. Bailey would like to have his county and that of Potter County changed from NFR to MER. Tioga county has a model railroad club with members in both Tioga and Potter counties.

I spoke briefly with Mr. John Johnson, MER V. Pres., in Madison, WI and he had no objection to having me discuss the matter with the NFR.

At the NMRA National Convention in Madison, WI, I spoke with the NFR president. The NFR has no objection if the following conditions are met.

1. The majority of the NMRA members in each county elect to change regions.
2. The language of the ballot is worked out between the NFR and the MER.
3. The cost of the mailings is borne by the MER/Susquehanna Division 11.
4. The ballots are sent to the NFR for counting.

The process of changing or not changing the PA counties of Potter, Tioga, and Bradford is expected to take a year.

## Coming Events

**November 7-9, 1997: Mid-Eastern Region Fall 1997 Convention, "Brandywine Junction '97,"** hosted by the Philadelphia Division, Chadds Ford Ramada Inn, Routes 202 and 1, 1110 Baltimore Pike, Glen Mills, PA. info: Registrar, John Nawn, P.O. Box 741 Paoli, PA 19301. Phone: 610-461-8644.

**November 15, 1997: Fall Pocono Train Show & "How to" Seminars,** Pocono Mountain Chapter, NRHS, Stroudsburg Area High School, West Main Street, Stroudsburg, PA, 9 AM to 2 PM. Info: John Lutz 717-839-7465

**November 22, 1997: First Annual Susquehanna Division 11 Module Meet,** Zembo Temple, Harrisburg, PA.

**November 26, 1997: Conewago Valley Model Railroad Club Annual Auction,** New Oxford Fire Hall, New Oxford, PA, 7 PM until ?

**November 30, December 7, 14, 21, 28, 1997:** Miniature Railroad Club of York, 54th annual Open House and Model Railroad Show, 381 Wheatfield St., 1 PM to 5 PM, Adm. \$2 adults, \$0.50 children 6-12.

**December 7, 1997: York-Hanover Train Meet,** Porters Fire Hall, Porters, PA, 9 AM to 2 PM. Info: 717-632-3157

**December 13, 1997: Pennsylvania Rails Annual York Meet,** York Fairgrounds, York, PA, 9 AM to 3 PM, adults \$4, under 12 free, dealers: \$20 per table. Info: Michael Yingling, 717-540-1688.

**December 27, 1997: Susquehanna Division Modular Show,** Hershey Medical Center's Hospital Ward. (*Open only to children at the hospital and members with modules to set up.*)

## Super's Corner

by Supt. Terry Nesbit

The time for our Division's All Scale Modular Meet is just around the corner on the 22nd of November. The Division needs volunteers to help make this a successful event. We need individuals to help set up the room and the modules; to do live clinics on model railroad projects; to help with security; to greet members of the general public and to be cashiers. The division will be having this event at the Zembo Temple in Harrisburg, PA from 6 AM to 6 PM. The public will be there from 9:30 AM until 4:00 PM. Mr. Jim Atkinson is coordinating the volunteers for this and other events. We need everyone's help. Please contact him. Some of the organizations who will be attending the Zembo in addition to

the Susquehanna Division are: Pennsylvania Operation Lifesaver and Conrail, The Railway Press of Hanover, PA, Keystone Model Railroad Historical Society, South Penn Model Railroad Club, an O Scale group from Upper Dauphin County, and the Western Maryland Technical and Historical Society. In addition, the division has been invited to set up their modules on the 13th of December in York, PA. We receive \$100 if we have the module layout up and running on this day. Please remember to bring your module, motive power and/or rolling stock, which will be operated on the module layout to Paul Tice's on the 25th of October. This is a quality check for both modules and equipment.

...Have a rail fun day and watch out for those trains.

## Division 11 Staff

**Superintendent:** Terry Nesbit, 5760 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-4708. Phone: 717-657-9476

**Asst. Superintendent:** Brian C. Brandt, 337 Bracken Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. Phone: 717-560-9542 or 717-581-0647. Email: BrianB4717@aol.com or trains@redrose.net

**Clerk/Paymaster:** Paul F. Tice, 1709 West Market Street, York, PA 17404. Phone: 717-843-9572

**Newsletter Editor:** Don Yingling, 2420 Heather Road, York, PA 17404-4383. Phone: 717-764-2676. Email: trolleynut@aol.com

**Achievement Program Chairman:** Terry Nesbit, 5760 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-4708. Phone: 717-657-9476

**Scouting Merit Badge for York & Adams Counties:** Alan Frame, 2430 Opal Road, York, PA 17404. Phone: 717-767-4998

**Scouting Merit Badge for Cumberland, Perry & Dauphin Counties:** David C. Buchanan, 118 Forest Drive, Camp Hill, PA 17011-8304. Phone: 717-737-7029.

**Scouting Merit Badge for Lancaster, Lebanon & Berks Counties:** Jeremy Griffith, 352 Broad Street, Terre Hill, PA 17581. Phone: 717-445-5183.

**Division All-Scale Module Coordinator:** Mel Agne, 48 Oakwood Drive, Delta, PA 17314. Phone: 717-862-3937.

**Division Membership Chairman:** Jim Atkinson, 120 Colebrook Road, Elizabethtown, PA 17022. Phone: 717-367-5626.

**Division Web Master:** Mel Agne, 48 Oakwood Drive, Delta, PA 17314. Phone: 717-862-3937.

*Susquehanna Sidetracks* is the official publication of the Susquehanna Division 11 of the Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. Dues are \$2.00 per year payable to "Susquehanna Division 11". Remit dues to the Chief Clerk. Dues include subscription to the Division newsletter. Deadlines for submissions to the newsletter are the first day of each quarter: January 1 for Jan-Mar; April 1 for Apr-Jun; July 1 for Jul-Sep; and October 1 for Oct-Dec.

When remitting dues for the national and/or region, please provide photocopies of your current MER and NMRA membership cards, along with your Divisional membership renewal form. Also include the appropriate postage, 32 or 64 cents, with your check. This will help defray the cost of these additional mailings. We must mail the national and regional dues separately. Be sure that all information is correct and complete so dues can be properly credited to you.

## Editor's Notes

Here I sit, at the computer, in the middle of October in a t-shirt and shorts and suddenly I realized that this will be the last newsletter of 1997 and I have to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas. WHAT? It's too warm to think of that yet! I guess a reality check is good for all of us from time to time.

It is also time for all of us to think about the elections for next year. Yes, two years have gone by already and it is time to sit back and think about a leadership role. Is this your time to run for office? It could be a stepping stone toward a regional office or just to get more involved at the division level. Stop and give it some serious thought.

On a couple of personal notes, many of you have not seen me for quite awhile. Well, Saturday is not my best day of the week for getting away anywhere, and some of you might be a little

surprised when you see me. No, I have not been sick but I joined Weight Watchers in February '97 and just finished the maintenance plan, 59 pounds lighter. Boy, do I feel great!

One more note. The York, Hanover, and Frederick Railroad is now progressing smoothly in its new room. Roadbed and track is going in at a steady pace. Soon I will be running trains and hopefully not just on the lower level but up the helix to the upper level also. I just have to keep kicking the track gang (singular) in the pants to keep up with the roadbed crew.

In the last Sidetracks I neglected to include a copy of the registration form for the Brandywine Junction MER Convention on November 7, 8 & 9, 1997. My apologies. I have included a copy with this newsletter and hope you get it in time. I will be there, Will you?

Well, until January, have a very safe and sane Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Hope Santa brings you all those big toys you have on your list. Don

## Membership

### Thermometer

**Current Membership 10/18/97: 79**

#### New Members:

Jim Lomison, Jersey Shore, PA

Fred Voelcker, Jr., Cockeysville, MD

#### Renewals:

Jim Atkinson, Elizabethtown, PA

Bradley Clauser, East Berlin, PA

William A. Dougherty, New Freedom, PA

Mel Agne, Delta, PA

Timothy J. Seabold, Lebanon, PA

## Results MER Elections

The following is the results of the election for MER Directors at Large. Three are elected.

W. Terry Nesbit...211

Jim Atkinson...207

Eric Dervinis...184

Paul Rivers...160

Kallis...116

Eric Dervinis will be MER secretary and Paul Rivers will be the 3rd director.

## Clinic Missed

The modular clinic meet scheduled for September 27th did not get off the ground. There was a scheduling snafu with this date and was not realized until it was too late. Our apologies to those members who showed up and had no clinic to attend. Paul Tice's home is the site of the next modular clinic on October 25th. The modules will undergo the final check on this date.

Are we going to see you at  
Brandywine Junction '97?

## Bellefonte/Castanea Meet Update

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

The attendance at the Division's meet in Bellefonte and Castanea was over 30 individuals. For those of you who missed the event, the rock work in Bellefonte was as if mother nature had

reduced her rock work to HO scale and brought it indoors. I asked members of the Nittany Valley Club to write an article on how they did their rock work. In addition, they have developed an interesting way to do train detection for their signals and may do an article on this subject also. The Division gained a new member from the Niagara Frontier Region.

## Trains, Planes and Automobiles

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

The Mid-Atlantic Air Museum had their 3rd Annual Trains, Planes and Automobiles transportation show over the weekend of September 20-21, 1997. They donated space for the division to set up. During this two day event, I fleshed out 3 division owned module sections, two corners and a straight section. Roadbed, track, switches, an elevated area and some scenery was built during the 16 hour show. I was able to answer

many questions from the general public as to why I was doing various tasks. I was able to meet and talk with several division members who have been unable to attend our division events this past year. We sold 3 box cars and 4 MER T-shirts.

We need to do more public events like this, where we build some model railroad equipment. I had one 12 year old spend several hours watching and asking questions. Later on his mother came over and asked questions as to "How can I get my son in to model railroading?" They were attending as a vendor and had a table set up selling model planes.

## 1990 NMRA Gold Award

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

While I was attending the MER Convention in Asheville NC, from May 22nd to 25th, I volunteered to help out the NMRA with a problem. Mr. John Reynolds of Waverly, NY was the Gold Award winner at the 1990 NMRA Convention held in Pittsburgh, PA. His model of a Great Lakes Ore Dock and Ship was donated to the Howell Day Memorial Museum in Chattanooga, TN and had to be moved from its current location before the end of June.

This move was complicated, as the model was very sensitive to temperatures over 90 degrees. The vehicle had to be air conditioned and also be able to hold a shipping box 9 feet 3 inches long as well as several other boxes.

On June 14th I drove up to Waverly, NY and picked up the model. It contains over 11,000 parts including the ship and has a replacement value of \$85,000. I was able to fit the model and the shipping boxes into my vehicle and transport them to Harrisburg. I had the model unloaded and kept in my home in the air conditioning.

On Sunday the 22nd of June, I drove to Knoxville, TN and spent the night. About 9:30 AM, on the 23rd of June, I arrived at the NMRA Headquarters and delivered the model without incident. Mr. Greg James and Mr. Robert Charles helped me unload the 1990 Gold Award winner and set it up in the Howell Day Memorial Museum. This model is a tribute to the excellence of all model railroaders in their pursuit of the hobby.

Wait until you see Mr. Reynolds' next model of a Delaware and Lackawanna Western Coal Dock. It is beyond belief.

## Achievement Program Notes

By Wm. Terry Nesbit

During the first week in October, I will be going

to Allentown to judge some models at the home of a new member. The folks at the Black Diamond Model Railroad Club in Allentown will be hosting the Fall 1998 MER Convention and would like to have their models judged under the Achievement Program.

## Nominations Open

It is that time again. We are looking for members who are current with their dues to the NMRA, MER and Division 11 to run for office for a 2 year term. The offices of Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent and Chief Clerk are up for

elections. Anyone interested in running for any of these offices should submit their names to Jim Atkinson by December 31, 1997. The names to appear on the ballot will be published in January-March 1998 issue of the Susquehanna Sidetracks. The elections will take place at the Spring 1998 Division 11 Meet in Manheim, PA.

## Prototype Modeling Ideas from Some New Books

by Jim Atkinson

Recently a number of railroad subjects have been printed that can be useful to the modeler.

Morning Sun Books has printed a series of books: "Color Guide to the Freight and Passenger Equipment of the \_\_\_\_\_ Railroad." I have ones on the Western Maryland and the B&O, two of my favorite roads. These are useful when you are building cars to ensure proper style, detailing, color, and even weathering. The series includes Pennsy, CNJ, LV, RDG, and others.

A new book "Locomotive Facilities, C&NW Engine Terminals," by Joseph Follmar, will be helpful in building and detailing prototypical steam and diesel facilities on any model layout. A wide variety of roundhouses, from 2 stalls to full circle, and turntables are covered in detail. So is a variety of sand towers and ash pits. Even odd items such as "Blow Off Tanks" are included. Detailed drawings of all items are included. If you are interested in designing an accurate engine terminal, this is a must. It would have saved me a lot of time and trouble searching forty years of MR and RMC for similar information. A second volume on coal and water towers is promised.

Most of us model a portion of a town or city and the 1950's era is popular. "Pennsylvania Trolleys in Color, Volume 1", by William Volkmer, features eight trolley systems from the 40's and 50's. Besides being as interesting nostalgic trip back in time, I found the many photographs of city scenes helpful in choosing building styles and colors and signs, signs of all kinds. You will too.

For the narrow gauge fans, there is "Hidden Treasures, The Story of the Ohio River and Western," by Edward Cass. This is an excellent history of a typical eastern narrow gauge. It became a part of the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1912 and ceased operations in 1931. It included second hand equipment from the EBT and the Baltimore & Lehigh (M&PA). There are many good photographs of locomotives, rolling stock, structures, and general scenes. Numerous scale drawings make up one chapter.

Read a good railroad book lately? Share it with the rest of us.

## Fall '98 MER Convention

Keep these dates in mind: Oct 16-18, 1997. On this weekend, the Black Diamond Society of Model Engineers will be hosting the Fall 1998 Mid-Eastern Region Convention in Bethlehem, PA.

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## SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION 11 1997 EVENT CALENDAR

**NOVEMBER 7-9:** MER FALL CONVENTION IN PAOLI, PA.

**NOVEMBER 22:** FIRST ANNUAL SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION 11 MODULAR MEET IN HARRISBURG AT THE ZEMBO TEMPLE. Open to the public for an entrance fee and no charge to Division 11 members. See various local modular layouts in operation. 9:30 AM to 4:00 PM set up time 6 AM to 9:30 AM...take down time 4 PM to 6 PM)

**NOVEMBER 26:** CONEWAGO VALLEY MODEL RAILROAD CLUB AUCTION AT NEW OXFORD. The division has a table and 2 or 3 volunteers are needed from 6:30 PM to 11 PM.

**DECEMBER 6:** MODULAR CONSTRUCTION DAY. Cut all parts. Robert Troutman's home, Reading, Phone: 610-926-1138. 10 AM to 2 PM.

**DECEMBER 13:** PENNSYLVANIA RAILS TRAIN SHOW AT THE YORK FAIRGROUNDS, MEMORIAL HALL. Module setup.

**DECEMBER 27:** MODULAR SHOW AT THE HERSHEY MEDICAL CENTER'S CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WARD. (not open to the public or other division members, just children at the hospital and members setting up modules)

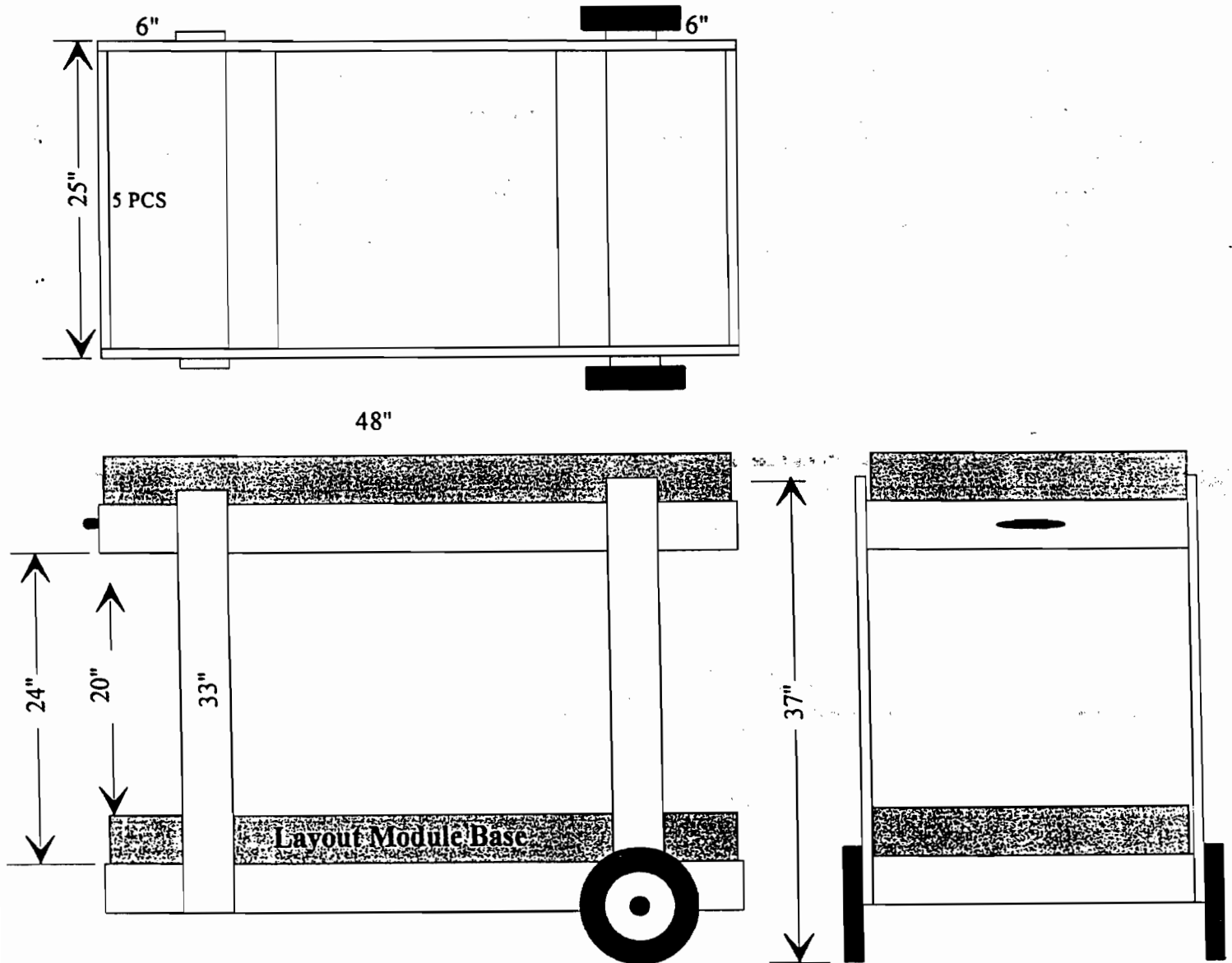
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Merry Christmas and  
a Happy New Year  
from the staff of  
Susquehanna  
Division 11

## MODULE TRANSPORTATION CART

HOLDS 2 - 2' X 4' MODULAR LAYOUT SECTIONS WITH  
BACKDROPS INSTALLED ON MODULES  
ALSO HOLDS MODULE LEGS , ETC.

by Kathleen A. Newell



### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- 5 pcs 1" X 4" X 10'-0" CWP (Clear White Pine)
- 1 box 1 5/8" #6 Phillips head deck screws
- 1 pc 1/2" dia X 3'-0" steel rod (axel)
- 2 2" X 8" dia rubber tired wheels for 1/2" axel shaft
- 2 pcs Hitch pins for keeping wheels on axel.
- 4 pcs 1/2" Machine bushings
- 1 Large utility cabinet handle for lifting - pulling end of cart

SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION #11
INVENTORY
FISCAL YEAR END
30 JUNE 1997

\*\*\*\*\*

WHITE ROSE '95, T-Shirts:

Fruit of the Loom, White, 50% Cotton/50% Polyester

26 Large ... 14 Medium ... 2 Small ... (42 Total) at \$5.00 each ... =

\$210.00

\*\*\*\*\*

WHITE ROSE '95, Hats ..... 41 Total at \$5.00 each ... =

\$205.00

WHITE ROSE '95, 12 oz Coffee Mugs ..... 54 Total at \$5.00 each ... =

\$270.00 (a total of \$475.00 if sold separately)

OR

WHITE ROSE '95,

Hat and 12oz Coffee Mug combination, 1 each ... 41 sets at \$8.00 each . =

\$328.00

\*\*\*\*\*

WHITE ROSE '95, HO Scale Athearn Collector Box Cars, two colors

83 Tuscan Red ... 37 Box Car Brown ... (120 Total) at \$7.00 each ... =

\$840.00

or \$12.00/pr ... = \$444.00

\*\*\*\*\*

If items are shipped, there is the UPS shipping charge and packaging added. This averages to around \$4.50 per item.

\*\*\*\*\*

TOTALS: T-Shirts ... \$210.00
Hats ..... \$205.00
Mugs ..... \$270.00
Combo ..... \$328.00
Box Cars . \$840.00
Pairs ..... \$444.00

Total Inventory .... \$1525.00



**Susquehanna Division #11**  
**PROPERTY OWNED**  
**Fiscal Year End**  
**30 June 1997**

\*\*\*\*\*

[2] Easel's, wooden, home made.

[1] Division map, listing locations of: Model Railroad Clubs; Model Railroad Manufacturer's in division boundaries; Tourist related Railroad attractions.

[1] 8 Foot long by 40 inches wide, wooden table, with removable legs.

[1] Yellow vinyl table covering.

[4] Modular Corners (HO Scale track).

[1] Modular Straight section (HO Scale track).

[1] MRC #2800 power supply.

[11] Modular Straight sections, for members to finish, per divisional contract.

[3] Extra 2 inch, Foam tops for straight modules.

[66] Ten block, Terminal strips.

[54] 1/4 inch, Thumb Screws.

[54] 1/4 inch, Fender washers.

[54] 1/4 inch, Tee Nuts.

[1] 1-1/4", box, partial sheet rock screws.

[1] 1", box, partial sheet rock screws.

[1] 2", box, partial sheet rock screws.

[1] Partial can, solvent, for PVC pipe.

[40] Insulated cups 8.5 oz.

[30] Plastic knife/fork/spoons.

[90] Plastic cups 8 oz.

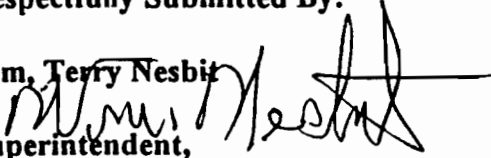
[1] 8 oz, Coffeemate (opened).

[1] 1lb, Drip Coffee (opened, being kept in freezer).

[90] Plastic plates.

All Division Inventory and Property is at 5760 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA

Respectfully Submitted By:

Wm. Terry Nesbit  
  
Superintendent,  
Susquehanna Division #11  
MER, NMRA  
CC

Division Handbook

DIVINV97.doc\apdsk

To the Officers of the Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA:

We, the signers of this petition, request that the Mid-Eastern Region (MER) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) create a new Division and, in support this request, represent that the following statements are true:

1. The name of the proposed Division is **Carolina Piedmont Division** #13
2. The geographic area to be covered by the proposed Division is shown on the attached map and includes the following cities and counties:  
**Wake, Durham, Lee, Harnett, Cumberland, Nash, Wilson, Granville, Johnston, Franklin, Orange**
3. This geographic area is not included within an existing Division.
4. The reasons for desiring to create a new Division are:
  - To instruct, aid and assist model railroaders in the fulfillment of their enjoyment of modeling railroading as a hobby.
  - To sponsor model railroad conventions, meets, clinics, and contests.
  - To promote model railroading throughout the area bounding the Carolina Piedmont Division.
  - To establish a close relationship with the Mid Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, Inc.
  - To promote membership in the National Model Railroad Association, Inc.
5. Each petitioner will participate in the organization efforts of this new Division and will actively work to sustain this new Division is the petition is granted.
6. Each petitioner is a member of the NMRA and the MER and resides in the proposed new Division.
7. By signing this petition, each petitioner affirms that he or she has read the contents of this petition and its attachments and will participate as required by paragraph No. 5., of this petition above.

# Susquehanna Division 11 Membership Application

*Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, Inc.*

The Susquehanna Division is located in the central portion of Pennsylvania. Counties covered are: Adams, Berks, Blair, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Cumberland, Dauphin, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lancaster, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Schuylkill, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Snyder, Union, Wayne, Wyoming, and York. Anyone interested in the hobby may join Division 11 regardless of their place of residence. A **Regular Member** must be a member in good standing of both the MER and the NMRA and must provide copies of your current MER and NMRA membership cards and add 64 cents postage for forwarding costs if paying by one check. All others may become a **Subscriber** to the Division 11 newsletter only. Annual dues for the Susquehanna Division are **\$2.00** which includes the quarterly newsletter. Among the activities of the Division are 2 mini-meets, held in the spring and fall, and several half-day clinics. A quarterly newsletter, the *Susquehanna Sidetracks*, is published with the Division 11 schedule of events and other model railroad news.

Type of application: New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_ Division Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ Change of address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Scale: \_\_\_\_\_ Layout? \_\_\_\_\_ Interests: Modules: \_\_\_\_\_ Narrow Gauge \_\_\_\_\_ Traction \_\_\_\_\_ SIG \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ NMRA# \_\_\_\_\_ MER# \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ W (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Return completed application, with a check payable to: Susquehanna Division 11, 1709 West Market Street, York, PA 17404