

INSIDE

<u>WINTER MEET RECAP</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>VIEW FROM THE CAB</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>MODELING TIPS</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>AROUND THE DIVISION</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>AP CORNER</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>WINTER MEET PHOTOS</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>MAY MEET</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>MORE MEET PHOTOS</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>TIMETABLE</u>	<u>10</u>



E- MAIL

gsdtrains@yahoo.com

WEBSITE

www.nergsd.com

The WHISTLE POST

The Official Publication of the Garden State Division of the NMRA Northeastern Region

OVERALL CONSENSUS: GSD WINTER MEET WAS “FUN”

By Jim Fawcett

“That was a lot of fun,” said clinician and GSD member Tony Koester. Fellow demonstrator Craig Bisgeier noted, “It was great being part of it. I had so many enthusiastic folks come by to see what I was doing.” Layout host Jeff Taylor raved, “My open house was fantastic with lots of good interaction and sharing of ideas and questions.” Presenter and host Ralph Heiss added, “I had a great experience. All went well and everyone seemed to really like it.”


The GSD 2014 winter meet was held Saturday, February 9th in Scotch Plains, NJ at the historic Scotch Hills Country Club. It attracted a crowd of 100 hobbyists from throughout the region for eight works-in-progress clinics, five layout tours and some other model railroad-related activities. These included an open ‘Show ‘n Tell’ session, white elephant table, award presentations, board elections and the traditional socializing around the coffee and obligatory calorie-free donuts.

Bruce DeYoung was the recipient of the prestigious Paul Mallery Award for his scratch built HOn3 Water Car while Bob Tumielewicz accepted the first Ed Fraedrich Service Award for service to the division and hobby. Dr. Mark Moritz was awarded the Golden Spike Award and two Merit Awards for his scratch built Caboose and Furniture Car. Mark, who had also been awarded the New Modeler Award at the NER Convention last October commented that “at my age I’m happy to win the newest of anything!”

The morning program featured an intimate, rotating series of mini-clinics for attendees. Eight work stations featured ongoing 30 minute sessions on topics ranging from building turnouts to weathering with Pan Pastels to casting your own resin molds.

Ted Di Iorio who demonstrated how to fine tune a fleet of rolling stock echoed many of the other comments. “I had a lot of fun doing it.” Joe Calderone, whose son James ably assisted in showing how to make stone walls from foam meat packaging was impressed with the turnout. “We had a great time and it was truly satisfying to see such a great turnout.”

The afternoon featured five outstanding layouts in the area. Bob Nalbhone, President of the Model Railroad Club in Union, sent a note saying, “Thanks for including us in your event. We really enjoyed it and look forward to doing it again.” Andy Rubbo, of Great Model Railroads 2013 fame, expressed what many others said. “Thanks for including me on the tour.” And clinician Ted Pamperin summed it up best. “Great event. Thanks for making it such a pleasure for everyone who attended.”

Due to the high attendance and favorable reaction from all involved, the popular works-in-progress format will return in the near future, according to GSD President Ciro Compagno. “That was fantastic. I’m proud to be a member of the Garden State Division.” 



THE CAB

by President *Ciro Compagno*

Starting the New Year on the right track!

We started the new year in Scotch Plains, NJ. The setting was our Winter Meet at the Scotch Hills Country Club, and our first time in this town. With Jim Fawcett's leadership and the support of board and great volunteers the meet proved to be one of the most successful meets to date. In fact, we set a new record with nearly 100 attendees - wow! Also, we thank again our friends to the south - members of the New Jersey Division. They continue to support and attend our meets all year long. I recall last year when planning for the Winter Meet there was a question whether or not we should attempt the work-in-progress clinic format. With Jim's leadership and volunteers from well known local modelers, we offered not one, not two, not even three clinics. We offered eight clinics. This session proved to be very popular. You can hear the steady hum of modelers engaging in thoughtful conversation and learning new techniques. This is what model railroading is all about. Because of its overwhelming success, we will do it again at a future meet.

During the Winter Meet, we also covered our annual business meeting. We elected Division Officers and Directors. We welcome our first time Director Jim Walsh. With Jim's enthusiasm and interest in digital photography, he will be a great asset to the



Division. We also presented recent revisions to our Bylaws and approved revisions to our Constitution. This will help streamline the nomination process and plug a few holes in the election process.

So, in summary we began the year on the right track. We have more great events planned this year. Stay connected and stay involved. You will not be disappointed.



Welcome to our New GSD Members!

Paul Kantrowitz
Andrea Burk
Ralph Heiss
Jeff Taylor
Shaun Petersen
John McGarry
Cheryl McGarry



THE CABOOSE

by Editor *Joe Calderone*

Change of Seasons

Like me you may well be tired and worn from the dreary cold winter. The cold and snowy weather we have seen this year seemed to drag on. We were however very fortunate that the day of our winter meet was good enough for us to press on.

I hope you made it out to the meet as it was terrific to see such a huge turnout, well over 100 were in attendance! The board along with help by its members and supporters works hard to get the right venue, clinicians and layouts. To keep this momentum please think about what you can do to help us out. We always need new ideas and lending hand.

With all this cold weather I hope you were all able to do some sort of modeling perhaps on your layout or favorite model or even spent time reading up on a prototype railroad.

One way to expand your knowledge of virtually any aspect of this hobby is start or join a round robin type of group. In our division there are many groups some who operate various layouts on a rotating basis some and that meet weekly to work on each others layouts and help push the owners along! Some meet just shoot the breeze and talk about models and prototypes. I had written once about the Staten Island Eggelmister group. This group meets

weekly and seems to keep on expanding its members. If you are part of or want to start one in your areas please write us and let us know. I am sure other folks would like to hear about or connect with others to share our interests.


With spring upon us our endeavors may welcome a move outdoors for bit though we still need to press on with our modeling .

Special thanks to Jim Walsh for providing us with so many great photos from the meet which I have used in the edition!

As always I ask you the membership to please think about how you can help the Division! We have around 247 members and we need to see more of each one of you!



▲ Yours truly giving clinic at the meet!
Photo by *Jim Walsh*

We are a volunteer organization and we do need your help! Something as simple as coming out to the next meet helps us ! 

AT THE THROTTLE

President
Ciro Compagno
richmondharbor@verizon.net

Vice President and Achievement
Program Chair
Bruce De Young
bdeyoung@optonline.net

Treasurer
Bob Dennis
maurrob@hotmail.com

Secretary and
Youth Program Chair
Anthony Piccirillo
anthony13trains@ptd.net

Director and
Public Relations Chair
Andrew Brusgard
ajb1102@comcast.net

Director , Editor and
New Jersey Division Liaison
Joe Calderone
gsdwhistlepost@yahoo.com

Director and
Membership Chair
Tom Casey
tcasey@co.bergen.nj.us

Director
Tom Wortmann
miskyrails@msn.com

Director
Jim Fawcett
jimfawcett@comcast.net

Director
Jim Homoki
heavyelectric@netscape.net

Director
Jim Walsh
JAMES_J_WALSH@YAHOO.COM

Modeling Tips – Down and Dirty Foundations

Article and Photos By Bruce DeYoung

I was recently building a structure from an older kit and once again ran into a recurring problem. The kit was designed so that the structure sat right on the ground with no foundation. In the past I have tried a variety of ways to raise a structure up onto a foundation, but this time, thanks to a suggestion from NMRA Central Director Pete Magoun, MMR, I tried something new – using a wood burning tool to simulate a block foundation.

I had used a wood burning kit when I was young on other craft items, but it had long since been tossed away. So, off to the local craft store I went, with my 40% off coupon firmly in hand. There are a number of different manufacturers of wood burning kits out there, but one of the more prevalent kits is made by Walnut Hollow. Their base kit goes for just under \$20 (or about \$12 with coupon), but I went with a more complete kit that included a greater variety of replaceable tips, including soldering tips, and variable temperature control for under \$20 with my coupon. Either selection would be fine, as long as it included the chisel tip shown in this photo.



I decided that I just wanted to raise the structure up enough to show two rows of blocks, so a length of 3/32" x 1/4" basswood fit the bill. I model in HO scale your choice might be different if you model in either a larger or smaller scale. Dimension stripwood is available in many craft stores, some hobby shops, and on line from MicroMark and other vendors.

I simply took a rule and found the center of the strip and then drew a pencil line horizontally down the center as a guide. Now taking a metal straight edge, and positioning it just off that line, I ran the hot chisel blade over the center line a few times. Next I put some hash marks along both the top and bottom edges of the strip to indicate where I would put the vertical mortar lines between the 'blocks' of the foundation. In HO scale, I put these marks about 1/4" apart.



Next I simply took the hot chisel blade, held it over each hash mark perpendicular to the center line, and made a burn from the edge of the wood to the already burned center line. This entire process only took a few minutes.

The next step was to add some color to the wood. I used charcoal colored craft paint on a damp cloth to drag across the wood, letting it seep into the grooves. I wiped most of the

(Continued on page 4)

Modeling Tips



(Continued from page 3)
paint off the surface of the 'blocks'. You might want to do this with a lighter color, it is up to you. The last step before adding the foundation to the structure was to now go over the foundation with different colors of grey and/or tan. Again I used craft paint ap-

plied to a damp cloth.

The final step was to cut the strip into lengths to match each wall of the house and glue the foundation to the structure. . I added my foundation after the structure itself had been assembled since I could then get accurate measurements for each foundation piece.

I beveled each corner cut at 45 degrees, cut the sections a little long, and then sanded them to the proper length to provide nice tight corner joints.

Here is the result.

This is certainly a technique that I will use again in the future. 



Around The Division

GSD starting Boy Scout RR Badge Training


Our 2014 programs will include the Boy Scout RR badge achievement program. We will need certified BSA Counselors to achieve our goals starting in September 2014. Applications are available; please email me to start your process. Also if you are currently registered with the Boy Scouts as a counselor, please let me know via e-mail.

Bruce DeYoung, Education Chairman, has started and finished the training and is certified. Once the applications are received at the Boy Scout office training courses will be offered in your area.

Bruce was kind enough to purchase BSA handbooks for Railroad merit badge. The requirements and classroom instruction lesson plan are being developed for the fall program. As part of the program there will be two (2) Timesaver switching layouts for the scouts to operate. We intend to start small with Troops organizations.

We have some issues to resolve. Part of the process to achieve the RR badge is to read a train schedule and ride a train. We will meet with BSA leaders to resolve those issues.

The NMRA has a documented BSA RR merit badge program based in Atlanta, Ga. It has been a success program which runs annually.

If you have any questions or would and would like the BSQA applications please email me at ; anthony13trains@gmail.com. 

THE CLUB CAR

Garden State Model
Railway Club
575 High Mountain Road
North Haledon, NJ 07508
www.gsmrrclub.org

The Model Railroad Club
295 Jefferson Avenue
Union, NJ 07083
www.tmrcl.com

New York Society of Model
Engineers
341 Hoboken Road
Carlstadt, NJ 07072
www.modelengineers.org

Pacific Southern Railway Club
26 Washington Street
Rocky Hill, NJ 08553
www.pacificsouthern.org

Ramapo Valley
Railroad Club
620 Cliff Street
Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ 07423
ramapovalleyrailroad.com

Bound Brook Presbyterian
Railroad Club (BBPRR)
Bound Brook Cemetery Of-
fice Building
500 Mountain Avenue,
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
Riley1644@verizon.net

SEND CLUB INFORMATION TO
MEMBERSHIP AND CLUB CONTACT:
TOM CASEY
tcasey@co.bergen.nj.us

AP Corner

On Saturday, March 29th, a group of Achievement Program Judges spend a fun filled day on Staten Island, evaluating four different layouts for a total of five AP Certificates. In addition, the team evaluated a scratch built structure that resides on one of those layouts. Thanks to the prior organization by Ciro Compagno and Tom Wortmann, the team was able to accomplish a lot in the time available. The layouts belong to Ciro, Tom, Frank Russo, and Joe D'Agostino.

Starting at Tom's house, a team consisting of Joe Calderone, Chuck Diljak, Roger Oliver and me evaluated Tom's layout for the Scenery Certificate, plus we evaluated his scratch built coal dock. At the end of our evaluation, Tom had earned a Merit Award for the structure and his Scenery Certificate. Once we were done with his layout Tom, an approved AP Judge, could join the judging crew for the remainder of the day.

We next traveled to Ciro's house to evaluate his layout for the Civil Engineering Certificate. If you have ever visited Ciro's layout on one of our Layout Tours, or have followed his layout building series in the Whistle Post, you know that Ciro has some beautifully hand laid track, turnouts, crossovers, and crossings. It should come as no surprise then that he was able to earn his Civil Engineering Certificate.



▲ Chuck, Tom, and Joe looking at one of Ciro's turnouts.

Bruce De Young, Achievement Program Chair


After a lunch break, we headed over to Frank Russo's layout to evaluate his work on the Electrical Engineering Certificate. He had no trouble demonstrating that he had met all of the requirements. (If you are keeping track, that is three layouts down and three AP Certificates plus one structure Merit Award earned.)

The final layout we visited was Joe D'Agostino's huge HO layout. Two judges evaluated his work on his Electrical Engineering Certificate while the remainder of the judging crew evaluated his layout for the Scenery Certificate. Joe was successful in both cases – again no surprise for those who have visited or operated his layout.



▲ Here is a typical scene on Joe's Pennsylvania & Erie layout.
Photo By Author

Congratulations to those four members for earning the above mentioned five AP Certificates, and thanks to the judging crew for donating another day to the hobby and the GSD!

As I have mentioned before, we see an increase in interest in the Achievement Program within the Division. How about you, ready to jump in? Simply contact me at bdeyoung@optonline.net . 

SCOTCH PLAINS WINTER MEET PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOS BY JIM WALSH



The winter GSD meet was yet another success. From the clinic room some of the presenters clockwise; Ralph Heiss, Jim Fawcett and Ciro Compagno Dave Ramos, Ted Dilorio, Craig Besieger, Tony Koester, and Ted Pamprin! 🍷



NEXT DIVISION MEETING

TIME:

MEET.....9AM TO 12:00 NOON
LAYOUT TOURS 1-5 PM

DATE:

SATURDAY MAY 17TH 2014

LOCATION:

CHRIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
90 KINGS HWY.
MIDDLETOWN, NJ 07748

WEB SITE FOR MEET:

[HTTP://WWW.NERGS.D.COM/
UPCOMING.HTML](http://www.nergsd.com/upcoming.html)

DIRECTIONS:

FOR A GOOGLE MAP, CLICK ON
THE GOOGLE LOGO, BELOW:



AGENDA:

CLINICS
WHITE ELEPHANT TABLES
LAYOUT TOURS

ACTIVITY DONATION:

\$6

Directions to the May Meet:

From almost anywhere: Take the Garden State Parkway to Exit 114. Use the local lanes of the Parkway only, not the express lanes! Go east on Red Hill Rd to the first traffic light. Turn right on Dwight Rd. then a quick left to get back onto Red Hill Road.

Turn Right on Kings Highway. The meet location is Christ Episcopal Church, 90 Kings Highway, which will be about a block up on your right. Don't forget, the Parkway is a toll road, so have your change or tokens ready if you don't have "EZ- Pass."



SCOTCH PLAINS WINTER MEET PHOTOGRAPHS

PHOTOS BY JIM WALSH



◀ Jeff Taylors Rockaway Southern RR freelanced HO scale layout



Andy Rubbo's NEC HO scale with working centenary. ▶



ABOUT THE

WHISTLE POST

Editor

Joe Calderone

gsdwhistlepost@yahoo.com

Associate Editors

Ciro Compagno

richmondha-

bor@verizon.net

Jim Homoki

heavyelectric@netscape.net

Bruce DeYoung

bdeyoung@optonline.net

Photo Editor

Jim Walsh

james_j_walsh@yahoo.com

COPYRIGHT:

© 2014 GARDEN STATE DIVISION.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

THIS NEWSLETTER MAY NOT BE
REPRODUCED IN PART OR IN WHOLE
WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION BY
THE EDITOR.




The Meeting Minutes and Infonet have now been moved to the GSD website. Clickable links provided below. Also links have been inserted for the hobby dealers on the right panel. Please click on any of the pictures to link to the dealers.

**GSD Board
Meeting Minutes**



We seek members who would like to give a clinic at our Division Meets. If you can present a clinic, **ANY topic, prototype, modeling or general interest**, you will be helping your fellow model railroaders enjoy their hobby and have fun while doing it! A video projector and screen will be available to assist your presentation. Fancy graphics are not required, just be prepared to demonstrate and explain the topic. We'll even help you set up your presentation to get you started. Did you know Clinics count towards Author and Volunteer AP credit?

We are currently looking for more clinics to fill up our meet schedule for the year. In addition we need new meet locations! Please contact Jim Homoki at **heavyelectric@netscape.net** Thanks! 

Not getting the bi-monthly NMRA eBULLETIN?

The new **NMRA eBulletin** comes out every other month near the 1st of the month. Either your SPAM filter is blocking it, or you need to update your email address with us. Go to:

<http://www.nmra.org/member/content/member-info-update>

**Hobby Tools, Model Trains,
Accessories and Model
Building Supplies**

**FREE
CATALOG!**

Micro-Mark Request your **FREE catalog*** at
Berkeley Heights, New Jersey 07922 **www.MicroMarkTrains.com**
*Enter/mention ad code GSD or call 1-800-225-1066

**The
Model Railroad
Shop**

290 Vail Avenue, Piscataway NJ 08854
Phone: 732-968-5696
Fax: 732-968-3314

Continuously operated since 1933

Daily 10AM - 6PM
Wed and Fri 10AM - 9PM
Sun Closed

www.themodelrailroadshop.com

**THE BIG LITTLE
RAILROAD SHOP**

63 West Main Street, Somerville, NJ 08876
Hours: Tuesday-Friday 11:00 am-7:00 pm
Saturday 11:00 am-5:00 pm
Sunday 12:00 pm-4:00 pm

"NOT JUST TRAINS"
Slot Cars, Plastic Kits, Modeling & Diorama Supplies Too!

908.685.8892

www.biglittle.com
e-mail: jan@biglittle.com

THE TIMETABLE

Saturday, May 17, 2014, 9AM-Noon New Jersey Division Meet, Christ Episcopal Church, 90 Kings Highway, Middletown NJ 07748

Sunday, May 18, 2014, 9am-2pm

Wayne Train Show, National Collectors Club, Wayne PAL Hall, PAL Drive, Wayne NJ 07470 www.eastcoasttrainparts.com

Saturday, May 31, 2014, 8am-10pm

Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet, Canton Community Center, 40 Dyer Ave, Collinsville, Connecticut neprototypemeet.com

Sunday, June 01, 2014, 9am-1pm

Spring Hamburg Dutch Train Meet, Hamburg Fire Co, Field House, Pine St, Hamburg PA

Saturday, June 21, 2014, 9am-4pm

The Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland Fairgrounds, Timonium MD GSMTS.com

Sunday, June 22, 2014, 10am-4pm

The Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland Fairgrounds, Timonium MD GSMTS.com

Sunday, June 22, 2014, 9am-2pm

Wayne Train Show, National Collectors Club, Wayne PAL Hall, PAL Drive, Wayne NJ 07470 www.eastcoasttrainparts.com

Sunday, July 20, 2014, 9am-2pm

Brick Train Show, National Collectors Club, Brick Elks Lodge, 2491 Hooper Ave, Brick, NJ 08723 EastCoastTrainParts.com

Sunday, July 27, 2014, 9am-1pm

Summer Hamburg Dutch Train Meet, Hamburg Fire Co, Field House, Pine St, Hamburg PA



Joe Calderone
Mommouth Jct NJ 08852

*The date in the mailing label corner identifies
when your subscription ends → 1/12*

Subscriptions run from January to January