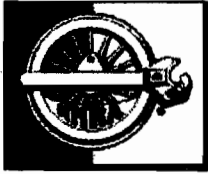


Susquehanna



Sidetracks



[HTTP://members.aol.com/mvmra/mvmra/nmra11.htm](http://members.aol.com/mvmra/mvmra/nmra11.htm)

NMRA/MER

Susquehanna Division 11 Oct - Dec 1998

Vol. 6 No. 4

November Layout Tour

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

The Division 11 November event will be a tour of three home layouts on November 7th. The first will start at the home of John Kennedy in Mechanicsburg at 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM and then continue on to the layouts of Jim Clay at 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM and Bob Charles at 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM, if Bob is available. If Bob can not open up then Jim Clay will be at 12 noon to 2:30 PM.

Here is a brief synopsis of each layout. A map is included to the first layout. Maps will be available at this layout for the other two.

John "Jack" Kennedy: Jack's Mt. Holly and Mechanicsburg Railroad is a freelanced bridge line in Cumberland County, PA. Both steam and diesel, leased from the PRR, move the tonnage across the line. Scenery is 90% complete on this 24' by 24' HO scale layout. All motive power on this railroad is controlled by Zero 1 command control. The Zero 1 is a carrier control system which permits locomotives to run independently of each other without the need of separate electrical blocks. Jack has

modeled a full block of structures that recreates a section of Mechanicsburg. Jack is the holder of NMRA Achievement Program certificates in Golden Spike, Volunteer and Scenery.

Jim Clay: Jim's layout is an around the wall 8' by 14' by 16' HO scale PRR railroad, a double track design, with a Digitrax (DCC) system. This layout is patterned after the article in *Model Railroader*, "Building the PRR". This will be your last time to see this layout, as Jim is moving and the layout will not be in his new home. For those of us who are looking into DCC, you need to come and ask questions. No, Jim is not moving out of the Harrisburg area, just into a larger home nearby. Jim tells me that if any one is interested in getting this layout, you need to contact him soon.

Bob Charles: Bob's 30' by 30' HO scale PRR railroad is a double track point-to-point design with continuous running built into the track plan. The layout contains major staging yards at each end of the mainline and a large double ended yard modeled in the middle. It also includes a single track Pennsy style branchline and an HO_{N3} logging branch. All track and turnouts are scratch built. Bob has incorporated some innovative ideas into his benchwork and uses laminated lattice roadbed throughout his layout. Scenery is started.

Coming Events

November 7, 1998: Division 11 Open Home Layouts, Mechanicsburg, PA area, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

November 8, 1998: Altoon Area Train Collectors Meet National Guard Armory, 327 Frankstown Road, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., \$3.00.

November 14-15, 1998: Great American Train Show, Fort Washington, PA. Modular RR Setup.

November 25, 1998: Conewago Valley Model Railroad Club Annual Fall Auction, New Oxford Fire Hall, New Oxford, PA, 7 PM until ? Adm. \$5.

November 29, 1998: Mifflin County MRR Club Open House, 101 West 3rd St. rear, Lewistown, PA 1 to 5 p.m.

November 29, 1998: Stiegel Valley Model RR Club Open House, Next to Manheim RR station, Manheim, PA, 1 to 4 p.m.

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Division 11 Staff

Superintendent: Terry Nesbit, 5760 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-4708. Phone: 717-657-9476. E-mail: William Nesbit@SMPT.DC-C.DLAMIL

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: trolleyhut@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.

Super's Corner

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

I must apologize for the delay in getting the past two newsletters out late. Too many things going on at work coupled with the time of year. I have had a lot of difficulty in arranging meets during the past year. It is just one of those things...Murphy's Law at work for us.

Currently, I am working on schedules for both 1999 and 2000, with the intent of publishing an event schedule like we did in 1997. In this manner, our members will know, in the January issue, the entire year's dates. In addition, I am attempting to have meets with other divisions within the MER.

The turnout for the Division's meet at the Reading Society of Model Engineers (RSME) was well received. The folks at RSME have extended an invitation to both the Division and/or MER to come back often as we have many model railroading skills to share with each other.

Watch for those trains and have a rail fun day.

Help Wanted

The MER is looking for a Clinic Chair. This position earns time credits for Association Volunteer under the AP. The Clinic Chair coordinates with the local MER Convention Committee to provide contacts whom have given clinics in the past. These clinics may have been at the national, regional, divisional or club levels. This position which can be accomplished at home and does not require attendance at the MER events. For additional information contact: MER Board Member Wm. Terry Nesbit, 5760 Union Deposit Road, Harrisburg, PA 17111-4708.

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM:

By Wm. Terry Nesbit, Division AP Chair.

Jim Clay has completed the requirements for the Golden Spike Award. Wm. Terry Nesbit has submitted his paperwork for Civil Engineer. Over the fall/winter months I will be contacting members who have layouts or who are involved in club activities, to find out if you qualify for the Golden Spike award or other AP Certificates.

Editor's Notes

We are back from a great weekend at Allentown at the MER Fall convention. We had a great time there. We went as a family for the first time in many years. Our seven year old son enjoyed it a lot. Between the train show, door prizes and home layout tours, it kept us busy. I am ready for Lynchburg, VA. That is the next one in the spring. Will you be there? Hope so.

I picked up some "needed" items at the train show. Went through there a number of times trying to convince myself to buy some other things but seemed to talk myself out of them.

I need to thank Mr. Steve Salotti for opening up his layout on Sunday. We stopped there on the way home to see the

progress on the Perkiomen Valley Railroad. He handed my son a Digitrax controller and took him around the complete layout twice, that's 4 times around the basement. Gregory then asked, "Dad, When are you going to hook yours up like this?" The only answer I could come up with, after seeing dollar signs was, "Someday I will, Greg."

I am all fired up to work on my layout and I now have some new ideas to try on my layout.

In the very near future I will be able to scan photos in to the newsletter. I have a flat bed scanner sitting in the box next to me. I will hook it up as soon as I load Windows 98. We will give a try and see how things work out.

So until next year, have a Happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Don

Coming Events

Cont'd from Page 1

November 29, December 6, 13, 20, 17, 1998: Miniature Railroad Club of York Open House, 381 Wheatfield St., York, PA, 1 to 5 p.m., \$2.00, 6-12, \$0.50.

January 23-24, 1999: Greensburg, PA.

March 20, 1999: Joint Division Meet, Philadelphia and Susquehanna Divisions.

April 23-25, 1999: Blue Ridge Crescent '99, MER Spring 1999 Convention, Lynchburg, VA.

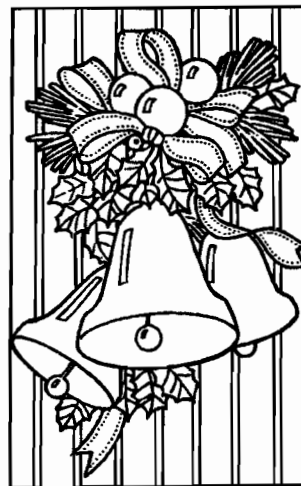
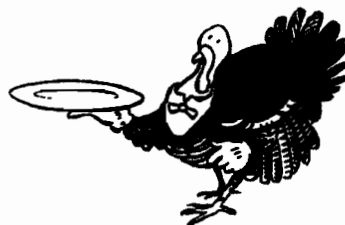
July 17-14, 1999: NMRA National Convention, Minneapolis/Saint Paul, MN.

November 11-14, 1999: Hub City Limited, Fall 1999 MER Convention, Ramada Inn Convention Center, Rt. 40 East, Hagerstown, MD.

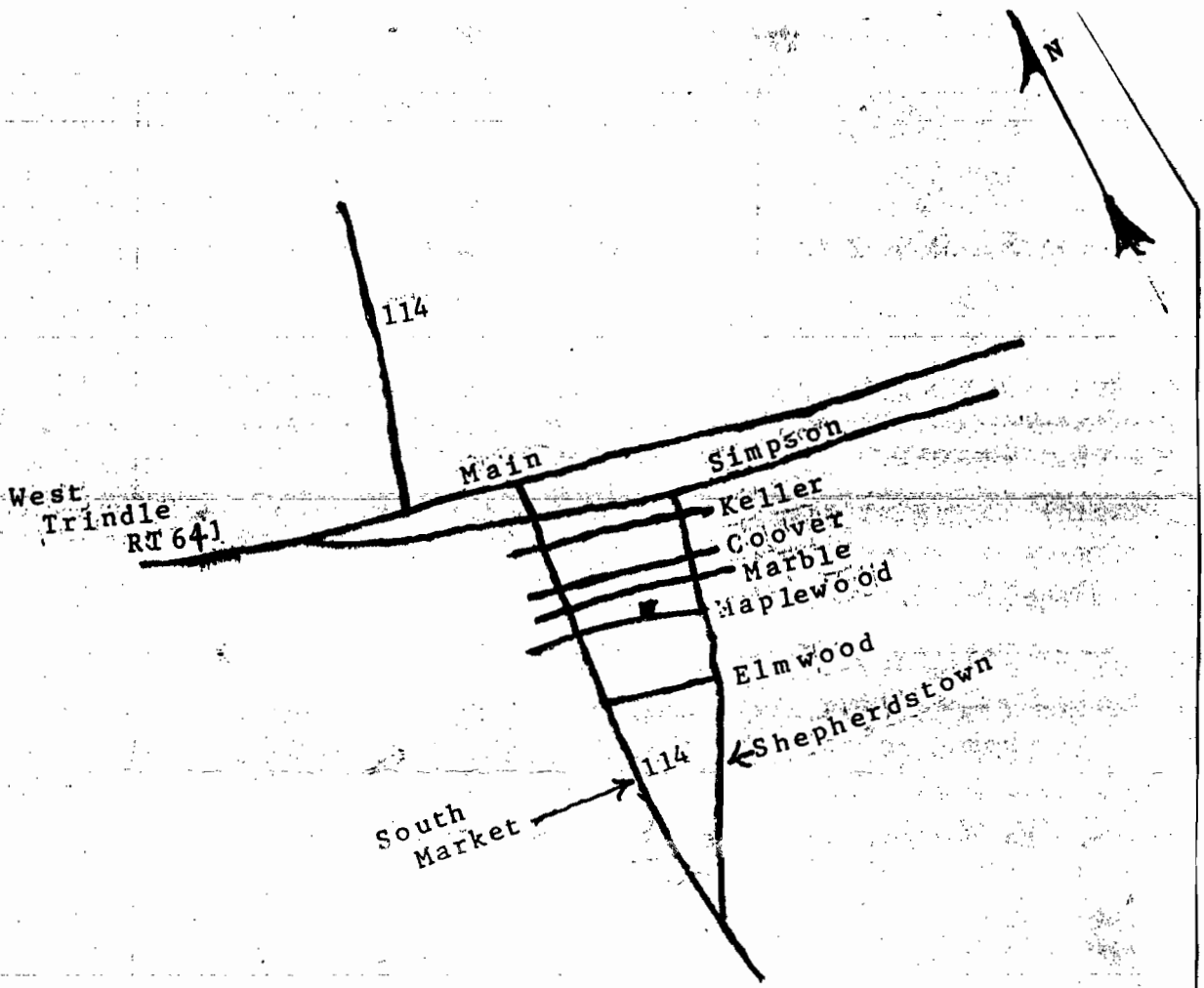
Division Events

by Wm. Terry Nesbit

We have received confirmation from the Great American Train Show, for events in Ft. Washington (Philadelphia area) 14/15 November 1998 and Greensburg (Chambersburg area) 23/24 January 1999. The Division will have their modules up and running. We will also be doing a switching clinic at several times during the two day events. I could use some help at both shows. The Division has been issued 5 free all day passes.



Happy Holidays from Susquehanna Division 11



John "Jack" Kennedy
113 East Maplewood Ave
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
(717) 766-9522

This map is for Saturday, November 7th at 9:30 a.m.
See you at Jacks!