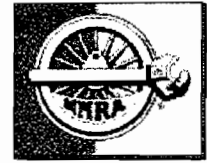


Susquehanna Sidetracks



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

NMRA/MER

Susquehanna Division 11 April - June 1999

Vol. 7 No. 2

June Meet Is To Go **Coming Events** Live Steam

On June 26th the Susquehanna Division 11 will be conducting a joint meet with the Shermansdale Live Steamers. This is a 1 inch scale outdoor railroad with over 7,000 feet of track and it is large enough to ride behind. The meet will be from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and a buffet lunch will be available by donation. A map, with directions, to this event is located inside this issue. A video of the September 1998 Shermansdale Live Steam meet will be shown at the May 8 meet at the South Penn Club.

The Susquehanna Division will have its business meeting on May 8th at the South Penn Model Railroad Club at 520 N. Charlotte St., Lancaster, PA and on May 15 & 16, the Reading Society of Model Engineers will be having an open house. They are located northeast of Reading and east of Temple. A map and directions are in this issue.

Another joint division meet is scheduled for September 11, 1999 with the Philadelphia Division at the Strasburg RR. The time will be from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a sign up sheet at the Mack-Brill Rail Bus. You will be able to ride the Strasburg Railroad to the picnic grove at Cherry Lane and have lunch there. Bring your camera, we are having the Strasburg Railroad Repair Shop open for a tour and the Pennsylvania State Railroad Museum and the Toy Train Museum are nearby.

Don't forget Blue Ridge Crescent '99, MER Convention, April 23-25, Lynchburg, VA.

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

May 8, 1999: Susquehanna Division 11 Business Meeting, South Penn Model Railroad Club, 520 North Charlotte Ave, Lancaster, PA, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

May 15-16, 1999: Reading Society of Model Engineers Open House.

June 26, 1999: Joint Division Meet with the Shermansdale Live Steamers at Shermansdale, PA, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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

September 11, 1999: Joint Division Meet with Philadelphia Division in Strasburg, PA, Ride the Strasburg RR, picnic and shop tour.

October 8-10, 1999: Hub City Limited, Fall 1999 MER Convention, Ramada Inn Convention Center, Rt. 40 East, Hagerstown, MD.

October 16-17, 1999: Division Modules at Great American Train Show, Greensburg, PA.

November 6, 1999: Open Home Layouts in Lancaster, PA.

January 29, 2000: Division Meet at Mechanicsburg, PA

March 25, 2000: Joint Division Meet with New Jersey Division.

April 28-30, 2000: MER Spring 2000 Convention in Hampton, VA

May 20, 2000: Division 11 Elections at Division Meet in Ephrata, PA

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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

Jim Atkinson and I attended the MER Board of Directors meeting at Monroe Stewart's home in Oxon Hill, MD on the 6th of February, 1999. There will be a new division in the MER. The DelMarVa area covers the state of Delaware and the eastern shore of Maryland. This, in my opinion, has been a long neglected area of model railroad interest within the MER. My hat is off to John F. Farquhar who is starting this new division.

There has been a change made to the MER Model Contest rules: no Model Contest Judge or Model Contest Official can place entries in to the contests they are judging. The rationale behind this move is to remove the hint of any conflict of interest.

On another note, the MER Spring 2000 convention site is Portsmouth, VA on April 27 - 30, 2000 and the Fall 2000 MER Convention is at Altoona, PA October 6 - 8, 2000. Our own Assistant Superintendent, Brian Brandt, and the South Penn Model Railroad Club is working on a special exhibit for the Fall 2000 MER Convention in Lancaster, PA.

Congratulations to Robert Reitzel, Sr. on being named to the Lower Paxton Township Recycling Committee.

At our January 1999 meet, we discussed the status of our All Scale Modular Program and the scheduled places we are planning to be set up at public shows to promote the hobby; the advertising policy was discussed and advertising packets were given to the members present; the loaning of our sales tax number to another division and the problems this has created; two clinics were given by Wm. Nesbit on "Modification of an Atlas Turntable for an Under Layout Drive and Electrical Hookup to DCC for a Different Turntable On The Layout" and "Part I on kit bashing Bachmann Water Tanks"; and our first (Cont'd on Page 3)

Super's Corner *(from page 2)*

joint meet with Philadelphia Division on March 20th in Newton Square, PA with the St. Albans Railroad Fellowship group.

Some of our members have requested, and I agree with them, adding a new feature to our newsletter. This will be a member For Sale and Wanted section, for railroad related items and/or objects standing in the way of layout expansion.

By-Laws Change:

The last time I published the proposed changes to the By-Laws was in the Spring of 1997. This was a premature action on my part and the Division did not vote on these changes. The MER was in the process of changing their By-Laws. The MER completed their changes and voted on them in the Fall of 1997. Included in this issue are the proposed changes to our By-Laws. These changes will be discussed, modified, if necessary, and voted upon at our business meeting at the South Penn Model Railroad Club on the 8th of May 1999. I look forward to seeing you there. We need your input to this process of change for the well being of the Division.

Have a rail fun day and watch out for those trains.

Wanted/For Sale

Wanted: N Guage Wooden Reefer, "Blatz Beer". H.J. Stahle, Jr, 717-737-3892.

Wanted: PFM Catalog #9. P.O. Box 3081, Shiremanstown, PA 17011-3081.

Free: Upright piano, Peter Pan, from 1920's. Cabinet work rough, will help with moving. Needs moved, in way of RR expansion. 717-657-9476 after 9 p.m.

Membership Thermometer

Current Membership 01/01/99: 70

New Members: None

Renewals: 4

Editor's Ramblings

by Don Yingling

Somehow I thought this is a better title than "notes." Sometimes I feel like I am writing an article similar to Tony Koester's "Trains of Thought." But any way, we will try this title for now.

With this issue of the newsletter, some will arrive with a pink color on the mailing label. Hopefully, the members and subscribers that are arrears in their dues will have this marking on the label. It is a reminder to renew. If you don't, this is your last newsletter.

I don't have a whole lot to write about this time as I am trying to get this done before going to the New Oxford Train Auction. Just that with the weather warming up and everybody starts spending more time outside and chasing trains, please, please be careful and use you best judgement. Train watching is fun, so lets keep it safe to.

See you in Lynchburg.

Don

Coming Events *(Cont'd from Page 1)*

August 12, 2000: Joint Division Meet with South Mountain Division at EBT RR.

October 6-8, 2000: MER Fall 2000 Covention, Quad Regional with NFR, NER, and SER in Altoona, PA

November 11, 2000: Open Home Layouts in York, PA

Linn Moedinger, Lancaster, PA

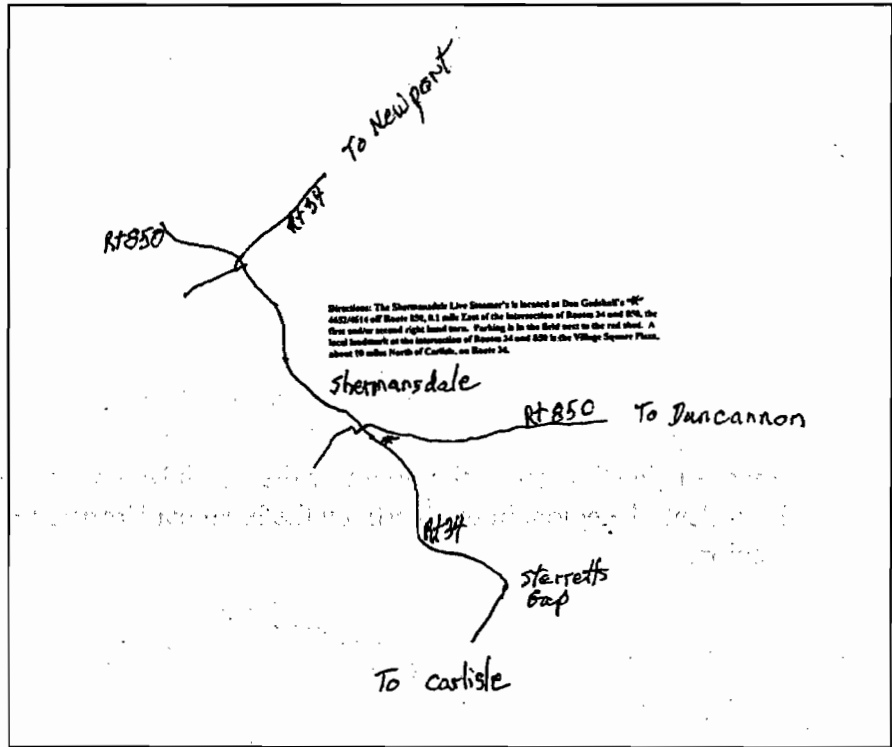
Jack Kennedy, Mechanicsburg, PA

Wm. Terry Nesbit, Harrisburg, PA

Bill Busch, Elizabethtown, PA

Directions to Shermansdale Live Steamers:

Located at Don Godshall's. 4652/4614 off Route 850, 0.1 mile east of the intersection of Routes 34 and 850, the first and/or second right turn. Parking is in the field next to the red shed. A local landmark at the intersection of Routes 34 and 850 is the Village Square Plaza, about 10 miles north of Carlisle on Route 34.

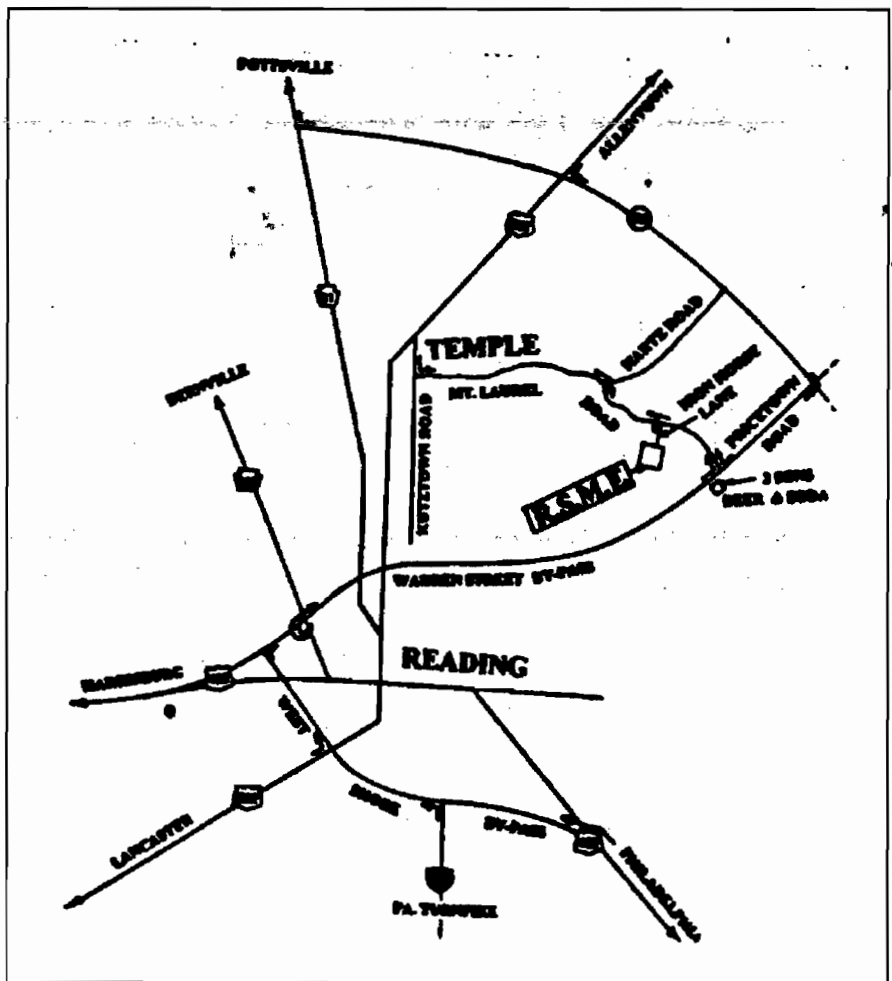


Directions to R.S.M.E.:

From 61 & 73: East on 73, 6.5 miles to Breezy Corners/Pricetown Road, turn right, go 0.8 miles to Mt. Laurel Road, turn right, go 0.5 miles to Iron Horse Lane, turn left.

From 222 & 73: East on 73, 3.9 miles to Breezy Corners/Pricetown Road, turn right, go 0.8 miles to Mt. Laurel Road, turn right, go 0.5 miles to Iron Horse Lane, turn left.

Look for R.S.M.E. signs.'



**BY-LAWS OF THE SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION #11
OF THE
MID-EASTERN REGION, NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ARTICLE I- Preamble:

The Susquehanna Division #11 of the Mid-Eastern Region (**MER**) of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (**NMRA**), serves to promote the hobby of model railroading through educational, historical and social activities in accordance with the policies and actions of the MER, NMRA, Inc. The Susquehanna Division #11, shall include the area in the **Commonwealth of Pennsylvania** bounded in the East by the Philadelphia Division, in the South by the South Mountain Division, in the West by the Mid-Central Region, in the North by the **Niagara Frontier Region and the Northeast Region.** (03/99)

ARTICLE II - Membership:

Section 1: Membership in the Susquehanna Division #11, shall be given upon receipt of a completed application containing their current **MER and NMRA, Inc.** membership numbers and yearly dues. Dues are from January to December of any given year. Membership may be terminated upon written resignation, non-payment of dues, or by two-thirds vote of the entire membership. Membership is open to any person regardless of geographical location in three categories:

Regular membership ... Must be a member in good standing of both the MER and the NMRA, Inc.;

Youth Membership Must be a youth under 20 years of age in good standing of both the MER and the NMRA, Inc.;

Subscriber Open to any person or organization who does not choose or does not qualify for Regular or Youth membership and must be sponsored by a Regular member.

(03/99)

Section 2: A Regular member may vote and hold an elected office and/or be appointed to any Committee, and is entitled to other member benefits of the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, and NMRA, Inc. (03/99)

Section 3: The Susquehanna Division #11, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, national, or ethnic origin. (03/99)

Section 4: A Subscriber may neither vote nor hold an elected office or be appointed to any Committee. A Subscriber, **is not a member** of Susquehanna Division #11, MER, NMRA, Inc., a subscriber is only "subscribing" to the division's Newsletter titled "*Susquehanna Sidetracks*"; and are subject to a registration fee at each and/or every scheduled Susquehanna Division #11, divisional function(s). (03/99)

ARTICLE III - Elected Officers:

Section 1: There are three or four officers of the Susquehanna Division #11: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Chief Clerk, who may be both the Secretary and Treasurer. They shall be elected for two year terms in the Spring of even-numbered years. The Superintendent will assume the duties of a President and the Chairman of the Board of Directors; the Assistant Superintendent will assume the duties of a vice-president and a Director; and the Chief Clerk will assume the duties of a Secretary-Treasurer and a Director. All officers must be members in good standing of the NMRA, Inc., the MER, and Susquehanna Division #11. (03/99)

Section 2: Officers shall assume office following their election, in even numbered years and continue for a duration of two years or until their successor assumes office. A member may only serve two successive terms of office as Superintendent. The Directors at Large shall assume office following their election and continue for a duration of two years or until their successor assumes office. Directors at Large shall be elected in odd numbered years. The Chief Clerk (who is the Secretary and Treasurer) shall keep a true account of all funds received and dispersed, render a proper accounting for these funds at the annual business meeting, make the books available for an annual audit by a properly qualified member of the Susquehanna Division #11, who shall be appointed by the Superintendent; and prior to each time any Chief Clerk leaves office. The Superintendent shall appoint any successor to a position to fill out the unexpired term of any elected position subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. (03/99)

Section 3: The Board of Directors of the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, NMRA, Inc. shall consist of the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Chief Clerk, and no more than four (4) Directors at Large. Director's at Large, must be members in good standing of the NMRA, Inc., the MER, and the Susquehanna Division #11. One Director shall be elected each year, the election is to be held at the Spring meeting. Directors, must have satisfactorily completed an elected office position at any one (1) of the following: the NMRA, Inc.; the NMRA of Canada, Inc.; any NMRA Region; any NMRA Regional Division; and/or any 100% NMRA registered Model Railroad Club, or Special Interest Group (SIG). Directors shall assume whatever duties as may be assigned to each by the Superintendent; shall be responsible for the activities of the Standing Committees assigned to them by the Superintendent; and shall present a consolidated report of their activities in writing at the General Business meeting; and an annual written report of their activities is to be submitted to the Superintendent no later than the 15th of June of any given year. The Director(s) annual written report, shall become part of the Superintendent's annual fiscal report dated 30 June to the divisional members and to the Vice-President of the MER, NMRA, Inc. by 30 August of each year. (03/99)

ARTICLE IV - Conduct and Practices:

Section 1: There shall be one general business meeting each year in the **Spring**. Business shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, the MER by-laws, this Charter and any by-laws adopted subsequent to this Charter. Each year, by the **end of August**, the Division Superintendent shall submit a **written** report on the state of the **Susquehanna Division #11**, to the vice-president of the MER, NMRA, Inc. and shall make the report available to all members in the **division's Publication**. (03/99)

Section 2: The officers, **directors at large**, and any committees they may appoint shall do their utmost to arrange and present to the members and the general public, programs and activities that foster the hobby of model railroading. They shall work cooperatively with other divisions of the MER, with the MER and the NMRA, Inc., including the model railroad clubs and/or other railroad related **Special Interest Groups (SIG)** in the geographical area of the **Susquehanna Division #11** in planning model railroad activities. (03/99)

Section 3: The Division Board of Directors may establish dues to cover administrative expenses and member benefits; **Regular and Youth member** dues not to exceed one-half of the dues of the MER, NMRA, Inc.; **Subscribers** shall pay dues equal to the **current Divisional dues plus one-half of a Regular membership in both the MER and the NMRA, Inc.**, these dues do not constitute nor imply any "membership" rights, benefits and/or privileges to either the Division, MER or NMRA, Inc. (03/99)

Section 4: A nominal registration fee for all persons who are not members shall be collected for all divisional functions. (03/99)

Section 5: The Susquehanna Division #11, shall operate on a Fiscal year beginning on 1 July and ending on 30 June of any given year. (03/99)

Section 6: The Superintendent shall hold the collateral duties of Chairman of the Board of Directors, of the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, NMRA, Inc.; and either the Superintendent or their designated representative, holding a written proxy, shall attend and represent the division at each MER Board of Director meetings. (03/99)

Section 7: The Chief Clerk, who may be both the Secretary and Treasurer, shall be Bonded, in regard to their activities as the divisional Treasurer. This Bond shall cover any and/or all properties and monies held, by the Treasurer, in trust for the members of Susquehanna Division #11. (03/99)

Section 8: The Board of Directors, consisting of a majority of all the duly qualified Officers and Directors shall constitute a quorum at a Board of Directors meeting. The Board of Directors, shall hold the legal title of all property and monies of the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, NMRA, Inc., in trust for its members. They shall establish a yearly budget in concert with necessary committee chairpersons in order to direct the Treasurer's payments. There shall be at least three (3) Board of Directors meetings in any fiscal year. These Board of Director meetings, shall take place prior to any divisional meeting. Any Officer and/or Director may appoint another regular member in good standing by written proxy to act in their behalf. Such proxy shall be counted in all voting and in determining the presence of a quorum. (03/99)

Section 9: No officer, director at large, and/or committee person shall receive any compensation or gratuities for their services to or on behalf of the division activities. At the direction of the Board of Directors, reimbursement for incidentals, when incurred for "Official", Susquehanna Division #11 business may be authorized. (03/99)

Section 10: Nominations for an elected office position may be made by one (1) of two (2) methods: a written submission, including two (2) shoulders up photographs, from any regular member in good standing to the nominating committee; and/or by the nominating committee, made of three (3) regular member's in good standing of the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, NMRA, Inc., who are selected by the Board of Directors. Nominations are to be published in the division's Newsletter, at least sixty (60) days prior to the election, which includes a photograph of the individual and a short biosketch, not to exceed 250 words. (03/99)

Section 11: Voting shall be by secret ballot, of the Regular members present, in good standing with the Susquehanna Division #11, MER, and NMRA, Inc. A quorum shall consist of at least: the Superintendent or an individual holding a written proxy to be the Superintendent's designated representative and six (6) Regular members. Elected positions will be filled by a simple plurality vote. (03/99)

Section 12: All Past Superintendents of the Susquehanna Division #11, in good standing, shall constitute, on a voluntary basis, an Advisory Council. Each member of the Advisory Council shall have the right to active participation and voting privileges on all matters pertaining to Divisional affairs when in attendance at Board of Directors meetings. Any one person may have only one vote on the Board of Directors, unless they are holders of written proxy(ies). The Advisory Council is not counted as part of the quorum for the Board of Director's meetings. (03/99)

Section 13: These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the regular membership present, at any scheduled divisional meeting. The amendment(s) to these By-Laws, must be published in the divisional Newsletter not less than sixty (60) days prior to any vote. The amendment to take effect after approval by the MER, Board of Director's, NMRA, Inc. (03/99)

ARTICLE V - Publications:

Section 1: The Susquehanna Division #11 publication, known as *SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS*, shall be mailed to all members of the division in good standing, and as a minimum: one (1) to the Editor of the MER Local; one (1) to the other Division Editor's and Superintendents within the MER; three (3) to the NMRA Library at Chattanooga, TN; one (1) to the current NMRA President; and one (1) to persons who contribute articles and data accepted for publication from time to time. (03/99)

ARTICLE VI - Recall:

Section 1: Should an elected Officer be suspected of misuse, misconduct, detrimental performance, or malfeasance in office, they can be removed by the following procedures:

a. A written petition against the Officer signed by at least two-thirds of the Board of Directors must be submitted to all members of the Board of Directors, at which time the Officer in question shall be immediately suspended;

b. Within sixty (60) days the Board of Directors shall meet and hear from both the accusers and the accused;

c. If, the Board of Directors feels the charges are true, correct, and sustained, a three-fourths majority in favor of a motion to remove the individual from office shall effect the action. If, not passed, the Officer shall be reinstated;

d. If an Officer is removed from office then the Superintendent shall appoint a successor to that office to serve out the unexpired term;

e. If the Officer in question is the Superintendent then the Assistant Superintendent shall serve that office, and make other necessary appointments.

(03/99)

Section 2: In the event that a Director, Committee Chair, and/or Advisory Council member fails to fulfill the duties of that position in a satisfactory manner, then that person may be removed from that position by the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall then appoint a new individual to fill that position, except for an Advisory Council member, whom will not be permitted to continue to be a member of the Advisory Council. (03/99)

Section 3: In the event of a recall, the membership of the Susquehanna Division #11 shall be notified of all actions taken by publication of such actions at the earliest possible date in the SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS. (03/99)

ARTICLE VII - Dissolution:

Section 1: No part of the net earnings of the Susquehanna Division #11 shall ever be conveyed to the benefit of any donor, member, Director or Officer of the Susquehanna Division #11 and/or any private individual. No donor, member, Director or Officer of the Susquehanna Division #11 shall be entitled to share in the distribution of any of the divisional assets. (03/99)

Section 2: Upon dissolution, any assets of the Susquehanna Division #11 must be distributed to the National Model Railroad Association, provided that its stated purposes as set forth in Article i, Section 2, of its Constitution as revised in June, 1976 have not changed. The funds and/or other assets are to be distributed toward the furtherance of the hobby of model railroading within the geographic boundaries of the Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc., as they are drawn at the time of the dissolution. (03/99)

Section 3: If the stated purposes of the National Model Railroad Association, Inc., have changed, then the divisional Board of Directors filing the dissolution of the Susquehanna Division #11, may designate any other model railroad organization(s), recognized by the Internal Revenue Service code 501(c)3, that subscribe to the same purposes as fostered by these By-Laws of the Susquehanna Division #11, of the MER, NMRA, Inc. (03/99)

Issued: 26 September 1986

Proposed Revision: 10 March 1999

Revised:

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