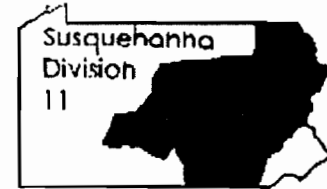


Susquehanna Sidetracks



Serving the Susquehanna Valley, MER, NMRA, Inc.

Official Publication of the Susquehanna Division 11
of the Mid-Eastern Region,
National Model Railroad Association

September 2001
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With the lazy days of summer drawing to an end, what better way to kick off fall than joining your fellow modelers in Lancaster for Dutch Station. If you have not already done so, please send in your registration form. You can get the current form on the internet at www.dutchstation2001.com or in the latest issue of the Local. You won't want to miss out on all of the exciting things we have planned. We are still looking for people to help out at the convention. Do you have a layout that you would like to open up for visitors to see during the convention? Or maybe you would like to give a clinic on a modeling topic? If you are interested, please contact Brian Brandt or Jim Atkinson.

Division Directors Update

Congratulations to our new Division Directors – Alan Frame, Bruce Allison, and Scott Turner. If you have not had a chance to meet them, please feel free to introduce yourself.

November Meet Set

The next Division 11 meet will be on November 17, 2001 from 1:00 to 5:00. Please see page 3 for more details.

Division Web Site Update

To help improve communications within the Division, our Division's web site will be under going a face lift. Thanks to the hard work of Mel Agne, a new and improved web site will be up and running by the end of September. You will be able to find the contact information of your Division officers, links to various NMRA and MER web sites, find out the latest information on Division events, information about the Achievement Program, and the various links mention in the new Cyber Tracks.

Achievement Program

Do you want to learn more about the Achievement Program? Or maybe you have some questions about a certain certificate or you just need to be judge so you can earn a

certificate? Contact AP Co-Chair's Jim Atkinson or Wm. Terry Nesbit. They would be happy to help with any of your AP needs.

Down the Tracks

Lehigh Valley Chapter/
Railroadiana & Model Railroad
Show & Sale
Allentown, PA
September 23, 2001
Contact: Paul Kuehner
610-261-1003

Dutch Station Convention
Lancaster, PA
October 5 – 7, 2001
www.dutchstation2001.com

Great Scale Model Train Show
Timonium, MD
October 13 – 14, 2001
www.gsmts.com
Contact: Howard Zane
410-730-1036

Train Collector's Association
York Meet
York, PA
October 19 – 20, 2001
(TCA members & guests only)
www.traincollectors.org

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Submissions: The Susquehanna Sidetracks welcomes any model railroad or railroad related material. Members are encouraged to send in articles, letters to the editor, reviews, etc.

Next Issue: November 2001. Deadline for submissions is October 31, 2001.

Super's Corner:

As I write this we are finalizing the Fall convention. We still need some volunteers. We have planned a weekend of family entertainment. We have also tried to keep the cost down. If you have not yet registered, please consider doing so. On another note, you probably have heard about the dues increase from the NMRA. We are trying some ways of making the increase less hurtful. We might have to get approval from the MER to do what we want to. I will admit that it is a large increase, and soon after one before.

We would like to have a question section for the Sidetracks, that way if you have anything to ask about AP program, or anything about the MER/NMRA, we can forward it along and get you your answer. Speaking of the Achievement Program, please join me in congratulating the following for their certificates: Sonya McKinney for Master Builder Scenery, Clarence Nissley for Master Builder, Scenery and Model Railroad Engineer-Electrical.

Your Officers and Directors are trying to improve the Division. Any suggestions, criticisms, or advice is wanted. Remember we are only the caretakers of the Division, the members are what makes it go. All of our names and addresses are printed in the newsletter, please if you have anything, call us.

Brian Brandt

Editor's Notes:

I hope that you like the new look and feel of the newsletter. This is my first issue as the new editor and I would like to hear from you with your comments. In the next issue, I would like to include a "Letters to the Editor" section. This will be used in any way you see fit. If you would like to express your opinion about the NMRA recent dues increase, or about what you would like to see happen in the division, or you would like to talk about a new model just released. Whatever you have to say, we would like to hear about it.

I would also like to encourage you to submit articles about anything model railroad or railroad related. This can be anything from how to weather freight cars, to super detailing your favorite engine, or maybe you would just like to talk about what is going on your railroad. Remember these articles count for points in the Achievement Program in the Model Railroad Author category.

I hope to see you at the convention and at the next division meet in November.

Scott Turner

Next Division 11 Meet

Central Pennsylvania Railroad (CPRR)

November 17, 2001. 1 p.m. until 5 p.m.

Host: Bob Martin, 45 W Locust Lane, York, PA 717-848-3640

All Division 11 members and their guests are invited to attend the Division 11 Meet at Bob Martin's CPRR.

This meet will be a layout operating visit. All who attend are encouraged to operate the railroad. This is a fairly large switching layout and can accommodate at least six engineers and 2-6 brakeman simultaneously not including through trains. Some "jobs" (trains) can take up to two (2) hours to complete.

Division 11 members are encouraged to bring along a new person to experience the fun and camaraderie of operating a HO scale railroad. If you can't make it Saturday afternoon, come Saturday evening after 7 p.m. for the monthly CPRR operating session.

DIRECTIONS:

From Route 30:

Turn north on to N. George St (left if eastbound & right if westbound); go about 1 & 7/10 miles to Longview (on left across from Hayshire Plaza); left on Longview to stop sign (Locust Lane); right on W. Locust Lane; third house on left at red cabooses mailbox. Go round right side of house and enter through screen porch.

From I 83:

Exit 24 (old exit 11); turn left if southbound or right if northbound; go about 9/10 mile to signal light at "T" intersection (George St); right on N. George St for about 9/10 mile; just before top of hill turn right on to W. Locust Lane. Third house on left at red cabooses mailbox. Go round right side of house and enter through screen porch.

CAUTION: WHEN LEAVING, NO LEFT TURN ONTO GEORGE ST. GO TO LONGVIEW (ABOUT 200' WEST) AND TAKE LONGVIEW TO GEORGE ST). RIGHT TURN FROM LOCUST LANE ON TO GEORGE ST IS OK.

Editors Note:

If you would be interested in opening up your layout for a division meet or have suggestion for topics for a meet, please contact any of the division officers. We are always open to news ideas.

Comments from Your Assistant Superintendent:

Division 11 is alive and working for you.

First of all, in a few weeks, we have the Mid Eastern Region Convention taking place right here. Obviously, Lancaster is convenient to you, so spend the weekend with us at the Eden Resort. There are lots of interesting activities scheduled. You should enjoy yourself. I know I will.

You have probably heard by now that the National has a new drastically higher dues in effect as you read this. \$45 a year to be precise. First of all, as a MER Board Member for the last 4 years, I can honestly say, our Trustees NEVER even hinted that the National had a financial problem with their reports at our MER meetings. This problem and the dues increase was a surprise and shock to me too. Now, our Division 11 officers do not want our organization to lose members as a result of National's mistake. We have decided, in the form of a passed motion at our summer meeting, recently, to have the Division subsidize the \$11 dues difference to all present yearly paying members as long as the division can afford it. Contact your officers for more details on this subject.

See you at the Eden.

Jim Atkinson

Cyber Tracks

What is "Cyber Tracks" you ask? Cyber Tracks is a way for those who have access to the internet to find all sorts of model railroad and railroad related information. This column will feature web sites that your fellow division members find useful and tips on how to make better use of the internet. If you happen to have a web site of your own that features your model railroad, send the web address and we will share it with the rest of the division. Please send the links to your favorite web sites or tips that you find useful while searching for information on the internet to Scott Turner at sturner@dejazzd.com.

To start us off, please visit Mel Agne's Moose Valley Model Railroaders Alliance. Mel's site features four model railroads – Mel Agne's Moose Valley Railroad, Western Maryland Railway Historical Society HO Scale Modular Group, the former South Penn Model Railroad Club, and Chip Syme's Penn Central. This site is full of photos of the layouts, track plans, details about the layouts and prototype information. Plus it has a lot of links to other sites. I'm sure you will enjoy your visit and please drop Mel a line to let him know you stopped by.

The following sites are a great way to keep up with the latest information about the NMRA, the Mid-Eastern Region, the Division and the Achievement Program.

Web Site	Address
National Model Railroad Association	www.nmra.org
NMRA – Achievement Program	www.nmra.org/achievement/
Mid-Eastern Region	home.cox.rr.com/hydesystems/MER/MER.html
Mid-Eastern Region – Achievement Program	home.cox.rr.com/hydesystems/MER/Achievement-Program/index.html
Susquehanna Division 11	moosevalley.org/nmra/index.htm
Dutch Station 2001	www.dutchstation2001.com

Susquehanna Division #11 Membership Application

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

Send application to: Paul Tice, 1709 West Market Street, York, PA 17404

_____ New \$2.00 per Year _____ Renewal \$2.00 per year _____ Change of Address

NMRA # _____ MER # _____ Division # _____

The Susquehanna Division is located in the central portion of Pennsylvania. The Counties served are: Adams; Berks; Blair; Cambria; Centre; Clinton; Cambria; 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. Any member in good standing of the NMRA and the MER may join the Susquehanna Division. Please send photo copies of your current membership cards. Annual dues are \$2.00 which includes the quarterly newsletter "Susquehanna Sidetracks". Among the division's events are 2 one day mini meets and several half day clinics and/or open home layouts.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

State & Zip Code _____ Telephone _____

Scale & Gauge _____ Layout YES/NO Modules YES/NO

SIG _____ Email Address _____

Mid-Eastern Region

National Model Railroad Association, Inc.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/DUES RENEWAL NOTICE

The Mid-Eastern Region Inc., NMRA
An IRS Tax Exempt Organization
 Business Manager
 9 Roosevelt Ave.
 Wilmington, DE 19804-3044

Remittance Enclosed for:

Region Dues: New Renewal _____
 1 year: \$8.00 2 years: \$16.00 \$ _____

Life membership cost is based on your age. Send your Birth Date to the MER for a quotation. Only NMRA Life Members qualify for MER Life Membership.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

NMRA # _____ Expire Date _____

MER # _____ Expire Date _____

Scale _____ Birth date _____ Tel # _____

MER Lapel Pin/Tie Tack @ \$6 each	\$ _____
MER Cloth Patch @ \$3 each	\$ _____
Donation	\$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$ _____

Make checks payable to the Mid-Eastern Region