

Bob Charles Takes Over As NMRA President

Another title might be "Local Boy Makes Good". It only seemed like only a matter of time until Bob Charles would run for NMRA President. He is a member of Division 11 and the Most Enthusiastic Region. He has been instrumental in steering the NMRA to look at the future of the organization, where it has been, where it is going and where it has to go. His committee has set the goals and directions and is looking at the horizon. Bob has served the region in many capacities from conventioneer and contest judge to president and trustee and was part of the committee that chartered our division. Most recently he had the rather arduous task of being Chairman of Valley Forge Express, the

1993 NMRA National Convention. Now most conventioners really don't know what goes in to doing a national convention and I can tell you that as Bob serves as National President he is still presiding over this committee. It can't be dissolved until all business in concluded. *(This will probably be the longest "term" he'll ever spend in an office. Ed.)* Bob holds many Achievement Program Awards and is working toward his Master Model Railroader certificate. However he does hold one certificate that won't count toward MMR and that is the Master Politician certificate. *(Ha ha, Ed.)* Congratulations Bob and may there be many miles of smooth track ahead.

Fall Meet in York

November 12th is the date for the next division meet. As reported in the last issue it will be at the Miniature RR Club of York. Once again they have graciously volunteered to open their doors to us.

There will be two clinics and they

both are 'must see' presentations. If you have any questions about intermodal cars and operations then John Becker is the person to talk to. He will be giving a clinic on "Intermodal Cars". John is the editor of a magazine on intermodal transport. The second clinic will

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Upcoming Events

November 12, 1994: Division 11 Fall/Winter Meet, Miniature RR Club of York, 381 Wheatfield Street, York, PA. 10am to 4pm.

November 4-6, 1994: Fun!Vention '94, MER Fall Convention, Ramada Inn Convention Center, Dual Highway, Hagerstown, MD.

November 13, 1994: Weigles-town Lions Train Meet, Dover Township Community Building, 3700 Davidsburg Road, Dover, PA, 9am to 2pm, \$3adm.

November 23, 1994: Annual auction of the Conewago Valley Model RR Club, New Oxford Fire Hall, New Oxford, PA. 7pm til ?

May 18-21, 1995: White Rose '95, MER Spring Convention, Holiday Inn Holidome, 2000 Loucks Road, York, PA.

Nov. 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 18, 1994: South Penn Model RR Club Open House, 139 Nevin Street, Lancaster, PA, 1 to 4:30pm.

Nov. 20, 27, Dec 4, 11, 18, 1994: Miniature RR Club of York Open House, 381 Wheatfield Street, York, PA, 1pm to 5pm; \$2 adm; 6-12 yrs, \$0.50 adm.

White Rose '95 To Be Very Busy Weekend

A lot of time has past since May of 1978. That was when the MER was last invited to York, Pa. for a regional convention. The attendance for this convention made it the second largest MER only convention ever held. Even though we had a little problem with the fantrip (a freight car decided to rearrange some rail the night before) it was a good convention. Now once again the invitation is open to York, Pa.

York, Pa. is the home once a year to the Street Rod Nats East. It is also home for two weekends a year to the Train Collectors Association's big York meet. York is growing both in size and in big activities. Now for four days in May 1995, the MER and Division 11 will take over the Holiday Inn Holidome at 2000 Loucks Road by the intersection of U.S. Route 30 and PA Route 74 in York, Pa. This will be the last convention of the first half century of the MER and we plan on "packing a wallop".

May 18-21, 1995 could prove to be the busiest you have ever been at an MER convention. There will be plant tours, fan trips, and non-rail trips on Friday and Saturday. Numerous home layouts that had to be broken down in to geographical sections to be open.

Fan Trips: One on Friday and one

Saturday. Saturday will be the Middletown and Hummelstown. It will be coach pulled by a 44 tonner or, if available, steam. Also on Saturday is something you can bid on at the auction Friday night: one/half hour in the cab, operating an 0-6-0 at Williams Grove. It is the only Pennsy slope-back tender switcher operating in the U.S. On Friday there is something different. A railcar trip. You know, the ones you see the track crews riding in. Some carry one passenger and some carry as many as ten. This trip will be limited to the first 45 that sign up and will include a mandatory safety clinic on Thursday evening. Photo runbys and lunch are part of the trip. You may want to bring ear plugs on this one, the cars are noisy.

Plant Tours: Friday's trip is a train-load coal user. The power generating station at Brunner's Island owned by Pennsylvania Power and Light Company. This facility uses a rotary dumper and remote control locomotives.

Non-Rail Trip: York's downtown is ever changing. It has become a fine mix of the Historical Landmarks, new office buildings, and buildings remodeled to their original 1800's appearance. On Saturday a walking tour of downtown York will take you to the many

fine examples of the restored and historical spots. Friday's trip will take you to the Naylor Winery south of York. There you can take their tour of the winery and relax with some wine sampling. Also there is a stop at the Indian Steps Museum.

Buy, Sell, Trade: First of all, dealers will be allowed to setup and sell from their hotel rooms. There will be a train meet as part of this convention. It will be open Friday afternoon and evening and Saturday morning and afternoon. It will be open to the public. The auction will be Friday night. This will also be open to the public.

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Super's Corner

by Joe Krepps

Remember last Winter? The Winter from H****? Too tired from shoveling to go railfanning. You probably spent more time indoors than usual. What did you do? The forecast for this Winter isn't looking too good either, unless you're selling shovels and salt. Now is the time to stop in at the local hobby shop and see what goodies are available (the '95 Walther's Catalog is available). If they don't happen to stock that special item, order it. Treat yourself, let the holiday season come early this year. Stock up on those things

White Rose '95

Clinics: We have over 30 live clinics lined up for the weekend. There will be something for everyone. The clinicians will include well known modelers and authors, some Master Model Railroaders or people working toward MMR, and representatives from the major magazines. A first for MER conventions will be a special forum where several of the big names will be together in a panel format to discuss model railroad operation. You will have the opportunity to ask the panel any questions you may have on operation!

Hotel: The lounge at the hotel will

you've been putting off. Now, you have no excuse to keep you from working on the railroad or finishing that old project. You now have a goal. I encourage you to get moving for our convention in May. We need layouts and I would like to see Division members' projects dominate the contest rooms. There is an unusually high number of talented modelers in our Division. We have a real chance at having the most Master Model Railroaders in the Mid-Eastern Region. Even if you don't have goals of national level recognition, hey...it's gonna' be another long winter.

be a popular place to. Friday night is comedy night and Saturday night is DJ night. A quick note, the hotel features a weight training room, steam room, indoor/outdoor pool with pool side rooms available, a nine hole miniature golf course, and much more. If you wish to reserve your rooms now, the phone number is 717-846-9500. The room rate is \$59.95/night.

I hope we have wetted your appetite for White Rose '95. On behalf of the entire White Rose '95 convention committee: See you in York on May 18, 19, 20, and 21, 1995. *Don Yingling, PR Chairman, White Rose '95.*

Editor's Notes

by Don Yingling

Hi, I'm back in the saddle again. I would like to thank Joe Krepps for his work on the *Susquehanna Sidetracks* newsletter. His lack of time to work on the newsletter was the reason for me taking it over once more. Again, thank you Joe.

I now have my software updated, my computer memory is updated, now if only I could get the newsletter editor updated. Ha Ha!

When doing this newsletter there is one area I would like to see more input, Upcoming Events is very lacking. I went by what I knew was happening and used Model Railroader to help up date. But we need the membership to help. If you know of a railroad related event, primarily model but limited to it, coming up then drop me a note or give me a call so it can be included. As we grow and reach more people we need to keep the 'family' in touch with each other and what better way than to see everybody at other events within the division. At the same time we are letting them know that the division is here and supporting them.

Well, enough of this rhetoric for now. I hope to see everyone at Hagerstown and again on November 12th at the meet. Happy Railroading, Don.

Fall Meet

be given by Pennsy expert, Ivan Frantz. Ivan is an avid devotee to the Pennsylvania RR prototype and a member of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society. He will be teaching us the ins and outs of "Detailing PRR Steam Engines". These are two clinics you don't want to miss.

Favorite Model and Favorite Train contests will be held along with checking out the favorite videos that have been brought along. If you have one that you would like to share, bring it with you.

If you have an HO engine, equip, etc. that you would like to see run or be photographed on the York Connecting RR, bring it along too.

The club members might be persuaded to put it on the layout for you.

Of course light refreshments will be available by the club and a White Elephant Table will be setup also.

So remember November 12th, one week after the Regional Convention, and be there. See Ya.

Have You Volunteered Yet?

Give Bob Martin or Charlie Potter a call or drop them a note to say you'll help at White Rose' 95.

Bob is at 45 Locust Lane, York, PA 17402, or call 717-848-3640

Charlie is at 43 N. West St., York, PA 17404, or call 717-843-2513.

Susquehanna Division 11 Membership Application/Renewal Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

If applicable: MER #: _____

NMRA #: _____

Dues are \$2.00 per/year. Send checks payable to Susquehanna Division 11, to Paul F. Tice, Clerk/Paymaster, 1709 West Market Street, York, PA 17404.