

NMRA
MER
DIVISION 11

SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS

SUSQUEHANNA
DIVISION
NEWSLETTER
1995
NUMBER 2

New Oxford Meet Results

On April 8, 1995 our Division held a meet at the Conewago Valley Model Railroad Club in New Oxford, PA. The "club rooms" are a former Western Maryland Railway baggage car, which houses an HO railroad, and a former WMRY station located at Rt. 30 & (now) CSX line between Baltimore and Hagerstown, MD. The station is now a museum featuring a nice variety of railroad equipment in one room, a fine display of model railroad equipment, including tinplate, plus a fine restoration of the agent's office. This is a small club with approximately 9 members, but don't let that fool you. They are an active bunch and justifiably proud of their work.

Division turnout was relatively light even though elections were held and it was the last meet before the White Rose '95 convention. Bob Gladfelter gave the featured clinic. Not a model railroad clinic, but a museum tour that took a full hour. It was packed with information useful for modelers and wrapped it up in the club's caboose. Light refreshments were gra-

ciously provided by the club. The club's layout was running all day long.

Unfortunately, there were no entries in either Favorite Train or Favorite Model! This is a first since the re-birth of the Division a few years ago.

The business meeting, held inside the caboose, consisted of: an update on White Rose '95 from Chairman Bob Martin. Williams Grove Steam Trip by Coordinator Terry Nesbit and Inside Activities by Chairman Joe Krepps. It was suggested the Division host a 'Thank You' picnic at either Strasburg or Williams Grove sometime this summer, the consensus being Strasburg in recognition of the support shown by Lancaster County modelers. A financial report was submitted by Paul Tice. A freight car raffle was held, 3 cars were raffled off, and the results of the election were announced.

The Susquehanna Division would like to extend its thanks to Fred Gable and his fellow members for opening their doors to us.

Super's Corner

Well, here it is August and time to knuckle down and get some other work done. This is the third writing of this column. I'm getting over the burn out from the convention, we are back from a week at WDW with a four year old, the room addition is complete, and the computer is now up in the new room. Of course I had to empty out the garage because the addition is above it. Now I absolutely can't find anything!

The White Rose '95 convention turned out to be a success. There were a few glitches here and there but "to err is human" and we all learned from the

experience. The success of the convention was due in no small part to the help of all the division volunteers and I take my hat off to you. Without your help we could not have had a convention of this magnitude. Thank You one and all.

Enough about that, time now for division interests. We hope to figure out the vacation schedules for the Board and get together sometime in August to go over our coming events along with getting the by-laws in order, setting our goals, and arranging for the division picnic. Terry Nesbit, Paul Tice, and myself will be getting together to coordinate dates for the picnic. It will probably be sent out on post cards. On other division matters we
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Calendar

Sept 28, 29, 30 & Oct 1, 1995: MER 50th Anniversary Convention. Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road. Hunt Valley MD.

Nov. 4, 1995: 14th Annual Mt. Clare Division Train Flea Market & Auction, Arbutus Town Hall, off Southwestern Blvd. (US Rt 1) at Arbutus Fire Station, Arbutus, MD.

Nov. 22, 1995: Conewago Valley Model Railroad Club Annual Auction, New Oxford Fire Hall, New Oxford, Pa.

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Super's Corner

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do need your input. What would you like to see the division do? Where would you like to see the mini-conventions take place? Would you like to see the division host train meets and/or auctions once or twice a year where the members get in free? We need your input and help. There are only three of us and all of you. Is anyone willing to volunteer some time to run or help organize some of these

events? The events are not limited to those already mentioned. My goal is to see us have something quarterly in the very near future and then expand to monthly with maybe a home layout playing host for the day.

I think you get my drift. Don't hesitate to call or contact me or any of the Board members. We are always open to fresh ideas and manpower. My address is 2420 Heather Road, York, PA 17404-4383 and phone number is 717-764-2676. For those of you that are On-Line you can E-Mail

me at TROLLEYNUT@AOL.COM.

You will find that the bulk of this newsletter is the information supplied to us by Mike Trubow for the 50th Anniversary convention of the MER. We would like to thank Mike for the advance information. It's not too far to travel for any of us so get your registrations sent in and your hotel reservations. Happy Railroading and I hope to see all of you at the MER's 50th Anniversary Convention in Hunt Valley. Don.

The following was sent to us by the Mt. Clare Division and their map is on the adjoining page (*ed.*)

14th Annual Mt Clare Division Train Flea Market & Auction

Saturday, November 4, 1995, 10:00 am til 3:00 pm

- Location** At the Arbutus Town Hall located just off Southwestern Blvd. (US Rt. 1) across the street from the Arbutus Fire Station. Plenty of FREE Parking is available in front of the Town Hall.
- Admission** \$2.00 children under 12 free.
- Auction Tickets** \$1.00 per auction lot. Available at registration desk.
- Tables** \$8.00 per table. Number of tables is limited. Most tables are round, 7' diameter. Individuals with advanced reserved tables will be permitted access to the hall at 9:00 a.m.

Dealers are welcome.

Food and refreshments are available at extra cost.

Map on reverse side

Advance Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

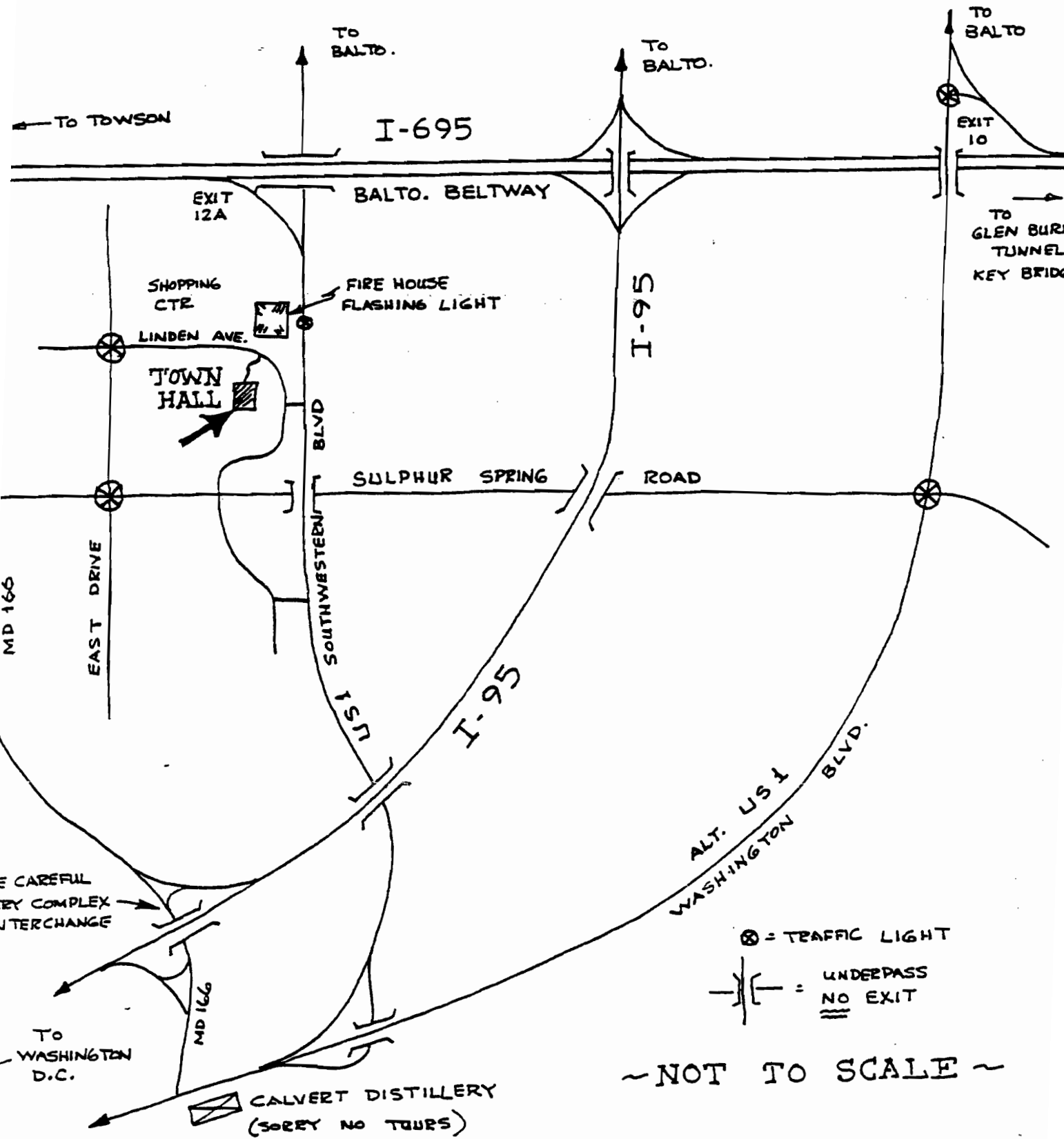
Enclosed Fees:

Admission \$2.00 _____

Tables (\$8.00 each. Fee covers table only. \$2.00 admission required for each dealer as well as helpers.) \$8.00 _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

Mail to: Roy Brakmann, 3642 Ligon Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21042 (410) 465-5506
Make checks payable to Mt. Clare Division, NMRA



⊗ = TRAFFIC LIGHT

—|— = UNDERPASS
≡ = NO EXIT

~ NOT TO SCALE ~



Important

The hotel rate for the convention is \$73.00 per day, this rate is good thru September 7. After this date, the rate will be \$89.00. Please register early to receive the lower rate. Phone (410) 785-7000 or (800) 228-9290.

Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

The Mid-Eastern Region invites all model railroaders to attend our 50th Anniversary. That's 50 years of model railroading. Did you know that there are still 18 charter members active today? We are dedicating the fall convention to celebrating this milestone. You won't want to miss this one! We have scheduled a wide variety of clinics, lay-out tours, contests, door prizes, trips and other activities to keep you busy for the entire weekend.

The Hotel

The hotel is one of the finest in the area with several restaurants. *The Cinnamon Tree* - American dining, featuring Chesapeake Bay seafood, casual breakfast and lunch, fine dinners and Sunday breakfast/brunch buffet. *The Paddock Bar* - serving drinks, lunch and snacks and is open until 1:00 am. *The Hunt Club* - serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. There is also a Pizza Hut Express, "TCBY" Yogurt and Dunkin Donuts. For recreation there is an Indoor/outdoor swimming pool, tennis, whirlpool, exercise room, men's and women's locker rooms and saunas.

50's Hop

Thursday evening we will have a get-acquainted party. Time to meet old friends and make new ones. This will take you back to the '50s and all that great old music.

Door Prizes

As always this is a chance to win something. For \$1.00 get an arm's length of raffle tickets and see what you can win.

Auction

Friday night is the time to find that bargain you've been looking for and maybe get that kit or engine or whatever. NMRA President Bob Charles, will be your auctioneer. Bob promises you an interesting and enjoyable evening. So bring those items you would like to auction off.

Silent Auction

There will be a silent auction of cars and decals from modelers in several gauges. All the items in the silent auction are donated by members of the Private Road Name SIG or the Pike Registry. The Silent Auction will be open the same hours as the Door Prize and Company store, see schedule of events. Bidding will stop at 6:00 pm Saturday and you pick up the cars and decals on Sunday morning after 9:00 am.

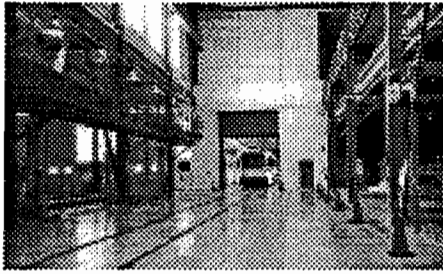
Tours

Light Rail Shop Tour

We have arranged a tour of the shop facilities of the Mass Transit Administration (MTA). Get to see how the Light Rail repair shop maintains their equipment. You will see the shop during its working hours and the equipment being worked on will be in various stages of repair. The Light Rail services the Baltimore and metropolitan area. Buses begin leaving at 8:30 am and the tour will take approximately 3 hours. We can only take 15 people per



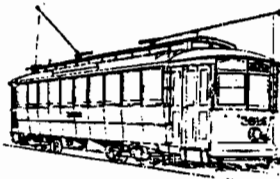
tour, but tours will run every hour until everyone signed up has seen this very interesting tour. Check your registration



package for the time of your departure. Times will be assigned on a first-come/first-serve basis. Included in your registration package you will find a railpass for the entire MTA system. This pass is good for the whole weekend, on any of the rail systems.

Street Car Museum

Clang, clang with a lurch and you're off for a fun ride on a trolley from the past. Down the track you go, past a freight station and a roundhouse to a short layover and then back to the visitors shop. The museum has a car barn with a dozen interesting oldtime cars. There are also displays and other memorabilia from the trolley car past. Don't forget to visit the gift shop on your way out. Everyone, whether a trolley fan or not, should enjoy this museum. The admission is free, just show your convention badge.



Baltimore & Ohio Rail Museum

America's railroad heritage began at the Mount Clare station, the location of this museum. Take a tour of America's railroading past by visiting the 5 buildings and 120 pieces of full size equipment. Passes are included in your registration package, they entitle you to a 2-for-the-price-of-1 admission, so take a friend and visit for half price.



Train Meet

The meet will be held in the Hunt Valley Ballroom and will run Noon - 9 pm on Friday and 9 am - 3 pm on Saturday. With tables jam packed with railroad items, the Train Meet is sure to be a big attraction. Admittance is free to registered conventioners. The public is invited at a nominal charge of \$3.00 per day or \$5.00 for both days.

Modules

The Northern Virginia NTRAK will have their modular layout set up for your enjoyment. They are also bring-



ing in other NTRAK groups from the Region to make their layout as interesting and large as possible. They will have a switching module for your enjoyment. Operation will be Friday and all day Saturday until 5:00 p.m. Bring your best fleet of trains to run and for everyone to see.

NTRAK Unplugged - There will be at least 4 or more blocks under radio control for switching and walk-around control. If you have radio controllers or new equipment please bring them. We have the capability to run 3+ trains on one loop of track using one of the Aristo controllers and this will be demonstrated.

NTRAK will be having their own group contest. Be sure to stop by and take a look at the fine work done in this scale.

Switching Contest

A switching contest is always fun at a convention and this one is no exception. Although plans are not completed at press time, we are talking to several groups that have fine switching modules and one of them will be here.

Contests

Model Contest

The contests will be judged using the standard NMRA achievement program rules. To be eligible for prizes and/or merit awards, entrants must be current NMRA members except where noted in the special contests. Commercial model builders are ineligible as are commercially built models. Entries must not have previously won first place in a NMRA contest. All entries must be properly entered and exhibited at the contest prior to the entry closing time announced by the General Contest Chairman. No entries will be accepted after judging has begun, after which, a model may be displayed only. Models may be entered by proxy. The builder must be identified in the appropriate space on the entry form. A letter of proxy from the builder must accompany the model. Contest entrants must properly fill out NMRA Model Contest Entry Form No. 901 and NMRA Model Contest Judges Score Sheet Form No. 902. A designated portion will be used as a claim check to be held by the entrant and redeemed when the model is removed from the contest room.

Judging will begin at 9:00 a.m. Saturday, September 30, and all entries must be submitted prior to this time. The contest room will be open Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. for last minute entries.

The following categories will be used for grouping models during exhibition and judging:

Steam Locomotives - This includes rod, geared and steam turbine units intended to be used as prime movers.

Diesel and Other Locomotives - this includes diesel,



Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

Volunteer Form Sept. 28 - Oct. 1, 1995

The Mid-Eastern Region, National Model Railroad Association, will host the Fall 1995 MER Convention in Hunt Valley, Maryland at the Hunt Valley Inn. This convention will celebrate the Regions 50th anniversary. If you would like to volunteer to help during the convention, please complete this form and return to Mike Barb. We are asking volunteers to donate their time in 1 hour increments throughout the convention to help man the different areas that will be open during the convention.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home: _____ Work: _____

Areas of interest:

- _____ Registration Desk
- _____ Door Prize/Company Store
- _____ Contest Room
- _____ Clinics
- _____ Rail Trip

Mail to:
Mike Barb
1321 Brighton Dam Road
Brookville, MD 20833

Volunteer Hours

	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
8:00 a.m.				
9:00 a.m.				
10:00 a.m.				
11:00 a.m.				
12:00 a.m.				
1:00 p.m.				
2:00 p.m.				
3:00 p.m.				
4:00 p.m.				
5:00 p.m.				
6:00 p.m.				
7:00 p.m.				
8:00 p.m.				
9:00 p.m.				
10:00 p.m.				

Enter in the above chart the times that you would like to volunteer for. Enter more than once if you like.

diesel-electric, gas, gas-electric, and gas turbine units intended to be used as prime movers.

Freight Cars - includes all revenue freight carrying rolling stock including express and milk reefers.

Passenger Cars - includes all revenue passenger carrying equipment including RDC, railbus, combines, RPO, head end baggage cars, business and private cars.

Structures - includes buildings, bridges, and railroad facilities without supplemental scenery.

Maintenance of Way - includes non-revenue equipment.

Cabooses - includes cars serving as office and/or quarters on revenue freight trains.

Traction - includes trolley and interurban passenger or freight carriers.

Dioramas and Other - includes dioramas, trains, engines with more than one separate model and anything not specified in any other category.

Display - This is a non-judged category for models, devices or techniques, complete or otherwise, that the builder wishes to exhibit.

Photo Contest

This contest will be judged by popular vote. To enter you must be a current member of the MER. Photo contest entry forms and ballots will be available in the contest room. Ballots will be checked against the master convention registration list. Conventioneers will vote for one entry in each of the following categories:

- Model Black and White
- Model Color
- Prototype Black and White
- Prototype Color

President's Award

The President's Award for this convention will be awarded for a model of anything that ran in Baltimore. The judging will give extra consideration for any model that represents the 1945 era.

Favorite Train Contest

Bring your favorite train and enter it. The judging is by popular vote and always gets a very good reception.

Out of the Box Contest

This is another terrific category especially for the first time contestant or a beginning modeler. Find a kit, assemble it and enter it. The only requirement is that you must bring the box and the plans. The entry is judged like any other by the contest judges and points are awarded accordingly. You can get more points for adding details, weathering and anything else you can think of to enhance the model. This is not an NMRA category.

Banquet

The banquet as always is a premier event at any convention and this one will be no exception. The banquet will be preceded by a happy hour.

Award Ceremony

Bill Hammer will be your Master of Ceremonies. Our guest speaker is Hal Carstans of *Carstans Publishing*. The winners of the model contest will receive their awards along with some of the non-official categories, such as President's Trophy, Out of the Box, Switching Contest, Favorite Train and Photo Contest.

In honor of our 50th anniversary all of the charter members in attendance will be recognized along with anyone 50 years old. After all this don't leave your seat, 'cause that's when the drawings will be held for all the door prizes.

Clinics and Layout Tours

Clinics

The Rail-Marine Information Group is sponsoring a special track of clinics on various aspects of the rail-marine interface. There will be 6 clinicians plus models for this entertaining and educational set of clinics. There are more clinics in the hopper. Bill Schaumburg, Editor of *Railroad Model Craftsman* and Jim Hediger, Senior Editor from *Model Railroader*, will both be giving clinics. There are, at this time, plans for 40 different clinics covering a wide variety of subjects. If you have a clinic that you would like to give you should contact Harry McCance, 10985 Route 108, Columbia, MD 21044 or (410) 997-8692. Remember clinics are good for points towards the author certificate in the achievement program.

Layout Tours

One of the highlights of the layout tours will be the *Chesapeake and Allegheny Steam Preservation Society* that meets at Leakin Park. They are going to be operating all day Sunday, October 1. If you haven't seen these live steam engines, it should be a must stop on your trip home. They're always fun to see! At this writing we have more than a dozen tours scheduled, with at least a dozen more contacted and awaiting replies.

In closing, your committee for this convention has planned a lot of activities and entertainment for your enjoyment. We feel you will find that there are more things to do than time to do them. There are more activities in the planning and you should check at the registration desk when checking into the convention. Hope to see you there.

Reminder

The hotel rate for the convention is \$73.00 per day, this rate is good thru September 7. After this date, the rate will be \$89.00. Please register early to receive the lower rate. Phone (410) 785-7000 or (800) 228-9290.



Mid-Eastern Region 50th Anniversary Convention

Registration Form Sept. 28 - Oct.1, 1995

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Home: _____ Work: _____ Modelling scale _____

How many MER conventions have you attended _____ If this is your first convention check here _____

Print name(s) as they should appear on badges (Include Spouse and children)

Individual (Before September 1, 1995)	\$25.00	_____
Individual (After September 1, 1995)	\$30.00	_____
Daily	\$15.00	_____
Spouse	\$10.00	_____
Children (6 to 16)	\$ 5.00	_____
Banquet Dinner		
Chicken Breast w/ Lemon Pecan Sauce	\$25.00	_____
Roast Strip Loin w/Green Pepper Sauce	\$25.00	_____
Light Rail Tour - Friday, Sept 29, 8:30 am	\$20.00	_____
	Total	_____

NON-N.M.R.A./M.E.R MEMBERS ARE WELCOME AT NO EXTRA CHARGE

Make checks payable to: Mid-Eastern Region 50th Convention

Mail to: Registrar

MER 50th Anniversary Convention

P. O. Box 4003

Timonium, MD 21094-4003

Hotel accommodations should be made directly with the hotel at Hunt Valley Inn, 245 Shawan Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031, (800) 228-9290 or (410) 785-7000 or Fax (410) 785-0341.

Make sure you mention the 50th Anniversary Convention to get the convention rate.