

SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS

An Official Publication of the Susquehanna Division,
Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA
Vol 26 No. 4



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**Photos from our upcoming National convention
August 5 –12, 2018
in Kansas City**



RailPictures.Net - Image Copyright © Chris White

Superintendent's Desk

As I write this July is only a few days away. Where has the time gone? A short update on Melanie. She continues to improve. She is now receiving chemo treatments. She had one yesterday. Since she is still sleeping I have the luxury of some time to sit and write without being disturbed. As of July 1st, the new slate of officers begin their two year terms of office. Please see the election results on page 03

The past two months have been very busy. The May Bricktown event in Mount Union was very successful. The sign in sheet shows 101 in attendance. Barry Schmitt informs me that only the Strasburg Railroad Museum event a few years ago had a larger division event attendance. The obvious draw was seeing the East Broad Top standard gauge switcher. Barry is working on a recap article for this event. However, we will all have to wait to September for his article.

The June Lewistown Station event while not as well attended was very informative. Besides there was some train watching to be done. At times after the breaks it was like herding cats to start the next presentation. Those of us who are Pennsy fans forced them to print more system maps that they were selling. Yes, I purchased one. Now I need to figure out how to display it. The article on the Lewistown event is on page 07.

Moving forward there will be a Board of Directors meeting in either August or early September. The location we have used for the past two years is no longer available. I will need to find a new location. The topic will be the schedule for next year. If you have any suggestions please pass them along to any of the officers or directors. There is work being done on a May event. The initial planning meeting is after the deadline for the Sidetracks Newsletter. This will be a joint event with the Columbia Historic Preservation Society. This is what happens when some of our members get together and brainstorm. They sometimes come up with ideas for events. And being a good superintendent, I say go for it.

Please note that the Board of Directors meeting is an open meeting. There will be an email blast with an announcement prior to the meeting.

We are sponsoring the Mainline Hobby Supply Open House Tour in September again this year. There is an announcement on page 11.

October is the MER regional convention. This year it is in Rockville, MD. The regional conventions are always very interesting. There is always something for everyone. From clinics, layout tours, prototype tours, operating sessions, white elephant sale, raffles, and who could forget just spending time with other modelers talking about just about anything under the sun. The announcement is on page 12.

The open house tour is on for the first three weekends in November. The announcement is on page 13.

Division Officers Election

When all the candidates run unopposed the results should not be a surprise. This year was not an exception.

July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2020

Superintendent – Tim Himmelberger

Assistant Superintendent – Tedd Pounds

Clerk – Paul Tice

We welcome Tedd as a new officer of the BOD and Paul and Tim as returning Officers.

Have you visited the NMRA website? As a member you have access to a world of information on our hobby! I have included just one item that is available to each of us with our membership.

Model Railroader.

Model Railroader Video Plus Videos
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Susquehanna Sidetracks

Official Newsletter of the Susquehanna Division
Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA
1168 Caspian Drive, York, PA 17404

Contributing to Susquehanna Sidetracks

Sidetracks welcomes contributions from the Division membership. Letters, articles, photos and other items may be sent to the Editor at the e-mail address listed below or the street address above. Deadline for submission for the next issue is August 10, 2018, formatted in Times New Roman font 12.

Board of Directors

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timh@susquehannanmra.org

Asst. Superintendent

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Chief Clerk

Paul Tice
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Director

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2018-2020

Director

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Director

Lee Rainey
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Director

Pat Mulrooney
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Director/Membership Chairman

Howard Oakes
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2017-2019

Committee Chairman

Achievement Program Chairman

Robert Charles, MMR
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Model Showcase Program Chairman

John Wissinger, MMR
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Training Chairman

Alan Mende
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Sidetracks Editor

Tedd Pounds
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Membership Information

Susquehanna Division website:

www.susquehannanmra.org

Mid-Eastern Region website:

www.mer.nmra.com

National Model Railroad Association

8414 Gulf View Drive, Suite A & B

Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-2200

www.nmra.org

Second Section – Tedd Pounds

Hello everyone!

I encourage all members to consider submitting an article or some photos of your layout or modeling projects to our newsletter. Do you have something that you have discovered that may be of interest to others? Put something on paper, include a few pictures and we will make it work. Thanks!

Tedd



New Members May/June 2018

Nathan Gilmore

Scott Mummert

Carlisle PA

Littlestown PA

Model Showcase Lewistown Event

The diorama was built by Jerry Lauchle from a photo in a previous NMRA publication. Jerry researched the photo and subsequently built what you see in the pictures below. His attention to detail is phenomenal! The tractor load on the flat car is completely scratch built.



The Last Tree

Tedd L. Pounds

A little history on The Last Tree.

Mr. David Deitz has been interested in railroads, “forever”. I met David during our Bricktown event, he is a member of the Bricktown Model Railroad Club.

David bought a Bachman Shay locomotive and needed somewhere to display it in the environment we would expect to find it.



David set off to construct the diorama we see in the photo below. It took him about a year to construct off and on, he cut the tree to obtain the materials to build the base of the layout! The shay now had a challenging railroad to negotiate!

The operating switch stands were scratch built, the water tank holds and dispenses water! The wood pile on the locomotive is made from real wood.

The Sassafras Gulch Lumber Company Railroad works hard to get to the top of the railroad while lumber jacks contemplate how to get the last tree off the hillside!

David is also a volunteer with the Friends of the East Broad Top and worked on rebuilding the trucks for EBT #14 combine.



Lewistown Event

Jerry Britton

On June 9th, the National Model Railroaders Association, Susquehanna Division held their meeting at the Lewistown Station. Tim Himmelberger, Superintendent, led the business meeting with Jerry Britton as the first speaker describing the various railroads that function or have functioned around the Lewistown area. He focused on the station, including the past and present. The second speaker, Archivist Charlie Horan, spoke on his job description and ending with a tour of the station assisted by Richard Ader, Station and Accessions manager. Upon closing their meeting, Tim Himmelberger presented a \$100 archive donation to Rich Ader and Charlie Horan as a thank you to the PRRT&HS for visiting the facility. The club completed their visit to the area with a few local layout tours.



Tim Himmelberger



Jerry Britton



Tour of the Archives



Presentation of donation

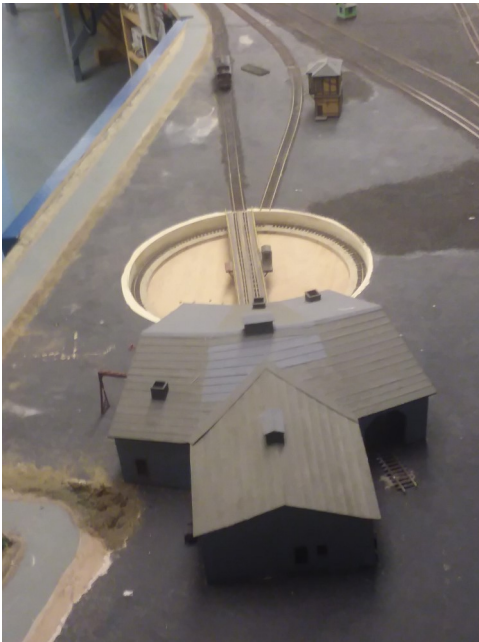
Photos from our Lewistown, Pa Event



Artifacts in the Lewistown PRR Station



Todd Treaster's Massive N Gauge Layout



Todd Treaster's Massive N Gauge Layout



Todd Treaster's Massive N Gauge Layout



Todd Treaster's Massive N Gauge Layout



Todd Treaster's Massive N Gauge Layout

The Susquehannock Has Departed

The Susquehannock is now history. Our division has done itself proud with the convention we put on, and for those of you who attended, you had an event to remember. Our headline tour, ACF-Milton and Bowser brought attendees a day early to our event in quantity with 51 taking the tour. All returned with extensive compliments. Equally, the tours for both rails and spouses had praise heaped upon them. Likewise, the layout tours and op sessions came in for high praise for both quality and quantity of layouts. This comment is typical:

Rich and I would like to compliment your division for hosting a very busy and enjoyable convention. In the weeks before it began, we were pleasantly surprised by the prompt responses to our email queries. We especially enjoyed the ACF/Bowser tour, many informative clinics, and layout tours. I'd like to thank Dan Horting for loaning me a hard hat for the ACF tour, the clinicians, and everyone who had their layouts open. The ones we visited were impressive, and I wish we could have seen all of them. I would also like Alan Mende's email address to personally thank him for talking me into entering my square-footer in the contest for judging rather than just displaying it, and for spending the time with me to fill out the forms. It was an enlightening experience. Kudos to all-- we had a great time!

Linda Kacprzak

All in all, the convention was a roaring success. With the final numbers in, I can tell you that our team has made a major contribution to the solvency of our Division treasury. We raised well in excess of six thousand dollars for Susquehanna Division with our efforts. You all deserve huge congratulations!

It is our hope that you, our members and most importantly our volunteers, enjoyed the event. You have done an outstanding service to the region and the hobby. We all learned much from the convention, and even more about ourselves. Many new friendships were made within the division and I hope the spirit displayed during the convention will carry over to our division events for years to come. The comments from Eric Dervinis below summarize the general response:

Many thanks for a well planned and executed convention... In my travels around the hotel. I heard nothing but raves for the clinics, the white elephant room, the auction, the banquet, contests, tours and other activities. All around the hotel I saw the 'grey' shirt volunteers tending to set up and breakdown, while helping out the conventioners.

Thanks again to all!

**Eric Dervinis
MER Executive Convention Chair**

Our deep thanks to each of you for volunteering. Thank you for all the hard work, and thank you for maintaining a totally positive "customer first" attitude throughout. Happily, there were not too many difficulties and that is a tribute to the effort and planning you all did.

Bob Charles & Brian Kampschroer

Co-Chairs, The Susquehannock

2018 Scale O National Convention

Anyone and everyone interested in 1/4" scale modeling is invited to the **50th O Scale National Convention**, co-sponsored with the MER NMRA. Standard gauge, narrow gauge, P48, traction, and transit. *We welcome everyone* from any background and any scale that is interested in O Scale to join us.

It will be held **August 22-26, 2018** at the **Rockville Hilton Hotel, 1750 Rockville Pike, Rockville, MD 20852**.

Some highlights of the convention include:

- Trading Halls
- Clinics with new presentations, and 'extra fare' hands-on clinics
- Onsite Modular layouts
- Manufacturer/Vendor Displays
- Convention Cars
- Model Contest
- Door prizes/goodie bags for pre-registered attendees
- Banquet
- Layout tours
- Side trips
- Keynote speaker & dinner *with Tony Koester*, discussing his venture into Proto48
- Metro access is 108 steps from the hotel - go explore everything Washington DC has to offer (Make it a family trip!)

Hotel registration has started. Convention registration is slated to start September 30. The convention website has more detailed information. Please bookmark it! 2018oscalenational.com



Once again, the Susquehanna Division is co-sponsoring an event that has become a tradition in south-central PA the 3rd weekend of September.

Mainline Hobby Supply of Blue Ridge Summit, PA will be holding their annual Open House on September 15-16, 2018. Along with extended hours and a sale on their already-great prices, the store arranges for area layouts to be open for visitors during the weekend.

The store is open Saturday from 9-5 and Sunday from 12-5. Our Division plans to have a table set up both days so your non-member friends can learn about all the advantages of joining the NMRA. (Editor's note: If you'd be willing to man the table for a couple of hours on Saturday or Sunday, please let me know at timh@susquehannanmra.org We could use your help!)

One of the highlights of the Open House Weekend is the opportunity to visit area layouts, and this year's tour will again feature layouts from all over the area around Mainline Hobby Supply, including some of our Division members. Note that while many of the layouts are outside of our division area, they are certainly worthy of a visit if your time allows. More details will be presented in the September Sidetracks.

Mark your calendars now for this long-standing South-Central PA tradition!

The spring event was filled with clinics that ran continuously during the event. Attendance was good, I can only imagine what the fall event will be like! Please plan on attending!

Follow the link below for an article on the spring event!

<http://hoscalecustoms.com/small-shows-reap-big-returns-in-model-railroading/>

**National Model Railroad Association
Mid-Eastern Region
2018 Convention**

Crossroads of the MER



***Clinics ▪ Banquet Speaker—Lou Sassi
Contest & Modular Layouts ▪ Operations Call Board
White Elephant ▪ Contest & Display
Banquet & Awards ▪ Prototype & Layout Tours***

**October 4-7, 2018
Rockville Hilton Hotel
1750 Rockville Pike
Rockville, MD 20852**

***For the most up-to-date information visit:
<http://www.potomac-nmra.org/MER2018/>***



Mark your calendar now for the National Model Railroad Month layout tours coming up this November. This will be for the first three weekends in November.

There will be more details in the September and November Sidetracks where we'll also have all the schedules, locations, and directions on a variety of websites, including our own division site at;

<http://www.susquehannamra.org/> and the comprehensive NJ, MD, DE, and Philly area site www.modelrailroadopenhouse.com.

We hope you will be able to visit several layouts this year. If you would like to participate this year and have not hosted a November Open House tour previously, please let us know!

You can learn more about the open house on the Division's web site at <http://susquehannamra.org/Open%20House/Openhouse.html>

The open house schedule will be posted October 1st.



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Although our members reside in the northern counties of New Jersey and Staten Island, NY (the southern-most area of the NMRA Northeastern Region).

We invite NMRA members from all other divisions to attend our meets and special events as we are invited to theirs.

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